



Careers in Music

Time to brainstorm!

With your partner, come up with 10 jobs that you think could be involved in the creative sector.

What did you come up with?

Think

Pair

Share

Question one

Fill in the gap to describe a degree in music:

The study of various music styles (from classical to jazz) to prepare for performing, composing, _____, or teaching at a professional level.



a) Choreographing

b) Critiquing

c) Conducting

Question one

Fill in the gap to describe a degree in music:

The study of various music styles (from classical to jazz) to prepare for performing, composing, conducting, or teaching at a professional level.



c) **Conducting**

Music conducting is when a person **leads a group** of musicians to keep them in sync.

Question two

Which career is being described below?

They combine the different sonic elements of a recording into a final version.



a) Music producer

b) Mix engineer

c) Session musician

Question two

Which career is being described below?

They combine the different sonic elements of a recording into a final version.



b) Mix engineer

Mix engineers make sure a song sounds good by balancing all the different sounds. They adjust things like **volume**, **tone**, and **effects** (like **echo** and **reverb**).

Question three

Which of the following ISN'T a typical day-to-day duty of a music teacher?



a) Helping students prepare for music exams, competitions, or performances

b) Teaching students to read and understand music

c) Leading music therapy sessions with students

Question three

Which of the following ISN'T a typical day-to-day duty of a music teacher?



c) **Leading music therapy sessions with students**

Music therapy sessions are run by **music therapists**. They encourage people to explore sound and communicate through music.

Question four

What's another name for a 'luthier'?



a) Musical instrument maker

b) Classical musician

c) DJ

Question four

What's another name for a 'luthier'?



a) **Musical instrument maker**

Musical instrument makers and repairers **create** new musical instruments or **repair** ones that have been damaged.

Why study music?

Studying music offers a wide range of benefits, including:

- Enhancing cognitive skills
- Emotional intelligence
- Creativity

It also cultivates:

- Discipline
- Teamwork
- Analysis skills
- Communication skills

'Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul.'

- Plato



Looking to work in the Music Industry?

The UK music industry is a global powerhouse, ranking as the third-largest music market in the world and it significantly contributes to the UK economy.

There is so much more to it than being a performer. Here are just a few careers that one can do in the music industry:



What subjects/skills do I need?

It depends on the role within the industry but here are just a few:

English

**IT: Logic,
Cubase, Ableton**

Music!

IT: Excel/Word

**Good time
keeping**

**Business
Studies**

Perception

Proactive

Collaborative

Maths

Communication

Team working

IT: Photoshop

Analytical

Social media

**Management
skills**

Economics

How to get into a creative industry

Choose a creative degree or apprenticeship

A great way to get your foot on that creative sector ladder is to gain a qualification that can support your work in that industry. There are a wide range of degrees and apprenticeships available that offer you the much-needed experience to get into your chosen role.

From animation and architecture to marketing and media, there's something for the creative in all of you!

How to get into a creative industry

Take a summer internship

Want to gain more practical experience whilst studying for those all-important qualifications? Get yourself a internship during the summer holidays!

- *Creative Choices* advertises a range of paid work experience placements in creative industries. Visit www.ccskills.org.uk to find out more.
- *Design and Art Direction* (D&AD) offers the New Blood Awards for those under 24 enrolled in higher education. The awards cover briefs from top companies such as Adidas, BBC, Adobe and Virgin Atlantic.

How to get into a creative industry

Professional networking

They always say, it's not what you know, it's who you know. Once you've started honing your creative skills it's always good to make sure that you're speaking to the right people to know what's currently happening in your sector or interest. Are there more jobs opening up? Will they be looking for people with your skills?

Networking is a great way to do that. Whether it's keeping in contact with your work experience placement contacts, talking to parents, friends or relatives, or getting using professional networking sites such as LinkedIn, you can't beat it.

How to get into a creative industry

Build a portfolio of your creative work

Creative industries are known for focusing on the visual, so what's the best way to display your skills? Through displays of your work! Portfolios are a great way to stand out from the rest and get noticed. If you've been working on any creative projects, collect images of your work and collate them into a portfolio.

Add items to your Unifrog Locker to begin to build your unique portfolio!

Music at Beths



2 Year A-Level course

Exam Board: Eduqas

3 components – Coursework (60%) and Exam (40%) - externally assessed

- Performance (Either 35% or 25%, depending on your option choice)
- Composition (Either 35% or 25%, depending on your option choice)
- Appraising Music (40%)

Entry Requirements: A minimum of level 6 or higher in Music at GCSE or Grade 5 in ABRSM Practical and Theory

Students are expected to attend all classes as well as complete additional coursework outside of directed lessons.

There is an active and busy extra-curricular environment at Beths that students are welcomed to get involved in.

100% of our students in the past two years who were looking to study music after A-Level were accepted onto conservatoire courses of their choice.



Why study Music further?

There are so many transferable skills to studying music even if you don't see it as a future career.

What do you think our most common subject studied by students after taking A Level music at Beths after following music?

Medicine

The skills that you learn in music transfer to so many industries, you don't have to be a musician if you study A level or GCSE Music.

If you do wish to study music further though, there are so many different jobs within the industry.

Careers in Music

Job Profiles

There's never been a more exciting time to get a job in the music industry. Not only are the creative industries booming but careers in music are getting ever more varied. If you love music you can find your place.

The music industry needs creatives of course but it also relies upon a range of other roles to keep the music flowing. There are roles available for those who love law and contracts, if you are good at managing people and processes, if your thing is design and media or if you know one end of a sound system from another. Whether you're into lighting and staging, supporting artists to find their voice, recording and mixing tunes or managing accounts in a fast-paced business then this could be for you. The music industry also needs data experts, accountants, instrument technicians, venue managers, security staff, electricians and carpenters, caterers, managers... THE LIST GOES ON!!!

A&R Assistant

Artists and repertoire (A&R) is the division of a record label or music publishing company that is responsible for talent scouting and overseeing the artistic development of recording artists and songwriters.



What's an A&R Assistant good at?

- Multitasking over different projects at the same time.
- Working with strict time constraints.
- Very organised.
- Great networking skills.
- Identifying new trends within music including via analysis of data.
- Strong understanding of the music industry and a passion for music.
- Proactive person

Tools of the trade:

- Sodatone – Artist Database
- Social Media – Twitter, Instagram etc.
- Music Streaming services

How do I become an A&R Assistant?

Although many executives working in A&R do not have qualifications in music; the following course may be helping within the role:

University Degree: Music, Music Business/Management (non-essential)

College: Music Course

Apprenticeships: Within a record label or publisher

Artist

If you are a music artist, i.e. a singer songwriter, band member, electronic artist, etc, you are most likely a 'featured artist'. This term refers to the individual or group most prominently featured on a sound recording, track or album.



What does an Artist do?

If you are a music artist, i.e. a singer songwriter, band member, electronic artist, etc. you are most likely a 'featured artist'. This term refers to the individual or group most prominently featured on a sound recording, track or album. For instance, if you are in a band and are included in the press shots, album artwork, etc. you are a featured artist.

How do I become an Artist?

You become a featured artist primarily by being creative, working hard and creating opportunities for yourself. There are a multitude of ways to get into full-time music making and no set rules on how to build your own career. This has its ups and downsides. Traditionally, you'd start by writing (or choosing) a set of songs and start performing them as much as possible to hone your craft. (at open mic nights, then small venues, etc). Once you have material you are happy to record, you will either team up with a label to release, your music or more likely self-release. Building up an audience and building your business takes time. Most overnight successes were ten years in the making. Seek advice and education from membership bodies and artist communities and be prepared to work hard and be patient. Don't forget to have fun along the way.

What's an Artist good at?

If you are/would like to become a featured artist, you must have a wide range of skills on top of your actual craft (be that songwriting, performing, arranging, recording, etc.). When you're starting out, you will most likely be your own manager, accountant, booking agent, record label, social media manager and more. Excellent time management skills are essential to make sure that you have enough time to create music and hone your craft as well as build your business. As you progress, you will be able to grow your team to share the workload and keep growing your business.

Primarily, your strengths will lie in your art, whether that's creating it or performing it.

Tools of the trade:

- Talent (creative and business acumen)
- Instruments/ gear/ laptop
- Software (business % creative, i.e. excel, photoshop, protools, logic, etc.)
- Social media channels/ platform / website.

Copyright Assistant

A copyright assistant ensures works/agreements are being registered correctly at collection societies (e.g. PRS), dealing with claims for publishing agreements.



What does a Copyright Assistant do?

A copyright assistant ensures works/agreements are being registered correctly at collection societies (e.g. PRS), dealing with claims for publishing agreements. Within this role you will be processing royalties, registering new works and analysing the royalties received to make sure they are paid correctly and within the contractually agreed timescale to writers. You will also look to resolve counterclaims where there is uncertainty around the ownership of a work.

What is a Copyright Assistant good at?

- Strong attention to detail and accuracy.
- High level of written and spoken English.
- Strong analytical skills
- Passion for music and knowledge of the music industry.
- Pro active.

How do I become a Copyright Assistant?

Get a degree in: Music or an analytical subject (non-essential)

At School or College: Music or an analytical subject

Look for an apprenticeship within a music publishing company.

Volunteer work always gives you a good idea of the music industry, also a chance to network with music professionals.

Digital Marketing Manager

Work collaboratively with digital and creative team on devising, executing and overseeing innovative (UK and international) digital marketing campaigns including advertising, social media, eCommerce...



What does a Digital Marketing Manager do?

Work collaboratively with digital and creative team on devising, executing and overseeing innovative (UK and international) digital marketing campaigns including advertising, social media, eCommerce as well as creating strategies to grow music streams, downloads, sales, video views, and social media engagement across multiple platforms.

Drive and maintain fan engagement on social media as well as email marketing lists.

Monitor and analysis data from various sources (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Wikipedia, websites, etc.) to create weekly/monthly/yearly insight reports.

Buy, traffic and optimize advertising across various platforms, inc. Facebook Business Manager, Instagram, Google Ads, et.

Create basic assets in photoshop as well as gifs or short video content.

Develop and manage relationships with relevant digital platforms in order to drive engagement, growth and traffic to hit key metrics.

Stay up to date on the latest developments in online advertising, digital media, D2C and music/technology partnerships.

What is a Copyright Assistant good at?

- Passion for music and tech
- Good knowledge of social media platforms and how to use these to engage an audience.
- Understanding of the wider music industry landscape.
- Understanding of key marketing platforms and techniques.
- Data analysis skills
- Organised, self-motivated, collaborative and good communication skills.

What does a DJ do?

The DJ's fundamental job is that of a music selector. It is up to the DJ to decide the journey they wish to take listener on, be it a club, bar or on the radio. To do so, a DJ needs to build up a catalogue of music suitable to their audiences. A DJ will have the skills to mix between records (songs) without pause, unless intentional. They'll also have the ability to add effects or use techniques like scratching to manipulate sounds in new and exciting ways. Performance DJs play the equipment as an instrument, creating a wide range of new sounds and melodies with their music collection.

How do I become a DJ?

Gain work experience / Build a portfolio. Get out into the music scene, when you are old enough and start networking. Warming up for an already established DJ is an excellent way to build up a reputation and experience within the environment you wish to work in.

What is a DJ good at?

- A good DJ is very perceptive – they will read people and pick up on their energy.
- They'll have an extensive knowledge of music genres, artist and other DJs in the industry, and keep up to date with social and musical trends.
- Researching to find new (and old) songs to play and organization skills are required to keep playlists and music collections organised.
- Foresight in deciding which songs to play next (sometimes planning two/three songs in advance).
- Timing and rhythm – you need awesome listening skills to be a DJ.
- Improvising, if the audience is not enjoying a DJ set, the DJ needs to change tact and head in a new direction with their listeners.
- DJ-ing is a very social industry and good communication skills are essential.
- You need to think in a logical way and problem solve when operating the equipment.

Instrument Teacher

An instrumental teacher works within the music education sector. This can be within formal educational settings such as schools or privately in studios or from home.



What does an Instrumental Teacher do?

An instrumental teacher works within the music education sector. This can be within formal educational settings such as schools or privately in studios or from home.

How do I become an Instrumental Teacher?

A high level of dedication and competency as a musician through years of practice and study.

Specialising in music education specific qualifications.

Engaging in Continual Professional Development (CPD)

What's an Instrumental Teacher good at?

Instrumental teachers are good at motivating students to learn instruments, guiding them through their levels of learning, managing classroom situation or 1-1's and creating fun and engaging curriculum for their students.

Tools of the trade:

- Being an inspirational and motivational teacher.
- Being musically competent and knowledgeable about the instrument or subject you are teaching.
- High level of teamwork
- High level of understanding and compassion
- Being able to work with children and young people.
- Work on a one-to-one basis and with small and large groups of children
- Being able to manage challenging behaviour
- Be self-motivated, adaptable, reliable and efficient
- Good time keeping and work ethic.

Junior Project Manager

Create, co-ordinate, maintain and facilitate release timelines, working within budgets and other marketing or resource plans



What does an Junior Product Manager do?

- Plan the launch of an album or single, both physical and digital.
- Create, co-ordinate, maintain and facilitate release timelines, working within budgets and other marketing or resource plans.
- Create campaigns and manage releases bringing ideas to life which may include coordinating and facilitating events such as interviews and shoots, in line with the marketing release strategy, artist identity and vision
- Undertake scheduling activities to make sure that releases are coordinated and their impact is maximized
- Working together with teams to develop marketing plans and social media campaigns to ensure successful releases. Track the success of marketing campaigns against sales which may include monitoring press coverage
- Collate and analyse data from multiple sources including Digital Service Provider (DSP), social media activities and sales to produce insights and trends to support recommendations for future campaigns.
- Using industry knowledge to identify opportunities such as submissions for industry awards or applying for funding to maximise the impact of the release.
- Make suggestions for commissioning technology innovation to support releases which may include apps, micro-sites, VR/immersive experiences to maximise exposure
- General support for Senior Product Manager for example through diary management

What's a Junior Product Manager good at?

- Prioritisation and time planning
- Working under pressure with good attention to detail
- Excellent verbal and written communication
- Event management skills
- Understanding of royalty collection and registration process of PPL
- Knowledge of wider music industry landscape
- Basic photo and video editing skills

Live Event Technician

Live events range from concerts, festivals and theatrical performances through to exhibitions, conferences, product launches and showcases.



What's does a Live Event Technician do?

Live events range from concerts, festivals and theatrical performances through to exhibitions, conferences, product launches and showcases. Live Event Technicians prepare and set-up technical equipment for such events. Ultimately specialising in sound, lighting or video, Live Event Technicians will carry out routine and one-off technical preparation and set-up of equipment for events. They will have knowledge of the equipment used and the skills needed to store, pick, maintain, transport and build components into a functioning system as well as operate these systems. A Live Event Technician will be part of the team that turns a venue into a functioning event environment before returning the site to its original state, often within a short time frame. Outside the event environment, technicians are responsible for the control, servicing, repair and storage of complex technical equipment. In any context working safely and ethically is paramount and many projects are carried out in fast moving, dynamic workplaces. Live Event Technicians will be expected to work both individually and as part of a production team. They will be able to work with minimum supervision, taking responsibility for the quality and accuracy of the work that is undertaken. They will be proactive in finding solutions to problems and identifying areas for improving processes. The nature of this role requires that candidates are physically fit and comfortable working at height. The skills and knowledge acquired can lead to a variety of roles from on-site technician to in-house project manager, and potentially on to the account managers & production managers of the future.

What's a Live Event Technician good at?

The dynamic and diverse nature of live events means that technicians will need the ability to work within various team environments, under pressure and to tight deadlines. A safe working attitude and an appreciation of the needs of other disciplines operating in the same workplace is crucial.

How do I become a Live Event Technician?

At School or College: Math, English, an interest in lighting/sound/video. Computer skills can be useful.

Gain work experience / Build a portfolio: Volunteering for school productions, working at local theatre or venue.

Look for an apprenticeship

Get a degree: Live event production

Music Manager

Music Managers exist to represent Music Makers – eg Artists, Bands, Producers, Songwriters and nurture their business and creative interests.



What's does a Music Manager do?

Music Managers exist to represent Music Makers – eg Artists, Bands, Producers, Songwriters and nurture their business and creative interests. Managers can be considered the Chief Operating Officer of the Artists global business. In many scenarios they are the early investors and developers of the artists career taking on a “360” development role.

Music Managers jobs are incredibly broad, varied (depending on their relationship with the Artist) and can be structured differently in terms of remuneration, responsibility and contracts. Some Managers work within, or for larger management companies — some work independently.

The job involves the following core principles; Putting the Artist first, Understanding the music industry, Understanding and establishing the Artist's place in the industry, believing in the Artist's product, Making the right decisions and knowing the wider marketplace.

Larger Management Companies also recruit for “day-to-day” management roles which typically focus on the increasing amount of administrative support required to deliver a range of services. These roles generally include; Database management, Maintaining and filing assets, Managing artist rights accounts, Chasing, checking and filing royalty statements, Updating budgets, Diary management, Booking travel and accommodation, Booking studios, Preparing itineraries, Passport and visa applications, Monitoring and managing social media accounts, Compiling offers and requests for artist approval, Coordinating tour announcements and updating tour profiles, Tour and creative production assistance, Developing creative assets, data analytics, social media management and more.

How do I become a Music Manager?

There's no one set route to becoming a Music Manager – but a common theme of any successful managers career is finding a brilliant Artist, believing in them, working hard and making something amazing happen.

Tools of the trade:

Managers have a holistic and 360 view of the music industry and input on all activities associated with an Artists career. A good manager will typically have a working knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- A deep understanding of the various components of the Music Industry, Strategy
- Accounting/Finance, Legal, Contractual, Marketing/branding/sponsorship, A&R, Sync,
- Music Publishing, Live Events, Touring, Recording, Negotiation, Trustworthy, Honest,
- Business Acumen, Networking, International markets, Digital marketing and distribution, Copyright and Image Intellectual Property, Health and Safety, Record Labels, Publishing, Public Relations/Media, Professional Development, the artists Mental and Physical Health and Wellbeing, Managing freelancers and third-party services.

Music Producer

A music producer supports musicians and recording artists in a variety of ways in the recording and realisation of their music.



What's does a Music Producer do?

A Music Producer supports musicians and recording artists in a variety of ways in the recording and realisation of their music. The nature and application of this support will be different for every project and this results in some exciting challenges. A Music Producer can come from a musical background, as a musician, or from a technical background, as a recording engineer, or both. The role is principally a creative one but they must be able to balance the administration requirements with the creative ones to enable an appropriate environment for the artists to perform.

How do I become a Music Producer?

You will need to acquire experience by collaborating with other creative people to develop the skills required, however:

At school or college: Learning an instrument will always be useful and you should not just rely on your school to make this available. There are many further education courses at colleges offering Level 3 qualifications. Also, many colleges offer HNC or HND qualifications at Levels 4 and 5 that can count towards a degree.

Build a portfolio: Work with local musicians and artists who you find exciting, as this will enable you to gain experience, develop your skills and build a reputation.

Get a degree: There are many degrees that focus upon different aspects of music production. Some are biased towards the music and creativity and others are more technological. There is an industry accreditation process that defines some of the best courses – go to www.jamesonline.org.uk for more details.

What's a Music Producer good at?

The role calls on many other skills such as:

- Project management
- Budget management
- People management
- Team building
- Negotiating skills

Research Officer

Accountable for extensive research to enable matching, updating or creation of works, cues and productions in the PRS for Music systems



What's does a Research Officer do?

Ensure our members get paid the money they deserve for the music they produce.

- Accountable for extensive research to enable matching, updating or creation of works, cues and productions in the PRS for Music systems
- To take ownership for decisions regarding research on items and follow best practice at all times to ensure efficient and accurate payments to members
- Work to distribution deadlines whilst meeting departmental targets for both Productivity and Quality
- To constructively challenge the status quo and recommend changes to procedures and processes that will improve efficiency
- Analyse and interpret data to be able to report inconsistencies or errors, and take responsibility for acting on findings

What's a Research Officer good at?

Business perspective – makes calculated decisions

- Critically evaluates information to identify potential errors and checks that information is completed
- Takes responsibility for achieving objectives, highlighting potential problems in a timely way
- Uses initiative, does not wait to be told or directed
- Working collaboratively with people
- Supporting progress and embracing learning

How do I become a Research Officer?

- A background in research, data analysis or process driven role is essential and an interest in music is preferred
- Previous experience of working in a target driven environment
- An ability to work on own initiative is important as this role is home-based
- Standard of literacy and numeracy equivalent to GCSE level qualification in English and Maths
- Computer literate and experience in the use of standard
- High degree of accuracy and attention to detail
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Microsoft Office software applications especially Word and Excel and Outlook

Orchestra Musician

An orchestral musician works mainly in the live industry performing in the West End, orchestras and live bands.



What's does an Orchestra Musician do?

An orchestral musician works mainly in the live industry performing in the West End, orchestras and live bands.

What's an Orchestra Musician good at?

Performing live and recording a wide range of music at a high level in a variety of settings.

How do I become an Orchestra Musician?

Years of practice at a high level usually on one instrument.
Studying at a specialist conservatoire

Tools of the trade:

- Being brilliant at performing on their instrument
- Being a perfect sight reader
- Being able to adapt their playing style to suit the genre of music
- Working well with a range of colleagues
- Being self-motivated, adaptable, reliable, flexible and efficient
- Good time keeping and work ethic
- High level of teamwork

Royalties Assistant

As a royalties assistant, you will track and manage royalty accounting and report for external writer royalties as well as internal accounting.



What's does a Royalties Assistant do?

As a royalties assistant, you will track and manage royalty accounting and report for external writer royalties as well as internal accounting. It requires a highly organised person and someone who can work across multiple enquiries at once. You will be analysing income statements and ensuring that all new released products and songs information is updated within the royalty system.

What's a Royalties Assistant good at?

- High organization
- Strong time management
- Proficient in Excel
- Ability to multi-task
- Strong analytical mind
- Strong numeracy skills

How do I become a Royalties Assistant?

Get a degree in: Economics, Finance, Music or Music Business / Management or an analytical subject (Non-Essential)

At School or College: Economics, Business Studies, Music or an analytical subject

Look for an apprenticeship within a music publishing company

Session Musician

A session musician works mainly in the recording and broadcast industry recording commercial audio, film soundtracks, music for adverts, jingles, television signature tunes, incidental music and music for radio.



What's does a Session Musician do?

A session musician works mainly in the recording and broadcast industry recording commercial audio, film soundtracks, music for adverts, jingles, television signature tunes, incidental music and music for radio.

How do I become a Session Musician?

- Years of practice on instrument
- Regular performing with an ensemble (many top session musicians have been principal players in orchestras etc)
- Having an impressive track record as a performer
- Finding a way into the industry mainly by personal recommendation from an already established session musician
- Having a good relationship with a contractor (fixer)

Tools of the Trade:

- Being brilliant at performing on their instrument
- Being a perfect sight reader
- Being able to adapt their playing style to suit the genre of music
- Working well with a range of colleagues
- Being self-motivated, adaptable, reliable, flexible and efficient

Sync Assistant

You will be working on different mediums on an international level. Working on multiple projects at once but making sure that your writer/producer is getting the correct licensing agreement and value for the medium/piece.



What's does a Sync Assistant do?

Within a sync team you will be licensing music for use in film, TV, advertising, live events and games responding to briefs and pitching your company's repertoire for placements. You will be working on different mediums on an international level. Working on multiple projects at once but making sure that your writer/producer is getting the correct licensing agreement and value for the medium/piece.

What's a Sync Assistant good at?

- Multitasking over different projects at the same time
- Responsive and working to fast and strict deadlines
- Very organised and high attention to detail
- Strong networking skills to maintain and establish new contacts and business opportunities for your company's writers and repertoire
- Creative ability to pitch to briefs
- Strong negotiation skills
- Strong understanding of the music industry and a passion for music, must know the company's repertoire and catalogue inside out
- Proactive person

How do I become a Sync Assistant?

Although many executives working in sync do not have qualifications in music specifically, the following courses may be helpful within the role:

Get a degree in: Music, Music Business/Management (Non-Essential)

At School or College: Music, Business Studies

Look for an apprenticeship with a record label or publisher

Music Recording / Mixing Engineer

A Music Recording/Mixing Engineer oversees the many sonic and technical aspects of a recording session

What's does a Music Recording/ Mixing Engineer do?

A Music Recording/Mixing Engineer oversees the many sonic and technical aspects of a recording session and is responsible for the overall sound of all recorded tracks to ensuring the final product satisfies the Artist and Producers.

What's a Music Recording/ Mixing Engineer good at?

The role calls on many skills such as:

- Project management
- People management
- Understanding Studio Recording Technology and Equipment
- Communication & Team building

How do I become a Music Recording/ Mixing Engineer?

At School or College: FE College Levels 2 &3 Music Technology Diplomas / Music Technology A-Level at Schools.

Gain work experience / Build a portfolio.

Look for an apprenticeship.

Get a degree in Music Technology / Audio courses

Who does a Music Recording/ Mixing Engineer work with?

Music and audio producers, musicians, record labels, artist managers, publishers, songwriters and composers.

Project Coordinator

Working within arts organisations (e.g. music trade associations, at funding bodies or for talent development agencies), a project coordinator is usually responsible for supporting the operational running of core activities



What's does a Project Coordinator do?

Working within arts organisations (e.g. music trade associations, at funding bodies or for talent development agencies), a project coordinator is usually responsible for supporting the operational running of core activities, for delivering day-to-day administration and reporting tasks, and for dealing with enquiries from members/applicants/music creators. They would normally work closely with and report to a project manager.

What's a Project Coordinator good at?

Coordinators are very well organised, reliable and have strong administration skills, with an approachable manner, a can-do attitude. The role suits those with a passion for music and supporting others

Tools of the trade:

Project coordinators usually need a working knowledge of admin software including Microsoft Word and Excel.

How do I become a Project Coordinator?

At School or College: Relevant subjects include Music, English Language and Business Studies.

Gain work experience / Build a portfolio: Building a network of contacts within the not-for-profit sector will help. Volunteering or taking on smaller roles working alongside that organisation can help you to get a foot in the door, and many of these organisations have work experience or paid internship opportunities.

Look for an apprenticeship: At the larger trade associations such as PRS for Music and PPL

Get a degree: This can help for some of the roles, and most project coordinators have degree-level education, but it's not compulsory. Relevant degrees would include:

Music Business

Music Management

Music Lawyer

A Music Lawyer specializes in legal issues specific to the music industry, handling contracts, copyright, trademarks, and artist representation



What does a Music Lawyer do?

A music lawyer is a specialized attorney who deals with legal issues surrounding the music industry. They are trained to handle a wide range of legal issues, like contract management, copyright claims, trademark disputes, artist representation, and many more.

While their duties are similar to those of other lawyers, it must be emphasized that entertainment law requires deep specialization. Music law, in particular, requires attorneys to know the ins and outs of the music industry, from the handling of brands and artists to dealing with recording studios and licenses.

Here are some of the services you can expect from a music lawyer:

- Facilitate Recording Agreements
- Intellectual Property Licensing
- Broadcasting rights

Who does a Music Lawyer work with?

A music lawyer works with a wide range of clients within the music industry, including recording artists, songwriters, producers, managers, record labels, music publishers, and other rights holders. They also represent industry executives, influencers, content creators, brands, and agencies involved in the wider media and entertainment landscape.

How do I become an Assistant Recording Technician?

To become a music lawyer, you need to first become a qualified solicitor or barrister, which involves a law degree, postgraduate legal training, and passing the bar exam.

After that, you need to gain experience in entertainment law, preferably with a focus on music, by working for firms or companies specializing in this area or by seeking internships.

Music Data Administrator

Business success is dependent on having complete and accurate repertoire, rights, performer and member data on which to match, claim and pay our members the money they are owed for when their music is played.



What's does a Music Data Administrator do?

Business success is dependent on having complete and accurate repertoire, rights, performer and member data on which to match, claim and pay our members the money they are owed for when their music is played. In this role you will be responsible for making sure that the data received is correct and complete by identifying any issues and correcting them within the databases.

What's a Music Data Administrator good at?

- IT, especially Microsoft excel
- Communicating with others, both written and verbally
- Problem solving and taking initiative
- Taking an interest in the music industry
- Paying attention to the finer detail
- Building relationships
- Working as a team

How do I become a Music Data Administrator?

At school or college work towards getting an A Level standard of education.

Gain work experience in an office environment, ideally within data processing.

Look for an apprenticeship in administration or data processing.

Search for jobs within administration or data processing.

Songwriter

A songwriter is a music creator who writes songs. Songs are pieces of music which feature the voice, contains lyrics, melody and may be accompanied by an/a instrument(s), commonly a guitar or piano.



What's does a Songwriter do?

A songwriter is a music creator who writes songs. Songs are pieces of music which feature the voice, contains lyrics, melody and may be accompanied by an/a instrument(s), commonly a guitar or piano. Song are either written by one songwriter or multiple co-writers. Songwriters may perform their own songs or write songs for other artists to perform.

What's a Songwriter good at?

Writing songs – lyric writing, playing and composing music on instruments. A songwriter is also often good at using recording software such as logic, ableton and garageband.

How do I become a Songwriter?

You can become a songwriter by teaching yourself and/or attending songwriting courses at college or university.

To become a professional songwriter it is important to become skilled at songwriting through practice and improving your songwriting techniques, to sign-up to Collective Management Organisations (CMOs) such as PRS, MCPS and PPL (if a performing songwriter).

It is also important to build music industry connections through networking to create opportunities and to build a team of business partners, such as a manager and a publisher.

Composer for Video Games

The primary role is to compose music for video games. The composer will often be expected to produce and record their music and deliver a final product.



What's does a Composer for Video Games do?

The primary role is to compose music for video games. The composer will often be expected to produce and record their music and deliver a final product. They will often have to implement their own music into the game. They will need to deal with the business side such as negotiating the contract, fees, rights, hiring musicians, preparing the music for recording (also known as music preparation / copying, so the musicians have the necessary sheet music to play from). Testing the game and fixing any bugs in the delivery of your files. They will need to be in regular contact with the client, attend meetings, react to feedback, work under tight deadlines and pressure, and it is accepted that they will be a highly proficient composer and musician.

What's a Composer for Video Games good at?

You must be a master of your craft. You must be an excellent communicator and be able to react to constantly changing briefs both for the music and within the game design. Things change on a daily business for a game composer so you must be able to react in a cool-headed manner whilst always delivering the music on time and on budget. Understanding games is crucial. You could write the most beautiful piece of music known to the world, but if it's simply an 'accompaniment' rather than an integral part of the experience, then you should focus on a career in film or TV. Games are an interactive medium, not a passive experience, so learn how games are put together so you can make the experience more immersive for the player.

How do I become a Composer for Video Games?

First and foremost, learn how to compose music. Play one or two (or more) instruments. Reach a good standard on those instruments. Learn music theory. Learn harmony, composition, music history. Then you can specialise in any field.

In terms of game specific requirements, play games, learn how to compose interactive / adaptive/ procedural music. Learn middleware tools that are used in the games industry. Network! This is a very competitive industry, so you need to meet people. Be a problem solver. Be hungry, never stop learning or give up the will/ability to learn. Keep a cool head. These days most opportunities are freelance based, with the exception of a very few companies that still have in-house composers. Therefore, you need to have your own musical voice and find where you would fit into a specific project or company.

The best way to start is doing to game jams, indie games, casual games etc. whilst you gain experience. It would be beneficial if you could also handle sound FX and dialogue when starting out, even to a basic level, since smaller developers would be looking for an 'all in' audio solution.

Media Music Composer

Composes, produces and records music for Television, Film and Advertising. The composer will often be expected to produce and record their music and deliver a final product.

What's does a Music Media Composer do?

Composes, produces and records music for Television, Film and Advertising. The composer will often be expected to produce and record their music and deliver a final product. They will need to deal with the business side such as negotiating the contract, fees, rights, hiring musicians, preparing the music for recording (also known as music preparation / copying, so the musicians have the necessary sheet music to play from). They will need to be in regular contact with the client, attend meetings, react to feedback, work under tight deadlines and pressure, and it is accepted that they will be a highly proficient composer and musician, able to write music that enhances the image on screen and the emotions / action within a scene.

What's a Music Media Composer good at?

Creating finished pieces of music to a very high standard in – often – very short periods of time. They must be good listeners and communicators, taking instructions from producers and directors telling them what they need the composer to deliver.

Tools of the Trade:

- Usually, a DAW based studio system and the experience to use it.
- A selection of sound libraries (as much as you can afford).
- Intimate knowledge of music production in numerous styles and genres; ability to produce bespoke music to exacting specifications based on style, time, genre etc.
- An in-depth understanding and hands-on experience of working with other musicians, ensembles, performers, orchestras and studios is essential going forward.

Studio Maintenance Engineer



Studio Maintenance Engineer handles the maintenance, repair, and installation recording equipment in Recording studios

What's does a Studio Maintenance Engineer do?

Studio Maintenance Engineer handles the maintenance, repair, and installation recording equipment in Recording studios.

What's a Studio Maintenance Engineer good at?

Repairing and installing electronic recording equipment and computers.

Who does a Studio Maintenance Engineer work with?

Studio Recording Engineers and Assistant Engineers, music producers and musicians.

How do I become a Studio Maintenance Engineer?

At School or College: FE College Levels 2 &3 Music Technology Diplomas / Music Technology A-Level at Schools and Sixth Form Colleges.

Foley Artist

A Foley artist creates sound effects for film, television, and video games, often using everyday objects to mimic sounds like footsteps, breaking glass, or animal noises.

What does a Foley Artist do?

A Foley Artist uses an arsenal of props, foley artists devise and record the everyday sounds heard in films, television shows, and video games—noises like footsteps, a sword being drawn from a sheath, or the swishing of clothing as two people walk past each other.

They are the sound that we hear in media outside of the voices being recorded.

Who does a Foley Artist work with?

A Foley artist primarily works with the post-production sound team, specifically with sound recordists and mixers, to create and record sound effects for film and television.

They collaborate with sound editors and designers to enhance the overall soundscape of a production.

Foley artists also work with the director and production crew to understand the sound needs for each scene.

What is a Foley Artist at?

A Foley artist excels at creating and recording realistic sound effects in post-production to enhance the audio experience of film, television, and other media.

They specialize in synchronizing sounds with on-screen action, particularly movements and object interactions, that were not captured cleanly on set. This includes footsteps, clothing rustles, object handling, and various other environmental sounds.

How do I become a Foley Artist?

To become a Foley artist, you typically need a combination of

- Education
- practical experience
- strong networking.

There's no single path, but many aspiring Foley artists start in related roles like sound editor or assistant mixer, then learn the craft through mentorship and hands-on work on smaller projects before progressing to larger productions.

Assistant Recording Technician



An Assistant Recording Engineer assists the Recording Engineers and Producers in recording the music of artists in studios or on location.

What's does an Assistant Recording Technician do?

An Assistant Recording Engineer assists the Recording Engineers and Producers in recording the music of artists in studios or on location.

This occupation is found in broadcasters and production companies that edit and produce music and sound content prior to release across multiple platforms. This includes music that is recorded for sale under the artists name and that used in TV, radio, film and computer games.

Assistant Recording Technicians work as part of a small team, often in a studio environment. They work with a variety of technological tools. They need knowledge and skills related to both the hardware and software used.

They work closely with, and under the direction of more experienced and senior Audio or Recording Engineers. Audio recording businesses may be large or small. Assistant Recording Technicians may work directly for a studio or in a self-employed capacity.

What is an Assistant Recording Technician good at?

- Understanding studio recording technology and equipment
- Operating digital audio workstations
- Project management
- People management

How do I become an Assistant Recording Technician?

FE College Levels 2 &3 Music Technology Diplomas / Music Technology A-Level at Schools and Sixth Form Colleges.

Music Law Paralegal

A Music Law Paralegal assists lawyers with legal tasks, research, and document preparation.



What does a Music Law Paralegal do?

A Music Law Paralegal provides crucial administrative and legal support within the music industry, specializing in intellectual property, contract law, and related areas.

They assist with tasks like:

- Drafting and managing contracts
- Conducting legal research
- Handling document management.

Essentially, they act as a vital bridge between legal professionals and the music business, helping to navigate the complexities of copyright, licensing, and other legal aspects of the industry.

Who does a Music Lawyer work with?

Lawyers, business and legal affairs department, record labels and publishing companies, artists, songwriters and producer, digital music services, business development teams, finance.

What's a Music Law Paralegal good at?

The role calls on many skills such as:

- Legal Knowledge
- Drafting and reviewing agreements
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Excellent written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills
- Highly organised
- Proficient in technology
- A Genuine passion for music and the music industry

How do I become an Assistant Recording Technician?

To become a music law paralegal, you will need to have:

- Law degree or an Equivalent
- Paralegal Qualification
- Specialised courses for example, paralegal courses focusing on the media and entertainment law.
- Paralegal experience.
- Music industry experience, for example in music publishing.
- You can seek internships with law firms specializing in music law or with music companies directly.

Mastering Engineer

A Mastering Engineer prepares the final mixes for release.



What's does a Mastering Engineer do?

A mastering engineer prepares the final mixes for release by quality checking the audio, processing the audio to ensure it translates and sounds the best it possibly can on different listening applications, and creates formats ready for distribution.

Who does a Mastering Engineer work with?

Music producers and engineers, record companies and management companies.

How do I become a Mastering Engineer?

At School or College: FE College Levels 2 &3 Music Technology Diplomas / Music Technology A-Level at Schools and Sixth Form Colleges.

Electronic Engineering courses at FE and HE levels.

Look for an apprenticeship:

Get a degree in Music technology/audio courses

What is a Mastering Engineer good at?

Adding the final adjustments/processing and solutions to music mixes.

Creating formats ready for distribution.

Why work in a creative industry?

The UK's creative industries contribute **£92 billion** every year to the economy, and in 2017 the number of people employed was just over 2 million. That accounts for **6%** of all UK jobs!

But what does that mean for me?

Not only are creative industries enjoyable to work in (creative workers claim to be the happiest at work*), it's also a growing industry. It's expected to be worth **£128.4 billion** by 2025 and have created another **1 million** jobs by 2030!

Careers in Music

There are so many different roles within music, most of which exist outside of performance-based roles. The roles that I have listed above are only a very small list of what you could do within the music industry.

If you would like to explore more roles within the music industry, use some of the links below to help you.

<https://www.careersinmusic.com/music-careers-list/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/groups/cn3zjnnjk8gt>

<https://www.icmp.ac.uk/industry-connections/music-industry-jobs>

[UK Music Careers - UK Music](#)

www.ukmusic.org

Unifrog resources

Careers library

- [Music producer](#)
- [Mix engineer](#)
- [Session musician](#)
- [Music teacher](#)
- [Music therapist](#)
- [Musical instrument maker](#)
- [Classical musician](#)
- [DJ](#)
- [Singer](#)

Subjects library

- [Music](#)

Careers library

✓ Careers favoured



Subjects library

✓ Subjects favoured



Buckley Boland
DJ
Self Employed

DJ
DJs play recorded music on the radio or at live venues.

[Read the profile >](#)

Bethany Lee
Music with a yearship at
University of Southampton

Music
The study of various music styles, from classical to jazz, in order to perform, compose, conduct or teach at a professional level.

[Read the profile >](#)



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