



MORE ABOUT DRUMTRAX MIDI DRUM LIBRARY

Drum arrangements are assembled by using your sequencing program to copy, paste, cut and loop patterns from the library into new drum arrangements. You may choose to work with several instruments at once (a full kit of kick, snare, hat, toms, etc.) or you may wish to assemble individual instruments one at a time.

The simplest way to begin is to find a Drumtrax sequence whose overall feel most closely fits the need of the music you wish to create.

Category Sequence

A Category Sequence features a few measures, at tempo, of every library sequence within a specific category. Listening to a Category Sequence is a quick way to skim through an entire category of sequences within the library. Category Sequences are named with the extension **_CAT** (ex. **ALT_CAT** = *Alternative Category*)

Every Drumtrax sequence contains groove variations, fills, intros, and endings which can then be reassembled to fit your needs. You may choose to either create a new sequence and paste the Drumtrax patterns into it, or, you can open the Drumtrax file and save it as a new name (preserving the original Drumtrax sequence) and work from there.

Know Your Equipment

An important aspect of producing great rhythm tracks is understanding your sequencing program and your sound modules. The Drumtrax Library is a resource, all the actual production will be done with your sequencing program, so in order to program drum arrangements successfully, you'll need to know how to perform basic commands with your sequencer. You should be familiar with copying, cutting, pasting, and looping measures within and between sequences. You should also be able to turn individual tracks on and off, adjust track velocities, and transpose parts to other instruments.

If you are not familiar with these basic concepts, please refer to the software and equipment manuals.

Pick The Right Sounds

A Hip Hop or a Rap tune may require different drum sounds than a Country song or a Rock ballad. Above all, experiment - a groove played on an acoustic drumset takes on a whole new flavor when played on a World kit.

Be Creative!

1. Don't limit your search to a specific category. Drumtrax grooves can be used in many styles of music.
2. Speed up or slow down tempos; chain or loop sections; etc.
3. Copy and paste parts between sequences. For example, take a hi-hat from a Hip Hop sequence and paste it into a Rock groove!
4. Turn instrument tracks off to strip down the grooves. For example, when auditioning the World category, listen to the sequences without the basic drum kit instruments of kick, snare, hat, etc. if you are working in the separate tracks set (**sep_trk_type1**).

If you are working with two tracks (**2-trk_type 1**) of drums and percussion, this Drumtrax file set (**2-trk_type 1**) has endless possibilities. If you are satisfied with the drum and percussion mixes, then you're ready to go! When assigning a full drum set or percussion instruments, the balance of the mix may change depending on the selection used with the MIDI sound gear in your setup. Most sound modules will have the ability to edit the volume balance of each note of the drumkit (kick, snare, etc.)

5. Use the Toolbox to help you create and enhance drum arrangements.

Using the Toolbox

The Drumtrax Library contains a special category of drum programming tools called the Toolbox. These special sequences were designed to help you create and enhance drum arrangements. The Toolbox files are a grab bag of instrument phrases and hard to program drum parts like snare drum rolls, cymbal rolls, layered percussion parts etc. Looking for just the right hihat groove, tom fill or a conga part? Exploring the Toolbox is an interesting way to come up with new ideas for your arrangements.

Copy & Paste

For copying and pasting instrument tracks from the Toolbox you will need to have 2 sequence files open, a sequence for copying data from the toolbox, for example, MIDI file Shaker1 (**TB_SHAK1**) and then paste into your song sequence location.

Looping Measures

One simple way to begin designing your drum arrangement is to loop or copy some measures of a Drumtrax sequence groove or from a Category Sequence. Then create an estimated song-length “bed” by looping or repeat paste. Once you have, go back to the Drumtrax sequence to paste groove variations, fills, intros, and endings building your song and adding other instruments.

Adding Fills

One of the wonderful things about using a Drumtrax pattern is that a real drummer played the kit that created the sequence. But what if you decide to add something into the sequence like a tom fill? Use a pattern from the Toolbox (**TB_FILL1**) or copy and paste a drum fill section from your Drumtrax sequence or play it yourself.

Regarding Tempos

The tempos of individual sequences were determined when the live drummer originally played them, so they sound great at their recorded tempo. Nevertheless, any sequence can be slowed down or sped up.