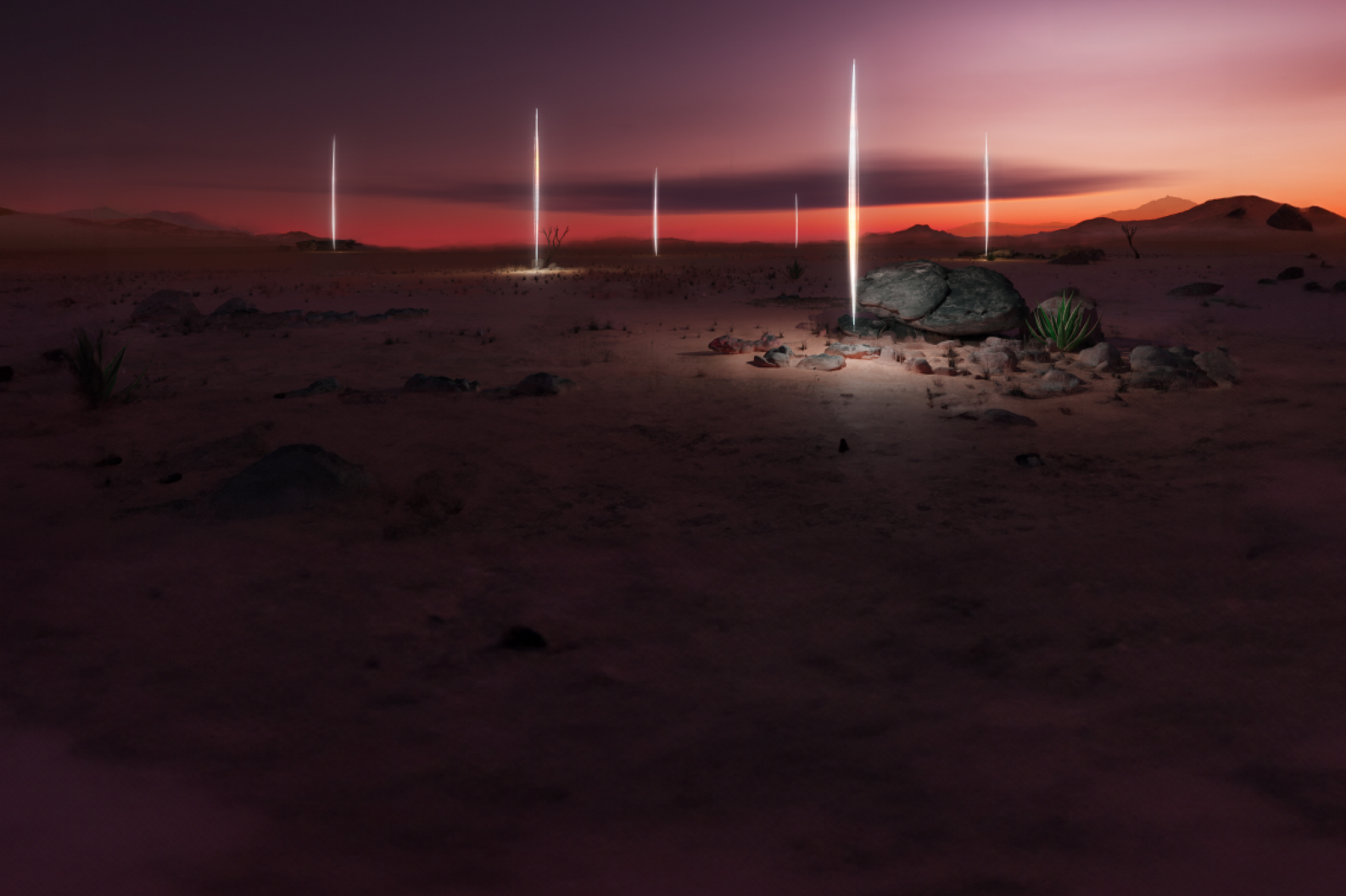


# DESOLATE

— GUITARS —

USER MANUAL



# Table Of Contents

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Desolate Guitars                    | 3  |
| Tech Specs                          | 3  |
| Quick Overview                      | 4  |
| Preset Browser                      | 5  |
| Mod Wheel & Key Switch Settings     | 6  |
| Amp Signal Blending                 | 8  |
| Tremolo                             | 8  |
| FX Chain Page                       | 9  |
| Slot FX Browser                     | 10 |
| Playing Desolate Guitars            | 11 |
| Native Instruments Komplete Kontrol | 11 |
| Tips & Tricks                       | 12 |
| Credits                             | 12 |
| Appendix - Articulation Information | 13 |

---

# Desolate Guitars

Desolate Guitars embodies a timeless sound that's shaped music for decades, seamlessly blending analog warmth with digital versatility. Perfect for producers, artists, and media composers seeking a distinctive sonic palette, even without guitar expertise. Featuring four classic guitars, two iconic amps, real spring reverb, and extensive FX presets designed by guitarists, the creative possibilities are endless.

Desolate Guitars is all about The Sound. Picture the evocative and ultra-authentic guitar tones that transport you into the moody landscapes of David Lynch's cinematic worlds or the pulsating indie vibes reminiscent of Arctic Monkeys and Lord Huron. It's a love letter to that classic sound: your favourite guitars plugged straight into iconic vintage amps, drenched in spring reverb, and decorated with tremolo.

With Desolate Guitars, it's not just a sound; it's a journey through time and genres. The rich palette of lonely, cinematic tones is not only distinct but also versatile, ready to infuse your music with the kind of character that makes hit soundtracks and records. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a newcomer to the world of electric guitars, this collection welcomes you to explore an expanse of creative possibilities and to create sonic landscapes that resonate deeply.

We recorded 4 different guitars, always through the 2 iconic vintage amps we picked, both with and without spring reverb, to give a vast amount of control over the authentic sound. We love the fact that real spring reverb sounds a little different every time the springs are triggered, also the amps react differently. You won't get this liveliness from an impulse response. So with every single note you play, these 4 signals are always triggered and ready to be blended at any time. Also we measured and tweaked the different tremolo types of those amps and modelled them so that you have full control over the distinctive guitar tones.

We hope you have fun with these characterful guitar tones and can't wait to hear the music your product with Desolate Guitars,

Desolate Guitars Production Team

---

## Tech Specs

59,593 samples (33.8 GB sample content)

24 bit 48 kHz NCW format

One patch for Kontakt Player 7.6.1 or higher

Compatible with Komplete Kontrol and NKS

# Quick Overview



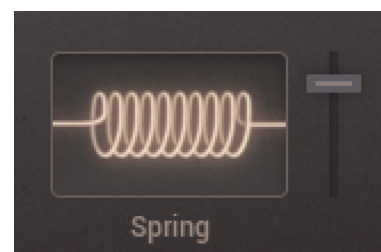
All the most important controls of the interface are directly accessible on the Main Page...

- Amp blend slider
- Tremolo Speed
- Tremolo Depth
- Amount of Spring reverb: This blends between the dry and wet recorded signals)
- Effects Macro knob: A macro dial that controls multiple FX parameters of the FX chain. Global Effects On/Off button.
- Main Preset Browser: Upper left - with arrows can be used to step through those presets.
- Mod Wheel & Key Switch assignments: Upper right - showing pre-defined controls per-preset
- The three dots open options pages for Amp Blend, Tremolo Types, Effects Page & Mod Wheel Settings

It's important to remember that each preset blends between 4 recorded signals; 2 amps with and without real spring reverb.

So each note you play triggers actually plays 4 signals at once: Amp 1 dry / Amp 1 wet / Amp 2 dry / Amp 2 wet.

You can blend these 4 signals by using the amp-blend slider and the spring slider.





# Preset Browser

Click to the upper left of the interface to access the preset browser.



Here you'll find authentic guitar presets, classified in 4 categories...

## SUSTAINS & MUTES

These are the main patches, with Open Sustains, Mutes, Legato Transitions of our favourite guitars. All of the content is recorded with round robins and velocity layers.

### SUSTAINS & MUTES

- Chime Guitar
- Desolate Guitar
- Baritone Guitar
- Chime Guitar + Vib Arm
- Mellow Guitar

## CHORDS

Various useful Chords Patches, recorded in major and minor for each key.

### CHORDS

- Desolate Chords
- Chime Chords
- Chime Chords + Vib Arm
- Two Note Chords
- Desolate Staccato Chords
- Chime Staccato Chords

## SWELLS

Swells plus Reverse Swells with different guitars and pedals.

### SWELLS

- Bright Swells
- Bass Swells
- Mellow Swells
- Fuzz Swells
- Feedback Swells

## SPECIALS

Different speciality playing techniques such as tremolo, looped textures, feedback and harmonics.

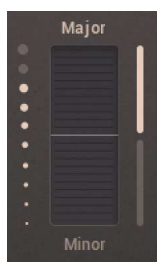
### SPECIALS

- Surfer Tremolo
- Desolate Tremolo
- Mellow Harmonics
- Detuned Feedback
- Degraded Textures
- Ethereal Textures
- Dirty Textures

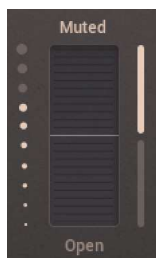
A full list of all the articulations and descriptions is outlined within the Appendix.

# Mod Wheel & Key Switch Settings

The Main Presets come with different Mod Wheel and Key Switch settings per preset. The Mod Wheel is used as the main control parameter to playback different articulations or playing styles. Each patch has their own specifically different, yet intuitively understandable Mod Wheel toggles for each patch. For example...

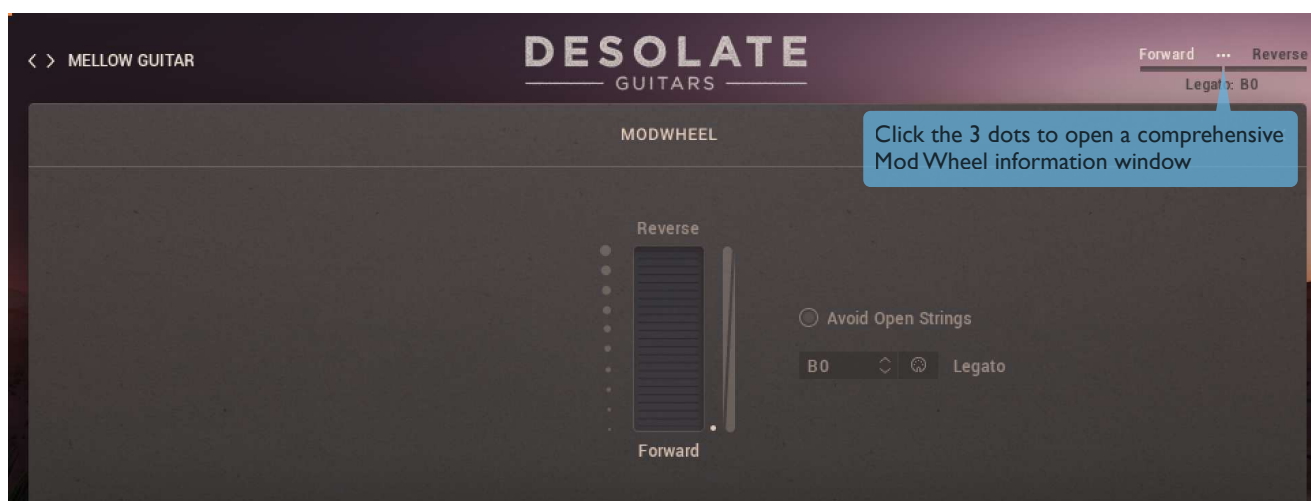


Chords and Textures: Major<>Minor



Sustains & Mutes: Open Sustain <> Muted

Any specific patch's Mod Wheel assignments is shown in summary at the top right of the main interface. Click the 3 dots to open a window that shows more comprehensive information about the Mod Wheel behaviour, along with any applicable Open Strings and Legato settings.

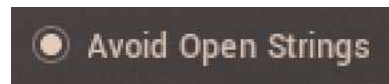


LEGATO is built in a way that you can play legato on one string, while another string is still ringing. This is achieved by holding down a Key Switch to engage Legato playing, set by default to MIDI B0. Drag the up / down arrows to set the legato Key Switch note. Alternatively, click the small MIDI icon to assign a note by pressing a key on your MIDI controller keyboard.



Here's one example of the usefulness of Legato mode: Play the open low E-String, let it ring, press the legato Key Switch and then play a Hammer On from A to B. For that reason, the Legato Key Switch works temporarily and not as a remaining switch. This means as long as it's pressed, you're in legato mode. Once you release the Key Switch you are back to polyphonic mode. If you prefer, you can set legato to a fixed mode by clicking the legato display on the upper right corner on the UI.

**AVOID OPEN STRINGS:** We recorded the Open Strings and their fingered alternative for all of the main patches and for the tremolo presets. If you want to have the Open Strings triggered, deactivate the button. You can right-click to MIDI LEARN this toggle.



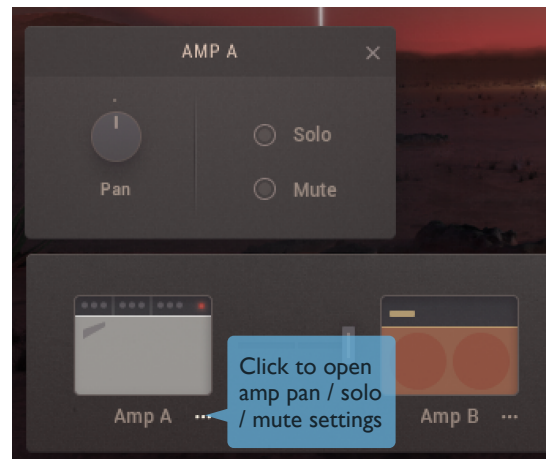
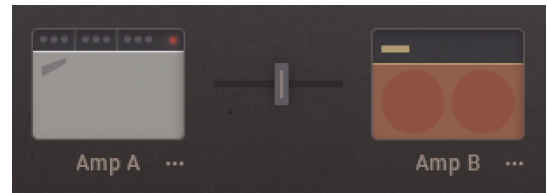
| MAIN PRESET NAME            | MOD WHEEL   | KEY SWITCH       |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------|
| <b>SUSTAINS &amp; MUTES</b> |   |                  |
| Chime Guitar                | Switches Open Sustains / Mutes                    | legato           |
| Desolate Guitar             | Switches Open Sustains / Mutes                    | legato           |
| Baritone Guitar             | Switches Open Sustains / Mutes                    | legato           |
| Chime Guitar + Vib Arm      | Switches Open Sustains +Vib / Open Sustain No Vib | legato           |
| Mellow Guitar               | Switches Open Sustains / Reverse                  | legato           |
| <b>CHORDS</b>               |   |                  |
| Desolate Chords             | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |
| Chime Chords                | Switches Minor/ Major                             | vibrato off / on |
| Chime Chords + Vib Arm      | Switches Minor/ Major                             | vibrato off / on |
| Two Note Chords             | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |
| Desolate Staccato Chords    | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |
| Chime Staccato Chords       | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |
| <b>SWELLS</b>               |   |                  |
| Bright Swells               | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Bass Swells                 | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Mellow Swells               | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Fuzz Swells                 | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Feedback Swells             | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| <b>SPECIALS</b>             |   |                  |
| Surfer Tremolo              | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Desolate Tremolo            | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Mellow Harmonics            | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Detuned Feedback            | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                |
| Degraded Textures           | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |
| Ethereal Textures           | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |
| Dirty Textures              | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                |

# Amp Signal Blending

Combining the two recorded amp signals is a vital component of Desolate Guitars. The physical amp settings were carefully chosen individually per preset in the recording process. We tried to hit the sweet spot between having the two amps sounding different from one another but also working in an effective combination to give you multiple timbre choices. Each amp setting sounds great on its own, and in most cases, the blend between the amps sounds like kind of a blend from a reasonably 'clean' and bright sound, to a more wooden and crunchy setting.

Like other aspects of the library, click into the 3 small dots to adjust the panning of each amp, along with options for solo and mute.

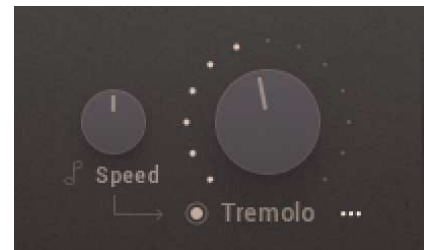
In practice, we've found it most useful to have both amps centred (not panned at all) so that's what we've programmed with the majority of the presets.



# Tremolo

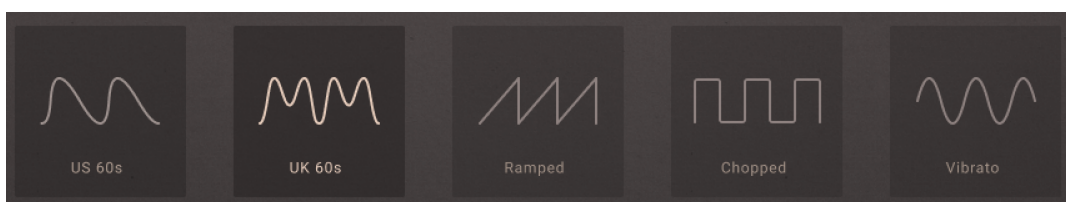
Every facet of Desolate Guitars focuses on the authenticity of the sound, right down to the tremolo including two genuine tremolos modelled from the vintage amps used. We painstakingly recreated these tremolos to offer an exact sound faithful to the originals, ensuring that your music carries the spirit of the classics. We've even taken tremolo options to the next level, by adding three extra tremolo styles inspired by popular pedals. It's all about giving you a diverse palette of tremolo effects to infuse character into your compositions.

In the spirit of modern convenience, we've also included sync-to-host functionality, providing you with the best of both analog heritage and digital convenience for seamless integration into your music production workflow.



Click the little note symbol next to the speed knob to sync the tremolo to your DAW project.

Clicking the three dots on the right will open the Tremolo Type selection browser. In addition to the two modelled tremolo types from the amps we added some more modern ones to give some variety. There's also a vibrato, inspired by classic guitar FX pedals.





# FX Chain Page

Each Preset comes up with a dedicated FX chain preset, which is connected to the Effects Macro knob on the bottom right on the interface. You can dial in lush delays, reverbs and other selected outboard FX with just that single button. Choose to select another FX chain preset from the browser, tweak it, or create your own bespoke FX chains.



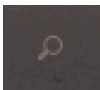
To keep the Interface as straightforward and user-friendly as possible, we've omitted some of the possibilities to surgically tweak the parameters linked to the macro knob. However, you can easily deactivate the connection to the Effects Macro Knob by clicking the small arrow underneath a knob. It's also possible to change the starting point of a parameter if a preset macro connection is already set up - just move a knob.

To easily change the order of FX in the chain, drag them left and right with the small 6-dot icon.

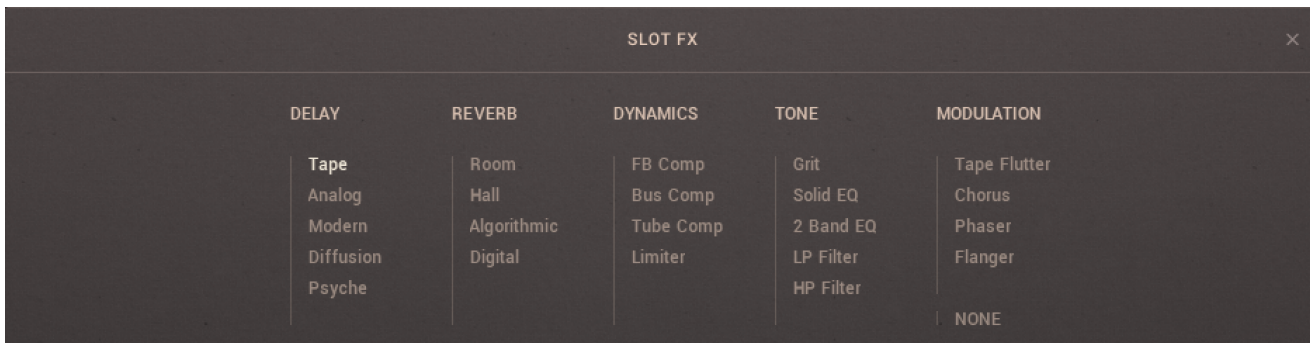
By clicking on FX CHAIN PRESETS you will get to this browser, where you will find a selection of additional FX chain presets to audition. These are categorised and descriptively named to help you easily identify the characteristics of the processing.



# Slot FX Browser



Clicking the magnifying glass of an FX Slot will reveal the Slot FX Browser:



You can also pick up to six single Slot FX and create your own FX chain, save it via snapshot, along with the NKI or with the DAW project.

Most of the FX are self-explanatory with parameters that should be familiar to you. However, some of the FX have a raster knob on the left. In the example shown below, the raster knob will give you access to 7 different impulse responses of different sized halls. The halls become larger the more you turn up the knob.

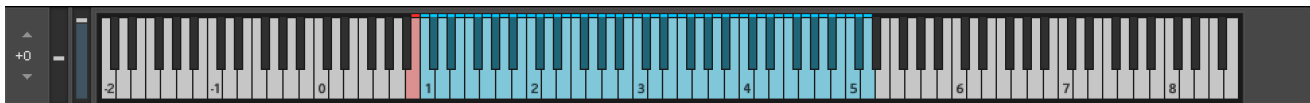


Similar raster knobs are used for the following Slot FX: Room, Hall, Algorithmic, Digital & Grit

---

## Playing Desolate Guitars

The basic method of playing Desolate Guitars is very simple, just press a key in the blue key range - usually the 4 octaves up from MIDI C1. You will find that a few patches contain slightly more or fewer notes, depending on the capabilities of the particular instrument sampled.



There are plenty of round robins and dynamics captured, so be sure to play with a range of velocities to hear the entire dynamic range of the instruments.

Press a sustain pedal to hold the notes.

The pitch bend range for All Chord Patches and Specials is one semitone. Sustains & Mutes + Swells is two semitones.

Mod Wheel behaviour varies, depending on the patch - see this manual's Appendix for full details.

Some patches have vibrato / non vibrato behaviour, triggered by a Key Switch - see this manual's Appendix for full details.

The Sustain & Mutes patches have a legato capability, triggered by a Key Switch. Using this will enable you to hear hammer-on and pull-off note variations.

---

## Native Instruments Komplete Kontrol

Desolate Guitars is designed to integrate seamlessly with Native Instruments Komplete Kontrol keyboards. If you are a user of one of these controller keyboards you can make use of all the features and functions that come with the NKS standard, which include:

Key lights on your keyboard showing the corresponding colours of the playable ranges and any applicable Key Switches, audio previews and graphical displays. In addition, the rotary controls of your keyboard will be automatically assigned to the most commonly used functions in Desolate Guitars

There are also some great accessibility features built in that make using the instrument from your NI keyboard that much more intuitive and fun!



---

## Tips & Tricks

- Desolate Guitars is very different to traditional guitar libraries, enabling a great-sounding playable tone straight out of the box. Make sure to experiment with the different presets to find the sound that's right for you.
- For each preset, the two amps sound different. Choose Amp A or Amp B, or blend between them for different timbres. For a very wide sound, pan each left and right.
- Don't forget to make liberal use of your keyboard's Mod Wheel. Depending on the preset, it can be used to switch between articulations, change from major to minor chords, or blend between forward and reverse layers.
- Some presets have vibrato on / off controlled by Key Switch. For example "Chime Chords".
- Tremolo models can be changed by clicking the 3 dots next to the 'Tremolo' legend. Find one that's right for your you and then tweak it with the Speed and Intensity dials. You can match the Speed to your DAW's BPM by clicking the little note icon.
- Spring reverb is not modelled in Kontakt, it was sampled completely independently for each guitar, preset and amp. This makes it 100% real - so dial it in with the Spring fader for authentic spacial effects.
- The Effects dial is a macro control, changing several parameters at once. To enable / disable a specific parameter of an effect in the chain, open the FX Chain Presets window and click the small arrow underneath a dial.
- You can right-click on almost any dial within Desolate Guitars to assign a MIDI CC controller. This is especially useful for the individual FX dials as it will give you a huge amount of flexibility to change effects settings during live playback.

---

## Credits

Musicians: Seton Daunt, Lars Dahlke

Recorded by Lars Dahlke, Thomas Koritke, Seton Daunt

Product Design by Lars Dahlke

Sound Design / Sample Editing: Lars Dahlke, Sascha Haske, Dr. Florian Pfeifle, Thomas Koritke, Andreas Bartyk

Script Programming: Till Weinrich, Ivo Sloman, Tristan McGuire, Matt Pike, Martin Von Frantzius, Hadi ElHosri

Interface Design: Resonant Design, Martin Bartsch

Project Management: Iain Horrocks

Product Marketing: Iain Horrocks, PJ Gibbs, Mark Bird, Timmy Harbour

Creative Marketing: Ezra Hames

Manual: Reuben Cornell



# Appendix - Articulation Information

| PRESET NAME                 | ARTICULATION INFO   | MOD WHEEL   | KEY SWITCH DESCRIPTION |
|-----------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| <b>SUSTAINS &amp; MUTES</b> |   |   |                        |
| Chime Guitar                | Open Sustain played close to the bridge, Mutes on an "offset guitar"  | Switches Open Sustains / Mutes                    | legato                 |
| Desolate Guitar             | Open Sustain played close to the bridge, Mutes on a "classic twang guitar"  | Switches Open Sustains / Mutes                    | legato                 |
| Baritone Guitar             | Open Sustain played close to the bridge, Mutes on a "60s bass guitar". This is a six string bass guitar, not as fat as a regular bass                                 | Switches Open Sustains / Mutes                    | legato                 |
| Chime Guitar + Vib Arm      | Open Sustain played close to the bridge with and without vibrato arm movement on an "offset guitar"   | Switches Open Sustains +Vib / Open Sustain No Vib | legato                 |
| Mellow Guitar               | Open Sustain played softer and less twangy on a "semi hollow guitar"  | Switches Open Sustains / Reverse                  | legato                 |
| <b>CHORDS</b>               |   |   |                        |
| Desolate Chords             | 3 inversions of major and minor chords on an "classic twang guitar"   | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                      |
| Chime Chords                | 3 inversions of major and minor chords on an "offset guitar"  | Switches Minor/ Major                             | vibrato off / on       |
| Chime Chords + Vib Arm      | 3 inversions of major and minor chords with and without vibrato arm movement on an "offset guitar"  | Switches Minor/ Major                             | vibrato on / off       |
| Two Note Chords             | 2 inversions of more mellow decimal chords ( played on 2 strings only: root note plus the major or minor third one octave above). Played on a "classic twang guitar". | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                      |
| Desolate Staccato Chords    | 3 inversions of short and twangy major and minor chords on a "classic twang guitar"   | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                      |
| Chime Staccato Chords       | 3 inversions of short and twangy major and minor chords on an "offset guitar"   | Switches Minor/ Major                             | -                      |
| <b>SWELLS</b>               | Swells: (extra recordings : fading in the tone via volume pedal) so not just an envelope setting  |   |                        |
| Bright Swells               | Swells on an "classic twang guitar"   | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                      |
| Bass Swells                 | Swells on a "60s bass guitar"   | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                      |
| Mellow Swells               | Swells with some played pitch modulation on a "semi hollow guitar"  | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                      |
| Fuzz Swells                 | Swells with boutique fuzz pedals on a "semi hollow guitar"  | Blends between Forward / Reverse                  | -                      |

|                   |  |                                  |   |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| Feedback Swells   | Swells with fuzz and feedbacks on a "semi hollow guitar"   | Blends between Forward / Reverse | - |
| <b>SPECIALS</b>   |  |                                  |   |
| Surfer Tremolo    | Tremolo played on an "offset guitar"   | Blends between Forward / Reverse | - |
| Desolate Tremolo  | Tremolo played on a "classic twang guitar"   | Blends between Forward / Reverse | - |
| Mellow Harmonics  | Harmonics (also recorded chromatically like the other patches) with the "semi hollow guitar"                           | Blends between Forward / Reverse | - |
| Detuned Feedback  | Twangy feedback played with a lot of pitch modulation via vibrato arm and shaking the instrument on an "offset guitar" | Blends between Forward / Reverse | - |
| Degraded Textures | Looped textures in major and minor with nice degradadtion plated on a "classic twang guitar"                           | Switches Minor/ Major            | - |
| Ethereal Textures | Looped textures in major and minor clean and bright with a "classic twang guitar"                                      | Switches Minor/ Major            | - |
| Dirty Textures    | Looped textures in major and minor with nice saturation and noise played on a "classic twang guitar"                   | Switches Minor/ Major            | - |

For more information, check our website:

<https://e-instruments.com/>

Join us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/einstruments/>

Follow us on Twitter / X:

[https://twitter.com/e\\_instrumentsHH](https://twitter.com/e_instrumentsHH)

Check out our Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/einstrumentslab/>

Watch our YouTube tutorial videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/einstrumentslab>

Listen to audio demos:

<https://soundcloud.com/e-instruments>

If you have any questions about this library or any other e-instruments product, send us a contact form at

<https://e-instruments.com/contact/>

