Dance Music

Technology

Effects
Reverb
EQ
Compression
Sampling
Looping
Vocoder

Sequencing/Multi-tracking
- Software that lets you layer different recorded and synthesised tracks together.

Synthesisers - Equipment or software that either reproduces or makes sounds.

Record Scratching - controlling a record manually to repeat parts and add a percussive 'scratching' sound.

Keywords

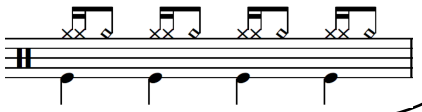
Stab - A sharp and short chord. Usually played by brass instruments

Hook - A catchy part of a tune, usually repeated.

Horn Section - A group of brass and woodwind instruments used for stabs and melodies. Usually consists of trumpets, trombones and saxes, although they can be a synthesised 'section' sound.

Structure
Mix In
Main
Breakdown
Reprise

Four on the Floor - Cliché dance music drum beat. Characterised by a bass drum hit on all four beats.



Styles

Dub
Instrumental remixes of music made by mixing different records together.

House
- Four on the Floor
- Lots of samples, sometimes vocal.

Funk
- Groove based.
- Slap Bass
- Syncopated rhythms

Hip-hop
- Rap vocals
- MCs

Techno
- Four on the floor.
- Purely synthesised.
- Little harmonic movement.

Disco
- Four on the Floor.
- Catchy singable melodys.