

Create a 1 minute song using loops

1. Create a new blank session/ Name it “your name project #7”/ Save it in your student folder.
2. Double check your preferences are correct (book p.113): “Pro Tools” > “Preferences” > “Processing”.
3. Confirm you are in “GRID” mode (top left corner).
4. Confirm you are using the “Smart Tool”.
5. “Edit Window Toolbar Menu” (top right corner) = Confirm you can see “Counter” and “MIDI Control”
6. On “Counter” = make sure “grid” is highlighted (Green).
7. On “Counter” = click the note next to “grid” to change grid length.
8. On “Counter” = click on drop down and select “bars and beats”.
9. On “MIDI Control” = make sure the “conductor” is highlighted.
10. “Timeline Rulers Menu” = Confirm you can see “min. & secs”, “Tempo”, and “Markers”
11. On “Tempo” = double- click on red diamond to change tempo.
12. Insert “stereo” “master” track. This is to keep an eye on your overall volume.
 - a. If it starts clipping (hitting the red), enable the “all” group and lower all the faders.
 - b. Then, disable the “all” group and raise the master back to zero (or “option” + click fader)
13. Go to the workspace browser = “Window” > “New Work space” (or “option” + “;”), then navigate to “Users” > “Desktop” > “Loops”
14. It’s a good idea to rename the tracks as you go.
15. To bring “workspace” back to the front = “option” & “J”
16. Confirm your “metronome” is GREEN.
17. Listen/audition loops and import them into your session by drag/drop. (Remember the 3 places.)
 - a. Reminder- the first one only will ask “Import original tempo from file?” click “don’t import”.
18. To make loops longer:
 - a. Copy & Paste = Command + C to copy, Command + V to paste
 - b. Duplicate = Command + D
 - c. To turn them into loop mode = right click on loop audio> choose “loop”> select any option.
19. Choose more than one loop for your key instruments (bass, drums, etc.) and try a pattern like a “checkerboard”, switching back and forth.
20. As you go, adjust the faders to hear all the tracks. (Pull down the tracks that are too loud.)
21. You must use at least 10 different loops. Most students use 25-50
22. Rename, organize order, color, as necessary
23. Add Navigation markers/colors (Part 1, Part 2, intro, verses, choruses, bridges, solos, etc.)
24. Add master and mix bus and route appropriately
25. Make Groups as necessary
26. Add aux busses for like instruments as necessary, and route appropriately
27. Before you finish, go look at/ listen to other’s projects. You’ll get new ideas.
28. Bounce to Disk:
 - a. Make selection: Select your “new” song with about 5 seconds of silence at the end.
 - b. File | Bounce to | Disk
 - i. File Type: MP3
 - ii. Format: Interleaved
 - iii. Bit Depth: 16 bit
 - iv. Sample Rate: 44.1 kHz
 - v. Name file: “Your name project 6 Loop Song 040319”
 - vi. Directory: It will automatically go to a folder within your session folder called “Bounced Files” unless you change it.
 - vii. **“Offline”**: Make sure this is checked or it will go in “real” time.
 - viii. Click “Bounce

***Bonus Fun: Adjust the pitch of the loop = right click on a loop and click “elastic properties”. Click into “pitch shift” and use your up/down arrow keys or type a number.