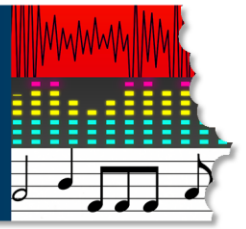


Sound Bites

Mo Komba Beatmaking



Add a Bass Line

Adding a Bass part to your Loop will add to the low end of your loop. A great way to start adding a simple bass line is to play the bottom note of the chords that you have chosen.

Materials

You will need the following items:

- Digital Audio Workstation (DAW)
- Audio Interface
- Royalty free drum loops
- MIDI controller (keyboard).

Preparation

Before you launch into this activity make sure you are familiar with the following DAW processes:

- Zooming in and out
- Accessing the loop and sample library
- Moving around the workspace
- Creating a MIDI audio track
- Dragging loops and samples into the timeline
- Recording, editing and manipulating MIDI regions
- Using the grid function in your DAW.

Steps

1. Create a software instrument track and choose a type of bass sound.
2. Set your 4 bars of drums and keys to play on a loop.
3. Start with a very simple bass line by playing the root note of each chord.
4. Practise playing your simple bass line along with the 4 bar drum and keys loop.
5. When you feel comfortable record in the simple chord sequence.
6. If you made a mistake or you didn't like your performance you can undo the recording and try again, or you can quantize the MIDI notes to fix any timing issues.
7. Try a second bass line where the bass plays at the same time as the bass drum part. Does this suit your loop or is it better to keep it quite simple?

Remember that listening and experimenting is important. You can record as many versions of a bass line as you have time for.