[10 Things You Need To Do to Prepare for Recording!!!!](http://bestqualityrecording.blogspot.com/2012/10/10-things-you-need-to-do-to-prepare-for.html)

These are 10 of the most important things you should do before you come to record with me or any other recording studio.

1. Practice the song you are recording until you are sick and tired of it....and then practice it a whole lot more, stay focused on it to make it the tightest it can be. Practice your parts individually, turn your amps down and make sure you can play your part cleanly, and precisely. Practice with a Metronome or **Click Track**!!!! Drummers who do a lot of flashy fills, yet can't play the beat solidly and to a click track will never provide a solid foundation for the rest of the tracks.

2. Make sure your part actually contributes to the song, and doesn't just take up space!!! So many times, bands get in the studio and really have not written their individual parts for the **song**, they've just been writing their parts for **themselves**.....**it's all about the song!!!**

3. Make sure you have your instruments serviced by a professional. Get new strings put on and have your instrument's intonation fixed, also fix any buzzes or loose jacks, dirty pots, etc. Drummers, make sure your drums truly sound good....new heads and learn how to tune them!!!  Great drum sounds come from great drummers, playing great drums, in a great room. There is no exception....if you've got cheap drum kit with old drum heads that aren't in tune, and you haven't learned to play consistently.....you're drums will not be on the level!!!

4. Squash any personal drama before you get to the studio. Time you are spending arguing at the studio is time that you are not being creative, it also tends to ruin the vibe!!!  If you haven't agreed on what the plan is, the arrangement of the song...etc, the studio is not the place to do that!!!

5. Record your song at practice on a cheap stereo without vocals and with lead vocals. Everyone should listen to these to work out vocal parts, harmonies, etc., once you've come up with good vocal parts....change anything instrumentally that might be getting in the way of the vocal parts. Honestly, the vocals are the most important part of the song....from pop to metal, this stands true. Don't let anything mess up a great vocal!!!!

6. Don't bring anyone in the studio who's not involved with the song!!! Extra friends, girlfriends...etc. They distract me, and worse, they distract you!!!

7. Get plenty of rest before your appointment and don't come in hungover, drunk or high!!!!

8. Realize that the reward is equal to the amount of work you put into it, in your own time and during the studio session.  If you're planning on having extra studio musicians on your recording, be sure you take the time to at least have a chord chart with lyrics written out.  This will save you time and money in the studio.

9. Analyze some of your favorite recordings in the your genre, and make sure your songs are really that prepared. Pay close attention to the way the bands create space, anticipation, energy and dynamics. They do this through writing their parts according to what the song needs....not necessarily what they'd like to be playing, but a part that really makes the song evolve. Just because you're in the band, doesn't mean you have to be playing 100% of the time!!!!

10. If at all possible, send the engineer and producer a rough recording of your song well in advance to your booked studio date. A jamroom recording is fine...we just want to see if you guys have done your homework!!!! This also gives the engineer/producer an idea of the style and sound you're going for.