

What is pitch correction? – Can singers actually sing anymore?

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

What is pitch correction? – Can singers actually sing anymore?

By Michael Oliphant

What is pitch correction? – Can singers actually sing anymore? by Michael Oliphant

Not all that long ago, record producers and engineers used to spend long hours with singers in the studio making sure that they got the best possible take of their performance. It was very important to make sure that the singer sang everything in tune and that there was no 'pitchiness' or parts of the melody that were sung a little flat or sharp. This was critical for it meant that when it came time to mix the track, there was simply no way to correct a performance for pitch.

This all changed with the invention of pitch correction software. Most studio recordings these days are done on what is known as a 'DAW'. This stands for Digital Audio Workstation and has become the standard throughout the music industry replacing tape based multitrack machines.

Because the process is entirely digital it means that the recorded audio can be processed in ways that most musicians never even dreamed of in years passed.

Remember when Cher had a huge hit with a song called 'Believe'? That strange warbling effect on the vocal is actually created by the pitch correction software. Someone discovered that by setting it to over-correct it would actually produce a pleasing effect. Like all these things it has been over-used since by many artists.

Pitch correction works by analysing the audio and resampling it back to correct pitch. It operates in real time which means that a studio engineer can apply pitch correction to a vocal where and when it is needed. Many regard pitch correction as a lifesaver in the studio. Singers often feel relieved that a great performance need not be erased and redone simply because one or two notes may have been a little flat or sharp. Studios often see it as a great time saver as it reduces the need to record many takes in the hope of getting a performance that is completely in key.

There is however, a downside to all this. Many studio producers now argue that singers have become overly reliant on this technology and have almost forgotten one of the most basic requirements of great singing– singing in key.

What is pitch correction? – Can singers actually sing anymore?

Can you tell when pitch correction has been used on a singer in a recording? The software is now so good that, in experienced hands, it is nearly impossible to tell when it is used subtly. Many vocal recordings made these days on current cd's use some form of pitch correction. Does that surprise you? From the singer's perspective it is a very seductive technology. It can certainly make a "pitchy" singer sound very much in key without revealing any lack of ability in that area.

We have become so used to the effect of technology on our music that much of this technological innovation becomes the norm in a very short while. Remember a band called Milli Vanilli? They became the laughing stock of the music business and ended their careers when it was discovered that they had not even sung on their own recordings! Yet we seem completely comfortable now with the idea that singers don't need to be able to sing in tune when they record.

The funny thing is that singing in key is just a learned technique like most other musical skills. It requires practice and solid singing technique but there are few people who cannot do it at all. Singing in a recording studio can be an unnerving experience for the first timer. The studio environment is designed to reveal all the nuance of the human voice and can tax even an accomplished singer at times.

Pitch correction is one of the most practical and useful tools in recording today but remember that it won't make you a great singer. Only you can do that.

Michael Oliphant is a successful musician, producer, songwriter and web developer. He is co-producer of Explore Your Voice, the innovative and successful online singing course that streams to your pc. When not drinking coffee in cafes around St Kilda Australia he can be found as part of the team at <http://www.freeonlinesingingmagazine> <http://www.exploreyourvoice.com> Singing lessons online

Why learn to sing?

By Michael Oliphant

Why learn to sing? by Michael Oliphant

When you think about it, most of the cultures on this planet have some form of singing that is fundamental to their way of life. You may only sing when it's absolutely impossible to avoid it, like at birthdays or when you are amongst a group of people singing your national anthem or at a family sing along. Whatever the occasion, there are many people who are terrified to be heard singing in public. They would rather chew on road kill than sing in front of other people!

The desire to sing is really quite natural and it happens to everybody at various times. How many times have you been driving along when a favourite song comes onto the radio and, before you know it, you are tapping the steering wheel in time with the beat and singing along almost oblivious to the world around you?

What is pitch correction? – Can singers actually sing anymore?

Why is it that so many people who sing boisterously in the shower cannot be convinced to do the same thing in front of an audience?

In western societies we tend to think of singing as something that only professionals do. Somehow, if you are not a pop star or at least in a band then you can't possibly be any good at it. You would simply embarrass yourself if you were to sing out loud in a public place!

The truth is; most people can sing quite well if given the right encouragement and a few basic tools to help them progress. The fundamentals of good singing technique are quite easy to understand and can be learned by almost anyone with simply the desire to improve themselves. There is no reason to be one of those people who have rotten fruit thrown at them when they sing!

In 2001 I spent a lot of time helping develop a revolutionary approach to singing. Together with Kate Slaney, one of the most successful singing teachers in Australia and Roger McLachlan from The Little River Band we set about to create a contemporary singing course that could be used over the internet. The result is at <http://www.exploreyourvoice.com>

After decades as professional musicians and singers we figured we could produce something that was accessible, fun to use, and was able to dispel the entire mystique about singing.

Honestly, it was an enormous gamble. We dedicated 2 years of our lives to building this online course that streams straight to your pc from a website and we were not at all sure how well it would be received. The net can be a fickle place.

Now, 2 years later, thousands of people have used Explore Your Voice to build their confidence and discover their own unique voice.

Ultimately it all depends on what you want in your life. For some people, a great singing voice is not so critical, they would prefer lots of cash if given the choice! To others it is as important as breathing. The ability to sing in key with a strong voice and a warm, charming tone is one of life's true rewards.

In my experience, many would-be singers simply never make that necessary decision to invest a little

time in themselves. They like the idea of singing well but find themselves always putting it off to another day. The next time you pass by a karaoke bar think of this – what is stopping you?

Michael Oliphant is a successful professional musician, producer, songwriter and web developer. When not drinking coffee in cafes around St Kilda Australia he can be found as part of the team at <http://www.freeonlinesingingmagazineorhttp://www.exploreyourvoice.com>

What is pitch correction? – Can singers actually sing anymore?



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!