

Lesson 9

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NAME OF MENTOR(S): Take

Introduction - Pro Tools Basics

Q&A

1. Pro Tools is a division of the main company called Avid™. (Go to Avid.com to get familiar with Pro Tools™ frequently asked questions.)
2. A session is the document file that contains all the information relating to the particular session. It is basically a map to your audio.
3. Audio files can be in which 4 types of format?
 - a. WAV
 - b. SDII
 - c. MP3
 - d. AIFF
4. The audio formats will all go between Mac and PC fine except for the SDII, which is proprietary to the Mac OS.
5. The fade folder inside the session folder contains the fade files. Basically, when you create a fade in Pro Tools™, it automatically creates a different file, which is the actual fade.
6. Your video files should be stored in a folder inside your Pro Tools session folder.
7. You can toggle between your Mixer and Edit window views by selecting "View" Edit or Mix. Or you can use Command + on the Mac and Alt + = on the Windows machine.
8. Record audio by having your input track set to record, click the "R" ready button on your track, then click record and then save play on your transport.
9. The keyboard shortcut for saving your session is Right + Click or Ctrl + Click

Additional note: Discuss auto save methods and its importance with your mentor.

MANDATORY SUPPLEMENTAL READING

Lesson 9 - Pro Tools™ HotKeys.

With this being your start with a long career using Pro Tools, it is a good idea for you to learn shortcuts and hotkeys. These put nearly all Pro Tools commands literally at your fingertips, instead of having to find and select commands with your mouse.

Read through the digital copy of the Pro Tools Keyboard Shortcuts for Mac or PC and fill in the commands with the corresponding tasks.

Mac - <http://archive.digidesign.com/support/docs/69/mac/Keyboard%20Shortcuts.pdf>

PC - <http://archive.digidesign.com/support/docs/69/win/Keyboard%20Shortcuts.pdf>

Half-speed record Open New Track Dialog
Start record
Stop record
Enable/disable online playback
Start/stop playback
Loop playback toggle
Solo-safe track
Pause (pre-prime deck for instant playback and record)
Half-speed playback
Scroll to selection start/end

Command + Shift + N
Command + Spacebar or F12
Spacebar
Command + J or Option + Spacebar
Spacebar
Control-click on Transport Play Button or
Command-click on track Solo button
Option-click on Transport Play Button
Shift + Spacebar
Left/Right Arrow keys (when selection
exceeds window view)

NOTES:

When you create a Pro-Tools session, the system sets up a standard hierarchy for the session and its associated files by automatically creating folders for each type of file

A session is the document file that contains all the information relating to the particular session. It is basically a "map" to your audio. A session file does not contain audio, only a map to the audio and fades and edits, etc...

When audio is recorded or imported into a Pro Tools session, each audio recording take is stored as a separate file in the corresponding session's audio file folder. Audio files can be WAV, AIFF, SDII, MP3, etc. The audio formats are all transferable between Mac and PC except for the SDII, which is proprietary to Apple computers.

The fade folder contains the fade files. When you create a fade in Pro Tools, it automatically creates another file that is the fade. This Fade Files folder is where those files are kept

Video files will only appear in a session that has video involved
There are specific video types that Pro Tools can read

Session File Back-ups: This folder is only created if and when you have the automatic session file back-up turned on with the Pro Tools configuration

When creating a new session you will have to choose from the following: Audio File Type, I/O settings - can choose default settings or presets/"Last Used" settings

Bit Depth - 16 bit or 24 bit

Sample Rate - choose one that your hardware supports

Creating & Naming Tracks

Mac = Shift + Command + N

* Suggestion - make a Master Fader track 1st then click the "+" sign to create multiple types of tracks at the same time *

Use "command" + "+" on the MAE to toggle between your mixer and edit window views

* Reference Table 1.1 on page 101 *

* To make sure you have enough storage space on your hard drive click "window" then "disk space"

You can save your session as a template

Control-click (Mac) and open the properties of the file. In file properties make sure that "stationary pad" is checked. That means that the next time you open that file, you will be asked to rename the file or edit the original