**VRS STUDIOS INDEPENDENT ARTIST INFORMATION SHEET**

Thank you for considering VRS Studios for your music production and mixing needs. Being an independent artist is exciting and being able to release and promote your own music comes with some very important information you need to know before proceeding. If you are a songwriter or plan on being part of the creative process, you need to do the following. Of course reading up on google on any of these topics will help you as well.

Understanding how to monetize and make money from your music is very very important. In today’s world, there are several revenue streams in the music industry where you can make your money back on your music. They are listed below.

1. Become a member of ASCAP or BMI. You can visit either at [www.ascap.com](http://www.ascap.com) or [www.bmi.com](http://www.bmi.com) these are the PRO or (Performing rights organizations) that pay when your music is performed or “played” streamed..etc.. without registering yourself and your songs you will not ever get paid.
2. Become a member of TUNECORE or DISTROKID. These companies help get your music uploaded onto all streaming platforms like spotify,pandora,TIDAL etc. They have online artist portals where you can see who is streaming your music and where it is being consumed. It’ also gives you great insight on your fanbase, audience and where to promote!
3. Learn about song publishing and copyrighting your music. There is difference between the “song” and the RECORDING of the song. If you are a songwriter, understand that if you collaborate with another songwriter, producer who writes music on your songs etc., you will need to do a “song split” and mutual copyright together.
4. Joining [www.soundexchange.com](http://www.soundexchange.com) especially when working with an independent producer, this is a company who tracks and pays the producer and artist.
5. Understand you are investing in yourself and plan on spending quality money on your music. Remember, you only make the song once, you spend the rest of your life listening to it. So, make it good!
6. Understand what a “music license” is. This is when a 3rd party company wants to “license” the right from you to put your music in a tv commercial or movie or video. This can be a very good source of higher dollar income for you and all the writers. Google it and know it!

Common terms to know:

“**Master Recording or Master**”- This is the finished final mix of your song once it’s been recorded and mixed and mastered.

“**Mastering**”- this is the last and final process used AFTER your song has been mixed. Typically after final mix, your song is mastered or sent out to a “mastering engineer” for the final polish, this is where they take the final stereo mix and do some final sweetening , leveling to bring it that extra 10% to pro standard so it sounds good on all systems you play it on. It can make the extra difference!

“**MP3 or Wave File**”- These are terms used to describe the file type to send out for streaming or mastering. And MP3 is a lower quality digital copy of your song and a WAVE or WAVE File is the highest resolution sounding copy, it’s the best , this is what you send out to get mastered.

“**DAW**”- this mean Digital Audio Workstation, these are programs like LOGIC PRO, PRO TOOLS ETC used for recording and mixing music.

“**44:1 or 48K** files” this is the recording “resolution” or QUALITY setting in the computer to record your music. 44:1 is most common. 48K is a bit higher quality both are used in modern pop recording.

These are some common terms you may here throughout the recording process and you need to know them, you will be using these as long as you work in any studio.

*We do things the right way here at VRS Studios, we have client agreements we share with you showing you how we handle our business here. All business is done fair here and all writers and or track makers get their fair share. All song split sheets and client agreements are here in the studio for us to use, just ask.*

Thank you

Andy, Owner.