

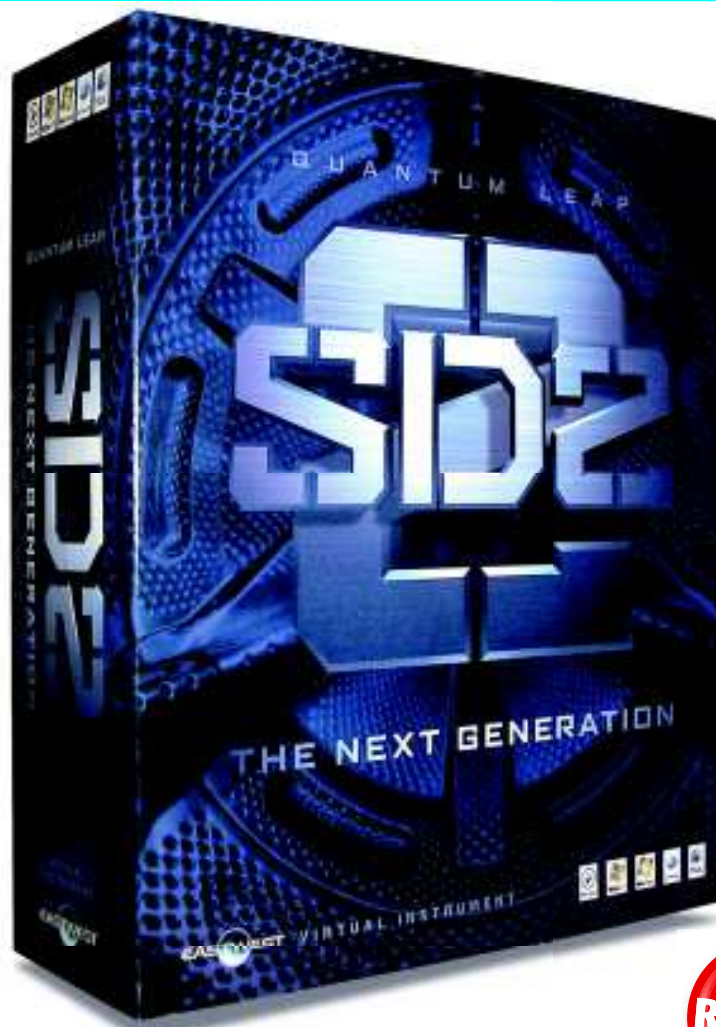
# NEW GEAR

ROUND-UP

## DRUM SOFTWARE

From £59 Cliff Douse test runs some of the latest range of drum software packages to appear on the percussion scene

If you're into recording drums in any modern studio environment, be it a professional setup or a basic home studio, you'll almost certainly need some percussion software. With this in mind, we've rounded up four of the latest drum software products available - a huge ROMpler packed with delicious percussion sounds, a cool dance groove package, an intriguing set of 'household' percussive instruments plus a collection of drum sounds and styles from all over the world - and given our verdict on each of them. All of the products reviewed can be used within your host sequencer on your PC or Mac.



### EAST WEST / QUANTUM LEAP SD2 £282

This impressive package is packed with big drum sounds that can really beef up your percussion tracks. Some of the more unusual instruments include Tibetan and Chinese gongs, Indonesian hand drums, giant log drums, hang drums, anklung, a waterphone, an 80 ft metal bridge and the largest floor tom ever built - 42"x 42", built by Remo especially for this project! The sounds are superb and their expressivity is impressive. Useful MIDI performances are also included. It's an awesome package.

**System Specs:** OSX 10.4, G4, 1Ghz (Mac) or Windows XP/Vista, P4, 2.5Ghz (PC), plus 2GB RAM, 13GB disk space, DVD drive and iLok security key.

Rating ★★★★★

East West [www.soundsonline.com](http://www.soundsonline.com)

### BIG FISH AUDIO FOUND PERCUSSION £69.95

Found percussion is an intriguing collection of everyday objects used as percussion instruments. This unique set features 85 construction kits of 'found' instruments including wine bottles, electric fans, air-conditioning ducts, suitcases, coffee cans, welding rods, slack bass strings, wood saws and even the kitchen sink! It's a useful and original sounding package but would be more complete if more single hit samples were included for live performances.

**System Specs:** Mac or PC with Audio, Apple Loops, Rex or RMX capabilities.

Rating ★★★★★ Time + Space 0183 755 200



### SAMPLE MAGIC MINIMAL & TECH HOUSE £58.67

If you're looking for a top quality dance drum package then Minimal & Tech House might have just about everything you're looking for. It boasts hundreds of superb loops that sound just right, straight out of the can, plus a great selection of kicks, snares, claps, hi-hats, squelches and glitches. The loops are supplied at optimum dance tempos of 125, 127 and 130 bpm, but they are surprisingly adaptable for different applications. Highly recommended!

**System Specs:** Mac or PC with Audio, Apple Loops, Rex or RMX capabilities.

Rating ★★★★★ Time + Space 0183 755 200



### BIG FISH AUDIO DIVINITY: WORLD PERCUSSION £69.95

This is a solid collection of percussion loops and sounds spanning Indian, Middle Eastern, Afro-Cuban, European and Celtic music styles. You'll find tabla, darbuka and bayan alongside congas, bata and bodhran. There's also cajon, frame drums, bongos, djembe, egg shakers, tambourines, maracas, spring drums and more. The quality of the loops is generally good, although we did find one or two dodgy Rex files in there, and the single hits are useful for constructing your own grooves.

**System Specs:** Mac or PC with Audio, Apple Loops, Rex or RMX capabilities.

Rating ★★★★★ Time + Space 0183 755 200

