

SINGER'S GUIDE

HOW TO PREPARE A SONG



Welcome to Vocal Studio BCN!

As experts in vocal recording, we know that a great recording starts before you even step into our studio. Properly preparing the song will allow you to sing with confidence, perform with freedom, and let your voice shine.

HOW TO PREPARE A SONG STEP BY STEP

1

MASTER THE LYRICS

Learn them; leave the text just as support. Understand what you are expressing and to whom. Practice starting from any section.

2

CONFIRM KEY AND STRUCTURE

Choose a comfortable key, with the help of Google extensions like Transpose. Rehearse with the final backing track, without a guide vocal. Know all entries and pauses well.

3

MARK YOUR BREATHS

Decide where and when to take air. Respect the meaning of each phrase. Do not wait until you run out of breath.

4

GIVE INTENTION TO EVERY LINE

Define the emotion of each section. Highlight key words and create contrasts. More intensity does not always mean more volume.

5

WORK ON THE DETAILS

Isolate difficult fragments and reincorporate them. Check pitch, rhythm, and pronunciation. Decide on ornaments, long notes, and endings

6

PREPARE EXTRA VOCALS

Define doubles, harmonies, and backing vocals. Learn the melody of each voice. In doubles, match entries, vowels, and endings.

7

MAKE ANNOTATIONS ON YOUR LYRICS

Note down all these decisions on your lyric sheet to have a visual reminder when recording.

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YOUR FIRST SESSION IN A PROFESSIONAL STUDIO



We know that if it's your first time recording, you might feel a bit nervous or intimidated. Don't worry: this space is designed to make you feel comfortable, cared for, and guided at all times. Here is a step-by-step breakdown of how your session will work and a series of key tips to help you shine.

STEP-BY-STEP IN THE STUDIO

1

ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION

We welcome you to the studio, take a moment to chat and relax. We'll show you around the facilities so you feel right at home before starting.

2

VOCAL WARM-UP

A solo space to warm up your voice. If you need to, you can use an online vocal warm-up guide. It is essential to avoid injuries and pitch accurately.

3

FIRST TEST TAKE

We sing through the entire song to help you get used to the headphones, adjust the exact track volumes, and lock in the song's structure.

4

THE RECORDING

Let's nail this track! We record section by section or in full takes at a calm pace, guiding you every step of the way to bring out your absolute best.

5

POST-PRODUCTION AND EDITING

Once you head home, the producer takes care of cleaning, carefully tuning, and polishing the vocal so it sounds professional without losing its natural feel.

6

MIXING AND DELIVERY

If you've hired the mixing service, we blend the vocal with the instrumental and send you the result so you can listen to it at your leisure.

7

FEEDBACK AND ADJUSTMENTS

You give us your feedback and we apply tweaks. If something doesn't completely convince you, you can come to the studio in person to make adjustments side by side. The goal is for you to love the final mix!

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TIPS FOR A PERFECT RECORDING

PREPARATION AND PHYSICAL CARE



Prepare the song well: Avoid relying on the lyrics so you don't lose the performance and emotion.



Bring printed lyrics: If you need them anyway, bring them on physical paper (avoid phones or tablets so you don't have to look down, which can affect the sound).



Sleep well: Get 8 hours of rest the night before; your voice and mind will thank you.



Constant hydration: Drink plenty of room-temperature water in the days leading up to and during the session.



Watch what you eat: Don't eat a heavy meal at least 2 hours before recording.



Zero alcohol: Completely avoid alcohol before and during the recording.

WARDROBE AND HEARING HEALTH



Quiet and comfortable clothing and footwear: No rustling fabrics (like nylon) or noisy shoes, since studio microphones are ultra-sensitive.



No noisy jewelry: Avoid bracelets, necklaces, or large earrings that could clink or make noise when you move.



Bodily stillness: Do not dance or gesture excessively while singing; moving abruptly alters your distance to the microphone and causes the volume to fluctuate.



Ear fatigue: Avoid listening to music at a very high volume or exposing yourself to loud noises (like the subway) on the day of the recording so you arrive at the studio with fresh ears.



Prioritize the performance: Tuning can be tweaked in post-production, but the performance is what makes the difference between a good recording and a bad one.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with us.
We'll be happy to answer them and help you out.
See you in the studio!