

DAW Basics

Music

The vocabulary of every recording program, whichever one you use.

Terms shared by Logic, Ableton, Pro Tools, Reaper, FL Studio and the rest.

Term	What it is
Track	One instrument or one microphone
Region / clip	A block of recorded audio or MIDI
Bus	A channel several tracks are routed into
Send	A copy of a signal sent elsewhere, usually to reverb
Insert	An effect placed directly in a channel
Automation	A parameter recorded as it changes over time
Bounce / export	Rendering the mix to a single file
Latency	Delay between playing and hearing

Group related tracks onto a bus — all drums, all vocals — and process them together. It is faster and it sounds more coherent.