

Forgotten Keys

Compu78

User Guide

Revision 1.0

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1 Welcome to Compu78

Hello and thank you for your purchase from Forgotten Keys. I hope this user guide will provide you with all the information you need to make use of Compu78's features to their full capacity.

1.1 What is Compu78?

Compu78 is a virtual simulation of the CompuRhythm CR-78, a very influential drum machine released at the end of the 1970s. It is a KONTAKT instrument and requires the full (paid for) version of KONTAKT or will work in demo mode only in the free KONTAKT player.

It features all the original sounds meticulously sampled at multiple accent levels and with up to eight round-robin variations depending on the sound. All the original rhythms and variations have been accurately reproduced and you can program your own rhythms in the same manner as you would on the original (if you had the now very rare WS-1 programmer). In addition, you can record a performance and save it as a MIDI file.

2 The Documentation

Throughout this manual where computer keyboard controls are to be used in conjunction with the user interface, the following will apply:

- [CTRL] indicated the Control or Command key.
- [ALT] indicated the Alt or Option key.
- [SHIFT] indicated the Shift key.

3 Setup

Open KONTAKT and navigate to the Compu78.nki file from the *Load...* option in the Files menu in the KONTAKT header, or drag it onto the KONTAKT rack. Once loaded, you will be presented with either the [Rhythms](#) or [Sounds](#) tab.

4 The Rhythms Tab

4.1 Controls

PURE: Makes Compu78 behave more like the CR-78 in the following ways:

- Only two rhythms can be selected at a time.
- When a rhythm is selected or the manual variation button is pressed, the change will occur at the next bar rather than immediately.
- The top and bottom rhythm selectors work independently of each other even when the **COMBINE** switch is off.

VOLUME: Controls the overall volume of the instrument.

BALANCE: Controls the volume balance between High Hat, Cymbal and Maracas versus Bass Drum.

METALLIC BEAT: Controls the volume of the Metallic Beat which adds a metallic attack to the Cymbal and High Hat sounds. When the **CYMBAL/HIGH HAT** cancel voice switch is on, Metallic Beat will play a straight 8-beat rhythm.

TAMBOURINE: Controls the volume of the Tambourine sound which always plays a fixed rhythm.

GUIRO: Controls the volume of the Guiro sound which always plays a fixed rhythm.

ACCENT: Controls the amount of accentuation of certain beats which is programmed as part of each rhythm.

TEMPO: Controls the Tempo. For finer adjustment, turn the knob while holding the [SHIFT] key on your computer keyboard. To sync to the host's tempo, turn the knob fully anti-clockwise.

COMBINE: Allows more than one rhythm to be selected at a time.

START/STOP: Starts or stops the rhythm.

RHYTHM A/B: Selects between bank A and B of the preset rhythms.

VARIATION: Selects one of the following rhythm variations:

- **RHYTHM A/B:** When the **RHYTHM A/B** switch is set to A, this mode will change it to B for a bar and vice versa.
- **BREAK:** Plays a bar of silence except for the first beat.
- **FILL IN 1-7:** Seven preset variation patterns. Pattern 1 is for the **WALTZ** rhythms, patterns 2 and 3 are for **SHUFFLE, SLOW ROCK, SWING, FOX TROT** and **BOOGIE**.
- **ROLLING HB:** A High Bongo roll is played at the end of the bar.
- **ROLLING SD:** A Snare Drum roll is played at the end of the bar.

MEASURE: Sets the interval when playing a variation automatically. For example, if set to “2”, a variation will occur once every 2 bars in the second bar. If set to “16”, the normal rhythm will play for 15 bars then a variation will play on the 16th bar.

AUTO/MANUAL: Set to Auto for variations to occur at regular intervals as set by the **MEASURE** knob, or to Manual for variations to occur when the **MANUAL** switch is pressed.

MANUAL: Press to play a variation. This button is the large unmarked button below the **AUTO/MANUAL** switch.

CANCEL VOICE: These four buttons cancel the indicated instrument sounds when used with the preset rhythms.

5 Programmer

With Compu78, you can program your own rhythms.

5.1 Controls

TRACK: These LEDs will light up in synchronisation with the programmed rhythm.

INSTRUMENTS SELECTOR: Selects the instrument voice you want to record. The **ACCENT** position allows you to record a pattern that will accentuate certain beats.

MODE: This is a three position switch with the following options:

- **MEMORY:** This position is used for programming a pattern or clearing a single track. When selected (providing a program rhythm selector is enabled), a virtual WS-1 programmer will appear to enable step recording.
- **PLAY:** This position is used for playing back the recorded rhythm pattern. This is the normal position and is selected automatically if the **START/STOP** button is pressed.
- **ALL:** When you want to erase all tracks of a programmed rhythm, select this position and press the **CLEAR** button.
- **CLEAR:** This is used for erasing a programmed rhythm.
- **PROGRAM RHYTHM:** These four buttons are used for rhythm programming or to play back already programmed rhythms.

6 WS-1 Programmer

When the record mode switch is set to **MEMORY**, a virtual WS-1 programmer will appear to allow easy step time recording.

6.1 Controls

STEP SELECTOR: Sets the interval between each step.

INSERT: (control with the note symbol) Inserts a note at the current location.

NEXT: (control with the rest symbol) Skips to the next pulse.

CLEAR/WRITE: If set to **CLEAR**, pressing the **NEXT** button will erase any note that may already

exist at that position allowing you to correct mistakes. If set to **WRITE**, pressing the **NEXT** button will go to the next pulse but leave any note that already exists intact.

7 MIDI File Creation

Compu78 allows you to record a performance and export it as a MIDI file to play on your sequencer or DAW. A performance can be a single bar or a whole song. It can be a single rhythm pattern or a combination of patterns with any changes you make while recording. Only note events are recorded however, so changing volume or other knobs and sliders will have no effect on the recording. The only exception to this is the **ACCENT** knob.

7.1 Recording

To record, first set up a rhythm that you like, then press the **START/STOP** button while holding the [CTRL] and [ALT] keys on your computer keyboard. Recording will begin. At the bottom of the instrument in the tabs section, a **REC** indicator will illuminate and the used buffer and bars recorded will be shown. Adjustments to the rhythm can be made while recording. When finished, press **START/STOP** again. If the buffer runs out, recording will stop.

7.2 Playback

To play back the performance you just recorded, press the **START/STOP** button while holding just the [ALT] key on your computer keyboard. At the bottom of the instrument in the tabs section, a **PLAY** indicator will illuminate and the progress and bars recorded will be shown. Wait until it finishes or press **START/STOP** at any time.

7.3 Exporting the MIDI File

There are two ways to export the MIDI file — Save or Drag and Drop. To save, enter a name in the Edit control in the Tab section then press the **Save** button. The file will be saved alongside the Compu78.nki file. To drag-and-drop, grab the **Drag** label with your mouse and drop it onto a MIDI track on your sequencer or DAW or onto a folder such as the desktop.

Please refer to your sequencer or DAW documentation on how to load KONTAKT as a plug-in.

8 Sounds Tab

The Sounds tab allows control over all of the Compu78 sounds. As is usual with KONTAKT, you can right-click on a knob, slider or button to assign an external MIDI controller to it. To set a knob or slider to its default value, hold the [CTRL] key on your computer keyboard while clicking on it. To save your settings, use KONTAKT's Snapshot feature (see the KONTAKT documentation).

8.1 Controls

VOLUME: Controls the volume from silence to 0dB.

MUTE: Switches the sound off completely.

PAN: Pans the sound in the stereo field.

TUNE: Adjust the tuning from -3 to +3 semitones. If you hold the [ALT] key on your computer keyboard, adjustment is made in semi-tone steps.

OUT: Sets the output channel for the sound. What appears in the menu depends on how KONTAKT is set up. By default you may only see one output channel.

9 Snapshots

Copy the contents of the Snapshots folder included with Compu78 into the following location:

Mac OS X: Macintosh HD/Users/<User Name>/Documents/Native Instruments/User Content/Compu78/

Windows PC: <Drive Letter>:\Users\<User Name>\My Documents\Native Instruments\User Content\Compu78\

9.1 Sound Mapping

Sound	Note Name	Note Number
Bass Drum	C1	36
Rim-Shot	C#1	37
Snare Drum	D1	38
High Hat	F#1	42
Cymbal	D#2	51
Tambourine	F#2	54
Cowbell	G#2	56
Small Bongo	C3	60
Large Bongo	C#3	61
Conga	E3	64
Maracas	A#3	70
Short Guiro	C#4	73
Long Guiro	D4	74
Clave	D#4	75
Metallic Beat	G#4	80
Tambourine Accent	F#5	90