Important notes re 'The Product!' – please read
The many stages of producing a finished recording can be summarised:-
- Composing, preparation and planning
- Rehearsing
- Recording
- Mixing
- Mastering

Recording sessions are obviously distinct but do not themselves result in any product. Even with the simplest of scenarios work is always required to yield files that can be useful to the musician, ie a 'product', examples of which are:
- Finished Mix
  - This is a finished mix/production of the song, honed to the musician's satisfaction through mutual mix notes. This system is discussed with the musician. It results in wav and mp3 files at a digital loudness appropriate to the desired use (destination) of that production (for example streaming). As such I have already undertaken some mastering work[1] by definition to produce such files.
- Raw Tracks
  - These are wav files of each track as recorded with no mix work applied. Keep in mind there may be quite huge numbers of these depending on how many takes of each song/track you recorded and the number of instruments. These raw tracks all start at time zero (the very start of the song), so that all will be in sync when subsequently lined up in any DAW (digital audio workstation).
- Stems
  - Stems are audio files in wav format comprising logical groups of instruments <u>from a finished mix</u> of a song. For example drums, or guitars. This allows a partial remix to be done using polished material. It is not possible to produce stems without a prior full mix.
- CD authoring
  - The construction of an audio CD using specialised software is an additional job applied to a number of finished mixes.

Whatever the nature of the Product, once paid for it belongs to the musician and I have no rights over it (unless by prior agreement). Each type of product will incur a charge as agreed in advance. Please note I do not give out DAW Project Files.

A note on Mastering:-
There are two main aspects to mastering. First is that a mastering engineer will provide a fresh set of experienced ears on the finished mix allowing any beneficial polish to be applied. The musician/recording engineer/mix engineer at this point is so 'close' and familiar to the songs as to render this fresh opinion valuable.
Second[1], the mastering engineer will produce files to the required digital loudness etc relevant to the destination of the music (usually streaming).
A mix produced by myself will always be a pleasing final product – whether you then progress to formal mastering depends on your project and budget.

Any questions?! Don't hesitate to contact Barnaby
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