

Pros & Cons

PHRASE BASED SAMPLING TECHNOLOGY COMPARISON

PRODUCT	PROS	CONS
GROOVE CONTROL™	No special hardware or software needed. Free, included with sample library. Real-time. Wide compatibility. Computer not required. Pre-formatted loops. Easy to use even for non-digital audio based users. Very High Quality phase-locked Stereo sound. Very flexible real-time MIDI control of Feel, Tempo, Pitch and Pattern . Ideal for Percussive material. Real time ritards and accelerandos (tempo changes) possible.	Cannot use your own samples. Not ideal for Vocal or non-percussive Instrument phrases.
SOUNIC FOUNDRY ACID	Inexpensive, Easy to use software, Tempo & Pitch control, Stereo support	PC software only, No feel or pattern control, Limited tempo and pitch change range, not integrated into MIDI sequencing environment. Average sound quality.
ROLAND VARI-PHRASE	Powerful processing under full real-time MIDI control, Polyphonic, Pitch, Time & Formant control, Good for Instruments and Vocals, unique Sound Design capabilities, Remixing, Built-In FX, Stereo capable.	Hardware based, Professional price range, limited Feel control, no Pattern control, encoding process required to use your own samples, tempo stretch range with good sound quality is limited. Sound quality changes depending on stretch/transposition range.
STEINBERG RECYCLE 1.7/MIXMAN	Flexible real-time control of Tempo, Pitch, Feel and Pattern once the sample is "Recycled". Good for mono percussive material.	Mono only. No Stereo support. Stand alone software is difficult to master and requires much work on the part of the user. Results can vary greatly depending on source sample. Not ideal for Vocal or Instrument phrases.
TIME COMPRESSION SOFTWARE (Time Bandit, Logic Audio, ReLoop, Pitch 'n Time, Pitch Doctor, Unity 2.0 "speed" feature, Emu Beat Munging, etc)	Standard stereo files can be used, BPM to BPM calculation usually available. Average to Good quality Tempo, Pitch and in some cases Formant control.	Non-Real-Time, software based, often time consuming process, no Pattern control, non-existent or very limited Feel control, no real-time MIDI control, results can vary widely depending on source material and stretching algorithm, limited tempo and pitch range without audio artifacts, ritards and accelerandos not possible.

