



The Meter

User manual. Measuring a song on your own device, reading the result, checking delivery, fixing what can be fixed for free, and getting the report.

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Document

User manual
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Applies to

Phone, tablet, Mac
and Windows, from the
browser or installed

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01 What The Meter is

Is the song ready, and who is it for?

The Meter is a free song analysis app. Drop a mix or a master on it and it measures the file on your own device: loudness against the streaming standards, peaks and clipping, dynamics, stereo width, tempo, key, tonal balance, and energy across the song. Every figure comes with a plain verdict, so you do not need to know what a LUFS is to see whether the song is too loud for Spotify.

Then, if you ask, it reads the numbers the way an A&R person and a mastering engineer would read them together: what kind of song it is, who is likely to listen, where it fits on playlists, radio and sync, and what to fix before it goes out, in order.

The measurement runs in your browser. The file never leaves your phone or laptop. Only the numbers go to us for the interpretation, and only when you ask for it.

What you can give it

Drop	What you get
A mix or master (WAV, MP3, FLAC, M4A)	The full technical readout, the delivery check, the free repair, and the reading.
A lead vocal on its own	Intonation: where the singer is flat or sharp and what the note needed to be. Then a link to The Take to fix it.
A reference track in the second lane	Your song next to a hit: loudness, tone, energy curve and time to the hook, side by side.
Two to twelve songs at once	EP or album mode: one table, the odd one out, a suggested running order.
A drum, bass or vocal stem for timing	Where the take drags or pushes against the grid, hit by hit.
A Spotify track link	A profile from public information, without measurement.
The lyric, pasted	Hook clarity, repetition, sync suitability, what radio would cut.

There is no account and no limit we have needed to set. It is built for the onboarding at Emberlight Artists and published for anyone.

02 Install it

One link, then it lives on your phone or desktop.

The Meter is at soundchecksoftware.eu/meter/. You can use it as a page, or install it once and open it from its own icon. After the first open it measures offline.

iPhone or iPad

1. Open the link in Safari.
2. Tap the Share button, then Add to Home Screen, then Add.

Android

1. Open the link in Chrome.
2. Tap Install in the bar at the bottom, or open the menu and choose Install app.

Mac and Windows

1. Open the link in Chrome or Edge.
2. Click the install icon at the right of the address bar, or use the menu and choose Install The Meter. It gets its own window and a place in the Dock or start menu.

The screenshot shows the 'The Meter' web application interface. At the top, there's a header with the logo 'The Meter' and 'by Soundcheck Software · free'. A button labeled 'About' is in the top right. Below the header, the main content area has a title 'Drop the file in.' followed by a paragraph: 'The measurement runs in your browser. The file never leaves your phone or laptop. Only the numbers go to us for the interpretation, and only when you ask for it.' There are three large dashed boxes for file uploads: 'Drop a WAV or MP3 here' (with a subtext 'or tap to choose a file'), 'Lead vocal on its own? Drop it here too' (with a subtext 'Optional. A vocal stem lets The Meter check whether the singer is in tune, and show where and by how much.'), and three smaller boxes for 'Reference match', 'EP or album mode', and 'Timing check', each with a brief description. Below these is a section with a text input field for 'Spotify track link (a profile from public information, without measurement)' and a 'Look up' button. At the bottom, there's an optional context field for 'Optional context for the interpretation: artist, intended genre, lyric theme, release plan'.

The first screen: drop the song in the top lane, a vocal stem in the second if you have one, and use the three smaller lanes for a reference, an EP, or a timing stem. The context box under the Spotify field is optional; a line about the artist, the intended genre and the release plan makes the reading sharper.

The readout

The numbers a mastering engineer would check first.

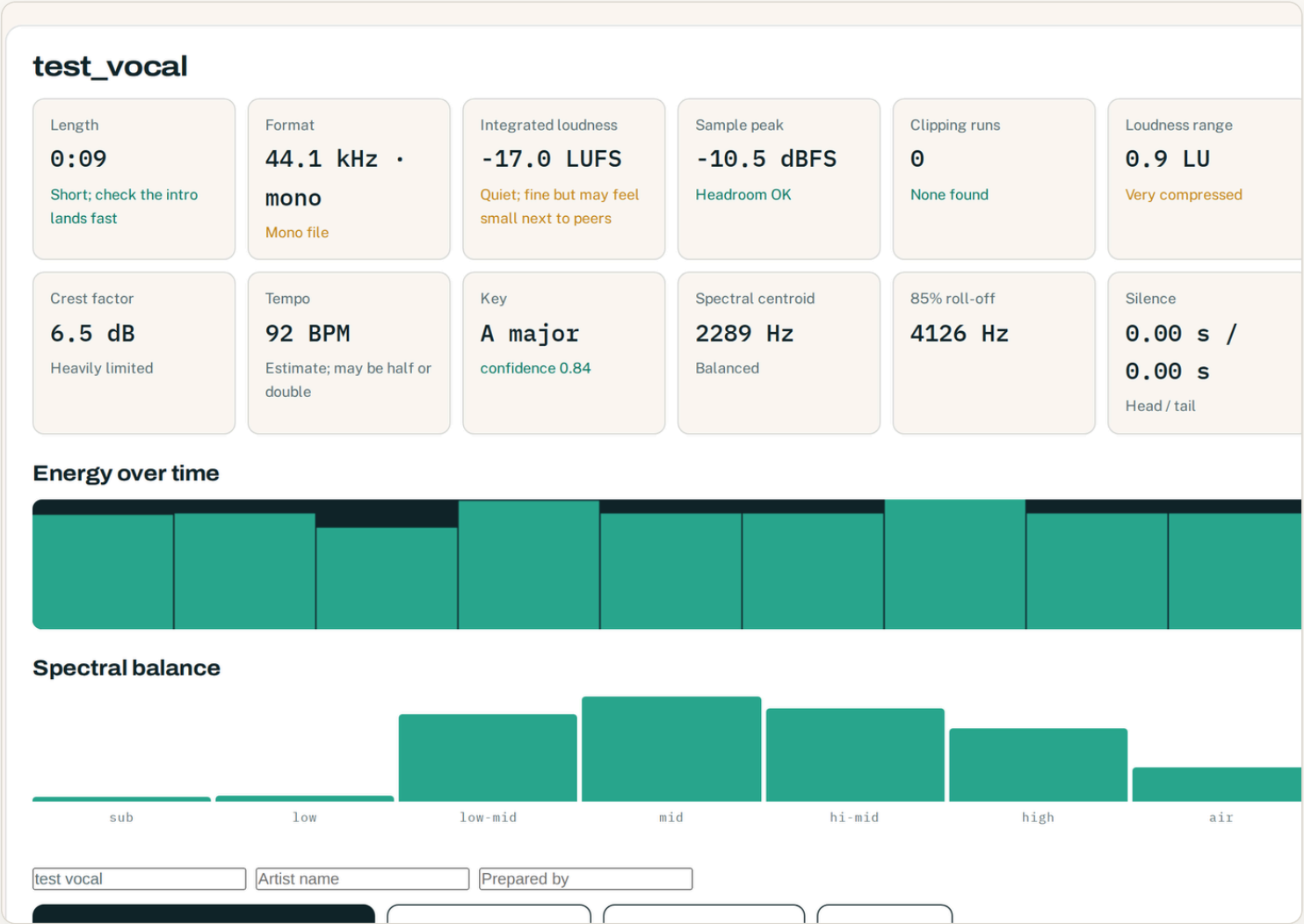


Figure	What it means	What good looks like
Integrated loudness	How loud the whole song is, measured the way Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube measure it (ITU-R BS.1770).	Around -14 LUFS for streaming. Louder and the platform turns it down; much quieter and it sounds small next to peers.
Sample peak and true peak	The loudest moment, and the loudest moment after the file is encoded.	True peak under -1 dBTP. Above that it can distort once encoded.
Clipping runs	Stretches of samples stuck at full scale.	None.
Loudness range and crest factor	How much dynamic life is left in the song.	Genre-dependent; "heavily limited" is a warning, not a fault.
Tempo and key	Estimates, with a confidence, for playlist pitching, the DJ, the sync brief.	Check the tempo is not shown at half or double.
Spectral centroid, roll-off, seven-band balance	Where the energy sits: sub to air.	A muddy low-mid or a harsh top shows up as a bar rather than a feeling.
Energy over time	Second by second. How long the intro takes, where the lift is, whether the last chorus goes up.	The shape you intended.
Head and tail silence	Seconds before the first sound and after the last.	Small, and trimmed before delivery.

04 Delivery check and free repair

Will the distributor bounce it? And if so, fix it here.

Delivery check

Will bounce 2 things to fix before delivery

- **pass** Lossless file: WAV accepted by all distributors
- **pass** Sample rate: 48 kHz
- **pass** Bit depth: 16-bit; 24-bit preferred if the master exists at 24
- **pass** True peak headroom: -10.5 dBTP
- **pass** No clipping: none found
- **pass** Loudness sensible: -170 LUFS integrated
- **warn** Stereo: 1 channel; most stores want stereo
- **pass** Head silence: 0.00 s before the first sound
- **pass** Tail silence: 0.00 s after the last sound
- **fail** Length: under 30 s; streams may not count for royalties
- **fail** ISRC embedded: none found in the file; the distributor will assign one, or add yours in the metadata

Delivery check

Every rule the distributors and labels apply, checked against the file: lossless format, sample rate, bit depth, true peak headroom, clipping, sensible loudness, stereo, head and tail silence, length, and whether an ISRC is embedded. Pass, warn or fail on each line, and a verdict at the top: will it bounce.

Green means it will not come back from DistroKid or the label. Amber is worth knowing. Red is a rejection.

Repair, on the page, free

Level, true peak, clipping, silence and stereo width are fixed on your device and handed back as a delivery-ready WAV, with the ISRC written into the file if you give one. Choose the loudness target for the platform, the bit depth, and tick the options: rebuild clipped peaks, trim head and tail silence and add fades, narrow the stereo image for mono compatibility. True peak is always held at -1 dBTP. The sample rate is kept as delivered.

Pitch and timing faults are not fixed here. They export as markers so a producer goes straight to the spot, or you send the vocal stem to The Take.

Repair
Can fix here level, ISRC

Loudness target
-14 LUFS · Spotify, YouTube, Tidal

Bit depth
24-bit

ISRC to write into the file
e.g. NLAK2600123

☐ Rebuild clipped peaks ☐ Trim head and tail silence, add fades ☐ Narrow the stereo image by 3 dB for mono compatibility

True peak is always held at -1 dBTP. Sample rate is kept as delivered. The repaired file is built on your device and never uploaded.

Repair and prepare the download

The reading

Genre, audience, placement, and what to fix.

The measurements are half of it. Press Interpret: genre, audience, quality and the numbers are read in plain English, with a release readiness score. This is the only step that uses our server: the numbers and your context line are sent, the text comes back, and nothing is stored.

Part	What it gives you
What the song is	Primary and secondary genre, sub-genre, mood, and the artists it will be compared to. Useful when the artist thinks it is one thing and the record is another.
Who it is for	Age range, listener profile, the countries where it is most likely to travel, and the moments people would play it in.
Where it goes	The playlist types to pitch, the radio formats it suits, the kind of sync brief it could answer.
Before release	Pass, warn or fail on each quality point, then the fixes in the order to do them. Copy it as text for the producer.
Pitch and release copy	The Spotify playlist pitch, the sync one-liner and a short bio, written from the reading in the artist's voice. The words artists freeze on, drafted from the numbers.
Release checklist	Rights, artwork, credits, timing, the release week. So the record is ready and not just the song.

Context helps. "Dutch country-pop singer-songwriter, second single, aiming at UK Radio 2 and Spotify editorial playlists" gets a sharper reading than a bare file.

Vocal, reference, EP, timing, lyric

The other lanes.

Lead vocal on its own

Drop a vocal stem in the second lane and The Meter checks intonation: where the singer is flat or sharp, by how much, and what the note needed to be. Each flagged note can be exported as a marker. To fix them, open The Take; it takes the same stem and corrects it on your device.

Reference match

Drop a hit in the reference lane. Loudness, tone, energy curve and time to the hook, side by side with your song. "Yours takes 38 seconds to get there, the reference takes 11" ends most arguments about arrangement.

EP or album mode

Drop two to twelve songs at once. One table shows the track mastered 3 LU louder than the rest, the one that is far too long, the one in a key that jars, and a suggested running order to start from.

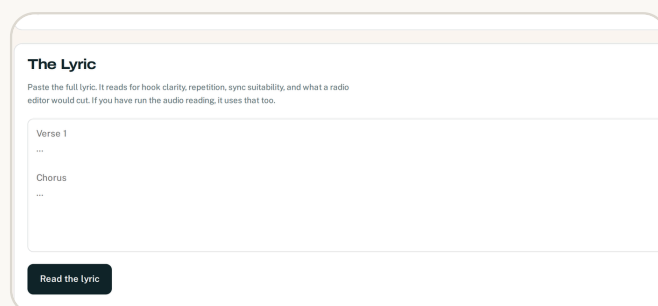
Timing check

Drop a drum, bass or vocal stem in the timing lane. It is checked against the grid, hit by hit, and shows where the take drags or pushes. Markers export for the producer.

The Lyric

Paste the full lyric. It reads for hook clarity, how fast the hook lands, repetition, sync suitability, and what a radio editor would cut. If you have run the audio reading, it uses that too.

The words are sent to our server for the reading, like the numbers, and are not kept.



The Lyric

Paste the full lyric. It reads for hook clarity, repetition, sync suitability, and what a radio editor would cut. If you have run the audio reading, it uses that too.

Verse 1
...

Chorus
...

[Read the lyric](#)

The song report, and a human if you want one

One PDF with everything in it. And the repairs a machine should not do.

Song report (PDF) saves every check you have run on branded A4 pages: cover, verdict, delivery, readout with the tone and energy charts, timing, intonation, the lyric reading, audience, reference match, pitch copy and the release checklist. Checks you have not run are marked pending, so the report is always complete. Fill in the song title, artist name and "prepared by" above the buttons first; they go on the cover.

Get it fixed

The Meter has already found what is wrong and where. That makes the repair a known job, not a mystery, so it can be priced up front.

FREE · ON THIS PAGE

Automatic repair

Level, true peak, clipping, silence, stereo width, bit depth and ISRC. Done in the Repair box above, in your browser.

€0

PRODUCER · PER SONG

Vocal tune or timing

A producer works marker to marker from The Meter's list, in Melodyne or the DAW, and sends back the corrected stem. Two rounds included.

from €95

Ask for it

ENGINEER · PER SONG

Mix balance or master

A mix note from the readout and a fresh master to the platform targets, delivered as 24-bit WAV with the delivery check passed.

from €150

Ask for it

Option	What happens	Cost
Automatic repair, on this page	Level, true peak, clipping, stereo width, bit depth and ISRC, done in your browser.	Free
Vocal tune or timing, by a producer	A producer works from The Meter's marker list, in Melodyne or the DAW, and sends back the corrected stem. Two rounds included.	Per song, shown on the page
Mix balance or master, by an engineer	A mix note from the reading and a fresh master to the platform targets, delivered as 24-bit WAV with the delivery check passed.	Per song, shown on the page

Emberlight Artists' roster has producer and engineer repairs included in management. Everyone else pays the price shown, per song, and gets the file back within five working days.

08 Privacy, limits, troubleshooting

What stays where, and the things that come up.

Privacy

- The audio is measured on your device and never uploaded.
- For the reading, the lyric and the pitch copy, the numbers or the text are sent to Soundcheck's server. Nothing is stored. We do not keep the file, the numbers or the report.
- No account. Close the page and it is gone; save the report if you want a record.

Limits

- Tempo and key are estimates and can be half or double time. They are marked as estimates because they are.
- Genre and audience are an interpretation, not a fact. Use them as a second opinion.
- The free repair fixes level, peaks, clipping, silence and width. It does not remaster, and it does not tune or time a performance; that is The Take, or a producer.

Troubleshooting

Nothing happens after dropping the file.

Very large files (over 15 minutes) take a while on a phone. Keep the app in front. If the format is unusual, export a WAV and try again.

The tempo is wrong.

Usually half or double. Read it with that in mind; it is an estimate and does not affect the other figures.

The reading button does nothing.

The reading needs a connection, because the text is produced on our server. Everything else works offline.

The repaired file sounds different.

It should sound the same, at a different level, with the peaks held at -1 dBTP. If you ticked "narrow the stereo image", the width changed on purpose.

Support

Write to need@soundchecksoftware.eu. Soundcheck Software Ltd, 71 to 75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9JQ.