**025:250 COMPOSITION: ELECTRONIC MEDIA I**

**Fall 2012**

**Practicing Peak Key Commands**

1. Purpose of key commands

a. When working on a project for a significant amount of time, measured in days and weeks, and maybe hours, but

not minutes, consider learning the key commands for actions that will be used more than, say, 10 times.

b. Do not waste time teaching or learning the key commands for actions that will be infrequently used.

c. For actions that will be used frequently, knowing the key commands will free you from stumbling over

unnecessary details, and let you focus on the relevant details.

d. Anecdotally, a former student visiting Iowa City asked to use the studios to brush up on the Pro Tools key

commands, which were required in jobs he was auditioning for in film studios. A Pro Tools operator is

responsible for helping engineers and producers edit dialog, sound effects, and music. A fast response time is

critical in such jobs.

2. In addition to the key commands discussed in the last class, there are 3 more useful ones: Undo, Redo, and Reverse.

Below is a summary of the Peak key commands you should learn for this class.

3. Window Viewing Commands

a. horizontal zoom out = ⌘ ]

b. horizontal zoom in = ⌘ [

4. Editing Commands

a. Copy = ⌘ C

b. Cut = ⌘ X

c. Paste = ⌘ V

d. Insert Silence = ⌘ E

e. Undo = ⌘ Z

f. Redo = ⌘ Y

5. DSP Commands

a. Change Pitch = ⌘ P

b. Change Gain = ⌘ G

c. Normalize = ⌘ M

d. Fade in = ⌘ /

e. Fade out = ⌘ \

f. Reverse = ⌘ R

6. In order to get these under your fingers as quickly and easily as possible, open a soundfile in Peak, select a waveform,

part of a waveform, or several waveforms, then perform the key commands for the operations shown in the table

below. Don’t worry about speed. By the time you go through the table once, you will know the commands.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| zoom in | pitch | fade out |
| silence | fade out | pitch |
| copy | fade in | reverse |
| zoom out | pitch | zoom in |
| redo | mormalize | silence |
| cut | reverse | mormalize |
| paste | mormalize | copy |
| undo | pitch | undo |
| silence | fade out | paste |
| zoom out | fade in | fade in |
| redo | mormalize | redo |
| zoom out | gain | cut |
| paste | fade in | gain |
| copy | mormalize | mormalize |
| cut | fade in | zoom out |
| zoom in | gain | cut |
| copy | fade out | copy |
| zoom out | reverse | reverse |
| silence | pitch | paste |
| zoom in | mormalize | fade out |
| paste | gain | gain |
| cut | fade in | silence |
| zoom in | pitch | pitch |
| silence | mormalize | undo |
| zoom out | reverse | zoom in |
| redo | pitch | fade in |
| cut | fade out | pitch |
| silence | pitch | paste |
| redo | mormalize | redo |
| zoom in | fade in | undo |
| silence | mormalize | fade in |
| copy | gain | zoom in |
| undo | fade out | cut |
| zoom out | fade in | fade out |
| cut | pitch | redo |
| paste | mormalize | zoom in |