

A GUIDE FOR GUITARISTS: YOUR FIRST SESSION IN A PROFESSIONAL RECORDING STUDIO

Welcome to Vocal Studio BCN!

We know that recording for the first time can feel a little daunting or make you nervous. Don't worry: this space is designed to help you feel comfortable, supported and guided every step of the way. Here's how your session will work, along with some key tips to help you shine.

STEP BY STEP IN THE STUDIO

1

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

We welcome you to the studio and take a moment to chat and settle in. We'll show you around so you feel at home before we get started.

2

FINDING YOUR SOUND

We try out different amplifiers and adjust the EQ until we find the sound that best suits your style and the song. You can also bring your own amplifier.

3

FIRST TEST TAKE

We record the whole song so you can get used to the headphones while we adjust the metronome volume and establish the song's structure.

4

RECORDING

Let's get started! We record in sections or full takes at a relaxed pace, guiding you throughout to bring out the best in your playing.

5

POST-PRODUCTION AND EDITING

The producer and artist select the best takes. The producer then cleans them up and polishes them to achieve a professional result without losing their natural feel.

6

MIXING AND DELIVERY

If you've booked mixing, we blend the guitar with the backing track or vocals and send you the result so you can listen in your own time.

7

FEEDBACK AND ADJUSTMENTS

You share your feedback and we make the necessary tweaks. If something doesn't feel quite right, you're welcome to come to the studio so we can make the adjustments together. Our goal is to create a mix you love!

CONSEJOS PARA UNA GRABACIÓN PERFECTA



PREPARATION



Instrument: Bring a good-quality guitar in excellent condition and properly set up. If you prefer, you can use one of our studio guitars.



New strings: Make sure you change your strings before the session for a clean, bright sound and stable tuning. We recommend playing them in a little beforehand to help them settle.



Pedals and effects: If you have a signature sound you use regularly, bring your pedalboard or effects pedals. If you'd rather experiment and explore new sounds, we'll work with you using our amp emulations, effects and EQ settings until we find the sound that best suits your music.



Practice and timing: Practise your songs with a metronome before coming to the studio. Working on your timing will help us achieve tighter, smoother and more professional recordings.



Accessories: If any of your songs requires a capo, remember to bring one.

RECORDING ACOUSTIC GUITAR WITH A MICROPHONE



Quiet, comfortable clothing and footwear: Avoid fabrics that rustle when you move, such as nylon, and noisy shoes, as studio microphones are very sensitive.



No noisy jewellery: Avoid bracelets, necklaces or large earrings that could knock against the guitar or make noise when you move.

RECORDING AND SOUND OPTIONS

ACOUSTIC RECORDING: GUITAR AND VOCALS

If your song is acoustic, we can record the guitar and vocals simultaneously or separately, depending on the style and result you're looking for.

Recording together: a more natural, live sound.

This is a good option if you're looking for an intimate, spontaneous unplugged feel, with the guitar and vocals captured in the same performance. With this approach, we can work without a metronome to preserve the song's natural rhythm. We'll record several complete takes and select the best one, without combining sections from different takes (comping).

Recording separately: greater control over the production.

For greater flexibility in editing and mixing, we recommend recording the guitar first and the vocals afterwards. This allows us to work on each element independently and adjust the sound more precisely, without losing the song's acoustic character.

REAMPING (REAMP)

If you prefer the character and response of a real amplifier over digital emulations, we offer a reamping service. We take your guitar's previously recorded direct signal, play it back through an amplifier and capture its sound with microphones. This lets us explore different settings and find the tone that best suits your music, without you having to repeat the performance.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.
We'll be happy to answer them and help you.

See you at the studio!