

# TWITCH FOR MUSICIANS

## PART ONE – UNDERSTANDING TWITCH

### 1.4 – THE THREE STEAMER LEVELS

One key thing to know about Twitch is that there are three user levels.

1. Basic (everyone)  
Every Twitch user starts out here. At the basic level as a streamer, you get all the features that Twitch provides that are not attached to monetization. So, you can stream video, use the chat, be followed by viewers, and archive your streams. As a viewer, you can watch, chat, subscribe, and buy virtual currency (Bits) to spend on gifts for the streamers. Streamers can still accept donations from viewers at the Basic level, but they have to use third-party (off-Twitch) streamer services to process the payments. We discuss how to set those up later.
2. Affiliate (streamers)  
Affiliate is the first level of being able to offer viewers monetized features provided by Twitch, like paying to subscribe to your channel or buying Bits to spend on virtual goods. The streamer has to hit certain viewership benchmarks before becoming an Affiliate. Affiliates get a share of the revenue that viewers spend in their channel.
3. Partner (streamers)  
Partner is much like Affiliate but the benchmarks to become Partner are higher. When Partnered, streamers can offer more features to viewers, share in ad revenue, and be eligible for promotional support from Twitch.

Technically, every Twitch user has a Channel Page and can stream. Though there is no designation between users on Twitch, in this book I'll refer to those who stream as creators or streamers and those who watch as viewers.