

Rhodes®

PIANOLOGY



Quick Start Manual

Overview

WELCOME TO THE RHODES PIANOLOGY

Welcome to Rhodes Pianology - a stunning collection of three famous and much-loved pianos. Each instrument has been meticulously set up, voiced, sampled, and modelled by Rhodes' sound-design team. Pianology provides intimate access to heavyweight instruments that many players would never normally have the opportunity to play.

Note: Pianology is currently a DAW-hosted plugin only.

In version 1, the instruments included are:

- Upright: A widely respected U-series upright piano, with a bright yet earthy tone.
- Grand: An American classic - Model D- with warm, vibrant tone.
- Electric Grand: A popular 'portable' electro-acoustic piano with real strings but with pickups amplifying the vibrations, creating an instantly recognisable, unique tone popular in the 80s.



CONCEPT

Pianology is designed to be simple, intuitive, and fast - using a one-knob-per-function interface created by Axel Hartmann. It includes a wide selection of high-quality sound-shaping tools and effects modelled directly from the Rhodes MK8, V8 Pro, and Anthology.

- Approximate plugin size: 14 GB
- Low CPU usage

Interface Walkthrough

TOP MENU BAR



The top menu bar provides global controls affecting the entire preset. From left to right:

- Preset Arrows: Step through presets.
- Preset Name Window: Displays the current preset. Click to open the preset browser.
- Parameter Display: Shows the name and real-time value of the parameter being adjusted.
- Alt-Click Reset: Alt-click any control to return it to default.
- Save: Overwrites the current preset.
- Save As: Saves a new preset with your chosen name.
- Sustain/MIDI LEDs: Indicate sustain pedal activity, key presses, and incoming MIDI data.

PRESETS

A Pianology preset saves every visible control in the interface. However, instruments can be switched independently of the preset.

For example, if you love a preset created on the Grand but want to hear it on the Upright, simply change the instrument on the left panel - your main panel settings remain unchanged.

Interface Walkthrough

INSTRUMENT AREA

Select instruments using the left/right arrows or the drop-down menu.

A detailed render displays the selected instrument, mic, or amp.



GLOBAL TUNE

Adjust the tuning of the piano to match recordings or external sources.



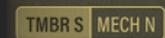
TIMBRE SHIFT

The core tone of each piano can be radically altered on the fly using the Timbre Shift slider, making the pianos sound brighter, more metallic, or more felt like, as if the piano has been re-voiced by a technician.



MECHANICAL NOISE

Controls key-off noise, action sound, and pedal noise, allowing a range of sound from clean and precise to coloured with authentic noise.



LID POSITION

Adjust the sound of the Grand, by changing the lid position from Open, Half-Open, or Closed, each affecting the acoustic response.



AMPS

Included in Pianology are 4 amplifier models, taken from the Rhodes V8 Pro:

- 1979 Rhodes Suitcase cabinet
- Stereo transistor amp
- Classic DUO valve amp
- L5 transistor amp

When no amp is selected (-NONE-):

- Acoustic pianos: mic signal only
- CP70B: direct output



MICS

Choose between Dynamic and Cardioid Condenser microphones.

- Use the arrows or the drop-down menu to change microphone models.
- If the amp is set to NONE, the mic dims to indicate bypass.



Interface Walkthrough

MAIN CONTROL PANEL

Modules modelled from MK8/V8 Pro:

- Preamp (Volume, Drive)
- EQ (Low, High, Sweepable Mid)
- Compressor (Amount, Makeup Gain)
- Chorus (Rate, Depth)
- Phaser (Rate, Depth)
- Delay (Time, Feedback, Mix)
- Tremolo (CP70-style)
- Rhodes Reverbs:
 - Grand and Upright Stage, Arena, Room, Hall
 - Electric Grand: Spring Plate, Room, Hall



IN USE

- All modules include power switches.
- All controls support right-click MIDI assignment.
- Time-based FX can be DAW-synced.
- Assign MIDI: Right-click → move a hardware control.

Interface Walkthrough

GETTING STARTED: VELOCITY CONTROL

For the most authentic Piano-like feel, it really helps to match the plugin's velocity response to your own touch and your MIDI controller's response. We recommend spending some time exploring the Velocity Curve and Velocity Depth controls, as a tiny tweak can shift the whole character of the instrument, from a soft, buttery response to that classic punch and bite.



We wish you many years of successful music creation with Rhodes Pianology.

All the best from the Rhodes Team,

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