

## Creating a Song in GarageBand

Start: Try out the loops included with GarageBand

1. Open GarageBand and click New Music Project.
2. In the window that appears, select a tempo and key for your song, and then click Create. The The GarageBand window opens and a track is created for you that uses the Grand Piano Software Instrument.
3. In the lower-left corner, click the Loop Browser button.
4. Click a category. Notice that some of the other categories are unavailable.
5. Click another category and notice the list of loops in the audition window is shorter and includes loops that match the criteria for both of the categories you selected.
6. Select a loop to audition it. Notice that each loop includes information about its key, tempo, and length.

Steps: Add a drum track to your first mix

1. In GarageBand, click the Loop Browser button to open the Loop Browser.
2. Click the All Drums category to show the available drum loops.
3. Click a drum loop to audition it.
4. When you find a loop you want to use, drag the loop to the timeline under the Grand Piano track. Notice that a new track is created with this loop.
5. Click the Play button in the track controls to play your loop.

Steps: Extend your rhythm section loops

1. Hold down the Shift key and click your drum loop, and then click the bass loop.
2. Position the cursor in the upper-right corner of one of the loops until the looping icon appears.
3. Drag the loops to play for 16 measures (until you see the number 17 in the timeline ruler). Notice that the loop duration is marked by a bubble shape for each loop.
4. Click the Cycle button to turn off cycling.
5. Click the Play button to hear your song.
6. Click Tempo and use the slider to hear your mix at different tempos.

Steps: Add melodic elements to your song

1. Click the Cycle button and then click the Play button to play back your drum and bass loops repeatedly.
2. In the loop browser, click Reset.
3. Click the Guitar category, and then click Single.
4. Click a guitar loop to audition it.
5. When you find a guitar loop you like, drag it to the track editor to create a new track with that loop.
6. Drag the cycle indicator to play the portion of the song that includes all three loops.
7. Click Reset.
8. Click the Piano category and audition piano loops with your mix.
9. Drag the piano loop you want to the track editor under your guitar track to create a piano track.

Steps: Offset the melodic loops from each other to add tension

1. Hold down the Shift key and click the guitar loop, and then click the piano loop.
2. Position the pointer in the upper-right corner of one of the loops and drag the loops out 16 measures.
3. With the guitar and piano loops both selected, drag the playhead to the beginning of measure 5.
4. From the Edit menu, choose Split. Notice that both the loops are now labeled separately before and after the position of the playhead.
5. Drag the playhead to the beginning of measure 9, and then choose Split from the Edit menu.
6. Click outside the guitar and piano loops to deselect them.
7. Click the first segment of the guitar loop and then choose Cut from the Edit menu.
8. Click the second segment of the piano loop and then choose Cut from the Edit menu.
9. Play your song and notice how the piano and guitar loops respond to each other.

Create an introduction for your song

1. Drag the zoom slider (located below the track headers) to the left until you can see the beginning and end of every loop in your song.
2. Hold down the Shift key and click the bass, guitar, and piano loops.
3. Drag the loops two measures to the right.
4. Click the top-right corner of the drum loop and stretch it to line up with the end of the other tracks.
5. Click Play to hear your introduction.

Gradually fade out your song

1. From the Track menu, choose Show Master Track. A new track appears.
2. Select the Master Volume option. Notice the volume curve in the timeline is enabled.
3. Click the volume curve at the point in your song that you want to start the fadeout. Notice that a circle appears in the volume curve.
4. Click the volume curve at the end of the song and drag it down.
5. Click Play to hear your song with the fadeout.

Steps: Export your song to iTunes

1. From the Share menu, choose Send Song to iTunes.
2. Notice that iTunes opens and starts playing your song.
3. You can now listen to your song in iTunes, transfer it to your iPod, or use it with your slideshows like any other song in your iTunes library.