
If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by HouseWarez - 2013/06/20 17:14

If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be?

In my case I'm thinking about living in Asia where there is no community for Live PA and don't want to lug around heavy gear, or rely on my laptop for musically performance.

I'm very interested in playing Detroit Type Techno.

I already have an Elektron Machinedrum MK2 UW but am thinking about trading it for just an Octatrack while loading incoming samples via laptop sound packs or something off stage.

what do you guys think?

and what would you pick as your one Elektron device?

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Nein - 2013/06/20 17:37

OT. Infinite possibilities as a standalone.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by anigbrowl - 2013/06/20 18:32

OT changed my life. I stopped using the computer for making music and now compose almost exclusively in the OT. I haven't looked at a piano roll for the last 18 months.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiive - 2013/06/20 19:03

Haven't looked at a piano roll for the last eight years.
Don't own any OT though :)

OT seems to be the most adapted here, because of its versatility. Now MDUW is far from preventing melody/harmony, thanks to the UW.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Artsutanov - 2013/06/20 19:04

Definitely the OT.

I'm from a Detroit Techno inspired/production background myself.

I'm also a new user of both the OT & A4, so I'm still scratching the surface of what these machines are capable of. The OT would be my choice if I could only have 1.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by xmit - 2013/06/20 19:04

easy.

Monomachine. one of the greatest integrated electronic music production instruments ever conceived & manufactured. A true classic.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Amanita - 2013/06/20 20:08

the next one - you know, the PolyMachineA8-a-tron

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by bryantalbot - 2013/06/20 20:33

This...

anigbrowl wrote:
OT changed my life.

...and this...

Nein wrote:
OT. Infinite possibilities as a standalone.

And, it's the first device I've had since I was a kid that made me laugh out loud.

Octatrack.

:game:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by xmit - 2013/06/20 21:03

OT. Infinite possibilities as a standalone.

now - at this risk of being a pedantic twat - of which I am clearly both :laugh: - surely the OT can't be classed as truly 'standalone' ...as you've got to sample / import sounds into it...? ;)

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone... :sauce:

Monomachine - standalone - an entire universe of almost infinite sonic possibilities at your fingertips.... :game:

;)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by papertiger - 2013/06/20 22:26

xmit wrote:
OT. Infinite possibilities as a standalone.

now - at this risk of being a pedantic twat - of which I am clearly both :laugh: - surely the OT can't be classed as truly 'standalone' ...as you've got to sample / import sounds into it...? ;)

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone... :sauce:

Monomachine - standalone - an entire universe of almost infinite sonic possibilities at your fingertips.... :game:

;):)

+1, with extra lulz

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by papertiger - 2013/06/20 22:26

maybe OT with five samples, each of which must be 1 second or less.

and go! :silly:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by udenjoe - 2013/06/20 23:13

My first live PA was in Seoul with a Machinedrum back in the early 2000s.

I would say OT too. Samplers are pretty limitless. I would suggest getting some kind of synth with it that would all would fit in a case. Mopho, tetra, shruthi. You could always get your samples from a phone, so the synth is optional.

I haven't had a MnM so I cannot say.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiiiive - 2013/06/20 23:16

bryantalbot wrote:

And, it's the first device I've had since I was a kid that made me laugh out loud.

Octatrack.

:game:

Wow, beautiful. I mean really.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Tarekith - 2013/06/20 23:37

MD would be my choice, still think it's the best all in one self-contained box Elektron has made. The OT can be more flexible, but there's still that issue of getting samples into it that requires a computer.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by darenager - 2013/06/20 23:54

^ Or at least something connected to the inputs.

My vote would be for solidwoodzkitchen the new Elektron machine, it has huge storage, built in appliances, wooden end cheeks, and you can get one from any town in the UK, I think even Ikea sell them.:laugh:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Nein - 2013/06/21 01:04

xmit wrote:

OT. Infinite possibilities as a standalone.

now - at this risk of being a pedantic twat - of which I am clearly both :laugh: - surely the OT can't be classed as truly 'standalone' ...as you've got to sample / import sounds into it...? ;)

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone... :sauce:

Monomachine - standalone - an entire universe of almost infinite sonic possibilities at your fingertips.... :game:

;)

See your point. However Maschine is classed as Standalone (When not hosted by a DAW) and relies far more heavily on a Computer than the OT.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by papertiger - 2013/06/21 01:09

Nein wrote:

See your point. However Maschine is classed as Standalone (When not hosted by a DAW) and relies far more heavily on a Computer than the OT.

who/what classifies Maschine as standalone? (just curious)

That's insane. It's not -- not even a little bit.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by the dreammer - 2013/06/21 01:27

papertiger wrote:

who/what classifies Maschine as standalone? (just curious)

That's insane. It's not -- not even a little bit.

Some suit at native instruments.. because "all you need to make music with it" is in the package..*

just like those mpc-controller-things. mpc-renesance or what-ever you call it.
its a "complete package" so you can use it stand-alone *

I think suits/commercial people like to talk that way **

Anyways, on my desert island.. I would use superglue, and just stick my elektrons to eachother.. I think that classifies it as "1 machine"

* everything you need except a compatible computersystem

** its nice to have the small print with annoying details somewhere else..

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by xmit - 2013/06/21 03:07

Anything that uses a computer DOES NOT COUNT :laugh:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Daisuk - 2013/06/21 03:41

As much as I love the Monomachine, I'd have to say the OT as well. Infinite possibilities.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiive - 2013/06/21 04:35

Tarekith wrote:

MD would be my choice, still think it's the best all in one self-contained box Elektron has made. The OT can be more flexible, but there's still that issue of getting samples into it that requires a computer.

MDUW first choice, OT second one. In both cases, I'd take one of those little minidisc microphones :)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by anigbrowl - 2013/06/21 15:16

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone... :sauce:

No way! If I have a cable to speakers or headphones, I can plug into the inputs and get some sound source - by touching the other end of the cable I have some electrical noise that is not silence. That is enough to store as a sample, from that I can make waveforms, use the comb filters, resample etc. Or even begin with silence and use the LFO designer trick to create waveforms.

When I started to make sounds I made my very early tracks by putting effects on sine waves and then doing a lot of cutting and pasting over and over in a 2 track audio editor. Of course this is tedious and difficult, but you can work from nothing. Give me a microphone and things will go a lot faster, though :laugh:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiive - 2013/06/21 17:10

Very nice :)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Nein - 2013/06/21 18:02

anigbrowl wrote:

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone... :sauce:

No way! If I have a cable to speakers or headphones, I can plug into the inputs and get some sound source - by touching the other end of the cable I have some electrical noise that is not silence. That is enough to store as a sample, from that I

can make waveforms, use the comb filters, resample etc. Or even begin with silence and use the LFO designer trick to create waveforms.

When I started to make sounds I made my very early tracks by putting effects on sine waves and then doing a lot of cutting and pasting over and over in a 2 track audio editor. Of course this is tedious and difficult, but you can work from nothing. Give me a microphone and things will go a lot faster, though :laugh:

Smashing

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by xmit - 2013/06/21 19:42

thought someone would come up with this :laugh: In fact I thought some clever clogs would realize even if you had a pair of headphones you're good... ever done the "use headphones as a basic microphone" trick ?;)

Still - I disagree. Sampling is for the weak. MONOMACHINE WINS !

:laugh:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by bonde - 2013/06/21 20:07

Tough question. I would choose either the TM-1 or the plastic protection lid:woohoo:

...no. My experience with my MD and MNM is that I get the most out of them by focusing only on one at a time. So...just choose one...but only one! :huh: B)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Nein - 2013/06/21 20:15

Ok. Mixed opinions great. But going back to the OP is the Monomachine really the best choice for Detroit type Techno. I know it can do it, but is it the wisest choice of all the machines.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by xmit - 2013/06/21 22:14

^

yeah - it's a good & fair point Neil. Speaking purely personally, (seriously now) it'd still be Monomachine for me. I had pattern after pattern of 313 area code type action in mine...nothing else being used as for a while I did just have a MnM...& techno is what I do, in the main.

However, that's just me. And the MnM can be a bit of a 'Marmite' instrument - obviously I'm in the 'love it' camp.:) I can see that for a lot of folks you're going to be probably happiest with the OT for this application : some decent samples in & you'll be flying.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by emnine - 2013/06/21 22:19

Thinking about this thread I spontaneously started to sing
'I don't want any other synth, when I think about her I wet my pants' to the Divinyls classic.
Her is the Monomachine in this particular instance.

Off the record, my 11 year old son officially declared me being a nerd recently because I'm always rolling the chord of my cell phone's power supply in the same way :huh:

All this being said, Monomachine only might not be the best option for Detroit type techno (whatever this may be...).

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by dubathonic - 2013/06/21 23:52

HouseWarez wrote:

I'm very interested in playing Detroit Type Techno.

It might help you to take a slightly different approach here, because probably any of the MDUW, OT or MnM could get you a long way (I don't know the A4). Each can do a great deal and they overlap in capabilities. So maybe ask yourself two sets of questions:

What kind of sound are you chasing? Yes Detroit, but rougher, cleaner? How emphatically melodic? How dependent on vocal samples? How many lines do you hear in your head? Think about this from the perspective of the number of tracks each Elektron offers, and how each can be used in terms of sound creation vs. dedicated FX processing.

What's the main element of your preferred work style? Do you typically begin sketching a track with a particular element like a melodic loop, a bassline, a top rhythm, etc.? Do you enjoy percussion sound design, exploring drum interplay and tone stacking? the types of synthesis the MnM offers? auditioning and tweaking sampled hits and stems? Could you live without the MD's CTR machines, or do you find yourself wanting even more control using fewer tweaks? Do you find yourself wishing for multiple independent FX processors, or are the MD's master FX enough for you?

...questions only you can answer, but hope it helps :)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiive - 2013/06/22 00:33

emnine wrote:

All this being said, Monomachine only might not be the best option for Detroit type techno (whatever this may be...).
:laugh:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by glitched - 2013/06/22 00:48

The question shouldn't be "If you could have just one ELEKTRON..."; it should be, "If you could have just one KITCHEN UNIT SHOWROOM, which would it be?!"

For me, it's clearly a unit from the guys who are spamming this forum; they have an incredible work ethic and they won't quit until the job is done!

Anyway, to answer the original question, it's "Analog 4" all the way, for me. I could see myself getting two, just because I love designing sounds from the ground-up. The huge bonus is obviously the ability to interface with modular gear...and that opens up an entire universe of possibilities.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by coldfuture - 2013/06/22 00:50

Given that the MD + OT = all the studio one ever needs for making all of electronica, let alone one subgenre, I can only recommend you get an OT to add to your MD. Then use a rack & pelican case to make them feel like one piece of gear.

When used together they are one piece of gear: my studio, reduced to its heart.

(Tho I should mention I have all four Elektrons and love them all.)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by guga - 2013/06/22 01:26

that's definitively a tough question...

i would probably go for the MnM because of its varied features even though it's really hard to choose between all of the Elektron's godies :)

you can make music with the MnM without the need of any external device... it has almost everything (apart from sampling, but hey, that belongs to the OT right? :D) from SID synthesis to vocoder, effects, the bbox, a built in step sequencer, arpeggiator, MIDI sequencer! ...

if the MnM had a sampling feature, it would probably be one of the best synthesizers ever built...

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by DaCaVa - 2013/06/22 07:50

MDUW all the way for me. This machine got me away from the computer and into having fun making music. If this is a dessert Island scenario, I'll need some samples with it as well, lets say 24 good single cycle samples from various instruments for making acid lines, and a couple of drum loops of some good 808 samples (mainly for the toms).

:)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by marcel videla - 2013/06/22 08:58

SID STATION.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by natefrogg - 2013/06/24 13:31

octatrack, just because i can feed it any sounds and use it to control lots of other things, it is a decent brain and centerpiece but can rock just fine by itself as well

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by beachowl - 2013/06/27 23:33

A4 just because it seems the most playable and intuitive instrument.

I was up and running straight away with A4 in a shop last week, immediately engrossed, turning knobs, fun. I owned OT and never got to that stage: after 10 sessions working through the manual I was still struggling with the basics.

I loved OT but it kept scowling at me saying mate, you're not that bright. A4 jumped into my arms like Scooby Doo and said I smell like Juan Atkins.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiiive - 2013/06/27 23:48

beachowl wrote:

I loved OT but it kept scowling at me saying mate, you're not that bright. A4 jumped into my arms like Scooby Doo and said I smell like Juan Atkins.

Brilliant :laugh:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by poonti - 2013/06/28 00:04

stiiiiiive wrote:

beachowl wrote:

I loved OT but it kept scowling at me saying mate, you're not that bright. A4 jumped into my arms like Scooby Doo and said I smell like Juan Atkins.

Brilliant :laugh:

:laugh: :laugh:

My OT scowls at me the same way: "don't even think of having a pint before you touch me, mate " :beer:

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by stiiiiiive - 2013/06/28 07:25

My instruments are rather like "no noo don't let this glass here Ringo..."

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by jonah - 2013/06/28 08:52

anigbrowl wrote:

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone... :sauce:

No way! If I have a cable to speakers or headphones, I can plug into the inputs and get some sound source - by touching the other end of the cable I have some electrical noise that is not silence. That is enough to store as a sample, from that I can make waveforms, use the comb filters, resample etc. Or even begin with silence and use the LFO designer trick to create waveforms.

When I started to make sounds I made my very early tracks by putting effects on sine waves and then doing a lot of cutting and pasting over and over in a 2 track audio editor. Of course this is tedious and difficult, but you can work from nothing. Give me a microphone and things will go a lot faster, though :laugh: And headphone out to input and/or cue out to input.

Resampling and sampling my own playing and sequencing as phrases and loops is such an important part of my process (even before OT) I'd have to go with that, if I was forced to choose 1.

They're all great audio processors though. (Yet to try MnM, but I have no doubt)

With the MachineDrum it's fun just to build up kits and if I wasn't planning on playing live or could wait to finish a song, that would be my choice. By waitl mean run it into a mixer (or Octatrack!). I have to be able to move those levels live and control effect blends.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by n3wt - 2013/06/28 08:55

Ive had a few MD's, 2 OT's, and a few MNM's, all I have currently is a monomachine, I dont ever see it going anywhere. id love a MD again, though im sure I will get shunned for this here, my tempest is my Go to drum machine. Id love to try an a4 someday

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by jon mr - 2013/06/28 11:26

Easily my MD. It's gotten to a point where it's my crutch. From day 1 everything just fell in line with how everything worked inside the gear and my brain. It's such an intuitive machine. Even if elektron releases an MD mkIII with micro-timing and new things, I'd still keep my old MD.

btw, I've owned the sfx-6 and currently own the rest of elektron's gear, so it's not as if I haven't dabbled with the other magic boxes.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by psicolor - 2013/06/28 19:23

I'd take the A4 because of it's builtin keyboard and the supervoid reverb...

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by arsecrack - 2013/06/28 21:28

Just ordered an Octatrack so I'll let you know.

At the moment i'd keep the MD over the A4 if I I was forced to choose.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by VennDiagram - 2013/06/29 13:15

hard to say - I love all 4 but the one that yields the most surprises for me is still the Monomachine. It must be the most insanely elastic sounding digital creation I have ever gotten my mitts on and is equally as deep as the Octatrack in many ways once you get in under the hood using neighbour tracks, thru machines and so on and so forth. Much fun to be had.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by MK7 - 2013/06/29 18:00

A4, coupled with an iPad for drums. That thing can sound so fat, fine, lush, dirty or dark.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by DaCaVa - 2013/07/14 19:29

iPad for drums, paired with the A4? Interesting... I keep forgetting it's not 1992... now where is my Fuse album!?

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Paiheu - 2013/07/16 01:20

So - desert island scenario: - OT with empty card... standalone...

Turn on the metronome, press play, sample. Endless potential.

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by thay bran - 2013/07/16 01:23

have to agree here , the Mono still surprises the hell out of me.
The A4 is fun the Md hard work but the Mono is spot on for me

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Beardy Jack - 2013/07/16 04:21

Has anyone just said 'the next one'?;)

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by marcel videla - 2013/07/16 05:09

poonti wrote:

stiiiiiiive wrote:

beachowl wrote:

I loved OT but it kept scowling at me saying mate, you're not that bright. A4 jumped into my arms like Scooby Doo and said I smell like Juan Atkins.

Brilliant :laugh:

:laugh: :laugh:

My OT scowls at me the same way: "don't even think of having a pint before you touch me, mate " :beer:

here too, I have the biggest LOVE/HATE with the fuggin OT. Some days I wanna smash it

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by djadonis206 - 2013/07/16 05:28

OT

Although the OT has a steep learning curve, itâ€™s well worth it in the end. Iâ€™m convinced you can produce full tracks with j the OT and maybe one other synth like a Virus or A4. The keys for me when it comes to the OT are:

Sample chains

Neighbor machines

One shot trigs

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by tasmansea - 2013/07/16 13:44

MDUW+ mk3

=====

Re:If you Could Have just one Elektron which would it be? OPEN!

Posted by Ozone - 2013/07/16 14:00

the OT... always dreamed of a hardware device that could stream lots of old track wav stems in creative ways. MD comes a close close 2nd... Individual Perc tracks & kid friendly resampling essential to work flow.

=====