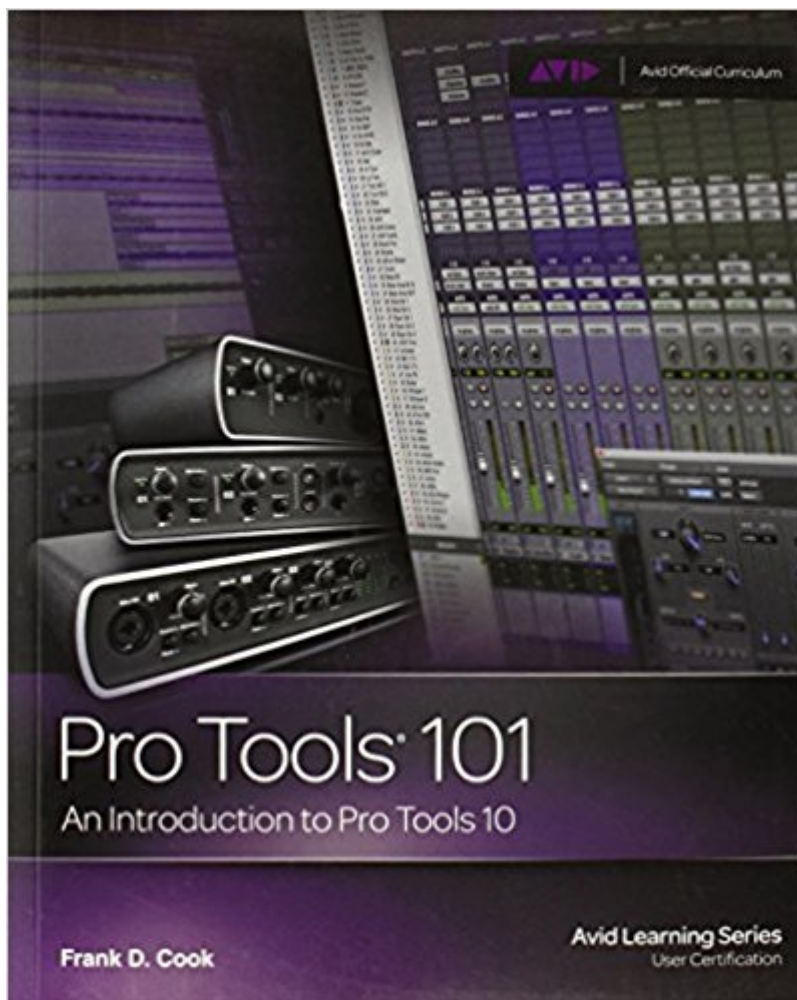


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# Pro Tools 101 -- An Introduction To Pro Tools 10 (Book & DVD) (Avid Learning)



## Synopsis

Learn Pro Tools the way the pros do. Pro Tools 101: An Introduction to Pro Tools 10 is the official training package used in first-level certification courses for Pro Tools operators. Newly updated to cover the latest Pro Tools release, version 10, this new edition of the book is the fastest, most systematic introduction to learning the fundamentals of the world's most popular recording software. It will quickly and effectively brings new users up to speed on the basics, from understanding the Pro Tools file structure and interface to creating a session, recording audio and MIDI, importing media, editing, mixing, and more. The book includes hands-on projects, with accompanying source files on DVD, that drive home the lessons, laying the perfect foundation for becoming a Pro Tools expert. Whether you're learning on your own or pursuing formal Pro Tools certification through an Avid Authorized Training Partner, this book is the first step on the road to mastery of Pro Tools 10.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Part I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION. 1. Getting to Know Pro Tools. 2. Getting Inside Pro Tools.

Part II: WORKING WITH SESSIONS. 3. Creating Your First Session. 4. Making Your First Audio Recording. 5. Importing Media into Your Session. 6. Making Your First MIDI Recording. 7. Selecting and Navigating. 8. Basic Editing Techniques. 9. Basic Mixing Techniques. 10. Finishing Your Work.

Part III: HANDS-ON PROJECTS. 11. Prelude. Project Introduction and Setup. 12. Project 1. Music Hands-On Project. 13. Project 2. Post Hands-On Project. 14. Part IV: Course Completion. 15.

## Overview. Information for Course Completion.

Frank D. Cook is a bass guitarist and longtime Pro Tools user. The owner of Insource Writing Solutions and NextPoint Training, Frank has worked in the technical publications and education industries for more than fifteen years. As a writer, editor, technical publications manager, and business owner, Frank has authored and contributed to hundreds of guides, manuals, reports, textbooks, and other publications for clients in a wide variety of industries. His writing and consulting company, Insource Writing Solutions, specializes in documentation for the digital audio industry. His training venture, NextPoint Training, focuses on advanced training in Pro Tools, VENUE, digital media, and related products and technologies. Frank also teaches Pro Tools courses as an adjunct professor at American River College in Sacramento, California.

Pro Tools 101 is the first course in Pro Tools certification. This is the book that accompanies the course and introduces you to how it all works. If you have already done a 101 course, there is really nothing new apart from some of the newer features that can easily be learnt from the Avid website. So is this book any good for the beginner... absolutely... It walks you through the initial setup, provides information on how to set up the interface and the hardware and get recording. The accompanying DVD has all the projects required to get you working and into the heart of Pro Tools. If you have bought an Eleven Rack or an Mbox interface, this book is fantastic to get you using the DAW quickly so you can get recording. If you have not upgraded to Pro Tools 10, the files on the DVD also cater for earlier versions (7-9). With that said, some of us from the old school of recording will find it refreshing that in Pro Tools 10, the audio files are no longer called "regions", they are called "clips" (why that changed to the former, I will never know). This book will obviously not make you a world renowned Pro Tools operator, but it's a start. It covers all the usual, creating your first session, making recordings, handling midi, importing media and a host of other useful topics. It covers all the included plug ins and gives an overview on how to use them. Learning how to use a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) is not a simple subject because of the advanced features that are included and that they are capable of, you owe it to yourself to get at least one reference manual. This is it. UPDATE 22nd February 2012: If you want to do an Avid certification course then I would still buy the Pro Tools 101: An Introduction... as it's tailored more for that. For beginners, I think this is also an easier book to get your head around.. But where this book falls short is that not all the concepts and tools are covered in detail, for example the "smart tool". That is covered in another course; Pro Tools 201. I guess that's why it's called "An Introduction to Pro Tools 10" I just received a copy of

Frank D Cook's (same author) *Pro Tools 10 Power!: The Comprehensive Guide* and I must admit that if you need a reference manual for Pro Tools 10, then this is the must have book. Not the aforementioned title.

I bought this book partly because the book Mike Collins's *Pro Tools 9: Music Production, Recording, Editing, and Mixing* was too advanced for me. I am glad I did because this is a great little book and frankly is a whole lot cheaper than taking the Pro Tools training 101 course! Some of the book's strong points are: (1) very clearly written and well-edited; (2) gets you up and running to the point where you can actually create and mix your own music, particularly if you have had some prior experience with software sequencers and MIDI; (3) contains exercises at the ends of chapters that walk you through the types of things that you will actually be doing; (4) two extended projects at the end of the book--one on music production and one on post-production of a TV commercial; (5) a DVD containing all the files you will need to complete the exercises and projects; (6) an index; (7) lots of screenshot illustrations so you can see what it will look like on your computer. There were a couple of things I didn't like about the book: (1) very often a feature of Pro Tools 10 will be introduced and then dismissed with a note that this feature will be discussed in a subsequent course! (This made me think cynically that Cengage Learning offers this book as a kind of teaser to get you to enroll in the Avid Training courses. I haven't yet seen the course materials for the advanced courses made public yet.) (2) There really isn't any coverage of how you would go about doing your own recording with a microphone or electric instrument--things that you would presumably want to do at an early stage. (3) I wish there had been more exercises devoted to entering and editing MIDI data, quantizing, recording to a click, etc. I suppose those things are covered in later courses, but it would have been nice to have some included here. One thing that going through this book did for me was that I can now go back to Mike Collins's book (see above) and make some sense out of it! I am also seriously considering buying Frank Cook's *Pro Tools 10 Power!: The Comprehensive Guide*. Even though it will probably recap much of what the current book contains, it is 600 pp. and so should address some of the problems I had with the current book. **BOTTOM LINE:** If you are wondering how to use Pro Tools and you have version 10, this book WILL get you started with an absolute minimum of discouragement and hair-pulling! Well worth the money.

This book helped me learn enough to pass the Avid Certification Exam (Level 101) on the first try! It is a newly updated version of Avid's official textbook for the PT 101 level course. Slicker than

previous versions, the paper is of higher quality and the illustrations are in color, making it easier to read, easier to follow. It feels like a higher quality product compared to the one which I bought for version 8. The supplementary materials to guide users through the exercises are very helpful as real-world examples of tasks that the user will inevitably have to tackle. Many of them build on previous exercises and teach the user good habits like saving the project under a new name at the beginning of each session, naming each track with a relevant name at the beginning of a session, and tidying up the session at the end of the project by deleting all unused clips (regions). As a good general introduction to get you up and running a rather complex and powerful program, this book is fantastic.

It's okay. You'll probably learn faster by just using pro tools

Perfect!!!

I manage a studio and wanted to learn the basics of ProTools so I can speak more intelligently to our clients and staff. It was highly recommended by engineers. I am working through it; it is well-written. My only critique, the reason I didn't give it 5-stars, is that it sometimes assumes you have some understanding of audio equipment and did not fully explain the basics. I am told by many engineers, it is the best book on the market.

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