

Assembling an Album of ADMs for Dolby Atmos Music

Both Avid Pro Tools and Steinberg Nuendo support import and export of Dolby Atmos ADM files. This makes the process of album assembly for Dolby Atmos possible within today's existing toolsets. There are some considerations that will make the process of assembling much easier.

- Channel usage should be similar for all songs in an album
 - Plan Object and Bed usage
 - Plan Binaural Settings for the project
- Individual Song ADMs should be exported in line with [current guidance](#) for no silence at the start of a song

The following instructions will focus on Avid Pro Tools:

1. In Pro Tools Ultimate, Enable and [Connect to the Dolby Atmos Renderer](#)
2. Open the IO Setup window and clear all tabs.
3. Open Pro Tools Automation window (Command+4 on numeric keypad)
4. Ensure at least Volume and Pan are set to Write Enable



5. Use Import Session Data to [import a Dolby Atmos ADM BWAV](#)
6. Select across all tracks at the imported songs end and use the Pro Tools Key shortcut, Command+Option+/, to "Write to all Enabled", care must be taken to have no Pro Tools regions selected when performing this operation
7. Add the Songs tracks to a "Basic Folder", do not create a routing Folder
8. Import the next songs ADM using Import Session Data as in Step 5

9. Select across all tracks at the imported songs start and use the Pro Tools Key shortcut, Command+Option+/ to “Write to all Enabled”
10. Move Timeline selection to the imported songs end
11. Select across all tracks at the imported songs end and use the Pro Tools Key shortcut, Command+Option+/ to “Write to all Enabled”
12. Move the regions for the imported song up to the Basic Folder created in Step 7 and repeat from step 8 until all tracks have been imported and moved to the Basic Folder

Once you have all songs imported, you’re ready to prepare the albums Binaural Metadata.

1. Open one of the albums ADM files in the Dolby Atmos Renderer
2. Instantiate the [Binaural Settings Plugin](#) on a track in Pro Tools and use the “Copy Settings from Master” button to import the Binaural Settings into your assembled Pro Tools Timeline.

Album timing

1. Once you have the Dolby Atmos assets in the timeline, import the stereo masters into the timeline and use them to ‘time out’ the album. Crossfades, levelling etc can be applied at this stage.
2. Ensure that “Automation Follows Edit” is enabled before making any timing changes to the ADM files. This will ensure pan moves stay with the objects they are meant for.
3. If silence exists between songs in the stereo album it should be applied to the end of the previous song rather than the start of the incoming song.