

How long will the session last?

The short answer is – it depends on how well you have prepared your piece for a recording session.

Typically, you arrive at your appointed time and everything is set and ready to go. You take a few minutes to warm up – getting used to both the instrument and the room's acoustics. Simultaneously, I am walking around the room to find the best microphone placement for your playing. I then move into the control room and set recording levels. Before the "serious" recording begins, I also record some of the warm up so you can listen back to see if the recorded sound is satisfactory. This important initial process takes approximately 15 minutes.

Once the recording of a piece begins, clients record a minimum of 2 to perhaps 5 full performances (or takes) of a piece. (Rarely, if ever, is only one take deemed to be acceptable to press to a CD.) Usually after one take (or two), it is time to listen to what was recorded. It is best to listen to your performance with headphones and with music in hand to mark any places that are not satisfactory to you – these are places to be especially aware of in subsequent takes, to make sure they are corrected.

As far as the actual time: If you record 15 minutes of music, it also takes 15 minutes to listen to the full take. Therefore, with two 15-minute takes of recorded music and listening to each of them one time through, you have utilized an hour of recording time of your session.