Stage EP

User Guide

English

Manual Version 1.1

Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the AIR Stage EP plugin instrument. AIR Stage EP is the brand-new flagship electric piano instrument, delivering the lush and rich sounds of the most desirable electric pianos at your fingertips. Stage EP includes five detailed electric piano models, including acoustic mechanics and an FM tine synth, to capture the magic and warm smoothness of the originals, while also adding the full spectrum of modern and classic electronic sounds.

This instrument includes:

- Advanced electric piano sound engine.
- Up to twelve velocity layers.
- Five multi-sampled electric pianos: Rhodes, Rhodes Hot, Suitcase, Wurlitzer, Pianet.
- Acoustic and FM mechanics layer.
- Seven built-in AIR effects: Chorus, Tremolo, Amp Sim, Compressor, EQ, Delay, and Reverb.

This user guide explains how to use your plugin instrument. For more information on using other parts of the MPC software or hardware, please consult the respective MPC Software User Guide and MPC hardware User Guide.

System Requirements & Product Support

For complete system requirements and compatibility information, visit **airmusictech.com**.

For technical support, visit **support.airmusictech.com**.

Installation

1. Double-click the **.exe** (Windows) or **.pkg** (macOS) file you downloaded. Follow the on-screen instructions to install the software.
2. Open the plugin application.
3. Click **Sign In** to sign into your inMusic Brands Profile using your Internet browser. If you do not have an inMusic Brands Profile yet, you will be prompted to create one.
4. Once you have signed in, click **Activate** in the plugin window to enter your serial key to unlock the plugin. You can unlock each plugin on up to three devices at a time.
5. If you do not have a serial key, you can click **Try Unlicensed** to explore the plugin with intermittent audio alerts. You can also click **10-Day Trial** to initiate a free, fully featured trial of the plugin for 10 days.

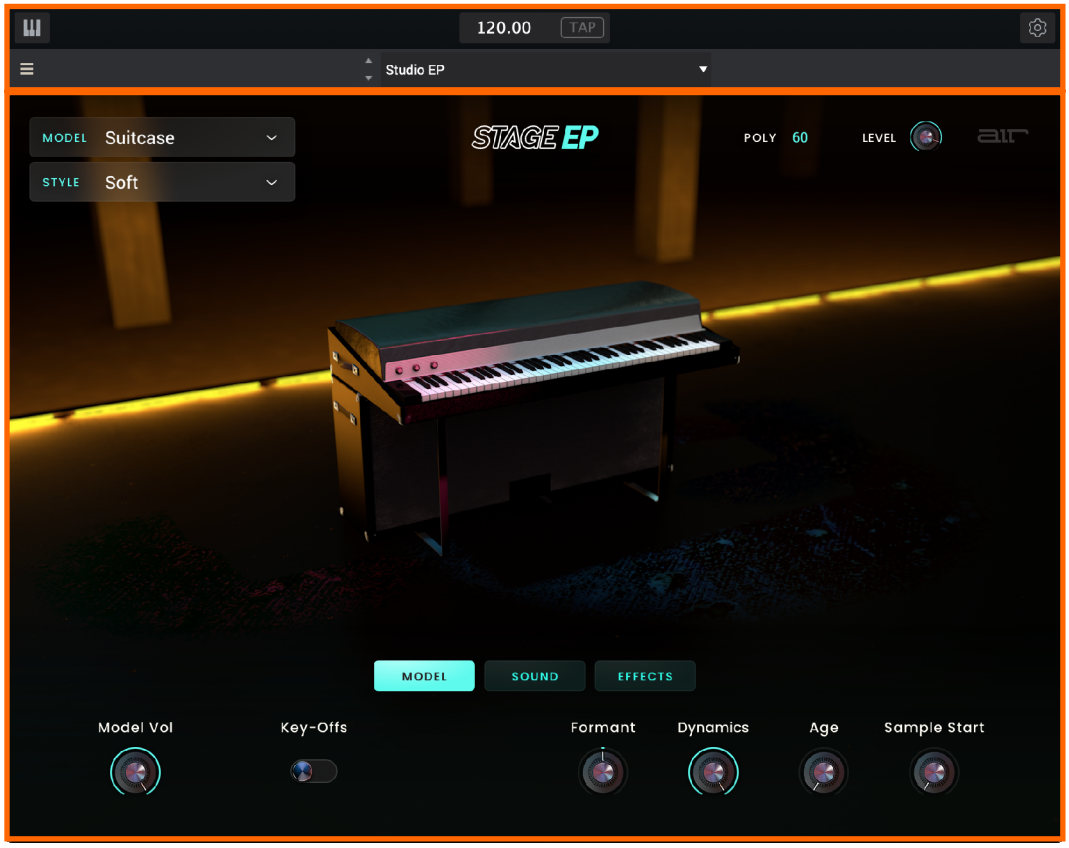
   If you would like to purchase a serial key, click the link to purchase a license at **profile.inmusicbrands.com**.

Operation

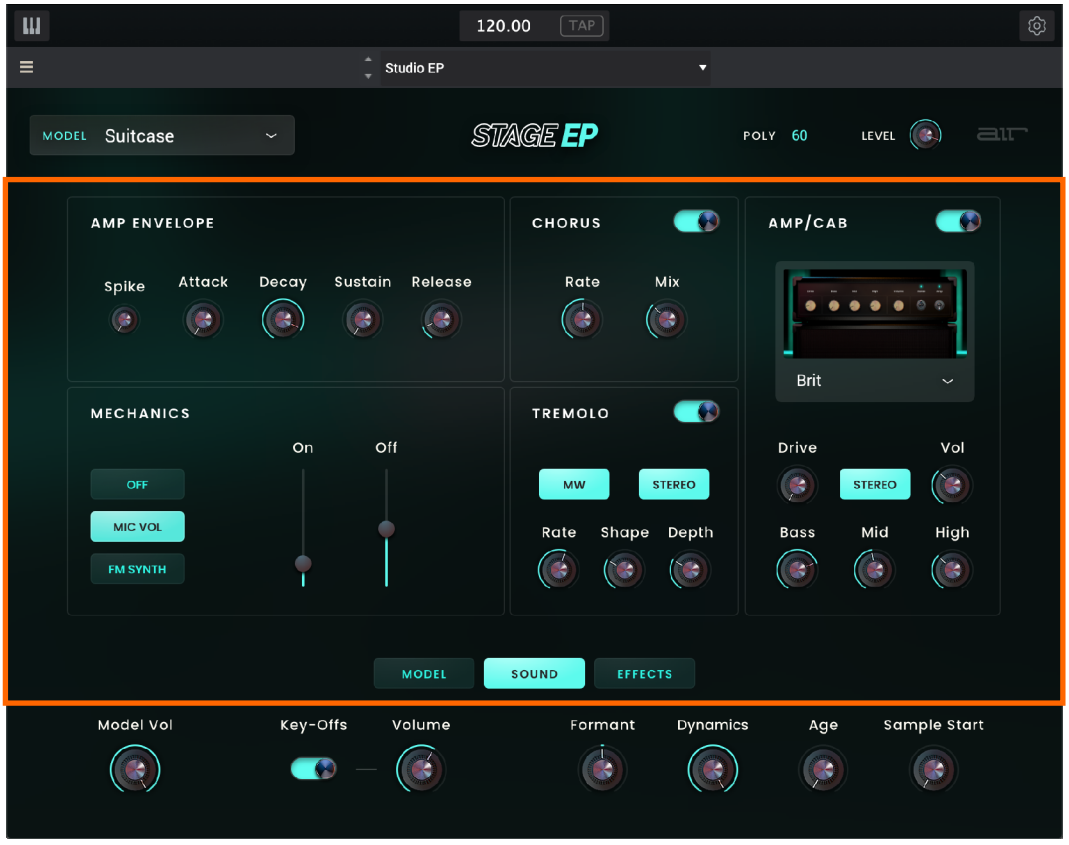
Overview

Setup Section

Model Controls

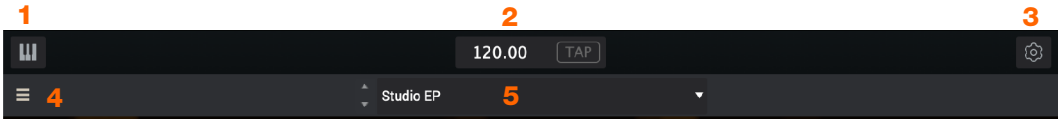


Sound Controls



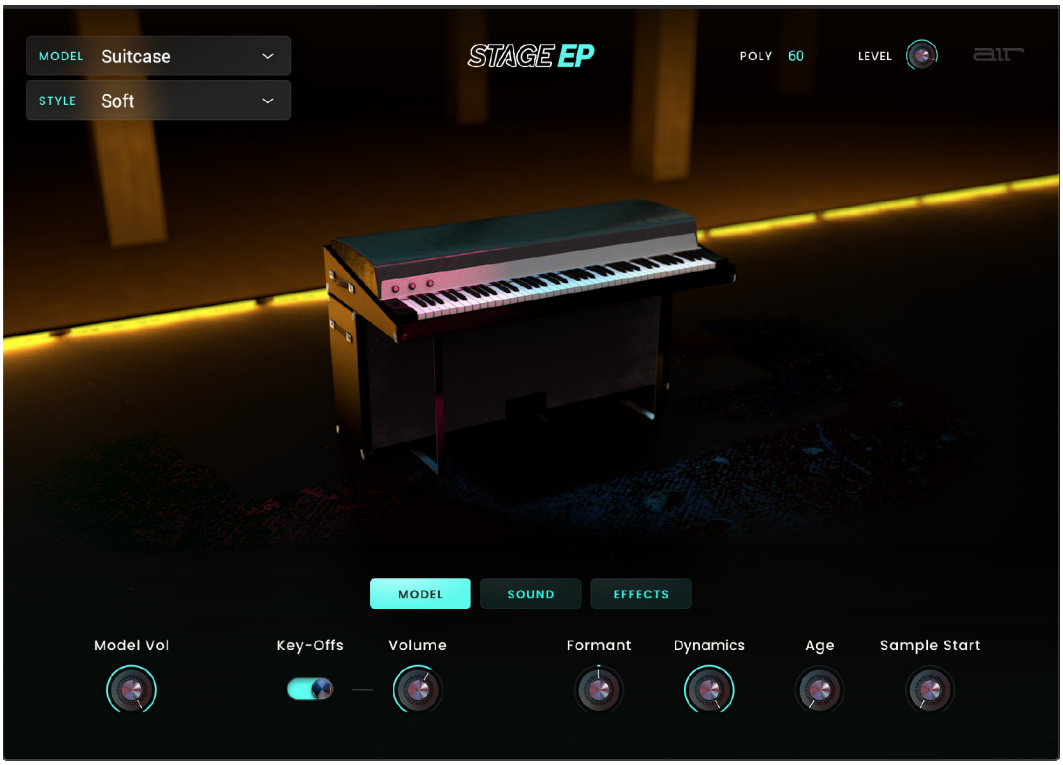
Effects Controls

Setup Section



1. **Keyboard:** Click this icon to enable or disable the virtual keyboard. When enabled, you can click these keys to input notes, or view notes being played on an external MIDI device.
2. **Tempo:** Displays the current plugin tempo. To change the tempo:
    - Click the number and use your keyboard to input a new value.
    - Click and drag the tempo value up or down using your cursor.
    - Click the **Tap** button at regular intervals.
3. **Settings:** Click this icon to open the Settings window, where you can set the following parameters:
    - **Output:** Click this drop-down menu to select an audio hardware driver in your computer system. Click the **Test** button to play a test tone for checking your audio output settings. (Careful! You should lower the volume on your audio system beforehand.)
    - **Sample Rate:** Click this drop-down menu to select the desired sample rate for your project. This depends on the available sample rates of the type of MPC hardware you are using or of your audio interface (i.e., select **96000 Hz** only if your interface allows a 96 kHz sample rate).
    - **Audio Buffer Size:** Click this drop-down menu to set your audio system's latency. Lower values result in a more immediate playing response but also more CPU consumption. If you are working with larger projects, this may cause audible clicks and pops. Higher values are more CPU-friendly but can produce more delay between pressing a pad and hearing the corresponding sound. The ideal audio buffer size also depends on your computer's CPU performance. Experiment with this to find the best setting for your system.
    - **Active MIDI Inputs:** Displays available MIDI input devices. To enable a device, check the box next to its name.
    - **Bluetooth MIDI:** Click this icon to open your system's Bluetooth settings menu, where you can select a Bluetooth-enabled MIDI device to control the plugin.
4. **Menu:** Click this icon to open the menu, where you can find the following options:
    - **Scale:** Click here to select a value to scale the plugin window to a new size.
    - **Load Preset:** Click here to load a saved preset.
    - **Save Preset:** Click here to save the current preset.
    - **Open User Guide:** Click here to open this User Guide.
    - **About:** Click here to view plugin version information.
5. **Preset:** Click this drop-down menu to view the list of included plugin presets. You can also click the up and down arrows next to this field to move to the previous or next preset.

Model Controls



All settings in this view except **Style** are available in all other plugin views.

Parameter	Description	Value Range
Model	Type of electric piano model.	Rhodes, Rhodes Hot, Suitcase, Wurli, Pianet
Style	Type of playing style.	Real, Soft, Hard
Poly	Number of available voices.	1–60
Level	Overall volume level of the plugin.	-inf – 0.0 – +6.0 dB
Model Vol	Volume level of the selected model.	-inf – 0.0 – +12.0 dB
Key Offs	Enables or disables the sound of keys being released.	Off, On
Key Offs Volume	Volume level of the sound of the keys being released.	-inf – 0.0 – +12.0 dB
Formant	Decreases or increases resonant frequencies to adjust the timbre of the sound.	-12 – 0 – +12
Dynamics	Adjust the dynamic range between soft and loud notes. At low values, the dynamic range is reduced; at high values, the dynamic range is expanded.	0–100%
Age	Amount of model age applied, including detuning.	0–100%
Sample Start	Starting point of the sample.	0–100%

Sound Controls

Parameter		Description	Value Range
Amp Envelope	Spike	Amount of audio “spike” present at note attack.	0–100%
	Attack	Length of time for the note to reach full volume.	0 ms – 32.00 s
	Decay	Length of time for the note to reach the sustained volume.	0 ms – 32.00 s
	Sustain	Level of the sound while the note is held.	0–100%
	Release	Length of time for the note to become silent after being released.	0 ms – 32.00 s
Mechanics		Use these settings to adjust the settings for the electric piano mechanics emulation.	Off, Mic Vol, FM Synth
Mic Vol	On	Level of the note on mechanics.	0–100%
	Off	Level of the note off mechanics.	0–100%
FM Synth	Volume	Level of the FM synth mechanics.	0–100%
	Pitch	Number of semitones above the base pitch that the mechanics pitch sounds.	0.0 – 32.0
	Depth	Depth of modulation.	0–100%
	Decay	Speed at which the FM mechanics sound decays.	0 ms – 32.00 s
	Mod	Amount of modulation applied.	0–100%
	Mod Decay	Speed at which the modulation decays.	0 ms – 32.00 s
	Velo	The amount of effect velocity has on the mechanics sound.	0–100%

Sound *(continued)*

Parameter		Description	Value Range
Chorus		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable the chorus effect.	Off, On
	Rate	Modulation speed of the effect.	0.05 – 20.00 Hz
	Mix	Wet/dry amount of the chorus effect.	0–100%
Tremolo		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable the tremolo effect.	Off, On
	MW	Enables or disables control of tremolo by the mod wheel.	Off, On
	Stereo	Enables or disables stereo panning for the tremolo effect.	Off, On
	Rate	Modulation speed of the effect.	0.05 – 20.00 Hz
	Shape	Adjusts the tremolo waveshape.	-100 – 0 – +100%
	Depth	Amount of modulation applied.	0–100%
Amp/Cab		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable the amp/cab effect.	Off, On
	Model	Type of cabinet/speaker simulation.	D.I., Brit, 1x8”, 1x12”, 2x10”, 2x12”, 4x10”, 4x12”, 1x15” Bass, 4x10” Bass, Radio
	Drive	Amount of overdrive applied to the amp signal.	0–100%
	Stereo	Enables or disables stereo audio.	Off, On
	Vol	Level of amp emulation.	-12.0 – 0 – 12.0 dB
	Bass	Amount of bass-range tone reduction or boost.	-100 – 0 – +100%
	Mid	Amount of mid-range tone reduction or boost.	-100 – 0 – +100%
	High	Amount of high-range tone reduction or boost.	-100 – 0 – +100%

Effects Controls

Parameter		Description	Value Range
Compressor		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable the compression effect.	Off, On
	Threshold	Signal level after which the compression will be applied.	-30.0 – 0.0 – +10.0 dB
	Ratio	Amount of compression applied.	1.0:1 – 20.0:1
	Attack	Length of time to apply the compression.	0–100%
	Makeup	Amount of additional output gain for the compressed signal.	-20.0 – 0.0 – +20.0 dB
EQ		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable the EQ effect.	Off, On
	Low	Amount of attenuation or boost applied to the low frequency band.	-12.0 – 0.0 – +12.0 dB
	Low Mid	Amount of attenuation or boost applied to the low-mid frequency band.	-20.0 – 0.0 – +20.0 dB
	High Mid	Amount of attenuation or boost applied to the high-mid frequency band.	-20.0 – 0.0 – +20.0 dB
	High	Amount of attenuation or boost applied to the high frequency band.	-12.0 – 0.0 – +12.0 dB

Effects *(continued)*

Parameter		Description	Value Range
Delay		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable delay.	Off, On
	Time	Amount of time between the dry signal and the delayed signal.	1/16 – 16/4
	Mix	Wet/dry amount of the delay effect.	0–100%
	L|R Ratio	Reduces the delay **Time** in either the **Left** or **Right** stereo field. This is useful for creating offset, panned delays.	50:100 – 100:100 – 100:50
	Feedback	Amount of signal fed back into the delay line.	0–100%
	Reso LP Freq	Low pass frequency for feedback resonance.	100 – 16000 Hz
	Reso EQ Freq	Center frequency for feedback resonance.	100 – 16000 Hz
	Reso EQ Gain	Amount of gain applied to the resonant frequency.	0–100%
Spring Reverb		Use the button in the upper-right corner of this section to enable or disable the spring reverb effect.	Off, On
	Pre-Delay	Length of time between dry signal and reverberated signal.	0–250 ms
	Time	Length of reverb tail.	1.00 – 10.00 s
	Mix	Wet/dry amount of the reverb effect.	0–100%
	Low Cut	Center frequency for reverb signal low-cut filter.	20–1000 Hz
	Diffusion	Rate of increasing density of reverb reflections. At lower settings, the sound of individual reflections is more present. At higher settings, reflections are more uniform.	0–100%
	Width	Stereo width of reverb signal. Higher values give wider stereo separation.	0–100%

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