Musixmatch Artist Account Creation

(Click here for Label Account Creation)

Why is an Artist Account important?

Artists can create a "Verified Artist" account to manage all of their releases on Musixmatch. The lyrics submitted or edited with a verified account take priority over other user's contributions.

Read what Musixmatch says about the benefits of Musixmatch Pro: https://support.musixmatch.com/article/422-what-are-the-advantages-of-musixmatch-pro

If you're looking to manage your own releases, then the Musixmatch Pro Basic plan should suffice for most artists. If you are looking for more features (i.e. distribute lyrics to more platforms) then a higher Pro Plan subscription may be necessary.

Click the link below to read more about the subscription requirement:

<u>Musixmatch Pro Account with basic subscription needed to publish</u>

<u>lyrics on the streaming platforms</u>

Note: Most artists that I work with create their own Musixmatch Pro account (using an **email address** and **password**), subscribe to the Basic plan, and then share their login details with me.

Regardless of the type of subscription you choose, the only way for you to get third-party support with on your Musixmatch account is when you are able to share your log-in credentials (see notes below in the section 'Create an account')

How do I add and verify an artist profile on Musixmatch Pro?

Source:

https://support.musixmatch.com/article/191-how-can-i-become-a-verified-artist-on-musixmatch

There is a 3-step process that needs to be completed entirely and in this order:

- 1. Create an account
- 2. Verify your identity
- 3. Add your artist profile to the roster

I realize that this document is long and very detailed. This is, i.m.h.o., the best way to properly guide you through the process. You may want to consider printing this document as a step-by-step guide.

Step 1. Create an account

Register or sign-in on Musixmatch Pro: https://pro.musixmatch.com/

Please be sure to use an email address that is associated with your artist identity when you set up the account. The use of a different email can cause a delay in the verification process

IMPORTANT: If you want to be able to share log-in details with others (for support), then you MUST create an account using an email address and a password! Do not use the Google, Facebook, or Apple service as your way to log in, because you CANNOT share this log-in method with anyone else to access the account on your behalf. Why? Because you would first need to give them your Google / Facebook / Apple service log-in credentials so that they can log into Musixmatch Pro. I believe that giving other people access to your Google / Facebook / Apple service log-in credentials is an unacceptable privacy risk.

Also, it is **not possible to change the email address or log-in method** of your Musixmatch Pro account once the account is created.

A third reason why I recommend using an email address and password, is that when you use other services to log into a platform, like Musixmatch, you are creating what is called a "vendor lock-in." These "lock-in's" make it more difficult (and sometimes impossible) to switch to other login methods in the future. Maybe even more important... if you depend on other services to be able to log in, then you add an extra dependency. What if platforms like Google / Facebook / Apple are facing technical issues, or if a platform has been forced by local governments to limit certain features?

Step 2. Verify your identity

Artist Verification and Identity Verification are two separate steps, both of which must be completed to distribute your lyrics to streaming platforms.

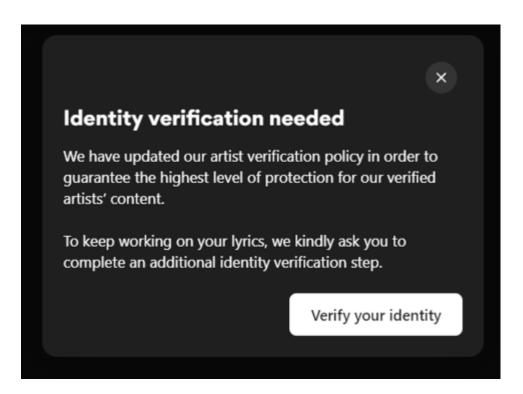
Musixmatch has a number of verifications in place to ensure that only the rightful owners have control over their artistic creations.

The identification process aims to improve trust and safety across all Musixmatch environments and is the basis for protecting the artists that want to manage their lyrics. **You will need to verify your identity before you can claim your artist profile.**

A. Access to the Identity Verification page

You can access the Identity Verification page via this link: https://pro.musixmatch.com/settings/identity-verification

Or, you can access it when prompted. You should see a message like the one below when you try to edit the lyrics of a song on <u>Musixmatch Pro</u>:



B. Choose an option to verify your artist on Musixmatch Pro

Your lyrics in the right hands Verifying artists is crucial to ensure that only rightful owners control artist creations and deliver top quality to our partners. Since this process involves human effort, we invite you to verify your identity. Learn more Verify your account via ID check A Longer queue to verify your artists Verify to our partners. Since this process involves human effort, we invite you to verify your identity. Learn more Verify your account with a Pro Subscription

1 workday to verify your artists

unlimited lyrics videos for your songs.

Get a subscription to verify your Artists faster. You will

also unlock additional features like lyrics curation and

Subscribe

Fast track verification with a Musixmatch Pro Subscription

Grab your driving licence, passport, or a government

picture of your document.

issued photo ID, scan the provided QR code and take a

Purchasing a Musixmatch Pro Plan is the fastest way to get your artist verified and get all the support you wish along the process. A Musixmatch Pro plan subscription is also required to distribute lyrics to Spotify and other platforms.

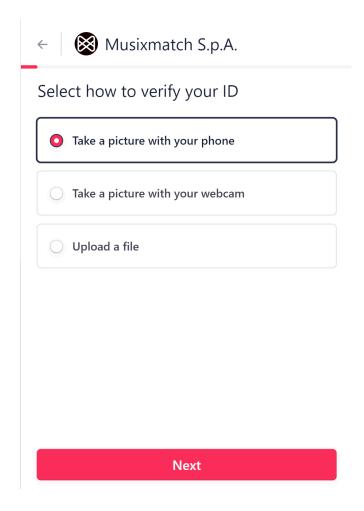
Hit "Subscribe," and your artist profile will be verified within 1 workday.

Verify with your ID

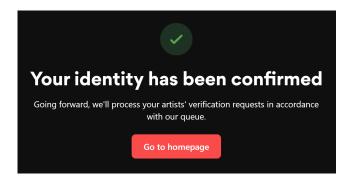
Free users that want to claim their artist profile will need to verify their identity first. This process involves careful human review, which means the time it takes can vary depending on the type of user and the complexity of the verification needed.

Musixmatch partners with Stripe for secure identity verification. Data will be stored and may be used according to the Stripe Privacy Policy and the Musixmatch S.p.A. Privacy Policy.

Once you click on "Verify with your ID", you will be redirected to the Stripe website, where you will need to choose the option you prefer between taking a picture of the ID with your phone, with a webcam, or uploading a file.



Once the verification process on Stripe is completed, you will be redirected to Musixmatch Pro and if the verification was successful, you will see a message saying "Your identity has been confirmed."



Stripe can verify the authenticity of ID documents from these countries:

Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jersey, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Palestinian Territories, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia,

Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam.

What if I am not from one of the countries listed above, or Stripe is unable to verify my ID?

Use the messenger on Musixmatch Pro to provide the necessary information. The Musixmatch support team will do the necessary checks and get back to you.

What to do when the identity verification fails?

After you add your ID on Stripe, you may see one of the following errors:

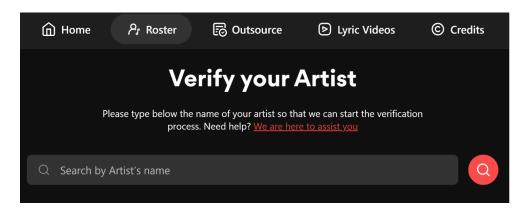
- Something went wrong
- An error has occurred while initializing your ID check
- An error has occurred while verifying your identity {stripe_last_error_reason}

In these cases, it is recommended to **try again a few times**. If that still fails, then use the messenger on Musixmatch Pro to provide the necessary information. The Musixmatch support team will do the necessary checks and get back to you.

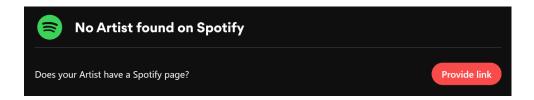
Step 3. Add artists to your Roster

Even if you are just creating an single artist account, you still need to link your account to your artist profile. The process is called, "adding an artist to your roster"... and the artist is you.

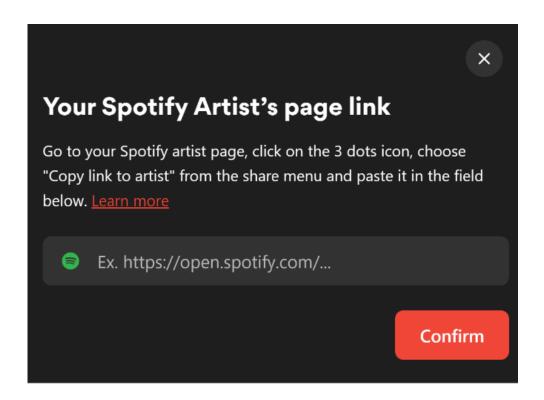
- Go to Musixmatch Pro (https://artists.musixmatch.com/) and click on the "Roster" page and click on the "Add artist" option on the top left of the page (You can also watch this video on Vimeo: https://vimeo.com/945806913/ab1e56747b)
- Search for your artist by name and submit the request
 The artist verification process may take up to a few working days. (You need to verify
 your artist profile before you can start using Pro to distribute your lyrics and create
 lyric-videos for your songs.)



If you cannot find the artist using the name, you can send Musixmatch the link.



 Insert both the <u>Spotify and Apple Music ID</u> for the new artist you want to verify and submit your request. Please keep in mind that the artist verification process may take up to a few working days (see: https://support.musixmatch.com/article/287-whats-your-spotify-and-apple-music-artist-link)



FAQ

What cost-saving scheme does make sense?

The Musixmatch Pro Basic account is the cheapest plan that includes the distribution of lyrics. In my opinion, this plan already has everything needed to properly distribute your lyrics. The higher plans offers a few extra's (for US\$36 annually), but you need to ask yourself if the extra's are really bringing more value.

The extra's that are on top of what is already included in the Basic plan:

- 3 songs curated by our experts
- create videos for Instagram and Facebook

3 songs curated by our experts: You essentially outsource the transcription and syncing of 3 songs to Musixmatch. This is a one-time credit for 3 songs, and you need to buy more credits once these credits have been used. The 'experts' have no access to your lyrics, you cannot communicate with them, and they transcribe **what they think they hear you sing**. There is no guaranteed delivery time. The outsourcing assignment goes into a pool, and

curators can select the songs that they want to work on. Some songs can remain in the pool for months before someone selects them. If you care about your lyrics, then there is a chance that you will end up making some changes to the transcript that the 'experts' created.

Create videos for Instagram and Facebook: Videos are your chance to leave a good first impression about a song. You may want to reuse your artwork, include a scene where you provide some additional info/personal message, etc.. What part(s) of the track do you want to use? The video feature of Musixmatch is basic. How is 'basic' going to help engage your audience?

My recommendation: Subscribe to the Musixmatch Pro Basic plan. If you're going to outsource the transcript and syncing, then choose someone that understands your genre of music and delivers quality. Create custom music videos for promotional purposes. This doesn't have to be expensive. I've seen great videos created on small (almost no) budgets using a phone and some online software tools. Sure, a low budget will show compared to professional productions, but it is about you being in control of the outcome.

What if I only have a Spotify or an Apple Music artist profile, and not both?

- If you have a Pro Premium plan (e.g., Musixmatch Pro Basic), then <u>contact</u>

 <u>Musixmatch via the on-page Messenger</u> and they will help you sort this out. You can also use the email they sent you upon purchase, but that usually takes more time.
- If you have a free plan, both profiles will be required.

What if my request does not get approved?

You will receive an email explaining to you why and giving you further instructions.
 Please read the instructions carefully and take the necessary actions before submitting it again.

What if the artist has already been claimed?

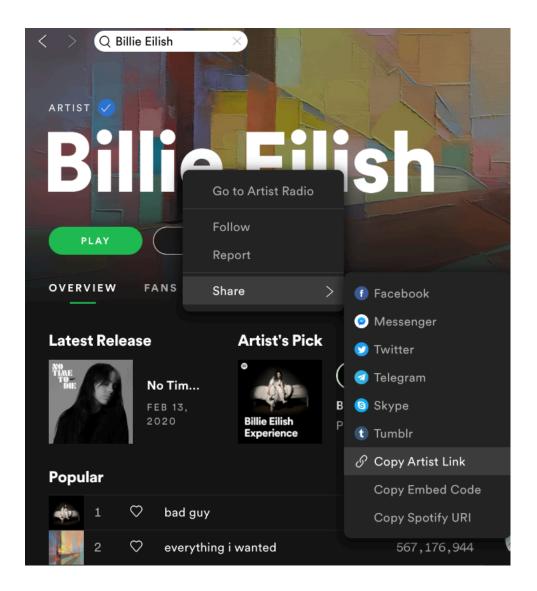
To prevent false claims and ensure that only rightful owners can access their artist profiles, Musixmatch doesn't permit the claiming of artists that have already been verified.

If you are affiliated with a label, it's possible that this artist has already been claimed by your colleagues. Since Musixmatch's paid plans offer workgroup functionalities, you can reach out to them to request access to manage the roster.

If you still wish to verify this artist, please complete this support form (https://musixmatch.typeform.com/artistsupport) and provide Musixmatch with the link to your Spotify or Apple Music artist profile. The Musixmatch Support team will guide you through the verification process.

Where can I find my artist link on Spotify and Apple Music?

A. Spotify



1. Search for your artist page

Open Spotify and search for your artist page.

Example: Billie Eilish

2. Copy your artist link

Click on the three dots>> Share>> Copy artist link

Note: Please make sure to remove from the Url, anything which is between ".com" and "/artist" when you copy the link.

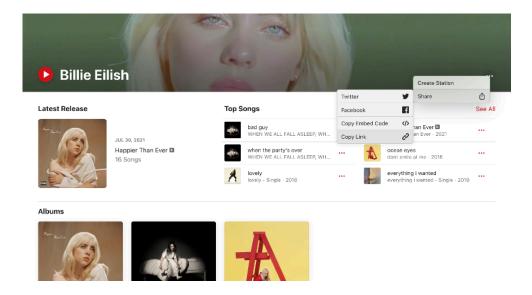
Example below, remove "/intl-fr":

Wrong URL:

https://open.spotify.com/intl-fr/artist/04kMNOgm997Yo7UwhSgbru?si=XRNxt0wcQZySAtzsqxWDRw Correct URL:

https://open.spotify.com/artist/04kMNOgm997Yo7UwhSgbru?si=s37RyYb2SlisP40F52C5UA

B. Apple Music



- Search for your artist page
 Three dots will appear in the bottom right corner of the cover image.

 Example: Billie Eilish: https://music.apple.com/us/artist/billie-eilish/1065981054
- Copy link Click three dots>>Share>>Copy Link.

How long does it take to get my artist profile verified?

What is Artist Profile Verification?

Artist profile verification on Musixmatch is a **manual process** where the Musixmatch internal team reviews each request to ensure accuracy and authenticity. This verification process is essential to maintain the high standards of quality and reliability that users expect from Musixmatch.

How Long Does Verification Take?

Patience is key. Musixmatch aims to process verification requests as quickly as possible, it **may take up to 30 days** for your profile to be verified. This timeline allows our team to thoroughly review each request and ensure that only legitimate artists are verified on Musixmatch.

Other Identification Requirements

In some cases, Musixmatch may need additional information or identifications to complete the verification process. If this is necessary, Musixmatch will reach out to you with clear instructions on what they need to proceed.

Expedited Verification with Fast Track (not recommended)

If you're looking for a quicker turnaround time, Musixmatch offers a Fast Track Verification option for **Pro Plan** subscribers. This premium feature allows for expedited processing of verification requests, ensuring that you can get verified and start sharing your music with the world faster.

How to Upgrade to Pro Plan

Ready to access Fast Track Verification and other premium features? You can easily upgrade to Musixmatch's Pro Plan from this link:

https://about.musixmatch.com/artists/musixmatch-pro-pricing-home

Why can't my artist verification be approved?

Two main reasons why your artist verification cannot be approved

- 1. An issue related to your discography on the Spotify and Apple Music profiles provided during the verification process
- 2. There is not a clear relationship between you and the artist you are trying to verify, so Musixmatch may ask you for further clarification via email

Issues related to your discography

Anytime Musixmatch detects an issue with your discography, you will receive an email explaining to you what went wrong.

There are 3 main possible issues that Musixmatch could detect in your discography:

- At the time you sent the verification request, your discography was empty on either Apple Music or Spotify. Please note that the Musixmatchsystem is not able to identify pre-releases, so at the time of the verification request Musixmatch can only use publicly displayed releases.
- 2. There are no releases in common between the Spotify and the Apple Music Artist profiles that you provided during the artist verification
- 3. One or more releases in your discography have been associated with another Artist's profile

Musixmatch's general recommendation is to make sure that all Albums, EPs, Singles, Compilations are available in your artist pages on Apple Music and Spotify and that they all belong to you, even as a featured artist.

Once you have resolved the discography issues mentioned above, you can resubmit your verification request. Please note that you can submit only one artist verification request every 7 days for the same artist.

Below you can see the **examples** on why Artists' Verification requests are rejected and how to correct them.

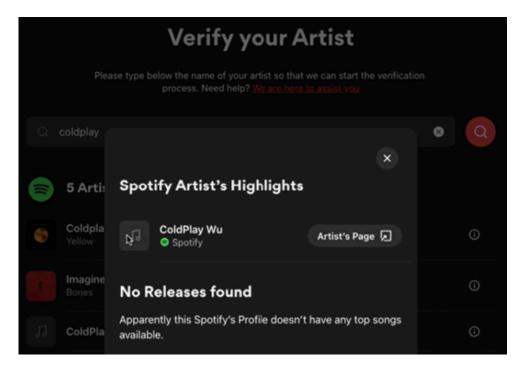
Rejection reason	Example of approved verification	Example of rejected verification	How to fix that
Duplicate artist page	You have only one artist page on Spotify and one in Apple Music	On Spotify you have two different artist pages. In the first page you can see your first EP, in the second page you can see the 2 albums that you released after	Contact your distributor about this. Your distributor can then contact Apple / Spotify customer care to merge your discographies into one artist page
Provided link to an artist page that belongs to someone else	The Apple Music and Spotify artist pages you sent during the verification process, both belong to you	The Apple Music artist page you provided belongs to another artist that happens to have the same name as yours	Make sure that the artist page links you send Musixmatch are the ones that display your discography
Discography not matching	On the digital streaming platforms you released 4 songs. At least 1 of the 4 songs is available both on your Spotify and Apple Music artist pages	On the digital streaming platforms you released 4 songs. Of those 4 songs, the first 2 you released are available only on Spotify, the last 2 you released are available only on Apple Music	Contact your distributor and ask them to upload your full discography to both Spotify and Apple
Empty discography	You released your first single which is already available on your artist page in Spotify and Apple Music	Your first single is already available on Spotify, however it was not released yet on Apple Music	Follow up with your distributor about why your single was not yet released on Apple Music. Once released, restart the Musixmatch verification process

Rejection reason	Example of approved verification	Example of rejected verification	How to fix that
Discography in the artist page is mixed with that of another artist's.	Your artist pages on Apple Music and Spotify show only songs where you are the artist or a featured artist	There is one or more songs in your artist page that belong to another artist	Contact your distributor about this. Your distributor can then contact Apple / Spotify customer care (depending on which is mixed) and help you resolve the issue

If you still need help with your verification, please fill in this support form and provide Musixmatch the link to your Spotify or Apple Music artist profile.

"No Releases found" when I select my Spotify profile

This "No releases found" message is displayed when you select your Artist profile on Spotify, but the discography is still empty.



Please note that the Musixmatch system is not able to identify pre-releases, so at the time of the verification request, they can only use publicly displayed releases.

If you click on the "Artist's Page" link, you can see in detail the Artist profile and notice that there are no releases published.

Musixmatch recommends that you refer to your label or distributor in order to verify that all of your recording data has been correctly sent to Apple Music and Spotify.

How do I remove an artist from my Roster?

- 1. In Musixmatch Pro, go to the Roster tab. (https://pro.musixmatch.com/roster)
- 2. Click on the 3 dots next to the name of the artist that you want to remove
- 3. Click on "Remove Artist"
- 4. Select the reason for artist removal
- 5. Confirm that you want to remove the artist

Please don't worry if the artist does not disappear immediately from the roster, and do not send multiple removal requests for the same artist!

Your request has been successfully sent to the Musixmatch support team, who will remove the artist from the roster in just a few working days!

I can't find my new release on Musixmatch. What can I do?

Musixmatch Pro automatically imports all new releases from Spotify and Apple Music.

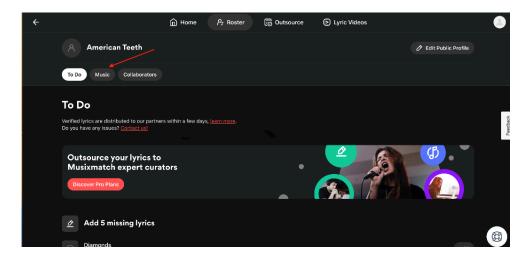
While Musixmatch strives for immediacy, sometimes it may take a bit of time for their system to update with your new album or song.

To give you more control over when your release will be displayed, **Musixmatch has designed a feature to manually trigger the import** of your new release on Musixmatch Pro.

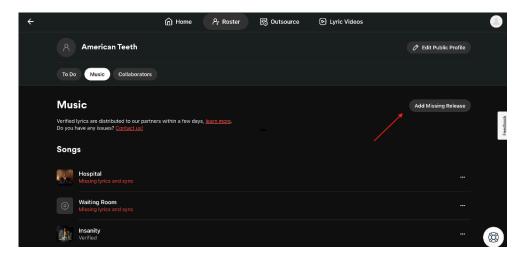
Here is a step-by-step guide:

- 1. Login into Musixmatch Pro https://pro.musixmatch.com
- 2. Go to the 'Roster' tab
- 3. Select the artist
- 4. Select the tab "Music"
- 5. Click on "Add missing release"
- 6. Enter both your Spotify and Apple Music album links for the missing release. (Please check here how: How to correctly add my album links from Spotify and Apple Music)
- 7. Click 'Send'. (If you can't see this button, make sure to scroll down)

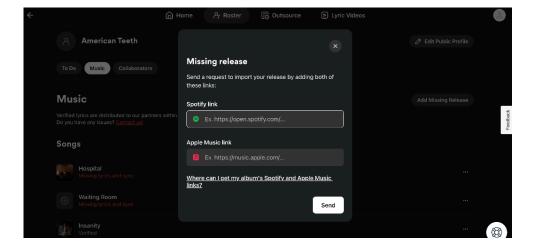
Check back a little later. The release will appear within 48 hours, but it usually takes less than an hour!



Select your artist and click on the tab "Music"



On the top right of the page you'll find the option: " Add Missing release"



Add the correct link to your artist page on Spotify and Apple Music as explained: https://support.musixmatch.com/article/287-whats-your-spotify-and-apple-music-artist-link

I'm an artist, how can I contribute to my own songs?

If you are an artist looking to connect with Musixmatch, please visit <u>MxmPro</u> to learn how to do so.

In addition, if you haven't joined already, please make sure to join the <u>Artist Community Slack</u>.

For all other artist related questions, please email artists@musixmatch.com.

MxmPro verified artist can only edit lyrics via via the MxmPro version of the website and not the regular site! Please see this article about editing verified lyrics with featured artists.

Need immediate assistance? Verified artists are encouraged to submit a <u>Artist Support Request</u>.

Why would you hire Other Side Of Music to manage your artist account?

We have engineers that manage several artist accounts on Musixmatch, and we can extend that to support you with your account. You essentially hire us to work on your behalf and pay us for the time we spend performing that task. We work on the basis of "Capped Time & Material," where you pay for the actual amount of time spent (in minutes) with a maximum per song (the cap).

There are three key lyric databases where most artists want to get the lyrics published:

- Musixmatch
- LyricFind
- Genius

There is hardly any overlap between these lyric database services and the services that display lyrics. E.g., Spotify only uses Musixmatch for lyrics. Apple Music uses both Musixmatch and LyricFind (dynamic primary and secondary sources). Deezer only uses LyricFind.

These services distribute lyrics to a majority of the online streaming & lyric services. Publishing lyrics to these services also ensures that your artist's lyrics are published to services that understand that they also need to pay songwriter royalties whenever lyrics are displayed.

Musixmatch

Musixmatch is the distribution service used by Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music, and more. The actual distribution of song lyrics only happens after the artist verifies the lyrics using their **Musixmatch Pro Basic subscription**.

PS: If you have a **Musixmatch Pro Free plan**, then verifying the lyrics will only lock the lyrics (protecting them against changes by other curators). <u>Distribution requires a Musixmatch Pro Basic plan (or higher)</u>.

LyricFind

We also have a contract with LyricFind as a Content Partner. This kind of contract is normally reserved for music distributors. This agreement with LyricFind can be compared to a backdoor for submitting time-synced lyrics into the LyricFind system. We can submit time-synced lyrics for any released track (on Spotify), without the limitations that artists and labels face (artists / labels can only submit lyrics for artists that they officially represent). Normally larger distributors will work with LyricFind to connect with their databases. We submit lyrics to the LyricFind database using (weekly) batch files.

Genius

Genius is a 'nice-to-have' for artists, because it helps with the offline SEO ranking of an artist's discography on search engines, such as Google and Bing. Over 75% of the artists we work for ask us to skip publishing to Genius (cost saving).

Yes, I'm interested! What's next?

We don't list this service on FIVERR or any other freelance platforms! We do provide custom offers on Fiverr to perform this activity. For more information, send an email to: support [at] othersideofmusic [dot] com

The following image gives an idea of how lyrics are added to various databases.

