ABLETON INSTRUMENT RACKS

installation

To install the **Ableton Instrument Racks**, save the racks to the 'Instrument Rack' folder of your Ableton user library.

1. Open the project labelled "Instrument Racks Project"

2. In the top right corner of each of the racks press the "cassette" emblem in order to save the rack into your user library.

3. The title of the rack then appears in your user library, press enter to save the rack.

4. The racks are now available in your user library to use in other projects. The exact location of your library will depend on where you chose to install it, but common locations are:

Windows Vista/7: \Users\<user>\ Documents\Ableton\User Library\ Presets\Instruments\Instrument Rack

Mac OS: \<user>\Music\Ableton\User Library\Presets\Instruments\Instrument Rack

For information on how to find your User Library, go here: **www.ableton.com/en/articles/ where-are-my-user-presets-saved/**

Note: The racks utilise a large number of samples simultaneously. In order to optimise operation we recommend setting your sample rate to **1024 or above** to regulate CPU usage.

from the creator...

With **Ableton Instrument Racks**, I wanted to create five go-to tools for the key elements of most electronic music tracks: kick, snare, bass, synths and hats. We wanted to put stacks of classic hardware sounds into instruments that could take advantage of Ableton's powerful processing capabilities.

The raw samples come from a myriad of hardware sources: the Oberheim SEM V and Matrix 1000, the Arp 2600, the Korg MS-20 and Nord Modular are just some of the studio gems dusted off and mined for their finest sounds.

The key to these instrument racks is variety. Each rack is loaded with 64 patches to offer a spectrum of sonic flavours, all instantly scrollable via the Selector macro. After that, there's an additional seven macros per rack which employ complex processing chains that will allow you to put a truly unique spin on things. All of the macros and what they do are explained in detail later in the booklet.

All the racks can be opened and reconfigured. You can tweak the parameter ranges and even add in your own devices to develop them into custom racks for your specific musical needs.

It's my hope that these instrument racks will become a central part of your production and performance workflow, offering endless inspiration for the foundations of your music. And if you pop the hood and delve deeper, perhaps there's some useful production insight to be found, too.

Crystal Distortion (Simon Carter) Producer

Demo produced by:

Simon Stokes (Shoogle Sudios)

Bass Rack

Pure bassline bliss: fat subs, acidic squelches, FM tones, deep drones, hoovers and wobblers.

Selector
Instantly scroll through 64 unique bass sounds.

Position
Move the start position of the sample playback.

Loop
Utilises looping A/B markers to create a steadily repeating effect. Pull towards you for granular harshness.

Low-Pass Filter
Remove unnecessary high-frequency from the bass for more headroom.

Bend
Applies a semitone portamento slide, ideal for creating rhythmically evolving patterns.

Tune
Easily tune the bass sound to the root key of your track.

Amplification
A unique selection of stomping distortion amp effects to hot up the the bass.

Wobble
Thirteen-stage low-pass filter with LFO speed changes and pre-defined wave shapes to add complexity, depth and movement.

Lead Rack

Analogue emulations, detuned leads, dusty keys, glassy digital chords, retro arps, 8-bit bleeps and more.

Selector
Scroll through all 64 different lead types.

Decay
Tweak decay times for everything from long evolving textures to short staccato stabs. Left for stabs, right for hoover drones.

Wobble
Thirteen-stage low-pass filter with set-rate analogue-style LFO for pleasing detuned effect.

Twist
Combination of beat-repeater processing with ping-pong delay, ideal for classic spot FX.

Tune
A semitone-style tuning macro. Go two octaves lower, one octave higher.

Ring
Rhythmic variation in the form of a ring filter LFO. Combine with the reverb macro for epic 3D sounds.

Sprong
Grain delay spray in up and down flavours.

Reverb
From small to expansive: fine-control reverb with ease. Don't forget to open the module and assign the compressor's sidechain to the signal of your choice.

Kick Rack

Underpin any electronic track with the right kick: distorted, deep, hard, punchy, synthetic, layered or live.

Selector
Audition all 64 kicks at the turn of a knob.

Decay
Powerful envelope control: tweak the sustain, decay and release of the kick drum to fit the mix.

Roller
Drum roll madness featuring triplets with a dry signal blend.

Distortion
Adds warmth and drive to low-band frequencies for added character and crunch. Crank it up for serious filth.

Tune
Cent and step-wise tuning for maximum tuning control.

Time
Frequency-specific ping pong delay time setting.

Dry/Wet
Determines amount of processing on the channel effected by the **Time** macro.

Blur
Slick filter and reverb processing designed to soften raw or hard kicks.

Snare Rack

Serious snare business: from machine drum classics to cutting-edge digital sounds.

Selector
Cycle through all 64 sounds instantly.

Decay
Tight envelope control: trim anti-clockwise for snares for more snap or turn clockwise for more tail.

Cut-Off
Low-pass filter to reduce any unwanted high frequencies. Great for accompanying long fill rolls.

Crusher
Bitcrush processor control. Drive hard for serious dirt and crunch.

Tune
Semitone and cent-wise tuning macro for total tuning control.

Reverb
Massive sidechained reverb. Open the module and assign the sidechain on the compressor when you first load the rack.

Sprong
Grain delay spray in two flavours. Ideal for wonky snare fills.

Twist
Beat-glitched mayhem. Combination of beat-repeater and ping-pong delay for odd-ball rhythmic textures. Don't forget to open and assign the compressor sidechain in the feedback chain.
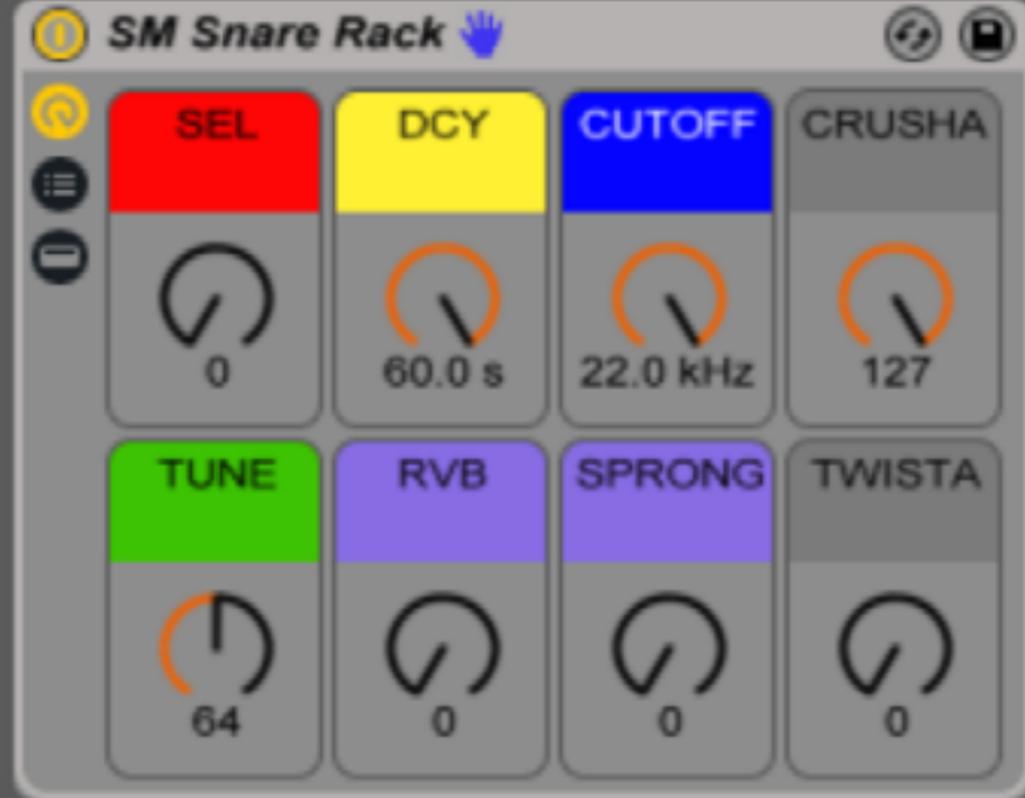
Hat Rack

The essential cymbal rack, packed with 16 groups of hats, cymbals, rides and crashes.

Selector
Instantly scroll through 64 combinations of hats (open/closed), cymbals, rides and crashes.

Decay
Tweak the decay for longer or shorter sounds. For hi-hats only.

Frequency
A frequency shifter that creates dynamically panning hi-hats. Go from 3D top-end to metallic sizzle in one easy dial.

Wobble
Thirteen-stage band-pass wobble filter with LFO. Tweak for unique detuned tops.

Tune
Tweak your hats with a step-wise pitch shifter for depth or shine.

Ghost
A shimmering side-chained (gated) stereo reverb effect to add pump and ambience to your rhythms. Don't forget to open the module and assign the compressor's sidechain to **Ghost Pre FX**.

Time
A frequency-specific delay for seriously twisted tops. Set from 1/16 to 2 x whole notes.

Dry/Wet
Turn to control the amount of effected channel on the **Time** macro.