

PT101: Pro Tools Fundamentals I – (Two-Days)

Getting to Know Pro Tools

What Is Pro Tools?

- Audio
- MIDI
- Notation
- Mixing
- Post Production

The Story of Pro Tools

- In the Beginning
- Evolving into Digidesign
- The Birth of Pro Tools
- Pro Tools Matures
- Expansion of Avid Audio
- ICON Integrated Console Environment
- VENUE Live Sound Environment
- Pro Tools in This Decade
- Where We Are Today

Basics of Digital Audio

- Basic Parameters of Sound: Waveform, Frequency, and Amplitude
- Recording and Playing Back Analog Audio
- Analog to Digital Conversion
- Recording in Digital Format

Pro Tools System Configurations

- Software Options
- Host Based Systems Versus DSP Accelerated Systems
- Audio Interface Options (Non HD)
- Pro Tools |HD Series Audio Interfaces
- Pro Tools Software Features
- Included Plug Ins and Extras

Cross Platform Issues

- Keyboard Commands
- File Naming Conventions

Getting Inside Pro Tools

Target Systems

Pro Tools File Structure

- File Organization
- Session Components

Starting Pro Tools

- Powering Up Your Hardware
- Using the PACE iLok System
- Launching Pro Tools
- Accessing Connected Audio Devices
- Optimizing Host Based Pro Tools Performance

The Pro Tools Software Interface

- The Menu Structure
- Main Pro Tools Windows
- Tool Tips

Edit Tool Functions

- Zoomer Tool



- Trim Tool
- Selector Tool
- Grabber Tool
- Scrubber Tool
- Pencil Tool
- Smart Tool

Edit Modes

- Shuffle Mode
- Slip Mode
- Spot Mode
- Grid Mode

Time Scales and Rulers

- Main Time Scale
- Sub Time Scale
- Ruler Display Options

MIDI Control Features

- Wait for Note
- Metronome
- Countoff Controls
- MIDI Merge Mode
- Ruler Enable
- Meter Display
- Tempo Field

Creating Your First Session

The Dashboard

Creating and Configuring a Pro Tools Session

- Choosing Session Parameter Settings
- File Size Considerations
- Creating the Session

Working with Tracks

- Adding Tracks
- Naming Tracks
- Deleting Tracks
- Adding Audio to Tracks

The Playback Cursor and the Edit Cursor

- Playback Cursor
- Edit Cursor
- Setting the Playback Point
- Locating the Playback Cursor
- Scrolling Options

Saving, Locating, and Opening Existing Sessions

- Saving a Session
- Locating and Opening a Session

Making Your First Audio Recording

Before Recording

- Audio Storage Requirements
- Disk Usage Window

Preparing to Record

- Creating a Click Track (Optional)
- Checking Hardware Connections
- Record Enabling Tracks

- Setting Input Path, Level, and Pan

Recording and Managing Audio

Organizing after Recording

- Return to Playback Mode
- Organize Audio Files and Clips
- Removing Audio Clips and Deleting Audio Files

Importing and Working with Media in a Session

Considerations Prior to Import

- Bit Depth, Sample Rate, and File Format
- Configuration of Stereo Files

Importing Audio

- Import Audio Dialog Box
- Importing Audio with the Import Command
- Importing Audio with Workspace Browsers
- Batch Importing Audio
- Importing Audio from an Audio CD

Importing Video

- Video Track Display
- Working with Video Tracks

Making Your First MIDI Recording

MIDI Basics

MIDI in Pro Tools

- Creating MIDI Compatible Tracks
- Sample Based Operation versus Tick Based Operation
- Time Scale and Rulers for Working with MIDI

Setting the Session Meter, Tempo, and Key Signature

- Setting the Session Meter
- Setting the Session Tempo
- Setting the Session Key Signature

Preparing to Record MIDI

- Connecting a MIDI Device
- Checking MIDI Inputs/Outputs
- Record Enabling MIDI Compatible Tracks
- Setting Record Options

Using Virtual Instruments

- Placing a Virtual Instrument on an Instrument Track
- Using Xpand!2
- Using Boom
- Using Structure Free
- *Recording MIDI*

Viewing MIDI Data on MIDI Compatible Tracks

- MIDI Clips View
- MIDI Notes View
- Velocity View
- MIDI Editor Window Views

Selecting and Navigating

Using the Universe View

- Resizing the Universe
- The Current View Indicator
- Moving and Scrolling from the Universe View

Types of Selection

- Timeline Selections
- Edit Selections

Working with Selections

- Creating Separate Timeline Selections and Edit Selections
- Making Selections on Multiple Tracks
- Using the Tab Key
- Tabbing to Transient Points

Adjusting the Session View

- Adjusting Track Size
- Changing the Track Order
- Using the Zoomer Tool
- Using Zoom Toggle
- Changing the Horizontal and Vertical Zoom
- Storing and Recalling Zoom Presets

Adding Markers to Your Session

- About Memory Locations
- Creating a Marker
- The Memory Locations Window
- Recalling a Marker Location
- Deleting a Marker Location
- Creating a Selection Using Markers

Basic Editing Techniques

Selecting Playback Options

- Scrolling
- Loop Playback

Using the Edit Modes

- Shuffle Mode
- Slip Mode
- Spot Mode
- Grid Mode
- Snap To Grid
- Configuring the Grid
- *Editing Clips*
- Common Editing Commands
- Pro Tools Specific Editing Commands

Moving and Trimming Clips

- Using the Grabber Tool
- Using the Trim Functions
- Using the Nudge Function
- *Creating Fade Effects*
- Fade Ins and Fade Outs
- Crossfades
- Fade Settings

Undoing Your Work

- Using Multi Level Undo
- Using Restore Last Selection
- Using Revert to Saved
- Restoring from Session Backups

Basic Mixing Techniques

Basic Mixer Terminology

- Inputs
- Outputs
- Inserts
- Sends and Returns

The Pro Tools Mix Window

- Configuring the Mix Window

Basic Automation

- Recording Automation (Write Mode)
- Playing Back Automation (Read Mode)
- Turning Automation Off
- Viewing Automation Playlists
- Editing Breakpoint Automation

Real Time Plug Ins

- Real Time Plug In Features
- Real Time Plug In Formats
- Plug Ins Provided with Pro Tools

Finishing Your Work

Backing Up Your Session

- Saving a Session Copy
- Sharing a Session between Systems

Creating a Stereo Mixdown

- Considerations for Bouncing Audio
- Bouncing to Tracks
- Bouncing to Disk
- Adding a Bounce File to Your iTunes Library

Burning Songs to CD from iTunes