

PLAY TRINITY ROCK & POP RECORD & REVIEW

TRINITY
ROCK & POP
2018

MASTER YOUR PERFORMANCE WITH OUR ROCK & POP PRACTICE APP: NEW RECORD & REVIEW FEATURE

Our Play Trinity Rock & Pop app allows you to be the artist and the producer. You can mix your own performances with our professional session musicians and adjust pitch, tempo and the volume of each individual instrument track in the mixing desk. Buy and download the songs you're working on directly to your phone, and practise sections or the whole song in a way that suits you. Now you can even record your own performances into the mix of your chosen songs and play them back.



THE PLAY TRINITY ROCK & POP APP

Our app puts a range of controls at your fingertips, allowing you to:

- ⚡ **Control the mix:** isolate or adjust the volume of individual instruments
- ⚡ **Loop a section:** choose a section of the song to loop on repeat to practise challenging parts
- ⚡ **Adjust the speed:** slow the track down to learn at your own pace
- ⚡ **Change the pitch:** sing in a key that suits your range
- ⚡ **Come in with a count-in:** make sure you start promptly and at the right speed every time
- ⚡ **Keep perfect time:** use a click track to make sure you don't miss a beat
- ⚡ **Follow the lyrics:** have the song's lyrics scroll as you play or sing
- ⚡ **Record & Review:** record your own performance into the mix and play it back to review.

DOWNLOAD THE APP

Play Trinity Rock & Pop is available from the Apple Store for iPhone and iPad and from the Google Play Store for Android phones and tablets.

[Download for iOS from the Apple Store](#)

[Download for Android from the Google Play Store](#)

THE RECORD & REVIEW FEATURE

Polish your exam performance with the new Record & Review feature.

Prepare for your big performance by recording your own part into the mix of your chosen Rock & Pop exam songs and playing them back to review.

The new Record & Review feature allows you to:

- ⚡ Be a performer on the songs you choose by recording with our Rock & Pop session musicians
- ⚡ Practise at home and bring a recording of your progress to your next music lesson to review with your teacher
- ⚡ Listen to your performance and identify any areas that can be finessed before your exam
- ⚡ Work on delivering a full performance of a song without stopping, and listen back to see how you're progressing
- ⚡ Experiment with recording processes by playing or singing over multiple instrument channels to make a song your own.

Read on for information on how to use the Record & Review feature and help and ideas with recording processes and equipment.

RECORD & REVIEW: HOW TO USE

You can record your performance into the mix of a song you've learnt in one take by:

1. Choosing a song you've already downloaded into the app from 'My songs'
2. Setting the pitch as desired (for vocalists)
3. Pressing the record button and selecting the instrument channel you want to record your performance over
4. You will get a countdown of 3, 2, 1 and then the song will then begin. Play your part along with the mix to record your performance. A microphone icon will flash over the selected channel to show that a recording is in process.

Once the song is finished recording, it is saved in 'My performances' and can be played back in the app just like a normal song. You can now set volume levels for each instrument as usual, including your own new recording, or isolate your own part in the mix to listen to it more closely.

Sync adjust: You may find that the recording of your performance is slightly out of sync with the rest of the band when you listen back to your recording. You can adjust the sync by tapping the volume icon halfway up the instrument channel you recorded over, and moving the slider to the left or right until you are happy with the sync between your recording and the rest of the band. Press 'OK' to save your sync settings.



APP TECHNICAL SUPPORT

See our online support FAQs for more information about how to download and use the app, and for technical support.

trinityrock.com/app-support-FAQs

Running a soundcheck: You can run a soundcheck to make sure the levels are as you want them. Simply start a recording from the beginning of the song and record for as long as you like. Once you have recorded enough to review, stop the recording and go to 'My performances' to listen to it. You can do as many soundchecks as you like until you have the levels as you want them. **NOTE: Make sure you select the song you want to record from 'My songs' each time you want to make a new recording.**

FREE TO DOWNLOAD AND TRY OUT

Play Trinity Rock & Pop is free to download and comes with one sample song, 'Heartbreaker' by Led Zeppelin, so you can try out the mixing desk and explore the features for free. Further songs are available as an in-app purchase of just £0.99 per song, or as a graded bundle of eight songs for £3.99, making them just £0.50 each.

RECORD & REVIEW: EQUIPMENT

Recordings in the Play Trinity Rock & Pop app can be made simply using the built-in microphone on your phone or tablet, so there is no need to source additional equipment to make a recording in the app. However, understanding recording equipment is a professional music skill you might like to explore further. Find out what equipment James Sedge, Director of UK Rock & Pop Centre MusicStation, recommends using with the app:

OPTION 1: USE HEADPHONES

"Headphones are recommended for all instruments including vocals. By plugging headphones into your phone or tablet and listening to the backing track that way, you ensure that the track itself is not picked up by the microphone in your phone or tablet at all. Headphones with an integrated microphone work well for vocalists, as the microphone in the headphones will pick up less background noise than the device's in-built microphone."

OPTION 2: TRY AN EXTERNAL MICROPHONE

"The sound quality of your recording will be improved if you use headphones and a separate external microphone. These will be much more focussed on your instrument (directional), will help to reduce background noise, and, depending on the microphone, will make the quality of the recording clearer. Prices for external microphones that can be plugged in to your phone or tablet start at around £20.00."

Please note: Suggested equipment only, based on standard recording processes - not all items or setups listed have been tested with the Play Trinity Rock & Pop app.

OPTION 3: USE A USB MIXER

“To get a high-quality recording you might like to use a USB mixer. This connects to your phone or tablet and allows you to use a higher quality dynamic microphone (such as a Shure SM57). You will also have more control over the recording level.

How to use a USB mixer with the app:

1. Connect the mixer to your phone or tablet
2. Place your external microphone near your instrument and connect the microphone to the mixer (you will need an XLR to quarter inch jack lead). Drums record well when the microphone is on a mic stand pointing above your shoulders towards the snare drum. For guitar and bass, point the microphone towards the centre of your amplifier speaker. Vocals are best recorded with the microphone on a stand at mouth level. If you have one, a pop shield will help to eliminate pops and bangs that can be heard when you sing close to a microphone. Keyboards can be recorded straight into the mixer (using a quarter inch jack to jack instrument cable) for a much superior sound.”

JAMES' SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT

If you do decide to look into finding additional equipment to use with the app, James suggests the following items. **TIP:** You might like to look for second hand items for sale via local music retailers or websites such as Ebay.

HEADPHONES:

- ⚡ RHYTHMZ HD9 Smarttalk Professional In-Ear Headphones/Earphones with microphone and volume control (Titanium) for iOS and Android (£10)
- ⚡ Sony MDR-ZX110AP Stereo Headphone (with In-line microphone) for iOS and Android (£25)

EXTERNAL MICROPHONES:

- ⚡ Saramonic iMic Flexible Condenser Microphone Mic with High Sensitivity for Apple IOS iPad Mini Air Smartphone iPhone 6/6s/7/8 plus Samsung Galaxy LG (£21)
- ⚡ iRig Mic Cast Ultra Compact Microphone for iOS and Android (£35)
- ⚡ Zoom IQ6/UK Handy Recorder for iOS (£75)

USB MIXERS:

- ⚡ Miditech Audiolink light (£37)
- ⚡ Roland Go Mixer for iOS and Android (£75)

DYNAMIC MICROPHONES TO USE WITH A MIXER:

- ⚡ Shure SM58 (great for vocalists) or Shure SM57 (great for guitars and drums) (£90)
- ⚡ The t.bone MB85 Beta (great for vocalists) (£35)
- ⚡ The t.bone MB85 Beta (great for guitars and drums) (£30)

RECORD & REVIEW: HINTS AND TIPS

James shares some hints and tips to get the most out of your recordings made in the app:

- ⚡ If you're using the microphone in your phone or tablet, place your device approximately a metre from your amplifier or drum kit. If singing, hold it near your face
- ⚡ I'd recommend using headphones if possible. Headphones with a built-in microphone are great for singers, as they can hold their device at a comfortable distance to see the lyrics when recording
- ⚡ Guitarists and bassists should keep their volume down to a level your microphone can work with. Keyboard players should either put their device near their onboard speakers or close to their amplifier if they have one
- ⚡ Drummers should place their device on a surface within reach, but not resting on any drums
- ⚡ Do a soundcheck first - if it is distorted, you are playing too loud or have your device too close. Make an adjustment and try again. When you are happy with the sound, try a complete take
- ⚡ Take time to listen to how you sound. This is an excellent tool for developing your skills - you can solo your voice to listen carefully to your sound and then add the other instruments to see how you are working with them
- ⚡ Try to analyse your playing for timing errors, wrong notes, improperly formed chord shapes, muting of strings etc. Play your performances back to your teacher - it will really speed up your progress
- ⚡ You should try to play/sing in a controlled manner and start each bar/section with confidence. You should be able to play the whole song perfectly - consider memorising it to achieve a stronger performance
- ⚡ Recording skills are hard to master so don't be too hard on yourself if you don't get it right straight away. Keep trying and have fun!

REAL SONGS. REAL SKILLS. REAL PROGRESS.