

Ambient Textural Toolkit

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Ambient Textural Toolkit

Welcome to...

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Welcome to Ambient **Textural Toolkit**. For this pack, we wanted to create a collection of sounds that was great out-of-the-box, but also that could be edited and tweaked to your musings. To prepare for this release we sampled a lot of unique sources including an old typewriter, a VHS video player, lots of glass, polystyrene and even an old pia-no with no keys (just the strings inside).

The contents of this pack focus on two main areas, the first being individual hits, samples, notes, and chords that can be used as the building blocks for new productions. The second, atmospheres, textures and soundscapes to act as underscores. This is supported by a selection of Massive presets, Logic channel strip settings and loops with MIDI files. Another characteristic of this pack is the combination of acoustic and synthetic sounds adding to the versatility of the pack and its scope for use beyond the atmospheric and ambient remit.

Sound sources were inspired by traditional instruments including vocals, guitars, and pianos performed in unique ways alongside using everyday items to create one-of-a-kind sonic environments. A wealthy host of artists inspired the creation of this pack, most notably Olafur Arnalds, Mogwai, Balmorhea, Clint Mansell, Thom Yorke, Kiasmos, Trent Reznor, Tycho, Air, Christian Henson and Boards of Canada.

As always we hope that this pack kickstarts your creativity and adds life to your current productions. Be sure to explore every single file as each one has been crafted to perfection.

The Producer



Producer Tips

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Experiment

Experiment with your sound palette by layering multiple samples and stacking effects processors (with different settings) within the effects chain. Applying extreme settings can yield exciting results; for drums try using a stereo delay with different settings on each side, or play a traditional instrument in a non-traditional way such as a guitar with a violin bow.

Detuning

Altering the tuning of a sound by just a few cents or octaves can create a different sound altogether and can change the mood and feel (of the sound), especially the more dissonant it becomes. VST instruments such as NI Massive allow you to change the tuning of each oscillator in realtime, the pitch shift and time stretching functions within most DAWs can also be used for creative processing.

Unique beats

Instruments such as Sample Magic's Klip, NI Battery and Ableton's Drum Rack are devices used to create personalised drum kits. They come with powerful audio manipulation parameters so you can tweak each hit to taste.

While we have provided preset kits, try switching out a few of the samples and replace with your own hits. You can make your own sounds by editing and/or layering hits and one-shots from this title.

Width and Depth

Try to avoid overcrowding your mix with multiple layers in the same frequency range as this can cause 'muddiness'. You can avoid frequencies overlapping by using the pan settings on the channels to spread the signals out within the stereo field. Reverb and delay effects can also help create a sense of space and realism within the mix. Using these techniques can add contrast and gives greater impact for more densely built-up sections.

Building Blocks

When building an atmospheric track start with a short and simple phrase or chord sequence and repeat this sequence for 8 to 16 bars, adding a fill for variation. A subtle edit at the end of each looped section can create a sense of variety and glues each section, within the project, together.

Automation and Processing

When making a soundscape from a number of layered synths and atmospheres, try automating different elements including channel volume, parametric EQ settings, pan, reverb mix and size and delay times and feedback. Automating these parameters can help create movement and variation with each channel.



Kit List

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Digidesign 003 Rack
Focusrite Scarlett 2i2
Zoom H4n
EHX Cathedral Reverb
EHX Memory Boy Analog Delay EHX
Big Muff
Fender Esquire Custom GT
Fender Tom Delonge Stratocaster
Squier Affinity Stratocaster
Schreiber Upright Piano

Ziljdan, Paiste, Dream and Stagg Cymbals
Laney Cub Cab and Head Guitar Amp
Boss Distortion DS-1
Boss Chorus CE-5
Boss Tremolo TR-2
Shure SM57
Rode NT5 Matched Pair
SE 4400a
AKG D112
Premier Artist Birch Drumkit

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