Chapter 15
Using AI Tools to Enhance Home Music Production:
A Practical Guide for Independent Artists

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ABSTRACT

This chapter explores the integration of artificial intelligence tools in home music production and examines how independent artists adopt generative language models, AI-assisted mixing platforms, automated mastering systems, and text-to-music applications within decentralized studio settings. The purpose of this chapter is to analyze adoption patterns, multidimensional perceived impact, and predictors of satisfaction in AI-supported workflows. Using quantitative analysis of independent producers, the chapter evaluates how workflow efficiency, creative expansion, technical optimization, and learning acceleration shape overall satisfaction. Results indicate that perceived augmentation is the strongest predictor of positive evaluation, while production experience shows minimal influence. The findings support a Hybrid Creative Augmentation Framework and contribute to broader discussions on computational creativity, digital transformation, and the evolving role of AI as a collaborative infrastructure in contemporary music production ecosystems.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Music production has historically evolved through successive technological revolutions that redefined creative authority, economic accessibility, and labor specialization. The introduction of mechanical recording devices in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries enabled the preservation and mass distribution of sound, fundamentally transforming music from ephemeral performance into a reproducible commodity. Magnetic tape systems introduced multitrack layering and non-linear editing, allowing artists to sculpt performances beyond real-time execution and reshape compositional structure after recording. The digital revolution of the late twentieth century, particularly through the emergence of Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs), marked a decisive moment of democratization by enabling high-fidelity recording, editing, and mixing within personal computing environments. With the diffusion of affordable interfaces, MIDI controllers, and virtual instruments, the home studio became a viable alternative to institutional production spaces. However, despite these transformative shifts, earlier technological advancements primarily enhanced executive control rather than cognitive ideation. Human creators remained the central source of compositional structure, lyrical development, aesthetic interpretation, stylistic experimentation, and artistic decision-making. Technology amplified execution, but ideation remained fundamentally human.

The rise of artificial intelligence represents a qualitatively different paradigm. Unlike earlier tools that responded passively to human commands, AI systems participate actively in prediction, suggestion, generation, and optimization. Transformer-based neural architectures introduced scalable attention mechanisms capable of modeling long-range dependencies across symbolic and audio sequences, enabling improved harmonic continuity, thematic coherence, and structural alignment (Vaswani et al., 2017; Agostinelli et al., 2023). Diffusion-based generative models extended these capabilities into waveform-level realism, producing timbrally sophisticated and dynamically stable outputs through iterative denoising processes (Dhariwal & Nichol, 2021; Mittal et al., 2021). Text-conditioned music generation systems demonstrated that natural language prompts could meaningfully guide stylistic attributes, emotional tone, instrumentation, and genre conventions (Zhao, 2025). These developments collectively collapse the distance between creative intention and structured musical output, introducing systems that no longer merely execute commands but anticipate and generate possibilities.

This shift is not simply incremental technological enhancement; it represents a transformation in the locus of creative cognition. Artificial intelligence systems embed probabilistic modeling into the creative workflow itself. They suggest harmonic transitions, propose melodic contours, refine rhythmic density, generate lyrical alternatives, and even approximate vocal timbre. The creative process becomes dialogic