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Press release: Kastle 2 Alchemist – a waygate to modular hybrid synthesis

We are stoked to introduce the **Kastle 2 Alchemist** – a patchable, hybrid-synthesis instrument that empowers you to explore melodies and even harmonic textures, despite being monophonic.

The Alchemist offers a range of Bastl-brewed Synth Modes – **Filter, FM, Supersaw, Hypersine, and GlitchNoise** – which can be combined with its internal stereo effects and the versatile Pattern Generator. Rhythms and scales are fully customizable via the web-based app, and expanded **MIDI USB compatibility** adds even more flexibility.

The **Kastle 2 Alchemist** is the third firmware release for the Kastle 2 hardware platform, joining the **FX Wizard** multi-effects processor and the **Wave Bard** stereo sample player. The firmware is fully cross-compatible across all devices in the Kastle 2 Series – meaning the Alchemist firmware can be loaded onto previous Kastle 2 units and Citadel modules, and vice versa.

The Kastle 2 Alchemist is the spiritual successor to the original and widely popular Kastle Synth, introduced in the fall of 2016 and later updated to Kastle 1.5 in late 2017. It also inherits the DNA of the Kastle Arp from 2023, resulting in expanded musicality.

The Kastle 2 Series is often described as experimental and funky — and while the Alchemist certainly carries that spirit, this third medieval-themed instrument pushes the platform further. With carefully crafted synth modes and intuitive controls, the Alchemist expands the musical range, making it valuable in both beginner setups and complex studio environments.

The Kastle 2 Alchemist is available now for **160 € ex. VAT** (approx. **190 € incl. VAT**) and is **shipping immediately** (November 2025).

Links:

Product page | Product video | Press kit | B-shop Link

Our products are also available from our network of dealers.

Kastle 2 Alchemist

Compact Patchable Hybrid-Synthesis Instrument

Kastle 2 Alchemist is a patchable hybrid-synthesis based instrument that empowers you in discovering melodies and even harmonies despite being monophonic. Patch programmable sequencing via the control signals into the two PITCH MOD inputs opens up a world of melodic inspiration beyond classic arpeggios while staying in your preferred SCALE.

5 synthesis modes

The Alchemist features a carefully tuned wide timbral range spanning across 5 synthesis modes (FILTER, FM, SUPERSAW, HYPERSINE and GLITCHNOISE) accessed by main TIMBRE sweep that is refined by the RATIO control.

- The ENV macro knob affects different parts of the synth and sequencing engine to maximize musicality and it even lets you continually morph between the synthesis modes and access truly unique sounds.

- The timbral palette is further extended by the dual FX section which offers either a wide delay that will smear the arpeggios into echoed harmonies or a chorus-flanger-distortion-combfilter macro custom tuned for each synth mode.

- You can also access gliding rubber textures with the PITCH SLIDE macro that applies pitch envelope and portamento.

- You can customize its Rhythms and Scales with the web-based app/editor.

Compact & portable

The Kastle 2 Alchemist is a compact, portable instrument that runs on 3 AA batteries or USB-C, so it can inspire you anywhere, anytime. It loves to jam with your other portable gear—sync it via its Sync In/Out ports, and use the Audio Input to mix external signals with the Alchemist's output or run them through its built-in effects.

Let the music emerge

All main parameters can be modulated and tightly sequenced by the surprisingly powerful CV and GATE Pattern Generator alongside with syncable LFO that can be modulated as well.

The Alchemist is a semi-autonomous companion that keeps surprising you with fresh ideas. Kastle 2 is not just a sound box—it's also a powerful MIDI controller and sequencer. Send finely curated USB MIDI data to your DAW or USB MIDI instrument, and discover new ways of playing and interacting through a modular interface.

Alchemist both sends and receives USB MIDI, making studio integration a breeze!

Do not write melodies! Let them emerge from the behaviour you set-up by the patch interaction of various modulation sources.

Features

- **5 synth modes**
  - FILTER
  - FM
  - SUPERSAW
  - HYPERSINE
  - GLITCHNOISE

- **Hybrid synthesis**
  - 4 oscillators
  - FM with feedback
  - Raw Waveform mixing
  - Ring mod
  - Track and Hold
  - Stereo noise with Track and Hold
  - Stereo Filter
  - Transient Shaper

- **Dual FX section**
  - Delay to the left
  - Chorus/Flanger/Distortion to the right

- **stereo audio processing** at 44kHz/16-bits

- **PITCH knob** with range of ± 2 octaves (4 octaves total)

- **PITCH MOD attenuverter knob** for modulating pitch
  - NOTE input: quantized pitch with selectable scales (updates on trigger)
  - ►PLAY input: 3rd, 5th and octave above NOTE – triggers envelope on change, time quantized to PLAY GRID – great for arpeggios!
  - user-defined scales ([via web app](#))
  - BANK+PITCH MOD to change quantizer scale
  - BANK+TIMBRE MOD for root note adjustment
  - BANK+LFO MOD for fine tuning
  - BANK+PITCH to change and preview octave

- **TIMBRE knob for main timbral sweep**
  - refine TIMBRE sweep with RATIO (oscillator detune ratios and wave mixing ratios)
  - hit the SHIFT button to trigger the sound
  - TRIGGER input to trigger sound
  - TIMBRE MOD input with attenuvertion

- **MODE input** with attenuation to change synth MODE with CV

- **ENV knob**
  - turn right to set decay and focuses TIMBRE on transients
  - turn left to add attack and decay and focuses TIMBRE on BODY
  - fully left and right enters DRONE mode
  - slows down arpeggio at long envelopes
  - MODE MORPHING to the left
  - ENV MOD input with attenuverter
  - ENV MOD updates only at trigger
  - patchable ENV output of the envelope

- **LFO** with triangle and pulse output, reset input, attenuverting modulation, synced or free
- **Tempo generator** with tap tempo, divider, and external clock input
- **Pattern generator** (tempo synced) with GATE and CV output, patch-programmable
- **GATE generator** contains user-programmable RHYTHM patterns ([via web app](#))

- **stereo input** with input gain (up to +12db), accepts up to 6 Vpp signal
- input can be mixed at the output or run thru the built-in effects
- **stereo output** capable of driving headphones up to 250 Ohm
- analog sync input
- analog sync output
- **modular I/O connections** via right channel of the sync jacks

- **USB MIDI Input** (clock, notes, CCs, pitch bend)
- **USB MIDI Output** to use as a MIDI controller/sequencer (clock, notes, CCs)

Technical Details

- USB-C (firmware updates, USB MIDI, editor features)
- 3x AA battery power (both rechargeable and non)
- power consumption approx. 100–150 mA, should last up to 15–18 hours on 3xAA batteries.

What's in the box

- Kastle 2 Alchemist unit
- quickstart guide
- 10 patch cables
- sticker
- for environmental reasons, we are excluding the batteries from the package