# Rimshot Mastering
### www.rimshotmastering.co.uk
## Using our DDP player to approve your Masters

## Why DDP? Isn't .wav easier and quicker?

Disc Description Protocol files (DDP) contain all the information needed for your mastering project. Instead of just sending you individual audio files, with a DDP file we can send you the entire project to audition - and be sure you are hearing it as we intended! All of the audio, fades, gaps between tracks and track listing information is preserved.

DDP files also have an advantage over audio CDRs: the DDP file is an exact, bit-for-bit copy of the audio in our mastering editor - an audio CDR cannot guarantee this level of accuracy.

If you want to burn off an audio CDR from your DDP file, our DDP player software supports this.

## Downloading your Masters and DDP player

1. **Download your file**
   1. Click the link in the email we sent you.
   2. Your file should start downloading automatically.
2. **Uncompress your file**
   1. Double click the downloaded file.
   2. This should start uncompressing your file.
   3. If not, you need some compression software. Do a Google search for "PeaZip" (Windows) or "ZipIt" (Mac) - both are shareware.
3. **Download Rimshot's DDP player**
   1. Go to http://www.rimshotmastering.co.uk
   2. Navigate to the "Downloads" page.
   3. Choose either the Windows or Mac version and right-click the "Rimshot DDP Player" link.
   4. Click "Save As..." (Windows) or "Download Linked File As.." (Mac).
   5. Choose a location on your hard drive.
   6. Click OK
4. **Install the DDP Player**
   1. Double click the downloaded file.
   2. This should start uncompressing your software.
   3. Double click the uncompressed folder.
   4. This should start the installation process.

## Playing your Masters using the DDP player

1. **Start the DDP player**
   1. Locate and double-click the installed DDP player software.
2. **Import the DDP file of your Masters**
   1. Under the "Import" menu, click "DDP Image".
   2. In the dialogue box that opens, navigate to the folder that contains the uncompressed DDP file you already downloaded.
   3. Click "Open". The file should load
3. **Check the file has no errors**
   1. Under the "Tools" menu, click "Check MD5".
   2. In the dialogue box that opens, navigate to the folder that contains the uncompressed DDP file you already downloaded.
   3. Select the file called "MD5-Checksum.MD5" and click "Open".
   4. The software will check your file is OK and then display a message saying "MD5 of all files match". You're good to go!
   5. If the software shows an error message, get in touch and we'll resend your Masters.
4. **Audition your Master**
   1. Use the play button on the right of the DDP player to listen to your Masters.
   2. You can check the transitions between songs by selecting a track in the main window on the left and then clicking "Play Transition".
5. **Check the CD-Text is correct**
   1. Under the "File" menu, click "Save PQ Sheet as PDF".
   2. In the dialogue box the appears, choose a location and name, then click "OK"
   3. Open the saved PDF file and check all the details are spelt correctly - song titles, artist etc.
6. **Burn an audio CDR**
   1. Under the "Burn CD" menu, click "Audio CD"
   2. Follow the instructions...
7. **For further help...**
   1. ...Look under the "Help" menu for detailed instructions.