

## RECORDING STEP-BY-STEP

### STEP ONE: PRE-PREPARATIONS

**Do your homework.** If you can afford a producer, either see whether you like the albums a producer has worked on before, or track down who the producer was on those albums you really like.

**Be strategic with your budget.** Work out what studio hours you can afford, and how you can make the most of them. Consider home-recording and DIY software.

**Consider rehearsing songs with a click-track.** A click track can help tighten up a band in the lead up to a studio session.

**Have more songs ready than you intend to use.** It's useful to have room to change things around.

### STEP TWO: PREPARE TO RECORD

**If you're home-recording, create a makeshift recording booth** out of mattresses and blankets that will absorb reverb. You may want to experiment with echoes, but remember that while you can always add sound effects, you can't remove them.

**Make sure any home-recorded material you bring in to the studio is in the correct format.** The higher the resolution the better. And make sure you consolidate your tracks into one single audio file.

**Brief the sound engineer or producer.** Give the sound engineer a rundown of how each song is structured so they're better prepared to record it. Gather the material that will help communicate the sound you want – music from bands that inspire you, pictures.

### STEP THREE: IN THE STUDIO

**Keep an open mind.** Great ideas can arise during the recording session, and it may pay to consider them.

**Be patient.** Technical problems are normal and the recording process in general often takes time.

**Consider playing along to a click-track.** Playing to a click track establishes a set tempo for a song – making editing much easier.