

Keyboard Magazine

Francis Preve

Loungin' House is overflowing with extremely well-produced content. How much? 502 drum and music loops in WAV format, 2,616 REX2 loops, and 4,960 drum, chord, bass, and FX hits. All these are in 24-bit resolution. Drum and percussion loops come in three categories – full, hi-hat/shaker, and percussion. Each category is broken down by tempo, so you can quickly find grooves that make sense at their given BPM. For house, this is eminently sensible, since faster tempos generally work best with more open grooves; dense arrangements are best played more slowly.

The hi-hat and shaker loops are super-handy, with intelligent and tasty processing like EQ, compression, and saturation, but they're not dripping with flangers and phasers. (My DAW has those effects, thank you very much.) These loops also come in a variety of straight and swing/shuffle grooves, so all the popular house vibes are covered. The percussion loops are another standout, and include congas, blocks, rimshots, and cowbells. Some have a touch more processing like reverb and the occasional phaser, but always with restraint, and it works.

The Music and FX loop folders are a grab bag of very smooth elements – if you're a fan of Miguel Migs or Kaskade, you'll be quite pleased with the options presented here. I was a little bummed about the organization, though. While file names include instrument type and tempo, there's no key information, and everything is just jumbled into the three "music" folders. By contrast, the drums were very well-organized.

The nearly five thousand samples and hits in these folders are nicely organized into various drum and percussion types, as well as chords, bass, and FX. In fact, there are so many options that it makes sense for users to spend a few hours going through the folders and picking favorites as soon as they open the DVD case. When whipping up a track or remix, sifting through 524 kick drums or 288 claps is not exactly a breezy affair. Am I complaining? Hell, no! Loungin' House is an incredible value if you're a fan of soulful grooves – with a touch of jazz – in both classic and modern flavors. If you're a house producer who relies on WAV or REX files, you can't afford to miss this collection.

Computer Music

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Another laidback catalogue from the same stable as Breakbeat Jazz, Loungin' House concentrates on the mellower side of 4/4 dance music. There are plenty of standard house grooves on offer here, plus a large number of additional percussion samples that can be used to spice up the main loops. This library doesn't offer quite as many instrument samples as Breakbeat Jazz, but the huge assortment of single-hit percussion makes up for that, and the supplied vocal FX are great. Overall, this is another great value collection for the more horizontally inclined dance-lover.

8/10

Recording Magazine

Devon Brent

Loungin' House is a very rhythmically straight-ahead collection of 120-130 BPM loops. This four Gigabyte collection provides 8180 WAV and REX2 formatted samples. Broken down, this equates to 503 drum & music loops in WAV format, 2616 loops in REX2 format and 4960 Drum, Music & FX samples in WAV format total installation size on my hard drive of just the REX2 loops came out to be 8.4 Gigabytes in size. This collection is forged with kicks, snares, hi-hats, shakers, and other musical and percussive elements. In fact, the hi-hats alone had over 500 loops to choose from!

For the most part, I found a lot of the "core" elements—such as the hi-hats and kicks—felt a bit plain but complemented the more rhythmic musical elements quite well. Because of the drumming simplicity (to be expected with this style of music), it was almost guaranteed you could layer almost any percussive element over another. But because of its simplicity, a lot of this library felt very "same-y" for the drums. House music is not my forte, so maybe I didn't quite "get" it. On the whole, Loungin' House felt like it was more about the quantity than the quality. Fans of the house genre will probably get a whole lot more satisfaction out of this library—the quality of the samples is still uniformly excellent.