

# SCHOOL' D BY FUNKMODE

You want to become a Hip Hop expert? Learn the info below and you're on your way, yo!

## STYLES OF HIP HOP MUSIC (PART 1)

As you've learned in previous lessons, though Hip Hop music originated in New York, it has since spread throughout the entire world. In so doing, we have seen many different subgenres and regional styles pop up all over the United States and abroad. In today's lesson, we're going to take a look into a few of the most popular styles of Hip Hop music.

Here, at home in the Bay Area, we have a distinct style of Hip Hop called "Hyphy". The style started in the mid-1990s with artists such as Keak da Sneak, E-40 and Mac Dre. The word hyphy is variation of the word "hyper" which is a great way to describe the sound of Hyphy music. It is usually uptempo (fast), with heavy basslines and some instrumentation that sounds a bit wild. It is almost always great for dancing. Some examples of modern Hyphy artists are The Federation, Mistah Fab, and The Pack.

Hear a sample of Hyphy music @ <http://youtu.be/RrbjDHWLisw>

Around the same time, in the southeast US, a style came up called "Crunk". The word itself means to get excited or wild. Some really important Crunk artists are Lil Jon, Ludacris, Outkast, Yin Yang Twins, T-Pain and Three Six Mafia. Crunk has a very heavy, gritty sound, with strong drums and simple melodies. Crunk music almost always has a persistent hi-hat cymbal rhythm moving at a much higher tempo than the rest of the drums. Crunk, in general, is usually slower paced but still good for dancing. In fact, Crunk is the main style of dance music in the South among Hip Hop lovers. The dance style that goes with Crunk music is heavy, with a lot of isolations and very loose, almost ugly movements. Crunk music, like Hyphy, is for really letting go of your emotions through dance without really worrying about whether your dancing looks perfect or even good to others. Hear an example of Crunk music @ <http://youtu.be/q6ufd3B95nc>

In Florida, there have been two distinct types of Hip Hop to become popular over the years. The first, starting in the late 1980s, is Miami Bass. There is no confusing the sound of Miami Bass once you understand it. It is the fastest of all Hip Hop styles and has a strong electro-funk sound. It is meant to be party music and makes even the most dance-shy person want to get up and dance. Miami Bass was made popular by the group 2 Live Cru. Hear an example @ [http://youtu.be/\\_LbHdlwcbZY](http://youtu.be/_LbHdlwcbZY)

Another Hip Hop style popular in Florida is Reggaeton. The style actually comes from Puerto Rico and is a combination of Latin/Caribbean music and Rap. Originally, it was fairly slow. Over the last few years, however, other Reggaeton artists like Pitbull have sped up the pace of Reggaeton and turned it into party music. Like Miami Bass, Reggaeton has a very specific sound. It's important not to get it confused with other Latin Hip Hop styles. Just because Spanish is spoken in a Hip Hop song, that doesn't mean it is Reggaeton. The thing that distinguishes Reggaeton is the "dem bow" rhythm. Dem bow is actually the name of a song by Reggaeton artist Shabba Ranks and it is where the rhythm was first popularized. Hear an example of Reggaeton @ <http://youtu.be/3Jp5dbukloo>

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## HIP HOP WORDS OF THE WEEK

**Go Dumb:** Hyphy slang for going crazy while dancing; i.e you're dancing so hard and so wild, it looks like you've lost all sense. EX: "That new E-40 track had me goin' dumb from beginning to end!"

**Daps/Pounds:** bumping fists in different ways while saying hello, goodbye or giving someone recognition for something done/said. "Whoooooo boy, you was gettin straight buckwild on that dance floor! I got to give you daps for that one."

**Rep/reppin/represent:** to serve as a good example for yourself, your crew, your town, or an idea or cause. "I asked that kid what crew she came from and she said she was reppin FUNKMODE all the way."

**BONUS:** Create a sentence using all words of the week

## EXTRA LEARNING

- 1) Which of the Hip Hop styles mentioned in this week's lesson do you like best and why?
- 2) Do any of these styles of Hip Hop music not appeal to you as much and why?
- 3) What style does the following song fit into? <http://youtu.be/6-0hhsKbB5w>