

# Cheatsheet 5: Loop Creation in Logic X

## Preparing an Audio File for Use as a Loop

- Using an audio editor such as Audacity or Amadeus Pro, select a portion of the audio so that its duration is a complete bar or a complete multiple of a bar.
- You can test your accuracy by checking the “Loop playback” box at the bottom of the window. Press the spacebar to toggle playback on and off. Count along with the beat as you listen. Assuming the selection you made begins precisely where you want it to begin, you can refer to the following tips to fine-tune your loop:
  - If the passage repeats early, drag the end of the selection to the right. Repeat the test until perfected.
  - If the passage repeats late and includes material you don’t want to use in the loop, drag the end of the selection to the left. Repeat the test until perfected.
- When you’re happy with your loop, save the selection by invoking **Selection > Save Selection As...** from the pull-down menu. Use a descriptive name and save it as an .aif file.
- Open your newly-trimmed audio file and test it one more time, looping the playback in Amadeus Pro. If clipping occurs between repetitions of the loop, apply a very short fade at the end of the audio file. This should eliminate any noise.

## Beat Slicing and Tagging Your Loops

- Start a Logic project with three audio tracks.
- Under the BPM in the LED display, change the project tempo setting from **KEEP** to **ADAPT**
- Drag each of your new .aif clips into the project, one clip on each track. Don’t, however, stack them. Make sure each is staggered horizontally and that they don’t overlap vertically.
- Mute two of the tracks so you can concentrate on the first clip.
- Process the first clip (region):
  1. Select the clip by clicking on it.
  2. Go to **File > Export > Region to Loop Library...**
  3. Rename your loop, if desired.
  4. Tag it using appropriate descriptors.

5. Click the “Create” button.
  6. Delete the original region.
  7. Search for and find the loop in the Loop Browser and drag to the arrange area. It should now be sliced.
- Repeat this process for the other two clips to create loops from them.

## Backing Up Your Loops

To find your loops on the lab computers and back them up for use in another project:

1. From the Finder, select **Go > Go to Folder...**
2. Type **~/Library/Audio/Apple Loops/User Loops/SingleFiles**
3. Drag your loops out of this folder to the shared drive or a USB flash drive.