

Nord AMS-NSTAGE3-COMPACT

Nord Stage 3 Compact 73-Key Digital Piano User Manual

Model: AMS-NSTAGE3-COMPACT

INTRODUCTION

The Nord Stage 3 is the fifth generation of the successful Stage series, designed as the ultimate instrument for the performing musician. This flagship instrument integrates Nord's latest technologies, including the Nord Lead A1 Synth Engine with sample playback, the acclaimed Nord C2D organ, a greatly enhanced Piano Section, and extensive hands-on Effects -- all in one exceptional performance keyboard. It features two super-clear OLED displays for on-stage clarity, seamless transitions between programs/sounds, extended Split functionality with optional crossfade, and a new Song List Mode, making it highly intuitive and flexible for live performances.

KEY FEATURES

- Two super-clear OLED displays for on-stage clarity, seamless transitions when changing programs/sounds, extended Split functionality with optional crossfade, and the addition of the new Song List Mode.
- Greatly enhanced Piano section features doubled memory (2 GB) for the exclusive Nord Piano Library, 120 voice polyphony and creative new Piano Filters.
- Award-winning C2D Organ simulations B3 Tone wheel and Vintage Transistor Organs plus 2 new Principal Pipe Organs.
- Synth section features the acclaimed Nord Lead A1 Synth Engine combined with Sample Playback and a brilliant OLED display for all Oscillator functions.
- Effect section features a brand new Filter Effect, extended morphable parameters, an enhanced Delay effect and a separate Reverb and Compressor for each slot.

SETUP GUIDE

Unpacking and Initial Setup

Carefully remove the Nord Stage 3 from its packaging. Place the instrument on a stable, flat surface. Ensure proper ventilation around the unit. Connect the included power cable to the AC inlet on the rear panel and then to a suitable power outlet. Power on the unit using the main power switch.

Connecting Peripherals

The Nord Stage 3 offers various connectivity options for audio, pedals, MIDI, and USB. Connect your audio output cables (L/R) to an amplifier, mixer, or audio interface. Utilize the dedicated pedal inputs for sustain, control, and rotary speaker functions. MIDI In/Out ports allow connection to other MIDI devices, while the USB port facilitates connection to a computer for sound management and firmware updates.



Figure 1: Rear panel of the Nord Stage 3 Compact, displaying power input, audio outputs, pedal inputs, MIDI ports, and USB connectivity.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Overview of Controls

The Nord Stage 3 features a highly intuitive panel layout, divided into distinct sections for Piano, Organ, Synth, and Effects. Each section has dedicated controls for quick and direct access to parameters. The central display provides program information and detailed settings.



Figure 2: The comprehensive control panel of the Nord Stage 3 Compact.

Piano Section

The Piano section offers a wide range of acoustic and electric piano sounds from the Nord Piano Library. Use the dedicated controls to select piano type (Grand, Upright, Electric, Digital, Layer), adjust level, and apply effects like Soft Release, String Resonance, and Pedal Noise. The OLED display provides visual feedback for selected parameters.



Figure 3: Detailed view of the Piano section controls.

Organ Section

The Organ section features simulations of classic B3 Tonewheel, Vintage Transistor, and Pipe Organs. Use the physical drawbars to shape the tone, and activate vibrato/chorus, percussion, and rotary speaker simulations. Two organ models can be used simultaneously.



Figure 4: Detailed view of the Organ section controls.

Synthesizer Section

The Synth section is powered by the Nord Lead A1 Synth Engine, offering a wide array of synthesis possibilities including sample playback. The OLED display provides visual feedback for oscillator functions, filter types, and modulation options. Experiment with different waveforms, filters, and envelopes to create unique sounds.



Figure 5: Detailed view of the Synthesizer section controls.

Effects Section

The Effect section provides a comprehensive suite of high-quality effects, including Effect 1 (Tremolo, Wah, Ring Mod), Effect 2 (Phaser, Flanger, Chorus, Vibe), Delay, Amp Simulation/EQ, Compressor, and Reverb. Each effect can be assigned independently to the Piano, Organ, or Synth sections, allowing for extensive sound shaping.



Figure 6: Detailed view of the Effects section controls.

Program and Song Modes

The Nord Stage 3 allows you to store and recall your sounds as Programs. The Song List Mode enables you to organize Programs into a set list for live performances, ensuring smooth transitions between songs. Use the Program/Song Parts section to quickly switch between different sound configurations.



Figure 7: Detailed view of the Program and Song Mode section.

External Control Section

The Extern section allows the Nord Stage 3 to act as a master keyboard for controlling external MIDI devices. You can assign keyboard zones, control volume, send program changes, and MIDI CC messages to external sound modules or software instruments.



Figure 8: Detailed view of the External Control section.

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning and Care

To maintain the appearance and functionality of your Nord Stage 3, regularly wipe the surface with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by a dry one. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes, as these can damage the finish and controls. Keep the instrument away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity.

Software Updates

Nord periodically releases software updates to enhance features and improve performance. Visit the official Nord website and navigate to the support section for the Nord Stage 3 to check for the latest firmware. Follow the provided instructions carefully for updating your instrument via USB. Ensure a stable power supply during the update process to prevent interruption.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Common Issues and Solutions

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
No Sound Output	Check audio cable connections, amplifier/mixer volume, and the Nord Stage 3's master volume. Ensure the correct output is selected and no headphones are plugged in if using main outputs.
Keys Not Responding	Verify that the instrument is powered on. Check if a specific keyboard zone is disabled or if a MIDI setting is preventing local control. Restart the unit.
MIDI Communication Issues	Ensure MIDI cables are correctly connected (In to Out, Out to In). Check MIDI channel settings on both the Nord Stage 3 and the external device. Verify MIDI clock settings if synchronizing.
Display Not Working	Power cycle the instrument. If the issue persists, contact Nord customer support.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Stage 3
Model Number	AMS-NSTAGE3-COMPACT
Keybed	73-Key Semi-Weighted Keybed
Dimensions (D x W x H)	12"D x 42"W x 4"H
Item Weight	21 Pounds (approx. 9.5 kg)
Piano Section Memory	2 GB for Nord Piano Library
Piano Polyphony	120 voices
Synth Engine	Nord Lead A1 Synth Engine with Sample Playback
Organ Engine	Nord C2D Organ Engine (B3 Tonewheel, Vintage Transistor, Pipe Organs)
Displays	Two OLED displays
Connectivity	1/4 inch or 1/8 inch Jack (Headphones), USB, MIDI In/Out

Feature	Detail
Power Source	USB (for data/updates, main power via AC)
Color	Red
Manufacturer	American Music and Sound
UPC	834035001332



Figure 9: Dimensions of the Nord Stage 3 Compact.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty Information

The Nord Stage 3 Compact is covered by a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Nord website for detailed terms and conditions, including warranty period and coverage. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Customer Support

For technical assistance, service, or any questions regarding your Nord Stage 3, please contact Nord customer support or your authorized dealer. Support contact information can typically be found on the official Nord website or in the documentation provided with your instrument.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question