

nativeKONTROL

Elegant solutions for DAW control

Modular Control Surface Scripts for Ableton Live

nativeKONTROL recently introduced its Arsenal product line, a new platform for deep and dynamic control over Ableton Live that can easily be customized by each user to fit their specific needs and workflow. This is possible via a very simple and familiar concept: modularity.

Regarding the motivation behind the development of Arsenal, nativeKONTROL's founder said "Live users want the freedom to determine exactly how their controllers work in Live and we found no good solution to that desire. With Arsenal, we've filled that void and offered an entirely new approach to personalized control over Live."

Unlike conventional control surface scripts for Live (learn more about these [here](#)) which include specific functionality that is determined by the developer and that users have no control over unless they happen to be Python programmers, Arsenal decouples functionality from control surface scripts. In this way, control surface scripts are not tied to any particular functionality and instead the user is given the power to determine what functionality their scripts will have.

To accomplish this, the Arsenal product line is composed of two parts:

- Arsenal-powered control surface scripts: These are control surface scripts that are specialized for particular controllers and that can run Arsenal Matrix and/or Encoder Modes. Scripts ship with a number of modes so that they are usable immediately but, ultimately, the modes a script runs are entirely up to the user.
- Arsenal Matrix and Encoder Modes: These are the modules or plugins within the Arsenal product line that offer different sorts of functionality (various forms of parameter control, step-sequencing and clip control for example) for a controller's button matrix or encoders. Modes are compatible with any Arsenal-powered control surface script.

"Modularity is everywhere in the software world, so it only makes sense to allow for modularity within control surface scripts for Live. This is a win-win for us as developers and for end users as well. We are not constrained to developing scripts that include functionality that would be general enough to satisfy a wide user base. We can instead develop modes that cover all sorts of use cases and leave it up to each user to determine which modes suit their needs. It's quite liberating for us and obviously for our users as well." says nativeKONTROL's founder.

Arsenal currently supports 16 of the most popular controllers of the past and present and will support more controllers in the future. The array of modes that are available is already quite diverse and will continue to expand over time. Of course, since Arsenal is developed by nativeKONTROL, you can expect many other innovations aside from just modularity. For example, Arsenal employs a new form of control-to-parameter mapping called HazMapping, which is similar to MIDI mapping in Live, but with much more intelligence.

You can learn more about Arsenal [here](#).

About nativeKONTROL:

Founded in January of 2008 by Sam 'Stray' Hurley, nativeKONTROL offers innovative software solutions for intelligent and elegant control over DAWs (primarily Ableton Live) via MIDI controllers/control surfaces. nativeKONTROL's products are currently in use by tens of thousands of performers and producers worldwide. To date, nativeKONTROL's PXT Series for Ableton Push and ClyphX control surface script, essentially a simple scripting language for Ableton Live, are its most widely known and used products.

nativeKONTROL has also collaborated with many performers, producers, hardware manufacturers and software developers on customized solutions over the years. Most notably, nativeKONTROL worked with a team at Ableton to create the Launchpad Pro control surface script that is included with Live 9.

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