

Cheatsheet 3: MIDI in Logic

Setting up MIDI

- MIDI is controlled by either attaching a USB MIDI controller or by Logic's virtual keyboard.
- To access the latter, select **Window > Show Musical Typing**. Note that you'll have to occasionally turn it off to access some of Logic's key commands.
- You can record MIDI data on Software Instrument tracks, but not Audio tracks. To do so:
 - Add a new track by clicking the New Track button (+) at the top of the track list (or press Option-Command-N)
 - Select Software Instrument as the type, making sure the Open Library check box is checked, and click Create.
 - Choose a Virtual Instrument from the Library.

Recording MIDI

Simply go to the point you wish to record in the arrange area, and click the record button.

Quantizing

- Select the notes you wish to clean up in the piano roll editor.
- From the "Time Quantize (classic)" pull-down menu, set the Quantize value to the desired quantization note value.
- To quantize an entire region, select the region in the timeline, then choose a quantize value from the inspector pane just to the left of the timeline.
- To automatically quantize any newly-recorded material, click in the background of the Arrange area to deselect all regions, then set the Quantize parameter in that same inspector pane to the lowest note value you anticipate playing.

Overdubbing & Joining Regions

- If you play over an existing region, the new and old regions are automatically merged. Use this feature to build up complex multi-element parts like drum patterns.
- If you'd like to join two separate regions, you can shift-select the two regions and press **command-J** to join them to a single longer region.

Importing a MIDI File

- Simply drag a .mid file from the desktop or a folder into the arrange area.

Editing a Recorded MIDI Sequence

- Mute tool: select a note, press **T**, select the **mute** tool, click the note(s).
- Velocity tool: press **T**, select the **velocity** tool, click on a note or click-drag a group of notes, then click-drag on one of the selected notes...up to raise velocity or click-drag down to lower it.
- Quantize tool: press **T**, select the **quantize** tool, click on a note or click-drag a group of notes, then click-hold on one of the selected notes to bring up a quantize value menu.

Using the Score Editor

- At the bottom of the editing area, click the **Score** tab.
- From the note palate to the upper left, drag notes, rests and other items to the score.
- You may wish to turn off the MIDI Out (green) button so you can work in silence using this method.