



Red Barn Studio Guide

**Are you
studio ready?**





Song considerations

Song and melody is really everything. If your song doesn't speak to you or your listener then it may not be ready for the studio quite yet. We can get so excited about recording that we sometimes overlook the importance of structure and melody in our songs.

Here's some simple questions to ask about your song.

Does it move me?

Does it speak to something that could move others?

Can I easily remember the melody?

Do I get excited thinking about all the instruments and sounds that can make this song amazing?

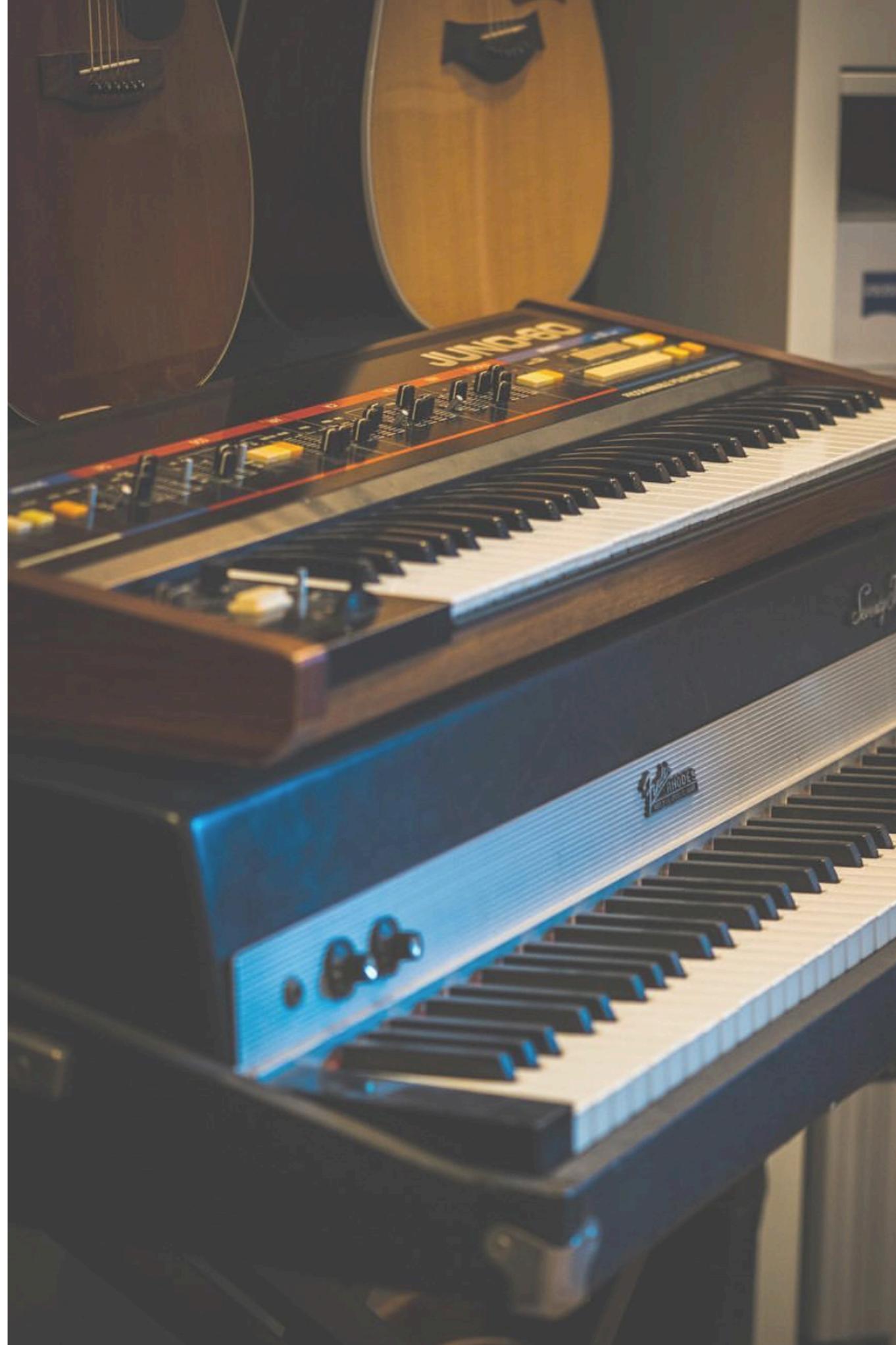
Do I have an accurate chord chart to share with other musicians that may be playing on my song

Instrumentation

One of my favorite parts of studio work is helping guide an artist from a raw acoustic track to a full sounding awesome arrangement. Now is the time to think about what the song is “calling for”. This may be as simple as minimal guitars and voices or as big as full on drums with electric guitars and synths. Here are a few things to consider with your song.

What style of song am I going for? Is it pop, folk, a Congregational worship tune, or something that really breaks the mold? Knowing your genre will help identify some key elements of instrumentation.

Do I have players or do I need to hire out? Start thinking now about who will play drums, bass, keys, etc. If you get stuck, we have a huge list of A-list players in Northwest Arkansas to play on your record.





Studio Time

Once you book your time here at Red Barn we'll be off the races getting things organized. Most of our projects start with a studio visit where we demo out the song to have something for drums and other instruments to follow along while recording. We call this a guide track and it literally guides the rest of our sessions. Before we lock down a demo we need to consider a few things.

Song Tempo. This can be worked out on the spot during demo creation but it's smart to think about this early on. **Beats Per Minute** can dictate how the song moves and feels.

Song key. More often than not we find ourselves raising the key a few steps during the demo process. We want to find the sweet spot for your voice here.

Planning. We'll then plan out the next few sessions and schedule out the musicians that will play on your track. From there we'll act as your hub to communicate and schedule sessions as needed.

That's it....

By thinking through some very simple things you'll be ready to go on tracking day. By now your song moves you and speaks to others, your instrumentation is thought out, tempo and key is set, and you're ready to jump into the recording process.

If you haven't already, you should be hearing back from us very soon to dig into your project more. Be on the look out for an e-mail. We can't wait to help guide your music into something amazing.

I can't wait to meet you and hear about your musical goals.

- Jason

