

## SETTING UP THE HOME OR BUDGET STUDIO

Music or audio production is one of the most satisfying hobbies, besides other activities, and leisure. We enjoy what we do but then how do we do it? At the core of music and audio production is the studio. We can have the home studio and the professional studio or gradually integrate or upgrade a home studio to a top-notch professionally, acoustically tuned setup. But we live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, good news, where technology is making this hobby available to anyone.

A home studio is an environment where it is accessible for every musician, to put down his or her ideas, be it poetry, lyrics, quotations into waveforms, or music, basically speaking.

Then, we need the equipment. It must be emphasized that the availability of computer hardware and software creates the perfect opportune moment for making music.

In this chapter, we shall look at the components that make up a home studio.

### TYPES OF HOME STUDIO

Note that home studio design is a broad subject and is thus beyond the scope of this manual. Nonetheless, if you want to build your home studio from scratch, here are some subjects and topics that you need to be aware of.<sup>1</sup>

- Soundproofing. How do you construct parts of the studio like the ceiling and floors for optimum soundproofing?
- How do you prevent sound escape from your studio?
- The benefits and problems of relying on rooms within rooms for your fully-fledged home studio.
- How do you proceed with the acoustic treatment?
- How do you approach the monitoring environment of your studio design?
- Which types of wires will be preferred for the construction process?
- How do you eliminate noise from the design process?

## THE DJ STUDIO

A DJ, or disk jockey, is someone who takes musical and audio material from a myriad of sources and mixes them.

Most DJ's play their music live but before they do that, they must select songs, mix, and rehearse at their home studio. As such, a DJ's studio might consist of the following<sup>2</sup>:

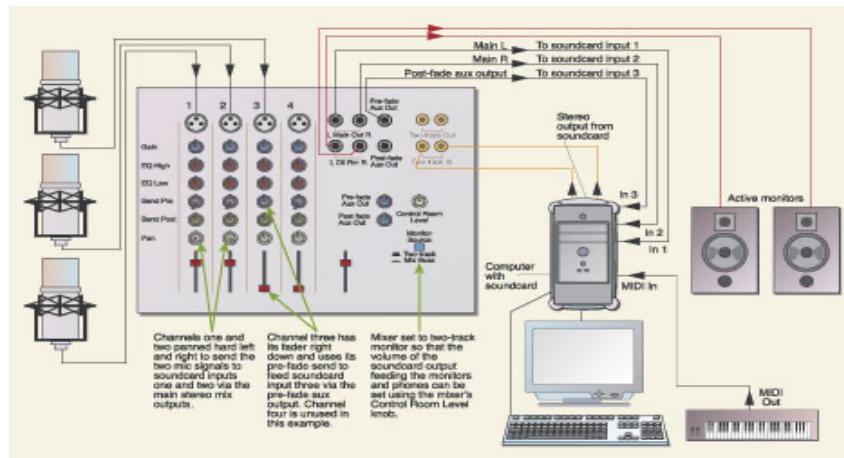
- A. Twin-deck (turntable), twin CD players
- B. Mixer. The DJ mixer is distinct and different from the standard mixer because the former has two sets of inputs and a crossfader for live-playing purposes. Currently, some DJs use both hardware and software mixers.
- C. Samplers and keyboards (MIDI), and software samples
- D. Microphone to record any vocal or audio instrument since some DJs are also seasoned musicians.

## MIDI STUDIO

What is MIDI? It means musical instruments' digital interface. What does this imply?

MIDI (pronounced middy) is **the communication between two things**, in our case, a MIDI Keyboard and another synthesizer, or a MIDI keyboard with a computer and software. We can also mention that MIDI is a way of sending music performance information from one point to another.<sup>3</sup>

How does it work? Well, in existence are MIDI cables that enable this function. See the diagram below.



Since our study is going to be revolved around MIDI, the next sessions will describe purchasing the necessary equipment and gadgets for your home studio.