Snow's Beat Detective Guide

1. Engage Grid Mode. (F4)

2. Group all drum tracks together. (command G after highlighting all tracks)

3. Duplicate all drum track playlists and rename with the word "edit" in each name.

4. Ungroup drum tracks. (shift-command G suspends all active groups)

5. Make a short selection using the desired drum tracks which you want to use to set beat markers with. (Typically kick in, snare top, and sometimes high hat – Select toms if they are a part of a fill – best to work in short segments such as 4 or 8 bars at a time)

6. Open Beat Detective. (command 8)

7. Start with the "bar/beat marker generation page. Select "capture selection" and make sure the start and end boxes reflect an even number of bars and beats. Even if your selection includes a transient that is a little early, you must tell Pro Tools that the selection is supposed to be an exact number of bars set to the Grid)

8. Set appropriate resolution and emphasis and select analyze. Adjust resolution until the beat markers match the transients on the selected tracks.

9. Zoom in and move the generated markers in order to ensure they are positioned correctly at the start of the desired transients.

10. Re-enable the drum group and spread your selection to all of the drum tracks. (shift-click on any non-selected drum track once the drum group has been re-enabled)

11. In Beat Detective, select the "separate Region" page, and select "separate".

12. Select "Region Conform" page. You can adjust the strength the regions will conform as well as select a groove template. 100% is the standard setting. Select "Conform".

13. Select the "Edit Smoothing" page. Select "Fill Gaps", and select "Smooth". Beat Detective will fill all open gaps in the tracks.

14. Go through all the edits and make sure to fix any double hits or symbol issues. Be sure to always move tracks as a group unless one instrument needs a little extra attention.

15. Proceed to the next segment and repeat until the entire song is finished. (using "region grouping – option-command-G – can help you keep track of which segments you have fixed. When the entire song is finished, ungroup the regions – option-command-U – and prepare for cross fading)

16. Select all the drum tracks for the entire song and create cross fades.

17. Listen carefully and check fades to make sure everything sounds great. Problem areas include overhead and high hat sustain, double triggers, and any clicks and pops in the audio. Oh yeah, be sure you have not completely destroyed the groove and feel of the drum track in the editing process.