

# Cheatsheet for Reaper

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## 1 Startup

Select your audio device in Options > Preferences > Audio > Device. Select ASIO as *Audio System* and the driver of your audio interface for the *ASIO Driver*. Usually *Reaper* asks you to set up your audio device at the first startup. Set up your desired in- and outputs.

Activate your MIDI keyboard in in Options > Preferences > Audio > Device (right-click → Enable input). If you have no MIDI keyboard, you can use View > Virtual MIDI Keyboard

When you save a project for the first time, you can set up a subdirectory for all media, which is usefull if you don't want to store everything in the same folder. You don't want to be a messy, do you?

## 2 The bare basics

Some nice shortcuts:

Stop and play	spacebar
Zoom in and out	+ and -
Create a track	Double-click in the left section
Insert media	insert button (of course drag and drop also works)
Toggle repeat	r
Record	ctrl+r
Open Mixer	ctrl+m
En-/Disable snap	alt+s

Next to the track name is a volume and a pan knob.

Activate the record and the monitoring button on the track you want to record on. Also you should of course also set your input correctly.

If you expand the mixer area, you can see the slots for insert- and send-effects. Also if you right-click on the tiny *Mixer* label at the bottom, you can untick *Dock Mixer in Docker*, so it gets its own window. If you want to dock it back, just right-click in the mixer and tick it.

Double-click on a MIDI part to open the MIDI editor, where you can change the length, tune and velocity of the notes. You can even display it as a score by clicking on the clef button on top. When the snap annoys you, just turn it of (alt+s).

The metronome is might also be useful.

### 2.1 Editing

Press s when an event is selected to split it at the current cursor position.

Drag at on of the top corners of an event to create an in- or out-fade. Right-click on the fade to change its curve.

## 3 Send Effects

Create a new track and put your desired effects as insert effects.

Go to the track you want to route through your send, click on an empty send-effect slot and *Add New Send*.

## 4 VST Plugins (Reaper native)

Reaper brings a nice variation of VSTs, which need to be downloaded separately from their homepage.

**ReaComp.** Compressor.

**ReaEQ.** Equalizer with four bands.

**ReaSynth.** Basic synthesizer.

**ReaTune.** Tuner.

**ReaVerbate.** Reverb.