

Native Instruments 29852

Native Instruments Complete Kontrol S61 MK3 User Manual

Model: S61 MK3 (61 Keys)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Native Instruments Complete Kontrol S61 MK3 is an intelligent keyboard controller designed for music production and performance. It integrates seamlessly with virtual instruments and offers advanced control through its high-resolution screen and polyphonic aftertouch keybed. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your S61 MK3 controller.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The S61 MK3 features a robust industrial design with metal and glass elements, ensuring durability and a professional aesthetic. Key components include a 61-key Fatar keybed with polyphonic aftertouch, a high-resolution full-color screen, and various controls for intuitive interaction with software.

2.1 Key Features

- Unparalleled software integration with next-generation NKS technology for direct and immersive connection to Kontakt and partner instruments, effects, and sounds.
- 61 semi-weighted keys set in a Fatar keybed.
- Polyphonic aftertouch as standard, allowing for expressive control of parameters with individual key pressure.
- High-resolution full-color screen for intuitive browsing, tweaking, and mixing.
- Durable industrial design with metal and glass elements, manufactured to high quality standards.

2.2 Component Identification



Figure 1: Front view of the Komplete Kontrol S61 MK3 keyboard controller. This image displays the 61 semi-weighted keys, the central high-resolution screen, eight rotary encoders below the screen, and various control buttons on the left and right sides. The pitch and modulation wheels are located on the far left.



Figure 2: Top-down view of the Komplete Kontrol S61 MK3. This perspective highlights the layout of the control surface, including the large color display, the touch strip above the pitch and mod wheels, and the main navigation encoder with its surrounding buttons.



Figure 3: Angled view of the Komplete Kontrol S61 MK3, showcasing its sleek profile and the integration of the display and controls into the overall design. The purple backlighting accents are visible along the keybed and around some controls.



Figure 4: Rear panel of the Complete Kontrol S61 MK3, showing the various input and output ports. These include USB-C for power and data, MIDI In/Out, and multiple pedal inputs (Expression, Assignable 1, Assignable 2).

3. SETUP

3.1 Unpacking and Contents

Carefully unpack your Complete Kontrol S61 MK3. Ensure all components are present and undamaged.

Included in the Box:

- Native Instruments Complete Kontrol S61 MK3 Keyboard Controller
- USB-C cable

Additional software licenses and download instructions are typically provided digitally upon product registration.

3.2 System Requirements

To operate the S61 MK3, you will need a computer running one of the following operating systems:

- macOS
- Windows

Supported software includes Ableton Live, Avid Pro Tools, and FL Studio, among others compatible with NKS technology.

3.3 Connecting the Controller

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the provided USB-C cable to the USB-C port on the rear of the S61 MK3 and to a suitable power source. The S61 MK3 requires external power via USB-C.
2. **Data Connection:** Connect the other end of the USB-C cable to an available USB port on your computer. This connection handles both data transfer and additional power if available from the computer's USB port.
3. **MIDI Connections (Optional):** If you are connecting external MIDI hardware, use standard MIDI cables to connect the MIDI OUT port of the S61 MK3 to the MIDI IN port of your external device, and vice-versa if bi-directional communication is required.
4. **Pedal Connections (Optional):** Connect expression or sustain pedals to the dedicated pedal inputs on the rear panel for additional control.

After connecting, power on your computer and launch the Native Instruments software (e.g., Native Access, Complete Kontrol) to ensure the controller is recognized and to install any necessary drivers or firmware updates.

4. OPERATING THE COMPLETE KONTROL S61 MK3

4.1 Basic Operation

The S61 MK3 is designed for intuitive control over your virtual instruments and digital audio workstation (DAW).

- **Keys:** The 61 semi-weighted keys provide a responsive playing experience.
- **Polyphonic Aftertouch:** Apply varying pressure to individual keys after initial press to modulate parameters like vibrato, cutoff, or pitch, offering enhanced expressive control.

- **High-Resolution Screen:** Use the central screen for browsing sounds, adjusting parameters, and navigating your projects.
- **Rotary Encoders:** The eight touch-sensitive rotary encoders below the screen allow for precise adjustment of parameters displayed on the screen.
- **Pitch and Modulation Wheels:** Located on the left, these wheels provide traditional pitch bend and modulation control.
- **Touch Strip:** Positioned above the pitch and mod wheels, the touch strip can be assigned to various controls for dynamic performance.

4.2 Software Integration (NKS)

The S61 MK3 leverages Native Kontrol Standard (NKS) technology for deep integration with Native Instruments software and a growing number of third-party NKS-compatible instruments and effects.

- **Browsing:** Use the controller's screen and navigation controls to browse your sound library directly from the hardware, without needing to look at your computer screen.
- **Parameter Control:** NKS instruments automatically map key parameters to the S61 MK3's rotary encoders, allowing for immediate and intuitive sound shaping.
- **Light Guide:** The Light Guide above the keys illuminates to show key switches, zones, and scales, enhancing your playing experience.

4.3 MIDI Functionality

Beyond NKS integration, the S61 MK3 functions as a versatile MIDI controller. It can send MIDI messages to control any MIDI-compatible software or hardware. MIDI templates can be configured to control external MIDI devices, such as analog synthesizers.

4.4 Product in Use

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Video 1: A brief preview demonstrating the Komplete Kontrol S-Series keyboard in use, highlighting its responsive keys and integrated display. This video shows a user interacting with the controller to play and manipulate sounds.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Komplete Kontrol S61 MK3.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to clean the surface of the controller. For stubborn marks, a slightly damp cloth with mild soap can be used, ensuring no liquid enters the device. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the controller in a clean, dry environment away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and excessive dust. If transporting, use a padded case to protect it from physical damage.
- **Firmware Updates:** Regularly check for and install firmware updates via Native Access. These updates often include performance improvements, bug fixes, and new features.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your S61 MK3.

6.1 Controller Not Recognized by Computer/Software

- **Check Connections:** Ensure the USB-C cable is securely connected to both the controller and your computer, and that the controller is receiving power. Try a different USB port or cable.
- **Power Source:** Verify that the USB-C power source is adequate. The S61 MK3 requires sufficient power to operate

correctly.

- **Drivers and Firmware:** Open Native Access and ensure all drivers and firmware for your S61 MK3 are up to date. Outdated firmware is a common cause of recognition issues.
- **Restart:** Restart your computer and the controller.
- **USB Hubs:** If using a USB hub, ensure it is a powered hub and try connecting the controller directly to your computer's USB port to rule out hub-related issues.

6.2 Software Integration Issues

- **Komplete Kontrol Software:** Ensure the Komplete Kontrol software is installed and up to date. The controller relies on this software for NKS integration.
- **DAW Setup:** Verify that the S61 MK3 is correctly configured as a MIDI input device and, if applicable, as a control surface within your DAW's preferences.
- **NKS Compatibility:** Confirm that the virtual instrument or effect you are trying to control is NKS-compatible.

6.3 Pitch Wheel or Other Controls Behaving Erratically

- **Firmware Update:** Ensure the latest firmware is installed, as some issues may be resolved through updates.
- **Calibration:** Check the Native Instruments support resources for any calibration procedures for the pitch wheel or other controls.
- **Interference:** Ensure no external factors are physically impeding the controls.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	S61 Mk3
Number of Keys	61
Keybed Type	Semi-weighted Fatar keybed with Polyphonic Aftertouch
Connectivity Technology	USB
Connector Type	USB-C (for power and data), MIDI In/Out, Expression Pedal, Assignable Pedal 1, Assignable Pedal 2
Power Source	Corded Electric (USB-C)
Operating System Compatibility	macOS, Windows
Supported Software	Ableton Live, Avid Pro Tools, FL Studio, NKS-compatible software
Item Weight	8.45 Kilograms (18.59 pounds)
Product Dimensions	37.61 x 13.94 x 3.51 inches
Body Material	Aluminum

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Native Instruments website. Technical support and additional resources, including FAQs and software downloads, are available






through the Native Instruments support portal.

Online Resources:

- [Native Instruments Support](#)
- [Komplete Kontrol S-Series MK3 Product Page](#)



Related Documents - 29852

	<p>Native Instruments Kontrol S-Series Mk3 Bitwig Studio Controller Extension Guide</p> <p>A comprehensive guide to using the Native Instruments Kontrol S-Series Mk3 controller with Bitwig Studio, covering transport, navigation, plug-in mode, DAW mixer, and setup.</p>
	<p>Native Instruments Software Licensing and Installation Guide - Thomann Support</p> <p>Comprehensive guide for Native Instruments software licensing, activation, and installation, including Native Access setup, serial code redemption, and managing product libraries purchased from Thomann.</p>
	<p>MASCHINE PLUS/MK3/MIKRO MK3 Ableton Live 11 MIDI Remote Script Installation Guide</p> <p>Step-by-step guide to installing the unofficial MIDI remote script for Native Instruments MASCHINE PLUS, MK3, and MIKRO MK3 controllers with Ableton Live 11, enabling enhanced integration and control.</p>
	<p>Инструкция по эксплуатации Native Instruments AUDIO KONTROL 1</p> <p>Подробное руководство пользователя для аудиоинтерфейса Native Instruments AUDIO KONTROL 1, описывающее его функции, установку, настройку программного обеспечения и устранение неполадок.</p>
	<p>Guide d'Installation Guitar Rig 5 - Native Instruments</p> <p>Ce guide d'installation de Native Instruments fournit des instructions détaillées pour installer, activer et configurer le logiciel Guitar Rig 5 et le contrôleur matériel RIG KONTROL 3.</p>



[Native Instruments SYMPHONY SERIES PERCUSSION Manual](#)

A comprehensive guide to Native Instruments' SYMPHONY SERIES PERCUSSION, detailing its features, instruments, and audio mixing capabilities.