



Pro Tools Software The Heart of the System

Pro Tools software simplifies complex tasks with intuitive tools, pop-up menus, and one-button functions. Sessions created with Pro Tools software are interchangeable regardless of hardware environment — and Pro Tools' core recording, editing, and mixing environment remains the same regardless of platform.

Pro Tools-compatible hardware platforms are available for every application — from Pro Tools software with PowerMix — all the way up to the power and expandability of our TDM-equipped Pro Tools systems.

Pro Tools Family

at a glance

There are good reasons why more professionals use Pro Tools® than all other workstations combined. Pro Tools provides the most powerful features for recording, editing, mixing, and mastering. Over the last few years, Pro Tools has become an industry standard with unsurpassed price/performance.

Pro Tools award-winning software runs on several Digidesign® hardware platforms or with the built-in

audio capabilities of a Power Macintosh. The consistency of the Pro Tools interface provides both continuity and compatibility across the entire product line.

Digidesign manufactures digital audio workstations to meet every need and budget. No matter what system you choose, you are sure to reach new heights in creativity and productivity.

There's a System that's Right for You

Pro Tools PowerMix allows Pro Tools software to run as a stand-alone application on a PowerPC-based Mac OS-compatible computer, with no additional Digidesign hardware. This system is ideal for:

- *Entry-level audio and music professionals*
- *Computer hobbyists or Power Macintosh owners who want an advanced audio workstation without any additional gear*
- *Those wanting to learn Pro Tools software and upgrade later*
- *Pro Tools® III and Pro Tools®|24 owners who wish to have additional, smaller, cost-effective workstations*

Pro Tools with Audiomedia III™ provides the benefits of working in the Pro Tools software environment with improved I/O and additional system options. This system is ideally suited for:

- *Intermediate professionals*
- *DAT editors and pre-mastering engineers*
- *Multimedia audio and music producers*
- *Those wanting to learn Pro Tools software, then upgrade*
- *Pro Tools III and Pro Tools|24 owners who wish to have additional, smaller, cost-effective workstations*

Pro Tools Project™ is a digital audio workstation that provides Pro Tools functionality at an affordable price, including 8 tracks of record/playback with 8 bands of digital EQ. Pro Tools Project is ideal for:

- *Project studio owners*
- *Pro music producers and audio engineers/editors*
- *Radio broadcast pros*

- *Multimedia audio and music producers*
- *Customers who want a direct upgrade path to the power of Pro Tools III and Pro Tools|24 but wish to start gradually*

Pro Tools III is for users who need a fully professional Pro Tools system—with TDM's digital mixing and real-time DSP capabilities—but for whom 16-bit performance is sufficient. Pro Tools III provides 16 to 48 tracks of record/playback, and up to 64 channels of high-quality analog and digital I/O. Pro Tools III is used by:

- *Professional music producers and audio engineers/editors*
- *Radio broadcast pros*
- *Multimedia audio and music producers*
- *Film and video post-production engineers*

Pro Tools|24 offers features and sonic quality in league with the finest digital recording systems. With true 24-bit performance, Pro Tools|24 delivers 24-48 tracks of record/playback; 8 to 72 discrete channels of the best possible analog and digital I/O; and complete TDM functionality. Pro Tools|24 is used by:

- *Professional music producers and audio engineers/editors*
- *CD pre-mastering engineers*
- *Multimedia audio and music producers*
- *Film and video post-production engineers*
- *Classical and other live recording engineers*
- *Anyone who demands the finest in digital recording, mixing, signal processing, and editing*

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Pro Tools Family Feature Guide

	Pro Tools PowerMix	Pro Tools w/Audiomedia III ¹	Pro Tools Project	Pro Tools III	Pro Tools 24
System Components	Software only	Audiomedia III card plus software	Project Core System (Project Audio Card, plus software), Digidesign Audio Interface ⁸	Pro Tools III Core System (Disk I/O, DSP Farm plus software), Digidesign Audio Interface(s) ⁸	Pro Tools 24 Core System (d24 card, DSP Farm plus software), Digidesign Audio Interface(s) ⁸
System Capabilities					
Digital I/O	n/a	2/2 S/PDIF	Up to 8/8 AES/EBU, 2/2 S/PDIF	2 - 64 (depending on interface)	2 - 72 (depending on interface)
Analog I/O	Built-in audio connectors only	2 (RCA jacks)	8 (XLR or 1/4" TRS) (depending on interface)	8 - 64 (XLR or 1/4" TRS) (depending on interface)	8 - 72 (XLR or 1/4" TRS) (depending on interface)
Simultaneous Rec Trks	2	28	8	16 - 48	24 - 48 ⁸
24-Bit Record/Play	no	no	no	no	yes
Simultaneous Play Trks	16 ²	8 or 16 ²	8 or 16 ²	16 - 48	24 - 48 ⁸
Virtual Trks	32 to 64 ²	32 (up to 64 with PowerMix ²)	55 (up to 64 with PowerMix ²)	49 - 128	43-128
Import/Export Multiple File Formats/Sample Rates/Bit Depths	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Plug-In Environment					
TDM	no	no	no	yes	yes
AudioSuite	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Mixing Capabilities					
Configuration	8 - 16x2 ^{2,3}	8	8x2, 8x8	Variable (can exceed 100x64)	Variable (can exceed 100x72)
Effects Sends	no	no	2 post fader	Up to 5 sends per track ⁴ (switchable pre/post fader)	Up to 5 sends per track ⁴ (switchable pre/post fader)
Effects Returns	no	no	Up to 8 mono/4 stereo	8 - 64	8 - 72
Internal Mix Busses	no	no	no	32	32
Real-time Digital EQ	2 bands per track	2 bands per track (8 bands total)	2 bands per track (8 bands total)	Up to 20 bands/track	Up to 20 bands/track
Dynamic Automation of volume, pan & mutes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Dynamic Automation of send level, send mute, and TDM Plug-In parameters	no	no	no	yes	yes
Master Faders	no	no	no	yes	yes
Narrow Mix View	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Mix Groups	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Bounce Capabilities	File-based bounce with EQ	File-based bounce with EQ	File-based bounce with EQ (plus analog or digital sends/returns)	Real-time bounce with TDM effects (plus analog or digital sends/returns)	Real-time bounce with TDM effects (plus analog or digital sends/returns)
Editing Capabilities					
Drag & Drop Assembly	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spot Editing	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
QuickPunch	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Memory Locations	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Scrub/Shuttle	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Edit during Playback	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Pencil Tool	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Undo/Redo all functions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Variable Track Height	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

	Pro Tools PowerMix	Pro Tools w/Audiomedia III	Pro Tools Project	Pro Tools III	Pro Tools 24
Edit Groups	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Graphic Editing of All Automatable Parameters	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
MIDI Capabilities					
Std. MIDI file import/exp	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
MIDI file rec./play/edit	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Edit audio/MIDI simult.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Integration via OMS	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
MIDI Controller Support	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Compatibility					
Digital Audio Sequencers ⁵	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
AES/EBU Devices (DA-88, Yamaha 01, etc.)	no	no	yes	yes	yes
OMF	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
System Options					
Software	AudioSuite Plug-Ins MasterList CD ⁷	Sound Designer II, AudioSuite Plug-Ins, MasterList CD	Sound Designer II, AudioSuite Plug-Ins, MasterList CD, Machine Control	Sound Designer II, MasterList CD AudioSuite Plug-Ins, TDM Plug-Ins, Machine Control, PostConform	AudioSuite Plug-Ins, TDM Plug-Ins, Machine Control MasterList CD ⁷
Hardware	Audiomedia III, SampleCell II	SampleCell II	Digidesign ADAT Interface, SampleCell II, SMPTE Slave Driver Video Slave Driver, Universal Slave Driver	SMPTE Slave Driver, Video Slave Driver, Universal Slave Driver, SampleCell II, SampleCell TDM, Pro Tools III Expansion Kit, Third Party Expansion Chassis, Digidesign ADAT Interface	SampleCell II TDM, Sample Cell II, SMPTE Slave Driver Video Slave Driver, Universal Slave Driver, Third Party Expansion Chassis Pro Tools 24 Expansion Kit ⁷

¹ Pro Tools software and Audiomedia III card are purchased separately.

² Maximum capabilities assume a Power Macintosh with a 120 MHz CPU or faster. Lower CPU speeds will yield lower number of playback tracks and virtual tracks.

³ Does not include virtual tracks.

⁴ To any of 32 buses or I/O's.

⁵ Digital audio sequencer support includes Studio Vision, Logic Audio, CuBase Audio, and Digital Performer.

⁶ 24-track performance requires Digidesign-approved system configuration.

⁷ Scheduled for release winter 1997

⁸ Core System and Audio Interface are purchased separately

Plug-Ins and Patch Cords

Plug-Ins are software modules that extend the functionality of Digidesign systems by adding features such as EQ, compression, and other effects to Pro Tools systems. Rather than patching in a limiter at an insert point, or routing an effects send/receive bus to accommodate an outboard reverb, Plug-Ins allow you to do all this and much more through software.

Plug-Ins come in two flavors — TDM and AudioSuite™. TDM architecture allows Plug-Ins to work in real-time, so that you can “insert” multiple reverbs, compressors, and other effects directly into your mixer and hear the results. AudioSuite Plug-Ins are “file-based,” meaning that you can preview and apply an effect to the selected file and hear the results within the mix after it is written to disk. Because it’s “undoable,” you can always revert back to the previous state.

Don’t throw away all of your patch cords, however. Digidesign’s flexible routing structure in Pro Tools|24, Pro Tools III and Pro Tools Project systems also allows you to “plug-in” existing outboard gear from your studio. Still, the software-based Plug-In advantage is obvious, as you can use a single TDM Plug-In multiple times in a Pro Tools|24 or Pro Tools III set-up.

Digidesign and Digidesign Development Partners manufacture numerous Plug-Ins. Some of Digidesign’s Plug-Ins are included with Pro Tools|24 and Pro Tools III. These include:

- Single or 4-band EQ
- Dynamics, including Compression, Limiting, Expansion, and Gating
- Mod Delay for Flanging, Chorusing, and Slap Delays
- Procrastinator™ — a mono-only, long delay Plug-In
- Dither — for smooth fades and cuts with maximum performance
- TimeAdjuster (phase, gain, delay)

Digidesign also manufactures optional TDM Plug-Ins including:

- D-Verb™ — A high quality, 24-bit reverb
- DINR™ — Intelligent Noise Reduction
- DPP-1™ — A versatile pitch processor
- D-Fi™ — Creative sound design tools

AudioSuite capabilities included in all Pro Tools systems allow for extensive time compression and expansion, pitch shifting, sample rate conversion, and more.

For more information on an extensive list of available TDM and AudioSuite Plug-Ins from Digidesign and Digidesign Development Partners, ask for our *Digidesign Development Partner Catalog*.

Optional I/O for Pro Tools|24, Pro Tools III, and Pro Tools Project Systems*

Digidesign offers two choices of system input/output — the 888|24 I/O and the 882 I/O. Both interfaces offer high quality performance and include Slave clock BNC connectors for synchronization peripherals.

The **888|24 I/O** offers 8 channels of 24-bit A/D and 20-bit D/A conversion. Inputs and outputs are active-balanced XLRs, with operating levels internal channel-switchable between +4dBu and -10 dBV. 4 AES/EBU and 1 S/PDIF digital I/O connectors allow up to 8 channels of digital audio to be transferred simultaneously.

The **882 I/O** offers exceptional value at a lower price. Inputs and outputs are active-balanced 1/4" stereo phone jacks, with operating levels globally switchable between +4dBu and -10dBV. The 882 also supports unbalanced operation. Digital I/O is supported by a single S/PDIF port.

* Specifications are available upon request.

Pro Tools Family



Contact your local Dealer or
Digidesign for System Pricing.

PRO TOOLS POWERMIX & PRO TOOLS W/AUDIOMEDIA III

System Requirements:*

- Qualified Mac OS-compatible Computer
- 48 Mbytes of total system RAM minimum** (additional RAM required for simultaneous use with MIDI sequencers)
- System Software: Mac OS 7.6.1 or greater
- Hard Disk Requirements: Qualified disk drive (stereo 16-bit audio requires approximately 10 Mbytes/minute of hard disk space at 44.1 kHz.)
- Monitor: 14" minimum, 17" highly recommended

Audiomedia III Includes:

Pro Tools Software with AudioSuite Architecture, up to 2 tracks of record, 8 tracks of playback, 2 channels of analog/digital I/O

PowerMix Includes:

Pro Tools Software with PowerMix, AudioSuite Plug-In Architecture, 2 tracks of simultaneous record, up to 16 tracks playback

PRO TOOLS III

System Requirements:*

- Qualified Mac OS-compatible Computer
- 48 Mbytes of total system RAM minimum** (additional RAM required for simultaneous use with MIDI sequencers)
- System Software: Mac OS 7.6.1 or greater
- Hard Disk Requirements: Qualified external disk drive (stereo 16-bit audio requires approximately 10 Mbytes/minute of hard disk space at 44.1 kHz.)
- Monitor: 14" minimum, 17" highly recommended

Core System Includes:

Pro Tools Software with TDM and AudioSuite Plug-In Architecture, Disk I/O and DSP Farm with 16 tracks of record/playback, up to 16 channels of analog I/O, up to 16 channels of digital I/O, six bundled Plug-Ins, Automation of Plug-Ins, and more...

Add a compatible Digidesign Audio Interface to complete your system

PRO TOOLS PROJECT

System Requirements:*

- Qualified Mac OS-compatible Computer
- 48 Mbytes of total system RAM minimum** (additional RAM required for simultaneous use with MIDI sequencers)
- System Software: Mac OS 7.6.1 or greater
- Hard Disk Requirements: Qualified external disk drive (stereo 16-bit audio requires approximately 10 Mbytes/minute of hard disk space at 44.1 kHz.)
- Monitor: 14" minimum, 17" highly recommended

Core System Includes:

Pro Tools Software with AudioSuite Plug-In Architecture, Project Audio Card with 8 tracks of record/playback; 8 channels of analog I/O, up to 8 channels of digital I/O

Add a compatible Digidesign Audio Interface to complete your system

PRO TOOLS 24

System Requirements:*

- Qualified Mac OS-compatible Computer
- 64 Mbytes of total system RAM minimum** (additional RAM required for simultaneous use with MIDI sequencers)
- System Software: Mac OS 7.6.1 or greater
- Hard Disk Requirements: Qualified disk drive (stereo 24-bit audio requires approximately 15 Mbytes/minute of hard disk space at 44.1 kHz.)
- Qualified SCSI Accelerator recommended with some configurations for optimum performance
- Monitor: 14" minimum, 17" highly recommended

Core System Includes:

Pro Tools Software with TDM and AudioSuite Plug-In Architecture, d24™ card and DSP Farm with 24 tracks of record/playback, up to 24 channels of analog I/O, up to 24 channels of digital I/O, six bundled Plug-Ins, Automation of Plug-Ins, and more...

Add a compatible Digidesign Audio Interface to complete your system

Digidesign offers a flexible upgrade path, allowing you to protect your initial investment.

Call Digidesign and ask for our Pro Tools family catalog and Pro Tools video.

1.800.333.2137 (in U.S. Only)
or 650.842.6602

Note: System Requirements assume PCI-based systems. Contact Digidesign for details on NuBus-based systems.

** For the latest lists of computer hardware and computer requirements, contact your Digidesign dealer or call your local Digidesign office. This list is periodically updated.*

*** Virtual memory is not supported*

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