



J O B S I N M U S I C I N T H E U K

P E R F O R M I N G

DJ

From high profile and potentially high earning work, to playing for friends' parties, DJing demands an encyclopaedic knowledge of music, good technical skills and an ability to read and respond to a crowd. Remixing is a lucrative spinoff occupation and may either precede or follow a successful DJ career.

FREELANCE MUSICIAN

You are a 'hired gun' available for any type of musical engagement. This might be for live gigs, a jazz big band, a TV miming job, a world tour or perhaps for leading a music workshop. At some stage, you may work in a function band playing at birthdays, weddings and other social events, on cruise ships, or with touring cabaret or 'tribute' bands. You may get work with jazz, rock, pop or other groups performing their own original music. You will generally need good music reading and improvisational skills and total adaptability.

STUDIO SESSION MUSICIAN

You are an expert player, particularly good at working under pressure in the unreal world of the recording studio and very intuitive towards people's needs. You have loads of experience and may have your own unique sound which producers want to use on a record. But the most important thing is that you are incredibly fast to pick up on what the client wants, and you can play it exactly right, time and time again.

RECORDING ARTIST / BAND MUSICIAN

Many aspiring musicians have their first taste of a musical career by joining a band and playing paid gigs in local music venues (or paying to play them!) After a while they make some demo recordings, find a manager, possibly obtain a recording or publishing contract and go head first into the music industry. There is no prerequisite for joining this game: you may be an amazing guitarist, an average drummer, or even just possess a great haircut - there are no rules.

SINGER / VOCALIST

As a backing vocalist, you could be doing studio sessions or touring with a group. There is always a strong demand for one-off vocal performances on studio based dance, pop and urban music.

As a lead singer, your career will be very much the same as a recording artist or band musician.

As a professional performing vocalist, you may work in cabaret bands, on cruise ships, or with shows and musicals.

High levels of performance and stagecraft skills are required - the ability to act and dance is a bonus.

MC / RAPPER

As a MC / Rapper you would do gigs in clubs and pirate radio stations working alongside DJ's and other MC's. The experience you gain from developing your talents in clubs or with your mates can lead to recording contracts and publishing deals.

➤ WORKBOOK 4 – PERFORMING