



Note: This document is just a quick overview of the MEL-LABS release. Please refer to the main documentation (double-click the "Start_Here.html" file) for complete details on MEL-LABS. In the main documentation you'll find Mellotron info and history, a graphic depicting the range of the Mellotron keyboard range superimposed on the EX5, Data Lists of the Samples, Waves, and Voices, and last but not least, the MEL-LABS demo song "Storytellers".

MEL-LABS is a sample and patch collection for the Yamaha EX5/7/R synthesizers, brought to you by torus, Ski, and Derek (DACOOK). It attempts to capture the magical sound of the Mellotron, with authentic multisamples from no less than sixteen different Mellotron instruments. To showcase the samples, well over 300 Voices are included in this release. The Voices range from basic authentic Mellotron instrument sounds, to huge ambient pads, searing leads, and wild effects - all made from the Mellotron samples. Most of the MEL-LABS Voices also have complete controller routings, and two saved Scenes, giving you extensive real-time control to shape the sounds.

Along with the Mellotron samples, MEL-LABS also has some excellent "Vintage Drums" samples, some great samples from eight classic analog synths, and even a few unique SFX samples. In addition to the Voices that are based on the MEL-LABS samples, we've also included some Voices based on the EX preset Waves. We've used these preset Wave based Voices to give you a very nice collection of additional "classic keys" (acoustic and electric pianos, organs, etc.), along with some outstanding guitars.

Requirements

To use MEL-LABS, you will need at least 16 mb of DRAM -or- Flash Memory installed in your EX5, along with the optional ASIB1 SCSI card to enable you to load the large Wave (.s1m) file. Two Voice (.s1v) files were needed to contain all the patches in MEL-LABS, and we've provided both DRAM and Flash versions of these Voice files.

The EX Files

All the EX format files below can be found in the "Voices" and "Wave" folders:

MEL-LABS.s1m	The 16 mb Wave/Sample file.
ML1_DRAM.s1v	Main Voice file, if you've loaded the .s1m into DRAM
ML2_DRAM.s1v	Secondary Voice file, if the .s1m was loaded into DRAM
ML1_FLS.s1v	Main Voice file, if you've loaded the .s1m into Flash
ML2_FLS.s1v	Secondary Voice file, if the .s1m was loaded into DRAM

** Note: If possible, it's highly recommended that you load the MEL-LABS.s1m into Flash Memory. There are hundreds of Voices to try, and most of them are quite detailed and complex, deserving a fair amount of time to explore the full range of the keyboard, velocities, and controllers. The majority of the Voices have two Scenes each, as well, and some of these Scenes aren't even recognizable as having come from the same Voice! So, if you have 16 mb of Flash Memory, use it, and you'll be rewarded with many days of convenient Mellotron delight!*

Don't Miss It...

Again, don't miss the main documentation, (aptly titled "Start_Here.html") for full details on the release, and Data Lists for the Samples, Waves, and Voices.

Special Thanks

Special thanks go to John Westwood, who, as a "guest programmer" for MEL-LABS, contributed some terrific Drum Voices and other work to the project. Thanks also to everyone at the EX5Tech web site discussion forums (<http://www.wbmedia.com/ex5>) who has shown interest and support for this project. We appreciate your patience in waiting for this release.

The Legal Stuff

The downloadable copy of MEL-LABS is free, and you may even redistribute it (at no charge to others!) providing that you distribute the entire unaltered archive (MEL-LABS.zip), containing all files, documentation, etc. You may use the sounds in MEL-LABS in both non-commercial and commercial musical endeavors, but we would greatly appreciate proper credit if you do so. MEL-LABS is NEVER to be sold, and remains the property of the three authors/copyright holders: torus (Bill Newhouse), Ski (Tim Ande), and DACOOK (Derek Cook).

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You can also visit us at the EX5Tech web site's discussion forums:

<http://www.wbmedia.com/ex5>

In Closing...

MEL-LABS was over seven months in the making, and we sincerely hope you enjoy the wonderful sounds within. We're confident that you will find it equal or better in quality to many commercial sample CD's. Now, go grab a flowing white cape, a long haired wig (if necessary), and enjoy!

Ski
February 17, 2001

