

DVS-8K

by Martin Best

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This VSTi Plugin was inspired by a well known Roland® keyboard with it's SUPER SAW sound so popular in modern dance music. It should be noted that this plugin was not designed to emulate the original hardware.

The DVS-8K's oscillators are mixed and panned in stereo through dual filters, envelope generators and stereo effects to produce a really fat and wide powerful sound.

The controls have been kept to a useful minimum so the sound can be tweaked quickly leaving more time for making music.

Operating instructions

- **OSCILLATOR section**

When the MEGAWAVE button is pressed, the multi-bank oscillators are activated. Moving the DETUNE slider upwards will increase the amount the oscillators are detuned from each other, each of the oscillators are mathematically detuned by slightly different amounts to produce a more analog sound with less cyclic beating. The STEREO slider controls how wide the oscillators are panned from mono to stereo. Above the slider is a button for selecting sawtooth or square wave oscillators.

- **LFO section**

The low frequency oscillator can be used to sweep the FILTER cutoff and the AMP panorama with a choice of sine or triangle waveforms.

- **FILTER section**

The filter cutoff is 12dB per octave with a button to select Low Pass, High Pass or Band Pass. The LFO DEPTH sets how much the cutoff frequency is swept by the LFO section. The ENVELOPE DEPTH sets how much the cutoff is affected by the ADSR envelope. With the control set left of center the envelope is inverted (negative), set right of center is normal (positive).

- **AMP section**

AUTOPAN only works when the PAN control is offset left or right, the more the pan control is offset the wider the sound will travel. The speed of travel is set by the RATE control in the LFO section. The VOLUME control adjusts the level of the DVS-8K's main outputs.

- **ARPEGGIATOR section**

The TEMPO control range is 2, 4 and 8 beats per bar. A unique feature is that the tempo can be set in-between, to 3 or 6 beats (triplets) and still remain synchronized to the host BPM.

- **EFFECTS section**

The DELAY creates echoes that alternate left and right and are synchronized to the host tempo. The TIME control sets how fast the echoes repeat, with a range from 2 to 8 beats per bar. The FEEDBACK effects how long the echoes take to decay to silence and the LEVEL sets how loud they are compared to the source.

The RHYTHM GATE pumps the volume up and down to a rhythm that can be edited by clicking on the small squares. The ATTACK and RELEASE adjusts how sharp the volume changes and the FLOOR control sets how low the volume will pump, from no effect to full reduction.

- **KEYBOARD section**

PORTAMENTO is when two notes slightly overlap, the pitch will glide from one note to the next. TIME sets the speed of this glide.

MONO switches between mono and polyphonic mode. It's best to select mono when using the arpeggiator because rapid polyphonic notes can quickly build up causing CPU overuse.

The DUAL OCTAVE button sets 50% of the oscillators one octave higher, emphasizing the stereo and creating a fuller sound.