

4 THINGS EVERY ARTIST SHOULD KNOW

BEFORE WORKING WITH A PRODUCER





HOW MANY SONGS YOU WANT TO RECORD

THIS ONE'S PRETTY SIMPLE (BUT THERE'S MORE TO CONSIDER THAN YOU THINK...)

Once you know how many songs you want, have roughly double that number of songs (or at least ideas) written

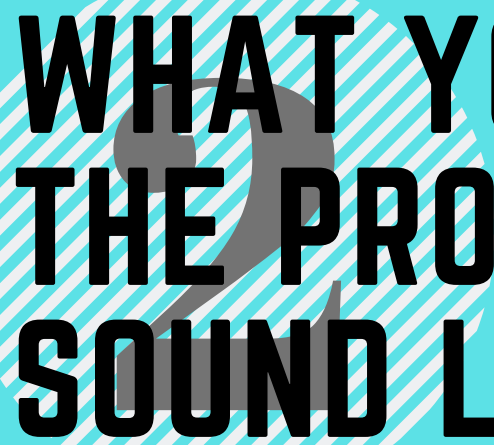
If you have trouble writing that many songs, keep trying! The only way to get better at songwriting is to practice, just like with an instrument or any other skill.

You can always connect with other trusted songwriters to help bring your songs across the finish line. (This could also be the producer)

What's your budget?

This will ultimately determine how many songs you can actually record/produce.

At the end of the day, your goal should be **QUALITY**, not quantity. Your budget may dictate that you do less songs at a higher quality rather than a bunch of mediocre songs. This is a bigger win for you and your "brand"!



WHAT YOU WANT THE PROJECT TO SOUND LIKE

VISION AND CREATIVITY COME TOGETHER


Vision

Know what you're going for. You don't want or need to copy another artists (nor should you), but it's a good idea to have some frame of reference for the direction you want to take your music. Have other songs/artists that you admire and desire to sound similar to on hand as references to give inspiration and fuel the creative process. This also helps your producer understand better what it is that you're going for and how to achieve it.

Creativity

You also have to be willing to let go in the process. This is why it's so important to hire a producer you trust to actually take your songs where they need to go. A good producer will also have their own vision of what your music should be, and finding a compromise that you're both happy with is key.

The bottom line is, you want to have a clear vision but also be willing to change and collaborate with trusted people. Stay true to yourself and your artistry but be willing to try some new directions!



THAT YOU SHOULD ESTABLISH ALL OF THE BUSINESS STUFF FIRST

GET THIS OUT OF THE WAY SO YOU CAN
FOCUS SOLELY ON THE ART.

Pricing

Pricing should be clearly established before you ever set foot in the studio or record a single take. Are you paying an hourly rate? Day rate? Song rate? This can help you plan your time accordingly.

You should have some sort of agreement in writing that both of you can always look back to. This can be as simple as an email that states price and how the project is charged and showing that you both agreed to it

Royalties

If you are involving the producer in the songwriting process, you would want some sort of split sheet that shows an agreed percentage split between yourself, him/her, and any other songwriters. This should also be agreed upon by all involved parties before any music is released (preferably before it's recorded). A great place to do this online is www.songsplits.com. It's totally free!



THAT YOU NEED TO HAVE FUN!!

**THIS MAY BE THE SINGLE MOST
IMPORTANT THING!!**

Atmosphere and vibe affect the outcome

If the sessions or pre-production aren't fun, the recordings are going to reflect that! A stale studio environment will lead to stale recordings, no matter how great the engineer is. Your producer should be someone who pushes your songs and performances to be the absolute best that they can be! It's so important to make sure you hire somebody you TRUST to bring your songs and project to life!

FINAL THOUGHTS

Remember that YOU are paying the bill here. Yes, the producer probably works on recording and producing music every day and in most instances may "know better". But even if you trust him/her, it is ultimately YOUR music that you are working together to produce! DO be willing to try explore new musical territory, but DON'T give in to a direction that doesn't feel authentic to who you are as an artist!

**THANK YOU FOR READING
THIS GUIDE! WE HOPE YOU
FOUND IT HELPFUL.**

Please feel free to share it with anyone
else you think might find it helpful!

And while you're at it, give us a follow!



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