A Complete Guide to Creating a Beat From Start to Finish Using BTV Solo

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Making beats is my life
You’ve probably found your way to this eBook from my blog, or maybe a friend passed it along to you. Either way, I’m happy you’re here.

This eBook is a guide, and the purpose of this guide is to do just that - guide you. It’s not a “system”, in that after you read this you will be a “pro” at making beats. It will, however, take you through the process of how to create a beat.

This eBook will also provide you with detailed information on how BTV solo works. From “tips & tricks” that will make your life a lot easier, to essential techniques that will allow you to get the best out of the incredible sounds that BTV solo has to offer!

“If at any point while you’re reading this guide please don’t hesitate to contact me. You can best reach me on my Facebook page. Even if you don’t have any questions, I’d love for you to come by and say hello! If you want to reach me in private you can email me at support@howtomakebeatsblog.com”
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What is BTV solo?

BTV is an award-winning and studio-grade virtual instrument that brings together a pattern-based sequencer, professional sampler, multi-effect mixer and VST/AU plug-in. Get thousands of premium drum and instrument sounds, plus preset patterns.

When you combine your imagination with the award winning BTV interface and all-original library of live sampled modern drums (150 kits) and playable acoustic and electric instruments (150), it might just be like a masterpiece waiting to be discovered. Get 3,233 samples and synths, explore below or add BTV to your cart.

We all know, creative inspiration comes from the ride side of your brain. Using audio software often relies heavily on the left side of your brain, requiring you to think logically about the software functions you wish to perform. This left-brain thinking often diminishes the artistry of your music making process, possibly without you even realizing it.

BTV is designed with simplicity and ease of use in mind. There are no complicated shift functions or x0x'-style programming or other alternatives.

BTV has the all the most important features you'll need and they’re better organized. All the important functions for creating music have been given their own button. The rest of them have been moved conveniently out of view, just one click away, ready and waiting when you need them. This means that you get improved access to your creative inspiration, so you can create better music without barriers.
This area is comprised of:
- Song Mode
- Pattern Mode
- Kit Mode
- Instrument Mode

The transport bar. This area, which includes the following:
- Mute: mute a track or pad (cmd+ click or ctrl + click pc)
- Solo: solo a track or pad (option + click or alt + click pc)
- Record: Allows you to record the input from the pads
- Stop: Stop the track
- Play: Play the track
- Bank up/down: This allows you to move up and down octaves
- Mixer: This allows you to access the mixer for a particular track

This area is known the pads. There are 12 pads available, which represents one octave and one octave is represented as 1 bank and there are 8 banks available. The pads 0,2,4,5,7,9,11,12 would be the white keys on the keyboard while 1,3,6,8,10 would be the black keys. The tempo button allows you to tap tempo. The roll button allows you to roll a particular pad. The hold button allows you to hold down a particular pad.

The buttons 1-8 are the tracks these allows you to place different kits on each track. To access the tracks 9-16 just hit the 9-16 button. Once this button is pressed the 1-8 buttons become the 9-16 tracks.
**Btv solo - The Different Modes**

**Song Mode** allows you to construct a song. This is done by selecting the pattern, then applying it to the track. You can also loop your pattern as well, for example, if you have a four bar intro and you wanted it to be eight bars, all you have to do is loop it twice.

**Pattern mode** allows you to create a specific pattern you want, for example one of your patterns might be your intro the second might be the chorus. Here in pattern mode you can utilize a vast amount pre-composed kits available or you can use a kit you constructed in kit mode. You can use a different kit on each track within pattern mode and there are sixteen tracks available.

**Kit mode** allows you to design your own kits, your kits can consist of anything, for example a bass kit, percussion kit, drum kit, lead kit. You can even import your own sounds into btv solo and use them. There are ninety-six different pads available for you to utilize to construct your kits.
The btv solo comes with five different effects for you to exploit. They consist of the following:

- **Freak** - Acts like a Phasing/Flanging
- **Delay** - delays the input from the output
- **Verb** - adds a reverberation effect
- **Bang** - acts like a high pass filter
- **Blang** - cosmetic change in software skin
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How to make your own beats

Now that I’ve discussed the mechanical workings of the btv solo software and you understand how it works, it’s now time to get stuck in on how to make beats. The process will be broken down in the following headings.

Throughout this section I use a beat I made using BTV solo, as a referencing guide. I dissect the process of how I made this beat into different sections. This help you in your approach to making beats with BTV solo. If you prefer a video format of this, there is one available on my website, Howtomakebeatsblog.com

1. Creating a drum beat
2. Making the bass line
3. Creating the lead
4. Creating the hook
5. Creating the backing vocals
How to Make Your Own Beats

The hook & backing vocals for this track is pretty much the same process as the creation of the lead. I used a vocal sample from the same track as the lead.

**Creating the Mix**

The drum kit I used for this track was the RnB-smoovv. I really liked the kick within this kit; I thought it was the perfect sound for this particular track. The beat was a four bar beat with bars 1-3 repeated and a fill for bar four. The next element I added was a snare and the kit used was the kangish-boom006. The snare was recorded on the offbeat as this adds a nice swing to the track. The last element I added to the drumbeat was an extra clap. This fattens up the drum pattern within the track.

**Creating the Lead**

The lead for this track is a string sample I got from a Lana Del Rey track. Because I have btv solo and not the full version I don’t have access to the sample function so I chop up the sample in audacity and then import it into btv solo. Once imported I then assign the samples to the pads then change all the pads to mute group one and then I’m ready to record my loop.

**Making the Bass Line**

For the baseline I used the instrument preset called bass-finger-bass. For this track I wanted the bass to have a bouncy feel to it and in order to achieve this I created a baseline that triggered when the kick hit. The bass line is just a four bar loop.
Final Words from CT Beats

Congratulations! If you’ve made it to this point, you’re a rockstar, seriously. I know I’ve provided you with a lot to think about in this eBook, but you now have the knowledge to take the information that you know, put it into an eBook, and share it with the world. Here are a few final thoughts I’d like to share with you before I finish up.

How Much You Succeed is All Up to You!!!

Best of luck!!!

Thank You So Much!

I hope you’ve enjoyed this eBook as much as I loved writing it for you. I can’t thank you enough for your continued support of How To Make Beats Blog and everything I do. I appreciate each and every one of you for taking time out of your day or evening to read this, and if you have an extra second, I would love to hear what you think about it. If you’d rather reach me in private, don’t hesitate to shoot me an email. I read each and every email, so don’t be afraid to say hi! Lastly, if you haven’t already, join in on the conversations going on right now on my Facebook Fan Page. Thanks again, and I wish you nothing less than success!

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