

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

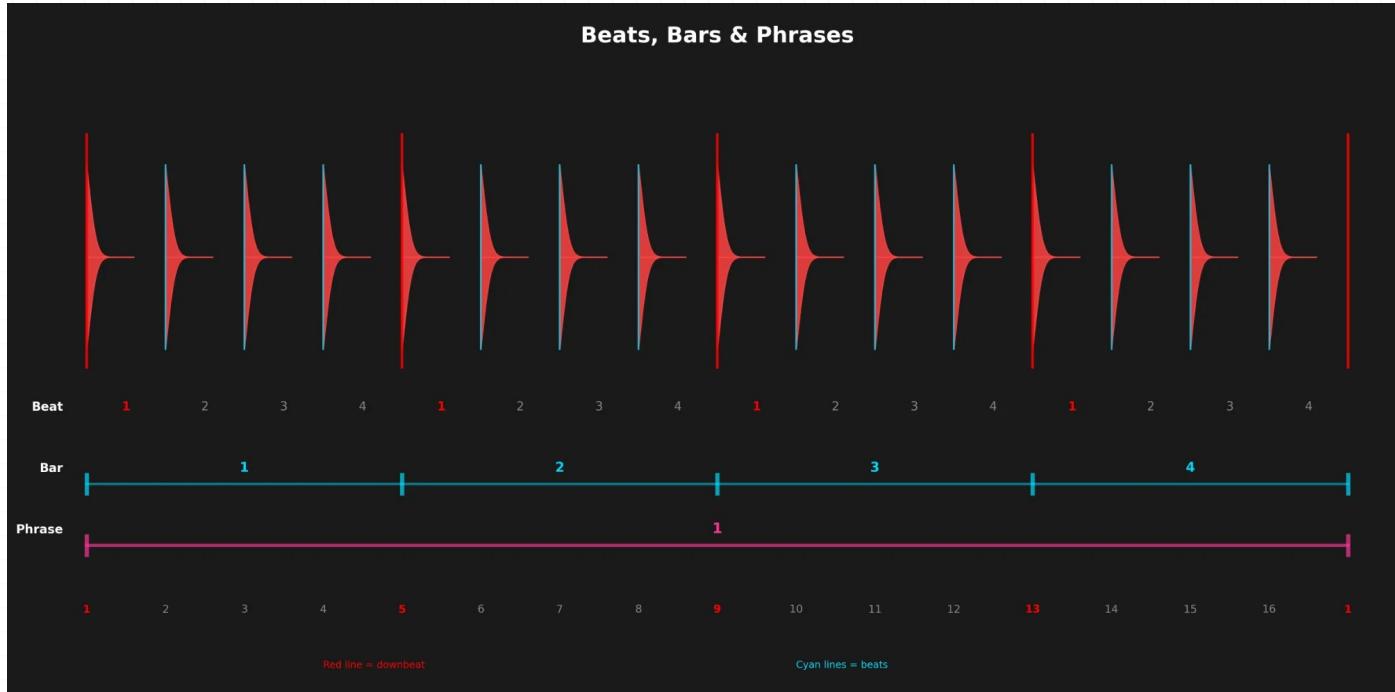
- Find first kick drum on drop
- Align red line to that beat
- Scrub forward to confirm alignment

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

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

PRACTICE ROUTINE

(20-30 min)

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

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.