

COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM WORDS & MUSICSM AT HOME:

A STEP-BY-STEP
GUIDE TO

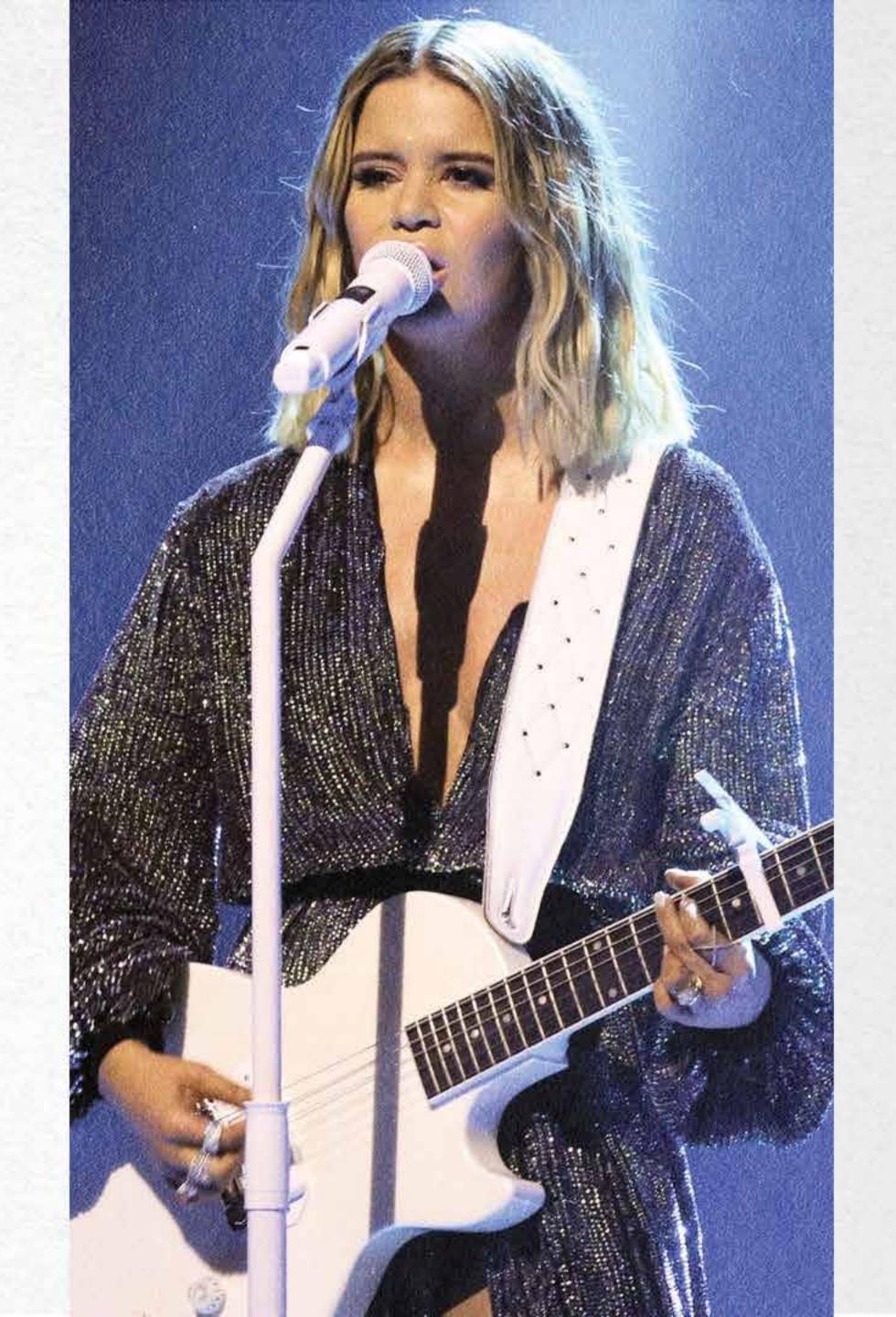
Making and Recording Music in GarageBand

Maren Morris

"I love the production element of making records.

Even when I moved to Nashville, the reason I learned about production was from being in demo sessions from my songs when I was just a writer."

RollingStone.com, May 14, 2018



About This Guide

Have you ever wanted to make and record music but didn't know where to start? Don't know how to play an instrument? No problem! The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum is here to help, providing this step-by-step guide to making and recording music using an Apple device.

- WHO SHOULD USE THIS GUIDE? Use this guide and the accompanying "GarageBand Quick Reference and Glossary" to learn how to record and make music using a drum loop, virtual piano, guitar, bass, and vocals.
- HOW DOES THIS WORK? Use this guide and the "GarageBand Quick Reference and Glossary" to learn how to make music and record a song. It teaches you how to create music using a drum loop, virtual piano, guitar, bass, and vocals.

- HOW LONG WILL THIS PROCESS TAKE?
 45-60 minutes (or any amount of time you want to commit to this).
- WHAT MATERIALS DO I NEED? Your creativity, an iOS device (iPad, iPhone, or Mac computer), and the free GarageBand app.

Asterisks (*) are used to indicate words that appear in the glossary of terms, located at the end of this guide. A "GarageBand Quick Reference and Glossary" sheet is also provided to print as a reference.

How Are Songs Recorded?

How Are Songs Recorded?

Until recently, the vast majority of songs we know and love were recorded in a commercial recording studio, and required professional musicians. A PRODUCER* had to oversee each recording, guiding all the players and their parts, such as a drummer playing a drum kit; a pianist playing a piano; and a guitarist playing a guitar.

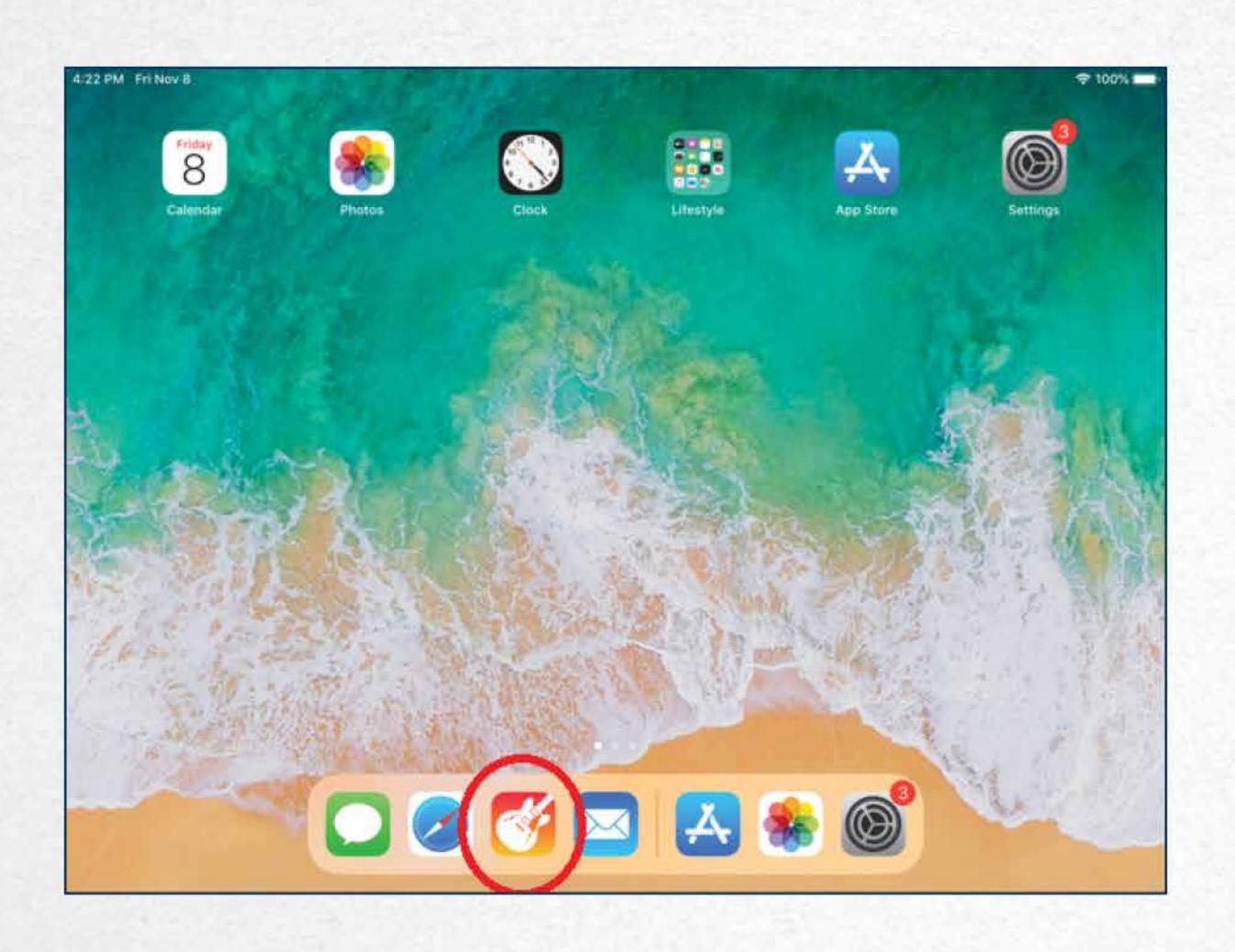
You Can be a Producer, Too!

Today, songs can also be produced at home using recording software such as GarageBand. Everyone from beginners to hit-making producers can use VIRTUAL INSTRUMENTS* (found inside software like GarageBand) to bring a full band to their fingertips, allowing the ability to record songs outside a professional studio.

Do you want to learn how to write your own original lyrics for your song? Check out the museum's <u>STEP-BY-STEP</u> GUIDE TO WRITING YOUR OWN LYRICS.

Let's Get Started

Open GarageBand App

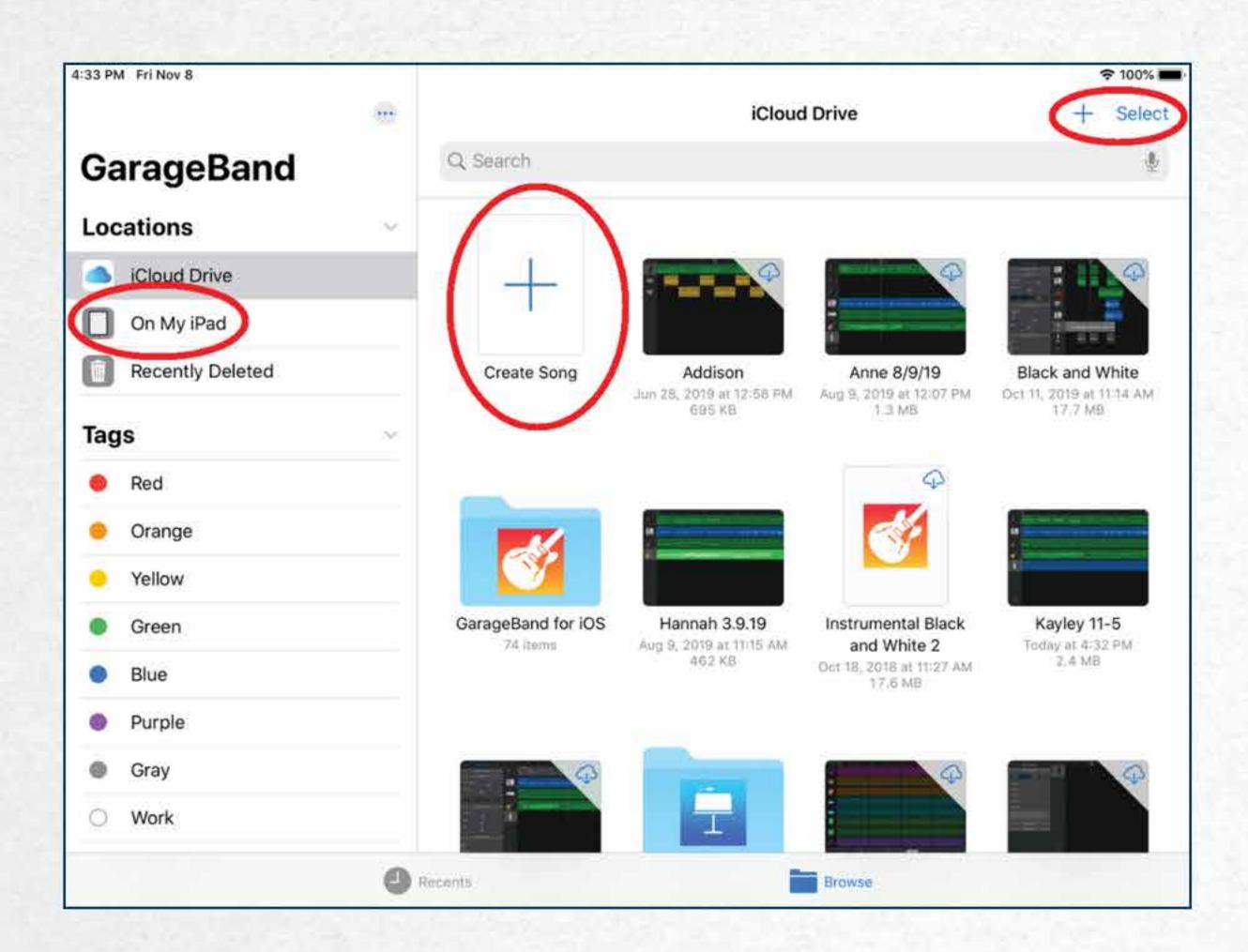


On your iPad or iPhone, tap the GarageBand icon. On your Mac laptop or desktop, double-click the GarageBand icon to launch.

If you do not have GarageBand installed, download GarageBand for free from the Apple App Store.

Note: The examples pictured are from GarageBand for iPad.

Create a New Session

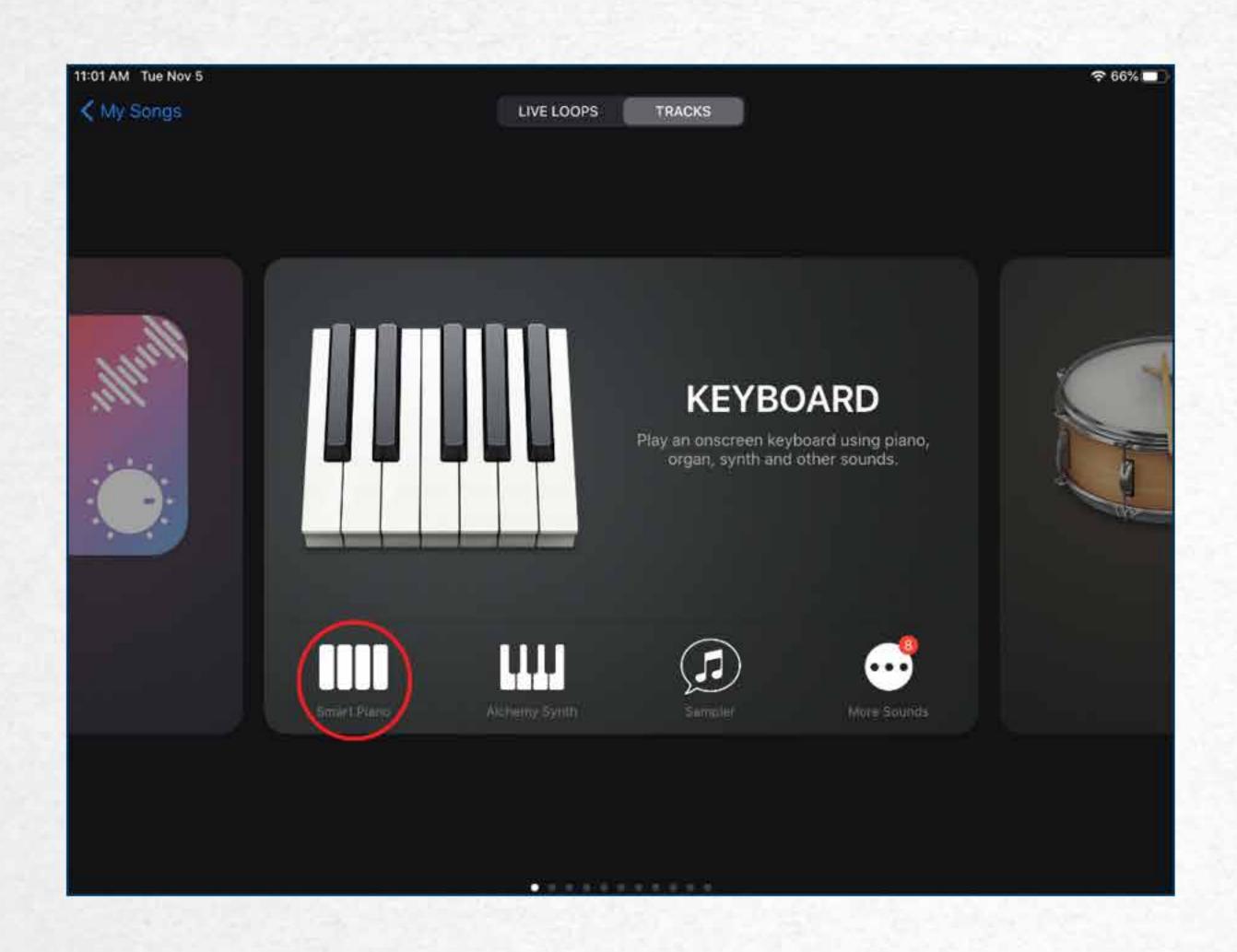


Once GarageBand is open, you should see a screen like this one.

Select CREATE SONG to start a new recording project.

Play and Record Virtual Instruments

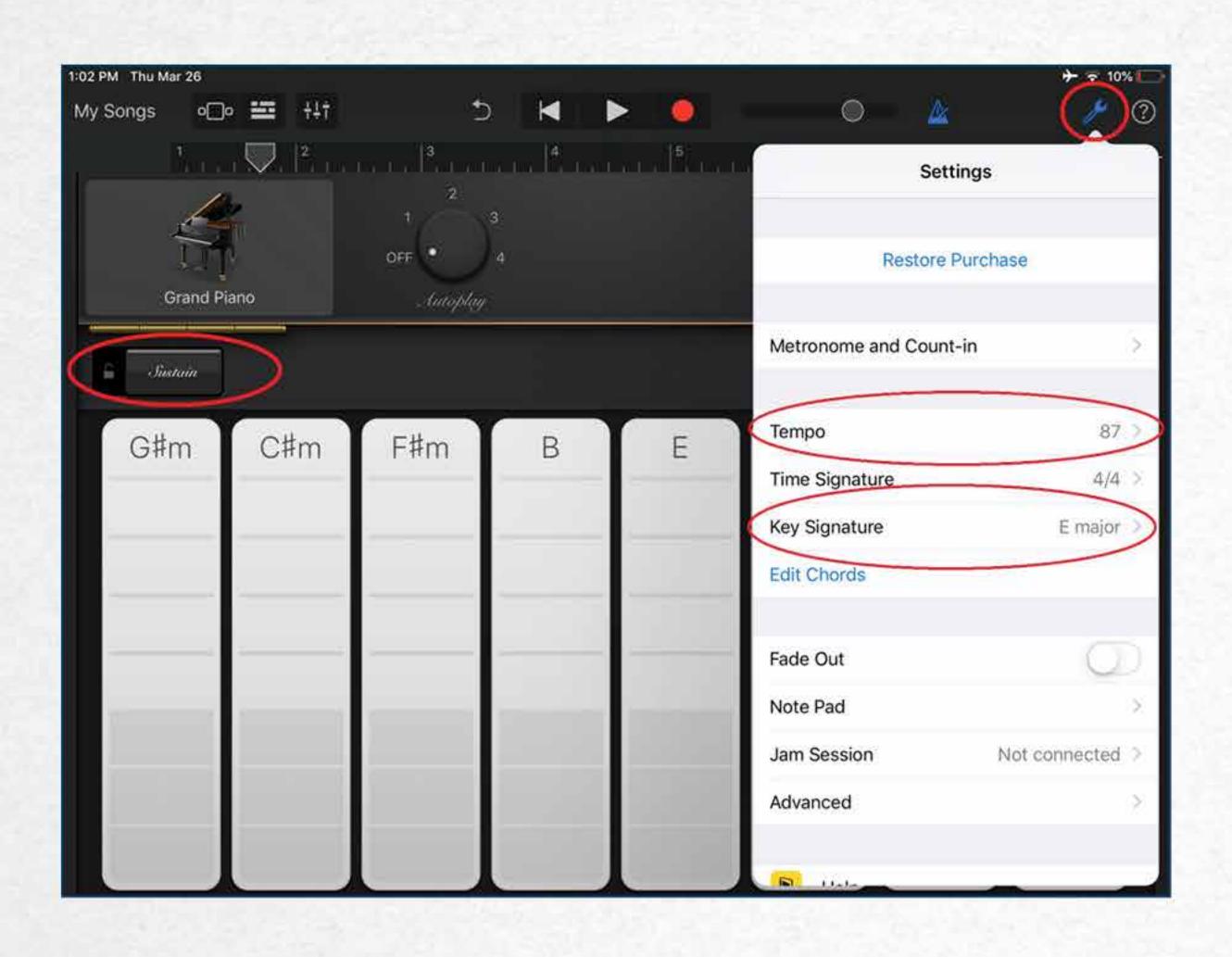
Select Smart Piano



After selecting CREATE SONG, instrument options will appear.

Swipe to KEYBOARD, and select SMART PIANO in the bottom left corner.

Play Smart Piano



SMART PIANO creates piano sounds, even if you don't know how to play piano.

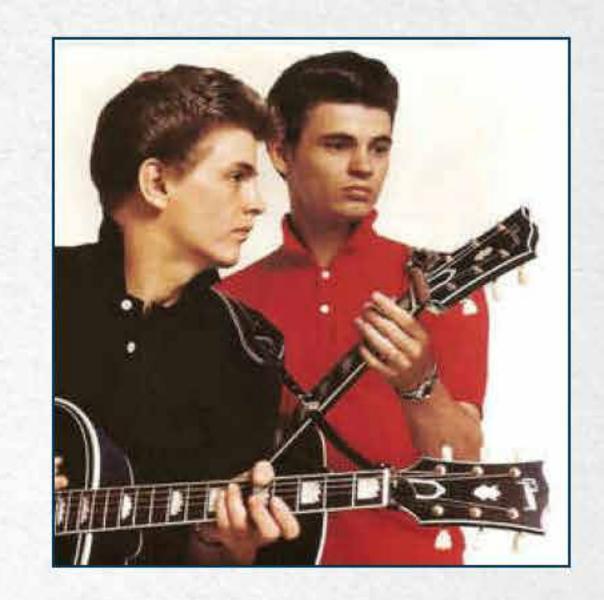
- Run your fingers up and down (or tap) the bars underneath each chord* letter name.
- Select SUSTAIN (underneath the Grand Piano icon) if you want the sound to ring out.

You can change your song's TEMPO*,
TIME SIGNATURE*, and KEY
SIGNATURE* by selecting the
SETTINGS icon in the top right corner.

Play Smart Piano

Let's create settings for and then play the song "All I Have to Do Is Dream," a 1958 hit for the Everly Brothers, written by Boudleaux Bryant.

- Open SETTINGS by tapping the wrench or wheel icon in upper right corner.
- Change your Settings to:
 - Tempo: 87
 - Time Signature: 4/4 (No Change)
 - Key Signature: E Major
- Locate the lyric sheet with chords for "All I Have to Do is Dream" in the "GarageBand Quick Reference and Glossary."
- Practice the CHORD PROGRESSION* for "All I Have to Do Is Dream":
 E, C#m, A, and B.
- Press the Play button (top center) and practice playing in time with the click.
 Each chord in this song is two clicks long.



To watch and hear an Everly Brothers performance of "All I Have to Do Is Dream," click here.

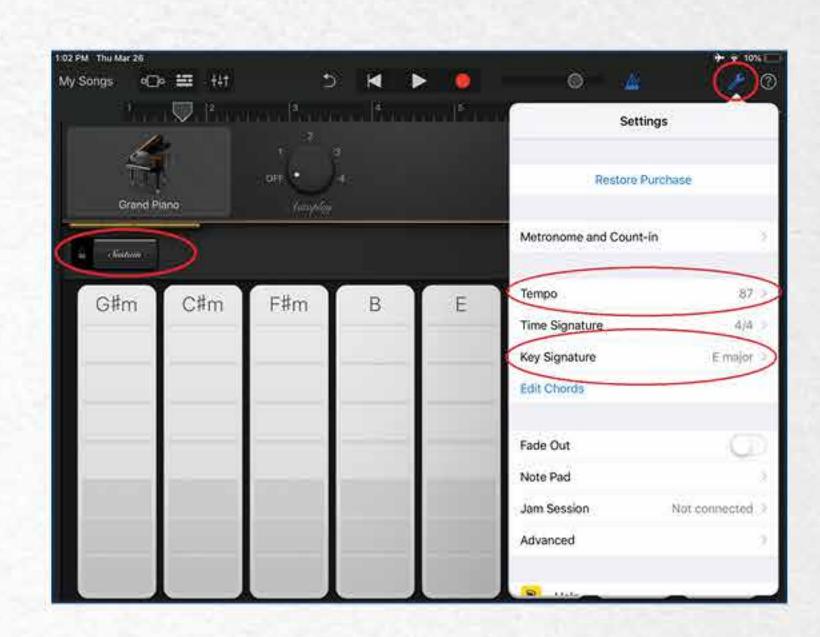
Create a Chord Progression

Experiment by playing three or four chords in order, just like in "All I Have to Do Is Dream."

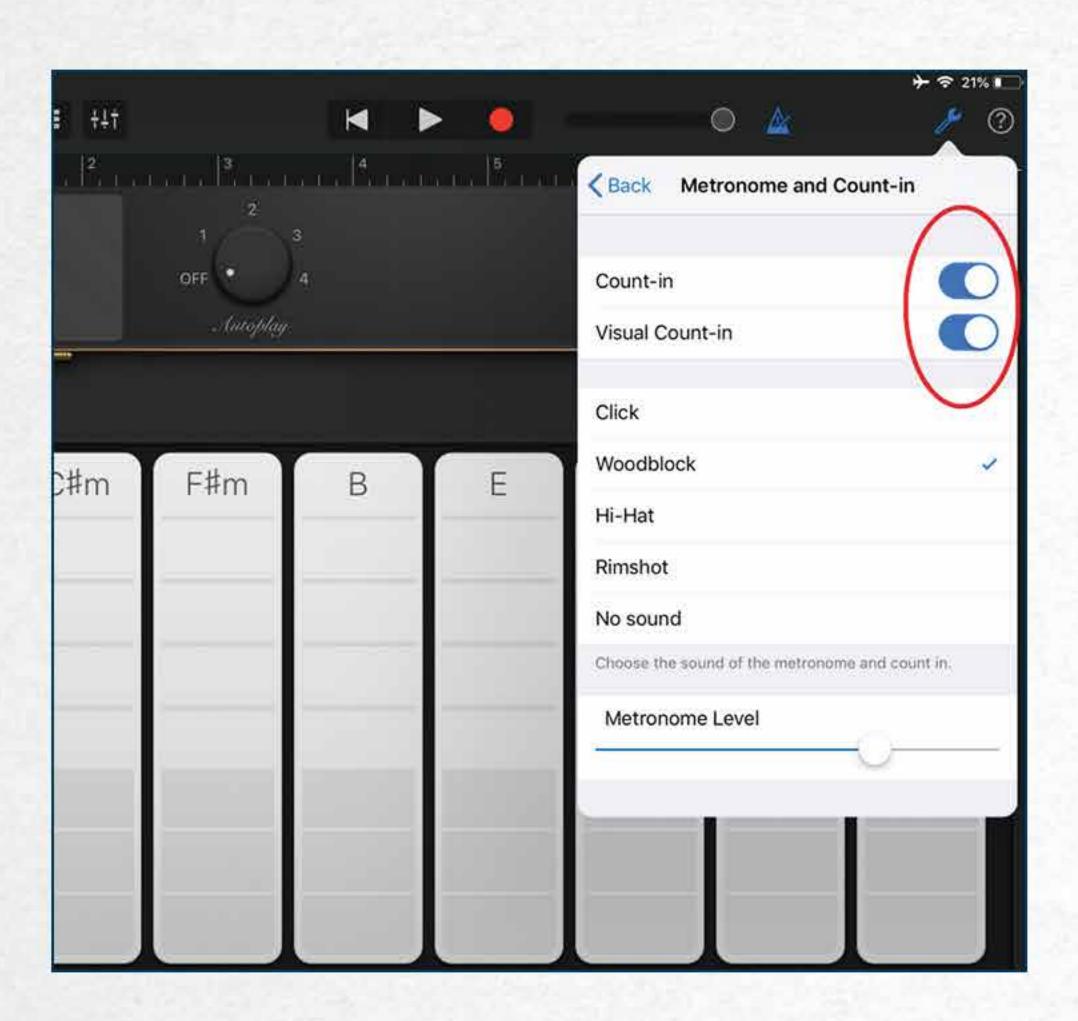
- Here are some chord progressions to try:
 - E, A, B, B
 - C#, A, E, B
 - E, A, E, A



- Create and find a chord progression that fits the mood of your song.
- Use SETTINGS to find a Tempo, Time Signature, and Key Signature that you like.



Record Smart Piano



Let's practice recording. You can record "All I Have to Do Is Dream" or your own song.

- Begin with a COUNT-IN* so you know when to start playing. A Count-in is like the announcement at a beginning of a race: "on your mark, get set, . . ."
- Within Settings, tap "METRONOME AND COUNT-IN" and make sure Count-in and Visual Count-in are both enabled.
- Close SETTINGS by tapping the wheel or wrench icon.

Record Smart Piano

When you are ready, tap the red RECORD button (the red dot to the right of the green PLAY triangle), then wait for a four-beat count-in before you play.

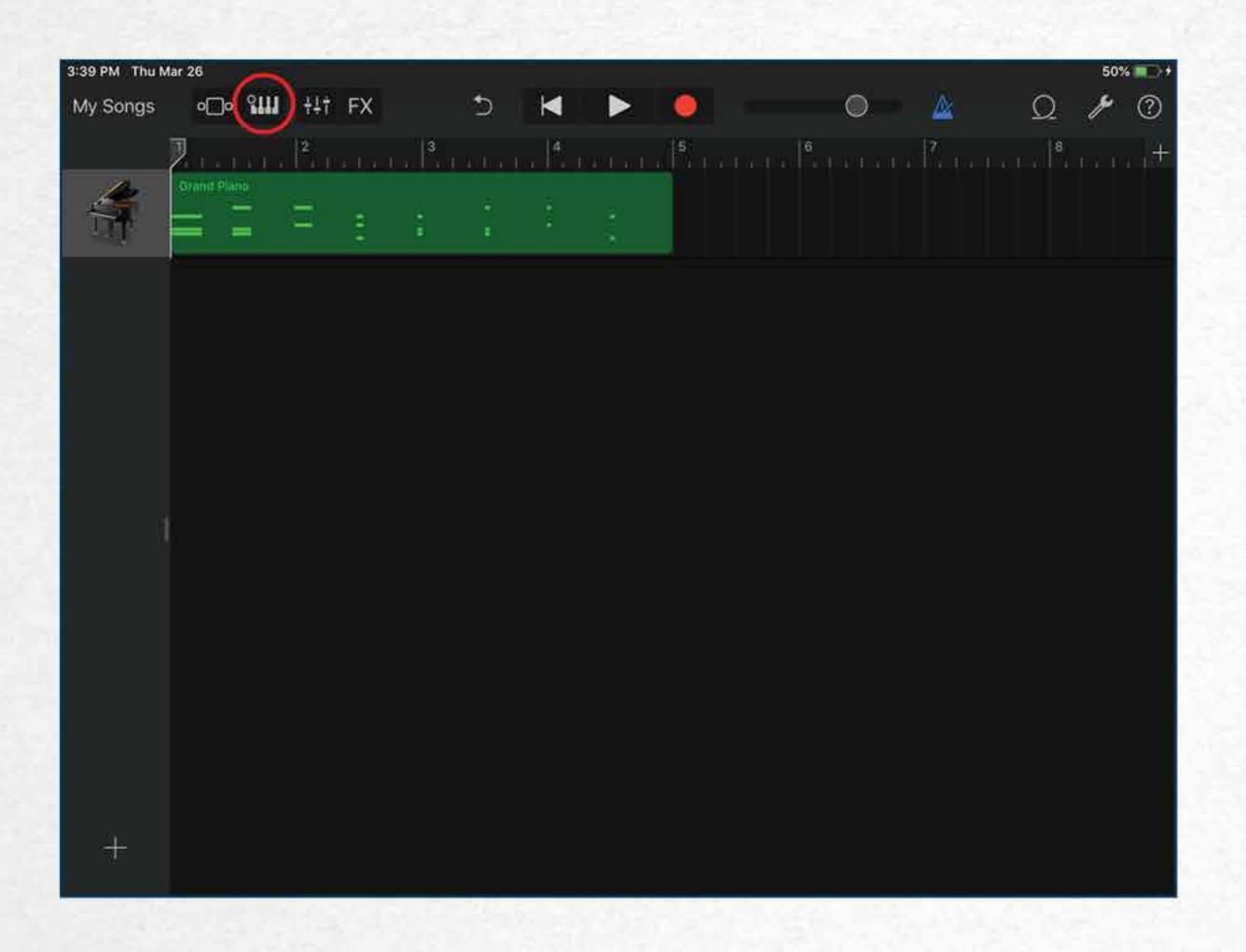
To end recording, press the square STOP button (to the left of the PLAY triangle).

To listen to your recording, tap the TRACKS VIEW icon, which looks like a little flag in the top left corner. When you do, you'll be taken to the screen shown on the next slide.



Tip: If you want to return to this view to re-record piano, tap in the top left corner again. Note that the flag-looking icon will have changed to a small keyboard. Tap that!

Record Smart Piano



In TRACKS VIEW, you can see the piano part you just recorded it's represented by the bright green, horizontal bar.

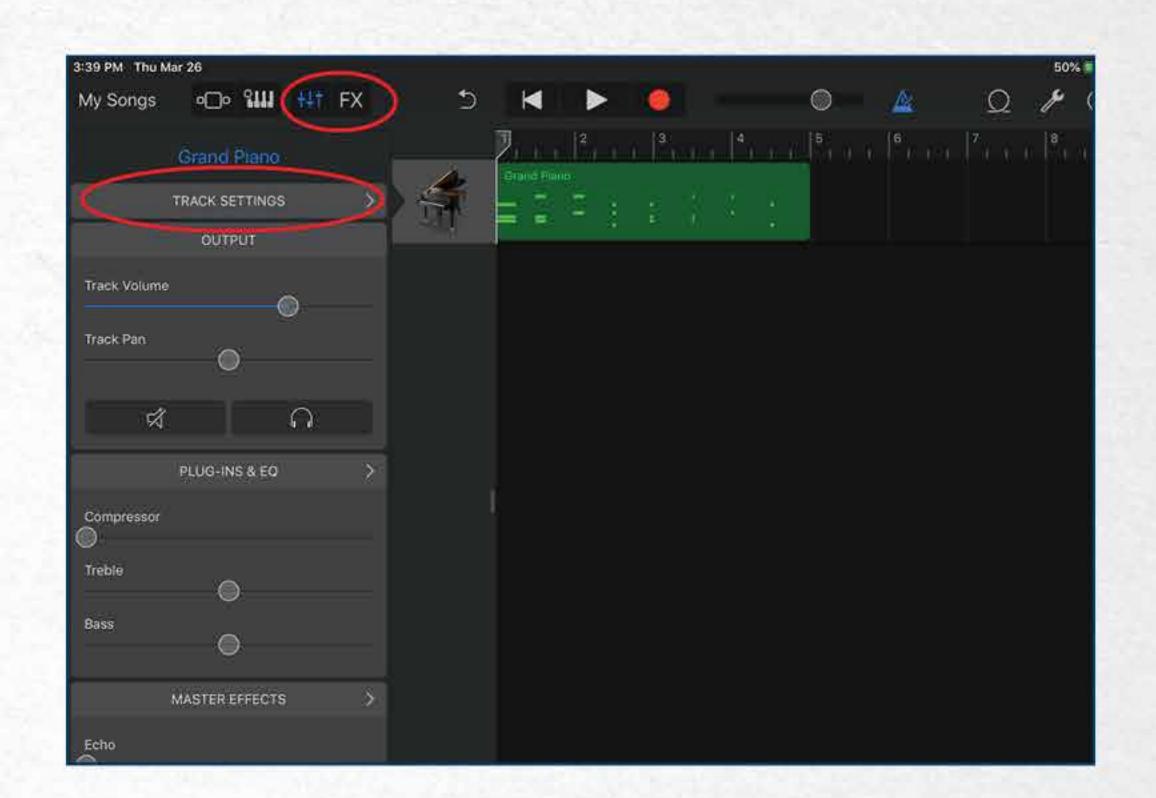
If you want to re-record the Smart Piano, select that instrument from this screen, then touch the INSTRUMENT VIEW icon in the top left corner (it looks like a small keyboard). Repeat the previous steps in Recording Smart Piano.

Quantization

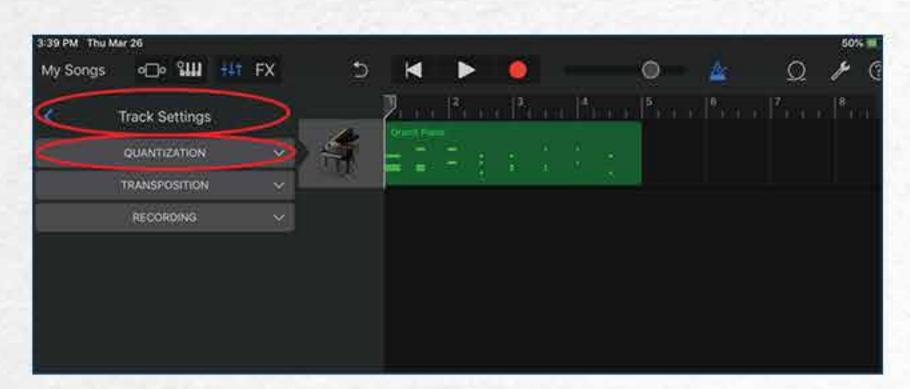
When you press PLAY (the triangle to the left of the red RECORD dot), you may notice that some chords are not in time with the metronome beat. Let's fix that through a tool called QUANTIZATION*!

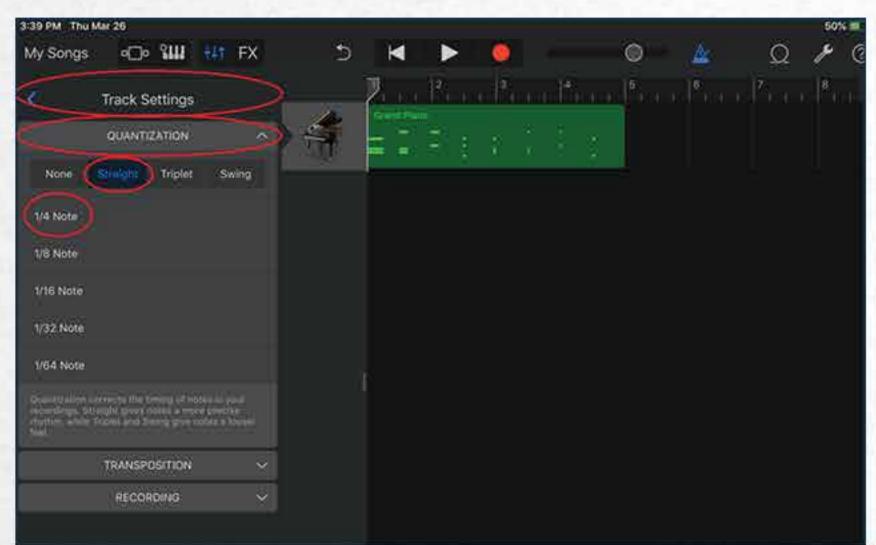
 Quantization is a process that makes all the notes play in time—even if they were recorded a little early or a little late.

Begin by tapping the TRACK SETTINGS button in the upper left, to the left of the FX button. A TRACK SETTINGS menu will open.



Quantization





Tap on the words "TRACK SETTINGS" and the QUANTIZATION option appears. Tap on QUANTIZATION to open its menu.

Select "STRAIGHT" and "1/4 NOTE."

Now, when you hit PLAY, your performance will have been quantized—that is, it will play in time with the metronome.

Close the TRACK SETTINGs by tapping again on the button left of FX.

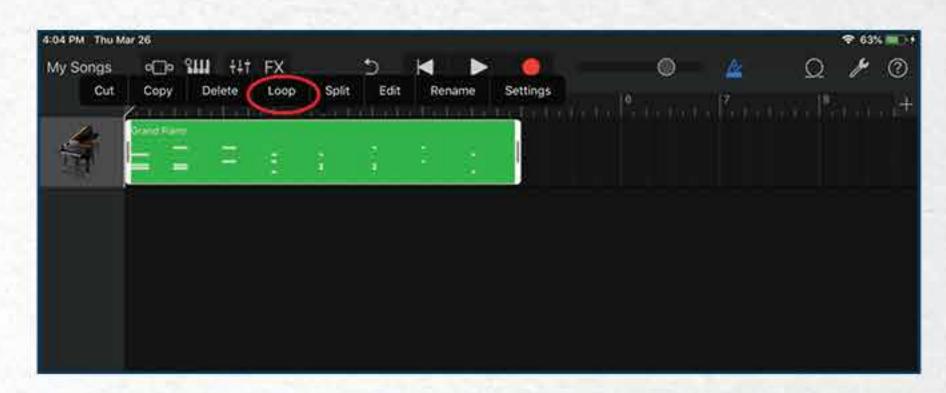
Loop a Recording

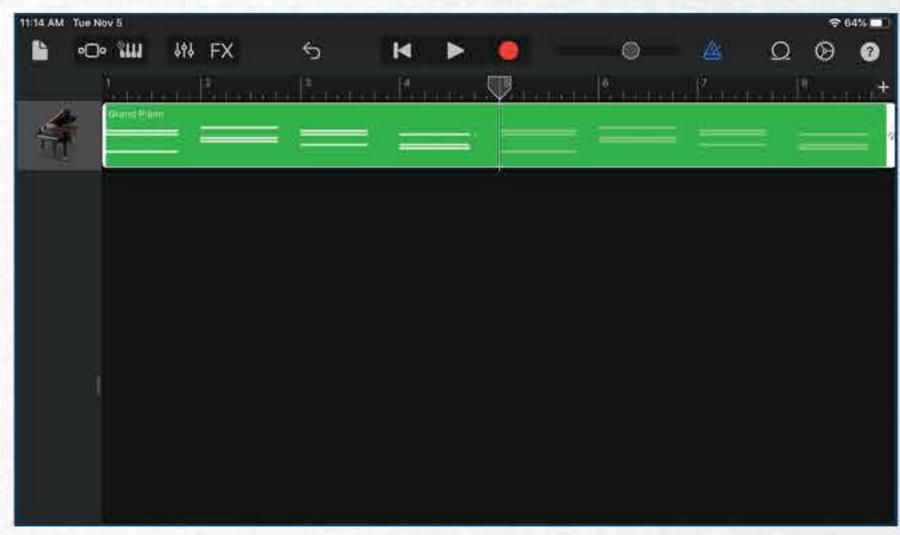
Sometimes, instruments play the same part over and over on repeat. In GarageBand, you can record a short chord progression on the Smart Piano (or any instrument) and automatically repeat it using a feature called LOOP*.

To make your recording play on LOOP:

- Double-tap the green track region; a menu will pop up.
- Select Loop. The screen will change to this view.
- Now, the piano part you recorded will play on repeat.

Tip: If you make a mistake and want to go back, hit the UNDO arrow to the right of the FX button at the top.

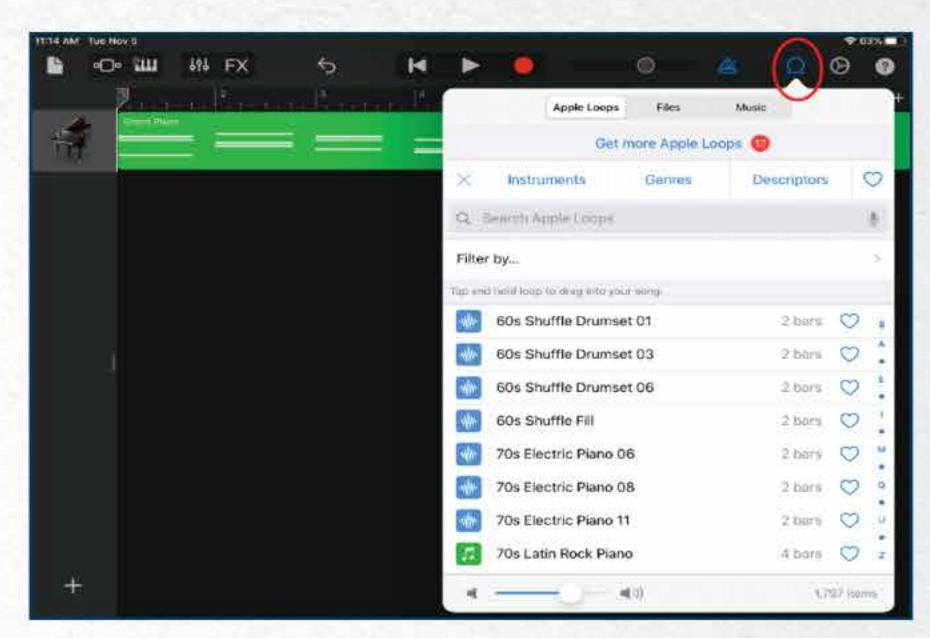


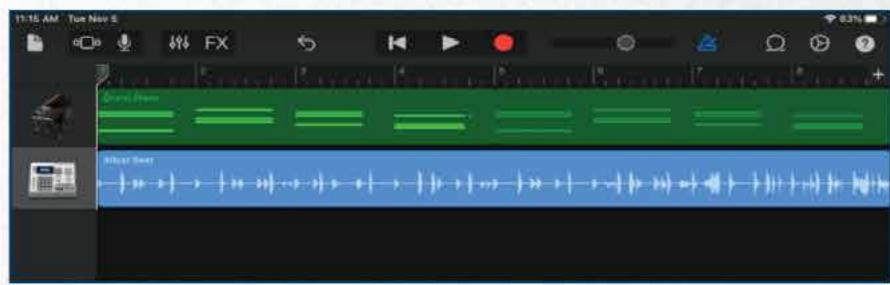


Add a Drumbeat

In the top right corner, tap the LOOP icon, and a menu of premade loops, or "beats," will appear.

- Select a beat to hear a preview of the sound.
- When you find a beat you like, select that beat with your finger and drag it to the left, under the green piano track.
- The blue beat track will appear beneath the green piano track. (You may need to align it with the beginning of the green piano track by sliding it with your finger.)
- You made a beat!

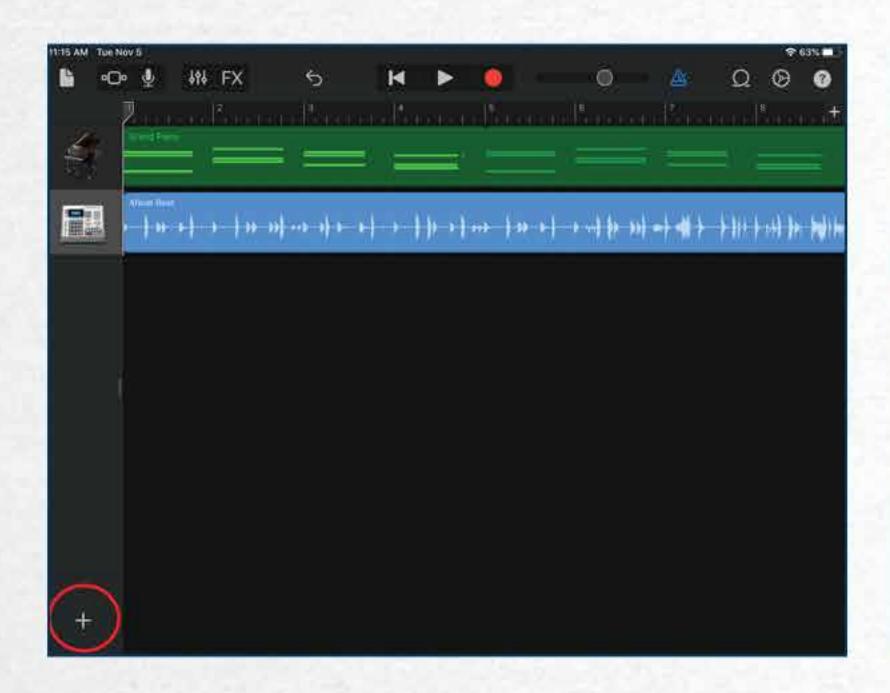


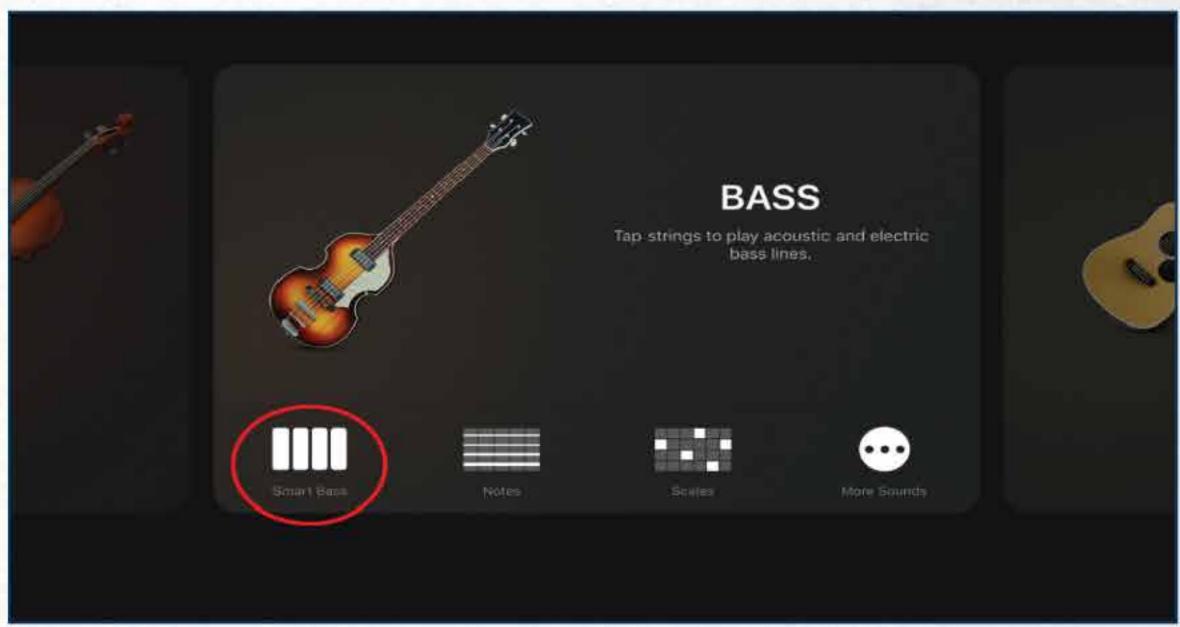


Select Smart Bass

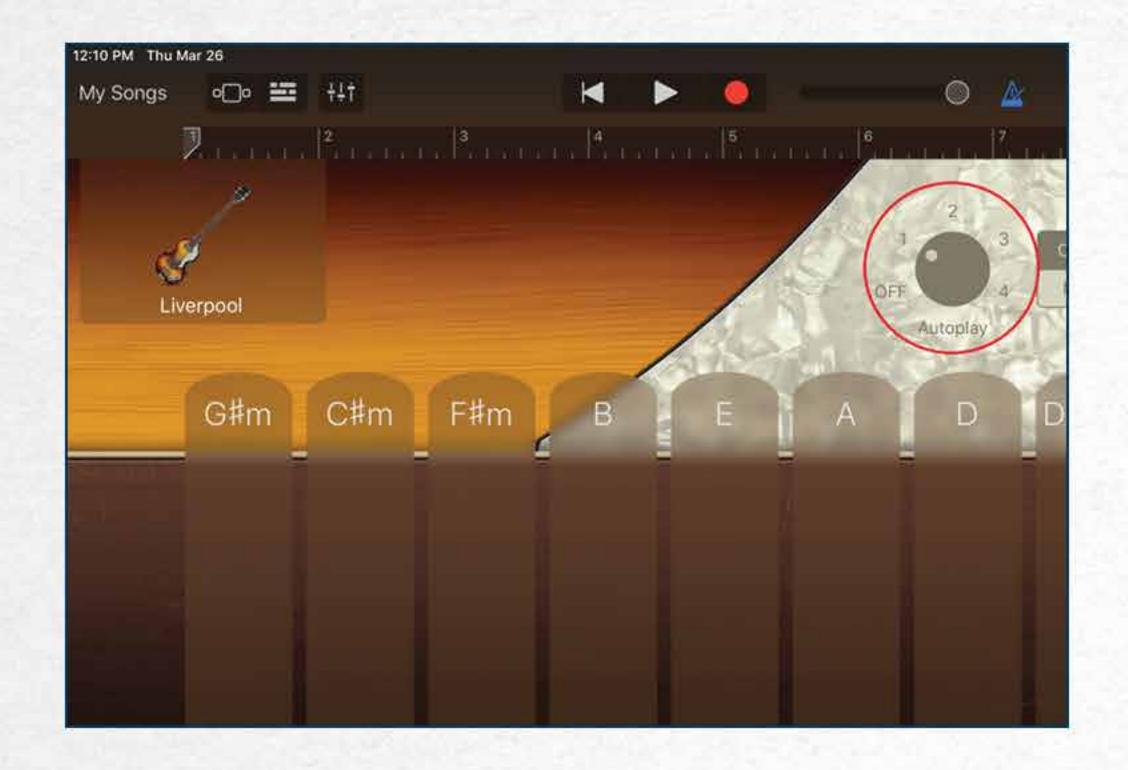
To add a bass sound, tap on the + icon in the bottom left to add a new instrument.

Scroll to BASS and select SMART BASS in the bottom left.





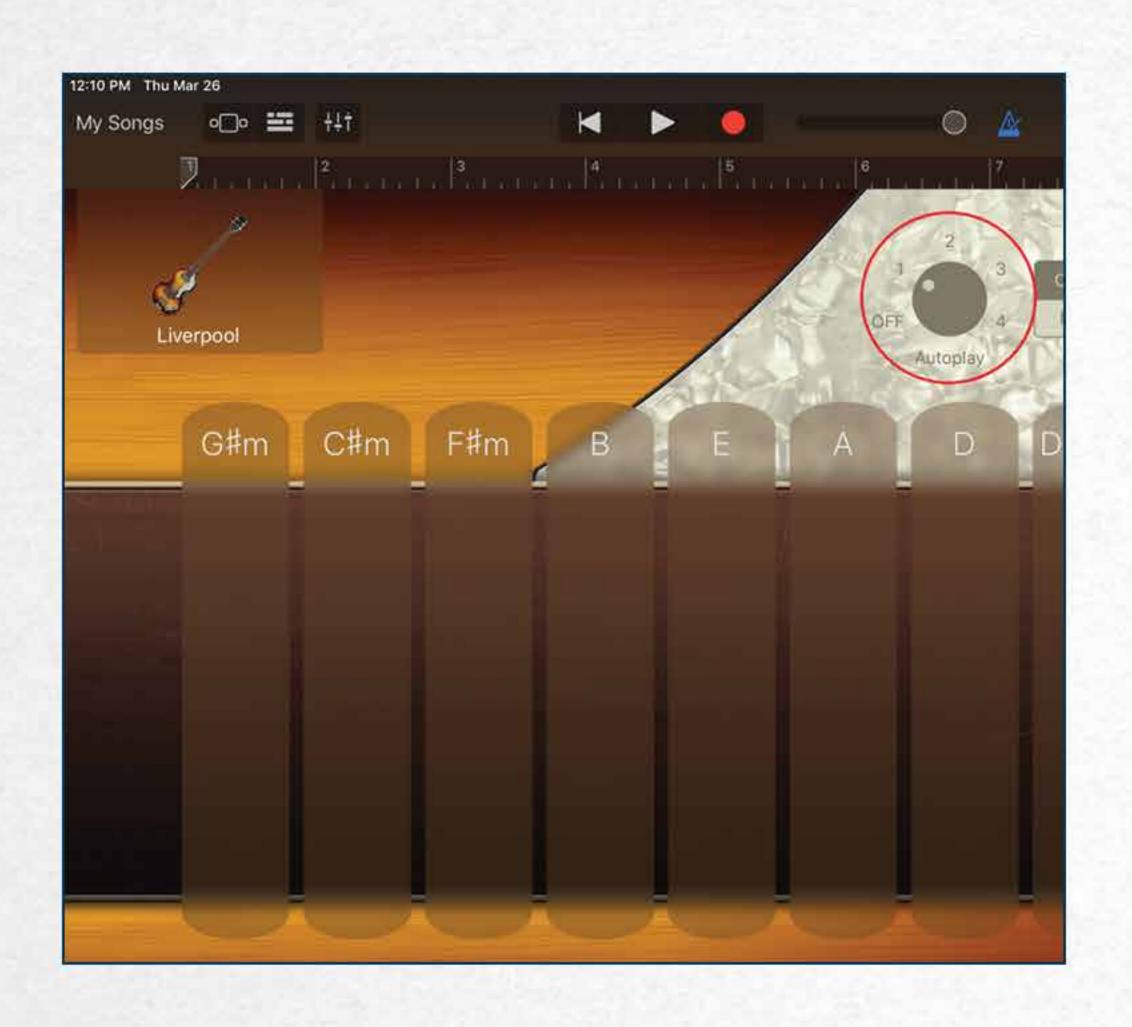
Record Bass



Tip: When changing from chord to chord, if you notice that the bass plays later than you like (or seems slow to move to the next chord), try tapping just a little early. Try experimenting with the different bass grooves generated by settings one through four of the AUTOPLAY feature.

- Each turn of the Autoplay knob delivers a different GROOVE*.
- When playing bass with Autoplay, tap just once on a chord name, and the bass will play continuously.
 - When you tap once on the next chord you want to hear, the bass will switch to that chord and play continuously.
 - If you want the bass to stop, tap the same chord again.

Record Bass



Add the bass to your track.

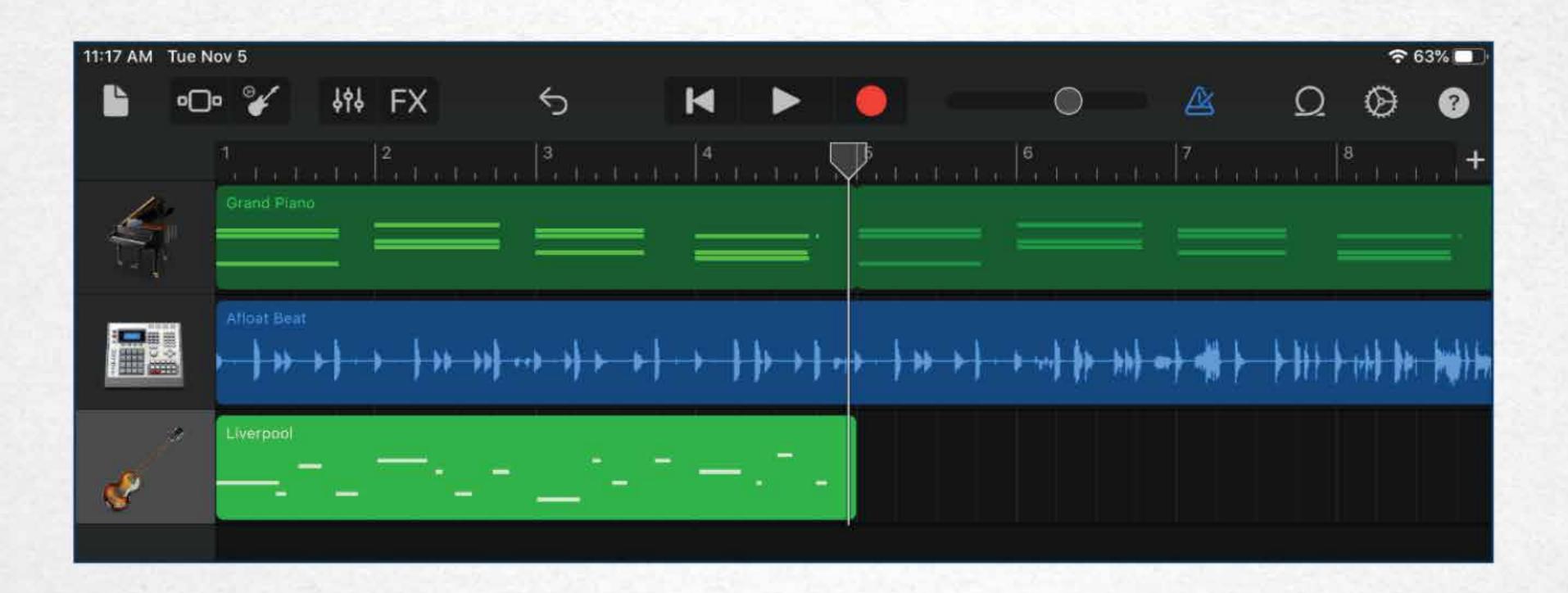
- If you recorded the song "All I Have to Do Is Dream," play E, C#m, A, and B.
- If you recorded your own song, play the chord progression you used on the Smart Piano track.

When you are finished recording, tap TRACKS VIEW (the flag-looking button in the top left), so you can see what you recorded on bass.

Edit Bass

Quantize and loop the bass part in the same way as your piano part (if needed).

Next, tap on the + icon in the bottom left to add another instrument.

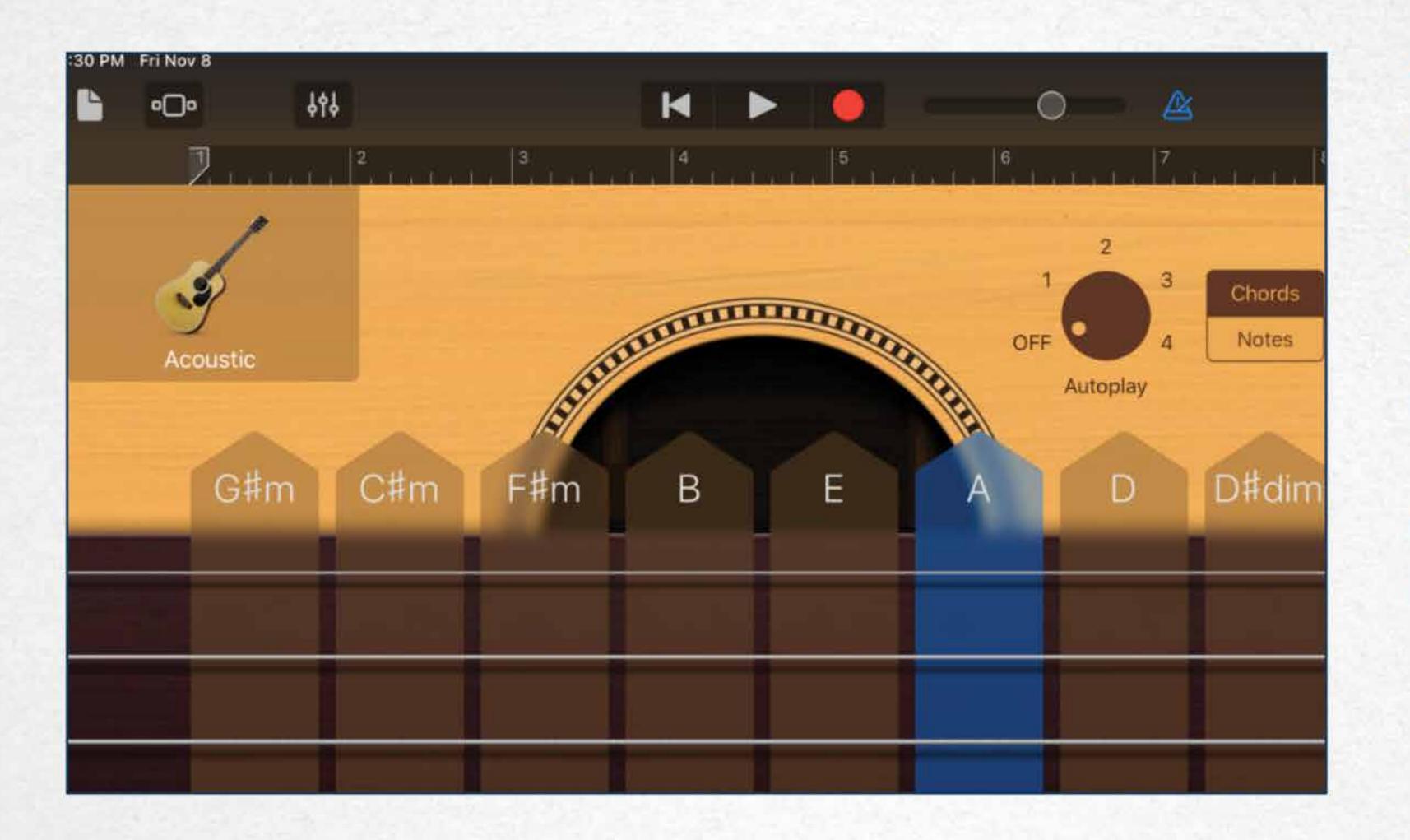


Select Smart Guitar

Scroll to GUITAR and select SMART GUITAR in the bottom left.



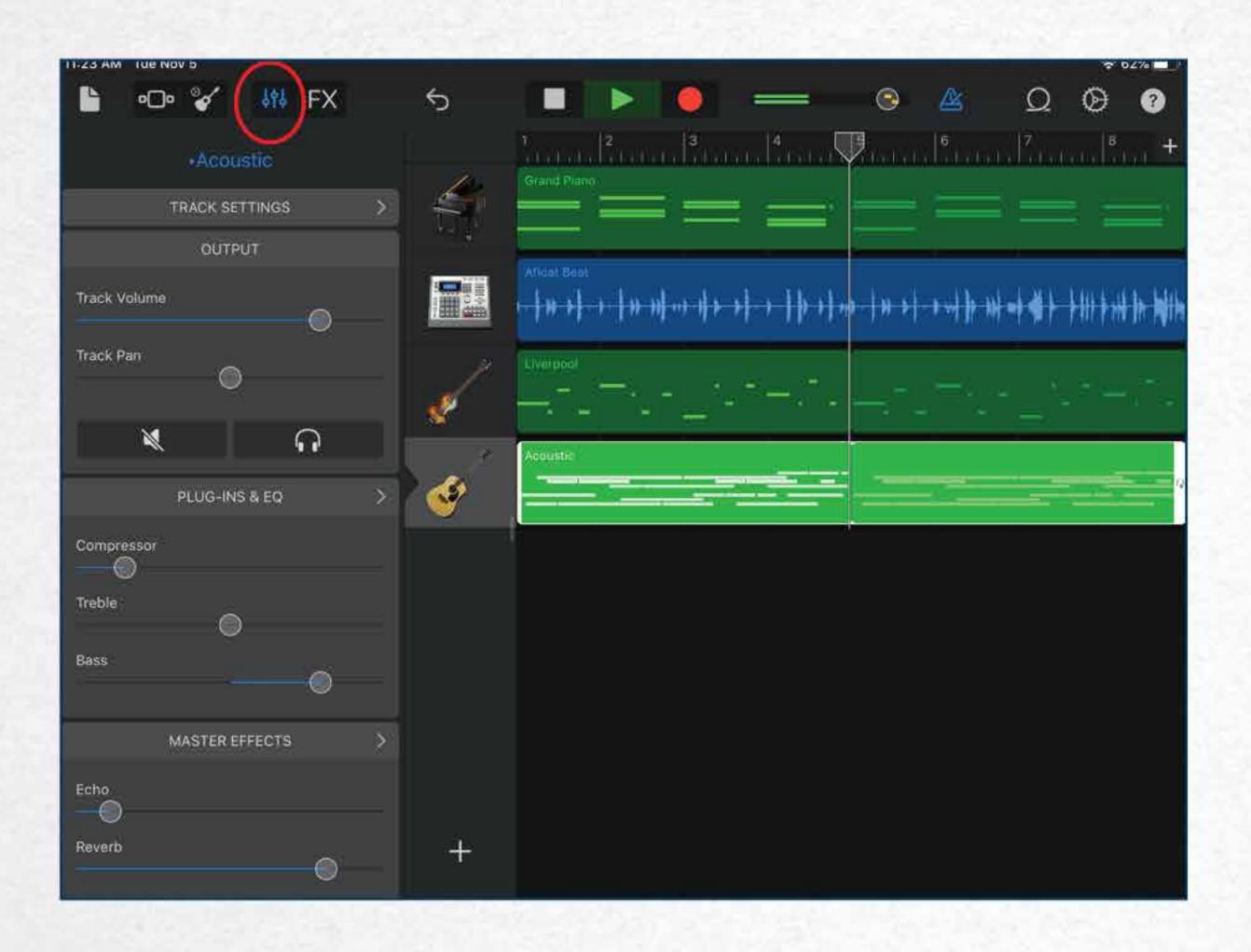
Record Guitar



Strum the virtual guitar by running your finger up and down the chords. In the picture to the left, an A major chord is highlighted.

Record your chord progression.

Edit Guitar



Quantize and loop the guitar part in the same way as your piano part.

Next, tap on the + icon in the bottom left to add another instrument.

Select Audio Recorder



Scroll to AUDIO
RECORDER and
select the VOICE
microphone icon in
the bottom left.

Sing with Audio Recorder



Tip: Use headphones while recording to avoid FEEDBACK*. Make sure the MONITOR in the bottom right is set to ON so you can hear yourself. Before we record your voice, let's set up. Try singing something into your device.

- When you sing, notice the left side of your screen lights up below IN. Green is good. Yellow is OK.
- Red will sound distorted (or fuzzy). Turn down IN so that your loudest voice still registers green.
- If you need to hear more of yourself in your headphones, turn up OUT on the right.

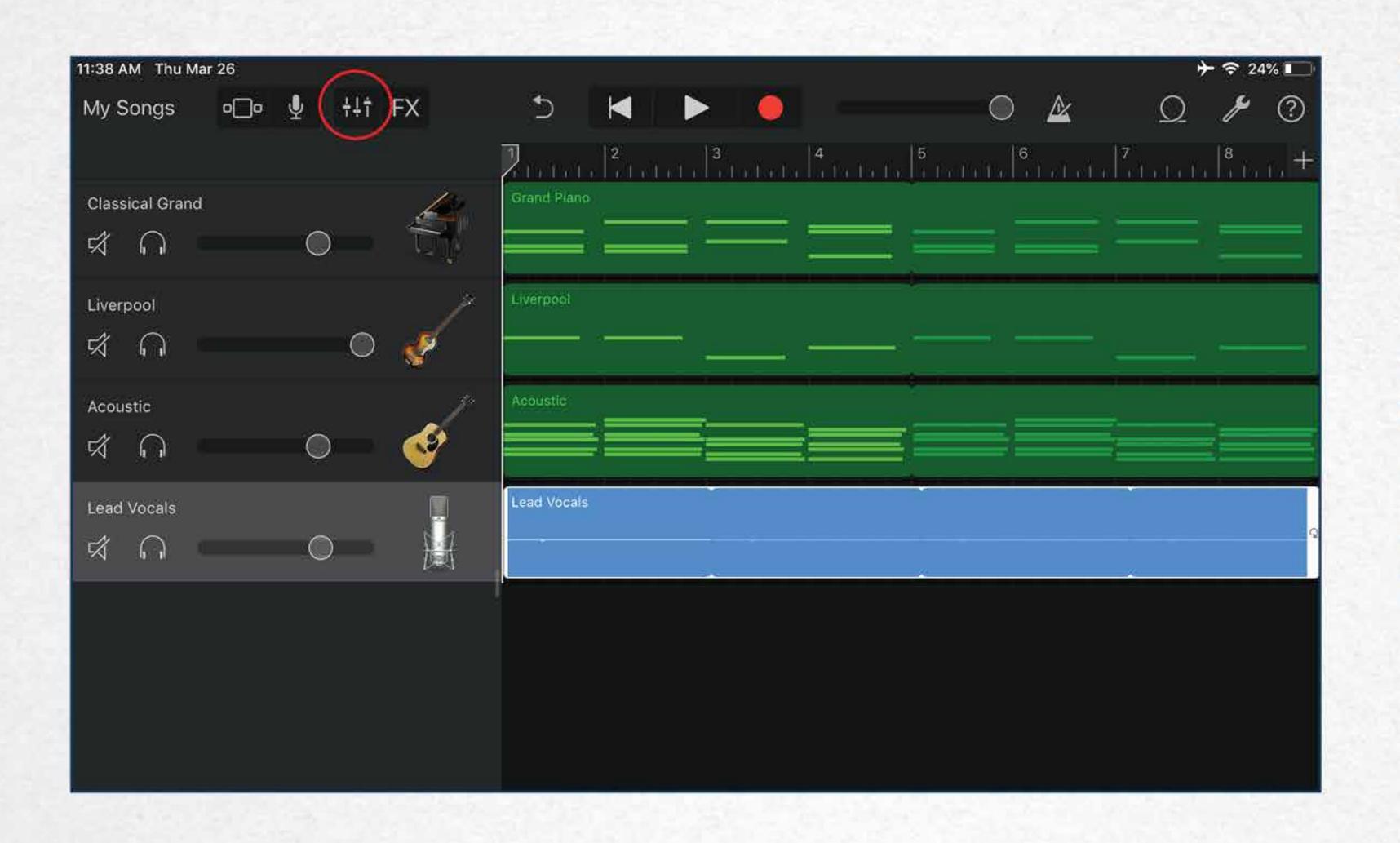
Sing with Audio Recorder



Tip: Use headphones while recording to avoid FEEDBACK*. Make sure the MONITOR in the bottom right is set to ON so you can hear yourself. With your settings dialed in, let's record your voice.

- Recording in AUDIO RECORDER is a lot like recording a smart instrument, but you'll be singing into your device instead of playing on it.
- Have your lyrics in front of you: "All I Have to Do Is Dream," found in the Quick Reference, or your own lyrics.
- Press RECORD and wait for the COUNT-IN.
- When done, press stop and then TRACKS VIEW to see what you created.

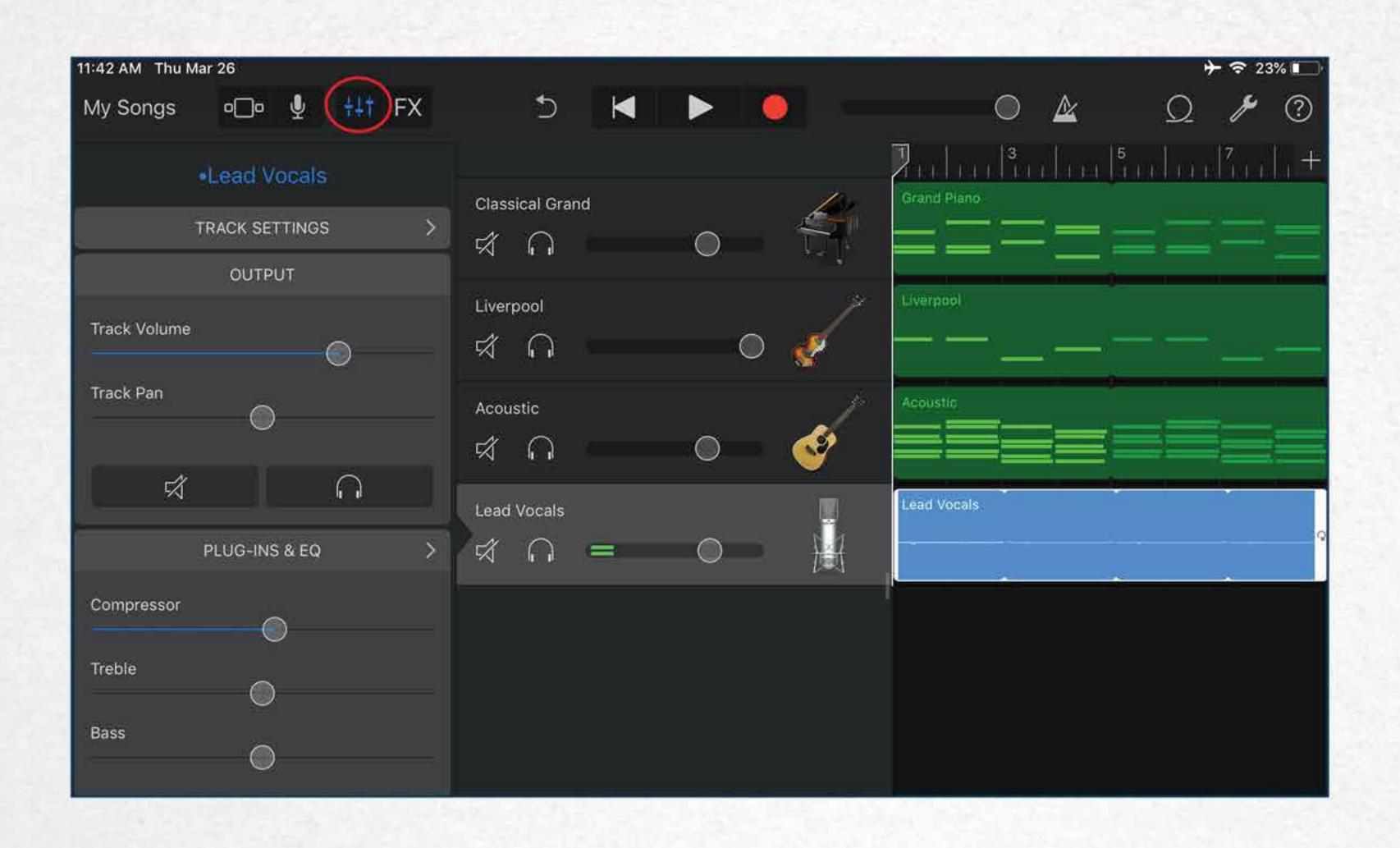
Add Vocal Effects



You can edit your vocals by adding effects like ECHO* and REVERB*.

Open TRACK
SETTINGS by
selecting the icon
next to FX at the
top left.

Add Vocal Effects



Experiment with adding effects, like ECHO and REVERB, to your voice recording.

Try adding effects to your other tracks as well!

Save and Share Your Song

Save Your Song

Your finished tracks will look something like this.

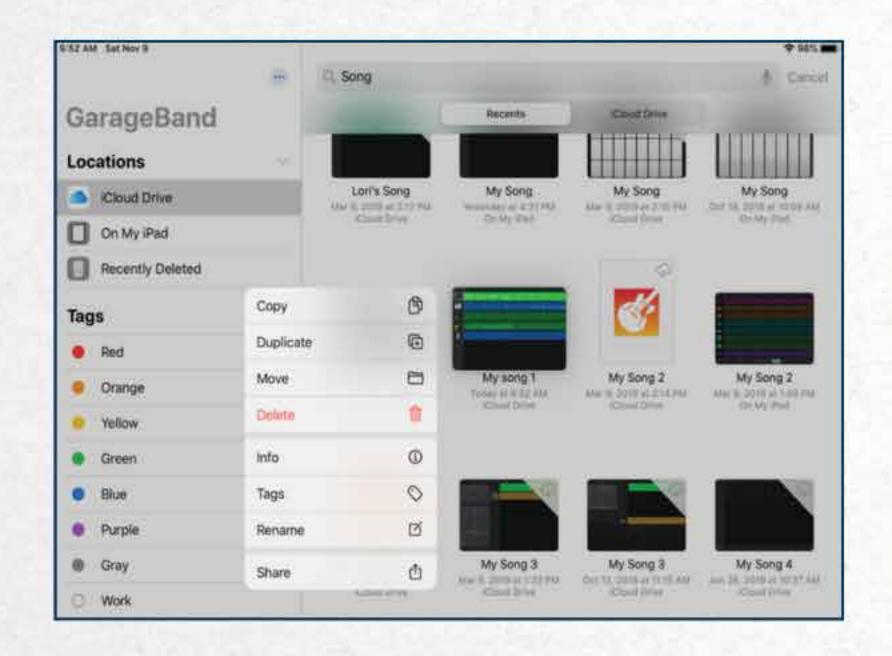
To save your song, tap the icon in the top left corner. The icon looks like a document, or says "My Songs."

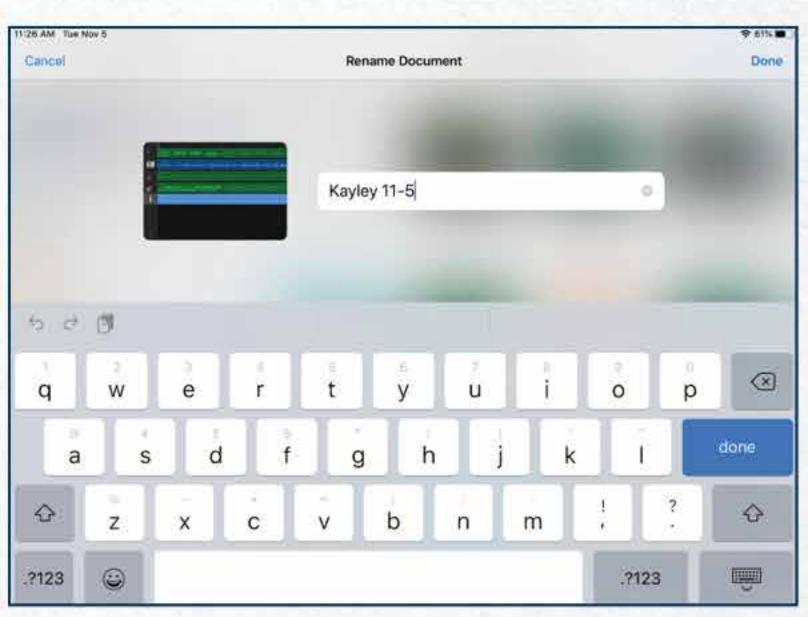


Name Your Recording

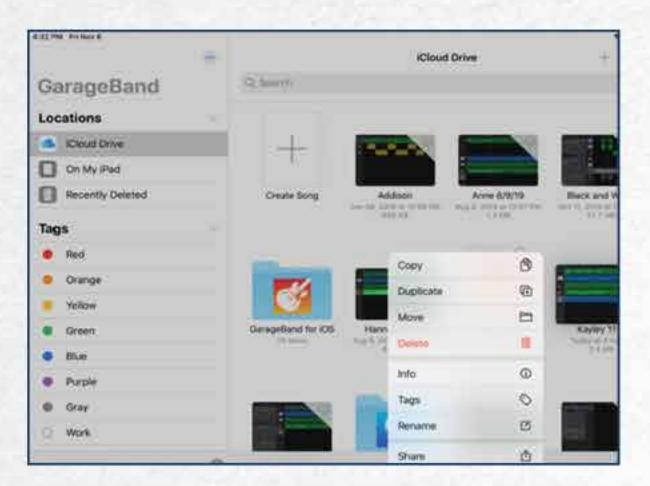
Once you have clicked to save, locate your song by looking for the file with the most recent date and time. GarageBand automatically names all files "My Song" until you provide a new name.

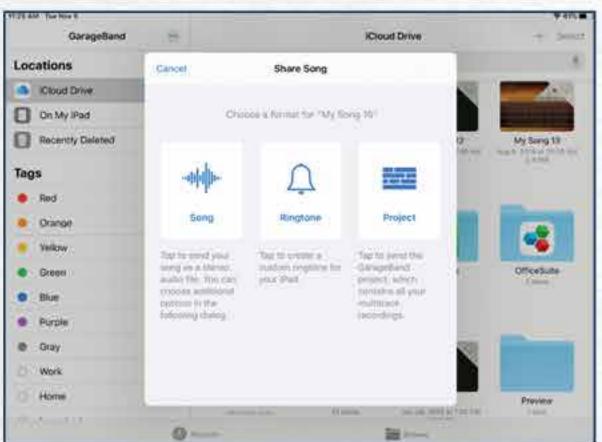
- Tap and hold, and a menu will pop up.
- Rename your project with your song title.





Share Your Song





You can share your work, either in song form (an MP3 file) or as a project (a GarageBand file) so you can collaborate with a friend.

On an iPad, tap and hold your song file to bring up the menu and tap SHARE.

- Select SONG to share an MP3 recording.
- Select PROJECT to send your entire
 GarageBand file (not just the MP3) to a friend,
 who can then collaborate with you using their
 own device.

What Do I Do Next?

Congratulations You Did It!

When you are finished, please share your completed song with the

Words & Music at Home community on Instagram:

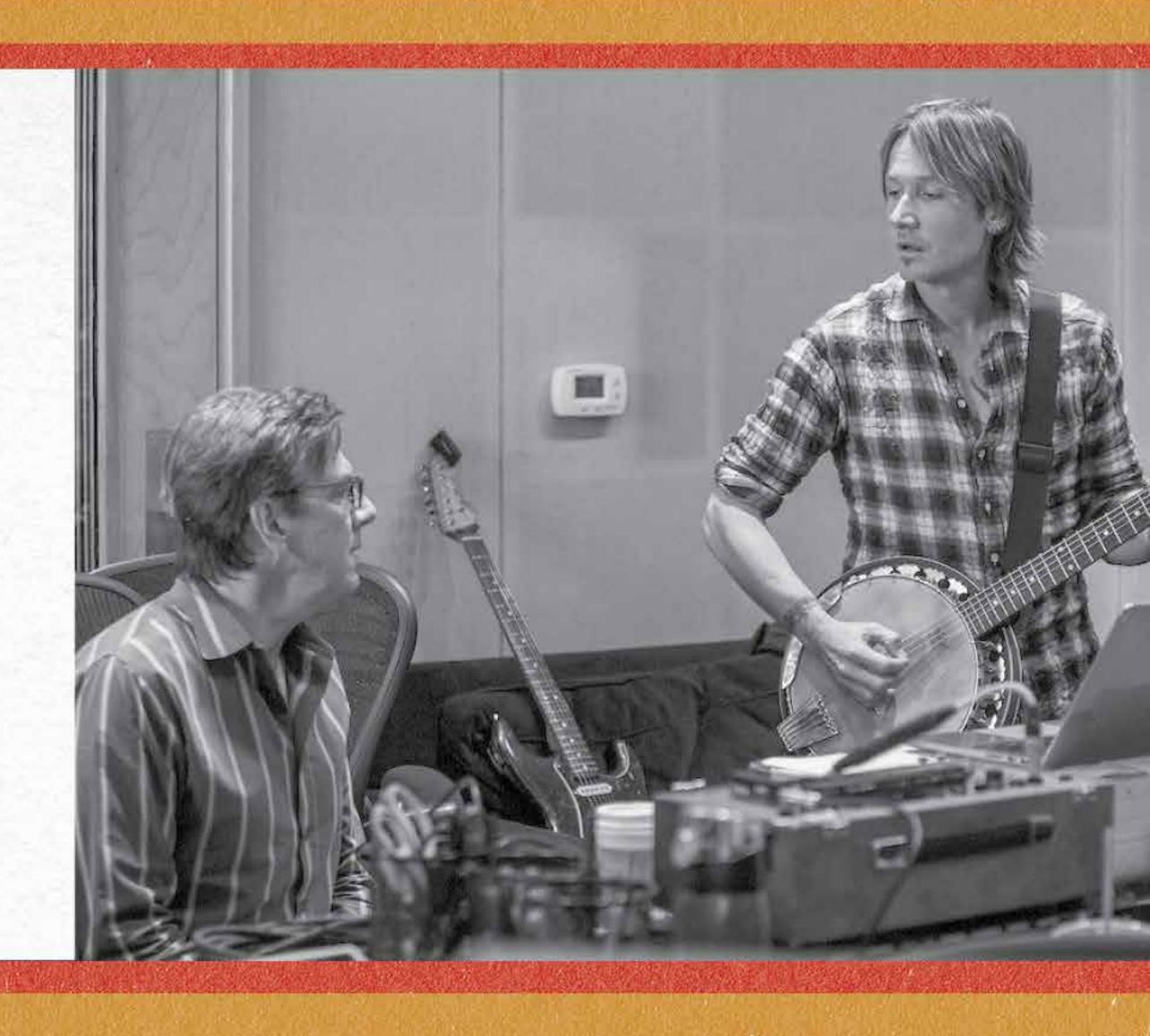
Use #WordsandMusicatHome, and tag @OfficialCMHOF.

Dann Huff

Producer: Kane Brown, Lady Antebellum, Keith Urban

"Some days, the sad thing is that not everything you play is worthy. The smartest thing is to not be afraid to say, 'This [stinks],' and then come back."

Premier Guitar, December 30, 2009



Words & Music at Home is a branch of the Museum's flagship education program, Words & Music. Thanks to the following supporters who ensure the sustainability of this important work.







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