

Mixers and Such.

And the men who love
them.

MIXERS!

A mixer or “sound board” is where all the sound is run through and processed.

It controls:

- Volume
- What speakers output
- Effects



Yeah, I know.

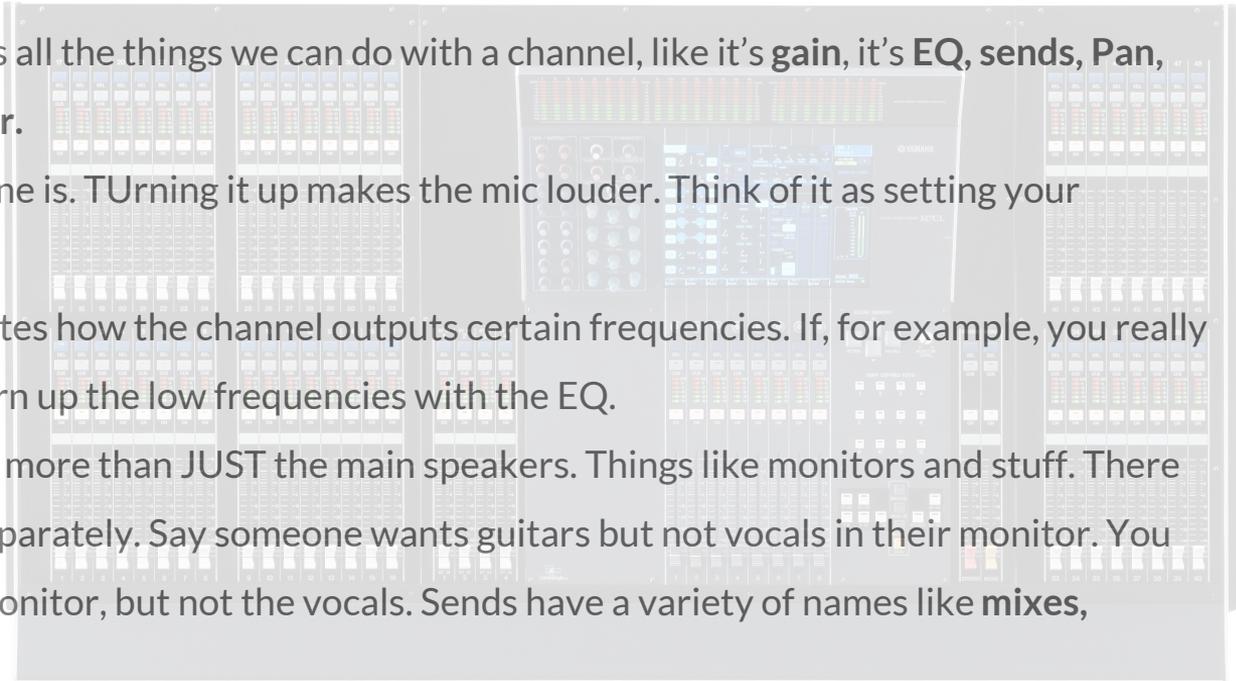
Channel strips: A channel strip has all the things we can do with a channel, like its **gain**, its **EQ**, **sends**, **Pan**, **Mute** and finally the **Volume Fader**.

Gain: How sensitive the microphone is. Turning it up makes the mic louder. Think of it as setting your maximum volume.

EQ or Equalization: This manipulates how the channel outputs certain frequencies. If, for example, you really want the bass to boom, you can turn up the low frequencies with the EQ.

Sends: Boards can often output to more than JUST the main speakers. Things like monitors and stuff. There are separate and are controlled separately. Say someone wants guitars but not vocals in their monitor. You turn up the guitars send to their monitor, but not the vocals. Sends have a variety of names like **mixes**, **auxiliary** and more.

Pan: This determines if the channel comes more out of the left or the right main speakers.



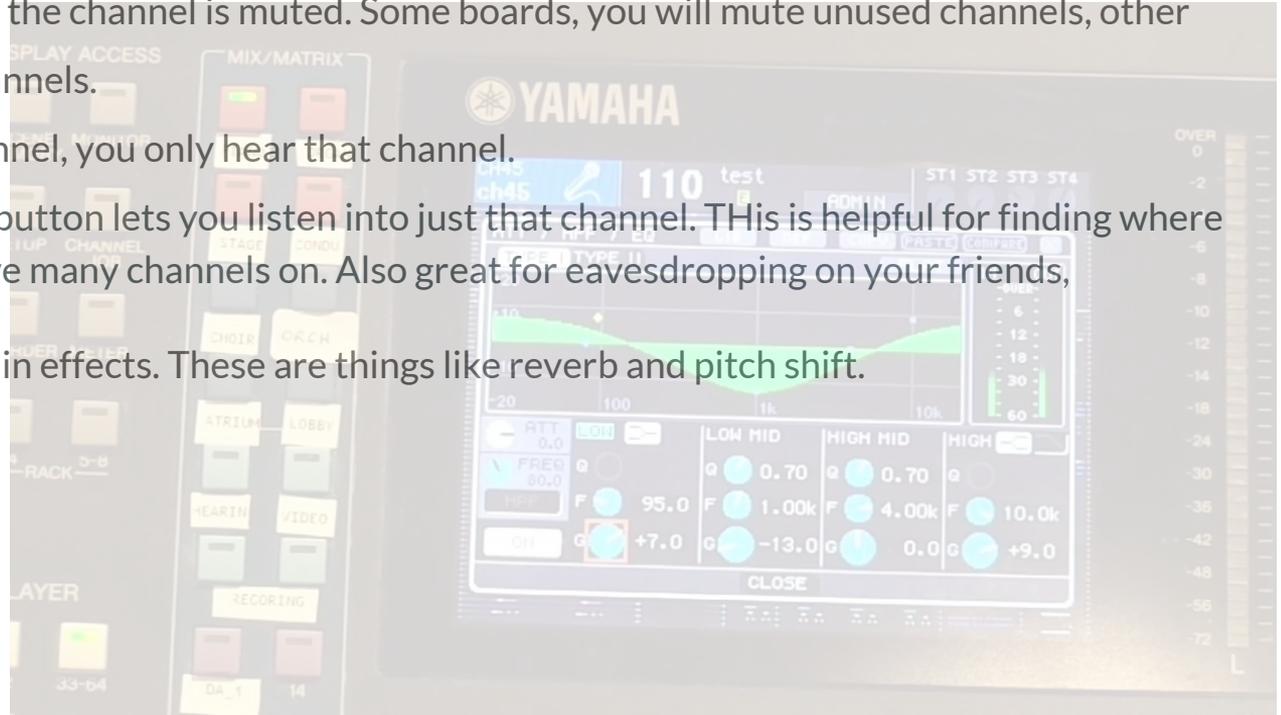
Some Other Stuff

Mute: With this button pressed, the channel is muted. Some boards, you will mute unused channels, other boards you will turn **on** used channels.

Solo: when you solo a channel, you only hear that channel.

Cue: On a sound board, the cue button lets you listen into just that channel. This is helpful for finding where a noise is coming from if you have many channels on. Also great for eavesdropping on your friends,

Effects: Many boards have built in effects. These are things like reverb and pitch shift.



To drive that point home

Sound is about **inputs** and **outputs**.

The mixing console directs all those inputs where they need to go. It's like one of those giant train yards where trains switch tracks, or like an old school phone operator. It's telling the input where to go, but also controlling how loud it is and a bunch of other stuff. You feel me, dogg?

The Other Hard Part

It is also worth noting that every mixer is different. Most have the same base components and controls, but they will certainly be laid out differently (which is why this particular power point is pretty vague). There, however, 2 types of boards.

Analogue: These boards actually manipulate the electrical signal of the sound itself.

Digital: Digital boards convert the signal into data. This lets them do a lot more manipulation to the signal

How to Do It

1. Plug things into the board.
2. Label the board.
3. Set Outputs.
4. Set Gains.
5. Do an EQ.
6. Create Mixs.
7. Create Mute groups.