
The Official ElevenLabs Music Prompting Masterclass

This **comprehensive technical guide** represents the definitive resource for mastering AI music generation with [ElevenLabs Music](#). Developed directly from the platform's core documentation, this masterclass reveals the **professional-grade prompting strategies** used by top creators, brands, and audio professionals to achieve maximum musicality and creative control.

What Makes This Guide Essential:

Intent-Driven Creation - Discover how [ElevenLabs Music](#) transcends basic music generation by understanding creative *intent*. Learn to prompt with high-level concepts like "ad for a sneaker brand" or "peaceful meditation with voiceover" and watch the AI intelligently interpret tone, structure, and content to match your exact use case.

Advanced Technical Mastery - Unlock the full spectrum of creative control through four critical domains:

- **Genre & Creativity:** Balance abstract emotional descriptors with detailed musical language
- **Instrument & Vocal Isolation:** Master stem creation and a cappella generation techniques
- **Musical Control:** Precision targeting of BPM, key signatures, and vocal delivery styles
- **Structural Timing & Lyrics:** Complete command over song length, vocal placement, and multilingual content

Professional Production Secrets - The guide reveals industry-insider techniques like using "solo" prefixes for instrument isolation, implementing timing cues for vocal entry/exit points, and leveraging expressive descriptors ("raw," "live," "glitching," "breathy") to achieve broadcast-quality results.

Advanced Capabilities Revealed:

Multilingual Generation - Learn the simple follow-up commands that transform any composition into Japanese, Spanish, or dozens of other languages for global content creation.

Commercial Application Mastery - Three detailed sample prompts demonstrate real-world applications: high-adrenaline video game soundtracks, luxury brand commercial audio, and emotionally-charged live indie performances with custom lyrics.

Creative vs. Technical Balance - Understand when to use simple, evocative keywords for unexpected creativity versus detailed musical specifications for precise control.

Transform Your [AI Music Creation](#) Process:

This isn't theoretical knowledge—it's a **practical playbook** for generating professional-quality audio that rivals traditional studio production. Whether you're creating viral social content, brand campaigns, or artistic projects, these techniques ensure your [ElevenLabs Music](#) output sounds intentional, polished, and emotionally resonant.

Master these fundamentals, and you'll never struggle with prompting again.

This guide transforms beginners into advanced practitioners and elevates experienced users to professional-level AI music generation mastery.

The model is designed to understand intent and generate complete, context-aware audio based on your goals. High-level prompts like `_ad for a sneaker brand_` or `_peaceful meditation with voiceover_` are often enough to guide the model toward tone, structure, and content that match your use case.

Genre & Creativity

The model demonstrates strong adherence to genre conventions and emotional tone. Both musical descriptors of emotional tone and tone descriptors themselves will work. It responds effectively to both:

- Abstract mood descriptors (e.g., "eerie," "foreboding")
- Detailed musical language (e.g., "dissonant violin screeches over a pulsing sub-bass")

Prompt length and detail do not always correlate with better quality outputs. For more creative and unexpected results, try using simple, evocative keywords to let the model interpret and compose freely.

Instrument & Vocal Isolation

The v1 model does not generate stems directly from a full track. To create stems with greater control, use targeted prompts and structure:

- Use the word "solo" before instruments (e.g., "solo electric guitar," "solo piano in C minor").
- For vocals, use "a cappella" before the vocal description (e.g., "a cappella female vocals," "a cappella male chorus").

To improve stem quality and control:

- Include key, tempo (BPM), and musical tone (e.g., "a cappella vocals in A major, 90 BPM, soulful and raw").
- Be as musically descriptive as possible to guide the model's output.

Musical Control

The model accurately follows BPM and often captures the intended musical key. To gain more control over timing and harmony, include tempo cues like "130 BPM" and key signatures like "in A minor" in your prompt.

To influence vocal delivery and tone, use expressive descriptors such as "raw," "live," "glitching," "breathy," or "aggressive."

The model can effectively render multiple vocalists, use prompts like "two singers harmonizing in C" to direct vocal arrangement.

In general, more detailed prompts lead to greater control and expressiveness in the output.

Structural Timing & Lyrics

You can specify the length of the song (e.g., "60 seconds") or use auto mode to let the model determine the duration. If lyrics are not provided, the model will generate structured lyrics that match the chosen or auto-detected length.

By default, most music prompts will include lyrics. To generate music without vocals, add "instrumental only" to your prompt. You can also write your own lyrics for more creative control. The model uses your lyrics in combination with the prompt length to determine vocal structure and placement.

To manage when vocals begin or end, include clear timing cues like:

- "lyrics begin at 15 seconds"
- "instrumental only after 1:45"

The model supports multilingual lyric generation. To change the language of a generated song in our UI, use follow-ups like "make it Japanese" or "translate to Spanish."

Sample Prompts

The model allows you to move beyond song descriptors and into intent for maximum creativity.

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<Tab title="Video Game with Musical Control">

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Create an intense, fast-paced electronic track for a high-adrenaline video game scene.

Use driving synth arpeggios, punchy drums, distorted bass, glitch effects, and aggressive rhythmic textures. The tempo should be fast, 130–150 bpm, with rising tension, quick transitions, and dynamic energy bursts.

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<Tab title="Mascara Audio Ad Creative">

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Track for a high-end mascara commercial. Upbeat and polished. Voiceover only.

The script begins: "We bring you the most volumizing mascara yet." Mention the brand name "X" at the end.

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<Tab title="Live Indie Rock Performance">

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Write a raw, emotionally charged track that fuses alternative R&B, gritty soul, indie rock, and folk. The song should still feel like a live, one-take, emotionally spontaneous performance. A female vocalist begins at 15 seconds:

"I tried to leave the light on, just in case you turned around

But all the shadows answered back, and now I'm burning out

My voice is shaking in the silence you left behind

But I keep singing to the smoke, hoping love is still alive"

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