

What DAW and VST stand for in Music Production

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DAW stands for Digital Audio Workstation

It's also known as Recording Program, Recording Software or Mixing Software. It is the program of your personal preference to record and mix music like **Cubase**, **Pro Tools** and **Ableton** to name a few.

Cubase is mostly used by European producers while Pro Tools is the No1 choice in the United States. Some other DAWs for you to consider are: **Reaper**, **Logic Pro** and **FL Studio**.

Reaper is a newer program in this field comparing to cubase and pro tools but it has frequent updates and promises a lot.

Many people switched to Reaper so I will create some videos for Reaper too.

VST stands for Virtual Studio Technology

DAWs work with VSTs.

They are not standalone programs which means that they cannot be opened without using a DAW. In order to use VSTs you need a daw that supports them like Cubase.

VSTs are the **necessary** programs that help you mix.

Programs like Equalizers, Compressors, Reverbs & Delays, Choruses and Limiters... every single processor and effect you are going to use is with one word... VST!

Pro Tools support RTAS instead of VST but it's the exact same thing, except the name.

Finally, the Pro Tools company offers a more expensive version of RTAS known as TDM which they claim to have a better sound resolution than RTAS.

While you can hear an **insignificant** difference between these 2, I mostly believe that this is just marketing, so that the company can earn more money.

I've mixed the exact same tracks using VST, RTAS and TDM and the difference was really hard to notice.

There are more important things that you should take care of for a great sound, rather than worrying about VST or RTAS.

Expect more articles from me for this subject! Take care!

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