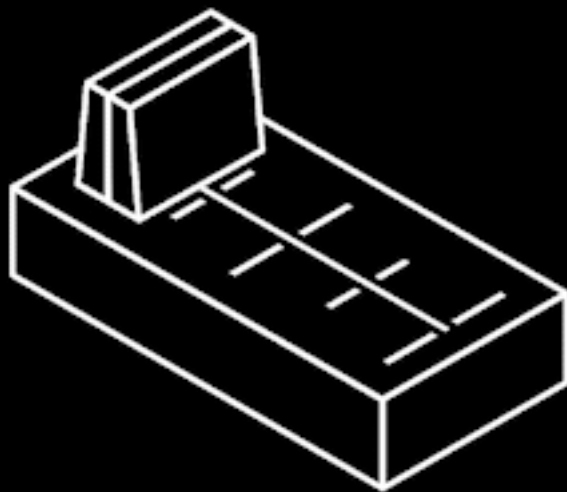




# beatfader



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**User guide**

# Introducing beatfader:

## Play beats with any fader, knob, or midi controller.

- 1. Loop your performance** with selectable loop lengths that allow you to effortlessly live loop your beats.
- 2. Sound Sculpting Mastery:** Enjoy individual controls for each sound's gain, pitch, and filter to tune your beat to perfection.
- 3. Quantization Customization:** Modify the quantization amount for a whole new feel to your rhythm's potential.
- 4. Spread the Magic:** Adjust the spread to add margins to the sides of the fader, compressing the distribution of the notes.
- 5. Skew your drums:** Turn convention on its head by inverting or skewing notes, offering constant creative versions.
- 6. Mute for Emphasis:** Individually mute each note, opening the door to captivating transitions and breakdowns.
- 7. Expansive Sound Library:** With loads of kits and the ability to create your own drum palette is limitless.



## System Requirements:

### Windows

- Windows 10
- 2GHz Pentium IV processor or equivalent
- A host that supports 32-bit or 64-bit VST
- At least 130MB free disk space
- Formats: VST, VST3

### macOS

- macOS 10.13 High Sierra or later
- Intel or Apple Silicon processor
- A host application that supports 64-bit VST or AudioUnit
- at least 130MB free disk space
- Formats: AU, VST, VST3

## Installation Instructions:

### Windows

1. Download **Beatfader-X.X.X.exe** installer file.
2. Install to your preferred plugin folder.
3. On first launch, enter your License code.

### macOS

1. Download **Beatfader-X.X.X.pkg** installer file.
2. Follow the steps to install.
3. On first launch, enter your License code.\* NB : on macOS, the plugins are installed to the default location : /Library/Audio/PlugIns.

\*After purchasing beatfader your License key appeared on your Licenses page: <https://beatsurfing.com/my-license/>

## License Activation & Deactivation:

Each license you buy lets you activate the plugin on **2 computers** at a time. If you need to run it on a third machine, you'll first need to deactivate the plugin's license on one of your machines.

When deactivated, your plugin is still usable, but in a frozen state: your existing sessions will be able to load the plugin and its parameters in their last saved state. However you won't be able to access the user interface to tweak its parameters.

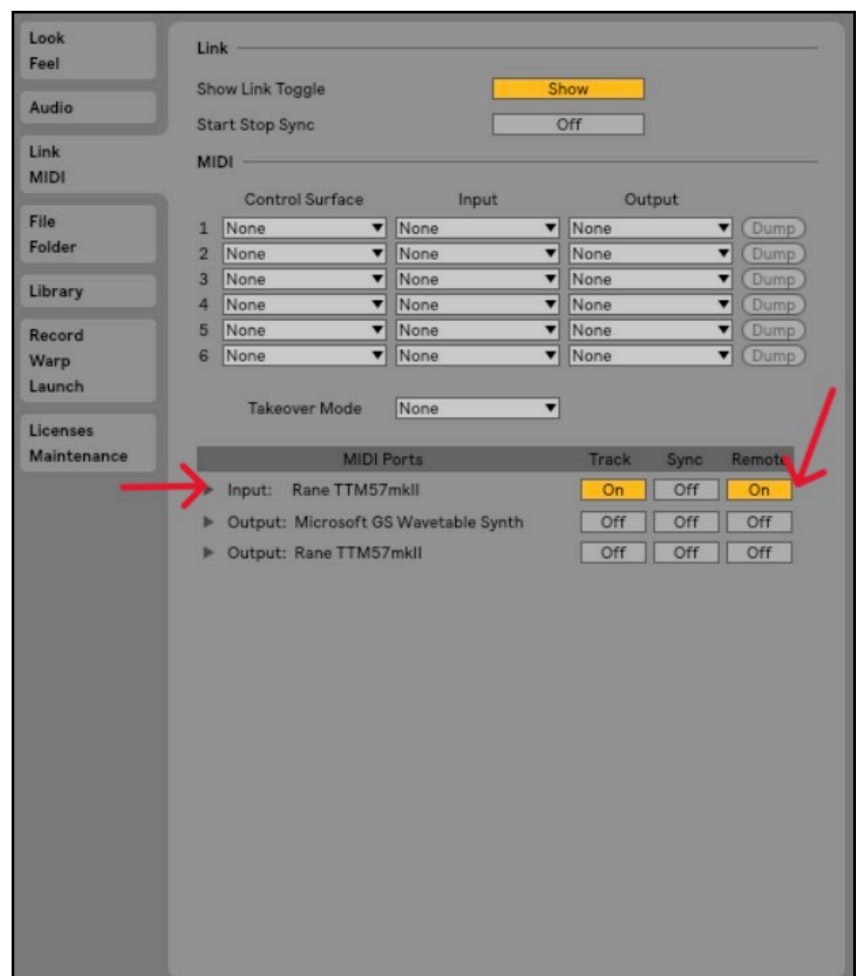
## Setting Up beatfader for Ableton:

Midi Map the beatfader plugin to your MIDI-enabled controller or DJ mixer and effortlessly sync it with your preferred DAW.

### Enable MIDI Remote in Preferences

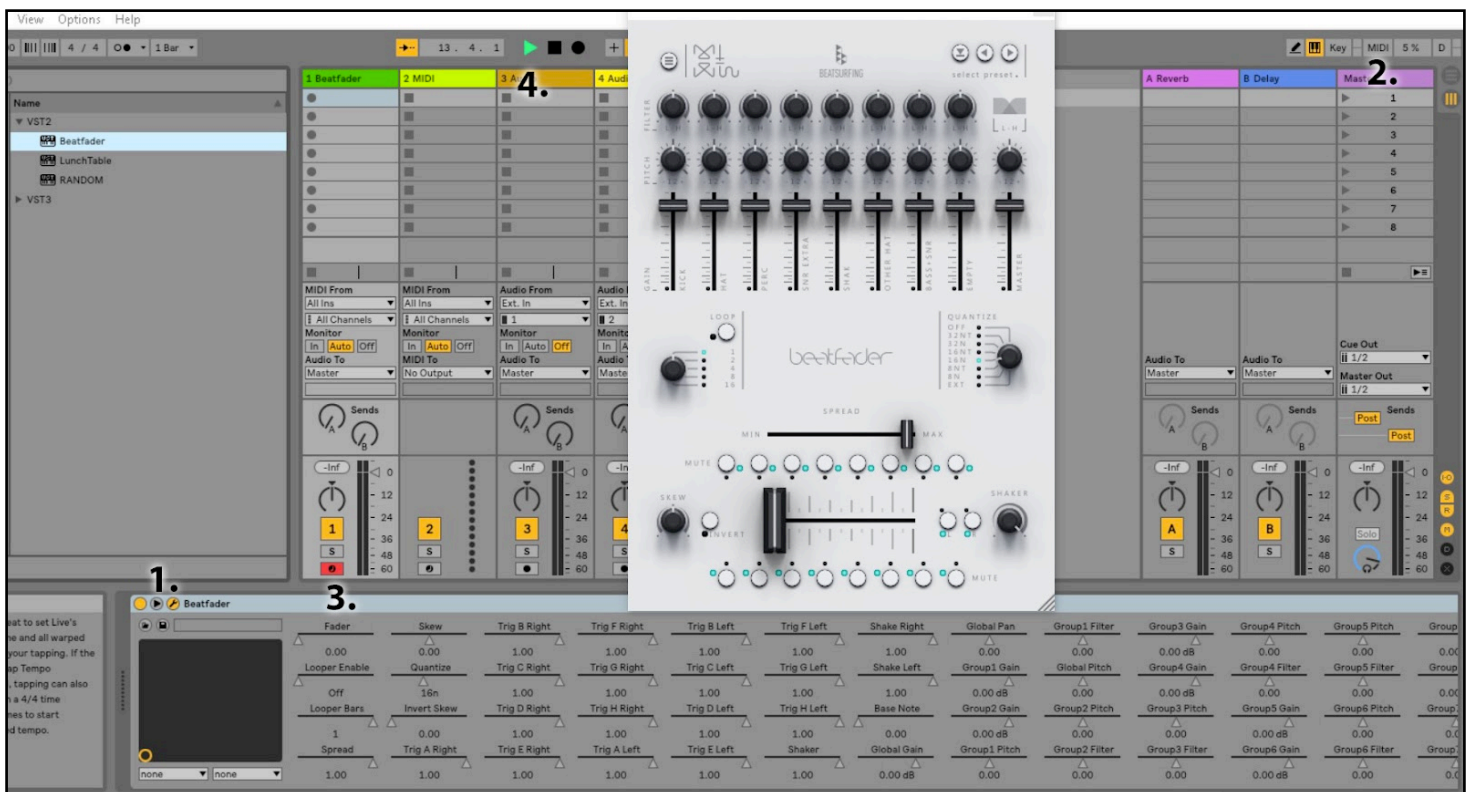
*\*Instructions below are for Ableton Live. You can find additional how-to resources for midi mapping in other DAWs below..*

1. Plug your DJ mixer or MIDI controller's USB into your computer.
2. Open Ableton Live and navigate to **'Options'** then **'Preferences'**.
3. Select the **'MIDI'** tab.
4. In the **'MIDI PORTS'** section, find your mixer or controller.
5. Enable **'Remote'** for your mixer or controller's input.



## Map Beat Fader to Your DJ Mixer or Controller:

1. Add beatfader on a **MIDI track** and expand the VST parameter view by clicking the small arrow in the parameters section. Now you can see all the mappable parts of beatfader.
2. Turn on **MIDI Map** mode: Click the **MIDI Map** button in the top right corner of Ableton or use the shortcuts (Mac: Press CMD + m or Windows: Press Ctrl + m).
3. Click on the function you want to map, e.g., the fader from the VST parameter view. Move a fader, knob, or any element with MIDI on your controller.
4. The controls are now mapped. Repeat these steps for any additional controls you want to map (looper, pitch, volumes etc).



*\*Don't forget to exit **MIDI Map** mode and press play to enable quantization!*

## How to MIDI map in other DAWs:

### FL Studio:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B62R\\_3q5N9g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B62R_3q5N9g)

### Logic Pro:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gOoBT3Q9ls>

### Serato Studio:

<https://support.serato.com/hc/en-us/articles/360000985575-Using-MIDI-devices-Serato-Studio-compatible-hardware>

### Studio One:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RuSMPw-3gxc>

### Cubase:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Ed3HFtZ1tg>

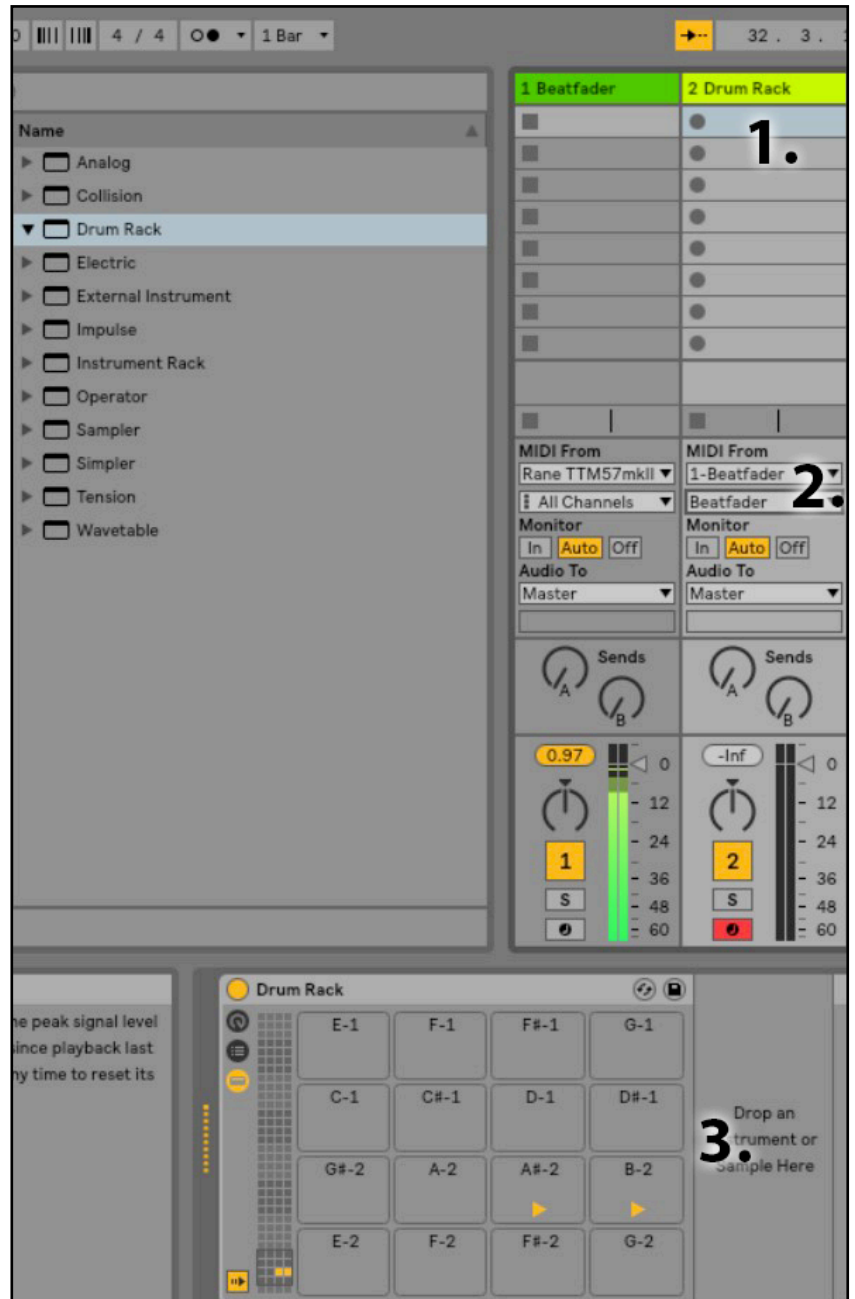
### Bitwig Studio:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jfaEY-AMaNk>

## Creating your own kits:

Use MIDI out to create your own kits or add more sounds to your setup.

1. Create an additional midi track and drag a drum rack onto the new midi track.
2. On the new track, under 'MIDI FROM' select your beatfader midi track for both the in and channel sections.
3. You should now see beatfader triggering the pads on the drum rack. You can check the **MIDI chart** in the Appendix for building your own kits.



You can also use [THIS PROJECT](#) file for an example drum rack replicating the "Zenithrust" factory preset. Hopefully this will get you started on mapping your own.

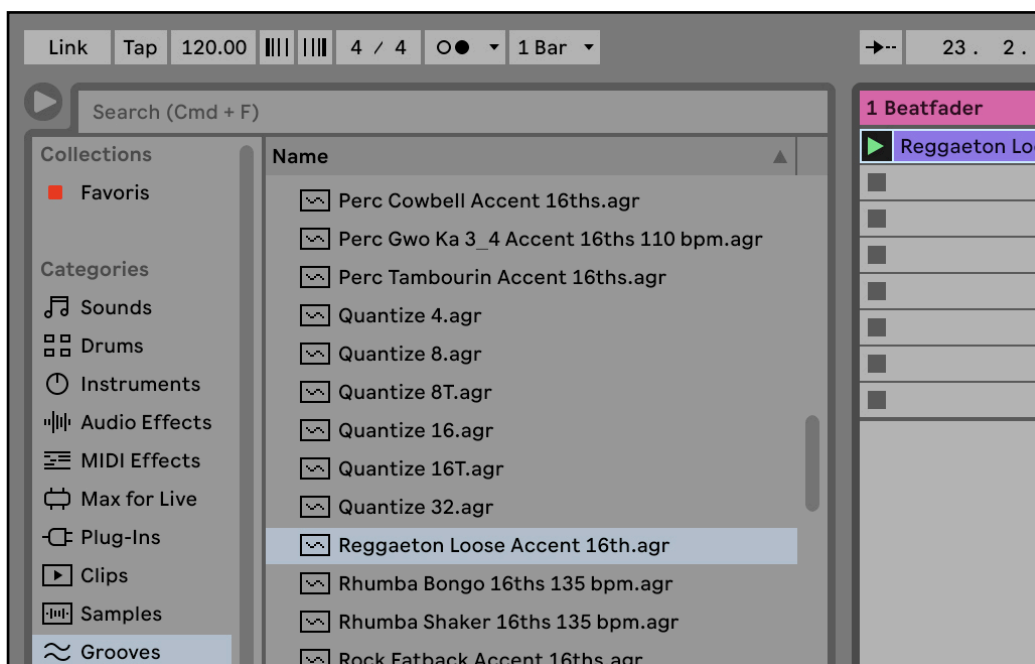
## Quantize amount and quantizing to external sources:

You may want an instance of beatfader to only quantize on 8 notes or for a faster feeling rhythm on 32 notes. Simply select the amount of quantization for the instance of beatfader in the **Quantize** section.



Experiment with having multiple instances of beatfader on one fader and each having a different quantization amount, you can get some great rolling sounds and rhythms that way.

You can also quantize to an external source, allowing you to do things like add grooves in Ableton. Select **'EXT'** (external in) in the **Quantize** section, then drag a groove in Ableton to your beatfader channel. You will now hear beatfader playing to the notes of the groove.



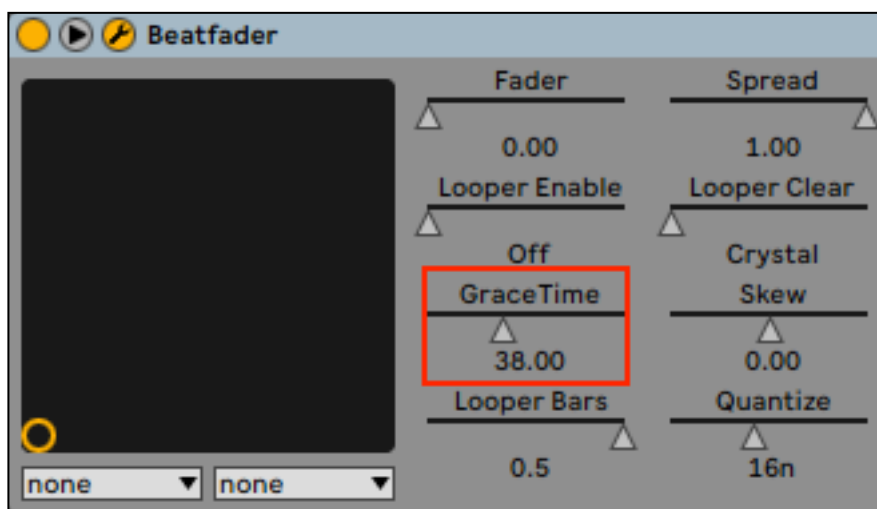
## Using the live looper:



Beatfader has a built in live looper, which allows you to make loops on the fly with different bar lengths. Simply click the **Loop** button to enable. Now anything you last played for the selected amount of bars will loop. Move the fader or knob again to overwrite the last thing looped or click **Clear** to erase the loop.

Try mapping the **Loop** button to a button or pad on your mixer, and the loop length to a knob. Now you can enable/disable and change loop lengths for cool fills or rhythms on the fly.

## The Grace Time parameter:



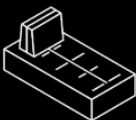
The **Grace Time** parameter lets you change the loop response lag to new inputs. It is set to 150ms by default but you might want to reduce it on faster tempo and half-bar loop for more reactive loops. Tweak it to your liking.

You can access this parameter in the generic parameter's list as shown above in Ableton.

## Support:

Thank you for choosing beatfader. For additional support or updates, visit our website at <https://beatsurfing.com> and explore our growing knowledge-base at <https://knowledge.beatsurfing.com/audio-plugins-mac-os-x-or-windows>

# Appendix: Beatfader MIDI chart

beatfader	Trigs ←								Trigs →							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
MIDI value	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
MIDI note	C1	C#1	D1	D#1	E1	F1	F#1	G1	G#1	A1	A#1	B1	C2	C#2	D2	D#2
	Shaker A				Shaker B				Counter A				Counter B			
	←		→		←		→		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
MIDI value	52		53		54		55		56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
MIDI note	E2		F2		F#2		G2		G#2	A2	A#2	B2	C3	C#3	D3	D#3
Shaker A : used after hitting Trig ← 1								Counter A : triggered with Trig ← 1								
Shaker B : used after hitting Trig → 8								Counter B : triggered with Trig → 8								

\*You can change the **Base Note** to offset the MIDI values by exposing the **'Base Note' parameter** within your DAW of choice.