



8 STEP FINISHING CHECKLIST

THE 8-BAR CHECK

Every 8-bars, SOMETHING needs to happen. It can be subtle, it can be obvious - it really doesn't matter, but make sure your music is changing and progressing and maintaining interest.

THE SOLOING TECHNIQUE

Is your kick getting lost? Not sure what the problem is? Bring in ONE element from your mix at a time until you determine the exact moment a problem arises. Then fix it.

THE MUTING TECHNIQUE

Every sound needs to have a purpose. When playing your entire mix, mute individual layers one by one to quickly learn what is unnecessary in your mix. If you can't hear it drop off, get rid of it.

THE MONO CHECK

Mono still matters - sort of. When you're in the final stages of your track, it's a good idea to check your mix in mono and make sure the mix hasn't gone to absolute shit.

RMS METERING

Your ears will always be your most important tool, but it's a good idea to check your levels with a plugin. Use a spectrum analyzer of your choice and compare your master to a reference.

COMMERCIAL STEREOS

Studio monitors are great and all, but it's important to note how your music translates across other systems. So reference your music on car stereos, iPhone speakers, club systems, docking stations etc.

TAKE A BREAK

You put your ears through a clinical form of torture when mixing for too long. So, take a damn break already! In fact, take a few days off if you can and give your ears (and mind) a rest.

THE FRESH LISTEN

Now that you haven't listened to your track in 2-3 days, take one commercial listen. Enjoy it. Write down some minimal notes. Make some small tweaks and move on, or start the entire process again.

FOR VIDEO EXPLANATIONS OF EACH STEP:

[HYPERBITSMUSIC.COM/FINISH](https://hyperbitmusic.com/finish)