

Adobe Audition Basics

Introducing Audition

- 64-Bit OS Required
- Waveform vs. Multitrack Mode
 - Multi- multi controls, combine sounds, mixing
 - Waveform- individual audio files, spectral frequency display, use brush tool to select portion of sound
- Interface- Waveform vs Multitrack options change contextually
 - Both modes have playback controls
 - Lots of preset layouts
 - Files panel, search box, filter box
 - Media Browser- check for files and bring into Projects panel
 - Markers, Properties, History, Video panels
- Preferences
 - Audio Hardware- changes according to your OS (Windows- ASIO device class is best)
 - Buffer size- adjust size to minimize the dropout
- Audio Channel Mapping- You can set which channels map to input and output

Audio Terminology

- Frequency
 - Timing of sound waves hitting your eardrum measured in Hz (cycles per second)
 - Piano ranges from 32 Hz to 4186 Hz
 - Human hearing- 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz (20 KHz)
 - Important in working with Spectral Frequency window
- Amplitude
 - Loudness or volume of a sound
 - Frequency and amplitude give you pitch and loudness of sound
 - Measured in decibels (dB)
- Sample Rate
 - Higher the sample rate the more accurate the sound
 - CD- 44.1 KHz- 44,100 samples of music per second
 - When you create a new file you can choose the sample rate (44 for audio 48 for video)
- Bit Depth
 - Determines the dynamic range of audio file
 - The more bits, the wider the range of the sound sample
 - 8 bits- 48 dB of range
 - 16 bits- 96 dB of range
 - 32 bit (float)- best choice

Importing and Managing Media Files

- Importing is creating shortcut- **you need the support files for each project**
 - You can import, open, or open in Media Browser (can view without importing)
- Extracting tracks from a CD

- File> Extract from CD
- Within Extract dialog box you can set ID3 info (meta data), manually rename tracks, preview tracks
- Creating a new audio file
 - File> New Audio File, also keyboard shortcut
 - Can set various parameters in New Audio File dialog box- 48 KHz, Stereo, 32 bit
- Recording an Audio File
 - Click red button to define specs on new file
 - Check levels- choose meter input signal, don't go over 0
 - Control S to save
- Importing video files
 - Can use video clip as reference for audio recording- good for multitrack
 - Can edit the audio in waveform view.

Working with Sound Files

- Comparing waveforms- vertical axis indicates amplitude
- Spectral frequency display- vertical axis indicates frequency, brightness indicates amplitude
- Spectral pitch display- identifies notes- blue line identifies main body of pitch, good for working with pitch bender and pitch correction
- Making selections- Double-click selects entire audio file. There are contextual toolbar choices. You can use the marquee tool to select specific frequencies inside of the spectral display. Lasso tool allows you to be more specific in terms of frequency selection.
- Using playback controls- shows, levels, selection, timecode, markers, and all standard playback control options. Can use J (backwards), K (pauses), and L (forwards) keys to shuttle control. Skip selection icon allows you to previewing removing certain sections of an audio file.
- Using zoom controls- can control time and amplitude measurement scales. Buttons at the bottom allow you to zoom in and out of time or (with Option key) amplitude. Can use click to zoom selection to fill window with selected section of file. Zoom out full allows you to see entire audio file in window.
- Markers- Press M key to add marker. Use Marker panel to rename markers. You can set duration in Marker window. Added to Meta data of file. You can export markers from long audio files.
- Paintbrush selection tool- Can set size, pixels, and opacity to audio selection. Spot healing brush tool removes sounds within a selection.

Standard Waveform Audio Adjustments

- Manually adjusting audio- Can select an area and use Heads-Up Display to reduce or increase amplitude
- Normalizing audio levels- Choose Window> Match Volume window. Use compute average volume button. Can use Export Settings button to specify how you want to export edited files. Use Limiting to specify a maximum volume.
- Adding fades- Square in top corners of waveform display window allows fade ins and outs. You can create infinite curves of fades. Can also use Effects> Fade Envelope. Many preset options of fade envelopes.

- Using the clipboard- Can copy/paste, can use Edit> Set current clipboard for five clipboards of audio samples.
- Using Mix Paste- Can combine different samples. Choose Edit> Mix Paste or Control/Shift/V. Mix Paste window allows you to control blending.