



FREE RECIPE BOOK

Stock Bass Recipes

10 house bass sounds you can build with Ableton's own synths in minutes.
No plugins to buy. Built to pair with the 1,000 free Rolling House basslines.

10

bass recipes

4

stock synths

0

plugins needed

£50 value. Yours free. By Omar Meho, founder of Music Workflow Academy. Taught to 120,000+ students in 170+ countries.

The bass chain

Every recipe uses Ableton's stock instruments. Operator, Analog and Wavetable come with Live Suite. Drift comes with every edition of Live from 11.3.

Put this chain after every bass

1. **Saturator:** Soft Sine or Analog Clip, low drive. Adds harmonics so the bass is heard on small speakers.
2. **EQ Eight:** cut below 30 Hz, small cut around 250 to 350 Hz if it gets muddy.
3. **Compressor:** sidechained from the kick, 3 to 6 dB of ducking.
4. **Utility:** Bass Mono on, around 120 Hz.

Three rules for house bass

- Short notes groove, long notes weigh. Most house basses are short with a quick decay.
- Velocity to filter cutoff makes a static line feel played.
- Check your bass in mono and on a phone. If it vanishes on the phone, add saturation, not more volume.

Build them in minutes

01. Clean sine sub

Operator

- Oscillator A only, Sine wave, all other oscillators off
- Amp envelope: attack 0 ms, decay full, sustain 0 dB, release 30 to 60 ms
- Glide off, voices set to 1
- Add Saturator (Soft Sine) at a low drive so it shows up on phones

Great with: Dub Subs, Walking Deep

02. Rolling minimal pluck

Analog

- Osc 1 Saw, Osc 2 Square one octave down, mixed lower
- Filter 1 low pass 24 dB, cutoff around 300 to 500 Hz, resonance 20%
- Filter envelope amount up, decay 150 to 250 ms, sustain 0
- Amp envelope: short decay, sustain about 60%

Great with: Rolling Minimal, Tech Bounce

03. M1 style organ bass

Operator

- Algorithm with oscillators stacked side by side (all four as carriers)
- A Sine at Coarse 1, B Sine at Coarse 2, C Sine at Coarse 3, lower levels as you go up
- Amp envelopes: fast attack, decay around 300 ms, low sustain
- A touch of Chorus and EQ Eight boost around 1 kHz

Great with: Organ Bass, Offbeat Bounce

04. Moog style round bass

Drift

- Osc 1 saw, Osc 2 square one octave down
- Low pass filter around 400 Hz, a little resonance
- Envelope 2 to the filter with a short decay for a soft pluck
- Mono with a small amount of glide

Great with: Groove Syncopation, Funky Octaves

Make it **move**

05. 303 acid

Analog or Drift

- One saw (or square) oscillator, mono with glide around 40 to 60 ms
- Low pass 24 dB, cutoff low, resonance 60 to 80%
- Velocity to filter cutoff so loud notes squelch
- Overlap notes in the MIDI to trigger glide (the Acid Taps folder does this)

Great with: Acid Taps

06. Reese for deep tech

Wavetable

- Osc 1 and Osc 2 both Basic Shapes, saw position
- Detune one oscillator a few cents, or use Unison with low amount
- Low pass filter around 600 Hz, slow LFO on cutoff
- Utility after it with Bass Mono on

Great with: Dub Subs, Walking Deep

07. Donk and wooden bass

Operator

- Oscillator A Sine, Oscillator B modulating A with a short envelope
- B Coarse around 3 to 5 for a hollow, wooden tone
- Pitch envelope on A: small positive amount, very short decay
- Short amp decay, no sustain

Great with: Tech Bounce, Funky Octaves

Keep going

08. Warm deep house bass

Analog

- Osc 1 Triangle or Square, Osc 2 Sine an octave down
- Low pass around 250 Hz, low resonance
- Slow attack on the filter envelope for a soft bloom
- Saturator for warmth, EQ Eight cut below 30 Hz

Great with: Walking Deep, Chord Partners

09. Punchy tech house bass

Operator

- Oscillator A Saw (or Square) and a Sine sub layer
- Filter low pass with envelope, short decay
- Pitch envelope tiny amount, very short, for punch
- Compressor sidechained from the kick

Great with: Tech Bounce, Rolling Minimal

10. Square sub for garage

Drift

- Square wave, pulse width slightly narrow
- Low pass around 200 to 300 Hz
- Mono, glide on for slides
- Saturator and Glue Compressor for weight

Great with: Groove Syncopation, Offbeat Bounce

NEXT STEP

Sound design that **sounds released**

These recipes get you started. The MWA Ableton course goes deep into Operator, Wavetable and sampling, and includes 1,000+ presets for Serum, Omnisphere and Diva so you're never stuck.

1,000+ presets

Serum, Omnisphere and Diva, built for house.

The plugin suite

MWA Garage Machine, MWACHordGen and more, included.

Track Kit Vault

70 construction kits with bass, chords, drums and lead.

The MWA Ableton Course

From sound design to arrangement to mixdown, one workflow for finishing house tracks you're proud of.

See the Ableton course →

Lifetime access, 30-day money-back guarantee, CPD accredited. Includes every ebook, sample pack, the MWA Plugin Suite and the Track Kit Vault.