



Creating Backing Tracks combining Computer Generated Audio with Live Audio

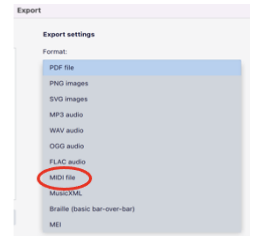


Step 1: Find/Create a MIDI or MusicXML file for your backing track

- Import it into your chosen notation software to edit as required

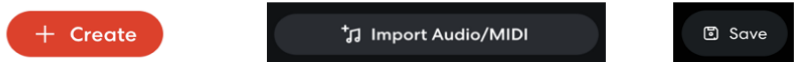
Step 2: Export a MIDI file

- Export a MIDI file of your backing track
- Depending on your chosen notation software this will usually be done by clicking **File > Export** or **File > Save as...** and choosing MIDI as the export file type



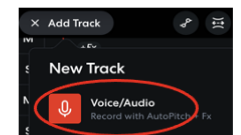
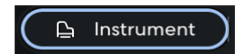
Step 3: Import the MIDI file to Bandlab

- **Create** a new project
 - Import your MIDI file
- Note:** Regularly **Save** your work on Bandlab to ensure that it is not lost



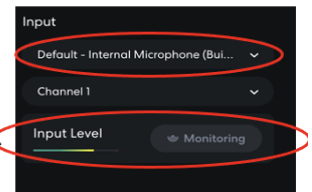
Step 4: Tidy up the MIDI file

- Check that the tempo and time signature have been imported correctly
- **Note:** Bandlab does not have a 12/8 function but setting the time signature to 6/8 will line up the project grid with a MIDI file that is in 12/8 time
- Double-click on the name of each instrument track to rename them if required
- Click on a track then click on the **Instrument** button to select different instruments if required. Click it again to hide the **Instrument** window



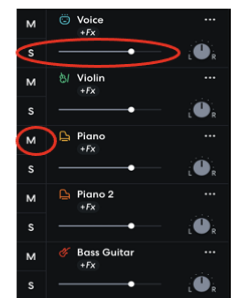
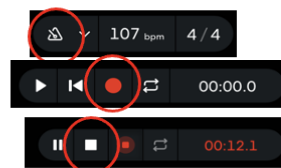
Step 5: Set up an audio track to record

- Click **Add Track** and select **Voice/Audio**
- Choose **Input** source (microphone or audio interface input) and adjust the gain on your audio interface so that the input level is not in the red
- Enable **Monitoring** if you want to hear the sound of you are recording through your headphones/speakers. Headphones should always be used when recording with a microphone to avoid feedback when **Monitoring**. This will also ensure that the sound of the backing track is not heard in the new recording



Step 6: Record live instruments/voices

- Enable the **Metronome** if required and click **Record**
- Click **Stop** when finished performing
- Repeat steps 5 and 6 for as many tracks as required



Step 7: Balance the tracks and export

- Balance the tracks using the volume sliders
- Mute the instrument(s) that will play solo against the backing track
- Click the menu button > **Project > Download > Mixdown As** and choose required file type

More to explore

- Add **Loops** or other sounds from the **BandLab Library**
- Add processing effects such as Delay, Reverb, EQ, Panning etc. to your tracks
- Import audio files from other apps e.g. audio files exported from your notation software if you prefer the sound of its virtual instruments
- Collaborate with students on the backing track using the **Share** feature
- Explore different styles and create different interpretations by changing the virtual instruments and loops used

