

Reverb & Delay

Music

The controls on each, and how to place a sound without losing it.

Reverb — a space

- Pre-delay: gap before it starts, 20–40 ms keeps clarity
- Decay: how long it lasts
- Size: how big the room reads as
- Damping: how fast the highs die away
- High-pass the return around 200 Hz

Delay — distinct repeats

- Time: gap between repeats, often synced to tempo
- Feedback: how many repeats
- Mix: how loud against the source
- 1/8 dotted is the classic rhythmic delay
- Ping-pong alternates left and right

THE DIFFERENCE THAT MATTERS

Reverb pushes something back in the mix; delay can add space without pushing anything back. Use delay when clarity matters.

Both are almost always better on a send than an insert — it keeps the dry signal untouched and the space consistent.