

## Logic Pro X Unit 1

### Arrangement Lesson 1

1) **Voice / Layers:** When creating your arrangements, consider the following:

- Melody & Counter Melody (high voices)
- Harmony (chords/strumming)
- Bass (low)
- Percussive (drums)
- *Stay Away From:*
  - Block Arranging (all layers playing all the time)
    - It's ok to have empty space in various layers.
  - Stair Case Arranging (one layer into another layer, one at a time)

2) **Loop Filters:** Use the Loop Button (O) to open loops and the filters "Instruments", "Genres", and "Descriptors" to search for your sounds. Click the "heart" button to save to your favorite list of loops.

- Use Genre (style) to keep the loops you use relatable.
- Think about Time / Key Signatures
  - If you use a 12/8 drum track but a 3/4 melody, it might not line up.
- Loop Tempo (bpm - beats per minute)
  - Some loops and sound waves are intended for a specific tempo.
    - They might not sound as good at a change tempo.

3) **Balance & Mixing:** Tips & Tricks to stay out of the "red" (peaking) in the level meter

- Set device volume at 75%
- Set Master Volume at +0.0 dB
- Use track heads / channel strips to mix
  - Adjust volume (up/down) and/or panning (left/right)
    - Adjust tracks indefinitely or
    - Adjust automation ("a")
- Set loudest section in "yellow" or almost to "red"
  - Give listener as much volume as possible
    - Easier to decrease than increase volume
- Hear all voices - If you can't hear it, then why is it there?

4) **Automation:** Use keyboard shortcut (a) to open automation. You can automate almost any effect on the selected track. Click on track to create node. Nodes are movable. Select the Pencil for your cmd feature to create fast automation.

- Main: volume, panning, mute
- Control Panel: any effect related to the selected track such as tremolo, reverb, etc.
- Effects / Plugins (found in mixer (x) window): whatever you can imagine

## Logic Pro X Unit 1

### Arrangement Lesson 2

#### 5) **Effects / Plugins:** Access Effects/Plugins in the Mixer View (X) [mixer icons]

- Effects can be found in the empty (sometimes) space in the mixer view just above the main controls.
- Effects / Plugins all come with the individual Control Panel
  - Within the Control Panel You can:
    - Access Presets that are already configured for various styles
    - Configure the Effect to your own liking
    - Copy / Paste from the same Effect onto various tracks

#### 6) **MIDI Editing:** When editing MIDI loops and tracks, open your Editor (E) [scissor icon]. You can switch between piano mode (notes show up as dots) and score mode (music notation).

- Adjust Pitch (up and down)
- Adjust Rhythm (left and right)
  - Use Quantization feature to round selected rhythm to nearest duration
    - Select the smallest duration within the passage (ie 1/2, 1/4, 1/8)
- Velocity (micro volume)
  - The velocity will show up as color and line length within the node
- Effects / Plugins
  - You can add effects/plugins in this mode as well as the mixer mode (X)
- Delete / Compose
  - To delete an unwanted note, simply select/highlight and press “delete”
  - To Add a missing note press and hold the “command” key with

#### 7) **Common Short Cuts**

- Play/Stop = Spacebar
- Playhead to 1 = Return
- Library = Y
- Project Info = I (logic only)
- Control Panel = B
- Mixer = X (logic only)
- Editor = E
- Record = R
- Cycle = C
- Keyboard = cmd+K
- Tool Menu = T
- Metronome = K
- Editor List = D (logic only)
- Notes = cmd+opt+P
- Loop Menu = O
- Media Menu = F
- Automation = A
- Arrangement Track = cmd+shift+A
- Track Solo = S
- Track Mute = M
- Region Split = cmd+T
- Region Join = cmd+J
- Select All = cmd+A
- Multi Select = shift+click
- Copy = cmd+C
- Paste = cmd+V
- Undo = cmd+Z
- Save = cmd+S
- File Close = cmd+W
- Program Close = cmd+Q
- Log Out of Profile = shift+cmd+Q