

# Effects (Lo-Fi and Retro Production) - Knowledge Organiser

GLOSSARY	
<b>Low Fidelity (Lo-Fi)</b>	A (usually undesirable) signal-to-noise ratio commonly caused by a low-quality recording on cheap equipment
<b>Degradation</b>	A decrease in audio quality
LO-FI EFFECTS	
EQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telephone EQ - A <b>band/high</b> pass filter is used to <b>restrict</b> the frequency range of a signal resulting in the signal sounding like it is being played through a small telephone speaker</li> <li>Sweeping high-pass filters are added to the 'build-up' sections of dance music tracks</li> </ul>
Digital Distortion/Bit-Crushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Lower bit depths</b> cause <b>distortion</b> on track</li> <li>Recreates tones caused by aliasing</li> <li>Can emulate the sounds of early sampling technology</li> </ul>
Found Sound and Samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sound effects such as <b>vinyl crackle</b>, <b>noise</b> and <b>hiss</b> are sampled to create a 'lo-fi' sound</li> <li>Samples are commonly taken from earlier recordings that are by nature more lo-fi in quality</li> <li>Found sound can be taken from old radio or TV clips</li> </ul>
Tape Delay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adds pitch modulation and filtering resulting in a sonically pleasing sound</li> </ul>
Mechanical Processors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rotary speakers/Leslie cabinets can create swirling, distorted sounds when using extreme settings</li> </ul>
Recording to Analogue Formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-recording tracks to tape can add saturation, resulting in a warmer sound</li> <li>Analogue formats suffer from artefacts such as vinyl crackle, hiss, wow and flutter</li> </ul>
Vintage/Retro Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producers use various pieces of older technology to purposefully degrade the signal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ribbon microphones used to create a duller timbre</li> <li>Tube/Valve technology used to add harmonics to a signal through distortion</li> <li>Older samplers with limited bit-depths and sample rates</li> </ul> </li> </ul>