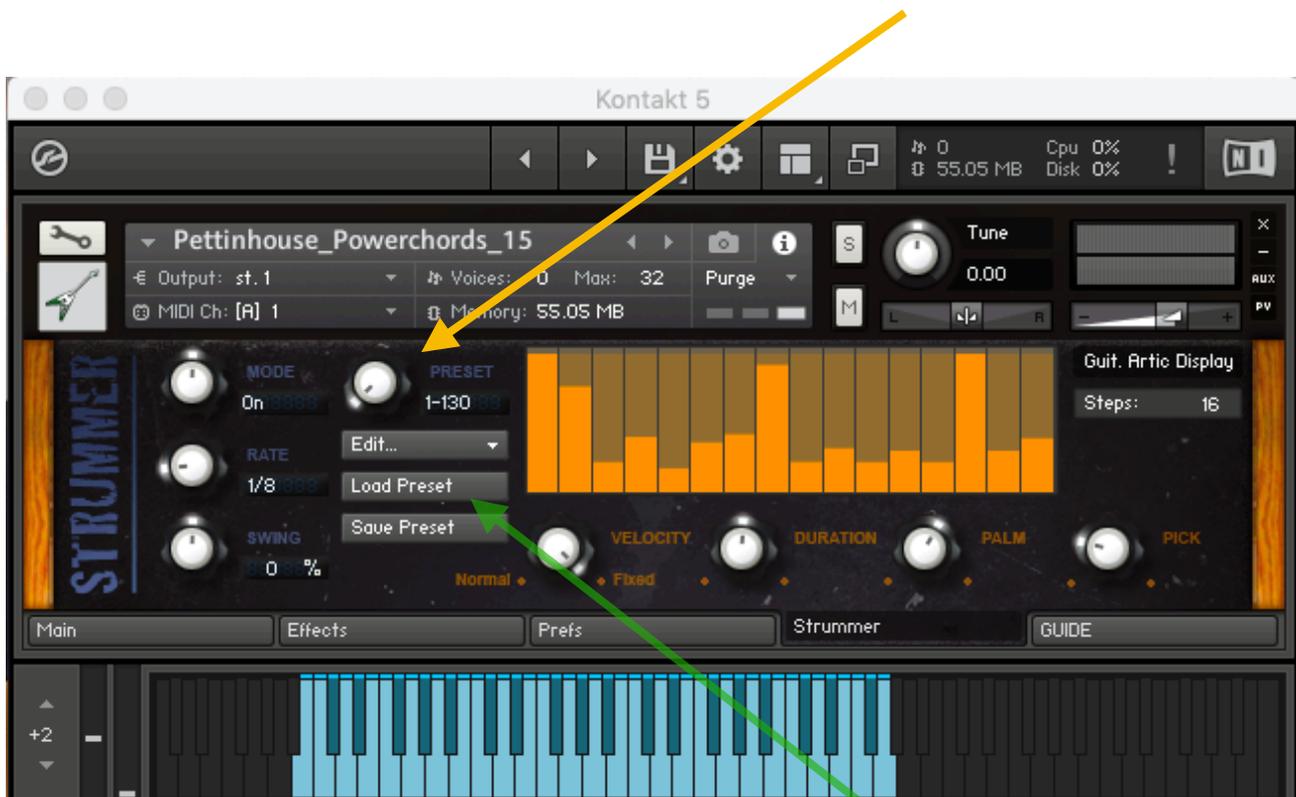


Quick Guide for Powerchords

Pettinhouse.com 2022

With Powerchords you can play the chord you want. Press the keys on your keyboard and it strums those notes. Even if you hit random notes! Very convenient for making special chords, unison notes, If you just want to use the ready-made Presets then the only thing you have to do is to choose one of the 25 Presets by moving **this** knob



If, on the other hand, you want to create your own pattern or want to modify a ready-made one, then follow me. Don't worry if you modify or overwrite a default Preset, In the Powerchords folder on your computer you will find a folder **"Default Presets"** Inside these folders there are the default Presets. Just click on the **"Load"** button, search for those saved Presets on the Default Presets folder and load the default preset you overwrites or modified. If you want to save a new Pattern click on "Save" and save it in a folder on your computer.

Having said that, let's move on! :)

To create a new pattern follow these steps, they will help you create one in a few steps:

- 1 - Look for a Preset that more or less represents what you want to create.
- 2 - Click on **Edit**
- 3 - **Copy** the Preset
- 4 - choose in which position of the Preset knob you want to paste the copied Preset just by moving the Preset knob
- 5 - **Paste** the copied Preset in a new knob position
- 6 - Now you can change the new copied Preset

How?



Play a chord on your keyboard. Look at the orange display where the steps are. Do you see a tiny light colored bar moving? That bar marks the rhythm of the pattern.

Watch carefully when the moving bar passes over the steps.

Have you noticed that the higher the steps, the greater the intensity of the strumming on the strings? Do you hear notes? The lower the steps, the lower the intensity.

Why?

Easy! :) This is how I mapped the samples in Kontakt. I decided to put the strum muted notes at the bottom and as you increase the height of the step the volume increases, the notes are no longer completely muted with the hand (Noise strums) , the intensity of the strum increases, the strings are free to vibrate producing notes until the last portion of the velocities, which plays open strings samples, not muted strings with full sustain.

But how can I know which kind of samples / articulations are mapped in the steps?



Easy! Watch the **Guitar Articulation Display** when you move a step up and down

Ok Andrea, thank you but I still haven't figured out how to do it!

The best method is to have the rhythm in your head, the pattern you want to create. Maybe you heard it on a song and want to copy it.

Now...I know, sounds a bit idiotic but please follow me! :)

Hum the rhythm! Sing it. Yes, sing it with your voice.

Slowly sync your hum with your finger pointing on the step display. The orange one. A bit like you want to play, to press the orange steps with your finger. Count also the pauses, the noise strums etc. Do it with a low BPM. Much easier to follow the progress bar when the BPM is low.

Ok! Now that you know the correct position of the steps it is time to raise the steps.

Set the knobs as you see them in the picture below, play a chord on your keyboard and start by raising up the main steps, the ones that characterize the structure of the pattern.

Imagine you want to create a sixteenth note pattern. Count in eight and raise only the steps inherent to the main strumming, to the main pattern structure.

Something like: "Ta - - - Ta - Ta - - - Ta - Ta - Ta - - - Ta" :)
and not "Ta-Ta-Ta-Ta-Ta-Ta"

When you rise up a step always take a look at the "**Guitar Articulation Display**". Look at what kind of sample you are selecting but above all, listen to the sound of the sample.

Initially just create a draft. Don't worry so much about how it sounds in the beginning. There is always time to perfect the pattern.

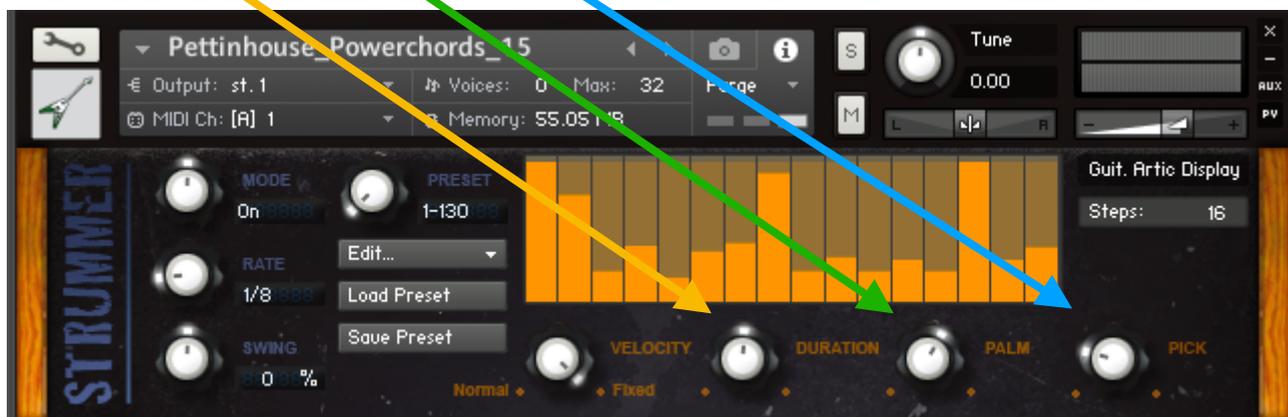
Now that you have the basic structure add the steps between the two main ones. Generally these steps are the ones that give the rhythm to the pattern so they are often muted strings samples. (Low steps) Take a look at how I put them in the default presets.

Obviously the ideal would be to choose the upstrokes and downstrokes based on the movement of the hand that strums a real guitar. I know, this is a very guitar thing. If you want to invest your time and you know how to do it then keep an eye on the "Guitar Articulation Display".



once the pattern is complete it's time to better set the 3 main knobs.

"Duration - Palm - Pick"



The "**DURATION**" knob represents the duration of the step. To be clear, the effect is to lengthen or shorten the note even if more precisely it lengthens and shortens the duration of the step. If you move all the way right this knob, most of the time, the note of the previous step overlaps the note of the next step.

The "**PALM**" knob does the same thing but in this case lengthens or shortens the sustain of the notes. Too much of this and it overlaps next notes with a "long" sustain.

These two knobs must be used together. My advice is to leave them as they are in the picture and eventually try to set them while the pattern is playing.

The "**PICK**" knob increases or decreases the intensity of the noise strums. Leave it as you see it in the picture and you will eventually increase it when you make a new song in case you don't hear well that strum effect in the background among the other instruments.

The "**VELOCITY**" knob (Normal - Fixed). In Normal, the pattern depends on the pressure you exert on the keys of your keyboard. If you press softly, the arpeggiator causes notes to be played with less intensity, and vice versa. A bit like if you control the height of the steps by pressing the keys of your keyboard.

Try it, it's interesting, create new nuances, rhythms.

In Fixed your keyboard does not control the velocity and therefore the pattern follows the position of the steps on the orange display and it plays with the intensity you set on the orange step display.

PLEASE! Once the pattern is finished, save it!

Please read the Guide on the GUI of the products. Other useful tips there

In case you need help write to me to: info@pettinhouse.com