

**tech note: advanced Garage Band**

This handout describes some advanced functions in Garage Band; refer to the '**intro to Garage Band**' tech note for the basics.

**RECORDING INTO GARAGE BAND WITH A MICROPHONE**

1. Before opening Garage Band, connect a USB microphone (check one out from the Lab office).
2. Open Garage Band and click Garage Band → Preferences → Audio/MIDI → Audio Input and select the microphone from the list.
3. Create a new track: Track → New → Real Instrument → Vocals → No Effects
4. Turn the mic on and click Record to start and stop recording (or 'R'/spacebar)

**INTEGRATING EXTERNAL SOUND FILES**

You can add external sound files (.AIF, .MP3, .MP4, etc) to your Garage Band by click & dragging them from a Finder window into your Track window. (They will be imported as Real Instrument Tracks).

**LOOPS**

Click the eyeball icon at the bottom of the window to open the Loop browser. Click on a loop to preview the sound. To create a new track from a loop, click & drag into the gray area underneath your Tracks; to add a loop to an existing track, click & drag it into an existing track. Merging different instruments yields the following results:

**Green (Software) → Green:** converts notes to track instrument, e.g. drag a Guitar Loop into a Grand Piano track, and the track will play the guitar notes with the piano instrument.

**Blue (Real) → Blue:** converts notes to track instrument

**Green → Blue:** transforms green (Software) into blue (Real)

**Blue → Green:** can't happen.

**EXPORTING & SAVING .AIF FILES**

Export your Garage Band source file as an .AIF sound file to integrate with visuals in other programs like Quicktime and Final Cut Express.

1. Click **File → Export to iTunes**.
2. When the file opens in iTunes, click and drag it from the iTunes window to your hard drive (or User Work); it will appear as an .AIF file