

Checklist for the audio track producer's activities

The audio track producer records audio tracks for audio description and audio tracks for spoken subtitles for the film. To do this the audio track producer requires access to a screener (a viewing copy) of the film (with the time code visible), as well as the script for the Swedish subtitles (subtitle script). For foreign films there may be a foreign audio description script, which may be useful to the audio track producer in creating the Swedish audio description.

Below is an outline of the audio track producer's activities required to enable cinema-goers to experience a film with support for audio description and/or spoken subtitles.

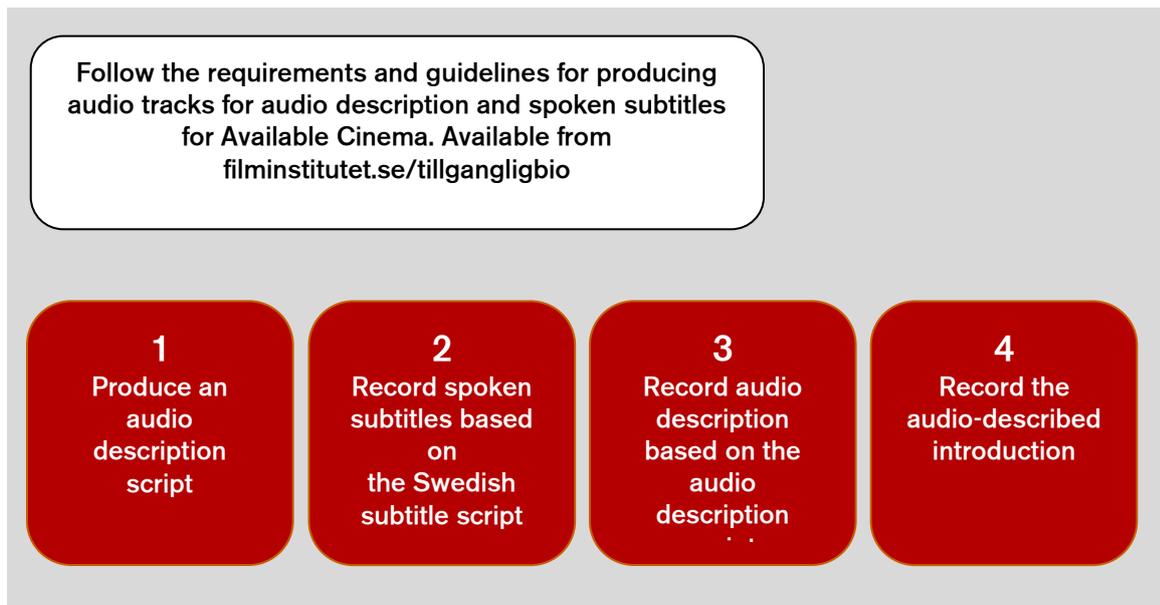


Figure 1. The audio track producer's activities for Available Cinema

If the audio track producer is to produce both audio description and spoken subtitles for a film, the spoken subtitles are recorded first. Audio description is then recorded so that it does not clash with the spoken subtitles, as cinema-goers have to be able to listen to both at the same time.

Follow the requirements and guidelines for producing audio tracks for audio description and spoken subtitles for Available Cinema

Requirements and guidelines have been drawn up for producing audio tracks for audio description and spoken subtitles for Available Cinema. The requirement document describes how the audio tracks for audio description and spoken subtitles should be produced to suit people with visual impairment and reading and writing difficulties respectively, and designed so that the audio tracks can be played back using the technical solution for Available Cinema.

The requirements can be downloaded from the Swedish Film Institute's Available Cinema page (www.filminstitutet.se/tillgangligbio).

1	Produce an audio description script
	<p>Firstly, a script for the audio description is created. The script specifies the time intervals where no dialogue is heard and where the recorded audio description should therefore be placed. The number of words that can be inserted depends on the length of the time interval. The audio description script should also contain an introductory presentation of the environment and characters, and if possible a reading of the titles and credits.</p> <p>For foreign films there is often an audio description in the original language; if so, it is beneficial to be given access to this original audio description script, translate it into Swedish and adapt as required.</p> <p>Once the audio description script is ready, it should be read through and approved by the film distributor (or film producer) to ensure the highest possible quality in the recorded text.</p>
2	Record spoken subtitles based on the Swedish subtitle script
	<p>In recording spoken subtitles, the audio track producer watches the film’s screener, reads the subtitle script and records the subtitles at the right moment, i.e. at the right time code. This recording should be done in a sound studio.</p> <p>Once the spoken subtitles have been recorded, they are edited and adjusted in an audio program to ensure they fit perfectly around the dialogue in the film. The result is an audio track file for spoken subtitles in WAV format.</p> <p>It is important to name the file “Audio Subtitle File”.</p>
3	Record audio description based on the audio description script
	<p>Once the audio description script has been approved, it is time to record the audio description. The person recording the audio description watches the film’s screener, reads the audio description script and records the audio description at the right moment, i.e. at the right time code. This recording should be done in a sound studio.</p> <p>Once all the audio description has been recorded, it is edited and adjusted in an audio program to ensure it does not clash with the dialogue in the film, the spoken subtitles or other high-priority film sound. The result is an audio track file for audio description in WAV format.</p> <p>It is important to name the file “Audio Description File”.</p>
4	Record the audio-described introduction
	<p>To complement the audio description, an audio-described introduction is also produced. This is to provide the cinema-goer with an understanding of the overriding theme/main plot, the film’s settings and main characters.</p> <p>The audio-described introduction is a separate audio track file (in WAV format) which should be able to be listened to at any time chosen by the user.</p> <p>It is important to name the file “Audio Trailer File”.</p>

Delivery of audio track files

The audio track files for audio description (+ audio-described introduction) and spoken subtitles are delivered to the post-producer (or equivalent) as per the agreed procedure.