

# Get started with professional audio production

From the experts at Adobe

Adobe® Audition® 2.0 is a complete solution for recording, mixing, editing, and mastering audio. After you become familiar with its intuitive visual tools, you can create movie soundtracks, musical compositions, audio CDs, and more.

The files used in this tutorial are on Disc 2 of the Total Training Video Workshop (included with Adobe Audition or Adobe Production Studio). Copy the Adobe Audition 2.0 folder from that disc to your desktop. Alternatively, you can follow along using the default multitrack session that installs with the application, Audition-Theme.ses.


## Get to know the three views

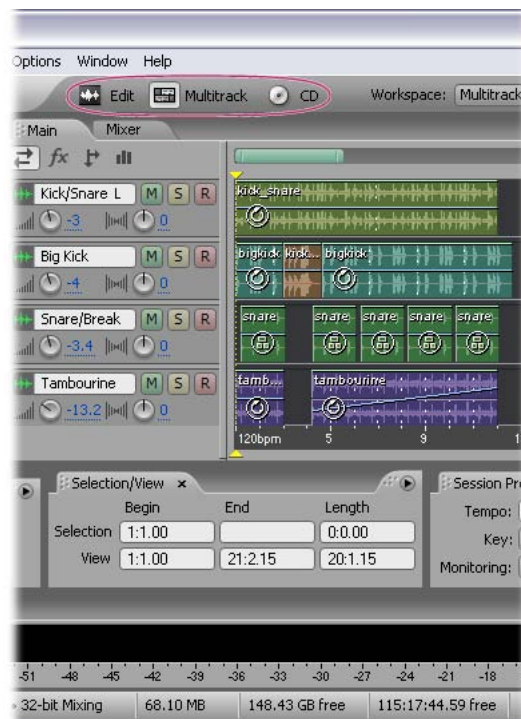
Adobe Audition provides three views, each optimized for different audio tasks:


**Multitrack View** Mix together multiple files to create video soundtracks and musical compositions.


**Edit View** Edit and finalize individual audio files for broadcast, audio CD, or the web.


**CD View** Arrange lists of files and burn them to audio CDs.

**1** Start Adobe Audition 2.0, click the Multitrack View button  in the toolbar, and choose File > Open Session. In the Adobe Audition 2.0 folder you copied to the desktop, select Editing.ses, and click Open. Press the spacebar to play the tracks in the Main panel. Press the spacebar again to stop playback.





**2** Select the first clip in the Kick/Snare track, and then click the Edit View button  in the toolbar. The Main panel displays the original source file for the clip. Press the spacebar to play the file.


 You can also double-click a multitrack clip to display it in Edit View.

**3** In the toolbar, click the CD View button . In the Main panel, you can create a CD list—a specific sequence of files for an audio CD. To add files to a CD list, you simply drag them from the Files panel or use the Insert menu. You can save multiple CD lists and edit them at any time.

## Edit audio in Multitrack View and Edit View

In Multitrack View, edits are impermanent (or *non-destructive*), so you can freely change them as a musical project evolves over time. In Edit View, edits become permanent when you save files, so you can finalize files for distribution.

1 In the toolbar, click the Multitrack View button . In the Tambourine track, select the first clip, and position the pointer over the clip's right edge (the pointer becomes a double-arrow ) . Drag to the left or right to shorten or extend the clip.





**Note:** Most clips in the sample Editing session are loops , which you can extend to any length. Unlooped clips, such as those in the Sweeps track, can't be extended beyond the length of the source file.




2 At the top of the Main panel, drag the yellow start-time-indicator to the beginning of the session. Press the spacebar to hear the edited clip in the context of the entire mix.



3 Position the pointer over the Tambourine clip, and right-click-drag it to a new location. White snap-to lines help you align the clip with musical beats. Press the spacebar to hear the new mix.



 In Multitrack View, the default Hybrid tool  lets you make selections with the left mouse button and move clips with the right mouse button. To perform both tasks with the left mouse button, use the Time Selection  and Move/Copy Clip  tools.

4 In the Files panel, double-click sweep\_3. The clip appears in Edit View; the default Waveform Display lets you easily see audio amplitude.


5 The very beginning and end of the sweep\_3.wav file contains unnecessary silence, which adds to file size. To delete the silence, drag the default Time Selection tool  across a portion of the waveform, and press Delete.

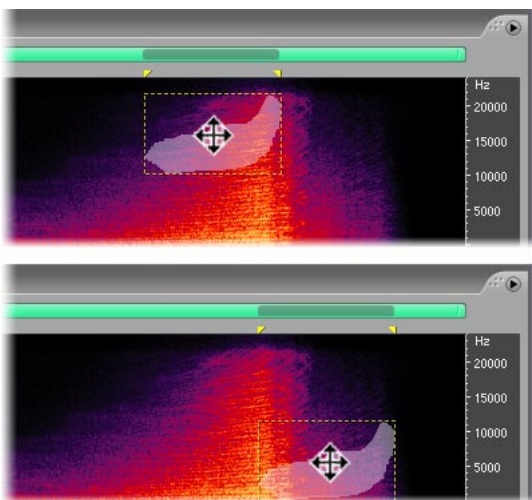
**Note:** If you drag across the very top or bottom of the Main panel, you'll select audio in only the left or right channel, disabling the Delete command. Single-channel selections are helpful for channel-specific effects processing, however.

6 Choose View > Spectral Frequency Display to see audio frequencies in the Main panel. Press the spacebar to hear the sweep\_3.wav file. It begins with low bass frequencies and gradually adds more high frequencies.

**7** In the toolbar, select either the Marquee tool , which creates rectangular selections, or the Lasso tool , which creates selections of any shape. These unique tools in Spectral Frequency Display let you select specific frequency ranges.

**8** In the Main panel, drag to select some audio. To fine-tune a selection, drag its borders. Then choose Edit > Copy, drag the selection to another location, and choose Edit > Paste. Press the Home key to move the start-time indicator at the beginning of the file, and then press the spacebar to hear your edits.


 *To reverse any changes made since you last saved a file, choose Edit > Undo.*





## Navigate audio in the Main panel

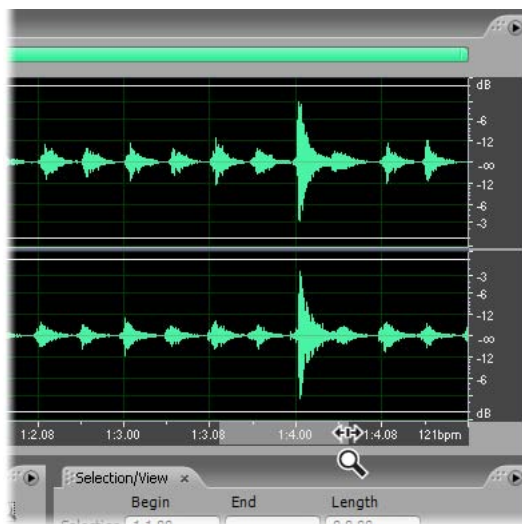
Edit View and Multitrack View share zooming, scrolling, and scrubbing features that help you quickly navigate to precise edit points in the Main panel.

**1** Choose View > Waveform Display, and then experiment with these zoom methods:

- To zoom in on a specific time range, right-click-drag the time ruler at the bottom of the Main panel.
- To zoom in on a selection, press the Zoom To Selection  button in the Zoom panel.


- To precisely adjust the zoom level, position the pointer over the edge of a green scrollbar. When the pointer becomes a magnifying glass , drag it.


 *Throughout Adobe Audition, context menus provide quick access to helpful options. To quickly access zoom commands, right-click rulers and scrollbars.*



**2** To scroll to different time ranges, try these techniques:

- Drag the time ruler at the bottom of the Main panel or the green scrollbar at the top.
- Press the Page Up or Page Down key.

**3** In the toolbar, select the Scrub tool . Then drag across audio in the Main panel. (Using the Scrub tool is similar to manually rolling analog tape across playback heads.) Practice dragging slowly to find precise edit locations—faster dragging scrubs audio at a faster rate.

 *To select audio while scrubbing, Shift-drag. To perform tape-style scrubbing, which offers a wider speed range, Alt-drag.*

## Go further with audio tools and displays

- Select the Scrub tool in Multitrack View and scrub a clip in the Main panel. Multitrack View automatically solos the track containing the clip.
- If you have a wheel mouse, roll the wheel to zoom audio in Edit View. Or press the plus (+) and minus (-) keys to zoom in and out.
- Experiment with the new Spectral Pan and Spectral Phase displays in Edit View. Spectral Pan Display shows the stereo location of audio. Spectral Phase Display shows where audio is in phase or out of phase.

### From the experts at Adobe.

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