



Engineer GRAMMY® Award Eligibility Crediting Definitions

**(Approved May 2008, Engineer Definition Revised 2011, Awards info revised 2013)
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This document lists basic GRAMMY Award crediting guidelines and definitions for the credit **Engineer**.

Please note: The producer of a recording project is responsible for supplying accurate crediting information to the designated person at the record label or media company who is authorized to receive that information for the purpose of compiling printed or metadata album credits. The producer is also responsible for reviewing finished liner notes to ensure that the information remains correct through that point.

All persons credited on a GRAMMY-winning recording are eligible to be acknowledged with GRAMMY certificates, but only those credited as producer, engineer, (and mastering engineer as well in the categories of Album of the Year, Best Historical Album, Best Surround Sound Album, Best Engineered Album and Best Classical Album) are eligible to receive GRAMMY statues.

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ENGINEER AWARD CREDITING DEFINITIONS

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Eligible Engineer Credits

Engineer (2011)

The engineer is the primary person actively responsible for the process of recording and/or mixing a project as well as technical issues and decisions. He or she operates (or oversees the operation of) the equipment during the recording process and makes creative and aesthetic choices in collaboration with the artist and producer in order to realize the sounds and concepts envisioned for the project.

Recording Engineer

Same as Engineer, except this person is not necessarily involved in final mixing.

Recorded By

Same as Engineer except that this person is not necessarily involved in final mixing.

Mixed By

This person is responsible for taking previously recorded tracks and creating a mixdown of the original separate tracks to create a finished product (either stereo or multi-channel) that can then be mastered and distributed.

Mixer

Same as "Mixed By"

Mix Engineer

Same as "Mixed By"

Remix Engineer (Best Remixed Recording category only)

Remixer (Best Remixed Recording category only)

Vocals Recorded/Engineered By

This person is responsible for the process of recording vocals on a project and dealing with technical issues and decisions. He or she operates the recording equipment (or supervises the operation of the recording equipment) during vocal performances and makes aesthetic choices in order to obtain the sound and concepts the artist and producer are looking for.

Orchestra Recorded/Engineered By

This person is responsible for the process of recording an orchestra on a project and dealing with technical issues and decisions. He or she operates the recording equipment (or oversees the operation of the recording equipment) during orchestral performances and makes aesthetic choices in order to get the sound and concepts the artist and producer are looking for.

Strings Recorded/Engineered By

This person is responsible for the process of recording strings on a project and dealing with technical issues and decisions. He or she operates the recording equipment (or supervises the operation of the recording equipment) during string performances and makes aesthetic choices in order to get the sound and concepts the artist and producer are looking for.

Balance Engineer (Classical)

This person is an engineer with all of the same responsibilities as the engineering description. This term is most often used in classical music.

Eligible Engineer Credits (continued)

Mastering Engineer (Best Historical Album, Best Surround Sound Album, Record of the Year, Best Engineered Album & Album of the Year Only)

This person is an engineer who is the last creative bridge between the mix process and the manufacturing process. He or she generally works with a final mix of a project and makes final adjustments to the sound before pressing while maintaining the vision of the artist, producer and (sometimes) label.

Tonmeister (Classical)

This person does the same work as an Engineer or Balance Engineer, but for this name to be correctly applied, he or she must be a graduate of an official Tonmeister program that includes score reading and electronics training as well education in recording, mixing and editing techniques.

Non-Eligible Engineer Credits

Pro Tools Engineer (or Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) Engineer)

This person is responsible for the operation of a Pro Tools (or other Digital Audio Workstation) hard disk recorder during recording and mix sessions including the archiving and maintenance of the recorded material (basically data files on a hard disk). This person is not generally called upon to make aesthetic judgments.

Pro Tools Operator (or DAW Engineer)

This is the same as a Pro Tools (or other Digital Audio Workstation) Engineer.

Pro Tools Editor (or DAW Editor)

This person is responsible for the operation of a Pro Tools (or other Digital Audio Workstation) hard disk recorder during post recording work on musical performances. He or she is also responsible for the archiving and maintenance of the recorded material (basically data files on a hard disk). This person is not generally called upon to make aesthetic judgments.

Additional Pro Tools (or DAW) Engineer

This person has the same responsibilities as a Pro Tools (or other Digital Audio Workstation) engineer. He or she is often given the title of "Additional" to signify that they have worked on a much smaller percentage of a project.

Assistant Engineer

This person is responsible for assisting the engineer(s). They often keep all logs of sessions and materials. They should also have enough engineering skills that they can step in for an engineer in case of an absence.

Second Engineer

Same as "Assistant Engineer."

Additional Engineer

This person has the same responsibilities as an Engineer. He or she is often given the title of "Additional" to signify that they have worked on a much smaller percentage of a project.

Non-Eligible Engineer Credits (continued)

Assistant Mix Engineer

This is the same as the Assistant Engineer except that they only work during the mixing process.

Mix Assistant

Same as "Assistant Mix Engineer."

Mix Programming

This person programs musical sequencers, samplers, and synthesizers in a remix situation (where an already finished project is retooled with new musical parts to appeal to a specific market).

Mastering Engineer

A mastering engineer is not eligible except in the categories of Best Historical Album, Best Surround Sound Album, Best Engineered Album, Record of the Year and Album of The Year. (Mastering Engineers are, however, eligible to receive a Winner's Certificate for all winning albums.)

Digital Editing

This person is responsible for operating equipment for editing (in today's world generally a digital audio workstation). They can, from time to time, be called on to make aesthetic choices.

Digital Engineering

This is generally a person responsible for the functioning and maintenance of digital recordings and digital audio workstations.

Digital Programming

Recording Editor

This is the same as the Digital Editor although they may work on a broader base of equipment.

DSD Recording (or DSD Engineer, DSD Mixer, etc.)

This is generally a person responsible for the functioning and maintenance of digital recordings using Direct Stream Digital format equipment.