

USER MANUAL

# HEARTH & HOLLOW FOLK ACCORDION

SPITFIRE AUDIO

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# INTRODUCTION

*Welcome to the third chapter of **Hearth & Hollow: Folk Accordion**. Journey with us to a creaky old living room in the heart of the countryside, where the accordion finds its true, intimate voice. Crafted by Hunter Rogerson for the modern songwriter, this Kontakt library meticulously captures the instrument's breathy, wavering, and fragile character, transcending typical accordion stereotypes to slot right into your creative flow.*

## QUICK SPECS

### MAC SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

macOS 13, 14, and 15 (latest update)  
Intel Core i5 or equivalent CPU, or Apple Silicon,  
4 GB RAM (6 GB recommended)

### PC SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Windows 10 or 11 (latest Service Pack)  
Intel Core i5 or equivalent CPU, or Apple Silicon,  
4 GB RAM (6 GB recommended)  
Graphics hardware support for Direct 3D 11.1  
(Feature Level 11\_0) or higher  
Supports ASIO, Core Audio, and WASAPI  
An internet connection is required to download,  
install, and activate the products in this  
collection. Once installed, all products can be  
used offline.

- Download Size: ~4.7 GB free disk space
- Kontakt Player library (free to download from NI website or Native Access)
- Min Kontakt version is 8.6
- NKS Compatible

Supported interfaces

macOS (64-bit only): Stand-alone, VST3, AU,  
AAX

Windows (64-bit only): Stand-alone, VST3, AAX

# WELCOME

Hunter, with expert programming from Owen Bolig, has brought into life a library that slots seamlessly into a songwriting creative flow, offering a detailed feature set with deep control over the tone and timbre of the accordion – from natural breathy attacks and swells to droning ethereal pads with rhythmic articulations that add delicate textures.

## **Noise Controls:**

Dial in exquisite realism with granular control over button and key noises, the volume of air passing through the instrument, adding a truly organic feel.

## **Dynamic Articulations:**

Explore a key group of rhythmic, tempo-synced articulations that harness the kinetic energy of the accordion, from subtle swells to powerful bellows that push and pull in both the main and low bass registers of the instrument.

## **Smart Chord Select:**

Get instant natural harmony with Key selection in the Buttons range. Simply press a key, and you'll hear the relevant diatonic chord in that key, allowing for simple chord changes and fast paced songwriting.

## **Intelligent Dynamics (Soft Start):**

Achieve nuanced performances with “Soft Start” for delicate, air-minimal notes that start with a slow attack, fading in naturally. Or, engage “Smart” for the best of both worlds, emulating the natural puff and continuous flow of a real accordion for fluid playing.

## **Rebellow Sustain:**

Beyond standard sustain, experience the unique “Rebellow” option — a direct emulation of the physical act of pushing and pulling on the bellows, using the sustain foot pedal to re-bellow the instrument, offering a deeply expressive sustain characteristic that's true to the accordion's unique sound.

## **World-building:**

### **The Room:**

A hallmark of all Hearth & Hollow instruments, our intuitive Room Control allows you to position your accordion within the recorded living room space and blend in its natural ambience. For the first time, you can also seamlessly transport your Folk Accordion into the iconic rooms of the original Plucked Folk Ensemble or Folk Voices, creating a cohesive sonic tapestry and spatially tying all three libraries together.

### **The Accordion Ecosystem NKL**

Expand your sonic palette with lush, emotional textural pads, crafted exclusively from accordion samples. Instead of room movement, these are visualised by beautiful watercolour landscapes that describe the emotional setting of the library – from groves and fields, to wild valleys.

## **About the Artist:**

Hunter Rogerson, the visionary behind the Hearth & Hollow series, is a Los Angeles-based composer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist. His work is a potpourri of styles, from high-fantasy orchestral music to folk and playful synth. With a keen ear for sound design – as important as its notes and rhythms – and a distinctive sonic signature that lends itself to sonic story-telling, his creations are filled with vulnerability that stirs the quiet and honest parts of all of us. His two previous Spitfire Audio libraries in the Hearth and Hollow series – Plucked Folk Ensemble and Folk Voices showcase his authentic emotional expression and powerful storytelling.

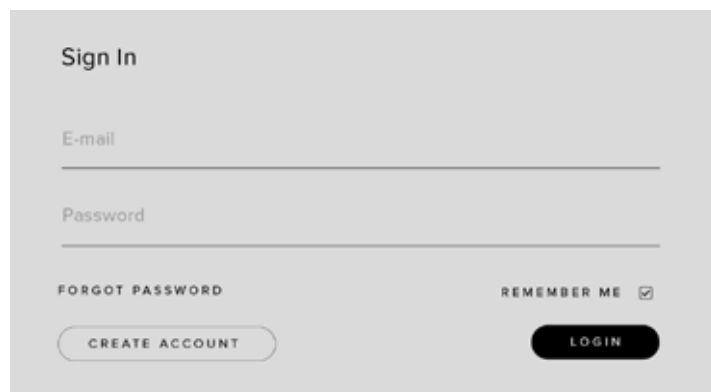
# DOWNLOADING & INSTALLING

Thank you for buying Hearth & Hollow - Folk Accordion. If you are new to Spitfire Audio, you can get up to speed here: <https://www.spitfireaudio.com/about/>

First though, grab the 'Spitfire Audio App' from this link, this app will enable you to download the library: <http://www.spitfireaudio.com/info/library-manager/>

## THE SPITFIRE AUDIO APP

When you launch the app you will be prompted to login using the same details you use at our site. Then you'll see the page pictured below:

A screenshot of the Spitfire Audio App's sign-in screen. It features a 'Sign In' header, followed by input fields for 'E-mail' and 'Password'. Below these are links for 'FORGOT PASSWORD' and a 'REMEMBER ME' checkbox. At the bottom are two buttons: 'CREATE ACCOUNT' and 'LOGIN'.

**1. TABS** the default tab is My Products, which shows all of the libraries on your Spitfire Account. Downloads will show currently downloading products.

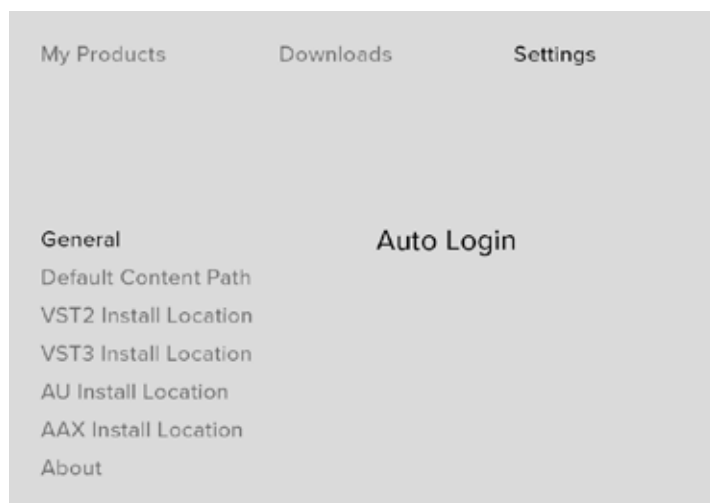
**2. FILTERS** Clicking these filters will quickly display products you've yet to install, those already installed, and any available updates. Clicking again will remove the filter.

**3. LIBRARY** All libraries and plugins in your collection will appear with their artwork on the My Products tab. Clicking this artwork will open the product page. This is a great place to find information such as system requirements and instructions as well as Reset and Repair options.

**4. INSTALL/UPDATE** buttons allow you to quickly start a download directly from the My Products tab, instead of clicking through to the Library. Next to the button the size of the download is shown.

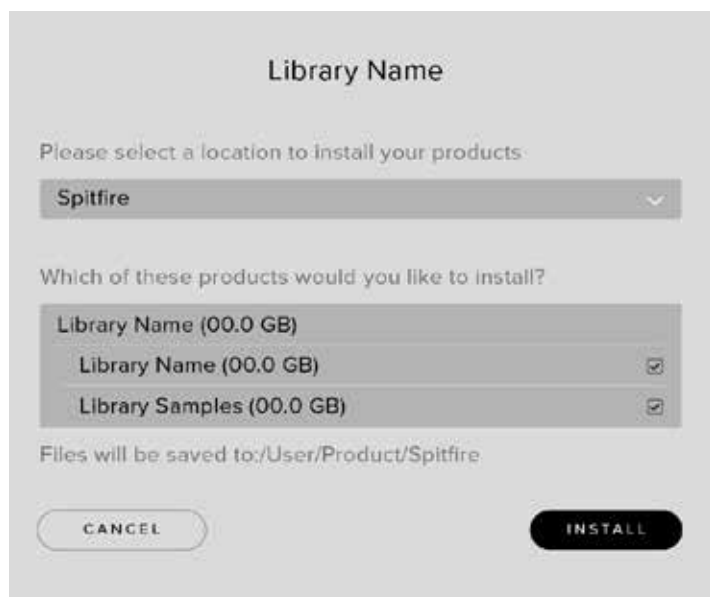


# THE SPITFIRE APP PREFERENCES



If this is your first time using the Spitfire Audio App for a download you may wish to first navigate to the Settings tab. Here you can set the Default Content location for where you wish to download your libraries. You can also you can set the default VST2 install location to the folder where your DAW expects to find VST files.

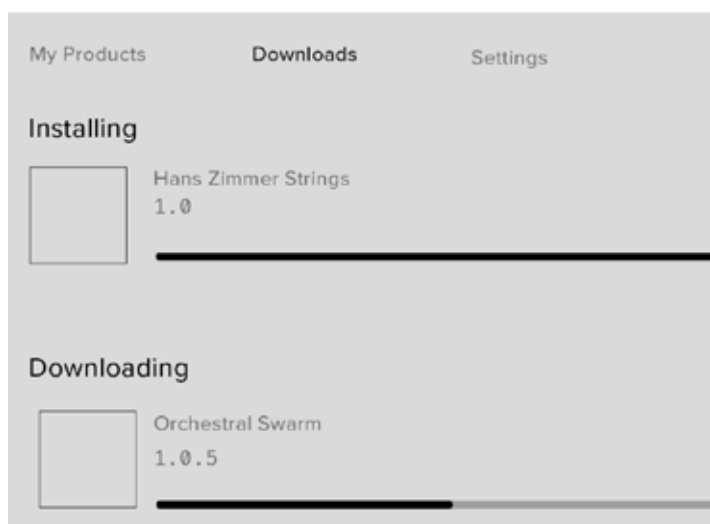
Here you can also enable Auto Login to save time in future.



Once you are happy with your preferences, simply click the Install button for the library. This is either directly on My Products tab under the library artwork, or it can be found by clicking on the library image and clicking the install button on the page that appears.

Clicking either of these will prompt you for a location, the default content location in your preferences will be suggested but you can select any suitable location. If installing from a hard drive, ensure that you choose the drive as the location.

Once you are happy with the location click Download.



After clicking install you will be directed to the Downloads tab where you can watch the progress if you like. You can of course leave the Downloads tab and start other downloads but at this point you should leave the Spitfire App open until the download completes.

# REGISTERING WITH KONTAKT PLAYER

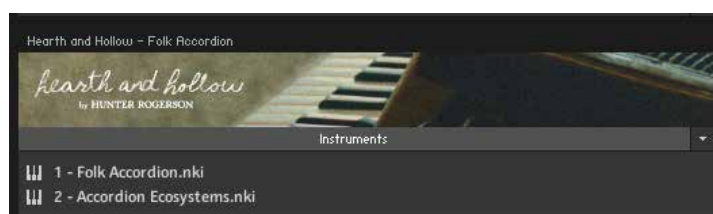
If you have never used one of our libraries before and you don't own a copy of Native Instruments Kontakt, you'll need to download the free "Kontakt Player" here:

<https://www.native-instruments.com/en/products/komplete/samplers/kontakt-7-player/>

To find out more about the differences between Kontakt and Kontakt Player, go to *Appendix A*.

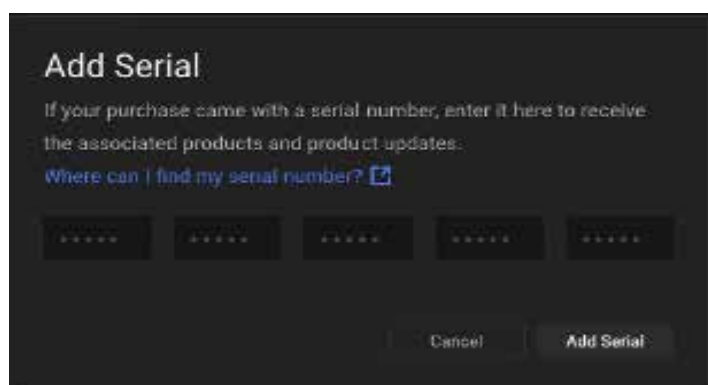
1. Install Kontakt Player (min version 8.6) (skip this step if you already have the latest version).

2. Open the player (or Kontakt full version if you have that) and click **Manage Libraries** in the library browser window, then click **Launch Native Access** in the window that opens:



3. Once you have opened Native Access, click **Add Serial** in the top left of the window.

4. Enter the serial number in this format:



...It can be found in your 'ready to download' email and at the following link:

<https://www.spitfireaudio.com/my-account/serial-numbers>

5. You will then be prompted to navigate to the not installed products in Native Access. From here, add library for Folk Accordion. Browse for your downloaded *Hearth and Hollow - Folk Accordion* folder and select this to complete the authorisation.



6. Your library is authorised.

If you have never used Kontakt before we wholeheartedly recommend that you familiarise yourself with the basics of patch (or instrument) loading, multi management, outputting and midi routing detailed in the Kontakt user-manual and native instruments website:

<https://www.native-instruments.com/en/products/komplete/samplers/kontakt-7/>

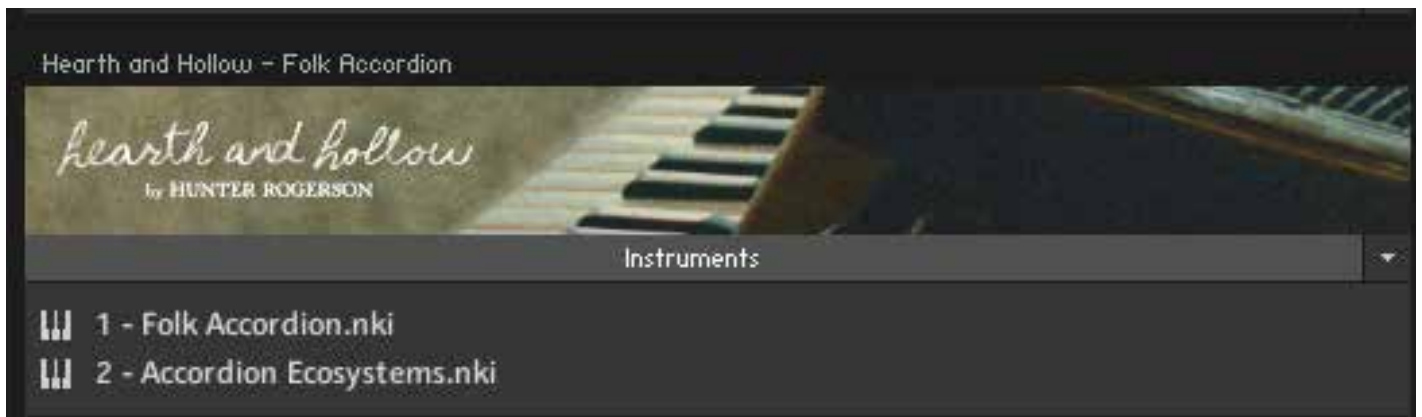
If you are an established Kontakt user please make sure you absolutely have the latest version of it downloaded via NATIVE ACCESS apps.

For more information about NKS and integration with Native Instruments hardware controllers and keyboards please checkout their online instructions.



# HEARTH & HOLLOW FOLDER STRUCTURE

## FOLDER STRUCTURE



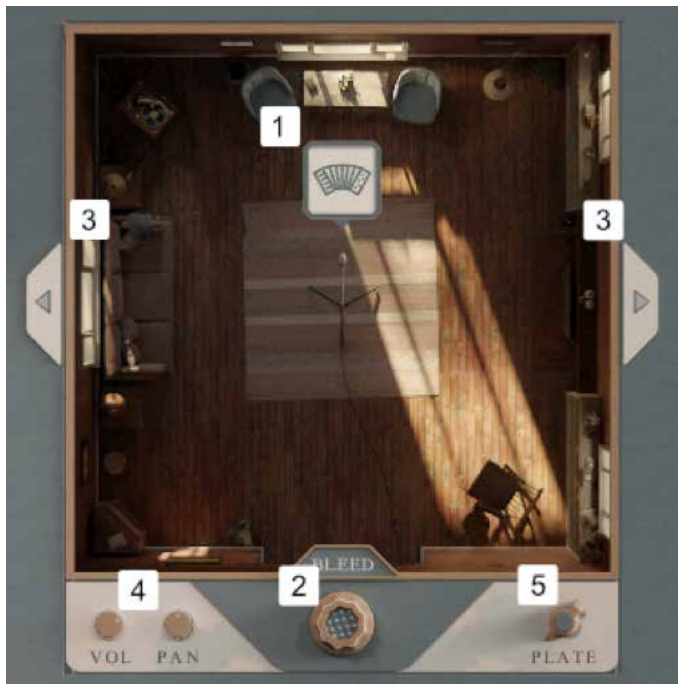
Clicking on the Instruments bar to expand, you will see available main patch .nkis to load.

OVERVIEW

Below is the folk accordion’s user interface. The layout is an evolution of the previous Hearth & Hollow designs focusing, now, on detailed function rather than the previous prioritization of broad arrangement and the gestalt of the ensemble.

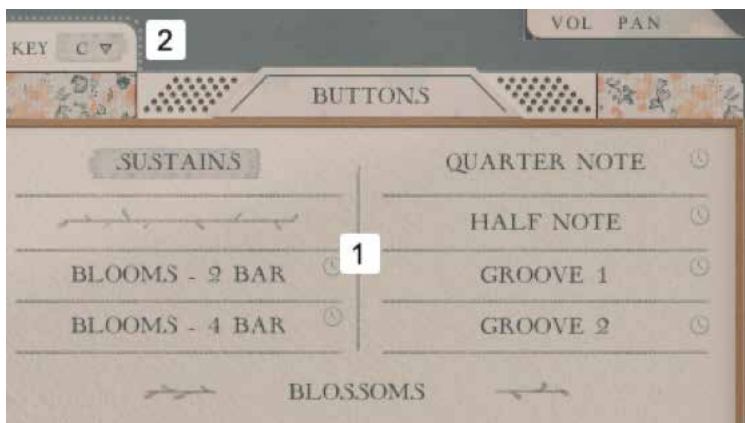


## THE ARRANGEMENT MODULE



- 1) The **instrument icon** can be moved within this space for swift and intuitive volume and pan adjustments.
- 2) The **bleed knob** adjusts how roomy and distant the signal is in correlation with how far the instrument icon is from the center of the space.
- 3) The **room-select arrows** allow the user to change the sound of the space by paging between 3 rooms: IRs of the previous H&H rooms and, of course, the room unique to the accordion recordings.
- 4) **Volume and Pan** knobs allow the user to make more traditional adjustments to the position of the instrument when preferred.
- 5) The **plate knob** sends the signal to a plate reverb.

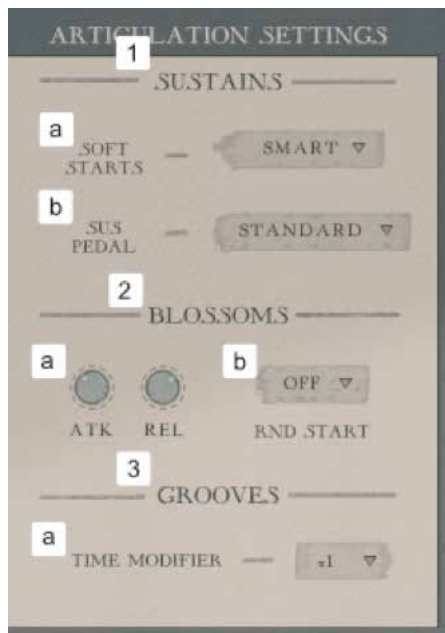
## THE ARTICULATION MENU



- 1) The **articulation menu** presents all available articulations for its respective section of the accordion (key or button manual).
- 2) The **key select dropdown** is unique to the button manual. It allows the user to choose which key will be represented in the chord key-range.

## THE ARTICULATION SETTINGS PANEL

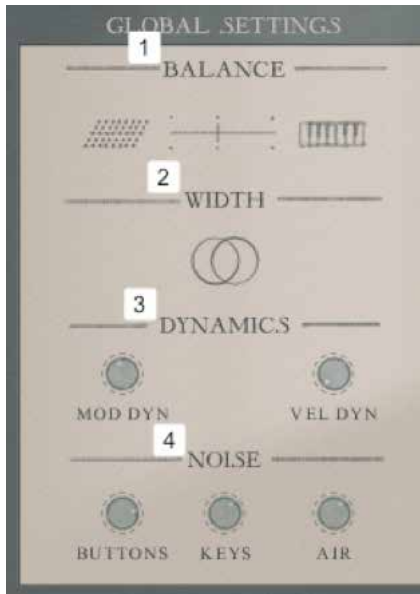
1. The **Sustains** category (this and subsequent categories affect only the articulations that fall under the denoted category):



- a. **Soft Starts** are the result of playing the accordion with as little air as possible and can be heard best at lower mod-wheel values. These are tremendously intimate and evocative. Some may want more precise note starts, so the dropdown provides ON, OFF, or SMART which plays a **soft start** initially and an immediate start for subsequent overlapping notes (similar in function to legato).
- b. Users can choose for the sustain pedal to trigger a **re-bellow**. Depressing and lifting the pedal will now initiate a sample of each held note being played in the opposite direction.

1. The **Blossoms** category:
  - a. **Attack and Release** controls allow users to take advantage of the lush and textural nature of this articulation.
  - b. The **Random Start** control toggles whether a sample will be triggered from the beginning of the audio file each time or a random location within the duration of the audio file thus granting control over its predictability.
2. The **Grooves** category:
  - a. The **Time Modifier** provides the option to multiply or divide the playback speed of the Groove samples without changing pitch. The dropdown provides a 1x and 2x modifier.

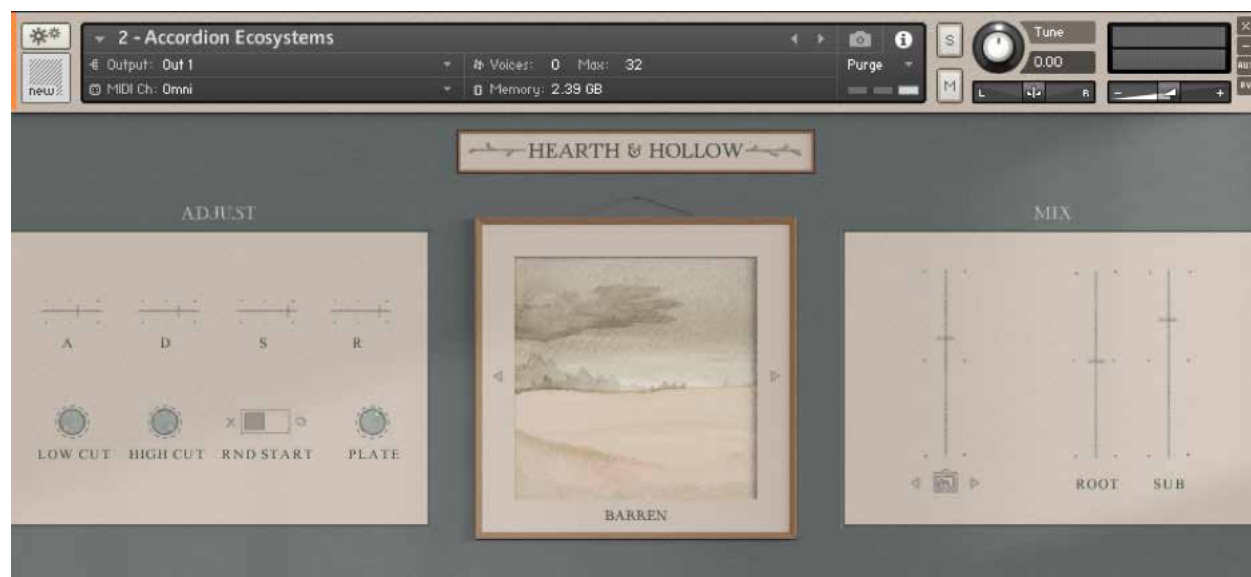
## THE GLOBAL SETTINGS PANEL



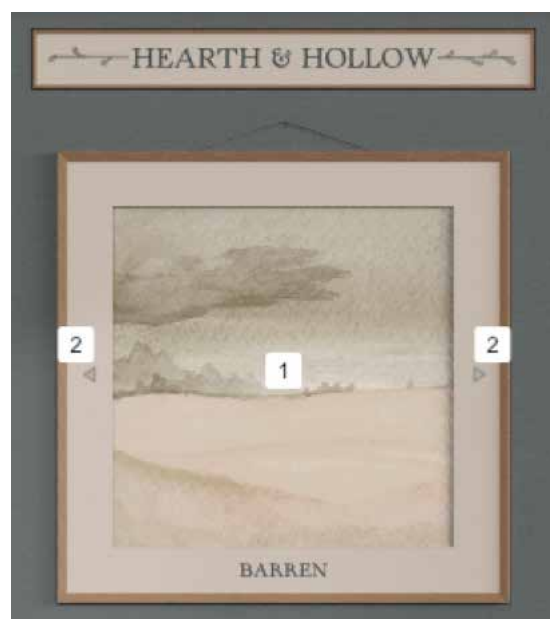
1. The **Balance** control adjusts the volume relationship between the key manual and button manual.
2. The **Width** control adjusts the relationship of the key and button manuals to one another in the stereo field.
3. The **Dynamics** controls lessen or increase the impact the mod wheel and key velocity has on the volume of the samples.
4. The **Noise** controls increase/decrease the volume of the accordion's mechanical noise. Key and button presses/release triggers, and air passing through the bellows.

## ACCORDION ECOSYSTEMS

Below is the Accordion Ecosystems user interface. This is an additional nki that hosts 12 textural pads created solely by manipulating accordion samples to embody a sense of sprawling wilderness which pair seamlessly with the already-evocative droning characteristics in the main accordion patch.

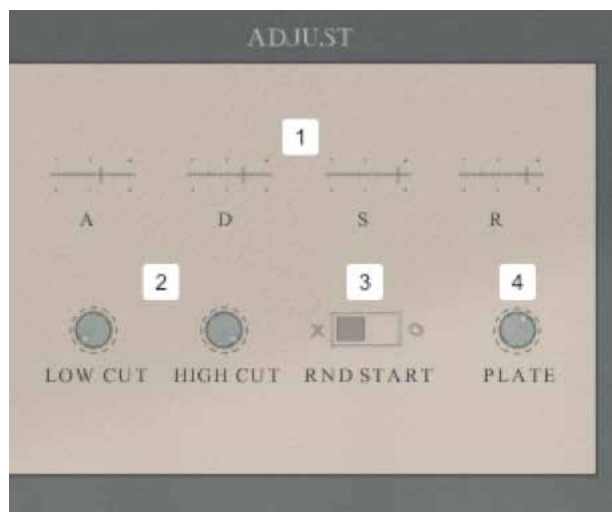


## THE PICTURE FRAME



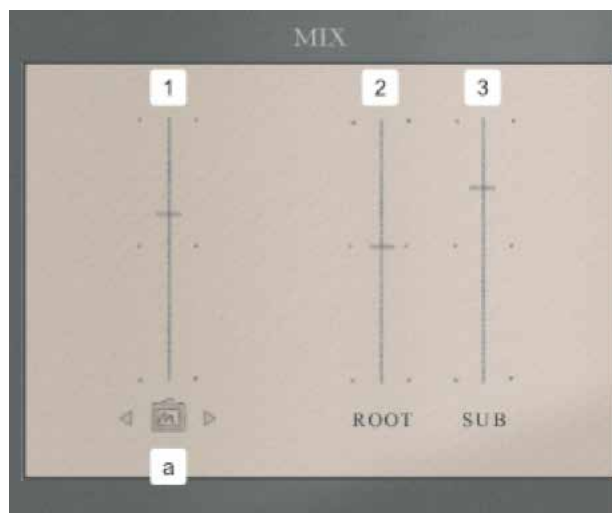
1. The **watercolour paintings** in the center (and their titles) indicate which of the 12 pads is active. Clicking on the painting will open a dropdown menu for selecting from any of these 12.
2. The **arrows** on the side of the frame serve as additional means for navigating these sounds and will simply cycle to the next or previous pad sound from the dropdown.

## THE ADJUST PANEL



1. **ADSR** controls presented via horizontal faders can be used to adjust the envelope shape of the pad
2. **Low and high cut** knobs adjust the high and low frequency cutoff for the overall sound of the patch
3. The **random start** control toggles whether a sample will be triggered from the beginning of the audio file each time or a random location within the duration of the audio file thus granting control over its predictability.
4. The **plate knob** sends the signal to a plate reverb.

## THE MIXER PANEL



1. The **Painting** fader controls the volume of the sound selected and represented in the picture frame at the center of the GUI.
  - a. The arrows to the left and right of the painting icon are redundant to those on the left and right of the picture frame and allow for cycling through the 12 pads.
2. The **Root** fader controls the volume of a separate processed accordion sample that does not change when pad sounds are selected via the painting. It has a strong fundamental to help focus the tonality of the more textural pad sounds represented by the painting.
3. The **Sub** fader plays the same role as the Root fader, but serves to strengthen the low end and fatten the pad.

## APPENDIX A — KONTAKT VS KONTAKT PLAYER

Kontakt Player is a free version of the Kontakt sample playback engine available to download:

<https://www.native-instruments.com/en/products/komplete/samplers/kontakt-7-player/>

It works with libraries that the developer has paid a license fee for. Essentially, you've bought this playback engine along with your library.

The Kontakt player gives you full access to all the sounds and all the editable parameters on the front panel. Also, unlike non-Player libraries, these libraries will also have a banner that appears on the Kontakt Libraries pane.

If you want to go deeper into editing you'll need a full version. As you will already own the free Kontakt player and have bought one of our 'player' libraries you will be eligible for a discount upgrade to Kontakt via the NI website. See here for more details:

<https://www.native-instruments.com/en/products/komplete/samplers/kontakt-6/pricing-kontakt-5/cross-grade-offer/>

If the library you want to use is NOT a 'Player' library then you need to buy the full retail version of Kontakt.

Then you can also load 'non-Player' libraries like some of our other ranges, Harp, Piano, Harpsichord, etc.

Please note that non-Player library instruments will not appear on the Kontakt libraries pane and so can't be added as a library as Player libraries need to be. Instead, these libraries will simply need to be loaded via the Kontakt files browser or you can add the library as a favourite to the Kontakt Quick Load window.



## APPENDIX B — FAQS AND TROUBLESHOOTING

### Q: WHAT ARE THE SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS?

#### MAC SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

macOS 13, 14, and 15 (latest update)  
Intel Core i5 or equivalent CPU, or Apple Silicon  
4 GB RAM (6 GB recommended)

#### PC SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Windows 10 or 11 (latest Service Pack)  
Intel Core i5 or equivalent CPU, or Apple Silicon, 4 GB RAM (6 GB recommended)  
Graphics hardware support for Direct 3D 11.1 (Feature Level 11\_0) or higher  
Supports ASIO, Core Audio, and WASAPI

Min Kontakt version 8.6

### Q: CAN I INSTALL ON MORE THAN ONE COMPUTER?

With our products you have two licenses. This means that you are allowed to download and install on two computers you own, say your main rig and your mobile rig. If you have purchased the library on a hard drive, you should copy the contents of the drive on to the destination machine before completing the download with the Spitfire App. If you downloaded *Hearth & Hollow - Folk Accordion*, you can copy the library folder over to the second machine and then use the “Repair” feature in Native Access.

### Q: I CAN'T SEE THIS IN THE PLUGINS SECTION OF MY DAW?

This library is a Kontakt Player library so it does not have its own standalone plugin. Instead you will find the library in the Kontakt or Kontakt Player plugin.

### Q: HOW DO I AUTHORIZE HEARTH & HOLLOW - FOLK ACCORDION ON A MACHINE NOT CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET?

It is not possible to authorize *Hearth & Hollow - Folk Accordion* on a machine not connected to the internet. Authorisation is done through the Spitfire Audio App and Native Access, and an internet connection is required.

### Q: HOW CAN I REDOWNLOAD A PRODUCT?

This can easily be done via your Spitfire Audio App. To reset both your entire library download or the latest update;

- Open up the Spitfire Audio App and log in with your account email and password.
- Select the product artwork you wish to re-download
- On this page is a “cog wheel”. Select this, choose “reset” from the menu. Then “Reset Entire Download” (for a full download) or (Latest Update) for the latest update.

This will reset your latest update ready for install again. You can repeat this process for any of the libraries you own.

Note that there is a limit to how many times you can reset your downloads in a certain time frame. If you do exceed your reset limit please get in touch.

### Q: HOW DO I DOWNLOAD PRODUCTS ON MAC OSX 10.9?

The version of Kontakt player needed to install *Hearth & Hollow - Folk Accordion* only supports Mac OS13 and upwards.

## Q: DIFFICULTIES IN DOWNLOADING / INSTALLING

Customers may find that they have some difficulties in the downloading process. If you find that you are having some trouble, please check the list below for possible causes:

- The formatting of your drive, if it is FAT32 this will cause errors, because there is a maximum file size with this format of 4GB and our download files will exceed this limit. To solve this problem, reformat your drive or use a different drive. We recommend NTFS on PC and Mac OS Extended on Mac. Other possible issues:

- Spitfire App freezes in the “Extracting” stage for hours. This may be because our libraries are often very large files, and this is the stage where the compressed files are extracted and placed in their final locations on the hard drive. There could be hundreds of GB of content to unpack, so it really can take hours. If you’re unsure whether it has crashed or is extracting files, visit the installation folder you chose when you started the install. If everything is working normally you’ll see various files appearing in the folder (or one of its sub-folders).

- If your download gets stuck and is continually cycling and not resuming, please get in touch with us, giving us as much detail as possible about your set up. It would be helpful if you can tell us your operating system, where you are downloading from (your country, and also whether you’re at home or work), your ISP, and whether there are any proxy servers or firewalls between your computer and the internet.

## Q: I HAVE FAST INTERNET, WHY IS MY DOWNLOAD SLOW?

We have no direct influence on your actual download speeds, our libraries are hosted on Amazon S3 servers which are normally very quick but it may well be that at certain times of the day when traffic is particularly busy, your ISP may throttle your connection speeds.

We would advise you to leave your download running overnight as speeds should ramp up at less busy times. Our Spitfire App downloader aims to use as much of the available bandwidth as possible to give you the quickest possible speeds, and may take several minutes to reach its peak.

## Q: CAN I TRY BEFORE I BUY?

No - it is not currently possible to demo our products.

If you go to our Youtube channel you’ll see many walkthroughs containing detailed info about all our products -- you can hear them being played in real time with no smoke and mirrors!

## Q: MY LIBRARIES ARE NOT SHOWING UP IN MY SPITFIRE APP

A handful of customers may find that when they log into their Spitfire App, some of their previously purchased products do not show up in the ‘Installed’ section or in the ‘Download Ready’ section either. It may be that you have purchased these under another email address. Checking other possible email addresses for your previous purchases may help to find these missing products. If this is not the case, and these missing products were purchased a few years ago, please create a support ticket telling us your account email address, and any serial numbers you may have to go with these missing products. Our support team can also merge one or more accounts together if you’d like to consolidate all your purchases in one place.

The more information we have, the quicker we can get you back up and running!

## Q: HOW DO I UPDATE MY PRODUCTS?

The main premise of downloading our products is that our Spitfire App downloads into the folder you choose, so it is important

to choose the folder above where you want the download to go. The best file path for our products is something very simple, a long file path will cause errors as there is a character limit on how far the Spitfire App can read. We advise a file path of something along the lines of: Samples Drive > Spitfire Audio

When it comes to downloading / updating - if you have a folder called 'Spitfire Audio' always point the Spitfire App to the folder Spitfire Audio - never go into this folder and choose the actual library in question.

## **Q: HOW DO I REDOWNLOAD THE LATEST UPDATE?**

With the continuous improvements to our Spitfire Audio App, we have incorporated the ability to reset your own downloads. This can easily be done via your Spitfire Audio App. Open up the Spitfire Audio App and log in with your account email and password.

- Select the product artwork you wish to re-download
- On this page is a "cog wheel". Select this, choose "reset" from the menu. Then "Reset Entire Download" (for a full download) or (Latest Update) for the latest update.
- This will reset your latest update ready for install again.

You can repeat this process for any other updates you wish.

If you do not see the option to reset your download in your Spitfire Audio App, we would advise to download the latest version of the Spitfire App from [spitfireaudio.com/info/library-manager/](http://spitfireaudio.com/info/library-manager/).

## **Q: I'VE BEEN WAITING AGES FOR MY DOWNLOAD LINKS?**

We run all our orders through a fraud checking process. The automatic fraud check takes 20 minutes (but can take up to an hour during a very busy period, e.g.. Black Friday)

If your order gets caught at this stage, we run a manual order check, and this can delay the processing of your order for up to 24 hours.

You should however receive an order confirmation email IMMEDIATELY upon placing your order. This confirms that your order has successfully been logged in our system and that your payment was successfully taken. Please check your junk folders before contacting our support.

## **Q: CAN I DOWNLOAD ON A PC, THEN TRANSFER TO A MAC OR VICE VERSA?**

Yes, you can copy the library folder and plugin files over to the second machine and then use the "Repair" and "Locate Library" features in Native Access. Please note that although the majority of the download can be done on a separate machine, you will always need an internet connection to finish the authorisation process.

## **Q: I HAVE FOUND A BUG**

In some cases we can't squash them all and bugs shamefully make their way through. If you think you have found a bug, please contact us with all the relevant information;

- A description of the bug you have found
- A screencast (video) of the bug happening, or an audio example
- The exact preset name (or presets) in question and also the library giving us as much detail as possible will help us get to the bottom of the issue.

## **Q: WHAT IS YOUR REFUNDS / RETURNS POLICY?**

If you have NOT completed the download / installation process, and bought within 14 days then we CAN refund / return your product, please contact support with your account email address and order number so we can handle this quickly. If you HAVE completed the installation process (even if you've not yet registered your serial number), please see our EULA in regards to why we do not accept refunds and returns. We can refund hard drive orders up until the point when the drive is dispatched from our office. This is usually 1-2 days after you order.

## **Q: I'VE FORGOTTEN MY PASSWORD?**

If you have forgotten your password, please see this link [spitfireaudio.com/my-account/login/](https://spitfireaudio.com/my-account/login/), and click 'Forgotten Password'. If at some point in the past you asked us to merge two or more accounts but have since forgotten, you MAY find that the forgotten password isn't working for the email address you asked us to merge FROM. In this case, please contact support with your name, and any email addresses you think we might know about, and we'll work out what has happened.

## Support and Contact

Please visit my YT channel to catch any additional  
deep dives or content on the library:  
[@hunterrogersonmusic](#)

For any technical issues regarding installation, software issues etc,  
please contact Spitfire Audio's support department.  
[support.spitfireaudio.com](https://support.spitfireaudio.com)

Thanks again for purchasing and all the best!  
Hunter Rogerson