

# 5 EDM STYLES

A few different EDM subgenre examples



## Drum & Bass (DNB)

### Background Info

Drum and Bass is a popular subgenre of EDM that is known for its use of Breakbeat drum patterns and heavy baselines. DNB is also known as 'Jungle'.

### Key Characteristics

1. **Basslines:** The bassline is crucial to drum and bass, as a foundational element and for its physical impact on the dance floor.
2. **Breakbeats:** The "Amen break," taken from [Amen, Brother by The Winstons](#), is a staple of countless drum and bass tracks. A bass drum line sample from the Roland TR-808 drum machine is also frequently heard in Drum and Bass.
3. **BPM:** Typically clocks in between 160 and 180 BPM.

### Examples

An early example of this genre is [Cyantific's Little Green Men](#) & a more contemporary example can be heard in [Solar System by Subfocus](#).

## Tech House

### Background Info

Tech House is a subgenre of house music that combines stylistic features of techno with house.

### Key Characteristics

1. **BPM:** Usually between 122 to 125 BPM.
2. **Drums:** Drums are very groovy with a lot of complexity. More House influence here than Techno.
3. **Melody:** More melodic than techno, but less emotion than house
4. **Timbre:** Sounds are more electronic than House, but less harsh than Techno.

### Examples

[You Little Beauty by FISHER](#) & [Forget by Patrick Topping](#)



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## Future Bass

### Background Info

Influences drawn from Dubstep and Trap. Rose in popularity due to artists such as Flume, The Chainsmokers and San Holo.

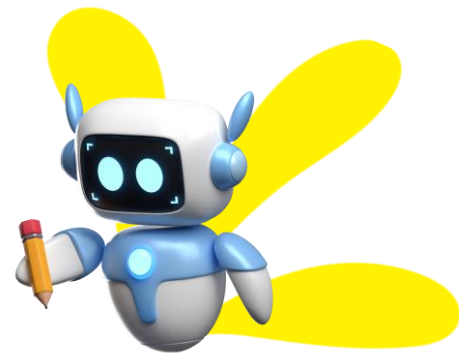
"If Future Bass had a family tree, EDM would be the mom, Dubstep would be the first cousin and Trap would be the second cousin with infinite sub-genres sprouting out. While Dubstep emerged out of the U.K. and Trap out of the American South, Future Bass emerged in the virtual hemisphere from underground producers on Soundcloud and Spotify." [Source](#)

### Key Characteristics

1. **Pitch:** Melodically focused, commonly featuring arpeggiated or "stabby" chordal accompaniment.
2. **Timbre/Texture:** With sawtooth and square waves, 808 sub-bass, snare rolls and hi-hats derived from trap with heavy layering of sounds.
3. **Duration:** 100-160 BPM, often with polyrhythms and triplets.

### Examples

[Overthinker by INZO](#) and [Disclosure - You & Me \(Flume Remix\)](#)



## Dubstep

### Background Info

Originated in South London in the early 2000s, Dubstep is generally instrumental.

### Key Characteristics

1. **Timbre:** INSANE, complex sound design
2. **Duration:** Dubstep rhythms are usually syncopated and the tempo is nearly always in the range of 138-150
3. **Wobble Bass:** Where an extended bass note is manipulated rhythmically. This style of bass is typically produced by using a low frequency oscillator to manipulate certain parameters of a synthesizer such as volume, distortion or filter cutoff. The resulting sound is a timbre that is punctuated by rhythmic variations in volume, filter cutoff, or distortion, bass growls & heavy sub basses.

### Examples

[Skrillex - Bangarang \(Ft. Sirah\)](#) & [Virtual Riot - Preset Junkies](#)



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## UK Garage (UKG)

### Background Info

UK Garage (UKG) is a genre of electronic dance music that originated in the United Kingdom during the early 1990s. It combines elements of house, R&B, and jungle music, and it's known for its distinctive 2-step beat and influence on subsequent music styles like grime and dubstep.

### Key Characteristics

- 1. Timbre:** From soulful and melodic vocal elements to crisp and punchy drum patterns, as well as deep and resonant basslines. The timbre variations contribute to the genre's rich and diverse sonic palette, allowing for the creation of tracks that evoke different moods and emotions, from the smooth and soulful to the energetic and groovy, while still maintaining a cohesive sound.
- 2. Duration:** UKG rhythms are usually syncopated and very bouncy the tempo is nearly always in the range of 125-140
- 3. 2-step drum pattern:** This rhythm consists of a syncopated beat where the kick drum hits on the first and third beats, while the snare or clap hits on the second and fourth beats, creating a distinctive and danceable groove. This 2-step beat is one of the defining characteristics of UKG and sets it apart from other electronic music genres.

### Examples

[Daga Da - Sammy virji](#) & [The Birds - MPH](#)

