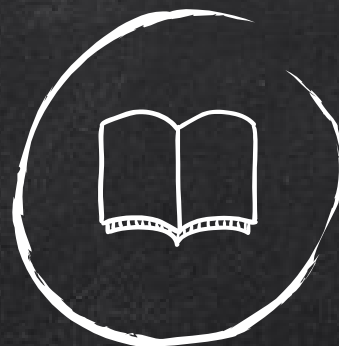


LEARN MORE

ABOUT

LIMITERS

JST



LEARN MORE ABOUT LIMITERS

This guide will help you learn more about limiters!
I want you to know, **this guide was prepared just for you!**

Looking for more?

Visit <http://nailthemix.com> to start mixing along with me and my friends right away. You'll learn to improve your low end way beyond the reach of this guide. When you sign up, you'll gain access to 15+ hours of mixing themed video education, 50+ hours of podcasts about mixing and audio production, monthly multi track sessions, and an exclusive community dedicated to audio greatness.

-Joey

Want more?

If you like this guide and are looking for more, check out these other great resources:

[How to make your mixes LOUD!](#)

[How to add energy to a mix](#)

[Clipping DI Guitars... on purpose!](#)

Check out my plugins designed to take your mixes to the next level

<http://joeysturgistones.com>

This guide was prepared exclusively for you. I hope it helps improve your mixing skills. Please do not share with others!



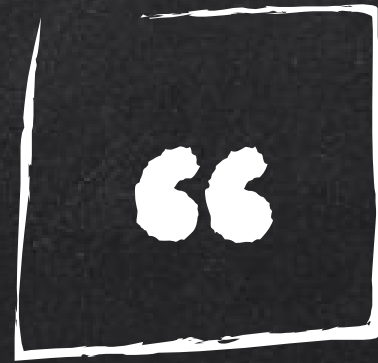
HELLO!

I am Joey Sturgis

I am here because you need mixing help.

You can find me here:

<http://joeysturgistones.com>



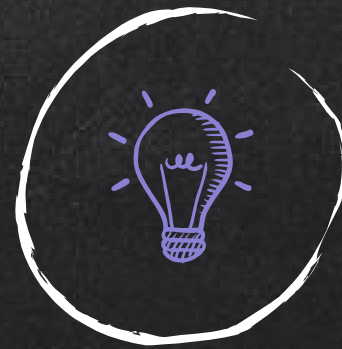
Limiters have a funny name,
because they can give you
unlimited maximization.

–Joey Sturgis



WHAT IS A LIMITER?

Let's explore this dynamic processor



A LIMITER IS A DYNAMIC PROCESSOR

- Limiters are complex automatic volume knobs
- They are similar to compressors except they can handle higher ratios and have different envelopes
- A limiter can increase the perceived loudness of an audio signal

Limiters are very powerful tools for mixing and
mastering



A signal with less dynamic range can be louder
than signals with more dynamic range



LIMITERS HAVE LOTS OF USES

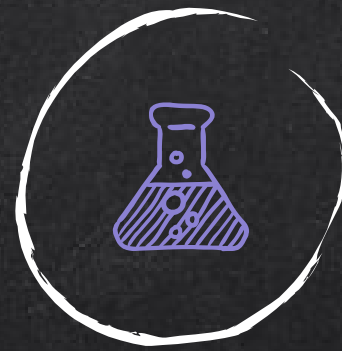
- ☐ Clamp down and reduce peaks
- ☐ Add density in the mix
- ☐ Increase volume
- ☐ Decrease dynamic range and decrease headroom
- ☐ Stabilize signals which allows more mix headroom

Limiters can also be used as a gain staging tool in your mixing workflow.

2.

CONTROL YOUR DYNAMICS!

Let's learn how limiters can be used to our advantage!



LIMITERS PROVIDE CONTROL

Gain Staging

Limiters can be used to decrease headroom on each signal in order to set a consistent ceiling and gain uniform fader positions across the mixer. If your levels are set relatively on the limiter outputs it will allow you to treat all elements at unity.

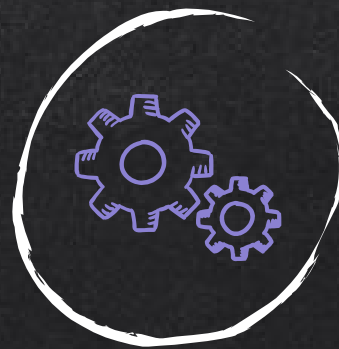
Compression

Limiters are similar to compressors, and can be used to limit or compress the dynamics of a signal. Use them on bass, drums, vocals, guitars, almost anything! They'll help you control areas where volume needs to be more stabilized, without compromising character and tone.



IMPORTANT!

Too much limiting can completely cripple a signal!
Great care must be taken when using a limiter on any
audio source!



CONTROLLING A MIX WITH LIMITERS

1. Make sure all faders are set to unity
2. Insert a limiter on each track pre-channel-fader
3. Set the threshold to carefully tame the loudest peaks of the signal while leaving most of the rest untouched
4. Set the ceiling or output gain relative to other elements and start forming a basic mix
5. Change release setting so that the most dynamic sounds have a little more breathing room and air
6. Use faders and automation to finish volume balancing the mix



USE **FINALITY** AND AN EQ TO ADD AIR TO VOCALS



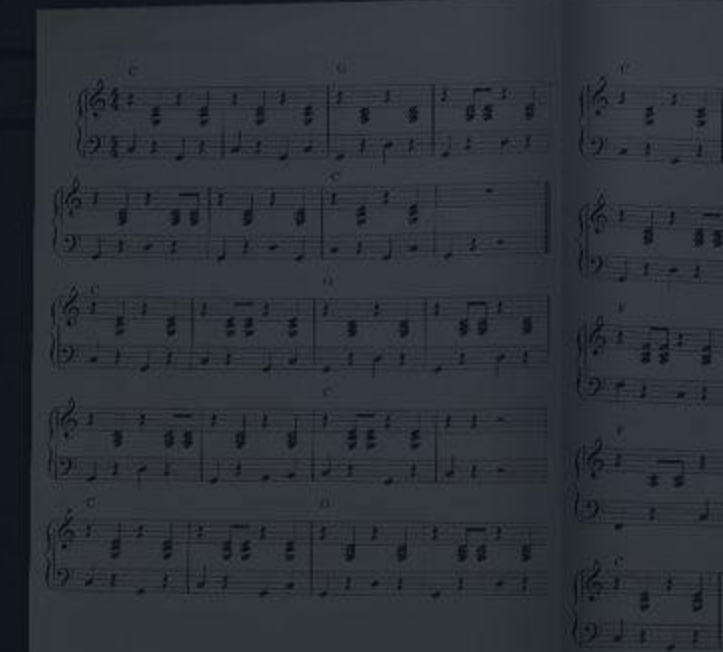
1. Send your vocals to a vocal bus
2. Duplicate the vocal bus, or create a new one
3. Run a send from the first bus to the new bus
4. Add a high pass filter to the new bus and set to remove everything below 10 kHz
5. Add Finality after the high pass filter and increase the input until you're within a -12 dB to 0 dB range on the input meter
6. Set the threshold to -30 dB
7. Use the output gain to mix in this signal with the original

Bonus: Change release to adjust intensity

FINALITY



DON'T BE LIMITED. BE VERSATILE.





LET'S REVIEW SOME CONCEPTS

What is a limiter?

A limiter is an automatic volume control that can react to audio signals with a certain behavior based on a set of parameters.

What can limiters do?

Limiters can decrease dynamic range, reduce peaks, stabilize signals, and increase perceived loudness of an audio source.

How do you use limiters?

Limiters can be used to control audio with precision, gain staging in a mix, tame peaks, and loudness maximizing for mastering applications.

Why should I mix with limiters?

Limiters allow you to setup a consistent fader strategy as well as modify dynamic range in order to make room for dynamics in other signals.

Why are limiters important?

Limiters can solve a lot of dynamic processing problems in a mix while preserving character and tone.

Where should I use limiters?

Use limiters on your most dynamic signals where it's appropriate to control dynamic range, as well as on your master bus for volume maximization.



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—Joey



THANKS!

Got feedback?

[Click here](#)

Questions? Email me: joeysturgistones@gmail.com