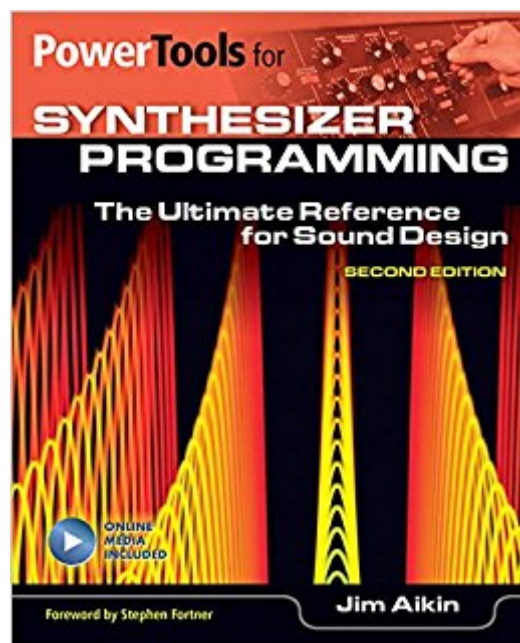




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Power Tools For Synthesizer Programming: The Ultimate Reference For Sound Design: Second Edition (Power Tools Series)



Synopsis

If you make any type of electronic music—dance mixes, hip-hop, jazz fusion, country pop, film soundtracks, or experimental avant-garde—*Power Tools for Synthesizer Programming* is the book for you. All too often, owners manuals tell you what button to press, but fail to explain what's actually going on in the instrument or what it means musically and technically. This is the only book that gives you the big picture while at the same time providing you with insightful details. Even if you're just grabbing presets to play on the keyboard, you'll get to the music faster thanks to the tips in this book. And when you start editing the presets or designing your own sounds, *Power Tools for Synthesizer Programming* becomes an essential resource. Chapters on oscillators, filters, envelope generators, LFOs, effects, and digital audio reveal how to get the most out of your instruments. To supplement the text, dozens of new illustrations have been added, and more than 30 streaming online videos, narrated by the author, walk you through the operational details of numerous software instruments. If you've ever wanted to spend quality time with a synthesizer expert, you'll never have a better opportunity!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

JIM AIKIN has been writing about music technology for more than 30 years. He is the author of hundreds of product reviews and tutorial features in *Keyboard*, *Electronic Musician*, and other magazines, and he has written books about C-sound, music theory, and cello technique. In his

PC-based home studio, he composes and records using software instruments from more than a dozen manufacturers.

For being a brand new edition, this could not be more than just a fresh cover on same disorganized mess called a "Synthesizer Programming" book, with the audacity to claim to be the "Ultimate Reference for Sound Design"...not! Yes, there's some 'very' basic stuff in there, but more gratuitous rambling with absolutely no coherency nor flow. This should be labeled as a "Synth History" book but even that would not be complete. A complete waste of money. I learned more back in 1983 when I spent a few hours with a Korg MS-20. New Edition one would think it would imply having NEW and relevant hardware discussed. My first bad review for any music related book and because of the disorder in writing style and tons of self-praise found within, thought I should at least warn people to not be fooled by the cool cover art...

Power Tools for Synthesizer Programming: The Ultimate Reference for Sound Design is a good starting point for learning a functions of a synth. The author clearly states in the first chapter that this book isn't a cook book but a reference on how modules in how a synth work. I really enjoyed reading this book, because there's no need to download a VSTi or have a certain hardware synth in order to read this book. I also enjoyed the videos that went along with he book covering some aspect that hard to learn just by reading. overall if you are new to synths you should pick this book up; however if you know your way around synth or looking for a book on how to sound design this isn't the book for you.

I find this book useful in teaching my Synthesis and Sound design class.It has clear sonic examples and useful descriptions of the basic functions of a synthesizer, and what the waveforms sound like,as well as some relevant history (Fourier analysis, The work of Hermann von Helmholtz, etc).Some electronic music books are vast and dense with scientific jargon -this book does a nice job of simplifying synthesis intoa readable book for students.

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