
OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/20 11:09

Should the Machinedrum be master tempo?

If so, would that mean the OT could not swing, as it would be bpm synced to the OT?

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by Veets - 2012/11/20 11:51

Hey PL,

Absolutely OT. I did some tests over here and the OT clock is much better! Don't know about the swing but the OT clock is rock solid. If you are recording, it's a must. If you are in a live set, you can choose.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/20 12:01

very cool ...

just ordered an OT today

i guess the swing thing only happens when an Elektron machine is not bpm synced to anything else?

in other words ... the "Swing" parameter is only going to "work", if an Elektron device is Master bpm tempo.

not sure if i am remembering incorrectly here ... but if say the Machinedrum is set to be master tempo, then it can apply swing to the playback of sequenced patterns.

and the same goes for the Octatrack, i would imagine.

but if the Machinedrum is set to be slave tempo,
then ... i think it will not swing?

the reason i ask is that swing is an integral part of my sequencing enjoyment.

Perhaps i should just wait until the OT arrives and see how things go from there.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by Tarekith - 2012/11/20 12:04

I use the OT as the master, and the MD's swing definitely still adjusts the timing. At least I hope I'm not being fooled.

:huh:

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by duplex - 2012/11/20 12:10

The MD (and presumably the OT too) will swing quite happily when synced to an external clock source. Even if you have a swing step on the beat of your master device, it won't affect what's transmitted as MIDI clock (as far as I know).

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/20 12:19

cheers for responses ... it was a bizarre question, come to think of it ... glad to know that elektron devices are able to swing either as master tempo or slave to the bpm tempo.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by SecretMusic - 2012/11/21 08:47

the arps on the OT don't swing though, unfortunately :(

hope you like 8th notes :)

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by StinkyBeat - 2012/11/21 10:52

Arps rarely ever swing.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by SecretMusic - 2012/11/21 13:59

StinkyBeat wrote:

Arps rarely ever swing.

I can swing arps on Waldorf synths and Access synths. Just saying :)

And just because some arps don't swing, doesn't mean that Elektron's arps shouldn't. Would you lose anything if that feature was implemented or considered ?

In any case, the OT is a great master clock, its timing is close to impeccable.

Cheers !

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by ipassenger - 2012/11/21 16:12

Just to clear this up, the MD and MnM swing setting is stepped when their clocks are slaved, e.g. They can still swing but u don't have as fine a control over the amount as when not slaved. . Or at least this is what it said I the manual somewhere. Pretty sure the octa doesn't suffer with this bit it is always master in my rig anyway.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/21 16:22

ipassenger wrote:

Just to clear this up, the MD and MnM swing setting is stepped when their clocks are slaved, e.g. They can still swing but u don't have as fine a control over the amount as when not slaved. . Or at least this is what it said I the manual

somewhere. Pretty sure the octa doesn't suffer with this bit it is always master in my rig anyway.

aha, found something in the Monomachine manual about this ...

When the Monomachine is locked to external MIDI clock, the swing amount will be quantised to the resolution of the MIDI clock, leaving only four effective swing amounts.

interesting! i thought there was something mentioned about Elektron gear's swing, synced to another machine's BPM.

so, if the Octatrack does not have this limitation, then perhaps i will sync the OT to the Machinedrum's BPM, because i really dig the time vibe from the Machinedrum.

Difficult to explain really ... the Machinedrum seems to have an extremely funky time vibe going on. Of course, this could be all in my imagination, but anything the Machinedrum plays, seems immediately groovy and danceable.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by duplex - 2012/11/21 16:31

Edited . . . Preview Lounge got there before me. :huh:

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by ipassenger - 2012/11/21 16:53

It does seem odd to me this but it is how they work.

I manage with the stepped values as I don't want anything to upset the looped samples in the octa as it would cause warbling of timestretched samples.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by anigbrowl - 2012/11/21 17:25

previewlounge wrote:

Difficult to explain really ... the Machinedrum seems to have an extremely funky time vibe going on. Of course, this could be all in my imagination, but anything the Machinedrum plays, seems immediately groovy and danceable.

What style of music do you do? I don't use swing all that often (partly because it's tricky with different sequencers etc.)
What sort of swing values do you like to set?

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/21 17:37

swing values 54, 59 and 63 ... and as for the swing patterns, i am just using the default swing trig tracks as they are for now, although noticed an interesting custom swing pattern shown on the Monomachine manual p.64

tempo's of around 95bpm -> 105bpm ... currently working on 'progressive trip hop' tracks, for want of a better description. i had to dial back the tempo to these levels because quicker tempos were not helping me to hear the space between sounds.

but the actual time vibe of the Machinedrum is more relating to how the beat sounds to me when the Machinedrum is master tempo. this may very well be my imagination.

although the beat is quite regular, the vibe just sounds so much more danceable than when i use ableton, for example.

So, i am hoping the Octatrack will provide a similar awesome time feel when working with loops, loop slice segments, and a greater variety of samples.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by anigbrowl - 2012/11/22 03:42

duplicate :blush:

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by Tarekith - 2012/11/22 04:10

Swing of 57, Accent track set to 7 or 8, bliss :)

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by HighSage - 2012/11/22 04:37

Tarekith wrote:

Swing of 57, Accent track set to 7 or 8, bliss :)

Indeed!

For my 4 on the floor techno in the Detroit style, I swing at 52%, and include the 1/16 step and/or the 9/16 steps as swing steps (in addition to the default even number swing steps).

I like 54% too, but anything more than that, to my ears and style, starts to sound like the euro minimal swing vibe that I've grown tired of lately. All depends on what you're goin' for I suppose.

Also like to play around with zero swing (50%) set on some tracks, and 52% on others. Swinging the kick on that 1 and 9 steps, but NOT swinging the hats, for example... Swinging the claps, but not the snares for a slight flam effect on the 5 and 9, etc.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/22 07:23

very cool ideas ... so, does the Accent track work in with the Swing? or maybe is just a convenient volume thing?

so, the default Accent trig track is empty ... is it a good idea to put Accent trigs on the same trigs as a Swing trig track? Maybe this approach is generalising things too much. I am sure the Accent track is a more subtle thing to be used, here or there. Have to admit to not using Accent track for years, not sure why.. perhaps due to somehow, the p-locks seemed more convenient.

actually the Accent track fascinates me. I remember Nils mentioning a while ago, how the Accent track would not only effect the volume of a particular machine (could be BD2, not sure) - but if an Accent trig were on the same trig step as a machine, it would effect the synthesis of the machine in some way.

perhaps it was a snare drum.

this is very cool.. the idea that Accent could effect synthesis changes.

HighSage idea of contrasting 52% swing with a 50% percent setting (effectively no swing) sounds very cool and a lot of fun.

.. swinging the kick on 1 and 9 steps and not swinging the hats! :know:

Swinging the claps, but not the snares for a slight flam effect on the 5 and 9, etc.

:happyday:

as regards swing amounts, while it does depend on style and tempo, i think the individual mix of sounds in a pattern kind of lend themselves more easily to less or more swing, maybe this could be relating to each sound's length or even the attack of the amplitude or filter.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by Laughing Animal - 2012/11/22 08:43

previewlounge wrote:

aha, found something in the Monomachine manual about this ...

When the Monomachine is locked to external MIDI clock, the swing amount will be quantised to the resolution of the MIDI clock, leaving only four effective swing amounts.

I just looked in the MD's manual and saw nothing about swing being affected on it when synced. So now I'm wondering which of the trinity to make the master... Monomachine to get full range of swing, Octatrack to prevent timestretch issues (as I have been doing), or Machinedrum for its groove. Time to experiment.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by anigbrowl - 2012/11/24 15:40

Awesome advice guys - thanks a lot! I would never have thought of swinging the downbeat, you've given me a bunch of new techniques to experiment with. I often find better advice on these forums than in I have in books and magazines!

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by StinkyBeat - 2012/11/24 22:43

SecretMusic wrote:

StinkyBeat wrote:

Arps rarely ever swing.

I can swing arps on Waldorf synths and Access synths. Just saying :)

And just because some arps don't swing, doesn't mean that Elektron's arps shouldn't. Would you lose anything if that feature was implemented or considered ?

In any case, the OT is a great master clock, its timing is close to impeccable.

Cheers !

That is a much better point than what I said.

Back to OT/MD sync

I really like controlling my MD's tempo with a BCF2000. Is there any midi tempo control on the OT. Just got it last month and not gotten that far. The MD's tempo is controlled via sysex and I don't see any sysex info in the OT manual. I can achieve much better tempo changes with a fader than with an endless encoder.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by previewlounge - 2012/11/24 23:03

only having experienced the OT for 24 hours, I could not say, regarding external mid rotary -> OT tempo.

however, something of interest, as regards the Machinedrum, in the global settings,

Global

->Control

->Mech Settings

there is an option to change (for MkII units) the knob resolution from 24 to 32.
this gives finer adjustment potential.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by StinkyBeat - 2012/11/25 00:29

^ no finer adjustment, just more control, but harder to sweep the full range.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by Laughing Animal - 2012/11/26 11:42

I know this thread is mainly about OT vs MD for master tempo, but after some experimenting I decided on using the Monomachine as master for my trinity setup, as I didn't like the artifacts on the mono's delays when slaved. The MD and OT don't get such artifacts when slaved, and the OT's timestretching doesn't seem to be too bad either.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by J C Selector - 2013/01/20 06:34

Anyone swing here? lol ;)

Sorry had to put it in.

ps I don't.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by pixelife - 2013/01/20 13:01

HighSage wrote:

Tarekith wrote:

Swing of 57, Accent track set to 7 or 8, bliss :)

Indeed!

For my 4 on the floor techno in the Detroit style, I swing at 52%, and include the 1/16 step and/or the 9/16 steps as swing

steps (in addition to the default even number swing steps).

I like 54% too, but anything more than that, to my ears and style, starts to sound like the euro minimal swing vibe that I've grown tired of lately. All depends on what you're goin' for I suppose.

Also like to play around with zero swing (50%) set on some tracks, and 52% on others. Swinging the kick on that 1 and 9 steps, but NOT swinging the hats, for example... Swinging the claps, but not the snares for a slight flam effect on the 5 and 9, etc.

oh man I have to try that last part!

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by siddhu - 2013/01/20 21:55

I spoke with Elektron about this very subject two weeks ago and they suggested to use the Octa as the master because of both the time stretching, and that the Octatrack has a much more precise clock.

=====

Re:OT or Machinedrum as master tempo?

Posted by StinkyBeat - 2013/05/04 23:10

I have had the OT 6 months and now I am going through this issue as well.

Okay, here's what I'm thinking. Percussion has been drawing more and more of my focus. The obvious choice and the one most people I have read choose is OT as master.

My setup consists of MD, OT, x0x, Little Phatty, and a Simmons sds-400 tom brain.

My main issue comes down to swing! But pattern changing, mutes, ect. are also a consideration.

If I use the OT as master the MD is limited to 4 swing percentages :(0, 55, ?, and 80).

I can compensate on the OT with micro timing. I think I will be okay with slight warbling :dry:

I love sequencing the x0x with 2 to 4 MD tracks. Swing is a big part of that.

I want to give a solid go at sequencing MD mutes on the OT and OT mutes on the MD.

The routing I am considering:

MD master clock. Midi machines triggering the x0x and OT pattern changes/mutes (pattern changes on the OT not synced to MD pattern changes, I will be using bank/program change on the previous pattern and amp level mutes), 2 individual outs triggering two voices of the Simmons brain with the audio routed back into the MD.

OT slaved to MD clock and transport but not changing patterns automatically with the MD. OT midi tracks controlling the LP and MD (when retrigger, micro timing, and different track length/time sig is needed and for mutes).

Any things to consider or a better way to do things?

=====