

PatchIO – Smart Patches & Instruments Search App for Composers

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Created by Shaked Shachar

PatchIO is a sleek, composer-first tool designed to help you instantly find the right sound or instrument across all your sample libraries — no matter the format, plugin, or file structure. Whether you're digging through Kontakt patches, WAVs, SINE libraries, or Engine folders, PatchIO helps you cut through the clutter and get to what feels right.

It's your musical assistant — built for speed, creativity, and intuition.

- Supported software instruments/patches for search:
Kontakt, SINE Player, Engine (by Best Service), Omnisphere, Spitfire, Logic, Audio files (any Splice or other downloaded sounds)

Who It's For

PatchIO is made for composers, producers, and sound designers who work with large sample libraries and want a faster, smarter way to find patches that match a brief, mood, or genre.

Created by composer Shaked Shachar, this tool was designed to solve real workflow frustrations in professional scoring environments.

User Interface – Example for Usage

PatchIO – Patches and Instruments Finder

 **PatchIO – Patches and Instruments Finder**

Folder(s) to search (browse or drag & drop folders here):

/Volumes/Samsung 850 EVO

Browse

–

/Volumes/T7 Shield

Browse

–

/Volumes/Samsung_T5

Browse

–

/Volumes/Samsung

Browse

–

/Volumes/Extreme 500

Browse

–

+

Describe any sound, mood, instrument or idea — I'll help you find the right patch.


☒ AI Search ☐ Simple ☐ Advanced


Find me instruments for a World War 2 inspired track, one that can fit a documentary about the war

Search


Filter results

>  mid → [military snare]

>  far → [military snare]

>  close → [military snare]

>  mid → [military snare]

>  far → [military snare]

>  Textures → [woodwinds]

>  Motions → [woodwinds]

>  High End Grooves → [cymbals]

>  Sub → [low brass]

>  Arkhis → [brass ensemble]

>  Spitfire Hans Zimmer Percussion Professional library → [timpani]

>  Cinematic Studio Brass → [trumpet]

Features Overview

AI Search (natural language)

Just type a musical brief — like “quirky comedy cue” or “epic Viking battle” — and PatchIO uses AI to:

- Understand your intent
- Suggest smart keywords
- Automatically populate the Advanced tab with OR / AND / NOT filters

You can still tweak the results after they appear in the Advanced tab.

Simple Mode

Ideal for quick searches. Just enter a few basic keywords like:

celesta quirky

PatchIO will scan your folders and match any filenames or folders that include those terms.

💡 Use quotes around multi-word phrases to match them exactly:

pizzicato "soft piano" quirky

"bamboo flute" kalimba

Advanced Mode

For power users. Use structured filters to narrow down your results with precision:

- or: – At least one of these keywords should appear
- and: – All of these keywords must appear
- not: – Exclude any result with these keywords

Keyword Highlights in Results

When you perform a search in AI Mode, PatchIO analyzes your prompt and generates smart search keywords based on genre, mood, instrumentation, and cultural context.

In the results list, you'll notice small arrow tags (➤) next to some folders. These indicate which keywords were matched inside that folder or its subfolders.

Example:

📁 Epic Battle Drums ➤ "tribal percussion" "war horns"

📁 Nordic Strings ➤ "tagelharpa" "ancient pluck"

This helps you understand why each result appeared, so you can quickly judge if it's worth exploring — without expanding every folder.

If you're using Simple or Advanced mode, these hints reflect direct filename matches based on your input terms.

Filtering Results – NEW (v1.0.7)

PatchIO now includes a powerful **Filter Results** box that lets you instantly narrow down your search results by typing keywords to filter *inside* your current results list.

Kontakt Integration with Cubase (macOS only) — NEW (v1.1.1)

You can now automatically create and load Kontakt 8 tracks directly in Cubase from any .nki, .nkm, or .nksn file found through PatchIO. (See steps to complete below)

Requirements:

- macOS
- Cubase 12 and above
- Kontakt 8 (Modern View enabled) — not compatible with the Classic layout
- PatchIO v1.1.1 or later, with accessibility permissions (under Privacy & Security settings)
- Complete these steps: <https://app.box.com/s/ton8i1f3ygrf1pmuqcy9cgmpztzoe6lwh>

How it works:

- Right-click on a Kontakt-compatible patch in your search results.
- Choose:
 - o Create a new Kontakt instrument track in DAW — adds a new track and loads the patch
 - o Replace Kontakt instrument in DAW — replaces the currently loaded instrument (Only works when the Kontakt window is visible to avoid any user mistakes)
- PatchIO automates the entire process, including:
 - o Opening the “Add Instrument Track” window
 - o Choosing Kontakt 8 as the instrument
 - o Typing the track name automatically
 - o Loading the correct patch via Kontakt’s File > Load menu

This feature uses system-level automation (like GUI scripting), so it's currently limited to macOS and requires the Kontakt 8 window to be visible in modern layout.

File Extension Menu

PatchIO supports many formats: .nki, .wav, .patch, .aif, .preset, and more.

You can enable or disable specific file types in the Extensions menu to narrow your search to:

- Only WAVs
- Only Kontakt instruments
- Or anything else!

Excluded Folders

You can exclude certain folders from the scan (like “Backups” or “Old Projects”) to avoid clutter.

Go to the Excluded Folders section and add any path you want PatchIO to skip.

Other Notes

- Works offline in Simple and Advanced mode
- AI Search requires an internet connection
- Works on Windows and macOS