



## Accepted Formats & Source Tips

### **Bluefield Mastering accepts the following mixdown formats:**

Data Files via FTP, or on CD-ROM and DVD-R as WAV, AIFF or BWF file format

½" analog tape at 15 or 30ips

¼" analog tape at 15 or 30ips (we can also accept slower speed ¼" tapes)

Tascam DV-RA1000HR discs

Alesis Masterlink High Resolution CD-R

24bit DAT (Tascam DA-45HR) at 44.1 or 48kHz

16bit Digital Audio Tape (DAT) at 44.1 or 48kHz

Compact Disc (CD or CD-R)

Exabyte Data Tape

Cassette Tape

*Don't see your format listed? Call or email.*

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### **Please label all source tapes & discs with:**

- 1) your name, address & phone number
- 2) studio where made & studio phone number
- 3) artist name
- 4) record EQ type and noise reduction type, if any
- 5) all track titles, false starts, alignment tones, etc.

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## **Source Preparation Tips**

*Note: Always make backup / safety copies of all of your source materials before shipping. Bluefield Mastering is not responsible for lost or damaged source materials.*

### **½" & ¼" Analog Reel to Reel:**

- Label all tapes with type of record EQ used. It is required that alignment tones be recorded on your tapes. This ensures accurate set-up of our machine for proper playback of your tape.

Please record 30 seconds each of 1kHz, 10kHz, 100Hz, & another tone lower than 100Hz, preferably 40Hz or 50Hz. If tape is encoded with Dolby SR or Dolby A Noise Reduction, please record one minute of the proper Dolby Tone.

- Store your tapes are *played out* and wound TAILS OUT. Indicate 'TAILS' on the box.

## DATA FILES

- WAV, AIFF or BWF files only. When naming files, be sure to follow the song title with the appropriate file name type (\*.wav, \*.aif, etc.)
- For stereo program, please use interleaved stereo files.
- Indicate the bit rate and sampling rate of the files (24bit, 20bit, 16bit/44.1kHz, 48kHz, 88.2kHz, 96kHz, etc.).
- Avoid using overly long file names. A good example would be: *01 InthePines.WAV*
- When using discs, use a reputable, name brand DVD-R or CD-R.
- Do not use paper labels on your discs. Paper labels can shrink & cause the disc to warp, resulting in uncorrectable, audible errors. Label discs with a soft-tip, water-based ink pen like ones made by TDK. Do not use solvent-based inks or ball point pens.
- It is highly preferred that discs not be formatted as UDF files (drag & drop with Direct CD or Drag-to-Disc software).
- Avoid excess, unnecessary handling of your discs.
- For the best protection, use a standard jewel box for shipping & storage.

## DAT:

- Label the DAT with the brand & model machine it was recorded on.
- Use a reputable, name brand DAT.
- It is preferred that a new DAT is used.
- Use a DAT that is shorter than 120 minutes.
- Do not mix different sampling rates on the same DAT. Use the same sampling rate from beginning to end.
- On the DAT insert, clearly indicate the bit depth and sampling rate used.
- Record one minute of digital black or silence prior to beginning the recording. This will avoid recording on an area of tape prone to manufacturing defects that can cause audible errors.
- At 1:00 into the DAT, record 30 seconds of a 1kHz reference tone at -16, -18 or -20dBFS in both channels. Label the DAT insert with the tone and level at which the tone is recorded.  
**DO NOT RECORD THE TONE TO 0dBFS!**
- Index each song with a beginning ID. The blank space at the head of the DAT and the reference tone should not have an IDs. Each song should have it's own ID at the start of the track. Double-check your IDs.
- Listen to your DAT(s) all the way.

## CD-AUDIO:

- Use a reputable, name brand CD-R.
- Do not use paper labels on your CD-Rs. Paper labels can shrink & cause the disc to warp, resulting in uncorrectable, audible errors. Label discs with a soft-tip, water-based ink pen like ones made by TDK. Do not use solvent-based inks or ball point pens.
- Write your CD-R at 1X or 2X speed, or the known optimal speed for your burner /disc combination.
- It is preferred, though not required, that your CD-R be written in Disc-at-Once Mode. If written in Track-at-Once Mode, be sure your disc is finalized (closed).
- Avoid excess, unnecessary handling of your discs. Fingerprints, dust, dirt and scratches can cause uncorrectable, audible errors.
- For the best protection, use a standard jewel box for shipping & storage.
- Listen through your CD-Rs entirely.

***Questions or concerns? Please call or email. We want to help!***