

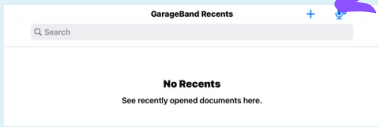
Knowledge Organiser: GarageBand

Topic Background

Over the last few decades, digital technology available for composers has made huge advancements; from sample libraries of pre-recorded acoustic instruments to increasingly complex Virtual Studio Technology. Most soundtracks in TV, film or in gaming are created and recorded using digital instruments.

Using GarageBand

Start a new song:



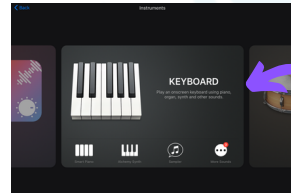
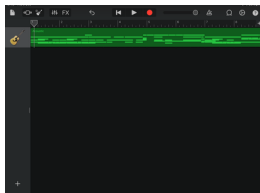
Click on the + symbol.



Scroll to select your instrument.

Adding an instrument:

From track view, click the + symbol.



Scroll to select your instrument.

Recording and play back:

1. Press record.

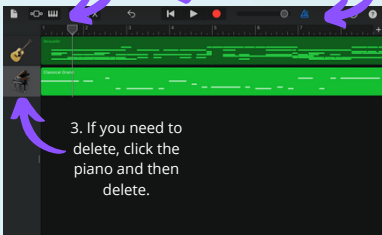
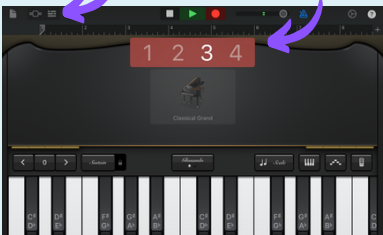
3. Listen back by clicking this button.

2. Wait for the metronome.

4. Click the piano symbol to re-record.

2. Press play to listen back.

1. Turn off the metronome by clicking it.



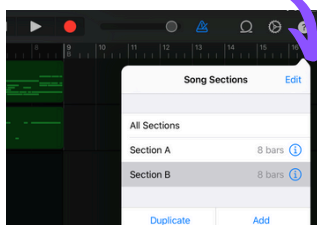
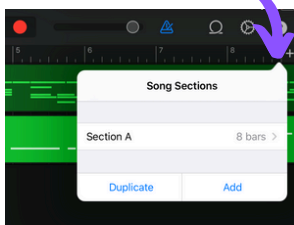
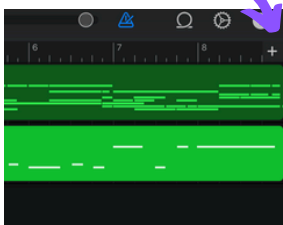
3. If you need to delete, click the piano and then delete.

Adding a section:

1. Click the + symbol.

2. Click add.

3. Set your section length.



Musical Knowledge

Major Chords

a 'C' chord is C, E, G



Step 1: use the root note 'C' as note 1
Step 2: miss out three notes (including black notes), the next note is 'E'
Step 3: miss out two notes (including black notes), the next note is 'G'

Minor Chords

an 'Am' chord is A, C, E



Step 1: use the root note 'A' as note 1
Step 2: miss out two notes (including black notes), the next note is 'C'
Step 3: miss out three notes (including black notes), the next note is 'E'

Listening Pieces

- First Passing Cloud, from The Mask of Orpheus by Harrison Birtwistle, 1986
- Oxygen, Pt4, Jean Michel Jarre, 1976

GarageBand Icons



create a new song or rename your track



record



settings



track view



takes you back to your instrument



autoplay



play



metronome



Key Vocabulary

accompaniment: a musical part which supports a melody

binary: two sections, often called section A and section B

binary form: two sections, often called section A and section B

chord sequence: the order of the chords

chords: three or more notes played at the same time

key: group of pitches used in a piece

major: a scale that sounds bright and cheerful

melody: the tune of the music made up of high and low pitches

metronome: used by musicians to keep a regular tempo

minor: a scale that sounds sad

passing note: a note not included in the chord or harmony and can be used as a stepping stone to connect two notes that are within the chord or harmony

rhythm: patterns of sound consisting of shorter and longer notes

root note: the first note in a chord

structure: how a piece is organised

ternary form: a three part musical form consisting of an opening section, a following section and then a repetition of the first section (ABA)

texture: how the different layers of the music combine to give an overall effect