

cm/recommends

The best new gear from the last three issues...



Cakewalk Z3TA+ 2 £69 PC

Rating **9/10**
Reviewed **cm169**
Contact support@cakewalk.com
Web www.cakewalk.com

What is it? A synth that's been around for nearly a decade finally reaches version 2. Existing features like waveshaping oscillators and powerful modulation are present and correct. New for the update are a brand new interface, adaptive pitchbend, an X/Y pad, a new distortion mode, new filter types, and more. Perhaps the most powerful feature, though, is that all waveshaping sliders are now modulatable, which vastly widens the synth's sonic potential.

Verdict "A solid update sees this seasoned synth back in action. A welcome return!"



Vengeance-Sound PC MAC Stereo Bundle £102

Rating **10/10**
Reviewed **cm170**
Contact info@vengeance-sound.com
Web www.vengeance-sound.com

What is it? A powerful stereo manipulation tool combining two types of mono-to-stereo processing, stereo enhancement, compression, separate EQ for mono, stereo and mono-to-stereo elements, and multiple metering types. For creative uses, there's an envelope feature for making the stereo image leap out rhythmically, or in response to MIDI. You also get four individual plug-ins, for when you only need some features of the main Stereo Bundle effect.

Verdict "Another Vengeance hit, this is one of the best stereo tools that money can buy."



Propellerhead Software Reason 6 £349 PC MAC

Rating **10/10**
Reviewed **cm171**
Contact Sound Technology, 01462 480000
Web www.propellerheads.se

What is it? A pivotal update that sees all the features of Record become an integral part of Reason. So at last there are audio tracks, multitrack recording, real-time timestretching, easy comping, Line 6 guitar/bass amp emulations, a tuning effect a la Auto-Tune, and that awesome SSL-modeled mixer. And brand new for Reason 6 are three awesome effects, The Echo, Pulveriser and Alligator.

Verdict "Reason has always been a great track-starter, and now it's a terrific track-finisher too. Full props to Propellerhead!"

What we've been using this month



Lee du-Caine
Editor

I get so engrossed in music software that concerned friends keep telling me I need some sort of diversion. Well, I've finally taken their advice by picking up Dmitry Sches' excellent Diversion synth - thanks for the tip, chums!



Tim Cant
Features Editor

I've always been a firm believer that small equals beautiful, and Native Instruments' diminutive new groovebox Maschine Mikro is the latest dinky but delightful toy to keep my hands busy for hours.



Caity Foster
Production Editor

I'm hooked on creating hypnotic generative music with intermorphic Mixtikl. I'm still pretty confused by the interface, but my iPhone's been pumping out some pretty sweet tunes, so I must be doing something right! cm