

DRUMS ON THE WEB

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Getting Free Software

First things first: We're not talking about sites or programs that let you steal products from other users or from the companies and individuals that create software. Instead, here are some web sites that serve as hosts for freeware, shareware, or trial versions

of commercial packages.

The subtitle of databaseaudio.co.uk is "freeware resources for electronic musicians," and that's a pretty good description of what's inside the site. There are three main areas: Applications, Plug-ins, and Online Instru-

ments. You can find software by name, category, developer, and most popular downloads. There's a ton of stuff here, much of it unique and very cool. Plan to stay awhile!

Now owned by the folks that make the Receptor, kvraudio.com is totally dedicated to all things plug-in: hosts, instruments, and effects, as well as news and reviews about the latest developments. With nearly 2,000 files (both freeware, shareware, and commercial files), kvraudio should be your first stop for any type of plug-in.

Also be sure to check out hitsquad.com, an all-encompassing web site for musicians. If you can navigate around all the ads, you'll find some gems.



Make your way to the Smm area of the site (shareware music machine), and you'll hit paydirt.

Even though download.com is a site for all software, clicking the Audio & Video menu will turn up a dozen subcategories, each with a number of valuable tools and files. If you don't find what you're looking for here, try a simi-

lar site, planet-shareware.com.

To find even more programs, visit a few of the popular search engines and search for music and audio freeware. The beauty of the Web is that by following links from one site to another, you'll run into tons of additional files, videos, music, and other cool stuff.

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