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- Novation /
- Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 MIDI Keyboard Controller User Manual

Novation Launchkey 61 MK4

Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 MIDI Keyboard Controller User Manual

Model: Launchkey 61 MK4

Brand: Novation

Introduction Setup Operation Maintenance Troubleshooting Specifications Support

1. Introduction

The Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 is a 61-key semi-weighted USB MIDI keyboard controller designed for comprehensive digital audio workstation (DAW) integration and music production. It features a suite of onboard creation tools, including Chord & Scale Modes, 16 velocity-sensitive drum pads with polyphonic aftertouch, and an editable Arpeggiator. The controller is engineered for musical expression and an efficient creative workflow.

Key features include:

- Premium Semi-Weighted Keybed: Offers a responsive playing experience.
- 16 FSR Drum Pads: With polyphonic aftertouch for dynamic drumming, clip launching, and chord triggering.
- **DAW Integration:** Seamless control with major DAWs like Ableton Live, Logic Pro, Cubase, Reason, Reaper, FL Studio, and Ardour.
- **Creative Tools:** Includes Scale Mode to prevent wrong notes, Chord Modes for quick progressions, and a powerful Arpeggiator.
- OLED Display: Provides clear visual feedback for settings and parameters, including a Chord Detector.
- NKS-Ready: Integrates with Native Instruments software for enhanced control.



Figure 1.1: The Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 MIDI Keyboard Controller, showcasing its 61 keys, drum pads, faders, and knobs.

2. SETUP GUIDE

This section outlines the steps to set up your Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 controller.

2.1. Unpacking and Contents

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Ensure the following items are present:

- · Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 Controller
- USB Cable
- · Safety Information Sheet

2.2. Connecting to Your Computer

- 1. Place the Launchkey 61 MK4 on a stable, flat surface.
- 2. Connect one end of the supplied USB cable to the USB port on the Launchkey 61 MK4.
- 3. Connect the other end of the USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (PC or Mac). The Launchkey is USB-powered and does not require an external power supply.
- 4. Your computer should automatically detect the device. For specific driver installations or software bundles, refer to the Novation website or the included safety information sheet.

2.3. Software Installation and DAW Integration

The Launchkey 61 MK4 is designed for seamless integration with various DAWs. Follow these general steps:

 Visit the official Novation website (novationmusic.com) and register your product. This will grant access to included software bundles (e.g., Ableton Live Lite, Cubase LE) and any necessary drivers or firmware updates.

- 2. Install any required drivers as instructed by Novation.
- 3. Open your preferred DAW (e.g., Ableton Live, Logic Pro, FL Studio).
- 4. Navigate to the DAW's preferences or settings menu, typically under 'MIDI' or 'Control Surfaces'.
- 5. Select the Novation Launchkey 61 MK4 as a control surface and/or MIDI input device. Specific setup instructions for each DAW can be found in the Novation online documentation.



Get hands-on with your entire production process

- Get detailed control of your DAW
- Launch clips in Ableton Live, Logic Pro, and FL Studio
- Create freely with enhanced chord and scale modes
- Sequence Ableton Live directly from Launchkey

Figure 2.1: A user interacting with the Launchkey 61 MK4, connected to a laptop running music production software.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Launchkey 61 MK4 offers a range of controls and features for music creation and performance.

3.1. Overview of Controls

The controller features a semi-weighted keyboard, 16 velocity-sensitive pads, 8 rotary encoders, 9 faders, transport controls, and an OLED display.



Deep, custom integration with all major DAWs

Dedicated controls for transport, plus session navigation, mixing and EQ, clip launching, and plugin parameters.

Figure 3.1: The Launchkey 61 MK4 integrated into a studio setup, demonstrating its central role in music production.

3.2. DAW Control

Once integrated with your DAW, the Launchkey provides hands-on control over various functions:

- Transport Controls: Play, Stop, Record, Loop, and other navigation functions.
- Mixer Control: Faders can control track volumes, while rotary encoders can adjust pan or send levels.
- **Device and Effect Control:** Encoders and faders can be mapped to control parameters of virtual instruments and effects within your DAW.
- Clip Launching: The 16 pads can be used to launch clips and scenes in compatible DAWs like Ableton Live.

3.3. FSR Drum Pads

The 16 FSR (Force Sensing Resistor) pads are highly responsive and offer polyphonic aftertouch, allowing for expressive performances. They can be used for:

- Drum programming and finger drumming.
- Triggering samples and loops.
- · Launching clips and scenes in Ableton Live.
- · Acting as step sequencers or chord triggers.



Unique FSR drum pads

16 super-responsive drum pads with polyphonic aftertouch for finger drumming, triggering clips, playing chord progressions, and more.

Figure 3.2: A close-up view of the illuminated FSR drum pads, demonstrating their tactile and visual feedback during use.

3.4. Creative Modes: Chord, Scale, and Arpeggiator

The Launchkey 61 MK4 includes powerful tools to enhance your musical creativity:

- Scale Mode: This mode ensures that any note you play will be in the selected scale, preventing incorrect notes and facilitating melodic exploration.
- **Chord Modes:** Three distinct Chord Modes allow you to trigger complex musical progressions from a single key or pad. The OLED display can show the currently played chord.
- **Arpeggiator:** The unique and editable Arpeggiator can generate rhythmic and melodic patterns from held notes. Parameters such as rate, direction, and octave range can be adjusted.



The next generation of Launchkey

- Get detailed feedback from a crisp, new OLED display
- · More scales, new chord modes, and a more powerful arpeggiator
- Patented FSR drum pads for even more expressive performances
- Professional-grade, semi-weighted keybeds on Launchkey 49 and 61

Figure 3.3: The OLED display showing 'G Minor', indicating the active scale or chord mode, providing clear visual feedback to the user.

3.5. Software Bundle

Your Launchkey 61 MK4 includes a comprehensive software bundle to get you started with music production. This typically includes:

- · Ableton Live Lite
- Cubase LE
- Sounds and instruments from GForce, Klevgrand, Orchestral Tools, and Native Instruments.
- · Melodics lessons for learning to play.

Access to these resources is usually provided upon product registration on the Novation website.



Everything you need to make music

Includes Ableton Live Lite, Cubase LE, Novation Play, and a premium collection of synthesisers, instruments, and effects from Klevgrand, GForce, Orchestral Tools, and Native Instruments.

Figure 3.4: A collage of various music production software interfaces, representing the included software bundle and compatibility.

4. MAINTENANCE

Proper care and maintenance will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Launchkey 61 MK4.

4.1. Cleaning

- · Always disconnect the USB cable before cleaning.
- Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to wipe the surface of the controller.
- For stubborn dirt, slightly dampen the cloth with water. Avoid using harsh chemicals, abrasive cleaners, or solvents, as these can damage the finish and electronic components.
- · Do not allow liquids to enter any openings.

4.2. Storage and Handling

· Store the controller in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high

humidity.

- · Avoid placing heavy objects on the controller.
- When transporting the device, use a protective case to prevent damage from impacts or dust.
- Do not attempt to disassemble the unit. Refer to qualified service personnel for any repairs.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Launchkey 61 MK4.

5.1. No Power/Device Not Recognized

- Check USB Connection: Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the Launchkey and your computer. Try a different USB port or cable.
- Computer Power: Ensure your computer is powered on and not in sleep mode.
- **Drivers:** Verify that the necessary drivers are installed. Check the Novation website for the latest drivers.
- **Restart:** Try restarting your computer and the Launchkey (by unplugging and replugging the USB cable).

5.2. No Sound or MIDI Output

- **DAW Settings:** In your DAW's preferences, ensure the Launchkey 61 MK4 is selected as a MIDI input device and that the correct track is armed for recording or receiving MIDI.
- Instrument Loaded: Verify that a virtual instrument or sound is loaded and active in your DAW.
- Volume Levels: Check the volume levels on your DAW, computer, and audio interface.
- **MIDI Channel:** Ensure the Launchkey and your DAW/instrument are communicating on the same MIDI channel.

5.3. Controls Not Responding Correctly

- **DAW Mapping:** Confirm that the controls (faders, knobs, pads) are correctly mapped within your DAW. Some DAWs require manual mapping for certain functions.
- **Firmware:** Check the Novation website for any available firmware updates for your Launchkey. Updating firmware can resolve performance issues.
- Factory Reset: As a last resort, performing a factory reset on the Launchkey may resolve persistent issues. Refer to the Novation documentation for instructions on how to perform a factory reset.

6. Specifications

Feature	Detail

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Launchkey 61 [MK4]
Brand	Novation
Number of Keyboard Keys	61
Кеу Туре	Semi-Weighted
Connectivity Technology	USB
Hardware Interface	USB, MIDI
Compatible Devices	PC, Synthesizer, Groovebox
Operating System	Mac OS, Windows OS
Color Name	Black
Body Material	Plastic
Item Weight	10.5 pounds (4.76 kg)
Product Dimensions	35.2 x 10.3 x 3.6 inches (89.4 x 26.2 x 9.1 cm)
Special Features	Scale and Chord modes, Arpeggiator, FSR Drum Pads with Polyphonic Aftertouch

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

7.1. Warranty Information

Novation products typically come with a manufacturer's warranty. For detailed information regarding the warranty period and terms for your Launchkey 61 MK4, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Novation website.

7.2. Customer Support

For technical assistance, product registration, driver downloads, firmware updates, or further documentation, please visit the official Novation support page:

Novation Support Website

You can also explore the Novation brand store on Amazon for additional product information and accessories:

Novation Store on Amazon

Related Documents - Launchkey 61 MK4



Novation Launchkey MK4 Programmer's Reference Guide

A comprehensive programmer's reference guide for the Novation Launchkey MK4 MIDI controller, detailing its MIDI implementation, modes of operation (Standalone, DAW), control messages, screen customization, and feature controls. This guide is essential for users looking to deeply integrate and program the Launchkey MK4 with digital audio workstations and other MIDI systems.



Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 Felhasználói Útmutató: MIDI vezérlő, DAW integráció és funkciók

Ismerje meg a Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 MIDI billentyűzet vezérlő funkcióit és képességeit. Ez a felhasználói útmutató részletezi a DAW integrációt, az arpeggiátort, a skála és akkord módokat, valamint a specifikációkat a zenei produkcióhoz.



Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 Korisnički Priručnik

Detaljan korisnički priručnik za Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 MIDI kontroler, koji obuhvaća postavljanje, značajke, integraciju s DAW-ovima i tehničke specifikacije. Naučite kako koristiti tipkovnicu, padove i kreativne alate za glazbenu produkciju.



Novation Launchkey Mini 25: User Guide for Music Production

Explore the features and functionalities of the Novation Launchkey Mini 25, a compact and versatile MIDI keyboard controller. This guide covers setup, DAW integration, creative tools like arpeggiators and chord modes, and technical specifications for music production.



Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 Uporabniški Priročnik

Podroben uporabniški priročnik za Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 MIDI kontroler. Odkrijte funkcije, namestitev, nadzor DAW in tehnične specifikacije za ustvarjanje glasbe.



Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4 Uživatelská Příručka Verze 3.0

Podrobná uživatelská příručka (Verze 3.0) pro MIDI kontrolér Novation Launchkey Mini 25 MK4, pokrývající instalaci, ovládání hardwaru, funkce DAW, kreativní nástroje a řešení problémů.

Documents - Novation - Launchkey 61 MK4



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