# Routenote

## Style Guide

v1.3

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## Upload Guide

# 1 Artist Formatting and Crediting

## 1.1 Correct Formatting For a Featuring Artist

To credit a featuring artist in your track you must use either the term "feat" or "with".

The correct formatting for a track title with a featuring artist would be:

*Hello World (feat. Herman Brown)*

As you can see, the "feat" is formatted inside brackets and is in lowercase.

**Do not use capitals or any other spelling, "Feat" "FEAT" "Featuring" "featuring" would all be incorrect and will not pass moderation. After "feat" should be a full stop i.e (feat. Herman Brown).**



## 1.2 Featuring Artist Crediting At Album and Track Level

At the album level, if an artist is featured for every track in the album you must credit them in the album title. Artists with featuring roles should be assigned the correct album and track level role and should not be given the Primary role at album or track level. Instead they should be credited as a Featuring artist.

Any featuring artist must be credited at track level. For single releases featuring artists must be credited at track and album level.

## 1.3 Featuring Artist Crediting At Album and Track Level

For multiple featuring artists you must list each artist with a comma after the "feat", and an "&" must be used before the final featuring artist if there are more than one.

For example: **Hello World (feat. Herman Brown, Joe Bloggs & John Doe).**

## 1.4 Crediting an Artist "With"

As with "feat", "with" should be formatted as:

**"Hello World (with Herman Brown)"**

Again it should be formatted within brackets and in lowercase, "with" however, needs no full stop.



## 1.5 Crediting "Vs" and "Meet"

"Vs and "meets" artists must be listed at track level and assigned as a Primary artist. The use of "Vs" and "Meets" should only appear in the album or track title. So for example:

The track title might be: **"Hello World (Joe Bloggs vs. John Smith)"**

You cannot have Joe Bloggs vs. John Smith as an artist title.

## 1.6 One-Track Singles Must Have Identical Album Levels

One-track singles must have matching album and track titles, including, brackets and any other information.

So If the track title is: '**Hello World (feat. Joe Bloggs)**' then the album title would have to be *exactly* the same.

## 1.7 Formatting of Compilation Albums

Only albums with four or more Primary artists are considered compilation albums. The album level must have Primary artist listed as Various Artists.

If your album has fewer than four Primary artists it is not considered a compilation album. All respective artists must be listed in their tracks as Primary artists.

**If you do not wish for your release to be listed as 'Various', please leave one artist as a primary and change the drop-down box for the others to 'performers'.**

# 1 Artist Formatting and Crediting

## 1.8 Remixes

Albums that contain a collection of remixes of the same track must indicate this in the album title. Also to avoid track title duplication the track titles must include enough information about the remix to differentiate them.

For example, various remixes of the track "Hello World" could be formatted as follows", album title:

Hello World **(Remixes)**

Hello World **(Extended Mix)**

Hello World **(DJ Joe Bloggs Remix)**

Hello World **(DJ Joe Bloggs Remix Radio Edit)**

Hello World **(Radio Edit)**

**'Original Mix' is not permitted in the track titles.**

Please only list this in the title version, this is found in the track details.

# 2 Classical Artist Styles

## 2.1 Classical Artist Roles

Each classical album/single must have both a Primary artist and a Composer.

The Composer refers to the original creator of the piece and Primary as the artist who created the recording.

So for example If Joe Bloggs produced a piece originally composed by Wolfgang A. Mozart, Joe Bloggs would be assigned the Primary Role and conductor (if he is the conductor) and Wolfgang A. Mozart as the Composer.



However if Joe Bloggs composed an original piece of classical music he would be both the Composer and Primary.

The same applies to multiple artists, if Joe Bloggs and John Smith recorded a piece by Wolfgang A. Mozart then both Joe Bloggs and John Smith would be assigned the Primary role and Wolfgang A. Mozart as the Composer.

Other contributors to the album such as performer's, producers etc. should be assigned a role according to their contribution. Production roles must not be assigned the Primary role.

*Artists cannot list a release as classical if it was not originally composed during this period. Please list your release as instrumental if it does not meet this criteria.*

## 2.2 Album Titles

For album titles the last name of the composer should be included in the album title. The composer's first initial or name may also be included For example:

*"L.Beethoven: Symphony No.9"*                    *"Beethoven: Symphony No.9 "*

Both are acceptable.

Following this the title of composition as well as any additional information such as Opus or any Key it is played in. For example if Symphony 9 was played in G Major the album title would appear as:

*L.Beethoven: Symphony No.9 in G Major*

***Important:*** All relevant information about a classical track must be included and must contain the key or opus if it exists.

For example:

*"Beethoven: Piano concerto, Op. 11".*

## 2.3 Song Title

Song title formatting must be organised as follows,

**[Name of Work]** in **[key]**, **[catalogue number]** or **[movement number]**, **[movement title]** For example:

"*Symphony No.1 in C major, Opus 21*" or "*Piano Sonata in C, K545*"

***Important:*** If a track title has any key, catalogue number, movement number and movement title it must be included in the track title and in the right order.

## 3.1 Album Information



Soundtracks, music and scores for movies, TV and musicals must include the film title or information enclosed in brackets. For example a RouteNote film soundtrack would appear in the album metadata as:

*"RouteNote (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)"*

Or the Jurassic Park film sound track would appear as:

*"Jurassic Park (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)"*

**The composer of the scores must be listed on both the track and album level.** So if you were distributing the Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack) you would list John Williams as the composer on the album level as well as on each track level.

For soundtracks with only one composer, the composer should be listed as both Primary and composer at album level as well as track level.

If you are creating an album with tracks from different origins (different films, TV shows), the title of the track must indicate where the track has originated from.
For example for the track "Blade Runner Blues" from Blade Runner you would format the track title like:

*Blade Runner Blues (From "Blade Runner").*

**Please note that these examples are hypothetical. You must have distribution rights for all elements of your release, therefore we will not accept soundtracks from films unless you have the correct permissions.**

# 4 Capitalization, Abbreviations, Accents and Characters

**Titles of albums and tracks must have correct and consistent capitalization and grammar.**

Non standard capitalization such as album title or track titles in full capitals will only be accepted as an artistic choice.
If so, you should email us via moderation@routenote.com, notifying us of this with the UPC included within your email.

## 4.1 Parts and Volume Formatting

If you are releasing albums in Parts or Volumes, the words part or volume must be abbreviated to "Pt." and "Vol."

So for the album "**Hello World part 1**" it would be formatted as: "**Hello World, Pt. 1**"

Or for the album "**Hello World volume 1**" it would be formatted as: "**Hello World, Vol.1**"

For all words following an (-) (/) or (:) they must be capitalized.

# 5 Cover Releases

You can distribute cover tracks to Spotify and Deezer without needing a mechanical license. In this case, your release will be distributed internationally, without the need to exclude territories.

*If you wish to distribute this release to our other partner stores. You must obtain mechanical licenses to cover you in the following territories:*

**The United States**
**Canada**
**Mexico**
**Pakistan**
**India**

Please email any documented permission/mechanical licenses to moderation@routenote.com

You obtain these from:
**www.easysonglicensing.com**
**www.harryfox.com**
**www.loudr.fm/licensing**

You must *ONLY* credit the original artist in the 'C Line' in your album details and *NOWHERE* else. This includes in the cover art.

**If you have multiple covers within your release**, please list the copyright holders one after another, with a comma to separate them, for example: Stevie Wonder, Chic, Ray Charles etc.

You cannot mention the original artist in the release cover art. You must also remove YouTube from your stores. You can do this by clicking 'Manage Stores' and unticking from there. From here you can also remove your territories.

Please note that you **CANNOT** use samples from the original track unless you have the correct permissions. Sample usage does not class as a cover version.

# 6 Cover Art, Booklet and LP Art Policies

Cover art must be **1425 x 1425** pixels or larger. Aspect ratio **1:1** Image quality, must not be pixelated or blurry or have any other quality issues.

You cannot include website addresses on your album artwork.

References to physical packaging or retailers are not acceptable.

Art must not include references to it being a digital product.

Pricing or any reference to pricing cannot be included in artwork.

Art cannot include pornography or any website links to pornography.

The Art cannot be misleading (depicting another artist not involved in the album on the artwork etc.).

Cannot include misleading information such as, containing products that it in fact does not contain.

Nazi symbolism or any other racist or hate based content.

Artwork must be created in **72 - 300dpi** (300dpi is the best).

File Size must be **less than 25mb**.

Cover art cannot include depictions of celebrities/social media logos/store logos or trademarked material of any kind.

# 7 Metadata Gaming

Metadata gaming, misrepresentation or any other form of misleading consumers is taken very seriously and will not be tolerated. Repeated attempts of metadata gaming will likely incur punitive actions on your catalogue and could affect the ability to distribute further releases through RouteNote.

Releases cannot contain any references to artists who had no role in the release.
You must be able to provide evidence of a listed artists involvement if questioned.