

S o u n d b o x



**AV TERM
CHEAT SHEET**

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Audio Equipment & Terms

MIXER/CONSOLE/BOARD/DESK

Inputs all audio sources, combines/modifies them, and outputs them to their different destinations

SPEAKER

Produces the high-frequency sounds the audience hears

SUB/SUB-WOOFER

Produces the low-frequency sounds the audience hears

P.A.

Short form for Public Address, but commonly used to describe a sound system.

MONITOR

Speakers and/or headphones that allow performers to hear what they sound like in real-time

PROCESSOR

Modifies an audio signal in a creative way like pitch-shifting, over-driving, delaying, etc.

EQ/EQUALIZATION

Modifying and managing the specific frequencies of a sound

MIC/MICROPHONE

Converts sounds into an electronic signal and sends it to the mixer

LAV/LAVALIER/LAPEL

A small wireless microphone that clips on to a speaker's clothes

AMP/AMPLIFIER

Adds power to an audio signal so it can be played through the P.A.

FEEDBACK

An unpleasant ringing noise caused by the audio system's output being picked up by its input

STEREO

An audio output with different signals on the right and left

MONO

An audio output with the same signals on the right and left

RACKS & STACKS

Referring to only the speakers, subs, and amps portion of a sound system

Lighting Equipment & Terms

FIXTURE

A general term for any type of light

CONSOLE/BOARD/DESK

Controls all of the fixtures in a lighting system

PAR

Small to medium sized fixture typically used to draw attention to something and/or add colour

HAZER

Creates a fog for atmosphere and to allow technicians to isolate the of position lights

STROBE

Creates quick, intense flashes of light

LEKO

A focusable fixture with interchangeable lenses

MOVING HEAD

Fixtures with the ability to move mechanically through a lighting console

SPOTLIGHT

An intense light that highlights a portion of the stage that is manually controlled

BLINDER

A fixture pointed towards the audience

WASH

Lighting that covers a large area

GOBO

Lighting inserts that create unique shapes, designs. or logos

SHUTTERS

Metal plates placed around a lense that narrow the spread of light

SPARKING

A warning to performers and crew members that a fixture is being turned on

UP-LIGHTING

When a light is placed on the floor and pointed upwards

Video Equipment & Terms

CAMERA

Captures video content

TRIPOD

Stabilizes the camera and guides movements

SWITCHER

Allows operators to choose a video signal based on multiple video inputs

PROJECTOR

Uses an intense light to display video content on a blank screen

L.E.D. SCREEN

Large screens that display content through the combination of numerous LED panels

THROW

How far a projector can be from a screen before the video content appears washed out

ASPECT RATIO

The dimensions of the video content

FRAMERATE

How many images or "frames" appear per second in video content

SYNC

Matching the visual elements of video to the sound

ZOOM

Using the lense of the camera to increase or decrease the size of the subject

PAN

Turning the camera left or right from a static position

TILT

Turning the camera up or down from a static position

TRUCK

Moving the camera left or right

DOLLY

Moving the camera in or out

Cables

XLR

Audio cable with a large round connector with three pins in it that is most commonly used in professional audio systems

1/4"

Audio cable with a thin, round connector that is most commonly seen with electric instruments like guitars or basses

1/8"

Audio cable with a very small thin, round connector that is most commonly used with electronics like phones or laptops

3-Pin DMX

Lighting cable with a large round connector with three pins in it

5-Pin DMX

Lighting cable with a large round connector with five pins in it

TRUE-ONE

Power cable typically used in lighting with a round connector

HDMI

A high-definition video cable with a small square connector that is commonly seen in modern television connections

SDI

A video cable with a small, round, locking connector that is commonly associated with television production

VGA

A video cable with a large trapezoidal connector (often with screws on either side) that is most commonly seen in older computer monitors and projectors

EURO

Power cable with a rectangular connector and three prongs typically seen in commercial electronics like televisions or printers

EDISON

Two or three pronged connector that is used to connect to or extend common 120V wall outlets

Staging & Venue

STAGE-DECK

A single surface panel of a larger stage

X-FRAMES

A support placed below a stage deck

ON DECK

Another way of saying "on the stage"

PIPE AND DRAPE

Free-standing black curtains that either create a neutral background or hide elements from view

TRUSS

Metal beams that provide staging support and/or hold pieces of equipment

SPIKING

Using coloured tape to mark where people and things will be on a stage

HOUSE

Where the audience is or how many people are in attendance

FRONT OF HOUSE

An area near or within the house for the tech team to work during the show

FLYING

Raising equipment with chains or ropes

BLOCKING

The plan for how performers and on-stage elements will move during the show

GREEN ROOM

An area backstage that is used for breaks

GENNY

Nickname for an electrical generator, typically used on outdoor events

Timing & Production Periods

PRE-PRODUCTION

The planning stage before the event takes place

SITE VISIT

When different stakeholders of an event visit the venue of an event to get a better sense of how things will run

LOAD-IN

When the equipment for an event is shipped and set-up

CALL TIME

When the performers and technical crew arrive at the venue

TECH RUN

A rehearsal where all of the technical elements of a show are tested

DOORS

When the audience is allowed into the venue

PRE-SHOW

The period of time between doors and showtime when attendees arrive at the venue

SHOWTIME

The time between when the show starts and when it ends

CUE

The planned time for something during the show to happen

INTERMISSION

A brief break during the show

POST-SHOW

The period of time after the show when audience members are leaving the venue

LOAD-OUT/STRIKE

When the equipment is packed up and the technical crew leaves

POST-PRODUCTION

The period of time after a show when review meetings take place and/or when media from the event is edited for future use



Soundbox

