

cm/recommends

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



iZotope PC MAC
Ozone 5 £169/£539

Rating 10/10
Reviewed **cm**174
Contact Time+Space, 01837 55200
Web www.izotope.com

What is it? A mastering suite with seven modules, Ozone 5 overhauls pretty much every aspect of what was already one of the best such products we'd ever encountered.

Now available as standard and Advanced editions, some of our favourite additions are new EQ curve shapes; a splendid new maximiser mode, IRC III; knee control for the dynamics; a stereoiser effect; and individual plug-ins for the Advanced version. In fact, we've found ourselves using Ozone increasingly for mixing too since v5 popped out.

Verdict "This massive update takes Ozone to another level, keeping pace with the best of today's mixing and mastering software"



PreSonus PC MAC
Studio One 2 £332

Rating 9/10
Reviewed **cm**175
Contact Source Distribution, 020 8962 5080
Web www.presonus.com

What is it? A relative newcomer to the DAW arena, PreSonus have really stepped up to the mark with v2 of Studio One, making it now a viable alternative to other mainstream offerings like Cubase, Logic and Pro Tools.

The big new feature is clever Melodyne integration that allows you to tune and tweak audio much more immediately. There's also transient detection, Audio Bend (an 'elastic audio' system), useful new comping features, and convenient additions like track folders and freezing.

Verdict "A fantastic leap forward for this young DAW, though there's nothing wholly unique apart from Melodyne integration"



FXpansion
Tremor £99 PC MAC

Rating 10/10
Reviewed **cm**176
Contact Via website
Web www.fxansion.com

What is it? A superb drum machine synth from the makers of Guru/Geist and DCAM: Synth Squad, Tremor bowled us over with its massive sound. It uses the DCAM circuit-modeling first encountered in Synth Squad to deliver a rainbow of heavyweight percussion, and FXpansion's TransMod modulation system is here too, allowing for deep control over the instrument's parameters. Other key features include excellent effects and a polyrhythmic sequencer that allows you to combine beats of differing lengths to create hypnotic, rolling rhythms.

Verdict "Stunning sounds, endless depth and sublime sequencing make Tremor the ultimate virtual analogue drum machine."

What we've been using this month



Lee du-Caine
Editor

"Watch out - delays ahead!" That's been my catchphrase this month, and it's all thanks to the overload of marvelous modulated delay lines inside ValhallaDSP's incredible ValhallaÜbersMod. It's totally über the top!



Tim Cant
Features Editor

With my fat little fingers, playing a satisfying keyboard melody or chord progression can be the stuff of nightmares. Thankfully, EZkeys has helped me to make beautiful music without straining my chubby digits.



Caity Foster
Production Editor

One of the woes of being so petite is the fact that I can't play out without other people on hand to lug my kit around. Or can I? IK's iRig MIX is as diminutive as I am, so perhaps a new era of independent performance is upon me...