

TEMPLATES AND ORGANIZATION IN LOGIC PRO

“You can always go back to an earlier version, which is great. Because [when] you start adding more sounds, sometimes you lose the magic.”

—Armin van Buuren

SUBCHAPTERS

- Armin's Logic Template
- Organize and Color Code
- Archiving Your Projects
- Always Back Up Your Work

CHAPTER REVIEW

Armin starts every track from the same basic Logic template: a 130-beat-per-minute (BPM) arrangement with a kick drum on the quarter notes, a couple basic instruments from the ES2 synth, and an ESX24 sampler. Armin also routes all his tracks using buses. Buses are a way of grouping tracks together in a DAW, so you can process them together all at once. Armin sends every track in his arrangement to bus 30, which then gets sent to bus 31 where he adds his final dynamic processing. Listening back and forth to bus 30 and 31 is a quick way to hear the sonic differences between his mixes before and after dynamic processing.

You may have every intention of sitting down and getting creative, but poor organization can immediately break your workflow. Spending your most productive hours searching for plug-ins or specific files will keep you from doing your best work. Invest some time in getting organized. Grouping and color coding tracks makes it easier to navigate complex projects. Armin colors his drums red; basslines blue; pads, melodies, and leads in green; effects in yellow; and vocals in orange.

Get into the habit of saving and backing up your work regularly. Armin recommends saving every 2–3 minutes and often with different version numbers. Version numbers let you easily access earlier drafts of your songs, so you can recapture some music magic you might have lost, or compare different mixes. Time Machine and Carbon Copy Cloner are both helpful backup utilities. Your projects are your art—they should be well protected.

LEARN MORE

- For those of you who are new to Logic Pro, you can read about basics, such as tracks and regions, [here](#).
- Each track will have its own channel strip in Logic Pro (and most other DAWs). This gives users control over how each track is effected and mixed. Learn more about using channel strips [here](#).

4.

TEMPLATES AND ORGANIZATION IN LOGIC PRO

LEARN MORE CONT.

- Armin has provided his Logic template [here](#) exclusively for his MasterClass students. You can read more about the benefits of using templates [here](#).
- Backing up frequently is key to ensuring your work survives when disaster strikes. Armin recommends using [Carbon Copy Cloner](#) for backing up your files.

ASSIGNMENT

- Using the DAW of your choice, prepare a template that you will use to create original tracks over the following chapters. Use Armin's template as a guide and use his best practices to set yourself up for success.