

loops de la crème



BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS

7 synths - 1902 samples - 48 NI Kontakt patches

www.loopsdelacreme.com

BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS

user manual



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Thank you for purchasing **BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS!** This Kontakt library offers a unique collection of sampled portable synths and toy keyboards. It features 150 multi-sampled raw presets, 8 drum kits, additional multis and keyboard splits.

Note from the developer:

'I've always been really inspired by small portable synths and toy keyboards. They are great to make music on the road, they often offer sounds that are not available anywhere else, and there is something unique and charming about them that just sparks creativity :)

Over the years, I've collected plenty of these mini synths, and they all get quite a bit of use, at the studio, during jam sessions or with my kids at home.

I love to use the unique sound of these keyboards during audio productions, but integrating the synths in the studio can be very unpractical, for several reasons:

- The mini keys are a real challenge for musicians who are not used to them.*
- Each synth has special power requirements (battery only, USB power, fiddly AC adapters..)*
- Most synths need a particular recording chain to get the best sound out of them.*
- All keyboards have inherent limitations (polyphony, effects, menus, interface...)*

Since I really wanted to use these sounds in a more efficient way in the studio, I started 6 years ago to sample them in great detail and recreate some favourite patches in Kontakt. I recently acquired a couple of new mini synths, and designed a practical Kontakt skin with presets and effects that could be used for all these keyboards.

The library BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS is the fruit of these efforts, it features 150 raw presets from 7 different mini synths, along with 8 drum kits and lots of additional patches and functions.

Each of the featured synth was chosen for its sounds, and lots of efforts were made to retain the character of the source and capture the essence of the raw presets.

These unique sounds should be a great addition to your production tools, I hope you will find them inspiring and enjoy and use them as much as I do :)'

Julien Tauban

INSTALLATION

To install the samples and instruments on your hard drive, unzip the file named BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS.zip. On a Mac, use the default 'Archive utility'. On a PC, I recommend to use Winrar or Winzip to properly unzip the file.

You can then copy/paste the BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS folder to your sample library hard drive, and make sure you make a backup of the new samples on a separate drive (or a SD card / USB stick...)

IMPORTANT NOTE:

!!! Please keep the BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS folder structure intact: Do not move or erase a folder or a file from the main BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS folder to ensure proper loading of the instruments.

LOADING INSTRUMENTS

To load patches, find the folder from the Kontakt files menu and select the patch you wish to load: just double-click on a patch or use drag- and-drop.

NB: Native Instruments Kontakt 5.3.137+ is required to fully use the instruments. Make sure you have the latest updates installed.

You can also load patches with Kontakt Free Player in demo mode (with a 15mn time limit and saving functions disabled).

Along this user guide, you'll find a pdf **License Agreement**. Please read this text carefully, it precisely explains the things you are allowed and not allowed to do with the sample library.

KONTAKT INSTRUMENTS

1. *SYNTHS*
2. *DRUMS*
3. *USER INTERFACE*
4. *MULTI PRESETS*
5. *SPLITS*

1. SYNTHS

01_CASIO SA-21



The Casio SA-21 is a rare toy keyboard with tons of original lo fi sounds. These crunchy presets with plenty of character and noise will automatically add charm and vibe to your tracks.

02_ROLAND JX-03



The Roland JX-03 is a modern recreation of a classic 80s analog synth, the JX-3P. With a flexible sound engine and lots of iconic presets, this synth is extremely flexible.

03_ROLAND JU-06



Another recreation of a legendary analog synth (juno 106). These sounds have shaped the history of electronic music since the mid 80s!

04_YAMASHIBA YA-12



A unique portable toy keyboard from the 90s. Lots of character and highly original drums, presets and effects.

05_NOVATION MININOVA



The Mininova is a modern digital synth, with a versatile sound engine, a great sound, cool performance functions and an even cooler vocoder!

06_Teenage Engineering OP-1 SYNTH



The TE OP-1 is much more than a synth, as it also offers a virtual tape recorder, original FX, fun sequencers, drum engine, a mixer and even a mastering section! Its synth engines

are unique, with plenty of bite and highly modern sounds. 100% digital, and not ashamed of it :)

07_Teenage Engineering OP-1 SAMPLER



One of the coolest function of the versatile OP-1 is its sampler engine. It uses a proprietary lo fi sampling format (mono aiff, 16bit, 44.1kHz) and has a warm and crunchy sound. I've created several commercial soundbanks for this sampler ([OP1 Essentials](#)) and the 16 presets here are realistic recreations of some of the best patches from these soundbanks.

08_KORG MONOTRON



This is a really cheap and fun mini analog synth, using a ribbon controller instead of keys. The sounds it offers are full of vibe, with a great filter and LFO.

2. DRUMS

09_DRUMKITS



This patch offers highly original drum kits sampled from the synths and keyboards. Use the preset selector at the top to switch between the 8 drum kits.

Each kit follows a similar keyboard layout:

- **C1 and C#1: Bass Drums**
- **D1, D#1, E1: Snares, claps, cross sticks**
- **F1, G1, A1: Toms, percussions**
- **F#1, G#1: Hi Hats, Cymbals**
- **Bb1, B1: Effects**



Program a rhythm in your DAW and quickly change between kits for various sections of your track!

10_DRUMKITS_all



This patch offers the same samples as the previous one, but this time all drum kits are spread over the whole keyboard. This way, you can quickly audition many samples, and easily find the ones you need for your productions.

3. USER INTERFACE

All synth patches are pre-loaded with original raw presets. Use the preset selector to quickly change between sounds:



Use the filters and effects to customize the sound:



- **HP:** High-Pass Filter to cut out unwanted bass frequencies. Helps to easily integrate the sound into a mix
- **LP:** Low-Pass filter to finely reduce high frequencies and achieve a warmer sound
- **A:** Attack - the amount of time it takes for the sound to reach maximum amplitude after pressing a key. Use lower value for quick and punchy sounds, or higher values for slow strings and pads.
- **R:** Release - the amount of time the sound will sustain after the note is depressed. Use shorter values for quick releases, or bring this control up for long sustaining sounds.
- **REVERB SELECTOR:** pick one of 20 custom Impulse Responses
- **DRIVE:** a parallel overdrive, with very little amount of warm saturation mixed with the dry signal.
- **TONE:** a specific equaliser preset optimized for each patch
- **FX:** each patch offers a pre-programmed effect (delay, chorus, disto, amp...)
- **COMP:** a parallel compressor to increase sustain, and control dynamics.



The filters (HP and LP) and all effects were fine-tuned for each synth. Make sure you check these out!



you can assign any knob from the Kontakt user interface to any of your hardware controller. To do this, right-click on the knob you would like to assign. Choose the option 'learn MIDI CC# Automation'. Then just move a knob on your controller (or the mod wheel). That's it!

To unassign the knob, right click on it again, and choose 'remove MIDI automation'

TWEAKING THE EFFECTS INSIDE KONTAKT:

You can easily change the effect parameters or replace effects for each single nki. To do this, first click on the tool at the top left corner of the Kontakt instrument:



Then scroll down to the section 'INSERT EFFECTS':



You can see a chain of 8 effect slots.

The first one (here SKrm) is controlled by the 'DRIVE' knob on the interface.

The second and third effects are the filters. (controlled by the two HP and LP knobs on the interface)



The fourth one (here SGEQ) corresponds to the interface's TONE knob.

The fifth one (here Delay) is controlled by the 'FX' knob on the interface

The sixth one (FBComp) corresponds to the 'COMP' knob on the interface.

For each effect, you can press the red letter 'B' to bypass or activate the effect.

Click on the cross (x) to delete the effect, and replace it with a different one by clicking on the +

Click on the center of an effect slot to select it and have access to all effect parameters.

When you're satisfied with the changes, scroll back to the top, and press the tool again to close Kontakt's edit mode.

!!! SAVING YOUR INSTRUMENTS:

You can then re-save the patch in the files menu:

Use the function 'save as...', rename the instrument, and choose the option 'patch only'

You can save your instruments in the folder named 'MY INSTRUMENTS', this will allow you to quickly find them in the future :)

4. MULTI PRESETS

The real fun of BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS starts when you layer various synths presets together!

To give you an example of the possibilities, the library offers 32 multis.

101_JMJ Harpe Laser.nkm
102_Piano Strings Delicate.nkm
103_wine vault lead_MW.nkm
104_AfroLOG splash_MW.nkm
105_Full Orchestra Pad.nkm
106_Transparent XBass.nkm
107_Little Grains of Sand.nkm
108_Gimme your GameBoy.nkm
109_Alladdin Keyz.nkm
110_Kubrick Choir.nkm
111_Rapid 80s Brass.nkm
112_Slow Strings.nkm
113_Thick Horns.nkm
114_Deeper Bass.nkm
115_Moskito Plucks.nkm
116_String Drops_MW.nkm
117_Hipsta Orchestra Hit.nkm
118_Retro Western Whistle.nkm
119_Vocoda Meister_MW.nkm
120_Thick Dreams_MW.nkm
121_Harpsitron.nkm
122_Clochette Magiques.nkm
123_Tokyo Boy Pluck_MW.nkm
124_SupaRise Tron_MW.nkm
125_80s Bella Theme_MW.nkm
126_Magical Glissandos.nkm
127_WurliStrings_MI_MW.nkm
128_HiFi Chiptune.nkm
129_drone philo.nkm
130_WhatsUp Noise.nkm
131_Satie Dreams_MW.nkm
132_Dirt Planet Bloom.nkm



When a multi's name ends with MW, special functions are pre-programmed for your keyboard's modulation wheel. Experiment and have fun with them!

CREATING YOUR OWN MULTIS (nkm):

Experiment with combining and layering various single patches and create your own sounds!

Here a few tips to create multi patches:

- Make sure you select the same Midi channel for all of the patches you want to layer.
- Use Kontakt's volume, pitch, panning, Tune, Solo and Mute buttons to help you out.
- Make sure you don't overload the audio output of Kontakt: you might need to lower the levels of the individual patches.
- Remember that the amount of CPU and disk resources needed will increase with each new layer. In Kontakt preferences menu, you can increase the latency to help create more ambitious multi patches!

To save a multi patch, choose the '*Save multi as...*' in Kontakt files menu. Name your multi- instrument, and choose the '*save patch only*' option. Please save the patch in the MULTI PRESETS folder or MY INSTRUMENTS folder to ensure proper loading.

5. SPLITS



The folder SPLITS offers alternative patches to allow the creation of keyboard 'splits': this way, you can play two different synths and one drum kit simultaneously on the same keyboard.

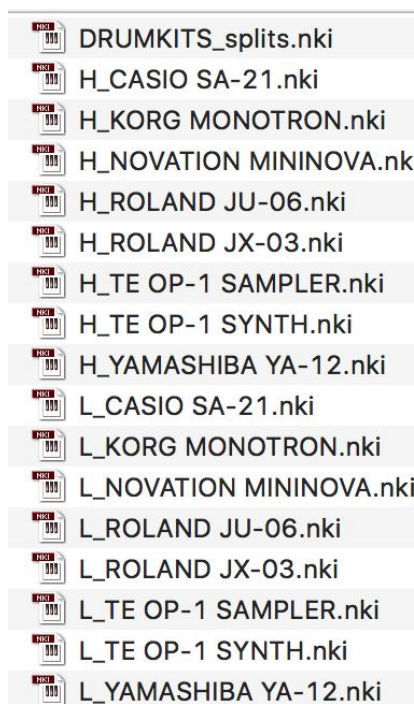
To create your own 'splits', use the patches in the 'INSTRUMENTS for splits' folder.

The patches starting with H (=for 'high') are used for the higher part of the keyboard (yellow keys)

For the lower part of the keyboard, use the patches starting with L (= for 'low') (blue keys)

Use the patch DRUMKITS_splits.nki for the drums (red keys)

Please save your own created 'splits' as multi instruments in the SPLITS PRESETS folder, or the MY INSTRUMENTS folder. The SPLITS PRESETS folder features a couple of examples of splits to get you started :)



SAMPLES

The samples of **BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS** are organised in 8 main folders: one for each synth, and an extra folder for all drum samples.

Most synth presets were multi-sampled from low register to high register, it should be easy to use these samples in other samplers since almost all samples use a logical naming convention:

SYNTH_preset-key number from low to high

Ex: *Yamashiba_honky-03*



The SAMPLES folder also contains a number of bonus samples that were not used for the creation of the Kontakt synths and drum kits. This includes additional drum samples, lower or higher octaves synth samples, extra patches... Feel free to explore these and use them :)

UPDATES

The included patches are early versions of the software. They were thoroughly checked and tested before release. If you still find bugs or inconsistent behaviour, please report to office@julientauban.com

Also, don't hesitate to send me ideas or requests for future updates. You will be informed via email (from office@julientauban.com) about updates and add-ons.

CREDITS

Recordings, mixing, programming and graphics by Julien Tauban.

Recorded at 4Tune Studio and LDLC Studios, Vienna, AUSTRIA

If you find a problem using the sample library, have questions or just want to get in touch, don't hesitate to send an email to office@julientauban.com



Thanks a lot for reading, I wish you lots of inspiration and fun with BATTLE OF THE MINI SYNTHS!

Best regards,

Julien Tauban

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