

Computers; Friend or Foe in the Studio

It's pretty obvious by now, we are all familiar with midi (ughh) and digital computer based recording. Many experts argue (and are mostly correct) in the fact that digital recording of analog sounds is evil (produces harsher results natively). The truth is a little digital intervention goes a long way. What I mean is; I can't imagine editing down and bouncing tracks using purely analog equipment. Editing audio in the digital domain is the way to go! A happy medium must be aimed for here, perhaps recording instruments separately onto tape and finalizing all the tracks on a digital workstation. This approach adds the warmth and ambiance from analog tape machines and the precision of digital for editing and mixes down.

Computers do present some electronic noise issues (foe), in the form of EMI. To resolve any noise issues in studio applications especially small studios, keep the signal cables and power cables as far apart as possible. Also invest in a Furman line conditioner, and even an APC battery backup (for computer only). Connect all power amps and rack equipment with these devices, always ensuring you have grounded outlets (3 prongs).

Safe recoding....and mixing and mixing.....