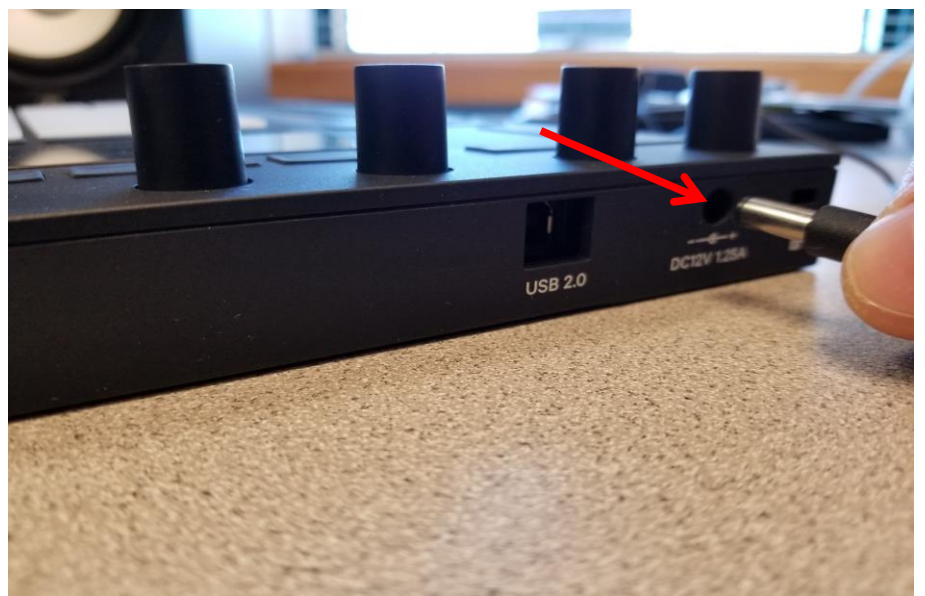


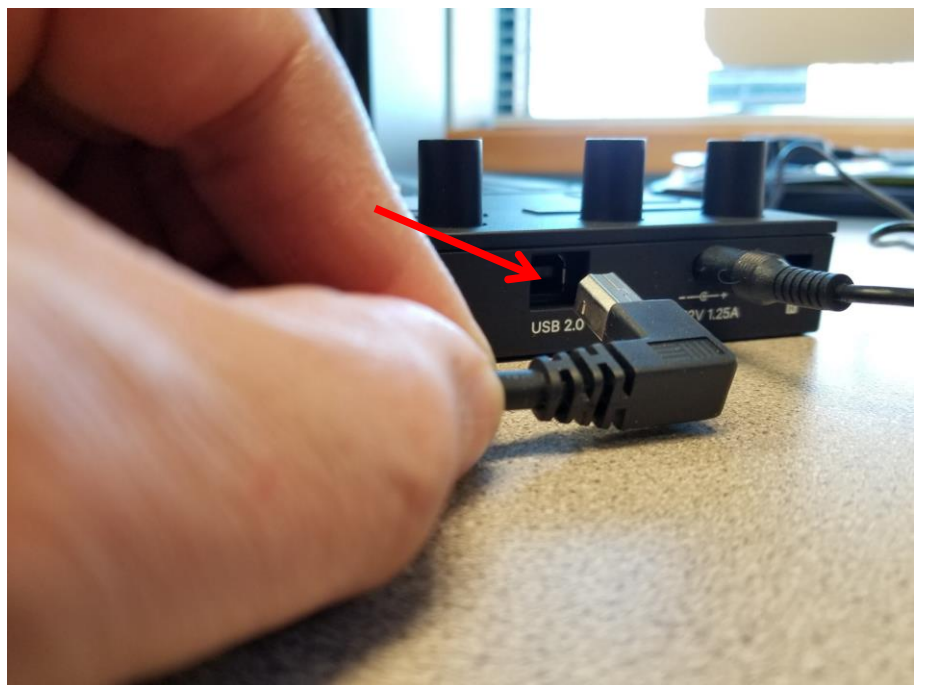
Ableton Live & Push

Ableton Push is a hardware instrument and MIDI controller for Ableton Live software. The Push allows you to launch audio samples and trigger sounds. It was built specifically to make it easier to interact with Ableton Live. Creating music with Push is fun as it allows you to get more creative and productive

On the back of the Ableton Push hardware interface, plug in the **AC plug** for power. Note that the interface should work without AC power BUT the LED lights on the interface will not light up.



On the back of the Ableton Push hardware interface, plug in the **L-shaped USB connector**. Note that the USB cable can only go in one way, with the rounded edges facing upwards.



Plug in the other end of the USB cable into an available USB slot on the back of the Mac computer.



On the back of the Ableton Push hardware interface, push the Power button on to turn on the interface.



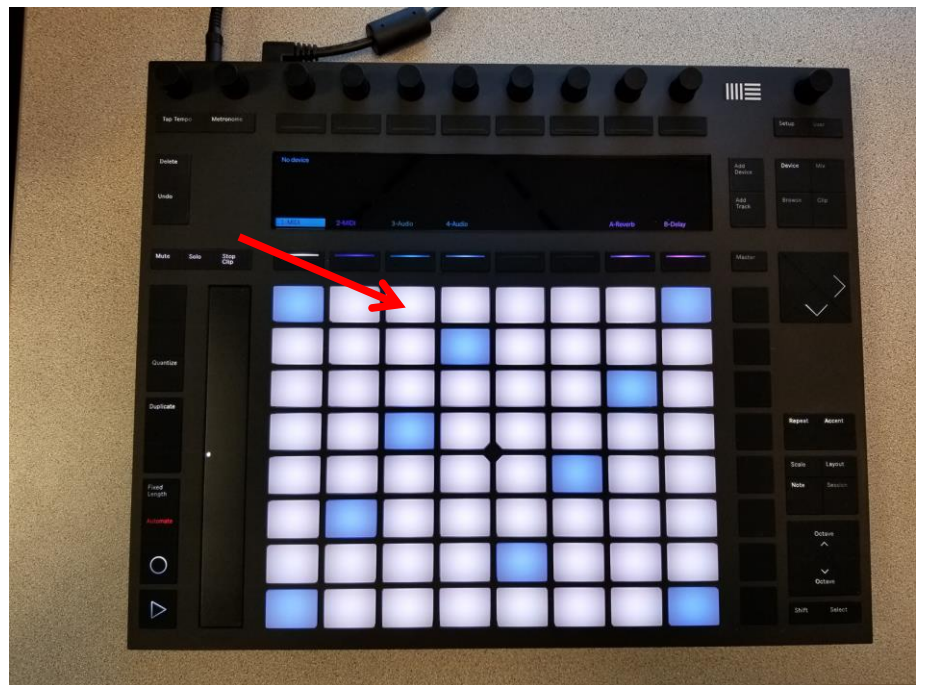
The Ableton Push unit should look like this. You should have two cables plugged in on the back side of the unit (USB and AC Power). The front of the interface should have the Ableton logo with the word “Push” displayed. The unit will only operate once the Ableton Live software has been launched.



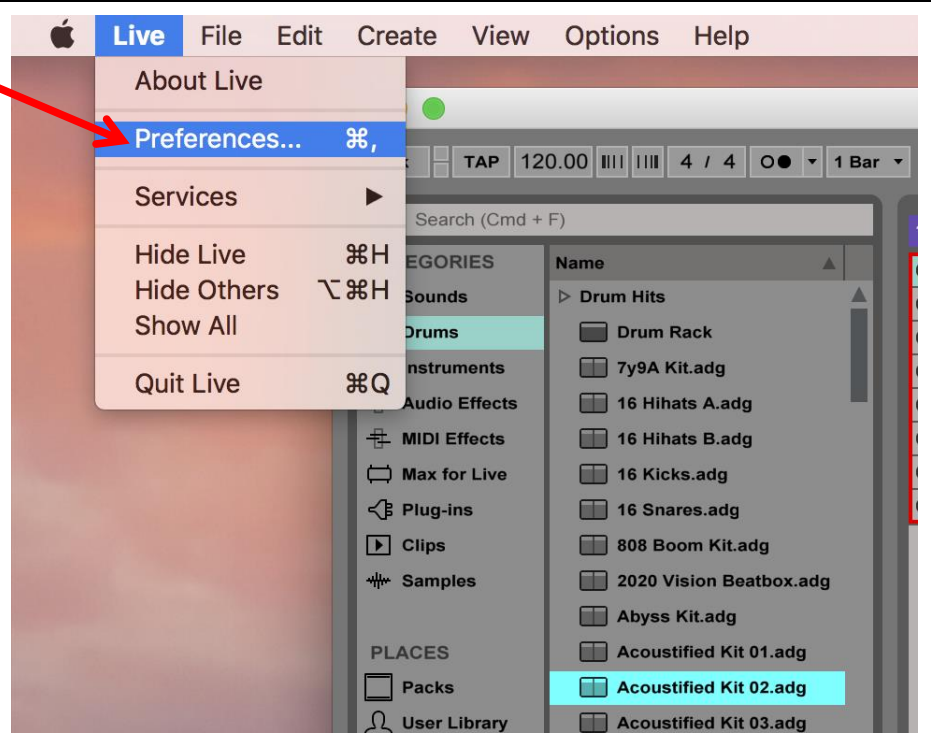
Click on the “Live” icon on the Mac dock.



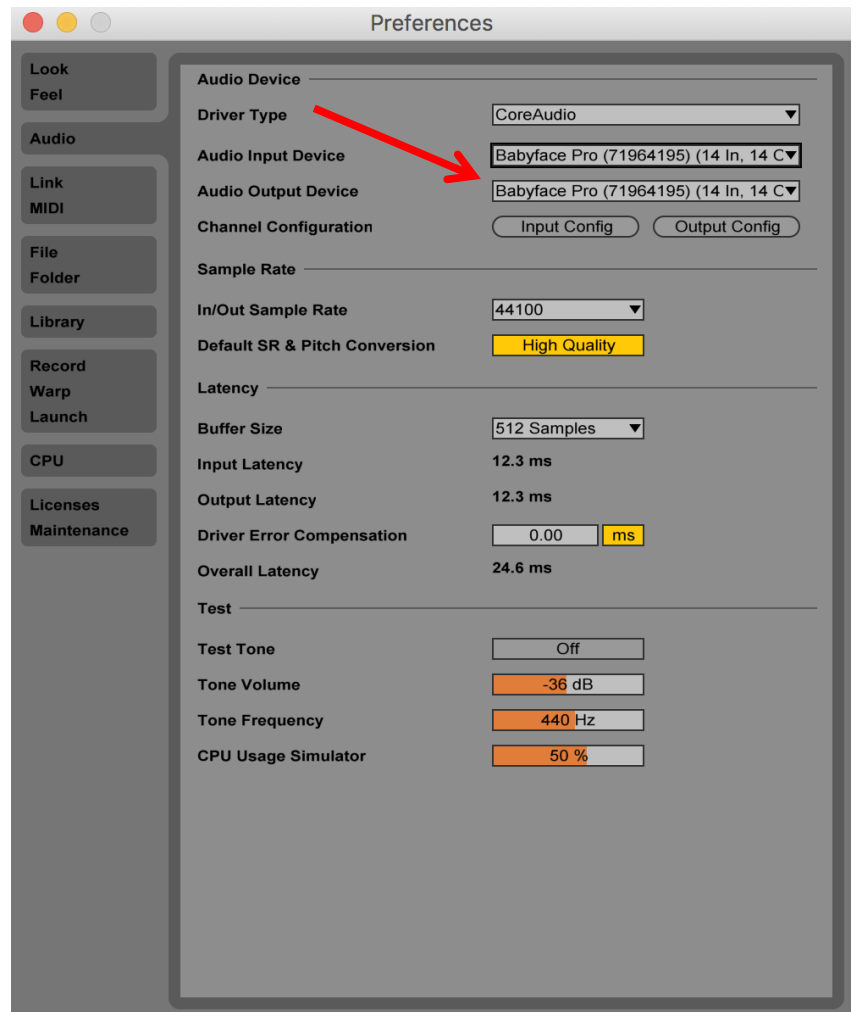
Once the software has been loaded, the front of the Push interface should lit up with a grid of white and blue buttons. Your current track (typically the first MIDI track in Ableton) will be highlighted on the Push.



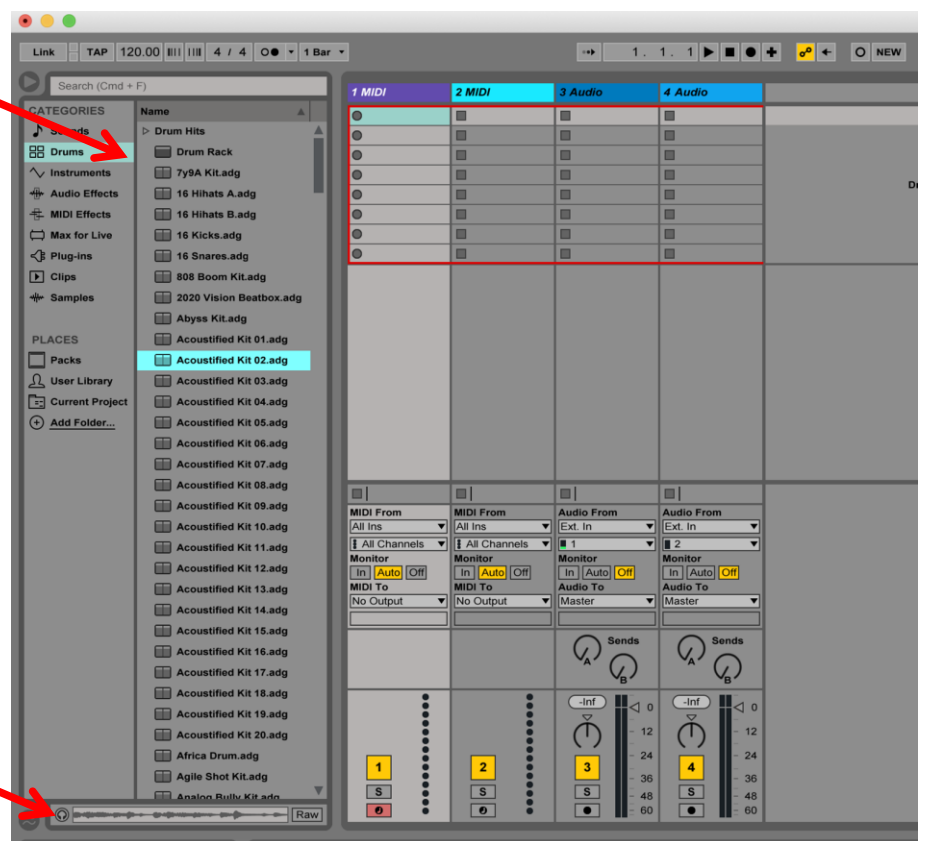
If you wish to also use the microphone to record vocals and/or speech, select **Preferences** under the **Live** menu.



Once in Live **Preferences**, select the **Audio tab** making sure that **Babyface Pro** is selected for both the **Audio Input Device** as well as the **Audio Output Device**. Please refer to our other tutorial called “**Using the RME Babyface Pro to Record Voice**” to learn how to setup the Babyface Pro audio interface.



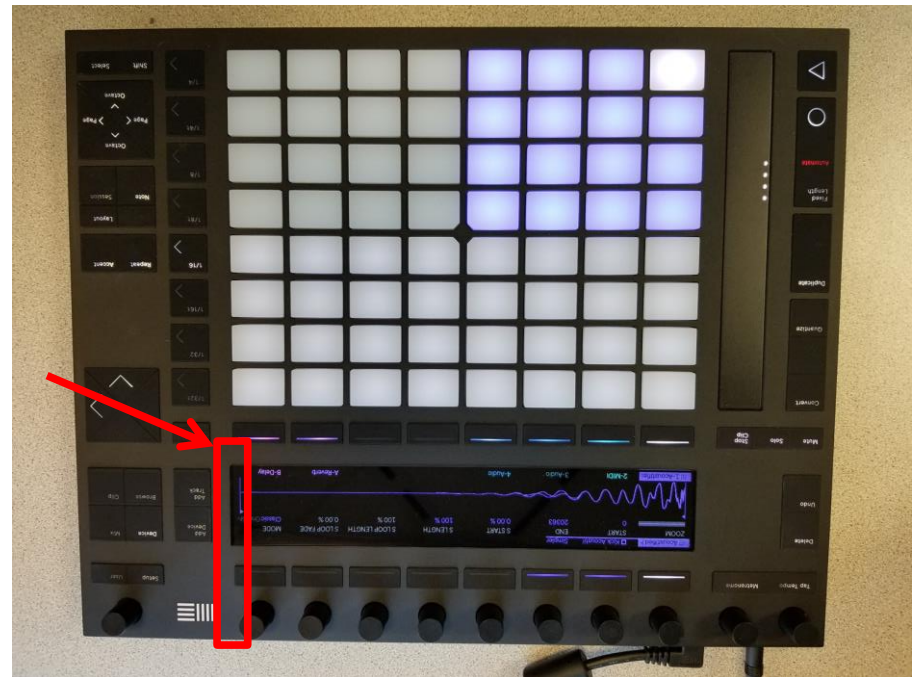
Let's setup our Ableton Live session with some drums. Under the **Categories** section, select **Drums**. You can always sample what the drum kit will sound like by clicking on the Preview button.



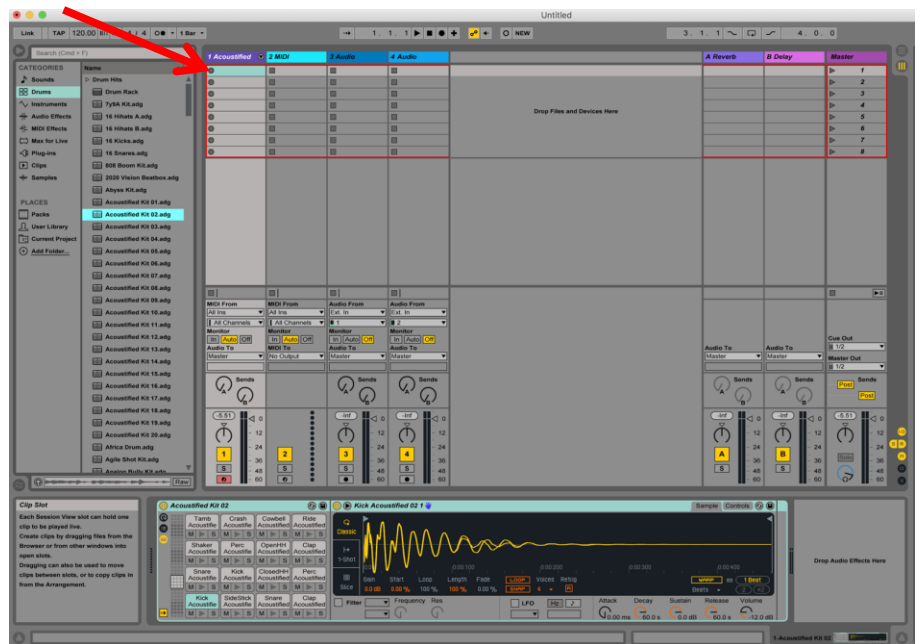
Drag and drop the drum kit you would like to use into the first MIDI track/column. Ableton Live will automatically map the drum kit to the first MIDI track and ...



The Ableton Push interface will also be automatically mapped with the active drum kit buttons glowing in the same colour as the track colour (in this case, a blueish purple).



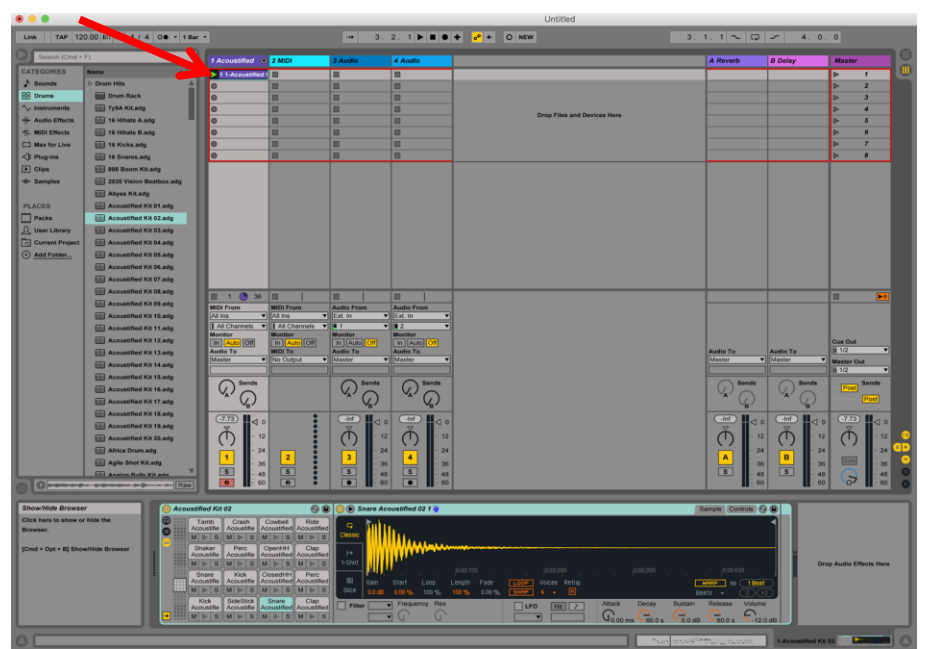
You can then hit **Record** and start playing the drums using the touchpads on the Push interface. Your recording will use up one slot in the Ableton grid. Once you are done, just hit the Stop button.



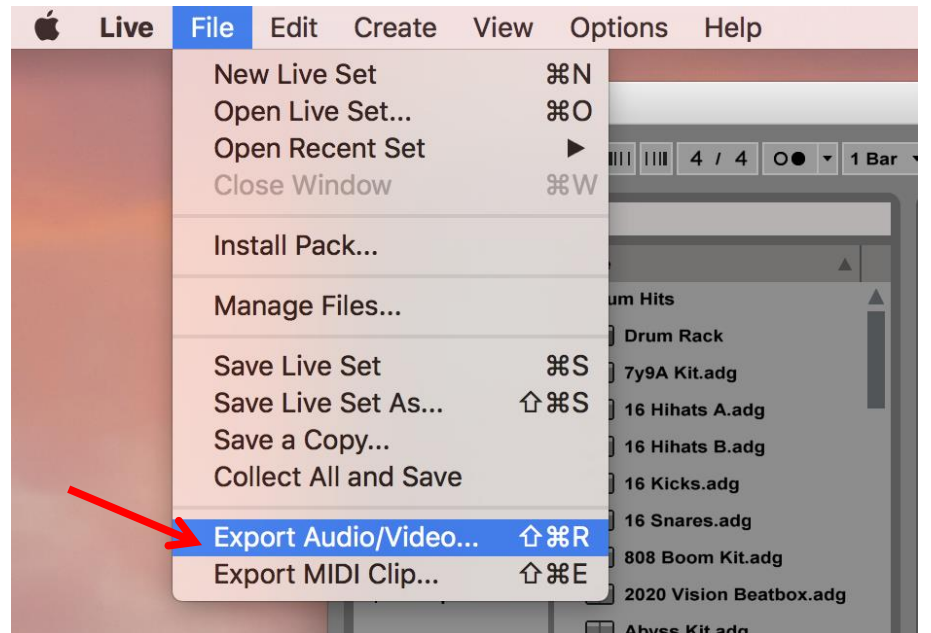
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You can then preview your work by clicking on the **Play** button in the slot that is holding your recording. Editing in Ableton Live is beyond the scope of this tutorial. Please refer to the “**Additional Resources**” section at the end of this tutorial for links to other learning resources.



Once you are satisfied with your recording and performance, click on the **File** menu and select “**Export Audio/Video...**”

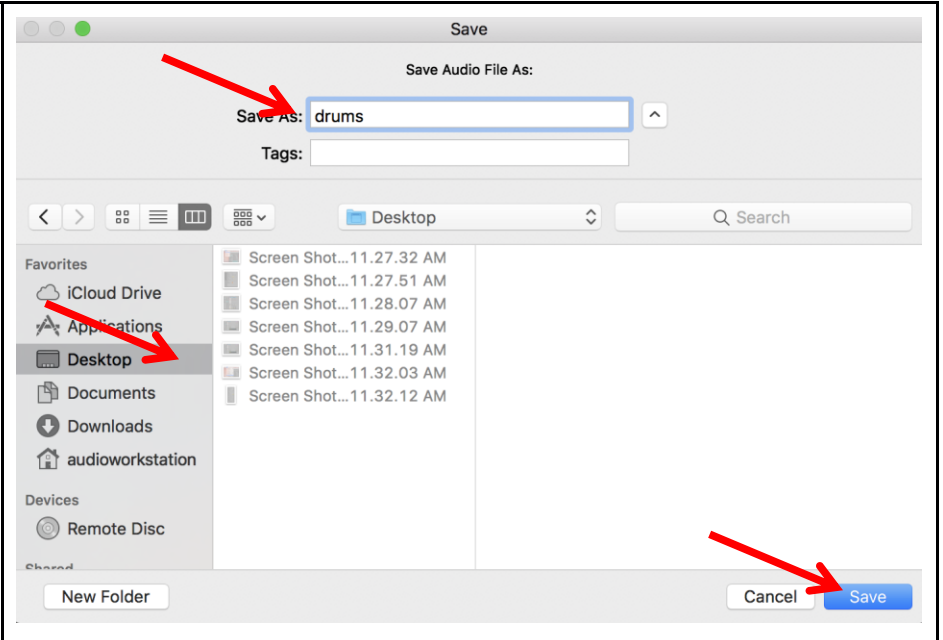


In this dialog window, you can select what file type you would like to export your file as (**WAV** or **AIFF** are both safe choices for uncompressed audio and for listening directly on a computer via a media player).

If your end destination is for an audio CD, you should change the **File Type** to **WAV**, leave the **Sample Rate** at “**44100**” and the **Bit Depth** at **16**. Please note that Ableton Live does not natively support exporting out as an MP3 file.

The screenshot shows the 'Export Audio/Video' dialog box in Ableton Live. The 'Selection' section has 'Master' selected for the 'Rendered Track'. 'Render Start' is set to 1:1:1 and 'Render Length' to 9:0:0. 'Render as Loop' is 'Off'. The 'Audio' section has 'File Type' set to 'AIFF', 'Sample Rate' to '44100', and 'Bit Depth' to '16'. 'Dither Options' is 'Triangular'. 'Create Analysis File' is 'On', while 'Normalize' and 'Convert to Mono' are 'Off'. A status line says 'Project will be rendered at 44100 Hz.'. The 'SoundCloud' section has 'Upload Audio to SoundCloud' set to 'Off'. The 'Video' section has 'Create Video' set to 'Off' and 'Video Encoder' set to '3G'. An 'Encoder Settings' button is labeled 'Edit'. At the bottom, the 'Export' button is highlighted with a red arrow.

Select your saving destination (such as a USB drive) and give your file a name. When done, finally click on **Save**.



Additional Resources

Ableton Live 9 Essential Training (Course by Lynda Library)

<https://www.lynda.com/Ableton-Live-tutorials/Ableton-Live-9-Essential-Training/120600-2.html?org=picnet.org>

Ableton Push: Making Music (Course by Lynda Library)

<https://www.lynda.com/Ableton-Live-tutorials/Making-Music-Ableton-Push/133319-2.html?org=picnet.org>