



# Record your voice with Sonar X2!

DIFFICULTY



## Step one: Creating a new music project in Sonar

1. Click on the X2 icon to open up Sonar.
2. Click on create new project.
3. Title your project something awesome! That you will remember!

## Step two: Set up Sonar X2 to record!

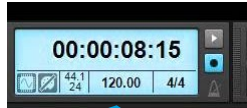
1. Arm Audio track 1 to record by clicking on the record icon.

Hint: One of the tracks is called **MIDI**, don't click record on this!



This is the record icon under Audio Track 1!

2. Turn off the metronome during recording if you don't need it.



This is the **beats per minute**.

This icon toggles the metronome on and off during recording.

## Step three: Setting up the Mic and Mixer

Alright, we're almost there, just a couple more things to do!

1. Take the XLR cable from the mic and make sure it's plugged into the mixer.
2. Make sure the phantom power on the mixer is turned on.

This is an **XLR input**



**Phantom Power Button!**



The mic we use requires external power.

3. Plug your headphones into the monitor speakers or the USB interface to be able to hear what you're doing!
4. As you talk into the mic, adjust your levels with the mixer knobs! These can be a little confusing, but just look for one that says "level".



The level knob controls the volume!



You can also use the **Gain** knob to make it louder!

Hint: **Gain** is not the same as **Level**. Play with both knobs to get a sense of what they're doing to the sound. Don't be afraid to experiment.

## Step four: Recording

Finally, we're ready to record!

### 1. Click on the Record icon in the Sonar X2 control panel.

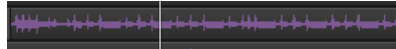
These are your **transport** controls. They're near the top center of the screen.



### 2. Sing a little diddy, or hum a little song into the microphone.

### 3. Press the Stop icon in the control panel.

### 3. You should see something that looks like:



Those funny squiggles are your voice. To hear what you sound like, just hit the **Play** button on the **transport** controls.

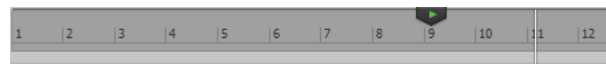
## Step five: Some other stuff!

You've done it! But if you want to re-record your voice, or replay your voice track from a certain point you'll need to do a couple of things.

**To delete a track:** Right click on the track and you'll get a context menu, one of the options is Delete.

**To play the track:** Click along the time ruler above the track list to play the song from that point.

Click along this bar to play the song from a certain point.



**Hint:** The #'s in this bar represent measures. So if you're using the metronome, these are an indication of how many beats into the song you are.

**CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'VE TAKEN THE FIRST STEPS TO LEARNING SONAR X2!**

**KEEP IT UP AND YOU'LL GET A BADGE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!**

## YOU'RE DONE! HERE'S SOME NEXT STEPS YOU COULD TAKE:

**Add another track:** Right click in the track view on the left side of the screen and click "add audio track". You can layer instruments and vocals this way.

**Ask about virtual instruments:** Recording vocals is only one part of crafting a song, we can also add instruments, like drums and synthesizers. Ask an ideaLAB staff member, or check out the project sheet!

**Watch some tutorials about recording with sonar:** You can't go wrong looking at [Youtube.com](http://Youtube.com) or [Google.com](http://Google.com) for inspiration. See what others have to say about how to use Sonar!