

XTRAX

STEMS

Welcome to XTRAX STEMS! This guide provides an in-depth look at the features, functionality and workflow of this stand-alone application. Use the table of contents to navigate to a specific topic, or proceed step-by-step through the document.

Direct any questions or issues you may encounter with the use or installation of XTRAX STEMS to support@audionamix.com.



[Introduction](#)

[About XTRAX STEMS](#)

[System requirements](#)

[Installation and authorization](#)

[Using XTRAX STEMS](#)

[Importing a file](#)

[Running a separation](#)

[What is the difference between the four separation option algorithms?](#)

[Automatic](#)

[Automatic HQ](#)

[Generic](#)

[Generic HQ](#)

[Comparing Separations](#)

[Comparing to the Source](#)

[Transport and navigation options](#)

[Creating a new mix](#)

[Exporting results](#)

[Saving your project](#)

[Keyboard shortcuts](#)

[Customer Support](#)

Introduction

About XTRAX STEMS

XTRAX STEMS is the world's first fully-automatic stem creator. The application can easily separate any song into its drum, vocal and remaining music components. Created for DJs, music producers and remix artists, XTRAX STEMS allows users to create multitrack content to control during live sets, opening up possibilities for easy remixing, sampling and a capella creation like never before!

XTRAX STEMS can be used also by musicians to practice along with their favorite tracks. Singers and drummers can play along with the song with the vocals or drums turned off. They can also listen to soloed vocal or drum parts to spot all the details of the original performance, vocal harmonies, and mixing techniques.

System requirements

XTRAX STEMS is a stand-alone application for Mac only. Because the separation processing is done in the cloud, a high-speed Internet connection is required to use it.

Supported Operating Systems:

- Mac OS X 10.11, 10.12 and 10.13

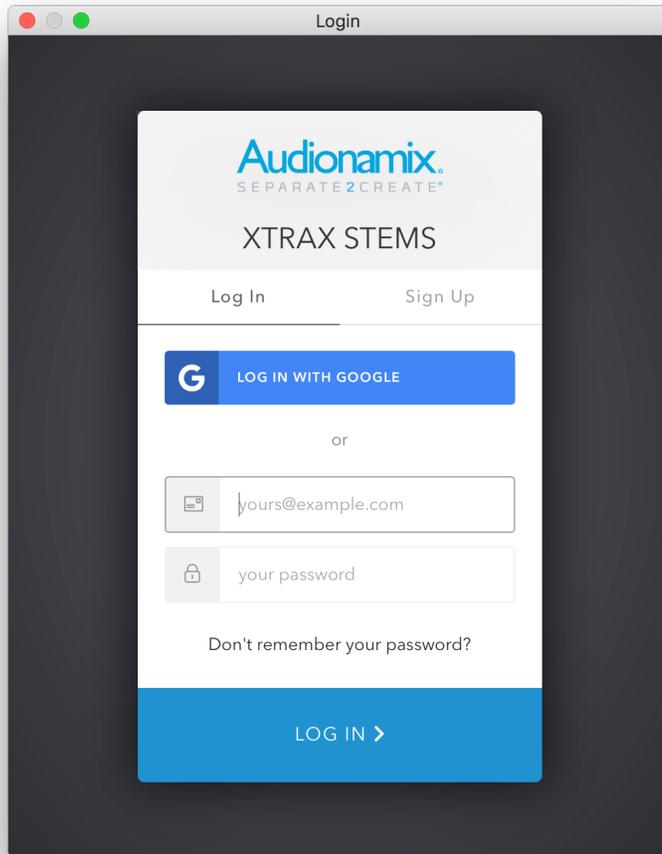
Installation and authorization

[You can find and download the latest version of XTRAX STEMS here.](#)

Once downloaded, launch the installer .dmg and drag and drop XTRAX STEMS to the Applications folder.



XTRAX STEMS requires authentication to launch your first separation. When prompted, simply log in using the same credentials that you used on the Audionamix website to purchase XTRAX STEMS.



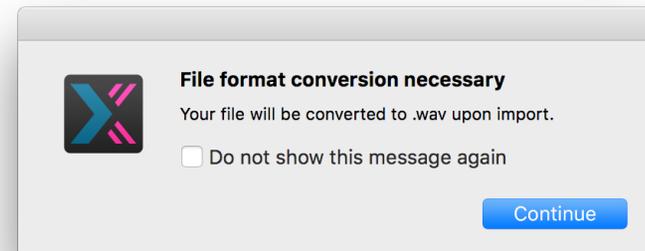
Using XTRAX STEMS

Importing a file

You can import a supported audio file by clicking on the interface import prompt, by dragging and dropping onto the interface, or through the File > Import file... (⌘I) menu command.

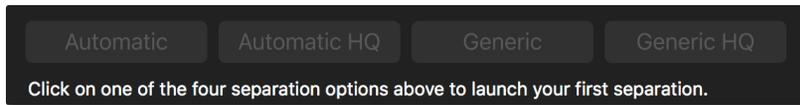
Drag and drop an audio file or click here to import.

XTRAX STEMS works natively with .wav files with sample rates up to 96kHz and bit depths up to 32-bit. Other supported audio files (.aif, .aiff, .aac, .mp3, .m4a) are converted to .wav upon import.



Running a separation

Once your source file is imported, you can click on one of the four separation options to automatically separate your file into its three stems: drums, vocals and the remaining music.



What is the difference between the four separation option algorithms?

Changing from one algorithm option to another can help you to improve the overall quality of the separated Vocals stem.

Automatic

When selecting the **Automatic** separation option, the vocal separation occurs using an Automatic Voice Activity Detection process. Vocals are separated only when detected. This algorithm is recommended as a good starting point, as it is more likely to discern and separate only the vocals compared to the Generic options.

Automatic HQ

Run the **Automatic HQ** separation to use the Automatic Voice Activity Detection process with an alternative algorithm. Only recommended if the Automatic separation option properly identifies the vocals. This algorithm takes longer to process, but can improve the quality and clarity of your vocals separation compared to the Automatic option.

Generic

With the **Generic** algorithm, the Vocals stem will be made of the main melodic content extracted on the entire duration of the file. It can be useful when the automatic voice activity detection misses segments of the voice, or when trying to extract a monophonic and melodic instrument, such as a saxophone solo.

Generic HQ

Run the **Generic HQ** to extract the main melodic content on the entire duration of the file with an alternative algorithm.

Comparing Separations

You can access and compare your separations using the same Separation Option buttons that you used to first launch your separation.



Greyed out buttons indicate that you still have yet to process using that algorithm.



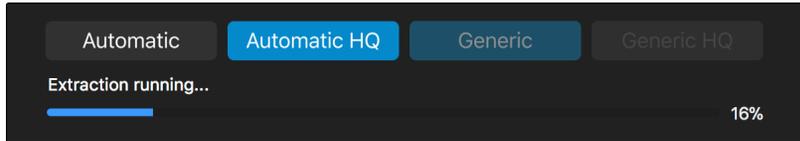
Dark blue buttons indicate that they are currently processing, and separation progress is displayed below.



If a Separation has already processed, the button will be in the available state, indicating that you can click on it to immediately hear the separation results.

Automatic

An active, bright blue button indicates that the separation is currently displayed in the interface.



In the above example, the Automatic HQ separation results are currently active. The Automatic separation results are already processed and available, one needs simply to click on the button to display them. The Generic separation is currently processing and is 16% complete, and the Generic HQ separation has not yet been processed.

Comparing to the Source

All Audionamix separation algorithms are fully conservative, which means that the separated stems can be recombined to make the original source mix at any time.

To hear this for yourself, simply click on the Source button to swap to your original source file.

Source

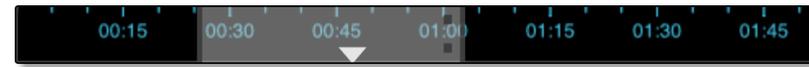
You can then compare the source to any separation by clicking on any of the four separation option buttons.

Transport and navigation options

XTRAX STEMS features the usual transport controls: play / pause, return to beginning and loop playback (⌘L) on the time selection.



Click on the timeline to move the playhead to a new position. Drag and drop on it to create a time selection.



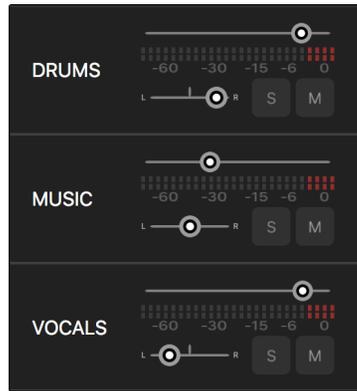
'Playhead Return on Stop' (N) is accessible from the Options menu. When activated, the playhead returns to its starting position when pausing playback.

You can zoom in and out using the keyboard shortcuts R and T. The shortcut ⌘A zooms out to view the whole file.

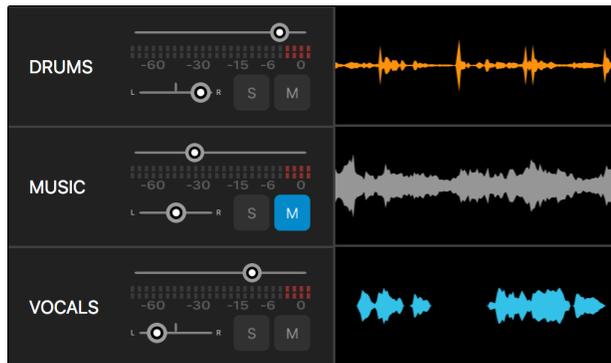
When zoomed in, you can choose to have the view follow the playhead by activating the Page Scrolling Option under the Options menu.

Creating a new mix

After the separation process is complete, you can use the sliders to adjust the volume and pan position of your separated stems. Option-click to return a volume or a pan slider to 0.



XTRAX STEMS allows you to mute / unmute by clicking on the entire track waveform.



Option-click on the waveform to solo the track. Solo works as an X-OR. If a track is already soloed, pressing another Solo button will therefore deselect the previous one.

Exporting results

You can export your separated stems and/or your new mix through the File > Export... (⌘E) menu command.

XTRAX STEMS gives you the ability to export the entire duration of your file, or your time selection only.

If you imported an uncompressed .wav or .aiff, exported audio files will match the source sample rate and bit depth. If you imported a compressed audio file such as an .mp3, exported files will be 44.1kHz, 16-bit .wav files.

Saving your project

XTRAX STEMS organizes your project as a folder when saving. Inside the saved folder, you can find the project file (that can be opened using XTRAX STEMS), and a folder called "Resources", containing both your original source file and all separated tracks in the native .wav format.

When sharing between systems, be sure to include the entire project folder to avoid missing files.

Keyboard shortcuts

| Functionality / Tool | Associated Shortcut |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Export... | ⌘E |
| Import File... | ⌘I |
| Loop | ⌘L |
| Open... | ⌘O |
| Play / Pause | Spacebar |
| Playhead Return on Stop | N |
| Quit | ⌘Q |
| Return to beginning | Enter |
| Save... | ⌘S |
| Zoom Reset | ⌘A |
| Zoom In | T |
| Zoom Out | R |

Customer Support

For additional help with XTRAX STEMS, please visit our web site at www.audionamix.com/support where you will find Pro Tips, Tutorials, and Frequently Asked Questions, or contact our technical support department at support@audionamix.com.

Our support team offers significant media industry experience, expertise and personal dedication to help you resolve technical issues and stay productive.

Thank you for using XTRAX STEMS.