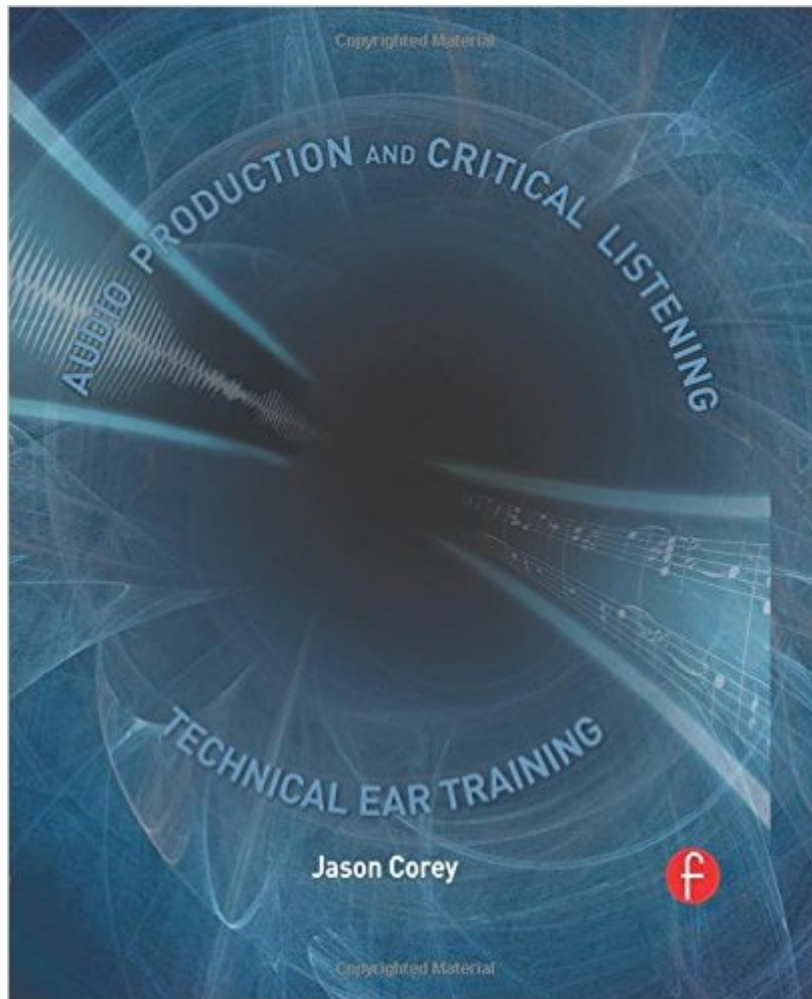


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# Audio Production And Critical Listening: Technical Ear Training (Audio Engineering Society Presents)



## Synopsis

Owners of Audio Production and Critical Listening, some copies of the disc may have issues with the Mac version of the software. For the correct files, please visit [www.taylorandfrancis.com/info/contact/](http://www.taylorandfrancis.com/info/contact/) Making decisions about how and when to apply sound processing effects and recording techniques can make or break your song mix. The decisions you make come down to your listening skills--what you hear and how you perceive it. Your ability to properly discern sound, identify a problem, and act accordingly, especially when the decision needs to be made quickly, makes all the difference to the success of the final track. Audio Production and Critical Listening develops your critical and expert listening skills, enabling you to listen to audio like an award-winning engineer. The interactive "ear training" software practice modules give you experience identifying various types of signal processes and manipulation--EQ, dynamics, reverb, distortion, delay, and more. The software sits alongside the clear and detailed explanations in the book, offering a complete learning package that will help you train your ears to listen and really "hear" your recordings.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jason Corey has created a collection of interactive software tools for training would-be audio engineers in his college-level courses. It's clear however, the tools and the accompanying text would benefit any musician who records their own work as well as interested listeners searching for

a deeper appreciation of what goes into creating the recordings they enjoy so much. It's important to say upfront what "Audio Production and Critical Listening: Technical Ear Training" is not: The book has nothing whatsoever to do with musical ear training: relative/absolute pitch, intervals, solfeggio, etc. In Corey's view, technical ear training is highly focused listening meant to develop an increased awareness of how audio signals are commonly modified and enhanced during the recording process. Beyond simply identifying these treatments and effects by ear is the practical skill of reproducing and applying them by adapting to whatever recording technologies and environments the engineer finds himself in. Accordingly, aside from some specific headphone recommendations, the book is largely hardware/software-neutral. While the concepts covered in separate chapters: equalization, reverberation, compression, distortion detection, digital audio editing, etc. may seem like standard fare, the author repeatedly stresses there's much more to having "Golden Ears" than understanding abstract theory or having famous engineers' mixing recipes close at hand. Every recording presents a unique challenge and techniques used successfully elsewhere may simply not be appropriate to the goals at hand, technical or artistic. One or more tools correspond to each chapter mentioned above.

First the bad - I started recording music for the same reason that most people do: I find it fascinating, fun and a new way to bring joy and creativity to my life. I have read lots of books and articles on the subject, some better than others. This book stands out among them as being the single most unenjoyable read I have ever experienced. It is extremely clinical. If you have some experience under your belt, you will find the sections bringing newbies up to speed pretty tedious, and those sections are not small. On the other hand, if you are a newbie, I'm not sure that this is the book for you anyway, so these portions of the book are probably not necessary. My other complaint is the software installation. The state of the art today is that you double-click an .EXE file, answer whether you want standard or custom installation, and "POOF!" a miracle occurs. With this software, you have to seek out additional stuff to download and install yourself. This probably skates around some licensing and cost issues, but it strikes me as a little "low rent". Technical support probably takes some sting out of it (I didn't use it, so I don't know how responsive they are), but again, this goes back to the pioneer days of computers. The software is similarly clinical - it's like having an oscilloscope over for dinner. Now the good - the content is deep and accurate. If you want to master this subject, it is all there for you. The depth of knowledge and care for detail in this book is "off the chart". The software, once installed and run on good quality studio monitors, is customizable to your skill level and needs. In fact, the software alone is worth the price you pay for the package. It helps

you drill yourself and will reward you immensely if you put in the time and effort required.

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