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Term: Multitrack (audio)

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Term: Multitrack (audio)

Definition:

A multitrack recording consists of multiple, separate streams of sound without defined locations in a **sound field**. During a typical music-recording session, individual instruments or voices will be recorded on separate **tracks**. When these multiple tracks are mixed at the end of the session, combinations of sounds are assigned places in a sound field for future playback, thus producing a mixed and edited **multichannel** recording.

In this glossary, *multitrack* is distinguished from **multichannel**, which is defined as the output from the recording production process, after the tracks have been mixed into a set of channels, each of which is assigned a location in a sound field. Some audio professionals use these terms in different ways in different contexts.

Category:

Audio

See also:

[Track \(audio\)](#), [Sound field](#), [Channel \(audio\)](#), [Multichannel \(audio\)](#), [Interleaved sample audio](#)

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