

DRUM MACHINES 01

Publisher **Wave Alchemy**

Price **£22**

Web **www.wavealchemy.com**

Although most modern DAWs and software samplers come packaged with your standard 808 and 909 electronic drum hits, there are many other lesser-known analogue drum machines that can offer equally powerful kicks and snappy snares. Drum Machines 01 is the latest pack from Wave Alchemy, and is actually three micro packs bundled together in one high-value package.

Available as a download, the pack comes in at just under 200MB and features 1,400 meticulously sampled drum hits from the Vermona DRM MK11, Jomox AIRBase99, Jomox Mbase 11 and Jomox Xbase999 drum machines. All of the hits have been recorded at 24-bit quality through an API 512c preamp with some samples enhanced using an Empirical Labs Distressor & high-end SSL EQs. As you would expect from electronic drums, there is some serious weight to each hit and you could guarantee extreme speaker movement were you to take these sounds to the dance floor.

Of all the machines, the AIRBase99 is probably the best all-rounder, with some nice-sounding

claps, snares and hats. The Mbase 11 features the weightiest kicks, with deep analogue warmth and a large variety of pitches and pitch-bent dives, although this is unsurprising seeing as the machine is dedicated to creating fat kick drum sounds. If you're after more variety, the Xbase999 collection features both short and tight hits that would be great for minimal styles, plus some gritty sustained kicks and pitched toms.

Finally, the Vermona DRM MK11 has a much more synth-like sound to it, complete with noisy snares and hats, computer-game effects sounds and both softer and warmer kicks. Where the other kits excel at more aggressive techno sounds, this machine could provide some superbly obscure sounds for electronica producers.



Overall, this is an excellent-value pack for anyone wanting to extend their electronic drum library and features plenty of variety for both harder dance floor and more minimal production styles. That said, you'll probably only get the most out of it if you are the kind of person that can tell the difference

between each of the 738 included kick samples. **AH**

VERDICT

A massive collection of powerful hits that will extend your electronic drum library.



MusicTech
EXCELLENCE
★★★★★★★★

Let's be honest – this product is, at the very least, the best in its class. You probably ought to just buy it!

MusicTech
INNOVATION

This award signals significant progress in the way technology is applied to a particular problem.

MusicTech
CHOICE

A very good product that we feel deserves serious consideration by you. Likely to be a studio standard.

MusicTech
VALUE

Being attractively priced isn't enough to deserve this award – the product must also deliver great results.

WHAT OUR RATINGS MEAN



EXCELLENCE AWARD
10/10 The best in its class. This product produces superb results, is well implemented and sensibly priced.



9/10 This product demands serious consideration. It comes highly recommended and has an effective balance of features and a pleasing performance.



8/10 A recommended product with features, performance and pricing that meets the needs of its target market.



7/10 A good product that may well fit your requirements, but you need to check that its features fit your working process and that it can deliver the results you're after.



6/10 This product has merit, but some improvements or a more competitive price would make it more appropriate for its target audience.



5/10 Certain oversights in this product's design and performance could limit its usefulness.



1–4 Buyer beware: this is a sliding scale of poor quality, overpricing and/or disappointing performance.

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