
Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Neuro - 2005/10/15 17:07

I'm looking for a new synth, something that is particularly good for hard/funky techno sounds. I'd also want to use it for hard/dark techstep.

I already have a Machinedrum and Sidstation, so think maybe I should get a different brand.

Which do you think is best, the Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Which is easier to use?

Thanks.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by jsrockit - 2005/10/15 17:10

Do you like having a built in sequencer? Do you want multiple types of synthesis no other machine quite offers? Then I'd go with a Monomachine. Do you want a more normal, but still awesome synth? Then get the Virus.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Neuro - 2005/10/15 17:19

I like the idea of the onboard sequencer, as I like working with patterns and playing the parameters etc. I'd like to record nice synth loops into Ableton Live, then mix everything together.

I guess I'm just slightly worried that the MM will be too much of a learning curve to get into, whereas I already know the Virus A.

I am leaning towards the MM, but the idea of the Virus total parameter recall within your sequencer is pretty tempting too.

Doh!

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by jsrockit - 2005/10/15 17:29

I hate learning new stuff and I thought the Monomachine was very easy to get into. i doubt I'm that deep into compared to others here...but I still have fun and make my own sounds. I've made about 15 songs with it...and I continue to find totally different sounds every day. It is my favorite synth. I'd like to have a Virus...but would rather have the MM.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Neuro - 2005/10/15 17:50

Cool, sounds good.

I may have to get the MM then. The Virus sound is probably getting a bit too familiar anyway...

Do you know if the MM SFX-6 can also operate as a master keyboard? I want to ditch my Yamaha Motif and get something smaller.

Cheers.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by milkmansnd - 2005/10/15 18:07

do already have the A??? Then keep it, and add the Mono - and between the two you are master of your domain!

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Acidfever - 2005/10/15 19:09

Neuro wrote:
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Do you know if the MM SFX-6 can also operate as a master keyboard? I want to ditch my Yamaha Motif and get something smaller.

Cheers.

I don't see why any of the virus famlity would produce a sound that is getting old. Maybe if you used presets but if you build your own sounds you never get something that sounds the same as you made before.

It's a programmable synth for a reason.

Not saying that a MM is no a capable machine however. Very nice sequencer and cool synthesis methods.

Both lovely! :-D

=====

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by milkmansnd - 2005/10/15 19:55

yeah - my Virus B still astounds me every other day. Its really a fantastic sounding synth, you can dig deep with the programming and I am so glad I got it when I did. The monomachine is its own entity though - seriously, a combo of both would do some damage.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Neuro - 2005/10/15 20:27

Acidfever wrote:

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Both lovely! :-D

Yeah, I do program the Virus quite extensively, as the presets just don't do it justice - but I would say it has a ceratin sound/tone/texture or something that I'm used to. I think the Virus A is a bit more limited than the B and upwards, so you

can spot it in many tracks more so than some other synths. However, it does still sound great.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by divi - 2005/10/16 18:04

personally, i'd go for the MM because of elektron's wicked pattern composition. with my MD i work the same way you do: record and mix up loops in Live. but then, with the MM you don't get loads of polyphony and stuff. i'd go for the MM anyway!

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by monofever - 2005/10/16 19:09

Have you heard the Ti, I went to buy one the other day, and I thought it sounded very thin, but I am used to the MM, in fact I left the Ti alone because of the sound and the build quality seemed a bit poor after the MD UW and MM.

I see it has a lot to offer on paper, but have you compared the Ti to the Moog Voyager RME. Then you can hear the difference, and if you put a scope on it you can see the difference.

IMO the MM and Moog are more comparable than the MM and Ti, I thought the Ti sounded like a plug in, and the MM and Moog do not.

The SFX 6 Functions as a master keyboard, and makes it very easy to switch midi channels, and obviously live pattern recording on different midi channels is quite useful. The joystick on the SFX 6 is well worth it, and the LED's on the keys.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by lowlife - 2005/10/16 19:45

Neuro, I am using the MnM the way you describe...doing all the handy work with sequencing on a hardware level and then just bounce it all to DAW (in my case SX3 mostly).

This is, IMO, a very creative and inspirational way of composing. The MnM is certainly up for it. You do know about the parameter locks and slide, right? It's just awesome and creating new, dynamic patterns that you control perfectly is very, very easy and entertaining.

I use it to sequence 6 other modules and sync the MD and a QM-309 to Midi clock and all I can say is that this is truly recommended.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by jsrockit - 2005/10/16 21:31

What is the slide function?

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by milkmansnd - 2005/10/16 21:47

I recently talked with a dude in Texas with every synth under the sun - and he says it took a little work to get the Ti to sound as nice as the original Indigo with the B engine. I think he had the polar Ti.

His luke warm review reminded me of how lucky I am to have the indigo, and how I am not totally sold on the Ti myself,

especially at that price! Holy hell they sure are asking a lot for it! I mean, the mono is no bargain buy either - but you know it sounds fantastic already, and the sequencer will make your virus A come to life again. Trust me. And yes, my monomachine could take a licking and keep on ticking - but I pamper it more than a newborn child.

=====

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Acidfever - 2005/10/17 00:11

I'm sorry but i think not everyone here is replying in an objective way.

It's ok though...people tend to defend what they own.

I've demo'd the monomachine extensively and it a great machine but in no way thicker sounding than a virus.

It's different, that's for sure.

The reason why people always say a Virus B sounds thicker than a Virus C of Ti is that the virus has EQing per part from the C and up. And this makes a huge difference since the B seems to have some EQing going on by default.

I also don't agree on the Virus having a poor build quality. The Virus knobs are a lot more realiable than the ones used on the machinedrum or monomachine. And a virus is made from steel just like a monomachine.

In fact i wish my Machinedrum UW was build a sturdy as my Virus C....would have felt much more comfortable gigging with it.

And last but not least. Why do people keep comparing gear to gear like Moog Voyagers and other analog gear? Terms like "Thick" and "Thin" are very subjective and i think people should hear for themselves before deciding.

Also comparing a synth you own and work with every day to something you went to demo for a while in a store isn't really honest. Getting the most from a machine happens in your studio, not in some store on monitors you probably not used to work with.

Both are very nice machine and you will have to like the "sound" if you decide yo buy one.

All i know is that a virus can be more of a sound chameleon while the monomachine will retain it's Elektron signature sound.

Correct me if i'm wrong though. :-D

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

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Correct me if i'm wrong though. :-D

Why is it wrong to compare a Virus to a Moog? Seems more normal than comparing a virus to a MnM.

=====

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by monofever - 2005/10/17 02:16

Acidfever wrote:

I'm sorry but i think not everyone here is replying in an objective way.

You can't expect objective opinions here

It's ok though...people tend to defend what they own.

people defend whatever they feel protective towards

I've demo'd the monomachine extensively and it's a great machine but in no way thicker sounding than a virus.

I own a monomachine and know the sound like the back of my hand

It's different, that's for sure.

Yes they have different methods of sound generation

The reason why people always say a Virus B sounds thicker than a Virus C of Ti is that the virus has EQing per part from the C and up. And this makes a huge difference since the B seems to have some EQing going on by default.

Or simply that is the way it sounds when you switch it on and listen to it, and that's why people say it.

I also don't agree on the Virus having a poor build quality. The Virus knobs are a lot more reliable than the ones used on the Machinedrum or monomachine. And a virus is made from steel just like a monomachine.

Well we disagree then, I think the virus looks cheaper.

In fact i wish my Machinedrum UW was built as sturdy as my Virus C....would have felt much more comfortable gigging with it.

I like to go places where I can trust my gear is safe, so it's not an issue for me

And last but not least. Why do people keep comparing gear to gear like Moog Voyagers and other analog gear? Terms like "Thick" and "Thin" are very subjective and i think people should hear for themselves before deciding.

I compared the Virus to the Moog because they are both contemporary synths of equivalent value, in fact the Ti will be worth a fraction of today's price in a few years, I wonder whether the Moog will retain its value.

Also comparing a synth you own and work with every day to something you went to demo for a while in a store isn't really honest. Getting the most from a machine happens in your studio, not in some store on monitors you probably not used to

work with.

My ears work well enough to tell the difference between a Virus Ti, Monomachine and a Moog Voyager, whether I am in the shop or in my studio. But especially when I am comparing them side by side.

Both are very nice machine and you will have to like the "sound" if you decide yo buy one.

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Correct me if i'm wrong though. :-D

Yeah Acidfever I do think you're wrong.

It's sometimes easier in open discussion to give your own opinion without bouncing off the opinions of others.

I noticed this was your opinion

Both are very nice machine and you will have to like the "sound" if you decide yo buy one.

All i know is that a virus can be more of a sound chameleon while the monomachine will retain it's Elektron signature sound.

Which seems fine, but the rest of your post is some half witted attempt to flame me.

We all have our own subjective experience and that's why it's interesting to ask the forum a question.

I have strong feelings about this subject as I did buy a Moog, which had to be returned, because of a fault (so when I said I demoed it I lied a bit). And I held back when I said I thought it was better than the virus, as in my own opinion it blows everything else to shreds, but I'm not looking to attract a flaming for stating my opinion about a synth in this forum.

Don't you think writing about sound is difficult enough.

BTW I do think you are wrong about the build quality, it is personal choice and the MM and MD are not tanks but have you noticed how the Ti buttons sort of wobble in the case and the paint job seems a bit cheap, the knobs are not as comfortable as the Nord 2 or 3, and they are a bit close together. I think they got the look right with the Polar, and I thought a white desktop would have been better looking.

So to answer the question Monomachine or Virus Ti, my answer would be Monomachine.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by - 2005/10/17 10:04

jsrockit wrote:

What is the slide function?

Well, the possibility to slide the value of all parameters set to a specific step in a sequence to another specific step in that same sequence.

For example: setting a very low filter cutoff value to first step in the sequence and then setting a very high value in the last step in that same sequence and lastly using the slide function to slide the affected values smoothly between these two positions would do a very nice filter sweep on all steps played betwween these positions.

Could be done to any relevant sound parameter...and also to the external gear!!!Brilliant!

BTW, IMO the MnM sounds different to all of my regular synths (V-synth, Waldorf Q, Quasimidi Polymorph, Roland MKS-70, Kurzweil K2000S, Cwejman S1 mkII) and in a very fresh and "raw" way. This is a synth where it is very easy to set up new, personalised electronic sounds (yep, nothing else than electronic) where you have full control. The control part,

both sound-wise and absolutely sequencer-wise is the reason I love it.

=====

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by lowlife - 2005/10/17 10:11

Friend wrote:

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AAAAH...that was me. This log-in thing...gotta remember, gotta remember, gotta remember...

=====

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Acidfever - 2005/10/17 10:39

monofever wrote:
Which seems fine, but the rest of your post is some half witted attempt to flame me.

Not intended this way but the way you wrote your previous post did however hint me i could expect a reaction like this.

"Chill" is the first word that i can think of. :-D

As said before opinions are subjective and i personally think the virus is built more sturdy than any Elektron gear. That is my opinion.

I believe you in a second that a Moog Voyager sounds better when you press a key on it. But let's not forget the Ti is not just a monosynth, it's a max 80 voice digital beast. It's not intended to be a Moog afaik.

It does wavetable synthesis, hypersaw oscillators (which i don't particularly care about), USB patch control and automation (i hear the ability to control patches through USB is great).

What i am trying to say is....if you can afford one synth but need multitimbrality....the Moog just isn't an option.

Apples and walnuts if you ask me.

The monomachine comes closer but still Apples and some other fruit.

Hope this isn't picked up as a flame again. Just trying to give the topicstarter information on the lot being totally different products.

Ans last but not least.....shouldn't i be expecting the Moog to sound better anyways? It's has analog sound generation, a

very high pricetag and 1 voice. It should sound killer.....

=====

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Toni - 2005/10/17 12:04

What i am trying to say is....if you can afford one synth but need multitimbrality...

Just red the thread and nobody mentioned a multitimbrality. MnM is a monosynth (actually 6 of them) and Virus is a multitimbral synth. If original poster wants to write a lot of harmonics and such, then virus is better for sure. You can do it with Mono also, but not with same easiness.

Also let's not forget than MnM does have 6 sequenced midi-tracks, which can be used for Virus A and other gear/software. (MD can also be used for sequencing other synths too)

The Virus probaply has broader soundpossibilaites for subtractive synthesis and effects and such; this is very usefull. Monos strength is making sounds alive in a very inspired way. This is what I like in mono: it combines sounddesign and music making; while I tweak the knobs the melodies come out as well.

If one is used to computer-sequencing a lot, then Virus TI might also be excellent choice. Lets not forget the vst-integration. It's excellent thing.

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by monofever - 2005/10/17 13:53

The Moog Voyager RME is in the same price range as the Ti in the UK, I thought it answered the brief.

something that is particularly good for hard/funky techno sounds. I'd also want to use it for hard/dark techstep

You could compare the Virus Ti to the Moog RME, because they are both synths without sequencers, they cost about the same money, and monotimbrality makes little difference if you multitrack, making the Moog a good studio option.

Or compare the MM and Moog because they both have 'limited' capabilities in terms of number of voices, and I think they both suffer in the value for money equation.

If you only want a hard dark doorstep, then the Ti will suit you now or in fifty years time.

Don't make me angry, you wouldn't like me when I'm angry.....

8-) ;-) ;-)

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Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by - 2005/10/19 20:35

Thanks for all the replies.

I already have a Virus A, so the Ti would 'just' be an upgrade, but I love the idea of the VST integration and patch recall per song etc. I think it's probably too much money just to update my existing synth, despite the lovely look of the Ti Polar...

I think I'll actually go for the MM, as what I'm looking for is a different new sound for creating expressive loops and riffs. I reckon the MM with its sequencer will be best suited to this, and probably more inspiring to play with.

Multitimbrality used to be a consideration, but now I just record and layer tracks as I go (Live or Cubase). So I don't mind the MM for that.

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Neuro - 2005/10/19 20:40

Oops, wasn't signed in...

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by glaive - 2005/10/19 20:54

Excellent choice! (Of course) ;)

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by ggoodwin - 2005/10/19 21:00

are you mixing up the terms "multitimbral" and "polyphonic"? The MnM is definitely multitimbral. It can also achieve polyphony in a few different ways, either with Poly Mode, by layering parts, or by using the Ensemble machine.

anyhow, good choice. I'd take the MnM over a virus by a long shot...although the polar IS quite gorgeous.

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by Toni - 2005/10/19 21:31

My mistake. Earlier I was talking about multitimbrality when I ment polyphonia. So as stated earlier I would think about polypohnics; virus has plenty and MnM is a monosynth. This is the biggest divider here (with the sequencer). You can use MnM in polyphonic mode also, but it cant be addressed fully this way. So if you are doing lots of chords and such, then Virus might be better. (You can also use MnM midi tracks for chords (with the Virus a), but in a monophonic manner.)

Re: Monomachine or Virus Ti?

Posted by - 2005/10/19 23:12

Good choice... saved yourself some loot as well.
