**StudiYo Partner | Resource Guide & GPT**

## 

## **Hi Friend ☺**

Welcome to the 2024 StudiYo Partner Resource Guide & GPT companion for music producers & DJs. My name is Wes Smith, I am an entrepreneur, music producer and DJ based on of San Diego California. You can learn more about me here: <http://www.ItsWesSmithYo.com>

## **Show “them” the Money:**

My StudiYo Partner Reference Guide is 100% free and will stay that way. The GPT is currently Free and will stay that way unless OpenAI changes the GPT store rules. I don’t make tutorials, sample packs, or sell courses for a living and have no plans to. There are plenty of people listed in this guide that are focused on that, please visit them and give them your money;)

## **About the Resource Guide:**

The resource guide is and organized list of tutorials and resources (plus a few opinions) that I created while documenting my journey into producing house music over the last few years. I’ve done all kind of genres prior to COVID era, but since then my focus has been House Music, Techno, Tech House, Bass House and G-House.

**Why Another Music Guide?**

To be honest, there are not as many as you might think. Especially focused on a specific dance music genres. While I love and have made many genres, it is important to know the nuances. YouTube is a glorious mine field of knowledge. But where do you start? Where do you go? How do you know what you don’t know?

## **StudiYo Partner GPT?:**

On November 6th, 2023 OpenAI made custom GPTs available to the public. Anyone can create a GPT that serves up focused information based on instructions, generally available information and a custom knowledge base. The WOW is that this presented in a flexible, consistent format according to your curiosity. It isn’t always right, but I guarantee it will spur creativity. I use it daily to inspire me, design sounds and come up with social media ideas.

You can find the StudiYo Partner GPT here: <https://chat.openai.com/g/g-TCOFgCEBJ-studiyo-partner>

**Historical perspective:**

When I started out in music, there was one website called ComputersAndMusic.com. Then came a magazine called Future Music Magazine that had a CD/DVD on the cover with some content for music producers. As the internet exploded, search was invented and that changed our lives, but it’s 20 years old. Along came search, forums, groups, reddits and discords, and with that, some great communities. This brought focus, but the tools for searching, asking questions and getting timely responses are still antiquated. Custom GPTs are the next level.

**What about the information used?**

All information is either gathered from the internet by the GPT, created by me from scratch, or from a list of Title/Author/URL to a resource I have vetted. I make the entire knowledge base available through the GPT “Capabilities and Actions” features.

## **Next Steps:**

Make time, dive in, and go, that’s it. If you document things like I do, you will probably end up with your own guide like this one or better and some AI bot too;) Until then, hopefully mine can save you some time on your journey and when you do have yours, share it with the world.

Enjoy & I’ll see you on the dance floor;)

Wes

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# **THE MAGIC BEGINNER HACK**

Seriously, there isn’t one. If I was forced to pick one, it would be “have fun”. If you aren’t having fun, you likely won’t stick with it. Aside from that, I’d say beginners can’t go wrong by starting with a good Track from Scratch tutorial from an artist you like, hopefully making a song you like. Similar opinion for DJing, more on that later.

Let’s go.

# **STUDY**

## **Tracks from Scratch Tutorials**

A great way to start learning to make your own music without feeling overwhelmed is to use Track From scratch tutorials. You will find a range from these from “walkthroughs” and “breakdowns” to full track creation. They can all be valuable for getting the idea of what it takes to make a song. They are also great because you can use the track as a reference track in your future projects which is a must.

The best ones are by artists with current music being commercially distributed in the genre that you like. You will find a range from “Breakdowns” and “Tours” (usually an hour or so) to more detailed “Watch Me Produce” sessions. Both are useful but if you really want to bite down I suggest one that is 6 to 10 hours. From my own experience, I don’t think it is possible to make a good finished track from scratch, as if you just walked in the studio and started creating, in less time than that. Whatever you settle on, I suggest you be prepared to watch it a few times, and take lots of notes and write down lots of questions. If you don’t have anyone to ask the questions, try out my **StudiYo Partner** GPT or create your own.

Below is a range of track from scratch tutorials I have used and think are good for House Music producers.

Start to Finish with Ellis Moss @ Toolroom Academy [$]

This one is Hands down best current Track from Scratch I have ever seen

<https://toolroomacademy.com/programmes/on-demand/ellis-moss-track-from-scratch>

Making Piano House from Start to Finish by Bthelick

<https://www.youtube.com/live/-_SHG-m6FrQ?feature=share>

Making a Tech House Track with Stock Ableton by Zen World – Evolution of Sound

<https://youtu.be/fPDe0S1z8bI>

Tech House Track from Scratch - Westend

<https://youtu.be/xvaWPQwAWYQ?si=L7tioAJaLzzxOi48>

Making a Remix, start to finish by James Hype

<https://youtu.be/uUD_BO6gtQ8?si=m_ZcK0fc2utzyyxV>

Start to Finish Tech House in Ableton by Westend

<https://youtu.be/XjiWwbR-P2g>

Westend Full Tech House Track in Ableton by Westend

<https://youtu.be/JOAKpAJCi0c>

Making a Track Start to Finish | Melodic Techno by Ableton Tips

<https://youtu.be/wzEbqA7znCE>

Producing Disco House in Live [$]

<https://www.producertech.com/staff-picks/83/producing-disco-house-in-live>

Mailroom Techno Production in Live [$]

<https://www.producertech.com/best-sellers/7/mainroom-techno-production-in-live>

Secrets of the Mashup - Elite Force/Simon Shackleton [$]

<https://www.loopmasters.com/genres/121-Music-Courses/products/3391-Secrets-of-the-Mashup-by-Elite-Force>

“Dive In” full track break down by Westend [$]

<https://kick-bass.teachable.com/courses/2292382/lectures/49874267>

## **Foundations**

These are fun, interactive browser based ways to get interested in music and a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).

Ableton Learning

<https://learningmusic.ableton.com>

Building Blocks: Music Theory & Composition Course for DAW

<https://www.audiblegenius.com/buildingblocks>

Music Theory

Music Theory Complete Course by Woochia

<https://youtu.be/_VvKeiwddPI>

Basic Music Theory by Icon Collective

<https://www.iconcollective.edu/basic-music-theory>

EDM Music Theory Pt1/10 by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/ijYZodD6huc>

Music Theory Comprehensive by Udemy [$]

<https://www.udemy.com/share/101YGg3@3JEuLfNBJKoWPZEfBieGvOJkXmGMhYIrZDFN-V1LyF0z9SZIVHDxujo2J0xG51pN/>

Music Theory for Electronic Music [$]

<https://www.udemy.com/share/101vnI3@DFMWIV6d9WaNyf-GzFEmNvKoppFpcu7htIip2J4IQeP6fX6U5tfbGNYbfH5O3v-w/>

Yale Course

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9LXrs9vCXK56qtyK4qcqwHrbf0em_81r>

Jade Multitude

<https://jadebultitude.com/>

## **Music Theory**

**Circle of 5ths>**

The Circle of Fifths Explained by Pierce Porterfield

<https://youtu.be/FvOzjlJw9LM>

Circle of Fifths: Everything You Need to Know by Brad Harrison Music

<https://youtu.be/O43EBVnwNvo>

**Euclydian Sequences>**

Understanding Euclidean Sequences by Bertolt Meyer

<https://youtu.be/xTHG1nD79BA>

Euclidean Sequences 101 by Celestial Textures

<https://youtu.be/LOggDwuG16M>

How to make complex generative beats with Euclidean rhythms in Ableton by dBs Institute

<https://youtu.be/2eM6UCobbGQ>

**Drums>**

Play With Your Rhythm: Drum Patterns by Play With Your Music

<https://youtu.be/tm2BgO1VaRY?si=CXbmgeFeRWgq3DVr>

Play With Your Rhythm Swing by Play With Your Music

<https://youtu.be/S66ToPWrxEg?si=F5CEiKyXeq8LiVSD>

**Keys & Scales>**

EDM Music Theory Pt. 1: What’s the Difference in Scale and Key by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/ijYZodD6huc>

EDM Music Theory Pt. 2: More Scale and Key by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/LbuV7JTqkvQ>

**Modes>**

Minor (moody) modes are more frequent in EDM.

Intro to Modes in the Circle of Fifths by Mike George

<https://youtu.be/BdgXQl1LDNw>

The Complete Guide to Piano Modes by Vita Piano

<https://vitapiano.com/the-complete-guide-to-piano-modes/>

Phrygian (minor) by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/WEVhjNcQ0Fk>

**Chords>**

What is a chord? By Adam Neely

<https://youtu.be/VR3o45Pwx9Y>

House Music Chords by Captain Plugins

<https://mixedinkey.com/captain-plugins/wiki/house-music-chords/>

Piano Chord Charts by Piano Chord .Org

<https://www.pianochord.org/>

What is a Chord in Music? How to Build Chords and Chord Progressions by LANDR

<https://youtu.be/T2gw9Fcc_w0>

Playing with the Chord Map - Circle of 5ths by Mike George

<https://www.youtube.com/live/C5rEbJJJ9do?>

Playing with Chord Substitutions by Mike George

<https://www.youtube.com/live/AcgMgeI7E8o?feature=share>

**Chord Progressions>**

Understanding Music > Chord Progressions by Music Theory Academy

<https://www.musictheoryacademy.com/understanding-music/chord-progressions/>

EDM Music Theory Pt. 9 by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/Sddo4J9UXY0>

Music Theory>Melody & Harmony>

What is Melody & Harmony by yiroubassstudio

<https://youtu.be/xugt0hF6CNs>

EDM Music Theory Pt. 10, What is Harmony? Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/MYpumQuY78k>

EDM Theory: Simple Melody Hacks by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/_1v8_7kmA-Q>

**Tuning>**

Frequencies for equal-tempered scales by Physics of Music

<https://pages.mtu.edu/~suits/notefreqs.html>

## **Sound Design Theory**

**Basics Sound Design Theory>**

Sound Design gives you a range of control over your sounds. Understanding and working through some fundamentals will arm you with a better understanding of how to tweak everything, whether you make the sound from scratch or start with a sample.

Sound Design Complete Course by Woochia

<https://youtu.be/jWorjBDcty4>

The Many Uses of a Compressor - Glue, Sidechain, OTT, De-Esser | Sound Design Theory <https://youtu.be/hJLjV5yDKQQ>

Make YOUR OWN Audio Distortions with Waveshapers | Sound Design Theory

<https://youtu.be/GKAWnT1WA58>

Distortion: Advanced Techniques | Sound Design Theory

<https://youtu.be/GFLyW6ozb8o>

**Synthesis>**

This is a subcategory of Sound Design Theory, but so important in Electronic Dance Music. If you liked the Sound Design Theory section then this may be your rabbit hole.

History of Synths

<https://www.historyofsynths.com>

Getting Started Making Sounds

<https://learningsynths.ableton.com>

Types of Synthesis

<https://youtu.be/keya6ARWeFY>

Syntorial: The Ultimate Synthesizer Tutorial [$]

<https://www.syntorial.com>

Synth Guide Pt1: Basics of Additive, Subtractive, FM, Wavetable, Granular

<https://youtu.be/3jvsNGYzx74>

Synth Guide pt2: Features You Should Know

<https://youtu.be/HtAoc4z5N7o>

**Instruments>**

Orchestral Percussion

<https://youtu.be/-lJctvybAJ8>

**Eurorack>**

Let’s Learn Eurorack (ft. VCV Rack)

<https://youtu.be/BTcP3DofZLY>

## **MIDI**

A square is a rectangle but a rectangle is not a square. I know many producers that achieved great success without using MIDI. However they all use MIDI now 👽. But don’t throw away your Audio skills…both have unique strengths.

Audio vs. MIDI

<https://youtu.be/9nyW7GFLQtE>

Audio vs. MIDI What’s the Difference

<https://youtu.be/gQeAhooG2cc>

Making Music with MIDI for beginners

<https://youtu.be/4revAw3lT4g>

What is MIDI, How it works and why it’s useful

<https://youtu.be/9zFecOaD4CU>

**Hardware>**

Now let’s combine your MIDI with real world machines.

Working with analog gear, Millean [$]

<https://kick-bass.teachable.com/courses/2178785/lectures/49116775>

## **Microphones**

How a Microphone Changed Music Forever by AudioHaze

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTcnNWK2oxk&t=95s>

Dynamic vs Condenser Microphones | What's The Difference?

<https://youtu.be/dM5AgwWimEE?si=_dZiddudIyQ4tfa5>

# **DIGITAL AUDIO WORKSTATION**

## **Ableton Live Suite**

**My Flow>**

My DAW of choice is Ableton Live Suite, if you are curious about my setup, go to the “My StudiYo” section. Below are some ways to learn it…A LOT of it. I also highly recommend checking out Ableton.com and exploring Live, Push, Note and Link as well as Max for Live sometimes indicated as M4L.

Ableton Live Lite by Splice

<https://youtu.be/HiX_Kk0B9f0>

Ableton Live 11 Beginner Tutorial by Tomas George

<https://youtu.be/JaSK3Q8vyGA>

Ableton Live 11: Every New Feature by ELPHNT

<https://youtu.be/vfRXy7GbknI>

Ableton Live 11: Exploring the Mew Chance, Probability and Randomness Features

<https://youtu.be/xYdKSOoVUz4?si=xGuihl363p4HVtEC>

Ableton Live 11 Beginner Course, Making a Track from Scratch [$] by Production Music Live

<https://www.productionmusiclive.com/products/beginners-course-ableton-live-11-making-a-track-from-start-to-finish>

Ableton Live 11 Ultimate Course [$] by Udemy

<https://www.udemy.com/course/ableton-live-11-course/>

Ableton Live 11 New Features by Ableton

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoh4MB-kbBmK9r0uGkd9Js9EZ225zHxRx>

Ableton Live 10 Ultimate Course by Sadowick Production

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLa9ASr8n5idAk2PpFepVai33M4AT7I3Z0>

Ableton Synths in 15 Min by Ableton Tips

<https://youtu.be/s_UFhvl3Zpo>

Ableton Instruments Tour by The Audio Professor

<https://youtu.be/Yy5cLAC8LUM>

**Ableton Instruments>**

Drift - A Deep Dive into Ableton's All New (and free) Synth by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/5U-foZqE9z0>

Making techno with Ableton's new synth DRIFT | by 343 Labs/John Selway

<https://youtu.be/6M8DRtkuU3c>

Operator Overview by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/Xahbn7OjRF4>

Operator Sound Design by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/3BU-WAQo4P8>

Operator Deep Dive by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/HBl25OB0E58>

Operator Shit Yourself by Ned Rush

<https://youtu.be/qTikbUnsxWk>

A guide to the Ableton WAVETABLE SYNTH tutorial by XNB

<https://youtu.be/Hvb-IquTTsA>

Ableton Wavetable Tips and Tricks by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/N0HhmrWeWjA>

Ableton 10 | Wavetable | Deep Dive | How to use Wavetable (2020) by Stonx

<https://youtu.be/7afUIv7TYoQ>

**Ableton Effects>**

Ableton Live Effects by Ableton

<https://www.ableton.com/en/manual/live-audio-effect-reference/>

**Ableton Session View>**

I generally start in the Ableton Live session view, this view may nt exist in other DAWs. The session view might be one of the best reasons to use Ableton if your DAW does not have it.

I like the session view because it feels natural and somewhat chaotic for creating, auditioning and mixing tons of loops while jamming. I also find it faster to design sounds and audition things in the nonlinear grid, which you cannot do in the arrangement view. I use a few different controllers including Launchpad, MIDI-Fighter and PUSH, depending on what I’m doing.

Learn Live 11: Session View by Ableton

<https://youtu.be/qv_N3plJYx4>

Ableton Live Tutorials: Using Audio Clips by MusicTech

<https://youtu.be/GIuqu0w1Qh4>

Live Looping: Rachel K Collier

<https://youtu.be/6h47KS_tsSs>

How I Prepare an Ableton Live DJ Set

<https://youtu.be/ut-A0Qkf9qo>

Deconstructing an Ableton Live Performance Set

<https://youtu.be/h09wQNKOQ14>

DJ Megaset 2.0

<https://youtu.be/KShxkyflbhg>

Start to Finish with Jonas Saalbach

<https://youtu.be/brRQdQbcmE0>

**Ableton Organization>**

Ableton Live: Get Organized and Improve Your Workflow by ELPHNT

<https://www.youtube.com/live/EKPhIWFu9uU?feature=share>

## **Ableton Templates**

The goal of a template is to improve your consistency and workflow by setting up and reusing configurations and settings for pretty much anything your DAW can do, IE, everything in the guide, and then some. You will generally have a template for making the song and another for mastering unless you send that out.

You can get templates for many styles of music from vendors, tutorial makers, etc…no shortage on YouTube. But you can also simply start by making your own, which you will ultimately end up doing after looking at bunches of others.

Ableton Live Setting Up a Template by MusicTech

<https://youtu.be/xRl6U1Qpk3k>

Ableton Live: Get Organized and Improve Your Workflow by ELPHNT

<https://www.youtube.com/live/EKPhIWFu9uU?feature=share>

Note: You can also save just about anything you create in Ableton and also make defaults for new tracks, devices, and many other things which can be helpful to have handy even if not required all the time as part of your template.

**Groups>**

I use these groups to structure my template and to organize pretty much everything. In the DAW, these can be used as Groups/Busses for processing different types of sounds. I also find them handy for searching for sounds, writing, arranging and mixing. You will see some form of this in any well designed template. Mine are below, which are primarily a mix of working with other producers as well as templates from Producer Tech, Toolroom Studios, WARP Academy and Zeitgeist Mastering.

My main groups are; Master FX, Low End, Drums, Bass,Melodies, Vocals, FX

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

**Ableton Song Structure Template (Based on a Toolroom Studios course by Ellis Moss)**

Intro; 16 bars

Bass; 16 bars

Hooks; 16 bars

High Pass; 16 bars

Buildup; 16 bars

Main, 16 bars

Lifter; 16 bars

Stripped; 8 bars

Atmos; 8 bars

Buildup; 16 bars

Extra Bars; 2 or 4 adding a surprise from the original pattern.

Main; 16 bars

Lifter; 16 bars

Hook Out; 16 bars

Outro; 16 bars

## **Max For Live**

**General>**

Welcome to Max by Ableton

<https://youtu.be/hJ_RaKHNo4M>

Max For Live Curated Collection by ELPNT

https://elphnt.io/max-for-live-curated-collection/

What is Max For Live and Why Aren’t You Using It? By ELPHNT

<https://youtu.be/WObOMJH8N4E>

Building Max Devices Tour by Ableton

<https://youtu.be/__R9P0ZOLbU>

Rythmic Sound Design with MaxForLive Parameter Sequencers by ELPHNT

<https://youtu.be/SRdyM88N124>

Making Music With Max For Live by ELPHNT

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_8K1L5R9RxiH5uY2LdYNUapsfyMFTDCl>

Strange Mod by Dillon Baston

<https://youtu.be/VTDlv_xLdcI>

Making a Thing by Thomas Foster Music Production

<https://youtu.be/7-Bs8dVS5Y4>

Markov Variations Walkthrough

<https://youtu.be/Ux15uDYrw78>

## **Devices & Plugins**

I try to do everything possible with what is included in Ableton Live Suite, then I look to paid Max for Live devices and then finally to AU/VSTs. More and more, I find I already have more than enough to get the job done and I am regularly surprised to find out the standard Ableton device may be better.

# **SOUNDS**

**Intro>**

Audio, MIDI, Presets…Where to get them…you’ll find millions, maybe billions, more in many of the tutorials referenced. Key here is to start with the BEST, and I mean BEST, quality possible. This will be the main factor in achieving pro sound. If you find yourself doing lots and lots of Sound Engineering and Post Production fixing of sounds, you are probably using junk sounds.

**Crate Digging>**

A science in itself, with origins from digging through crates of vinyl records in dusty stores and basements for that perfect sample. Pretty much a pass time but I thought you should know. It WAS fun. Now we can DIG everything, which is also awesome.

**Ableton Live Suite Packs>**

If you are an Ableton Live Suite user there are 100+ packs to keep you busy for years. They are integrated buttery smooth within the DAW browser. If you leverage the “User Library” you can add your own and organize until the cows come home. I lean toward the presets, vs. audio.

**Sound Sources>**

There are hundreds, these are the big 2 generics. Most important thing to know is your music will be as good as the sounds you start with. Good luck.

Splice Official

<https://youtube.com/@splice>

Loopcloud Official

<https://youtu.be/QpRszabPloU>

I Switched from Splice to Loopcloud Here’s Why

<https://youtu.be/gOwoBuQF-XQ>

**Sound Management>**

ADSR Sample Manager

<https://www.adsrsounds.com/product/software/adsr-sample-manager/>

Atlas 2

<https://algonaut.audio>

COSMOS

<https://www.waves.com/plugins/cosmos-sample-finder>

XO by XLN

<https://www.xlnaudio.com/products/xo>

## **Sound Design**

Sound design inspires me. Making sounds from scratch, usually with a synth (FM, Wavetable, Additive, Subtractive, etc…), based on the Sound Design Theory section above is the beginning to this journey. Even if you don’t make anything from scratch, sound design techniques are great to help you tweak or completely morph sounds, samples, presets, etc…into oblivion.

The current guide is focused on Drums, Kicks, Percussion, Basslines, Melodies, and FX. There are not many links to references for effects like Auto Filter, Clipping, Compression, Drum Buss, Envelope Follower, LFO, Limiter Saturator, etc..because you will 100% encounter these in the tutorials when designing the main sounds.

I have created sounds with all the tutorials referenced. There are a variety, and in some cases multiple for the same objective. I did this to see different ways people approached design and teaching. Once you find someone you like you can dig deeper until you develop your own style.

**General>**

Sound Design Secrets

<https://www.soundonsound.com/series/synth-secrets-sound-sound>

Become a better sound designer by Mordio

(This tutorial starts sleepy but it’s a nice “working” style tutorial)

<https://youtu.be/1ckgl5nReo0?si=ciDV4vWdUFiVThpC>

**Synthesizers>**

Complete Guide To Mastering Serum by Zen World

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbeHxoDJHDGL3UkHgbcLZ62>

Synthesis Playlist by Seed to Stage

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6-2QiGc1UtQFKHlhJDSOOV2vo5cZ9n90>

Serum Master Class - FOMO [$] basics

<https://kick-bass.teachable.com/courses/2199582/lectures/49486822>

WTF Even is FM Synthesis? (Using Ableton's Operator) by Naircol

<https://youtu.be/qTf5a0m7CM0?si=WeLuBCqMIlcBxYly>

How to Master Ableton's OPERATOR - Everything You Might Want to Know by Naircol

<https://youtu.be/10_NhKsxeow?si=vOJEoO9DfB2dCfIX>

Ableton WAVETABLE Tutorial - Everything Explained! By Janis Le Wolff

<https://youtu.be/YcANPEm858g?si=zrg0w3R6bIVz1G1v>

Operator Sound Design by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/3BU-WAQo4P8>

**Drums>**

Punchy Drums with Operator by Au5

<https://youtu.be/ra-mZivYchk>

Make Your Own Kick Drums - Punchy and Deep Kicks – Serum by In The Mix

<https://youtu.be/JhZU6JGvoHw>

Designing Drums with Operator & Macros by Subalias

<https://youtu.be/eNecpEBdi1I>

Making My First Kick for Techno in Operator by Zen World – Evolution of Sound

<https://youtu.be/X8TeQb7L9k4>

How to Create TR-808 Style Drums In Ableton by Kadenze

<https://youtu.be/rfeY0_k1ctk>

Kick Drum Design in Operator by Ableton Tips/Boris

<https://youtu.be/oUHYWJTGc4U>

Snare Sound Design in Operator by Ableton Tips/Boris

<https://youtu.be/B-397fsR7zc>

Claps Sound Design in Operator by Ableton Tips/Boris

<https://youtu.be/tfGH8RplJbo>

New Ableton Live Clap Generator by The Fellow Passenger

<https://youtu.be/iTa_vj1b1C8?si=5_794jGjv6_2L28U>

Hi Hat Sound Design in Operator

<https://youtu.be/wo5fubcpPbg>

Drums with Drum Synth

<https://youtu.be/1tHVPfg78aY>

Drums with Collision

<https://youtu.be/vAE9HF754Mw>

Ned Rush = Ableton Operator Drums

<https://youtu.be/ph2OxNGTjUA>

Ned Rush = Create and Randomize Drum Kits

<https://youtu.be/naukcLcegx0>

Drum Synthesis Basics Tutorial – Serum

<https://youtu.be/ysPQz4E3qBU>

Drum Synthesis in Xfer Serum <https://www.youtube.com/live/3zaL6re6MXU?feature=share>

Synthesizing Cymbals with Serum

<https://youtu.be/2pPfKlXMA7M>

**Tuning Kicks>**

Tuning Kicks: Why & When

<https://youtu.be/Qi4GBdaVsCI>

**Layering Drums>**

How to Layer Kicks by EDM Tips

<https://youtu.be/iExewYWJcFs>

Kick Techniques Every Music Producer Should Know by Zen World – Evolution of Sound

<https://youtu.be/YnNUqi9AFQQ>

**Bass>**

The Philosophy of Bass by FabFilter/DanWorral

<https://youtu.be/1xPO2Q2QHXk>

Top 6 Tech House Bass Sounds 2023 - Bass Sound Design by Bthelick

<https://youtu.be/HCYlO7U6cqw>

7 Most Used Bass Sounds in Electronic Music by Echo Soundworks

<https://youtu.be/UlvhjuMNiVQ>

Add movement and grit to your bass sounds by Underbelly

<https://youtu.be/3fExmMtMMzk?si=Vl9RHV5JyZQfa98L>

**FX & Ear Candy>**

How to make dope risers and fallers in Serum by Oversampled

<https://youtu.be/KgO2mQ7Kqi0?si=sBofgHJxh47K3iq3>

How to create amazing transition effects in Ableton by SYNTHO/ADR

<https://youtu.be/DIz67iurpXQ?si=lbob880m2fBCJu2o>

How to make uplifters by Zenworld – Evolution of Sound

<https://youtu.be/TkTmyhqTjQo?si=9hlfhODzPnk0F3wb>

How To Make White Noise Riser by Da Fresh

<https://youtu.be/nXkqvv0jPEk?si=7XO5Sn7gj_L-DcEt>

Ableton reverse reverb and delay FX by Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/way95UmC_Qs?si=lS_DENJxAxG2fnyX>

Vocal Reversed Reverb effect by Ableton Tips

<https://youtu.be/FlTWeAaqF-A?si=XHhf_ZrhBbR__XgG>

How to make nostalgic melody sounds by Underbelly

<https://youtube.com/shorts/JY3KsyKU8Xc?si=ijpuvoCHCorJK1vI>

Making Minimal Tech Glitches by Zen World Evolution of Sound

<https://youtu.be/L44puYMQA-Y>

**Envelope Followers>**

This Overlooked Ableton Feature Will Level Up Your Mix by In The Mix

<https://youtu.be/gWyk8gpse-E?si=_rcU9uCzcNuOgiw2>

Ableton Live Tutorial - Envelope Follower - Ned Rush

<https://youtu.be/5uWYH4R4QpE?si=BHr-fnRXBnTCijGQ>

Ableton Live's Most UNDERRATED Device (Shockingly Good!) by Pick Yourself

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-R8YR_FPXM&t=416s>

**Dithering>**

<https://youtu.be/2iDrbgfPjPY>

**Organic Sounds>**

Take Your Sound Design to the Next Level w/Sounds Designed by Nature

<https://youtu.be/CSxfiUYp6FU>

**Soundscapes>**

Create Lush Soundscapes with Grain Freeze

<https://youtu.be/vRKL_Br_LjM>

**Mathematics>**

My sister is the physicist, but I didn’t fall far from the tree on interest. While math runs through all of music, these are some of my favorite ways to experience it’s effects.

Max For Live Pack Inspired By Nature | Physics-Based Generative MIDI

<https://www.youtube.com/live/cth-e1nX4f0?si=2T_r8HD1S7_iA2l3>

Dillon Baston also has a bunch of Physics and Math Based fun. FYI, probably one of the most non-traditional websites, but trust me, pure gold.

Official Site: <https://dillonbastan.com/>

Official Store: <https://dillonbastan.com/store/index.php>

**Making Sound Packs>**

Making a Sample Pack by Production Music Live

<https://www.productionmusiclive.com/products/how-to-make-a-sample-pack?_pos=1&_sid=cef7d76be&_ss=r>

## **Stem Splitting**

Ableton Tutorial: 3 Ways to extract vocals and more from full songs

<https://youtu.be/Pkd9D4uxGYA>

Audionamix X-Trax Stems

<https://audionamix.com/xtrax-stems/>

## **Generative Music**

Generative Music Technics in Ableton by The Fellow Passenger

<https://youtu.be/44VkOYnsl6s>

Making Acid Lines with Generative MaxForLive Device Sting by 343 Labs/John Selway

<https://youtu.be/DjWcP2CHXrk>

Making Ambient Music with Generative MaxForLive Sequencer Tombola by 343 Labs/John Selway

<https://youtu.be/2bYEP8Y0KeY>

GENerate Unlimited Sounds in Ableton Live by ELPHNT

<https://youtu.be/90Mpt-FPBFE>

Sequence Infinite Patterns with MDD\_Snake by ELPHNT

<https://youtu.be/v2_mdrz9XrU>

Write Chords Automatically by Ableton Tips

<https://youtu.be/EczfcMt0dFk>

Generate Chord Progressions with the Norman Chord Generator by ELPHNT

<https://youtu.be/_bVM3WwxfJg>

Using Max For Live’s Mono Sequencer to Generate Grooves by 343 Labs/John Selway

<https://youtu.be/VHFdPN7kiIs>

## **Artificial Intelligence**

Chord Chord

<https://chordchord.com>

MusicFy

<https://musicfy.lol/>

# **CREATE MUSIC**

**My Flow>**

Busses; Low End, Percussion, Melodies, Vocals, FX

Sounds; Create/Select, use/pick Key/Scale

Compose; Sequence, Shape, Layer

Arrange; Clips, Options, Scenes, Automation

Pre-Mix; Listen, Set Goals for Balance, Enhance, Glue, Fix

Mix; EQ, Compression, Reverb, Delay, Go Bananas

Mixdown; Bathroom Test, Arrangement View, Bounce

Mastering; Send it;)

## **Writing**

Ableton Live Session View is where it’s at for me. If you aren’t familiar, it’s a non linear column and row approach to making music. Think Spreadsheet. Being able to mix and match all the clips results in all sorts of magic I probably would not otherwise think of. I also use Ableton Note sometimes, which is the only mobile app I use for music production. Note is basically same thing as the Ableton Session view on an iPad.

**Considerations>**

Contrast, Dynamics, Transitions, Moments, Unique Elements, Cohesive Sounds, Minimize Looping, create Tension/Release, think like a DJ.

**General>**

Ableton Session View Tutorial

<https://youtu.be/XK1LleuiZJ4>

How I use Ableton Live for Songwriting

<https://youtu.be/FqnQevBheNU>

Why You Should Be Using Session View in Ableton Live

<https://youtu.be/eqltKO1rWvQ>

When you should use Session/Arrangement view

<https://youtu.be/rVeL_tkIFHo>

The BEST Way to Arrange Your Tracks - Ableton Session View Tutorial

<https://youtu.be/XK1LleuiZJ4>

Learn Live Session View

<https://youtu.be/qv_N3plJYx4>

Session View Tips

<https://youtu.be/Si5_mropWnA>

Ableton Follow Actions In Session View

<https://youtu.be/3n1hahB1Y7E>

Ableton Scene Follow Actions

<https://youtu.be/vCD7wB4ulyw>

Why Your Tech House Doesn’t Sound Like Westend, Noizu and Mau P

<https://youtu.be/WEVhjNcQ0Fk>

Arrangement Tips to Support Your Drops

<https://youtu.be/QxHtWJO3I98>

**Keys & Scales>**

Get familiar with the ones used most in music you like and work from there. If you have an element, like a vocal, sample or some remix stems to work around, then work from there. When I start from scratch it’s usually Minor or Phrygian, Dorian & Mixolydian are cool options as well. You (and many) can do this by ear, either way, getting it right will set the mood and set your song up for success across the audio spectrum.

Learn Live 11: Keys and Scales

<https://youtu.be/IY7a7dXVmWE>

EDM Music Theory Pt. 1: What’s the Difference is Scale and Key

<https://youtu.be/ijYZodD6huc>

KeyFinder for Live

<https://youtu.be/2iJwObjv7ms>

Tuning>

All About Ableton Audio Effects – Tuner

<https://youtu.be/3kSODbF5Uy4>

Using Ableton Lives Tuner Device

<https://youtu.be/nqJv66T7GYw>

Ableton Microtuner

<https://youtu.be/DHoTKeOYkd0>

**Chords>**

Chord Progression Cheat Codes

<https://youtu.be/ZG7Hc8McUa4>

6 Chord Progressions in the Dorian Mode

<https://youtu.be/6OSDbarIiYs>

How To Make Chord Progressions

[https://youtu.be/pGbsnHls8Jc](https://youtu.be/pGbsnHls8Jc%20)

10 Chord Layering Technics

<https://youtu.be/n7NTGFYR1Tg>

3 Levels of Chords

<https://youtu.be/Qqlu5RT4gv4>

**Melody & Harmony>**

What is Melody & Harmony

<https://youtu.be/xugt0hF6CNs>

3 Simple Rules for Melodies

<https://youtu.be/rXJka9Rb0Bo>

The Magic Behind Writing Melodies

<https://youtu.be/MqvnGjAVpIA>

Creating Techno Melodies Using Abletons Microtuner

<https://youtu.be/aXuuSuqHNqo>

How to Create Chords Automatically with Ableton Live

<https://youtu.be/gYbeLbNaBfg>

**Sequencing>**

How To Create Complex Melodies With Euclidean Sequencer Pro In Ableton Live

<https://youtu.be/orh9TtREa0w>

Create Complex MIDI Patterns with Ableton

<https://youtu.be/eloNhh1zG6c>

Ableton Live: Generate Unlimited Chords, Beats, Melody and Bass Part 1 <https://youtu.be/H7MweBlNq0c>

Ableton Live: Generate Unlimited Chords, Beats, Melody and Bass Part 1 <https://youtu.be/H7MweBlNq0c>

**Drums>**

Whatever genre you are working on, the Drums are likely going to make or break it. Once you have good sounds, the arrangement will set the tone for everything else to fall in place, good luck 🍀.

3 Drum Patterns All Producers Should Know

<https://youtu.be/x2FJiQuzSas>

How to Make Drum Patterns

<https://youtu.be/zOVSOvsTXto>

House Drums - a Different Kind of Tutorial (Placement, Accent, Shape, Tone, Role)

<https://youtu.be/qN6gIwD5E9Q>

Three types of House Drum Grooves

<https://youtu.be/y-hQl9Tt3Bc>

House Drum Technics that will Change Your Life

<https://youtu.be/TNLJWifjUb8>

Every Ableton User Needs To Know These Drum Rack Tips <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hg97rz4p2cw>

Split Drum Rack Sounds to Individual Clips

<https://youtu.be/0DO5FjpcG0E>

How to Program Shakers

<https://youtu.be/rOM502UvRBM>

How to Make a Better Shaker

<https://youtu.be/bi2TIF7IA3s>

How to Transpose Samples & Instruments in a Drum Rack

<https://youtu.be/noGYqDp269I>

**Bass>**

Start with simple sine, then preset surf or design.

How to Make Rolling Basslines for Tech House

<https://youtu.be/aT5ptnp1K7E>

Make Tech House Bass Grooves like the Pros

<https://youtu.be/I9QYLZduDKc>

**More Fun>**

Mistakes Music Producers Must Stop Making

<https://youtu.be/MvnKoTLW6b8>

## **Arrangement**

After writing and arranging in Session View, I bounce my clips to the Arrangement View where fine tuning can take place. I find it easier to use this approach for a linear view of the complete song, automation, etc.

Finish it all, bounce stems for mixing…

## **Mixing**

**My Flow>**

Pre-Mix;

Mix Busses;

Goals; Balance, Glue, Enhance, Fix

**Basics>**

Mixing Start to Finish

<https://youtu.be/yRzMby4PXzc>

BEDA, 4 Main Elements

<https://youtu.be/QSvdhuu2orQ>

Fixing Muddy Mixes by In The Mix

<https://youtu.be/o6MOAIXIZ5w?si=jdKp3cdBbSoxW1p7>

**Listening>**

Room Calibration

<https://youtu.be/-5ChX9MwWwA>

Can You Mix in Headphones: Closed vs. Open Back for the Best Sound <https://youtu.be/neYr0u4iq0Q>

More Headphones, Seed to Stage

<https://youtu.be/Xx_1y0fVGmE>

Is Music Production Damaging Your Hearing

<https://youtu.be/7Yv2HmE-eG8>

**Acoustics>**

Building a Mixing and Mastering Studio Part 1

<https://youtu.be/wWuQYlunSv0>

Building a Mixing and Mastering Studio Part 2

<https://youtu.be/5VrG2K_E7qI>

Building a Mixing and Mastering Studio Part 3

<https://youtu.be/Q7mLuJHUE54>

Acoustic Treatment How to Build a Home Studio

<https://youtu.be/yrHBCCQT3gs>

Rock wool or Fiberglass for DIY Panels

<https://youtu.be/_dH4H57UsJU>

How to Make Your Own Acoustic Panels

<https://youtu.be/HO7aeraKLsM>

**Gain Staging>**

How to Get a Perfect -6dB Mixdown with Gainstaging

<https://youtu.be/nM3cjFmjOi0>

HOW TO Mastering Levels & Gain Staging

<https://youtu.be/5XOXaxI3PGU>

**Dynamics>**

Multi-Band Dynamics, OTT for more than Brostep

<https://youtu.be/84oPAVA-5-k>

**Drums>**

Tuning Kicks Why and When | Techno House Deep Dance Music

<https://youtu.be/Qi4GBdaVsCI>

Tuning Kicks Part 2 | 10 Tracks and Styles Breakdown

<https://youtu.be/Cph2X4aum4U>

18 Game Changing Ableton Live Drum Rack Tips

<https://youtu.be/MJ8fUDoHAQ8>

Every Ableton User Needs to Know these Drum Rack Tips

<https://youtu.be/hg97rz4p2cw>

How Loud Should My Drums Be?

<https://youtu.be/lrU_GWJrM6Y>

**Bass>**

The Philosophy of Bass

<https://youtu.be/1xPO2Q2QHXk>

How I Process/Mix House Bass

<https://youtu.be/suXj2OICbaA>

**Percussion>**

**Vocals>**

**FX>**

**EQ>**

EQ Masterclass

<https://youtu.be/mk-bbzNkeJc>

How to Hear EQ

<https://youtu.be/03S8c-VDiVY>

What Type of EQ Should I use?

<https://youtu.be/qrXXNKhjBE8>

Mid/Side Processing with Ableton EQ 8

<https://youtu.be/8nUGoFmBYrw>

**Compression>**

How to Use Compression [10 Hrs]

<https://youtu.be/ksJRgK3viMc>

Compressor Masterclass

<https://youtu.be/SUd4U87EcDo>

How to Use Compression

<https://youtu.be/yi0J9JsRdI4>

How to glue your kick and tech house bass together

<https://youtu.be/DsxJcDo2lVc>

**Sidechain>**

Sidechain Compression Masterclass

<https://youtu.be/r8BWhS8gwio>

How to Sidechain properly

<https://youtu.be/5mzo5QSccUM>

Ableton Live: Everything About Sidechains

<https://youtu.be/fOlOAqgBNM0>

How to Sidechain Everything in Ableton Live

<https://youtu.be/gej-sIZDTVU>

Quick Sidechain Pumping Effect with Ableton Auto Pan

<https://youtu.be/taWkXWroPio>

**Reverb>**

What You Don’t Know About Reverb - Reverb Masterclass

<https://youtu.be/YA4rZgq0RaI>

Using Abletons Reverb - You Suck at Producing

<https://youtu.be/r4zTfXkFb6I>

Everything About Reverb Explained Very Fast

<https://youtu.be/ml5B79roLm0>

**Delay>**

Delay Masterclass

<https://youtu.be/wjzowK7iurc>

A guide to the Ableton Delay

<https://youtu.be/o1ETYMXCBhE>

Ableton Delay Tricks

<https://youtu.be/RLKspUOFrgs>

Get Creative with 6 Creative Uses For Abletons Delays

<https://youtu.be/VSGYqvV4bTg>

Why does no one talk about delay this way?

<https://youtu.be/LtUGdkn1_Fw>

Drive>

**Saturation>**

Beginners Guide to Saturation

<https://youtu.be/NO2OZ3UTy2k>

Mixing with Saturation

<https://youtu.be/n6ew5mMN2pQ>

How to Use the Ableton Saturator

<https://youtu.be/x3RD2-2h8_s>

**Tape>**

TAPE: A LoFi Tape Effect for Ableton Live

<https://youtu.be/8MCu_qru8FI>

**Bus Processing>**

Beginners Guide to Bus Processing

<https://youtu.be/P_gnekvbMt8>

Mix Bus Processing

<https://youtu.be/X8B2esjYAWM>

Mix Busses in Ableton for Quick FX and Stems

<https://youtu.be/eS-G6dzUz8Y>

**Mid/Side Processing>**

What is Mid/Side Processing

<https://www.masteringthemix.com/blogs/learn/everything-you-need-to-know-about-mid-side-processing>

Mid/Side EQ and Utility Mode in Ableton Live

<https://noisegate.com.au/mid-side-m-s-eq-and-utility-mode-in-ableton-live-explained/>

How to mix in stereo without sucking in mono (3 parts)

<https://youtu.be/spaqBr-cCFw>

You Suck at Producing: Stereo Width

<https://youtu.be/zjRTE41iu7s>

Ableton Stereo Width Effect Rack

<https://youtu.be/oH28X5ORKHo>

Mid/Side Processing with Ableton EQ8

<https://youtu.be/8nUGoFmBYrw>

Mid/Side EQ Simplified - A Powerful Tool For Stereo Mixing

<https://youtu.be/kEiILPm1VSc>

Ableton Mixdown Tutorial - Mid/Side Processing

<https://youtu.be/BfiZk75FtRw>

**Limiting>**

Limiter Masterclass

<https://youtu.be/LZxglknf3xA>

Toss one on the Master to keep from blowing anything up during trial and error.

**Spectrum Analysis>**

How to Mix with a Spectrum Analyzer - SPAN Tutorial

<https://youtu.be/Enj39FWxHJ4>

How to Improve Your Mix Visually with Voxengo SPAN

<https://youtu.be/wSizHvzC4Yg>

Mixing with Your Eyes: Voxengo SPAN Settings

<https://youtu.be/iZrWMv02tlA>

## **Mastering**

**Traditional Mastering>**

How to Master Your Music in 5 Steps

<https://youtu.be/h-QCQiOkufc>

Mastering Start to Finish

<https://youtu.be/ZHXD-BlKyL8>

How I Master My Tech House Tracks

<https://youtu.be/sGfwQlDEhJk>

Mastering in the Box w/Ableton by Zeitgeist Mastering $

[Complete Ableton Live Mastering Course](https://www.producertech.com/software-courses/ableton-live/17/mastering-in-the-box-with-ableton-live)

Stem Mastering a members track - Anatta $

<https://kick-bass.teachable.com/courses/2262743/lectures/49723956>

Mastering Only in Ableton

<https://youtu.be/HHNJaygm_dI>

The Problem With Online Mastering Tutorials

<https://youtu.be/-wxD_w8ZdOU>

**Automatic Mastering>**

Well, probably more like automated…not sure how much AI is in there.

Real Mastering vs. Instant Mastering

<https://youtu.be/NA3fnMCx378>

LANDR

<https://www.landr.com>

Aria

<https://ariamastering.com/en>

**Loudness>**

10 tips for Louder Masters

<https://youtu.be/YOtvxXaoGeA>

**LUFS>**

Using Youlean Loudness Meter:

Based on 3 House/Tech House Tracks

Middle is target, High to dynamic/Low to compressed

Short Term; 5/10 LUFS

Integrated; 5/10 LUFS

Loudness Range; 5/10 LU

Realtime Dynamics; 5/10 LU

Avg. Dynamics, 5/10 LU

Noise Floor Removal>

<https://remotify.io/background-noise-reduction-ableton-live#:~:text=Go%20to%20'Effect'%20and%20',to%20preview%20your%20ideal%20recording>

**Dithering>**

WTF is Dithering?

<https://youtu.be/2iDrbgfPjPY>

# **TOOLS**

Physics of Music Notes - Tuning

<https://pages.mtu.edu/~suits/notefreqs.html>

Interactive Circle of Fifths

<https://randscullard.com/CircleOfFifths/>

Interactive Circle of Fifths User Guide

<https://randscullard.com/CircleOfFifths/UserGuide.htm>

**Notes>**

Tuning Frequencies

<https://pages.mtu.edu/~suits/notefreqs.html>

E is a great key for BASS

Keys/Scales/Chords/Progressions>

Build Chords w/ “Press a white key, skip a white key”

[FeelYourSound.com](http://FeelYourSound.com) provides infographics on most common chords.

E Minor Big List of Chords

<https://feelyoursound.com/scale-chords/e-minor/>

E Dorian Big List of Chords

<https://feelyoursound.com/scale-chords/e-dorian/>

E Phrygian Big List of Chords

<https://feelyoursound.com/scale-chords/e-phrygian-dominant/>

All Primary Chords in Major and Minor Keys

<https://www.musictheoryacademy.com/understanding-music/primary-chords/>

BPM/Note/MS Converter

<http://www.sengpielaudio.com/calculator-bpmtempotime.htm>

Compression Vizualizer

<https://codepen.io/animalsnacks/full/VRweeb>

# **GENRES**

This section is a list of tutorials specific to genres. They may have been used in other sections above by topic.

## **House Music**

**Live Streams>**

Just start with these by Chris Lake from the COVID era:

Chris Lake (Production Stream - Josement - All Night Alone Edit Breakdown) Twitch Stream

<https://youtu.be/apl3bVaGcXw?si=VN7jD6bpiZbkIk7z>

Chris Lake Breaks Down a Tech House Bomb with Anna Lunoe | Red Bull Remix Lab

<https://youtu.be/DKmLkEQVSmI?si=3INY0kk1uH0wD01g>

**Courses>**

How To Make House Music: An Easy Guide 2023

<https://www.edmprod.com/how-to-make-house-music/>

Start to Finish with Ellis moss @ Toolroom Academy [$]

<https://toolroomacademy.com/programmes/on-demand/ellis-moss-track-from-scratch>

Start to Finish Tech House

<https://www.edmtips.com/products/start-to-finish-tech-house/sp1/>

Producing Tech House [$]

<https://www.groove3.com/tutorials/Producing-Tech-House>

Tech House Masterclass - Start to Finish with Fab Massimo

<https://www.productionmusiclive.com/collections/courses/products/tech-house-masterclass-start-to-finish-with-fab-massimo>

Making Tech House with Stock Ableton

<https://youtu.be/fPDe0S1z8bI>

**Tutorials>**

How To Make THE BEST Tech House Basslines

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Usxriq5Uh0>

How To Make Chord Stabs for Minimal/Tech House

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A6MceJTaRVo>

How To Make Tech House like Chris Lake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KYwGHBciUTU>

How To Make FX for Tech House

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJr2PTwc79k>

HOW TO TECH HOUSE (Acraze, Fisher, Diplo)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgVnEKSFSeA>

The Best Way To Make a Tech House Sub?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhKWCaRlW-U>

HOW TO Dirtybird 808 Basslines

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRx4--Sfds4&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=1>

5 Ways To Improve Your Bassline

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCxw49p2zwc&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=3>

HOW TO Fisher Losing it Bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5hV3UkgfmHw&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=4>

The Art of The House Build Up

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URSTj6bez2o&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=5>

Dirtybird Track Start To Finish 1 - 5

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgpRhkNXkJE&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=14>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_fi7NLPxR4&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=15>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=muxW_qUFdsg&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=16>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNcQexCNIBI&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=17>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvfcWWpoIM&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=18>

1 Simple Tip To Add Movement To Your Sub-Bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MiPaUw7il5s&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=21>

5 Tips For Tech-House Producers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmV2izBvcBs&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=26>

1 EQ Technique For Your Tech-House Kick & Bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LylsjxmHb8&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=29>

The Tech House Sub Bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVz_fntrAuQ&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=33>

How To Tech House Vocals

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBkcafzhARY&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=37>

How To Wide Tech House Bass Like Chris Lake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-9mlFchr5U&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=49>

How To Glue Your Kick and Tech House Bass Together

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsxJcDo2lVc&list=PLrqs7vRFQ4rbPk_LWgDFKCWrbZn-Cm4En&index=61>

Why Your Tech House Doesn't Sound Like Westend, Noizu & Mau P

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEVhjNcQ0Fk>

Top 6 Tech House Bass Sounds 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCYlO7U6cqw>

How To Make Tech House Like A GANGSTA (in 5 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqKfkrYFfv8>

How To Make Tech House In 5 Minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTOmCfRDAGc>

How To Make Tech House - Analyzing A Reference

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AIiZrn3VJ80>

How To Make Rolling Basslines For Tech House

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aT5ptnp1K7E>

How To Make Tech House Like The Pros

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eCK7wwSGxY&list=PLVdIxS3L84N3esQHBqT9z9MvQEBpERype&index=2>

How To Make Tech House Percussion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zIBi_PEkDA&list=PLVdIxS3L84N3esQHBqT9z9MvQEBpERype&index=1>

# **VISUALS**

**My Flow>**

I produce all my visuals primarily with Ableton Live, Blender, Photoshop, Screenflow, Adobe Premiere & After Effects, and QuickTime.

## **Adobe Creative Suite Products**

**Adobe Photoshop>**

**Adobe Illustrator>**

**Adobe Premiere>**

My go to DVW for finalizing a video. Most of the other products do cool things, but they do not all output finished video. Premiere is great for many things, but is extra strong at complex editing and rendering with presets and controls for online formats where resolution, file type, and loudness (LUFS) can be impacted greatly if you just leave it to the platform to convert.

Ultimate Premiere Pro Basics

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuz8v_brMXJbIAa0YtBIU75tQB8-zm3s4&si=zRcXJlgHxulvV4dL>

**Adobe After Effects>**

VFX suite with ridiculous level of detailed control, including related tools for music waveform and spectrum analysis as well as key framing and animation pegged to audio file characteristics.

Audio Waveform + Audio Spectrum (After Effects)

<https://youtu.be/1MCQ2JvExyE?si=uA423garZu00skY5>

How to create reactive audio waveform spectrum effects in adobe after effects

<https://youtu.be/iJimO9Oftqo?si=U0Qauq-WyG2C8han>

4 audio spectrum visualizer techniques in after effects

<https://youtu.be/GCLKPmyXGv0?si=VDbX4j7GoHLe6RUk>

How to make anything REACT to music and audio in Adobe After Effects

<https://youtu.be/ZmmTA9N5ySw?si=gJPTRXRsKMUK3rQx>

Make anything react to audio in after effects

<https://youtu.be/I7e2xKKrKXU?si=25Ay5kp8aE4GQZlr>

Ableton Live native M4L and Plugin products:

## **Ableton Live**

Yes, Ableton itself can handle video editing, processing and rendering natively. It can do even more cool stuff with max for live and 3rd party tools. The best part of all of it is you can work in the familiar Ableton Live interface, channel and device UI/UX.

**Aesthetic Candy>**

<https://youtube.com/@aestheticcandy>

**Amazing Max Stuff>**

Dude goes deep with Max and Max for Live. Also under programming.

<https://youtube.com/@AmazingMaxStuff>

**EBOSuite>**

This one and VideoSync seem to be the most “pro” products in this category. IE, you pay, they work, and have great support.

[EboSuite – Turn Ableton Live into an audio-visual production suite](https://www.ebosuite.com/)

**Gans Graf>**

A simple, ridiculously quirky and fun way to go down the Ableton M4L visuals rabbit hole.

<https://www.ableton.com/en/blog/ganz-graf-futuristic-visuals-max-live/>

**VideoSync>**

[Showsync | Tools for synchronised live shows](https://www.showsync.com/)

**T3xt2r>**

Quirky suite of modular devices. I’ve used these for a lot of wacky effects, and sometimes just getting baked and watching my tunes on the ceiling.

[T3X2R – Visualize Your Audio](https://www.t3x2r.com/)

**Zwobot>**

Bizarre name, bizarre product. Awesome for live visuals.

<https://www.zwobotmax.com>

ZwoBot in Ableton Tutorials

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOfZXJZjnzefefLm3rYJF8lS1B4RIf-IH>

## **Stand Alone & Integrated Live Performance products**

**Blender>**

Super powerful, free, modeling, animation, and editing pipeline software. Massive online community of creators and content to learn from. Has some cool tools for making pro visualizers on a budget.

**Resolume>**

Stand-alone, for VJs. Tons of stock visuals and cool tools for mixing video live. I don’t use this product but I would if I was a VJ or wanted to mix music videos.

[Resolume VJ Software & Media Server - Resolume](https://resolume.com/)

**Synesthesia Live>**

No DAW required, just play music and get cool shit out of it. I use this for some bizarre react to music visuals. You could use this to mix in with other visual mixing software.

[Synesthesia - Live Music Visualizer - VJ Software](http://synesthesia.live/)

**Touch Designer>**

The big daddy of live visuals. Super steep learning curve. I only use it for presets and react to music projects that the online community give away as tutorials. There is a free full feared version and it has an Ableton Link/integration.

## **iPhone Apps for Visuals**

Beatleap by Light Tricks

[**https://apps.apple.com/us/app/beatleap-by-lightricks/id1516149480**](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/beatleap-by-lightricks/id1516149480)

Beatsync Maker

Wacky app from Roland

[**https://apps.apple.com/us/app/beat-sync-maker/id1434787464**](https://apps.apple.com/us/app/beat-sync-maker/id1434787464)

Luminant Music

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/luminant-music-player/id1498160851>

Staella

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/staella-music-visualizer-vj/id1370376584>

Spectrum

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/spectrum-music-visualizer/id1198408205>

Subflow

Personal favorite in this group

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/subflow/id1570176211>

## **Live Streaming & Tutorials Creation:**

**OBS>**

**Screenflow>**

I like it for flexibility in capturing multi cam, multi mic streams as separate feeds and making tutorials with insets and flyovers and stuff.

<https://www.telestream.net/screenflow/overview.htm>

**Streamyard>**

**Wirecast>**

**YouTube>**

**Zoom>**

Utilities:

**QuickTime>**

Super, free, hi-fi, multi cam, multi mic recorder app for Mac.

**Siphon Recorder>**

Must have for recording live visual feeds from various products above many of which only playback on real time, vs. having a rendering mode.

<https://syphon.github.io/recorder>

# **CODE**

## **Programming**

Mostly related to Ableton Live devices and MaxForLive.

**Amazing Max Stuff>**

Rabbit hole for MaxForLive Vizzie programming

<https://youtube.com/@AmazingMaxStuff>

**Cycling 74/MaxForLive>**

The native programming environment for Ableton. Don’t say I didn’t warn you 😎🖤🙌🍭🐘. [Cycling '74](https://cycling74.com/)

<https://youtube.com/@cycling74com>

## **Long Reads**

Tangential books and texts on music I found comprehensive and interesting, albeit windy. Choose your own adventure.

[Chapter 1: Perspectives and Approaches – Music and the Child](https://milnepublishing.geneseo.edu/music-and-the-child/chapter/chapter-1/)

[“1. Music Fundamentals” in “Understanding Music: Past and Present” on OpenALG](https://alg.manifoldapp.org/read/understanding-music-past-and-present/section/f3cceec7-fb3a-4c1a-8653-d7150a01739d)

# **THE STUDIO**

## **Your Studio**

You literally need a laptop, a DAW, and headphones.

It is critically important to understand what you are going to do in your studio. Are you a beginner? Are you a DJ always travelling? Do you want to record live instruments? Are you planning to be a mixing or mastering engineer?

Ask yourself, is it my bedroom? Is it a creative space, content creation space, professional space, etc…

If you are not sure, then my guess is you want to write music, arrange it, and then ultimately hand it off for feedback, revision and then mix down and mastering. To do this, you simply do not need anything other than the best laptop, DAW and headphones you can buy.

The new Macbook M series computers have super high quality D/A converters, so if you are going to wear headphones and produce (which I highly recommend) you do not need an external audio card. Mixing in headphones will force you to always have the same listening environment, take breaks, and of course free you up to travel the world and work where you are inspired and more in the moment.

Home Studio Essentials (<https://youtu.be/3SStBQbfsIs>)

## **My Studiyo**

OK, all that said, here is what I do.

I have an M2 Macbook pro, Ableton Live Suite and Steven Slate VSX Headphones. This is ALL I need to make anything I have made in the last 5 years.

That said, I also have a nice creative studio. When I am home, I like to have an inspiring, cozy space with LED lights and cool stuff I enjoy using for content creation and other shenanigans. But I do not need any of this to make music. It’s just because I enjoy it.

Below is a full list of all the essential and non-essential things in my studiyo.

**Computer>**

**Digital Audio Workstation (DAW)>**

Ableton Live Suite 11>

Instruments>

Effects>

Plugins>

Template>

**Headphones>**

VSX

AKG

Sony

Sensaphonics

**Microphones>**

Sure SM58

Yeti Blue

<https://thehomerecordings.com/blue-yeti-vs-shure-sm58-differences/>

Ableton Push>

Ableton Push 3 Beat Creation (<https://youtu.be/DEbEVVQ56BI>)

Learn Push 3 (<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoh4MB-kbBmK4p18mM4KA4l9toEfU3n6k>)

Novation Launchpad>

Novation Launchpad X Finger Drumming (<https://youtu.be/nkml4WQFq_w>)

DJ TechTools MIDI Fighter 3D>

Main Website ([Midi Fighter](https://www.midifighter.com/))

MIDI Fighter 3D Demo (<https://youtu.be/_bSh10jvHEQ>)

Moog Sub37>

Moog Minotaur>

Mooger Foogers>

**Pedals>**

Every noob tech house producer should know this (<https://youtu.be/9bw2ndVQNp0>)

**Turntables>**

**Mixers>**

**Controllers>**

**Furniture>**

Desk

Chair

Keyboard tray

**Camera Rigging>**

jusmo LS15 Desk Overhead Camera Mount Rig Top-Down Shots, Professional Aluminum Tabletop Multi-Device Mount Platform for Product Photography/Video Making/Picture Taking/Live Stream and More https://a.co/d/imyfJAb

**Room Treatment**

My studio acoustics are average. I use it for general purpose content creation as well as making music. Appearance and vibe are important to creativity so these are balanced with ergonomics and function. I write, arrange and pre-mix music in my studio with headphones and speakers. I mix and master in headphones. Headphones enable me to do most anything from anywhere.

## **Performance Issues**

Optimizing Ableton for M1 Macs: Simple Fix for Audio Dropout Issues

<https://youtu.be/5eAJz3RVL44?si=cH_zdrGv-aK4dAV3>

# **DJ-ING & PERFOMANCE**

Humor me for a moment…

I have DJ’d or performed in just about every place you can think of. A 747 Jet and a Unicorn at Burning Man, Festivals in Canada, Clubs in Russia, Candy Stores in New York city, frat parties in Florida, a shopping mall in New Jersey, a clandestine rave in Southern India and the list goes on, including a Rodeo. I’ve toured the USA 2X, been on the Red Bull Night Out tour and played the open format circuit in NYC bars and clubs.

Regardless of all of this, the fundamentals are the same and very much like producing music. If you aren’t having fun, you aren’t going to do it very long. So find something you love, and get started.

## **Getting Started**

How to DJ for Beginners (2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzjasvooSG8>

How to DJ For Beginners by Alison Wonderland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzg8OPPKVdM&t=435s>

How to Scratch

There is no better person than Q-bert to get you on your way

<https://artistworks.com/skratch-lessons-dj-qbert>

## **DJ Technology Sources**

DJ City, been around a minute

<https://www.youtube.com/@DJcityTV>

Digital DJ Tips, been around a minute and a half

<https://www.youtube.com/@digitaldjtips>

## **Mixing Tools**

I mix on CDJ’s with USB for live shows. I use Ableton Live and DJ.Studio for studio mixes. I love mixing on Turntables, so in my StudiYo I have Technics 1200’s w/Phase DJ and Rekordbox plus a basic Omnitronic TRM-202 rotary mixer for when I’m feeling frisky.

Beyond that for professional uses, I also have explored a bunch of other ways to mix.

**Ableton Live**

Yes you can DJ live w/Ableton using 2+ channels and the crossfader. Here is a trailer for the course I used to learn way back. I made a mobile rig with an APC and DJ’d this way for a summer. Fun, but complicated to me, vs. the 1’s and 2’s. Learned a lot;)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_0bwFnkZGKM>

**Djay by Algoriddim**

A lot of people like this, I’ve only used it goofing around at home or on planes. The current version has a Neural tool, its pretty fun.

<https://www.youtube.com/@AlgoriddimOfficial>

**DJ.Studio**

I picked this up toward the end of 2023 while looking for a way to improve my studio mix workflow. Hands down the best option. Beginner or Advanced, this thing is a great workflow improvement for exploring new mixes, learning transitions, and other aspects of mixing that you can perform live on standard DJ equipment.

[**https://www.youtube.com/@djstudioapp**](https://www.youtube.com/@djstudioapp)

**Virtual DJ**

[**https://www.youtube.com/@virtualdjofficial**](https://www.youtube.com/@virtualdjofficial)

# **HEARING HEALTH**

If you can’t hear, you can’t produce or DJ and most other things in life will also be affected. If you want to have a long career and live to hear about it, here are a few thoughts on hearing protection.

## **Exposure Levels**

At least get a simple Decibel app and understand the levels that are in your studio, clubs and other places where you are around noise. Look at the basic OSHA sound level charts and get a feel for the basic exposure levels and associated time limits.

## **Hearing Exams**

Get a hearing exam every few years. It is easy to tag it on to an annual health checkup. This can be a baseline for your hearing and any issues. You can also work with the audiologist to get molds made for custom ear plugs.

## **Custom Ear Plugs**

If you are serious about producing music and you are in commonly in areas with more than 80dB sound levels or elevated sound levels for extended periods of time, get them.

# **MUSIC BUSINESS**

## **The Music Industry**

I have always worked outside and inside of the music business. I am an engineer by education. When I was in university, I took music business courses and went to my share of music seminars and conferences to tell me how to “make it”. I never saw a path in the music industry or met any people that wowed me and led me to believe I would be as happy as being an entrepreneur and choosing my own adventure. This was and remains a personal choice for me, and if I can offer any advice, it is to find the balance that is right for you…

That said, it is critically important to understand the difference between making music and the music business. Both sides of the coin can be amazing and in some cases a highly lucrative experience. There is nothing wrong with making money, being almost famous, famous, or a pop star. There is also nothing wrong with being a “nobody” that loves the music they make, which has nothing to do with the business of music.

Almost everything in the industry has been set up to rank or categorize art, that does not want to be ranked or categorized. Genres, top lists, charts, fan polls, ticket sales, social media followings, etc…are all created to draw attention to what they want to sell you, also known as marketing. Remember, none of this existed when humans started making music and none of this has anything to do with the origins of why people make music. It’s fine, but there is a difference.

In life, people pretty much fit into the same few categories no matter what business or country they are in. In music business, there is no shortage of people that talk about the grind, and how you have to outwork everyone. There is also no shortage of people that literally made one tune on a laptop and “skipped the line” to business success. Nothing wrong with either, but don’t let anyone convince that you need to be miserable, homeless and missing out on life. These are just personality types, and they are working that strength to gain their own following. Also fine, just know the difference and remember what you are about.

In addition, many of the artists you and I are inspired by, that have “made it” in the industry, have had professional careers as CPAs, Lawyers, Engineers, etc…even business degrees working management jobs in the “Industry”. Many also have industry pedigree, or other things working for them that you are likely not aware of. Many artists that have made money have invested in tech companies, real estate, crypto, and the stock market, where they really made their fortunes. Again, nothing to do with being an artist. All good, just keep the “wow” factor it in check.

If you are a beginner, I can not stress how important it is for you to separate these two things as soon as possible and always keep them in check. Making music is a creative endeavor. There is no right or wrong, only what makes you feel good at whatever stage you are at in your journey. There is no reason to ever feel bad about making music or who else likes it or any other judgement of your work. In fact, many of the most famous artists of our time, got famous doing something unrelated to the current industry norm at that time.

So be honest with yourself, do you want to be an artist, or do you want to work in the Music Business. They are totally different things and knowing this will help you make a lot of decisions.

## **Business Structure**

This is a basic outline for how I structure Business to organize roles, responsibilities, process workflow and documentation.

Management>

Business Development>

Marketing

Campaigns

Design

Advertising

Social Media

Sales

Operations>

Agreements

Touring

Events

Studio

Business Administration>

Financial

Budgeting

Accounting

Taxes

Legal

R&D>

Studiyo

## **The Business of YOU**

**Starting Your Own Label**

A label is basically a legal business you can use for all of your business activities. You can use it to self release music, throw parties, sell merch, learn to pay your taxes, and build a brand while doing so. Having your own business will help you understand the basics of running a business and even if you hate it, you will be better prepared when the time comes to work with managers, agents, etc. This is probably one of the easiest things you can do to set your self of for success.

# **DIRECTORY**

## **People**

Ableton Tips>

<https://youtube.com/@abletontips>

Alex Rome>

<https://youtube.com/@AlexRome>

Andrew Huang>

<https://youtube.com/@andrewhuang>

Ableton Nav Tips

<https://youtu.be/SZ3PTkgy2aA>

Bthelick

<https://youtube.com/@Bthelick>

<https://youtu.be/suXj2OICbaA>

Catalyze Music Academy>

<https://youtube.com/@CatalyzeMusicAcademy>

Dan Worral

<https://youtube.com/@DanWorrall>

Echo Soundworks>

[Echo Sound Works | Soundsets for synths like Serum & Massive](https://www.echosoundworks.com/soundsets)

<https://youtube.com/@EchoSoundWorks>

Ableton Wavetable vs. Serum

<https://youtu.be/3bJ27GAFtkc>

Serum vs. Vital

<https://youtu.be/w6b9yY8J2fs>

ELPHNT>

Super analytical, logical, ableton junkie and tutorial dude

<https://youtube.com/@ELPHNT>

Fabricio Poce>Visual and Audio

<http://fabriziopoce.com>

\*Jade Bultitude

Music Theory & Tools

<https://jadebultitude.com/>

Lil Miss Beats>

Bedtime stories from the Ableton manual. Literally reads you manual and gives examples and tips.

<https://youtube.com/@lilmissbeats>

Ableton Live Suite 9 #1

<https://youtu.be/9C1jrgBFKBI>

Ned Rush>

Wild man, flexing Ableton in crazy ways w/far out humor.

<https://youtube.com/@NedRush>

Seed to Stage>

Ableton Gangsta, but not as crazy as Ned Rush. Has some deep playlists on synthesis, mixing, and tips/tricks.

<https://youtube.com/@SeedtoStage>

Simon Shackleton>

Stonx>

Male version of Lil Miss Beats, but way less added info/experience.

<https://youtube.com/@StonxMusic>

Westend>

House/Tech House producer/dj on popular labels

<https://youtube.com/@itsthewestend>

Zen World

<https://youtube.com/@ZenWorld>

## **Entities**

Ableton Learning

<https://www.ableton.com/en/live/learn-live/>

Ask Audio

<https://ask.audio>

AskVideo

<https://ask.video>

Feel Your Sound

<https://feelyoursound.com/>

In The Mix

<https://youtube.com/@inthemix?si=PbRRQWosseHsXW_K>

Kick & Bass

<https://kick-bass.com>

Manifest Audio

<https://manifest.audio/allmax>

Producertech

<https://www.producertech.com>

Production Music Live

<https://www.productionmusiclive.com>

SineVibes

<https://www.sinevibes.com>

Sonic Academy

<https://www.sonicacademy.com/>

Splice [Royalty-Free Sounds, FX, Presets & More | Splice](https://splice.com/)

Warp Academy

<https://warpacademy.com>