REMOVEBACKGROUNDMUSIC

Before you try AI

A source-first decision checklist for a finished video

Follow these steps in order. Original audio gives you more control than an AI estimate.

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1. Do you have permission to process this source?

Yes. Continue with a source you are allowed to process and use.

No. Stop and request permission. Separation does not grant rights or clear a copyright claim.

2. Do you have the project, separate audio or a music-free master?

Yes. Edit the original timeline or use the supplied audio directly. Check linked media, the matching cut, start time and sync.

No. Ask the client or previous editor for those sources. If none is available, continue below.

3. Do you need exact original production stems?

Yes. Stop: AI separation cannot guarantee the original stems, lossless recovery or untouched effects. Request the original production audio.

No. A source-dependent estimate may be acceptable. Continue to the mixed-video check.

4. Is your only usable source a finished mixed video?

Yes. Preview the hardest overlap. Compare the same words and effects at a similar voice level. Stop if essential sound changes; request sources or a manual repair.

No. Get a usable authorized export or audio source before trying AI.

Ask the client or previous editor

Please send the original project and linked media, a music-free master matching this exact cut, and separate dialogue, music and effects tracks if available. Include the timeline start time and export settings so I can check sync. An M&E mix still contains music; I need dialogue without the score.

A music-and-effects (M&E) mix still includes music. It is useful for some localization tasks, but is not a music-free dialogue track.

This checklist does not guarantee a usable separation. Check the current tool for preview availability, supported formats and the actual quote.