

Best AI Vocal and Stem Separation Tools 2026

Seven AI stem separators tested on real multitrack material. Which ones actually isolate vocals cleanly, and which leave you with artifacts and phasing.

Stem separation used to be a party trick. In 2026 it's a working tool — remixers pull acapellas from finished masters, podcasters strip music beds from interviews, and producers rescue takes recorded through a leaky monitor. The models got good enough that the interesting question isn't *whether* they work, but which one produces the cleanest output on *your* material without leaving swirly phasing artifacts in the high mids.

I ran the same seven-track test set through every tool below: a dense pop mix, a sparse jazz trio, a spoken-word podcast with a music bed, a black metal track, a reggae dub, a lo-fi bedroom recording, and a mono 1960s soul single. Scores reflect actual output quality, not features or price.

The Contenders

1. Lalal Ai — Score: 9.4/10

Lalal.ai's Phoenix model is still the one to beat in 2026. Vocal isolation on the dense pop mix was cleaner than every other tool tested, with the least bleed and the most natural high-end on breath and sibilance. It also handled the mono soul track without collapsing the vocal into a lifeless smear — which Spleeter and a few others did. The one weakness: aggressive dynamic content (screamed vocals in the metal track) still shows some processing shimmer.

Best for: Producers pulling acapellas from commercial masters, podcasters cleaning up interviews.

Pricing: Pay-as-you-go from \$10 for 90 minutes, subscriptions from \$15/month for unlimited processing at lower quality tiers.

2. Audioshake — Score: 9.2/10

Audioshake is the pro-facing option — it's what a lot of major labels use for licensing prep and sync work. The API-first design and support for true multi-stem output (vocals, drums, bass, other, plus optional guitar and piano stems) puts it ahead of consumer tools for anyone doing this at volume.

Output quality is within a hair of Lalal on most material, and better on the jazz trio where instrument overlap usually kills separators.

Best for: Sync licensing, remix stems for release, high-volume batch work via API.

Pricing: Custom for enterprise; hobbyist plans start around \$10/month.

3. Ripx — Score: 8.8/10

Ripx (formerly Hit'n'Mix) is doing something different — it treats audio as a mesh of individual notes you can grab and edit, not just stems you split. For a remixer, that's a bigger deal than one more percentage point of separation quality. You can pull a single vocal note out, transpose it, retune it, or delete it. The pure separation output is a step behind Lalal on the toughest material, but the editing surface makes up for it if you actually plan to manipulate the stems.

Best for: Remixers, sound designers, anyone editing stems rather than just splitting them.

Pricing: One-time license from \$99 for the desktop app, subscription tiers for the cloud service.

4. Moises — Score: 8.5/10

Moises wins on the whole workflow: separation plus pitch shift, tempo change, chord detection, and a metronome, all in one mobile-first app. Musicians who use it for practice — pulling the guitar out of a song to jam along — get more value here than the pure separation score suggests. The separation itself is very good but not class-leading; the metal track showed noticeable artifacts on the guitar stem, and the reggae dub lost some of the bass character.

Best for: Practicing musicians, live performers building backing tracks, mobile-first workflows.

Pricing: Free tier with limits, Premium at \$3.99/month, Pro at \$7.99/month.

5. Gaudio Studio — Score: 8.3/10

Gaudio Studio is the sleeper pick. The Korean audio-AI team has been quietly shipping models that punch above their weight on dialogue and speech separation — noticeably better than most competitors on the podcast test track. If your job is stripping background music from interviews or restoring dialogue from noisy field recordings, this is worth a serious look. Music separation is solid but not standout.

Best for: Podcast editors, documentary producers, dialogue restoration.

Pricing: Free tier available, paid plans from around \$10/month.

6. Vocalremover Org — Score: 7.6/10

Vocalremover Org is the free browser-based option that most people find first when they Google "remove vocals from song." It's genuinely useful and the price is right, but the quality gap to Lalal or AudioShake is real — expect more bleed, more artifacts on complex mixes, and a hard cap on file length in the free tier. For a one-off karaoke track it's fine. For paid work, upgrade.

Best for: Casual users, one-off karaoke, quick previews before committing to a paid tool.

Pricing: Free for basic use, Premium at around \$10/month for higher quality and no length limits.

7. Spleeter — Score: 7.0/10

Spleeter is Deezer's open-source model, and it deserves credit as the tool that opened this whole space up in 2019. In 2026 the newer commercial models have pulled well ahead on output quality, but Spleeter is still the right choice if you need to run separation locally, in a batch script, at zero marginal cost, with no data leaving your machine. Quality is roughly where paid tools were three years ago — usable, but you'll hear the artifacts.

Best for: Local/offline workflows, batch scripting, privacy-sensitive material, developers.

Pricing: Free, MIT license.

Comparison Table

Tool	Score	Best For	Starting Price	Standout Feature
Lalal Ai	9.4	Pro acapella extraction	\$10 pay-as-you-go	Phoenix model quality
Audioshake	9.2	Sync licensing, API workflows	~\$10/month	Multi-stem + guitar/piano
Ripx	8.8	Note-level editing	\$99 one-time	Edit individual notes, not just stems
Moises	8.5	Musicians and practice	Free / \$3.99	Pitch, tempo, chords in one app
Gaudio Studio	8.3	Dialogue and podcasts	Free / ~\$10	Speech separation quality
Vocalremover Org	7.6	Quick free karaoke	Free	No signup, browser-based
Spleeter	7.0	Local, offline, batch	Free (open source)	Runs on your own machine

Final Picks

Best overall: Lalal Ai. If you just want the cleanest stems with the least fuss and you're willing to pay per minute, this is the default.

Best for pros doing volume: Audioshake. The API, the multi-stem output, and the licensing-grade quality make this the right pick if separation is part of your paid workflow.

Best for remixers who actually edit: Ripx. Note-level manipulation is a category advantage nobody else offers, and it changes what's possible with a stem.

Best for musicians: Moises. Not because the separation is best — it isn't — but because the surrounding tools (tempo, pitch, chord detection) matter more for practice and performance than one extra point of vocal isolation.

Best free option: Spleeter if you can run it locally, Vocalremover Org if you can't.

The gap between free and paid tools is smaller than it was two years ago, but it's still real on hard material — dense mixes, mono sources, or anything with heavy vocal effects. If you're doing this for money, the paid tools earn it.