

## TANGO RECORDING CHECKLIST



- 1. Audio Interface**
- 2. Resolution**
- 3. Input Level**
- 4. DAW**
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# 1. Audio Interface: having enough inputs

number of inputs needed

Violin	Bandoneon	Piano	Contrabass	Guitar*	Cello	Flute
1	2	2	1	2 (mic+DI)	1	1

recommended brands with a friendly budget : Focusrite - Presonus - Steinberg - Tascam

we only count Microphone inputs

8 inputs : Cheapest [TASCAM US-16x08](#) - Best buy [Focusrite Scarlett 18i20](#)

4 inputs : Cheapest [TASCAM US-4x4HR](#) - Best buy [Steinberg UR44](#)

2 inputs : Cheapest [Presonus AudioBox USB 96](#) - Best Buy [Steinberg UR22C](#)

\*guitar 1 input if only acoustic/ 2 input if electric or electro acoustic 1 for mic 1 for D.I.Box

## 2. Resolution to record

**48 khz / 24 bit** : This is the ideal resolution most audio interface can achieve higher quality but save all your hard drive space because it's not needed

**44.1 khz / 16 bit** : This is the minimum quality we would recommend

Higher is useless ;-)

## 3. About input level

We will say that for acoustic instruments with a very big dynamic range like the piano and the bandoneon it's best to set an input level where peaks are sitting between -8 and -12db (when playing FORTE) this will ensure that even when your muscles get warm you don't clip.

For the other instruments set the input level where the peaks are sitting between -6 and -9db

The absolute Rule is to never CLIP > Clipping is when your signal goes over the 0.0db cap

On most interfaces and DAW it's reported by a red color at the top of the peak meter.

## 4. What DAW should I use ? (Cracked copies are poison)

Most interfaces will offer you a BASIC version of a daw that will surely be enough for recording purposes

Yes every DAW should do the trick when used for recording

[Reaper](#) have a 60 days trial and after that cost 60€

even if you don't purchase the license you just have to wait 6 seconds when the pop-up shows up and click on "still evaluating" there are no limitations at all so why not have one of the best daw on the market hmm but i didn't say a thing...and i paid my copy ;-)

## 5. Before Export

Before exporting and sending to us your multitrack Check that all the **Gain** and **volume** fader of your DAW are set to **0.0db** and **pan** is at the **center** your master track must be on 0.0 as well.

check in the option menu that the resolution selected is **48 khz / 24bit** Do not mix yourself, instead share with us 3 songs that you love the sound and why you love it that will allow me to refer to it in the process.

## 6. About Microphones & Cables

### Cables

When buying cables, never go for the first price cables if you double that amount you will avoid many frustrations. Brands: [Cordial-SommerCable-PlanetWaves-Klotz-Neumann-Fender-Daddario](#)

### Dynamic Microphones



[guitar amplifier](#)

For concerts you could consider them for all the instruments if really needed. But for recording I would recommend avoiding them if it's not for a guitar amplifier. Yes i could still make it work but we are aiming for the best aren't we ?  
best dynamic mic ever **Shure SM57** honorable mention **Shure SM58**

### Small Diaphragm Condenser Microphones



[Violin-Cello-Guitar-Flute-Contrabass-Bandoneon etc.](#)

Small diaphragm condenser microphones such as the RODE NT5 are usually pencil-shaped with the capsule at the end of the body tube. Small diaphragm condensers are your best choice when you want to capture the pure and natural sound, without added flavors. No other type of microphone will give you a more detailed sound image. Because of their neutral sound, small diaphragm microphones can be used for almost anything. (Clamp mics such as DPA are from this category)

### Large Diaphragm Condenser Microphones



[Voice-Piano-Bandoneon\\*-Contrabass\\*](#)

A large condenser membrane can sense even the smallest nuances. Because of the larger generated electric signal, it can deliver better results when recording vocals or solo instruments. It tends to widen the frequency response at lower frequencies. This characteristic reduces the proximity effect providing a full wide sound even if the singer or bandoneon player hands moves away from the mic's capsule. The changes in tone are not as noticeable when a larger membrane is used. that higher sensitivity makes them the best choice for Vocals and Grand Piano. it's also nice for \*bandoneon but note that the bleedings from other

instruments are higher with this type of mics so i would recommend avoiding them for bandoneon if you have many bandoneon too close from each other, in that case either use acoustic panels to isolate the musicians or chose Small Diaphragm Microphones. Same for \*\*contrabass it's really nicer when the contrabass play alone but in most recording rooms the bleedings will be too high.

**Note :** We are always available to give you advice about the mic placement if you have doubts just ask us and we will be more than happy to help you to achieve a better result !

Reach out if you would like us to add something on this checklist or any question.

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