

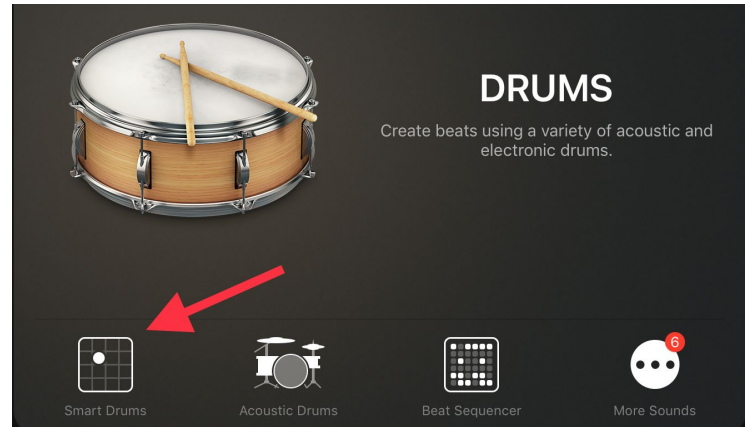
Name: _____

Class: _____

GarageBand 12-Bar Blues Composition Guide

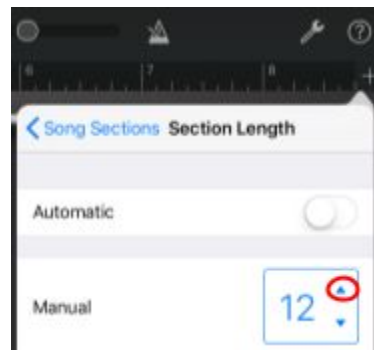
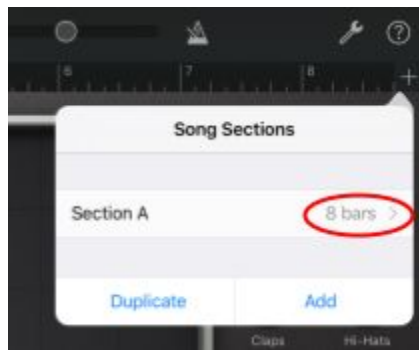
Step one:

Tap the blue “+” button in the upper right-hand corner to create a new song. Swipe through the options until you find “Drums.” Tap on “Smart Drums.”



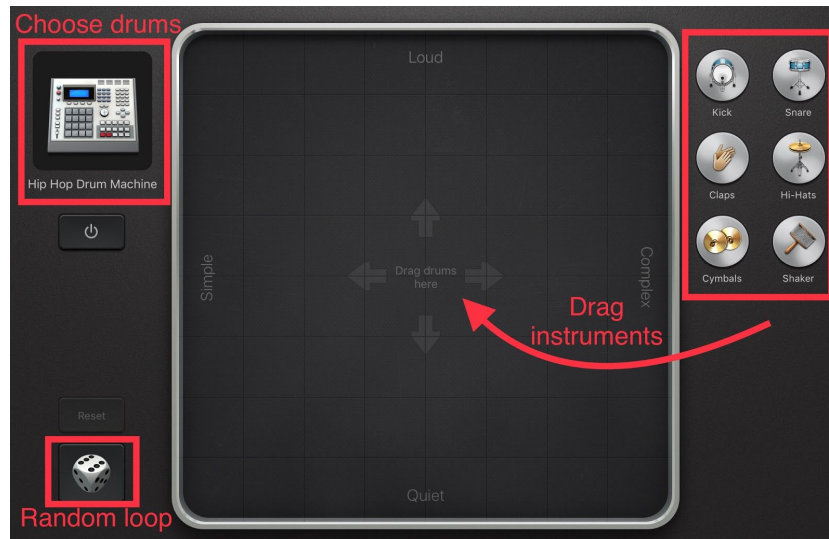
Step two:

Set up your song to have 12 measures by tapping the “+” button in the upper right-hand corner. Then, tap on “8 bars” and press the up arrow to change it to “12 bars”. You should now see the bar across the top count up to 12.



Step Three:

Select your drum sound choice by clicking the picture of the drum machine on the left. You can drag instruments from the right of the screen onto the grid to make your own loop or click on the dice in the bottom left-hand corner of the screen to create a random drum loop.



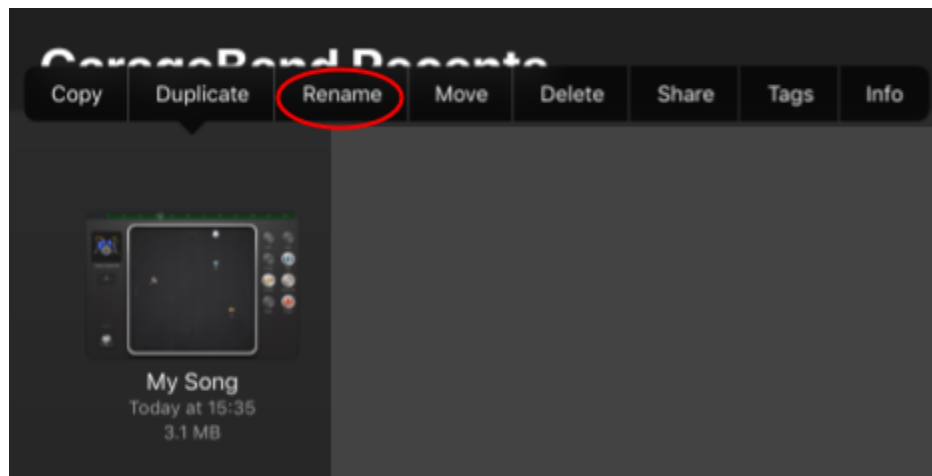
Step Four:

Once you've created a drum loop you like, tap the record button and let the loop record for all 12 bars of the song. Then, tap the stop button. The long bar across the top of your song should now be completely green.



Step Five:

Tap "My Songs" in the upper left-hand corner to get to the main page. Tap and hold your song icon until you see an options menu appear. Tap "Rename" and rename your project to be "(Your Name) Blues," ex: "John Smith Blues" and bring your project to your teacher to check your progress.

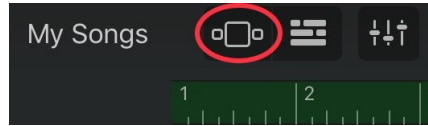


Check your composition with your teacher before moving onto next step.

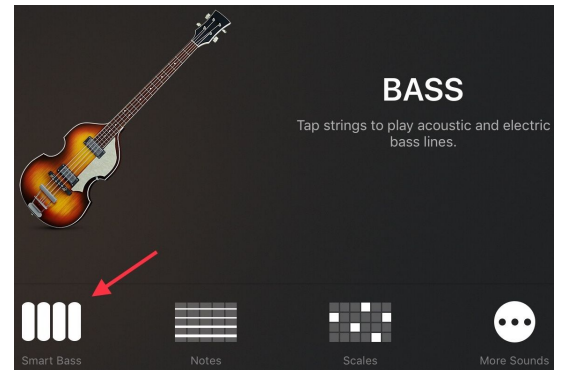
- I checked my composition with my teacher.

Step Six:

Open your saved song and tap the icon next to “My Songs” to select a new instrument to add to your song.



Scroll through until you see “Bass” and tap on “Smart Bass.”



Step Seven:

Choose your favorite bass sound by tapping on the picture of the bass on the left. Tap the bass strings to hear your instrument choice.



Once you’ve selected a bass sound, practice playing the root of the 12-bar blues progression from your chart worksheet by pressing “Play” and tapping the thickest string on the bottom of the screen under “C”, “F”, and “G” at the beginning of each measure. Practice this as many times as you need to until you’re ready to record.

Step Eight:

Press record. You will hear 4 click sounds before recording begins. Tap the bass strings using your chart worksheet to guide you through all 12 bars as you play along with your recorded drum track.

If you make a mistake and need to record again, tap the stop button. Then, tap the “back to the beginning” button and record again from the beginning.

When Recording



When Stopped



When you've finished recording, tap the play button and listen back to your track to make sure it sounds ready to share with your teacher.

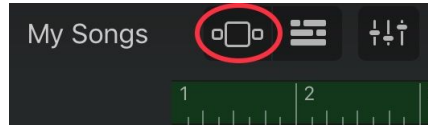


Check your composition with your teacher before moving onto next step.

- I checked my composition with my teacher.

Step Nine:

Open your saved song and tap the icon next to “My Songs” to select a new instrument to add to your song.



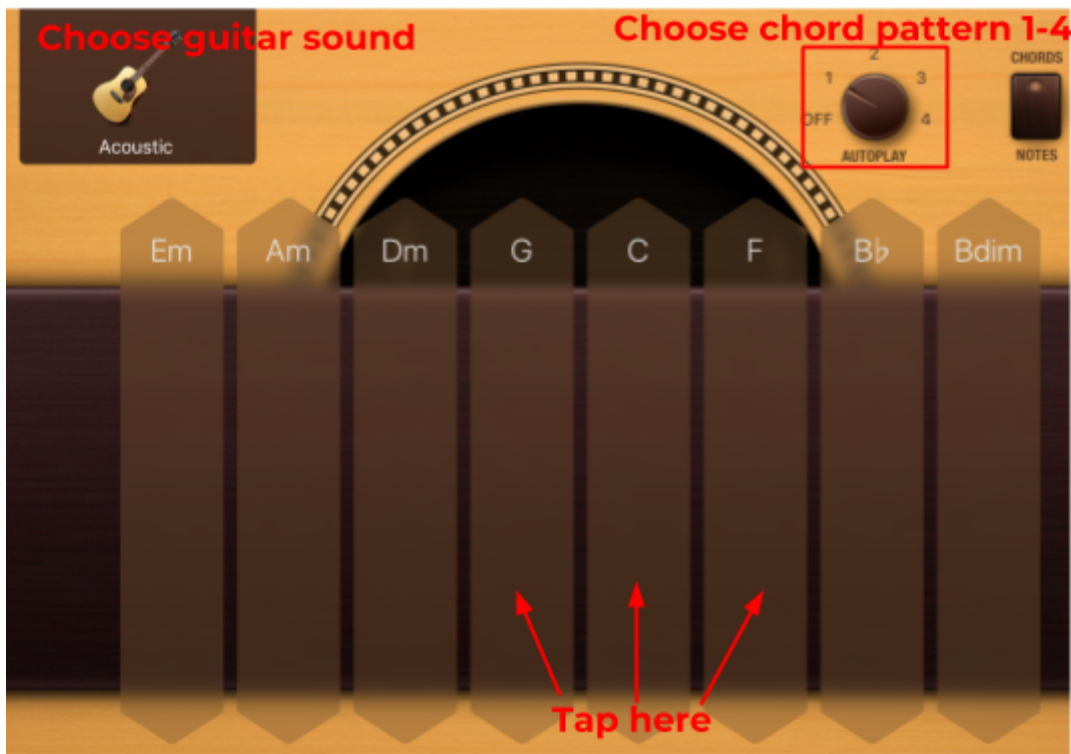
Scroll through until you see “Guitar” and tap on “Smart Guitar.”



Step Ten:

Choose your favorite guitar sound by tapping on the picture of the guitar on the left. Tap the guitar strings to hear your instrument choice.

Next, choose your favorite chord pattern by selecting a number 1-4 on the autoplay dial.

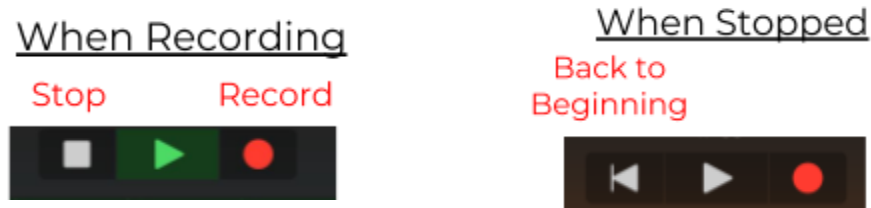


Once you’ve selected a guitar sound and pattern, practice playing the root of the 12-bar blues progression from your chart worksheet by pressing “Play” and tapping the correct letter strip at the beginning of each measure. Practice this as many times as you need to until you’re ready to record.

Step Eleven:

Press record. You will hear 4 click sounds before recording begins. Tap the guitar using your chart worksheet to guide you through all 12 bars as you play along with your recorded drum and bass track.

If you make a mistake and need to record again, tap the stop button. Then, tap the “back to the beginning” button and record again from the beginning.



When you've finished recording, tap the play button and listen back to your track to make sure it sounds ready to share with your teacher.



Check your composition with your teacher before moving onto next step.

- I checked my composition with my teacher.

Step Twelve:

Present your final song to the class. Talk about at least 4 of the following:

- Your choice in drum sounds and patterns
- Your choice in bass sound
- Your choice in guitar sound and patterns
- Any challenges you encountered and how you met those challenges
- What you would like to explore next in GarageBand
- How GarageBand and other apps change how we compose and share music