What's New in Pro Tools® and Pro Tools | Ultimate

version 2019.5

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What's New in Pro Tools 2019.5

New Features and Enhancements

Pro Tools® and Pro Tools | Ultimate software version 2019.5 provides the following new features and enhancements.

Pro Tools | Ultimate Improvements with HDX and Native Systems

HDX and HD Native Performance Improvements

Pro Tools | Ultimate 2019.5 provides several performance improvements for HDX and HD Native systems.

Increased Voice Count and Voice Packs for Pro Tools | Ultimate Native-based Systems

Pro Tools | Ultimate now supports up to 384 voices at 48 kHz, 192 voices at 96 kHz, and 96 voices at 192 kHz on all native systems (HD Native, Core Audio, and ASIO). You can purchase a Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Pack license from Avid for an additional 128 voices at 48 kHz, 64 voices at 96 kHz, and 32 voices at 192 kHz on native systems (HD Native, Core Audio, or ASIO) running Pro Tools | Ultimate software. You can run up to three Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Pack licenses simultaneously for as many voices as a Pro Tools | HDX 3 system.

Support for HD Native Thunderbolt on Windows

HD Native Thunderbolt is supported on Windows with an Avid-qualified Windows computer and Thunderbolt 2 card. For more information, see http://avid.force.com/pkb/articles/Compatibility/HD-Native-Thunderbolt-on-Windows.

Miscellaneous Features and Improvements

Name Tracks in New Track Dialog

Pro Tools lets you name new tracks when you create them using the Name field in the New Tracks dialog.

Timeline Interaction Improvements with Dynamic Transport

Pro Tools now lets you adjust the Timeline selection during playback without interruption. Likewise, MIDI streaming to and from external MIDI devices is not interrupted by any of these actions.

Track Interaction Improvements

Pro Tools now lets you create new tracks, and modify sends and inserts during playback without interruption. Likewise, MIDI streaming to and from external MIDI devices is not interrupted by any of these actions.

Avid Link Menu

The Avid Link menu replaces the Marketplace menu and provides integrated access to Avid Link.

Network Licensing for Enterprise and Education Customers

Pro Tools support network-based site licensing for Enterprise and Education customers. For more information, visit http://avid.force.com/pkb/articles/faq/Network-License-Server-FAQ.

MIDI Changes and Improvements

Create Up to 1,024 MIDI Tracks

Pro Tools lets you create up to 1,024 MIDI tracks.

MIDI Note Editing with Arrow Keys Restricted to MIDI Notes and Velocity Views

In order to optimize workflow efficiency, the Arrow key shortcuts for editing MIDI notes are restricted to Notes view and Velocity view on MIDI and Instrument tracks

Simultaneously Record-enabled MIDI and Instrument Tracks Limited to 32

In order to ensure optimal performance with high MIDI track counts, no more than 32 combined MIDI and Instrument tracks can be record-enabled at one time.

System Requirements and Compatibility Information

Avid can only assure compatibility and provide support for hardware and software it has tested and approved.

For complete system requirements and a list of qualified computers, operating systems, hard drives, and third-party devices, visit:
www.avid.com/compatibility

Conventions Used in This Guide

Pro Tools documentation uses the following conventions to indicate menu choices, keyboard commands, and mouse commands:

Convention	Action
File > Save	Choose Save from the File menu
Control+N	Hold down the Control key and press the N key
Control-click	Hold down the Control key and click the mouse button
Right-click	Click with the right mouse button

The names of Commands, Options, and Settings that appear on-screen are in a different font.

The following symbols are used to highlight important information:

User Tips are helpful hints for getting the most from your Pro Tools system.

Important Notices include information that could affect your Pro Tools project data or the performance of your Pro Tools system.

Shortcuts show you useful keyboard or mouse shortcuts.

Cross References point to related sections in this guide and other Avid documentation.

How to Use this PDF Guide

This PDF provides the following useful features:

- The Bookmarks on the left serve as a continuously visible table of contents. Click on a subject heading to jump to that page.
- Click a + symbol to expand that heading to show subheadings. Click the – symbol to collapse a subheading.
- The Table of Contents provides active links to their pages. Select the hand cursor, allow it to hover over the heading until it turns into a finger. Then click to locate to that subject and page.
- All cross references in **blue** are active links. Click to follow the reference.
- Select Find from the Edit menu to search for a subject.
- When viewing this PDF on an iPad, it is recommended that you open the file using iBooks to take advantage of active links within the document. When viewing the PDF in Safari, touch the screen, then touch Open in "iBooks".

Resources

The Avid website (www.avid.com) is your best online source for information to help you get the most out of Pro Tools.

Account Activation and Product Registration

Activate your product to access downloads in your Avid account (or quickly create an account if you do not have one). Register your purchase online, download software, updates, documentation, and other resources.

www.avid.com/account

Support and Downloads

Contact Avid Customer Success (technical support), download software updates and the latest online manuals, browse the Compatibility documents for system requirements, search the online Knowledge Base or join the worldwide Avid user community on the User Conference.

www.avid.com/support

Training and Education

Study on your own using courses available online, find out how you can learn in a classroom setting at an Avid-certified training center, or view video tutorials and webinars.

www.avid.com/education

Video Tutorials

The *Get Started Fast with Pro Tools* series of online videos provide tutorials to help if you are new to Pro Tools. They also provide videos for the experienced user that introduce new features found in the latest versions of Pro Tools.

www.avidblogs.com/get-started-fast-with-pro-tools/

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www.avid.com/products

Pro Tools | Ultimate Improvements with HDX and Native Systems

Pro Tools | Ultimate 2019.5 provides several improvements for HDX and Native systems, including increased track and voice counts. Pro Tools | HDX systems require a firmware update and an HD Driver update to run Pro Tools | Ultimate 2019.5. On macOS, be sure to install the included HD Driver version 2019.5 (on Windows, the HD Driver is installed by the Pro Tools installer).

Performance Improvements with HDX and HD Native

Pro Tools | Ultimate 2019.5 provides several performance improvements for HDX and HD Native systems:

- Native plug-in use has been optimized based on the number of available core processors.
- General threading improvements have been made at all buffer sizes.
- On HDX systems at lower HW Buffer Sizes, significant performance improvements have been made for tracks under any of the following conditions:
  - Record-enabled Instrument tracks with a virtual instrument plug-in inserted
  - Record-enabled audio tracks
  - Input-enabled audio tracks
  - Native plug-ins on Auxiliary Input tracks
  - Native plug-ins inserted after a DSP plug-in on audio, Auxiliary Input, and Instrument tracks

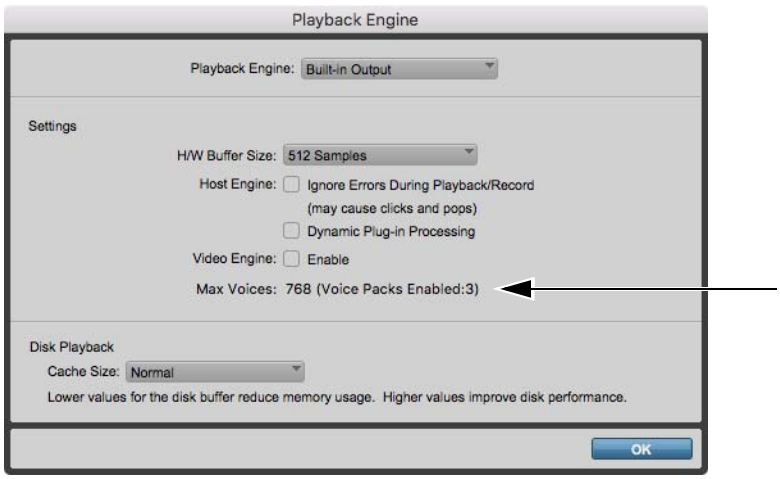
Increased Voice Counts for Pro Tools | Ultimate Native-based Systems with Optional Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Packs

Pro Tools | Ultimate now supports up to 384 voices at 48 kHz, 192 voices at 96 kHz, and 96 voices at 192 kHz on all native systems (HD Native, Core Audio, and ASIO). You can further increase the voice count for any native-based system (non-HDX) with Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Packs (available for purchase separately). Each Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Pack license you purchase from Avid provides up to an additional 128 voices depending on sample rate and system resources. A single Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Pack license provides up to an additional 128 voices at 48 kHz, 64 voices at 96 kHz, and 32 voices at 192 kHz for any native system (HD Native, Core Audio, or ASIO) running Pro Tools | Ultimate software. Up to three Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Pack licenses can be used simultaneously to provide a total of up to 786 voices at 48 kHz, 384 voices at 96 kHz, and 192 voices at 192 kHz.

Voice counts with Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Packs running on non-HDX hardware

Number of Voice Packs	Number of Voices at 48 kHz	Number of Voices at 96 kHz	Number of Voices at 192 kHz
0	384	192	96
1	512	256	128
2	640	320	160
3	786	384	192

⚠ *Depending on your system resources and session configuration (such as large mix sessions), not all possible voices may be available. To ensure that you only purchase as many Pro Tools | Ultimate Voice Packs as your system is capable of using, use the free Voice Pack Trial before purchasing Voice Packs.*



Playback Engine, Pro Tools | Ultimate with 3 Voice Packs running on Core Audio

Support for HD Native Thunderbolt on Windows

HD Native Thunderbolt is supported on Windows with an Avid-qualified Windows computer and Thunderbolt 2 card. For more information, see http://avid.force.com/pkb/articles/Compatibility/HD-Native-Thunderbolt-on-Windows.

Miscellaneous Features and Improvements

Name Tracks in New Track Dialog

Pro Tools lets you name new tracks when you create them using the Name field in the New Tracks dialog. The default name for new tracks is derived from the track type. When creating multiple tracks from a single row, each resulting track is appended with an incremental number starting with 1.

Name field in New Tracks dialog

To name new tracks:

1 Choose Track > New.

Press Command+Shift+N (Mac) or Control+Shift+N (Windows) to open the New Tracks dialog.

2 Configure the New Track dialog as desired.

3 Type a name in the Name field for each row of tracks to be created (for rows that create more than one track, each resulting track name is appended with an incremental number starting with 1).

New Tracks dialog, multiple rows for creating multiple new named tracks

If you clear the track name for any row, the new tracks are created and named with numbers sequentially. For example, if you create 5 new mono audio tracks and clear the name field, the resulting tracks are named 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 respectively.

4 Click Create.

Each new track is named accordingly.

In the New Tracks dialog, press the Tab key to move forward from the Number of tracks field to the Name field and down row by row. Press Shift+Tab to move backward from the Name field to the Number of tracks field and up row by row.
If there are multiple rows for new tracks, press Option+Tab (Mac) or Control+Tab to move down the column for either the Number field or the Name field. Press Option+Shift+Tab (Mac) or Control+Shift+Tab (Windows) to move up the column.

Improvements with Timeline Interactions

In Dynamic Transport mode, Pro Tools lets you adjust the Timeline selection during playback without interruption. Likewise, MIDI streaming to and from external MIDI devices is not interrupted by any of these actions.

⚠ *In previous versions of Pro Tools, certain timeline actions either interrupt playback or stop the Transport entirely.*

Adjusting the Timeline selection does not interrupt the Transport in Dynamic Transport mode when:

- Adjusting Start and End points of ruler selection
- Adjusting Start point of ruler selection (with mouse or key command)
- Link Timeline and Edit Selection

Improvements with Track Interactions

Pro Tools lets you create new tracks, and modify sends and inserts during playback without interruption. Likewise, MIDI streaming to and from external MIDI devices is not interrupted by any of these actions.

⚠ *In previous versions of Pro Tools, certain track and mixer actions either interrupt playback or stop the Transport entirely.*

The following track interactions do not interrupt the Transport:

- Creating or deleting tracks
- Making tracks active or inactive
- Inserting, removing, or moving a plug-in insert
- Assigning, removing, or moving a send
- Assigning or changing (including setting to no input) a Track Input
- Assigning or changing (including setting to no output) a Track Output
- Timeline Playlist edits

Avid Link Integration

Avid Link is a free application for anyone wanting to connect with other artists, producers, mixers, composers, editors, videographers, movie-makers, and graphic designers—and to the Avid Marketplace—to expand your creative capabilities and possibilities. A desktop version is available for macOS and Windows, a mobile version is available for iOS, it is available online using any browser, and it is integrated within Pro Tools. Avid Link replaces the Avid Application Manager.

Use Avid Link to manage your Avid account, licensing and subscriptions, as well as access a number of other services. Your account login from Application Manager or the Avid Link application will be picked up by Pro Tools when you start up. However, if you aren't logged in, you will be asked to log in to those pages you visit.

Visit www.avid.com/avid-link.

The new Link menu replaces the old Marketplace menu in Pro Tools. It provides access to everything the Marketplace menu did and adds access to Avid Link, your projects, and your Avid Account. The following are available under the Avid Link menu:

Home Get informed and inspired with access to the latest industry news, customer stories, blogs, and product info. You can filter your news feed by Audio, Video, Notation, Live Sound, and Broadcast, and see the latest features for your products, discover great tips and tricks, be among the first to hear about new product announcements, and gain workflow insight from creative pros.

Marketplace Expand your creative capabilities further by shopping the Marketplace, conveniently accessible right within Avid Link. Whether you need plugins, video effects, stock footage (coming soon), a control surface, or other software or hardware to use with Pro Tools, Media Composer, Sibelius, or a third-party audio or video tool.

Pro Tools Projects Lets you view your online Pro Tools Projects. When you are signed in, double-click any project in the list to open it.

Messages With the ability to message your connections right within Avid Link, it's easy to stay in touch with others. Share ideas and discuss projects in real time with a group of collaborators. Seek advice and give it by forming mentorships within your network. Or simply reach out and say hello to your friends.

Find Talent Avid Link integrates with the entire Avid Community, making it easy to search for and find other artists, musicians, composers, video editors, producers, mixers, filmmakers, and media professionals to collaborate with and follow. Select Find Talent to scope out the profiles of available talent, review their work, invite them to connect, and send messages about how you can work together.

Lounges Looking to meet others to get or give advice, help, or feedback? Hang out in the Lounges, which offer a variety of discussion topics for collaboration seekers, areas of interest, tips and tricks, and more. Start or join a conversation, exchange ideas, and contribute to discussions about products, workflows, and the industry, all in real time, on your computer or mobile device.

Profile Showcase your work and talent for others to see and hear what you can do. Avid Link gives you a powerful platform to tell your story and promote your work. Get discovered and increase your creative opportunities by tagging your profile with your skills, specialties, and expertise, making it easier for others to find and connect with you.

Products Lets you view all of your registered Avid products, including the System ID, Activation ID, when Support Expires, and Support Status if relevant. You can also add Notes for each product.

Network Licensing for Enterprise and Education Customers

Pro Tools now supports network site licensing for a large post, broadcast, and media education facilities. You can purchase a Pro Tools or Pro Tools | Ultimate multi-seat license. The Avid Complete Plug-in Bundle—including HEAT, Pro Tools | MachineControl, and Pro Tools | DigiLink I/O Licenses—is included with all Pro Tools | Ultimate seats. This server-based PACE floating license not only makes administering licenses faster and easier, it reduces licensing complexity and eliminates the need for iLoks across your facility. For more information, visit http://avid.force.com/pkb/articles/faq/Network-License-Server-FAQ.

MIDI Changes and Improvements

Up to 1,024 MIDI Tracks

Pro Tools lets you create up to 1,024 MIDI tracks. This is especially useful when working with virtual instruments that use large orchestral libraries. Note that performance may vary depending on your system processing capabilities.

MIDI Note Editing with Arrow Keys Restricted to MIDI Notes and Velocity Views

In order to ensure optimal workflow efficiency, Arrow key shortcuts for editing MIDI notes are restricted to Notes view and Velocity view on MIDI and Instrument tracks (since these are the principle track views for editing MIDI notes). Since the Arrow Key shortcuts function differently depending on the location of the Edit insertion or Edit selection, this ensures that the Arrow key shortcuts apply to MIDI note editing only in Notes or Velocity track views (and in MIDI Editor windows) so you do not edit MIDI data inadvertently. For MIDI and Instrument tracks, the Arrow key shortcuts apply to insertion, selection, and playlist commands in all other track views just like when editing clips on audio tracks. This restriction is especially helpful when multiple tracks of different types are included in the Edit selection (such as when the selection includes MIDI, Instrument, audio, and Auxiliary Input tracks) to ensure that editing with the Arrow keys functions as expected with mixed tracks types.

Simultaneously Record-enabled MIDI and Instrument Tracks Limited to 32

In order to optimize workflow efficiency with high MIDI track counts, no more than 32 combined MIDI and Instrument tracks can be record-enabled at one time.

Technical Support (USA)
Visit the Online Support Center
at www.avid.com/support

Product Information
For company and product information,
visit us on the web at www.avid.com