Harlequin

Welcome to Harlequin

Harlequin is a 6 voice polyphonic synthesiser with a built in step sequencer, made with Synthedit. All controls are divided into two pages which are selected by clicking on the Synthedit logo in the top-right corner.

Install the two files harlequin.dll and harlequin.dat into your VST instruments folder.

The Synthesiser

Harlequin's sound engine consists of a 2 oscillator synthesiser with an SV filter.

The buttons from top to bottom are:

- Pitch bend range select
- Oscillator A waveform select
- Oscillator B transpose
- Oscillator B waveform select

The "fat" slider makes oscillator "A" a dual-unison oscillator which gradually de-tunes as the slider is increased, giving a fatter sound. This works well with sawtooth and square waveforms.

The "mix" knob controls the mix of the oscillators.

The next seven knobs control the filter's overdrive, cut-off frequency, resonance, LFO amount (depth), LFO rate, velocity response, and ADSR envelope depth.

Next is the ADSR envelope followed by three more buttons which control:

- Positive or negative filter envelope (+ / -)
- Filter type – Low Pass, High Pass, or Band Pass
- Routing the final output through the ADSR

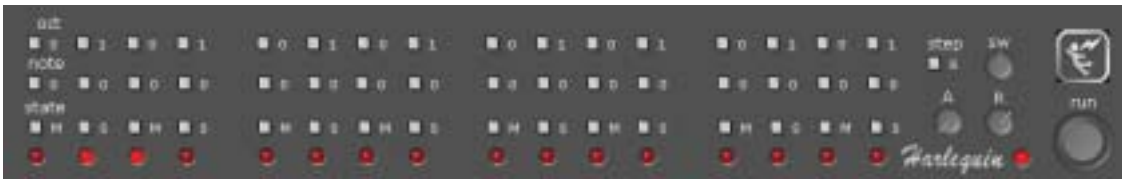
When "gat" is selected, the synthesiser's output is not routed through the ADSR. Sound is triggered with a note on and stops when the note is released with no volume envelope applied. This does not affect ADSR signal to the filter, which is controlled with the "env" knob.

The "p" and "r" sliders control the depth and speed of an auto-pan effect. The "v" slider adjusts amp velocity sensitivity, and finally the "vol" knob – yup, you guessed it – controls the master volume.

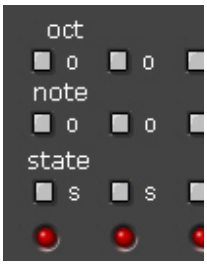
The envelope is a standard ADSR envelope with a slight difference; it is linked to the host's tempo so that the envelope rates change according to the BPM rate. In other words, if the attack rate is set halfway at 120bpm, the rate will be quicker at 140 and slower at 80bpm. However, the position of the slider will not change. Also don't expect these changes to be 100% accurate.

The Sequencer

Click the Synthedit logo to go to the sequencer page.



Here you will see sixteen columns of buttons which control the sequencer's steps. It is possible to change the number of steps per bar with the "step" button on the right. The choices are 8, 12, or 16 steps per bar.



Each column has three buttons and an LED indicator. The "oct" button selects the octave, and "note" selects the note. "state" determines the length of the step – short, medium, or long – or whether the step is off. When a step is off its corresponding LED will not light.

The "SW" knob creates a swing or shuffle feel. "A" and "R" control the attack and decay rates for all the steps. These three controls are also linked to the host BPM. And finally "run" turns the sequencer on/off. The LED next to the Harlequin logo indicates the tempo.

When the sequencer is off Harlequin will play like a regular polyphonic synthesiser.

MIDI control

MIDI CC No	Parameter
1 Mod wheel	Auto pan depth
6 Data slider	Filter cut off
22	Filter resonance
23	Filter envelope depth
24	Oscillator a – b mix
25	Step release rate
29	Sequencer on/off – run button

I hope you enjoy using Harlequin, and if you would like to send me any feedback, my e-mail address is…

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Cheers

Andy M.