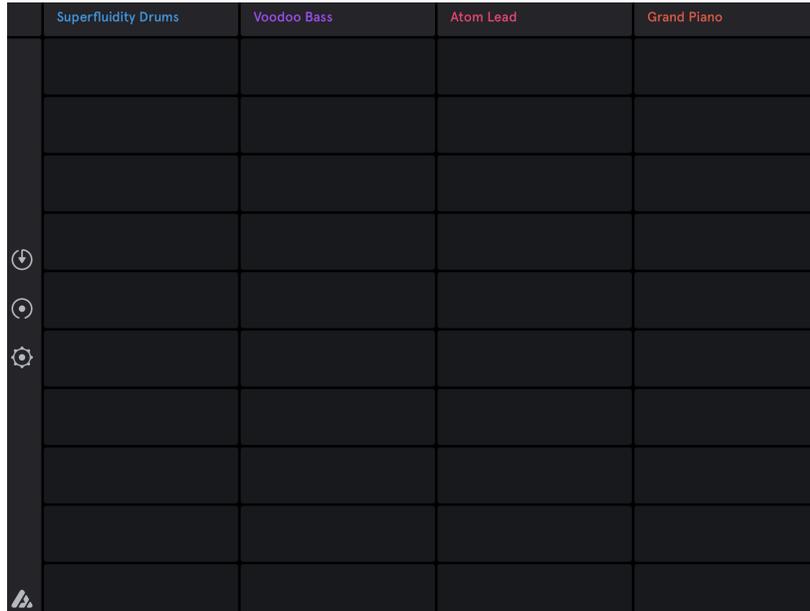




Guide to using Auxe Jam on iPad
By Farhad Ahmed

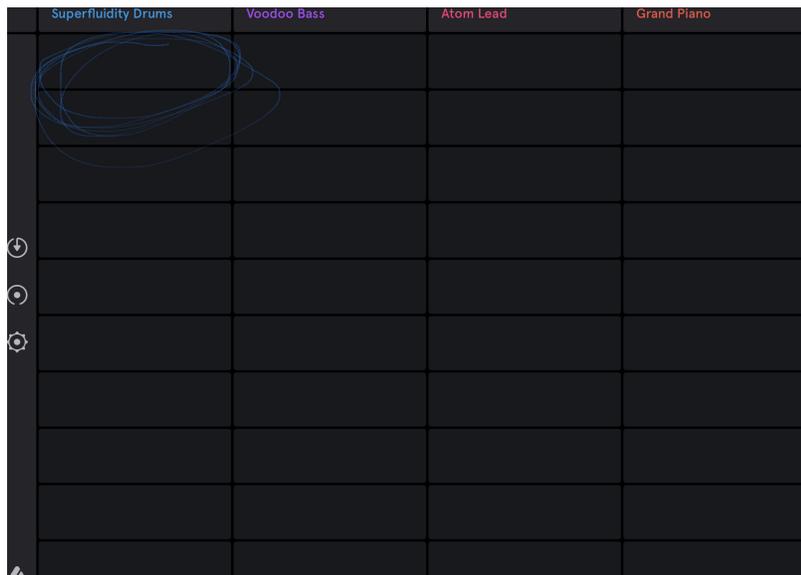
Auxy Intro and Drums (part 1)

Auxy Jam is an app that is free, fun and easy to use! It is available from the app store.



This is what we see when we open Auxy. We can see that there is a blue section, a purple section, a pink section and an orange section.

We are going to start on the blue section to create some drums! Click on the box underneath the blue title. You will see this:

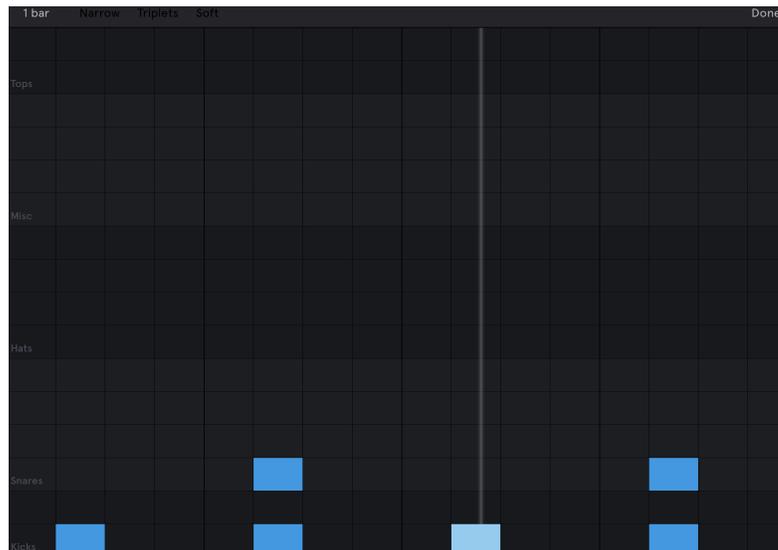


Let's start by making a basic 4/4 drum pattern. The bottom left hand corner says 'kick'. By tapping on the screen, evenly space 4 notes.

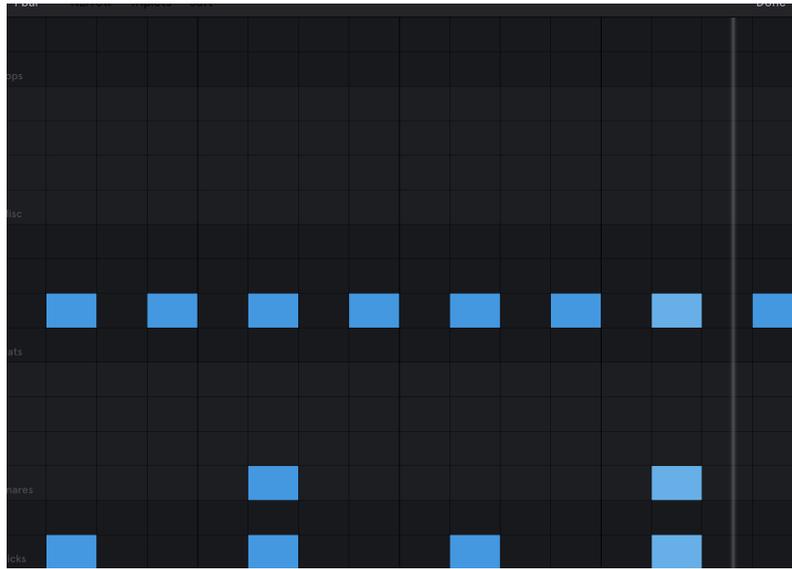


Don't worry if you feel you tapped a box you didn't want, just tap on it again and that will delete that note. Count 1, 2, 3, 4 to this basic pulse.

Now let's add some snare drums to 2nd and 4th beat. It should look like this.



If we tap every other note on the hi hat section it should look like this:

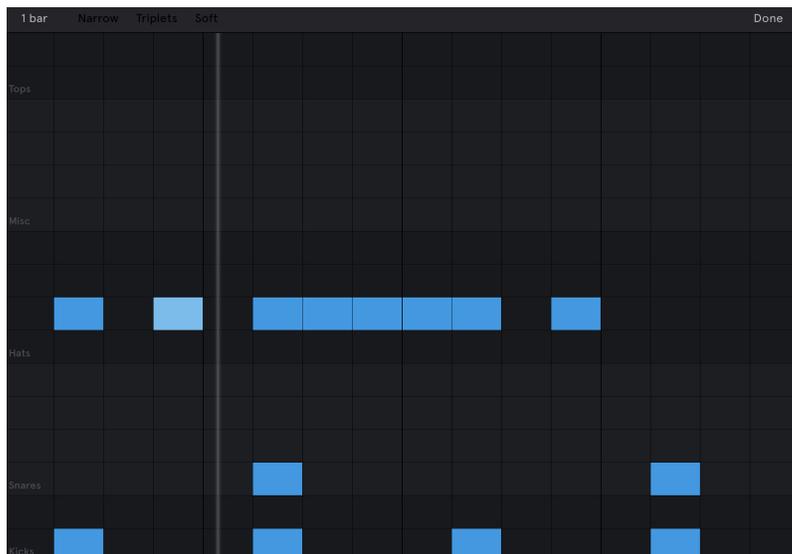


That is your basic beat!

Change the beat to suit you!

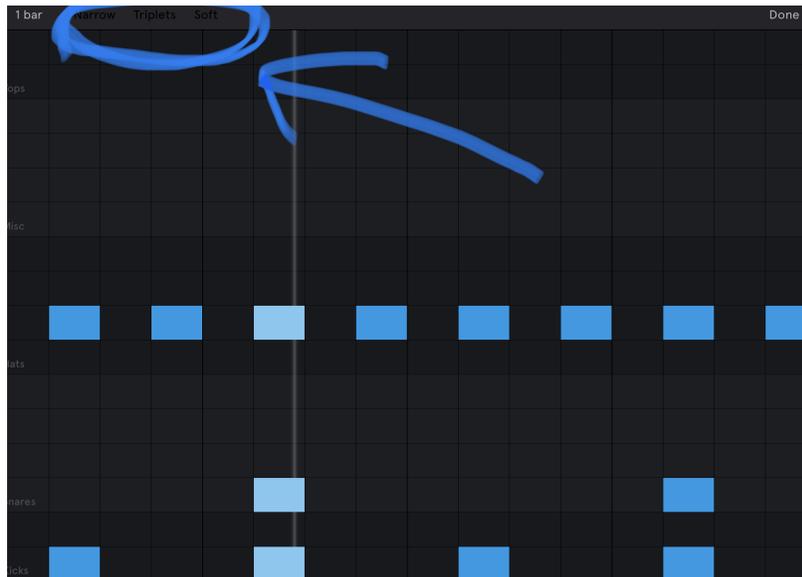
If you want to move any of the notes just tap on them to delete them or tap on them to drag them around. Or just add more notes. HAVE FUN WITH IT!

This picture shows a variation on the hi hats.



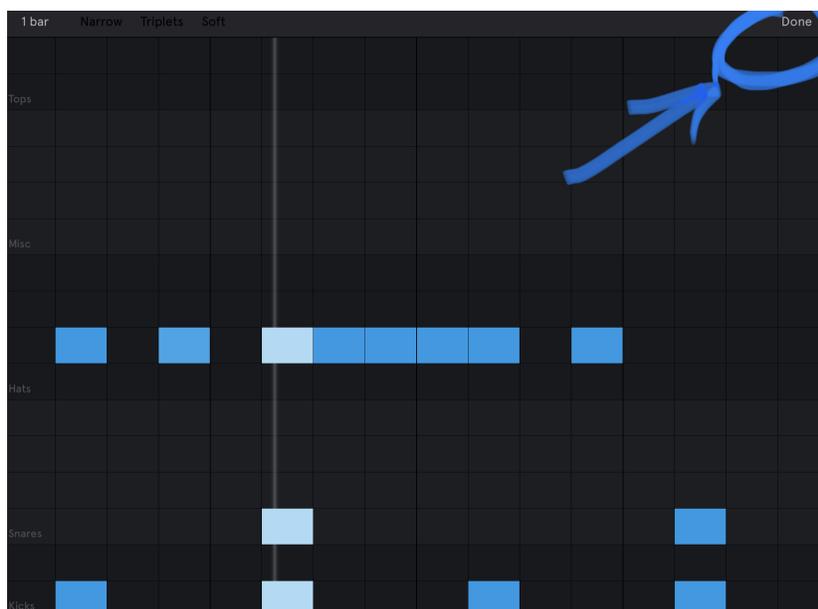
Adding softer notes

When we play instruments, some notes we play harder or softer than others. By tapping soft at the top of the screen we can make some notes softer.



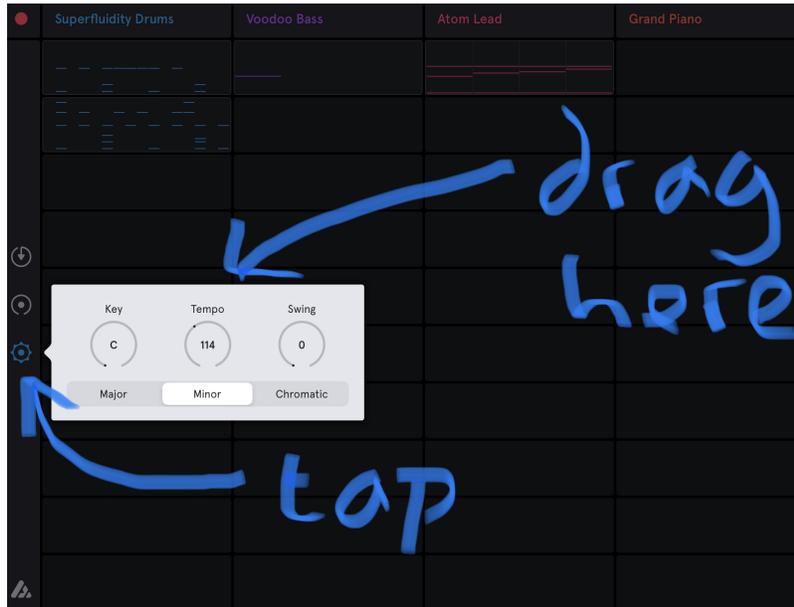
Notice how the dark strips across the screen have different thicknesses. This means you have a few different sounds in your drum kit! Different sounds for your kicks, snares, hi hats and so on...

Tap 'done' at the top right-hand corner.

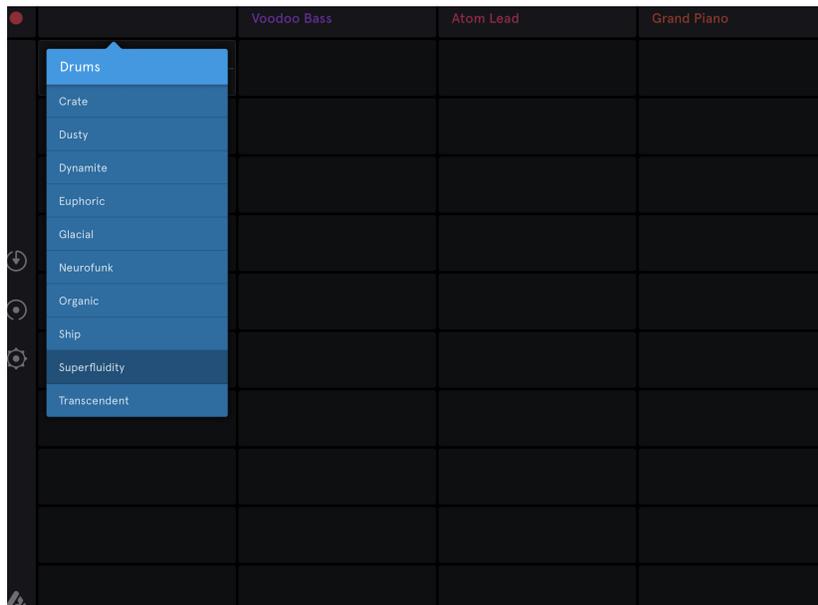


Change the speed

You could change the speed of the beat by tapping on the bottom icon on the left of the screen. Drag around the circle that says tempo to change the speed to suit you.



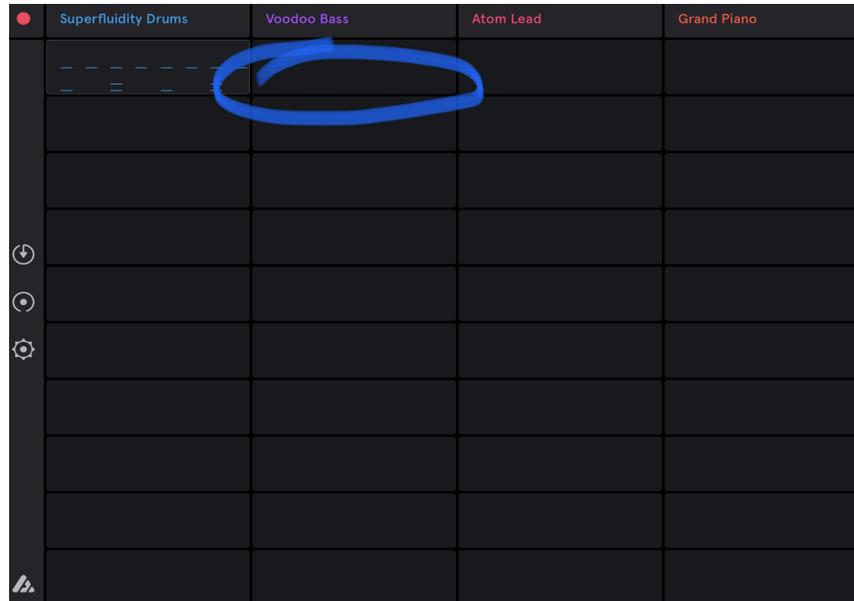
You can change the drum kit all together by tapping on the blue title



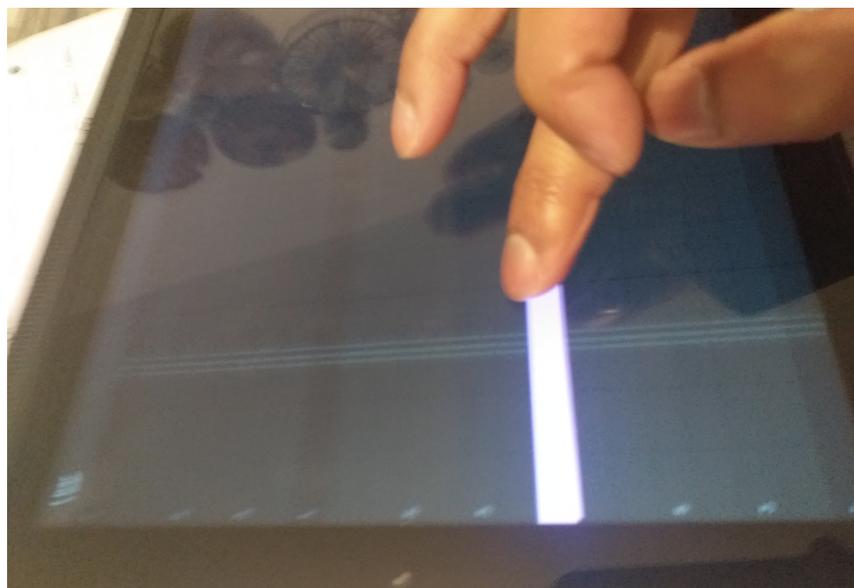
Auxy Bass, Chords and Melody (part 2).

The purple, pink and orange sections of Auxy can be seen as bass, chords and melody.

To add bass, go to the purple section and start adding notes!

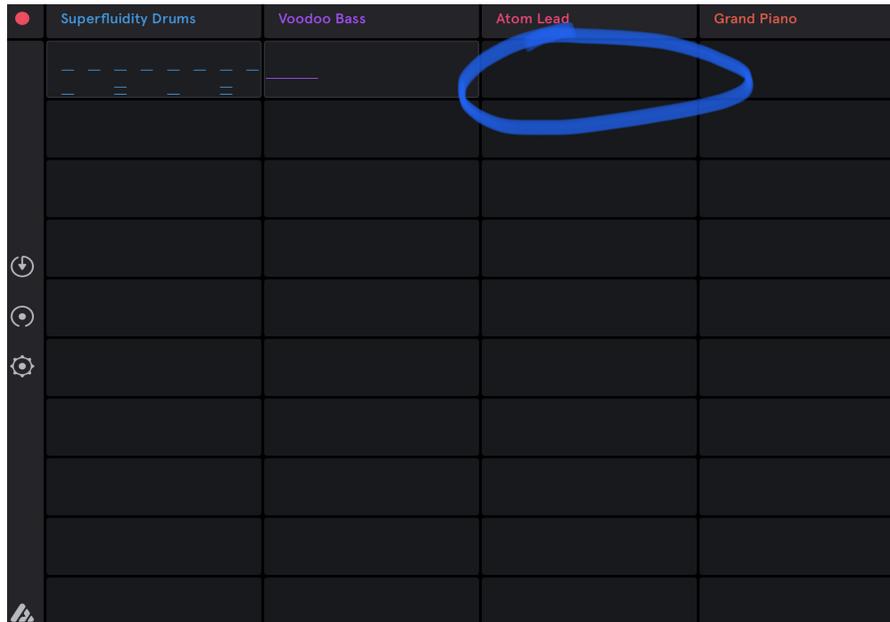


To make notes longer, tap and hold onto the note, then drag it to appropriate length.

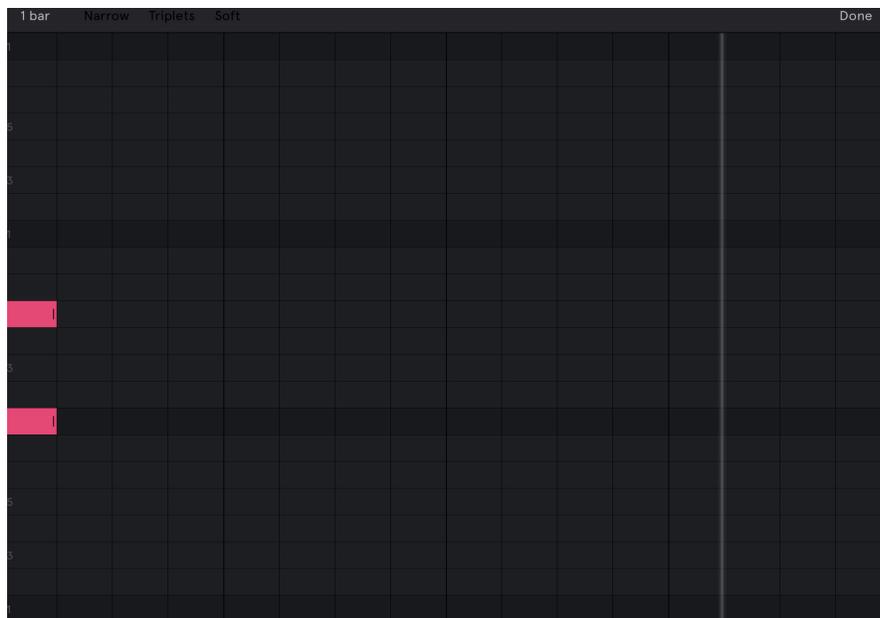


Delete notes you don't want by tapping on them again.
When your finished tap done at the top right-hand corner of the screen.

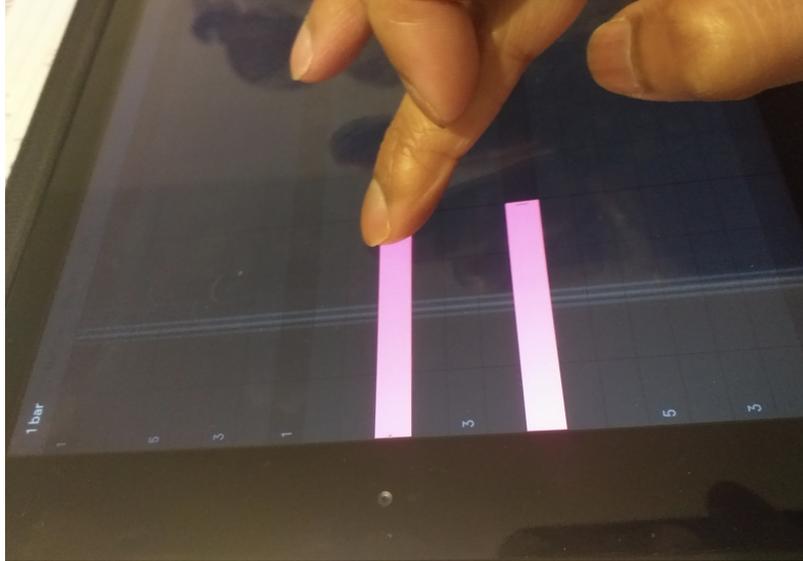
To add chords, go to the pink section!



With chords you can try having multiple notes playing at the same time.



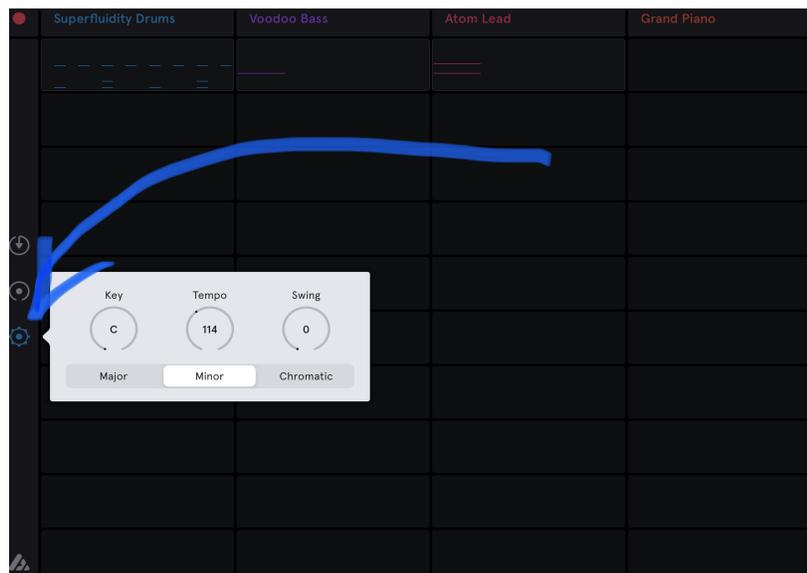
If you tried the above you have a short sharp staccato sound. You might like these, or you might want to drag these notes out.



To add some melody, tap done at the top right-hand corner of your chord loop and go to the orange section and tap away!

Change the key and scale

To do this tap done on your loops, you will see on the left-hand side of your screen three vertical icons. Tap the last one. This gives you the option for changing the scale from major to minor or chromatic. There is also an option to change the key by dragging on the wheel marked key.

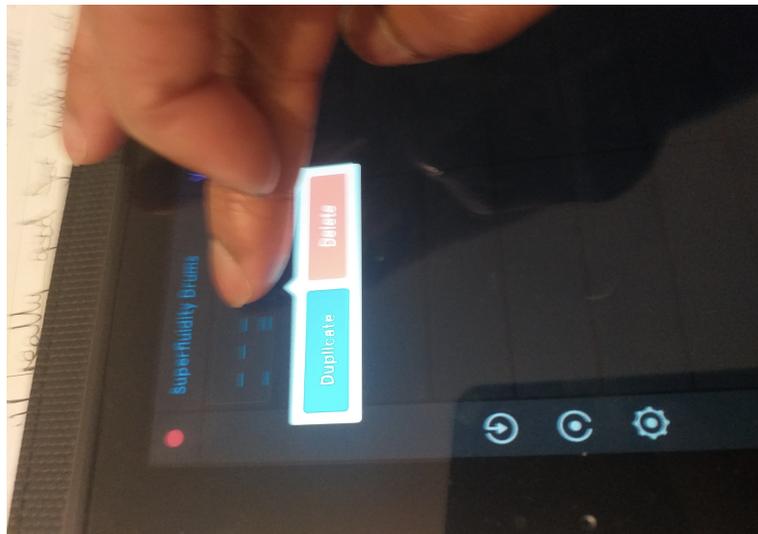


Auxy Jam: Creating Variations and Performing (part 3)

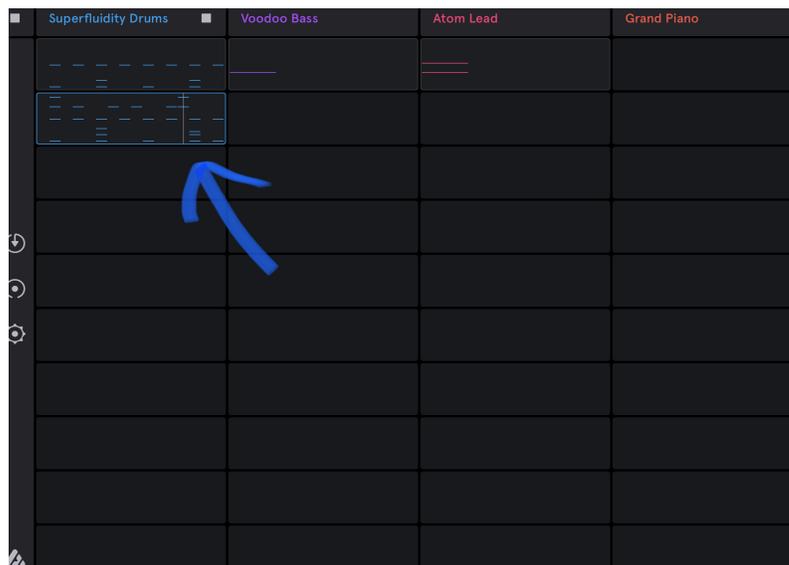
When we are using Auxy to create a song we need loops with variations. One way to do this is to duplicate the loop and change it.

Duplicate loops

Tap and hold onto the loop. Two icons appear, tap duplicate.

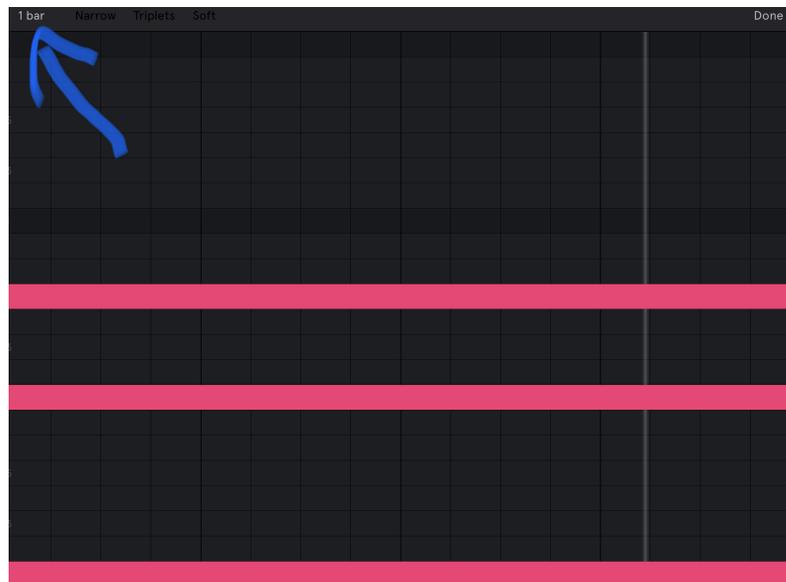


You now have two copies of the same loop. Open the second one by tapping on it and make some changes. Add more percussion or more notes, or take some away to make a minimal loop. Have fun with it!



Add bars

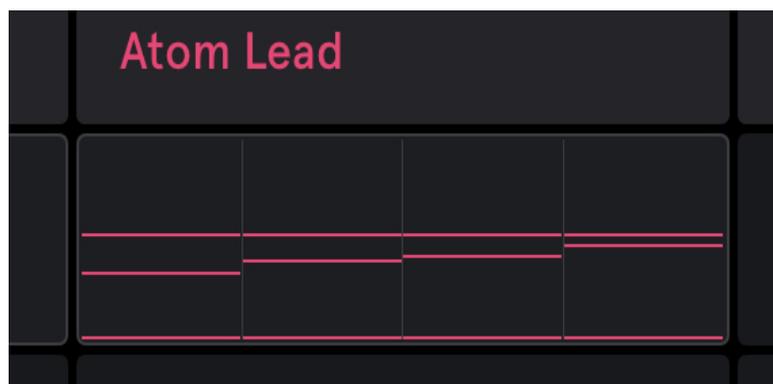
Another way to add variations is to make your loops different lengths. You can do this by adding bars. Let's try this on our pink section. On the top left of your screen, you can see it says '1 bar'. Tap on it and try making this four bars long.



Now we can scroll along to the left and make changes on the way.

Technique tip!

Early synths tried to mimic the sound of strings, it was often seen as a cheaper alternative to a record producer! We can use the same chord on all four bars but change one note in each bar. This makes your chords sound like a string arrangement!



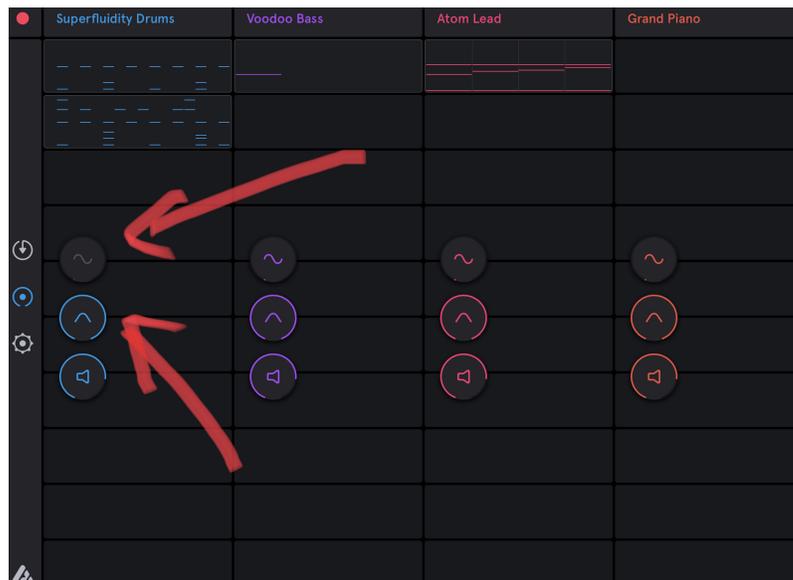
Perform with filters.

Once you have duplicated your loops and made some longer you now have a few loops to choose from!

One really interesting way to transition from one loop to another is to use the filters. On the left-hand side of the screen tap on the middle of the three icons. More icons should appear and it should look like this

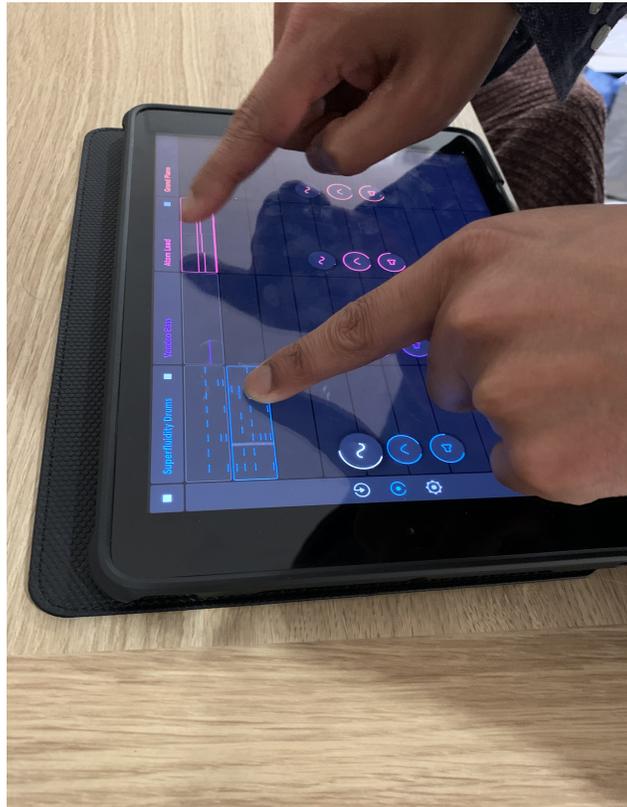


The top two are filters and the bottom a volume. Let's hear what they sound like! Tap on one of your loops, once your loop is playing drag up or down on from the filters underneath your loop.



Technique tip!

As we filter up one of the loops, tap on a loop from another section. As the other section starts bring your filter back to where it was. You have just performed a common technique used in electronic dance music!



Written by Farhad Ahmed, Drake Music Scotland Associate Musician. 2020