

DJ FOUNDATIONS

PRACTICE GUIDE

GOAL

Prepare tracks and perform one clean transition between songs

WHAT YOU NEED:

Rekordbox installed • Headphones/Speakers • USB drive • 5-10 songs

01

PREPARE MUSIC (REKORDBOX)

Import & Analyze

- ☐ Import music into Rekordbox
- ☐ Analyze tracks
- ☐ Check BPM is correct

Rule: Fix BPM before anything else

Fix Beatgrid

- ☐ Find first kick drum on drop
- ☐ Align red line to that beat
- ☐ Scrub forward to confirm alignment

Rule: If grid drifts, mixing fails

Set Cue Points

- ☐ Hot Cue A: drop
- ☐ Hot Cue H: mix out
- ☐ Memory Cue 1: mix in

Rule: Cues = clean starts



02

EXPORT TO USB

Create & Export

- ☐ Put 5 prepared tracks in playlist
- ☐ Export playlist to USB
- ☐ Test USB on hardware if possible

Rule: Test USB + bring backup

PRACTICE ROUTINE

(20-30 min)

- ☐ Prep 2 tracks
- ☐ Practice A → B and B → A
- ☐ Repeat same mix 3 times
- ☐ Stop

03

MIXING PRACTICE

Load Tracks

- ☐ Track A → Deck 1
- ☐ Track B → Deck 2

Match BPM

- ☐ Match BPM numbers (manual or Sync)
- ☐ Listen in headphones
- ☐ Nudge jog wheel if drifting

Rule: BPM matching > perfection

Perform Basic Mix

1. Play Track A
2. Cut low EQ on Track B
3. Start Track B on phrase
4. Raise Track B fader
5. Swap low EQs
6. Fade Track A out

Rule: Slow, controlled movements

SUCCESS CHECK

Ready for open decks when you can:

- ☐ Fix a beatgrid
- ☐ Start tracks on phrase
- ☐ Complete clean transition
- ☐ Load and play from USB

REMINDER: Djing = music selection + timing + repetition. Everything else comes later.