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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?

Posted by [jef knight\[1\]](#) on Wed, 15 Mar 2006 17:17:46 GMT

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I use pintech/alesis here. but I'd like to get the Roland td-20 module. it's very robust, accurate and sounds quite nice. beau coupe bucks though, and as I'm not playing live with them, can't justify getting. I also don't like the mesh heads. I have Even's Ambassador's on now, with the underlying padding removed and the are remarkabley real in feel. I found that the mesh heads "give back" too much and are very fatiguing on the wrists after an while... don't want carpel tunnel syndrome.

I actually only use the alesis modules, 2x pm-pro's - one for cym's and snare one for kick and toms because of "voice-eating", I only use them for monitoring. They go into the comp via the midi on the hdsp card and are assigned to BFD drum software - which i might say is phenomenal sounding.

sorry if i'm not being too helpful, just wanted to chime in.. ; )

jef

John wrote:

> I have a Trap Kat drum electronic drum set and think it's time to get  
> a new set. This one has 24 pads which allows for a great variety of  
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> each drum in the set through a windows midi app. Can this be done?  
> Easily? This is 2006 for crying out loud.

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> Thanks.  
> John

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Subject: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 13:35:21 GMT  
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Thanks.  
John

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 15:27:26 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Lots of pads + good quality = \$\$\$\$

For Mesh Pads - Roland, Hart Dynamics, Pintek

For rubber pads - see above and add Yamaha

You're still going to need to interface these pads with your computer so use either a dedicated interface unit like an older Roland PM 16 or a module like an Alesis DMPPro (or any module for that matter) then midi it to your computer and use your choice if Drum program...I use NI Battery and it's quite the beast

Don

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4440f55c@linux...  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 17:42:54 GMT  
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The TrapKAT has a template available online to map the EMU Emulator X drum samples. You can put something like this together pretty cheap compared to a Clavia Ddrum or Roland set.....but these now have mappings for BFD if you want to use a computer for playing BFD live (it will need to be fairly powerful though)

Deej

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 18:12:49 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 18:28:39 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Clavis dDrums are supposed to be great stuff, and as I said, they can be mapped to BFD if you want ultimate realism, though I hear the sample sets for dDrums are reall great as well. I played around on a big Roland VDrum kit at GC in Phoenix last summer. I sounded \*very\* realistic.....and I mean.....\*very\*.

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:44413661@linux...

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> >

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 20:34:21 GMT  
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"DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote in message  
news:44413dee\$1@linux...

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the final verdict....Donkey Balls

Great for practice or rehearsal.

BDF or DKFH are a great way to go, but you'll need horsepower in your rig  
for accurate triggering from what I hear...

The ddrum module (from what I've heard) is probably the most realistic  
module but the pads and # of inputs is limited.

Don

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 21:35:31 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Donkey balls?????.....yiikes!!!!!!.....donkey balls?????

;o)

"Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote in message news:44415827\$1@linux...

> "DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote in message  
> news:44413dee\$1@linux...  
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> Don  
>  
>

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 22:27:38 GMT  
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Not JUST donkey balls DeeJ....sweaty horned up donkey balls

dcn

"DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote in message  
news:444169e7\$1@linux...  
> Donkey balls?????.....yikes!!!!!!.....donkey balls?????  
>  
> ;o)  
>  
> "Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote in message news:44415827\$1@linux...  
>> "DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote in message  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 22:32:42 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

For electronic drums: My DDrum 4 kit has taken a serious beating for years without complaints or failure. I have the cast precision pads which they don't make anymore but you can find that version of the kit used on ebay. I've replaced the heads with long lasting mesh heads which I prefer to the standard drum heads, but you can use either with those pads. This setup offers positional sensing.

For live I use the internal sounds which are reasonably responsive and convincing. It was the most convincing electronic set at the time I chose it. Still one of the best. I recently got a DW/Pacific Chameleon kit (mesh on one side, regular head on the other) to try with DDrum triggers. Can use it as an acoustic kit or as a trigger kit.

For recording I sometimes use DDrum samples but more often trigger



Native Instruments' Battery 2 via MIDI to control bigger sample sets (you can also sample your own sounds for Battery 2). I also use additional pads through an Alesis D4 so I can trigger my 6 tom, 7 cymbal, plus a few specials, mondo kit. I built my own extra pads out of Remo practice pads, old mouse pads and piezo pickups, they've been surprisingly long lived.

If I were buying a new electronic kit I'd give serious thought to the Yamaha DTXtremellS since it has more trigger inputs than the DDrum4, plus other useful extra features, at about the same price point. Doesn't look as well built, though.

A DDrum5 is said to be under development but who knows if or when we'll see it.

The Roland TD20 is an improvement over their previous efforts but overpriced.

The Trap Kat always seemed like a cool unit to me. Compact. But I like my DDrum kit's layout. I ditched the rack and have it mounted on standard hardware, plays like a regular kit.

Another option: You could build your own pads or throw triggers onto an acoustic kit; use whatever you want to get trigger-to-MIDI (it wouldn't have to sound good internally, an old Alesis or Roland, or maybe someone has done it in software); and then use Battery 2, a general purpose sampler or one of the preset drum romplers like BFD for your actual sound library.

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
<http://www.JamieKrutz.com>

John wrote:

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> John

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 22:55:53 GMT  
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I think for me the Roland blows it on the plastic quality of the drums.. too processed for me, and I like processing. It's like that decision has already been made for you and you get no alternative and there is no backing out of it to a more natural state. Kind of like the POD versus a real amp. Is that what you're hearing Don?

AA

"Don Nafe" <[dnafe@magma.ca](mailto:dnafe@magma.ca)> wrote in message [news:44415827\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:44415827$1@linux...)  
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I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?  
<http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html>

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 23:39:51 GMT  
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I tried really hard to like the TD10 and spent time trying to get it to sound good using the simplistic programming interface but I have to agree about that box. The toms sucked, in particular.

I haven't spent much time with it but from limited exposure I think the TD20 is improved. I wouldn't dismiss that one without trying it, if it's within your budget. I can't say if it's as good as the DDrum4 or how it compares to the Yamaha DTXtremellS.

BTW, I think the PODXTLive is better sounding than earlier PODs.

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
<http://www.JamieKruz.com>

Aaron Allen wrote:

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sat, 15 Apr 2006 23:44:09 GMT  
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mmmmmmm plastic

Yes, although the initial impression was WOW upon close scrutiny they were just lacking that "je ne c'est quoi"

I could live with the toms and kick and most of the percussion but the snares hihats and cymbals...total ass

Don

"Aaron Allen" <nospam@not\_here.dude> wrote in message news:44417948@linux...  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 00:29:56 GMT  
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now that's some uuuuggggglllyyy donkey balls

"Don Nafe" <[dnafe@magma.ca](mailto:dnafe@magma.ca)> wrote in message <news:444172b3@linux...>  
> Not JUST donkey balls Deej....sweaty horned up donkey balls  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 11:37:24 GMT  
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thanks for the info. Are any of them able to expand the sound

libraries? Realistically I'd like about 20 drum sets stored in the box using exactly the drum samples I supply. Of course it needs to allow me to easily assign the samples to each pad and set pan/volume positions easily. I played a roland at guitar center and thought the sounds were hip hop oriented and sucked for rock/jazz.

And do any of them have a highhat that works right?

Thanks !!

Jamie K wrote:

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- > years without complaints or failure. I have the cast precision pads
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 11:57:36 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 12:11:28 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 12:20:30 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

not with user loaded samples...although the AKAI MPC 2000 / 3000 might be able to do this or the ddrum 4 module...you'd have to check out the specs to be sure.

I think the module you buy will be nothing more than an interface between the pads and the computer and all your drum kits would be loaded in the computer

Although I may have my head totally up my ass I think this is today's reality

Don

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4442332d@linux...  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 18:58:16 GMT  
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---

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AA

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I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 19:10:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 19:12:18 GMT

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You shoulda been around for the Mirage... everything on a 1.44 floppy. Boy,  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 19:23:30 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Battery 2 lets you build drum kits in a straight forward multi-cell interface. Each cell can contain multiple samples layered by velocity. Each cell has its own level and pan.

You can combine cells into round robin groups to, for example, alternate left and right hit sample sets as you play. You can combine cells for multi-micing, so you have a cell for top snare, one for bottom snare, one for OH snare, etc., all assigned to the same MIDI note to trigger together.

You can save and load cells. You can save and load entire kits. Make as many as you want. It does take a few seconds to load a big kit off the HD.

B2 can load any .wav sample, maybe some other formats. It comes with a multi-miced kit and some other kits. You can add your own samples, either purchased sample sets or drums recorded by you.

It is limited only by hard drive space and some reasonable minimum amount of RAM.

So yes, right now I think Battery 2 comes the closest to doing what you are asking. It's the closest I've seen to what I want in a DDrum 5. It also has some other tricks like built-in compression and EQ on a per cell basis, and the ability to modulate things (wav delay by velocity, for example, to cut off the initial attack on softer hits).

HiHats are a matter of tuning a controller range to switch between sample sets for closed, half open, open. In my setup, the DDrum hat pad sends a controller signal for how "open" it is, and I've programmed Battery 2 to respond by switching sample sets appropriately. The more intermediate sample sets you have, the more realistic it can be. Battery lets you group samples so that you can cut off all high hat sustain with the hat foot. It works fairly well.

It may be that the latest Rolands and the new Yamaha, or maybe even the newer Alesis boxes have a more controllable physical interface for that. The DDrum range jumps rather quickly so playing half open to open is a very narrow foot move, not quite realistic but not unusable. The DDrum does have positional sensing on the hat so if I were ambitious I could record my acoustic hihats played on edge and near the center, record those as multi-samples (by velocity) and assign them in B2 to different MIDI notes coming off the DDrum hihat controller.

Hope that helps.

Cheers,

-Jamie

<http://www.JamieKrutz.com>

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 21:15:56 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

WOW, that must have been impossible

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 21:23:10 GMT

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Thanks for the info. Can Battery 2 run on my Paris rig and feed sound from the app (that it gets from midi in from drum set?) to my onboard sound card out to a Paris In on the MEC ? What could go wrong? hahahahaha

How best to set this thing up in a Paris world if I go that way?

Thanks,  
John

Jamie K wrote:

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 21:35:44 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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---

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 22:56:24 GMT  
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---

You learn to truncate and sample reaaal fast and clean. It's good for ya.  
Besides, most percussive drum samples don't take up that much space in the  
time continuum.

AA

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4442b2c8@linux...

> WOW, that must have been impossible

>

> Aaron Allen wrote:

>> You shoulda been around for the Mirage... everything on a 1.44 floppy.

>> Boy, that was fun :P

>>

>> AA

>>

>> "John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:44429562@linux...

>>> Sounds like enough for one kick drum!!!!

>>>

>>> n Allen wrote:

>>>> Alesis DmPro has an 8 MB expansion for your own samples.

>>>> AA

>>>>

>>>>

>>>> "John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:4442332d@linux...

>>>>> I really want to use a computer for drum sounds. Doesn't anyone make

>>>>> drum module whose memory can be expanded to hold two dozen drum sets

>>>>> and configed through a nice midi graphical interface to set relative

>>>>> pan/volume positions? This is 2006 right?

>>>>>

>>>>> Don Nafe wrote:

>>>>>> I think the hihat is the weakest link in all E-kits...as for

>>>>>> playability - you can buy actual hihat pads that work with your

>>>>>> existing pedal but the sounds still suck.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> As for several kits...unless you're happy with the existing sounds in

>>>>>> a module you're gonna have to go with a soft synth like

>>>>>>

>>>>>>

>>>>>> Don

>>>>>>

>>>>>>

>>>>>>

>>>>>>> "John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:44422b32@linux...

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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 22:57:17 GMT  
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a fast one :)

"John" <[no@no.com](mailto:no@no.com)> wrote in message [news:4442b774@linux...](mailto:news:4442b774@linux...)  
> And it says it supports 16 outputs so what \$ound card would you have to  
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>> B2 can load any .wav sample, maybe some other formats. It comes with a  
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Subject: Re: Any good Electronic Drum setups?  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 23:21:22 GMT  
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I never had any luck with MIDI within PARIS. Wouldn't advise that. Beyond that I'll have to defer to someone else's recommendations for integration and sound card. I no longer have a PARIS system.

I run Battery 2 in Logic on a dual G5 Mac. Multi-out routing and individual drum FX are all handled within Logic.

Battery does suffer from Logic's most famous bug, that of randomly forgetting to play instrument plugins. When that happens I have to restart the program. :^(

Other than that it's a very workable setup that does everything: sequencing, FX, recording, and mixing within one app (plus integrated AU plug-ins) all on a single computer, without breaking a sweat. I currently use a trusty MOTU 828MII for i/o and monitoring. Mixes are all done digitally inside Logic.

Cheers,  
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John wrote:

>And it says it supports 16 outputs so what \$ound card would you have to >use for that?

John wrote:

> Thanks for the info. Can Battery 2 run on my Paris rig and feed sound  
> from the app (that it gets from midi in from drum set?) to my onboard  
> sound card out to a Paris In on the MEC ? What could go wrong?

> hahahahaha

>

> How best to set this thing up in a Paris world if I go that way?

>

> Thanks,

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