



Certification Test - Prep

Equipment - MBox/Stereo Mic/Computer

To prepare for the Equipment - MBox/Stereo Mic/Computer test:

- Read and study the handout of "Welcome to Pro Tools LE 6 - chapter 1" from Pro Tools LE 6 Ignite! by Andrew Hagerman. Pay particular attention to his discussion of hard drives, the audio interface (MBox), the DAW setup, pages 2-7.
- Study the cables and plugs page and be sure you know what kind of plugs you need for headphones (1/4" phono or a mini-phono) and for microphones (XLR). Ask if it isn't clear.
- Be able to set up the system to record using the computer, MBox, Music Hard Drive, headphones, stereo mic, both mic stands (telescoping and boom), and extension mic cables.
- You have a copy of exactly what you need to do for the hands-on part; make sure you can walk through it in your head. Check the assessment sheet for the hands-on part so that you know EXACTLY what will be assessed. Some cautions:
 - When you remove the headphone adaptor, don't just lay it down, put it in the adaptor box so it doesn't get lost. Your pocket isn't good enough - I don't want it going through the laundry...
 - Keep track of which channel is which on the mic when you have the extension cables on! Red is Right
 - When putting things away, take the tape off of the mic cable rather than pulling the cable up to loosen the tape.
 - Don't forget the mic clip.
 - When you finish up, don't forget to put away the extension cord and the power strip!
- See back side of this paper for some of the directions for setup. Directions are written on the MBox and the Music HD - you may use them in your evaluation.

Mounting Music Hard Drive

- 1- Insert 4 pin plug of AC pack into power input at rear of drive - push in solidly.
- 2- Connect power cable to power source.
- 3- Plug in FireWire cable to drive, then to computer.
- 4- HD should turn on automatically & you should see the Music HD symbol.

Shut Down

- 1- Drag the Music HD icon to the trash, or click on the Music HD eject button.
- 2- Wait for the drive to spin down.
- 3- Remove the FireWire plug from the computer.
- 4- Remove the power cable from the computer.
- 5- Remove cables from the drive and store in ditty bag which goes in storage box with the drive

Mbox

- 1- Mbox MUST be connected to a USB port on the computer - it will not function correctly if plugged into a hub with USB cable from ditty bag.
- 2- Record to Music HD, not computer HD
- 3- Need phantom power button on -- (48V button pressed in)
- 4- Mic cables - Right is red & goes to source 2 (R)
- 5- Plug other end of mic cable into mic(s)

Shut Down

- Unhook, wrap & put in ditty bag:
- 1- mic cables -- put in box with MBox
 - 2- USB cable-- put in bag with Music HD cables
 - 3- put mic in its black zipper case & put in box
 - 4- put mic box in storage box

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Hands-on Test: (Must be done with one of the adult advisors or a student with Advanced Equipment Certification watching and scoring the test)

1. Set up and boot up computer (plug in to a power strip/extension cord that is plugged into a power socket)
2. Mount Music Hard Drive
3. Attach the MBox
4. Set up mic stand
5. Demonstrate both the "Eiffel tower" stand and a regular boom stand and be able to set them up, raise and lower them and adjust the angle of the mic
6. Demonstrate how to properly adjust the boom so that it is balanced
7. Put mic clip onto one of the stands
8. Plug cable into stereo mic
9. Attach mic to stand
10. Add extension mic cords
11. Demonstrate how to duct tape a cable correctly (use just one small piece of tape for an example - you do not need to tape the whole cable)
12. Plug mic into computer
13. Demonstrate how to adjust the mic level for each channel
14. Plug in headphones in front jack
15. Remove headphones from front jack and plug into rear jack
16. Set 48v correctly
17. Set mono switch correctly
18. Set source correctly
19. Dismount Music Hard Drive
20. Disconnect all equipment and put it away correctly: correctly untape cable, wrap cables, put cables in correct bags/boxes

Name _____ Date _____

**Assessment Sheet for Hands-on Equipment M-Box/Stereo Mic/Computers
Certification**

(Hand this sheet to your evaluator)

- Plugs extension cord and power strip into wall and checks to be sure the power strip is on
- Identifies computer power adaptor and plugs in computer to power strip and to computer
- Able to boot up computer and log in
- Locates MBox and Music Hard Drive and the ditty-bag of cables
- Plugs in power adaptor to Music Hard Drive (before hooking to computer)
- Plugs in firewire cable to Music Hard Drive and then to computer (in correct firewire port)
- Plugs in MBox with correct cable, to correct computer port
- Sets up telescoping ("Eiffel Tower") mic stand so that the base is wide enough to be sturdy
- Demonstrates how to tighten/loosen the sections on the telescoping stand and how to raise/lower the mic on the stand
- Sets up boom stand so that the base is wide enough to be sturdy
- Demonstrates how to adjust the boom so that it is balanced correctly
- Is able to move boom in and out
- Is able to adjust the angle of the boom
- Screws mic clip onto stand
- Plugs mic cord into stereo mic (with the correct end in)
- Places mic on stand correctly and right side up (so that left is facing left & right is facing right)
- Adds mic cord extensions
- Plugs mic cords into the MBox, keeping track of which is left and which is right
- Knows how to adjust the level for the left channel
- Knows how to adjust the level for the right channel
- Removes adaptor from headphones and plugs headphones into the front headphone jack on the MBox
- Places adaptor in the adaptor box so it doesn't get lost(!)
- Removes headphone from front jack, puts adaptor back on, plugs into rear jack on MBox
- Adjusts the headphone level

- Checks that 48v light is on
- Checks mono switch to be sure its light is NOT on
- Sets source so that "mic" light is on
- Dismounts Music Hard Drive by dragging icon to "trash" or by clicking the eject triangle in the Finder window
- Waits for the Music Hard Drive to spin down
- Unplugs Firewire from computer, then from Music Hard Drive
- Unplugs all cables from MBox and Music Hard Drive, wraps them and puts them in the correct ditty-bag
- Puts mic in pouch and into box
- Puts mic clip in box
- Wraps mic cables by letting them dictate which way to wrap, not by wrapping around the arm
- Puts stereo mic cable in mic box and other cables in "cable" storage box
- Carefully packs MBox, Music HD, adaptor box, headphones, ditty-bag, etc. in "other" storage box
- Puts extension cord and power strip in cable box