THE 4 STEP
CREATIVE
FRAMEWORK

Welcome to Worksheet 1 from the Finish More Music Workshop.

The 4 Step Creative Framework can be used at any stage of your workflow.

We'll be using it here to create an original and exciting loop that we are confident is ready to arrange.

START Decide on your theme

"The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." In music this is called the Theme. An example might be the lead melody, riff, vocal, bass line. Or there might be a theme group such as the melody and chord progression working together.

Listening to some of your favourite tracks or your previous productions, what do you identify as the main theme or theme group of your music?

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What makes the tracks memorable?

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What is the lead character that evolves over time?

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If you make loopy Techno tools then then you might not have a theme so instead, highlight the key elements that make up the groove and consider those your theme.

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STEP 1 Generate

Try not to rush forward because the first idea is usually the most conventional and predictable.

What methods can you think of for writing your theme that are within your skill set and will get fast results?

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What time frame will you commit to for creating an avalanche of ideas?

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FINISH**MORE**MUSIC
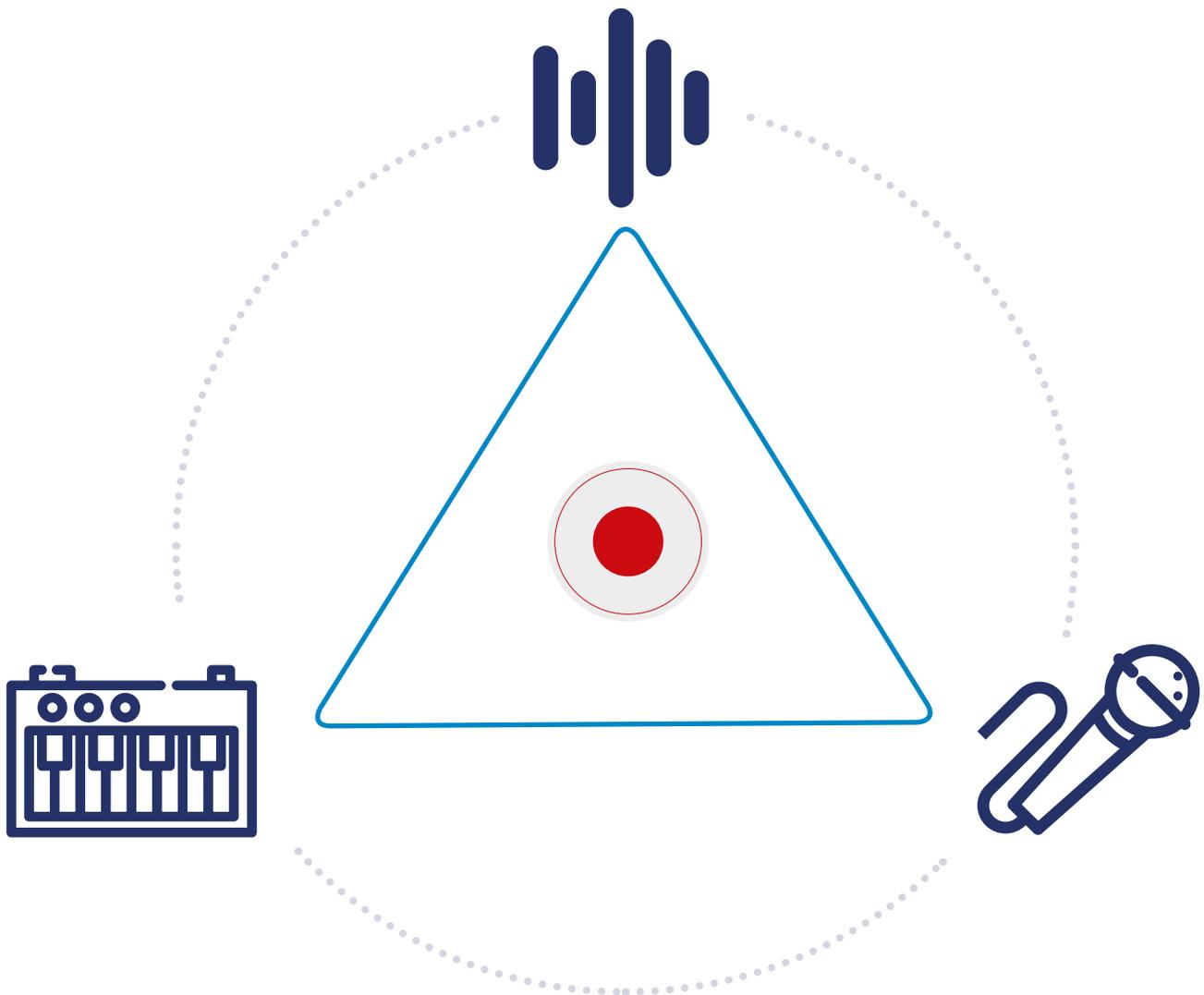
STEP 2 Capture

Record all of your ideas. This might be as simple as keeping all of the MIDI clips or hitting record as soon as you start jamming.

STEP 3 Inspect

I recommend taking a break first as this helps avoid that horrible moment where you run off with an idea only to come back in the next session and ask yourself 'what the hell was I thinking?'

Which idea excites you the most?

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Which idea best fits the style and vibe of music you want to write?

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Which idea inspires you the most to turn it into a full track?

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STEP 4 Transform

The approach here is to extend the theme and flesh out the loop with new sounds so it's ready for the arrangement.

What journey will you take people on with the theme?

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How will the theme come in, go out and change over time?

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What variations such as laying, transposing, harmonising, might you try?

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What support sounds are needed to flesh out the loop?

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Moving Forward

You should now have one or more loops that are ready to arrange, along with a solid idea on how your theme will evolve over time, ready to take your listener on a journey.

Your next **BIG QUESTION** is how to turn this into a dynamic and exciting arrangement that works on the dance floor. How do you keep the track interesting from start to finish so listeners stay engaged and don't think your music is boring? How do you change the energy levels so the track has a huge **IMPACT** in a club?

In **Video 2** I'll show you an amazing technique for quickly building an arrangement and… as an added **BONUS**, makes the mixdown stage an absolute breeze.

PLUS I'll share with you **THE #1** reason why most people fail to finish their tracks. And it comes down to one very important question you can ask yourself, that won't be what you think. The huge side benefit is that writing a track with this one question in mind, actually means you'll go through the production process a lot **QUICKER** and waste much less time working on dud tracks that don't meet your expectations.

So, if you are:

- Someone who wants to start finishing tracks you are proud and have something to show for all the time you've put into the studio; or…
- Dedicated to building a career as a DJ/ Producer and want to create a catalogue of high quality music ready to send to the big labels;

…This arrangement technique will make the process of turning your ideas into finished tracks a walk in the park.

Solving the arrangement puzzle is a piece of cake and in Video 2 I'll show how.

www.finishmoremusic.com