



The Art of Mixing: A Visual Guide to Recording, Engineering, and Production

David Gibson

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Get ready for an in-depth exploration into the aesthetics of what makes a great mix! David Gibson's unique approach to mixing gives you a visual representation of the dynamics of the sounds involved in creating a musical mix. Through this three-dimensional, colorful explanation, you are introduced to a framework that will help you understand everything that an engineer does— enabling you to not only recognize what you like, but how to achieve it in your studio. Expand your recording techniques by learning what your recording equipment does and how it all works together in a simple, visual manner. From bluegrass to big band, new age to heavy metal, classical to hip-hop, jazz to rap, and alternative rock to techno, Gibson has mapped out everything that can be done to create various effects in all standard mixes. Once you have a perspective on what can be done, you have the power to be truly creative on your own: to make art out of technology.

The Art of Mixing: A Visual Guide to Recording, Engineering, and Production Details

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Christopher says

the author has some pretty revolutionary ideas and observations. the only drawback is that his own (nearly impossible to acquire) method of visual mixing is the only way in which to fully utilize his ideas. however, anyone who can work a console (or DAW) at all should walk away from this with some creative and practical thoughts.

Ben Baker says

great guide for people getting into mixing

Fabian says

I got this book exactly after I came from miami last month.. It teaches me so much about shapeing sounds and mixing and making my music sound more powerful...It gives you a direct visual presentation which makes every aspect of sound and mixing very easy to understand..It also teaches about balanceing and panning and how to mix in surround or stereo...Ive read it in full in 2 days and I still read it up to today....its a very good book for aspiring producers and sound engineers...

Ted Trembinski says

Years before reading this book, I was exposed to some of the mix diagrams presented with in it while taking a MIDI class at college. These diagrams were some of my first conceptual leaps into what mixing could mean in a recording. It wasn't until years later that I gave it the right time of day and started to figure out what they meant.

Essentially, this book is exactly what it says it is: a visual guide to mixing. If you read it, you will learn to not only hear music, but be able to visualize the different instrumentals. Not only that, but it builds a foundation of the tools which engineers have at their disposal which allow them to manipulate how we as the listener interpret music visually. Thinking of music in a visual space is something that most people do anyway (whether conscious of it or not). To read about it in a concrete way not only solidifies the idea, but allows you to interact with it and learn more about it.

As stated in the book, learning to mix well is not something that can be achieved just through reading a book. Mixing is an art, and like all art, it is subjective to a degree. As fads evolve, it is important to move with them. Music is changing more now than ever, and the possibilities of production can be overwhelming. This book talks about music emotionally and magically yet does so while speaking to the technical aspects of production. In that respect, this book excels like few resources I have yet encountered.

Perhaps one of the most enlightening books I have ever read, I'd recommend The Art of Mixing to anyone interested in modern music production. It is written in plain, clear, concise language that virtually anyone could understand. It also challenges the reader to think closely about music in every day of their life - something that I couldn't recommend/be behind more.

James Acey says

Great read that helps visualize the mix of a song in a more spatial sense.

The author frames complex audio issues in simple terms in a non-dogmatic way and it helped me better grasp all the things that go into making the best sounding mix possible.

Recommended for bedroom producers like myself !

Carlton says

Rudimentary engineering theory pushed by a guy trying to hock his own wares.

Fernando Benavides Roldan says

(En ingles) un libro que se debe leer si quieres saber los secretos de la mezcla en el audio pero sobre todo para saber visualizar el sonido. Increible trabajo

Juan says

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Dan says

I didn't totally get into the whole picture thing. However, the concrete, informed descriptions of how various changes to audio (EQ, effects, loudness, etc.) affect a listener's perception are cool. The page and a half on how various frequency bands are perceived was worth getting the book (from the library) all by itself.

Joe says

This was actually interesting. its almost basically a documentation of how we tend to perceive sound visually and how this relates to our mixing techniques in regards to panning, reverb, delay, and other effects. i didn't love it but it is actually very interesting and well put together.

Ivonne says

This is a book for any music mix fan. If you are a producer or Sound Engineer, you will understand a lot about music with this book, seriously worth it, even though it is old, many techniques are still applied.

And you can also perform exercises from the explanations you read in the book. It can be complement with the DVD video that the book brings, I repeat, a bit of the last century, but very useful.

Matt Kelland says

This book worked really well for me. The principles of audio mixing suddenly made complete sense when represented as 3D visuals. Now, whether I can put that into practice... we'll see!

Rogelio Marín says

Perfect

The best book for learning what you need to know about mixing, after reading this book you will hear things in a different way.

Goldberg says

A fantastic book!
