

P A D P I M P S P R E S E N T S

# THE 1977 SESSION KIT

A FULLY MULTISAMPLED 1977 PREMIER B304 ELITE DRUM KIT FOR MPC & AKAI FORCE



**INSTALLATION & USER GUIDE**

# Contents

<b>The 1977 Session Kit: Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>What's Inside?</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Articulations &amp; Recording Chain</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>'Velocity Switching' vs 'Round Robin' Kits</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Kit Layouts &amp; Snapshot Genres</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Install: Standalone MPC &amp; Akai Force</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Loading Kits &amp; MIDI (Standalone MPC/Force)</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Install: MPC Software/MPC Beats App</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Install: Legacy MPCs</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Further Resources</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Copyright &amp; License</b>	<b>40</b>

# The 1977 Session Kit: Introduction

- **The 1977 Session Kit** is our most ambitious MPC drum expansion to date, featuring an extensively multisampled 'Premier Elite' acoustic drum kit recorded with up to 12 velocity levels for the most versatile and realistic sounding acoustic drum kit ever made for the MPC.
- The expansion features 45 drum and percussion articulations with two different kit configurations based around two different snare drums, 15 additional genre-based 'snapshot' kits and over 100 MIDI grooves covering a range of musical styles providing an instant starting point for any project.
- This is our first expansion to feature 'sample chains' which significantly improve kit loading times (up to 300% faster).
- This expansion is compatible with all modern MPCs running with MPC 2.10 (or greater) and is also fully compatible with the **Akai Force**, the **MPC Software** and the **MPC Beats App**.

# What's Inside?



The **1977 Session Kit** is a virtual session drummer insider your MPC. We teamed up with legendary session drummer Bobby Arechiga to record his own **1977 Premier B304 Elite kit**, paired with multiple snares, cymbals and percussion for a total of 45 different articulations, each recorded with up to **12 velocity levels**.

### **Multiple Kits & Snapshots**

The 45 articulations have been organised into two core kits ('A' and 'B'), each one based around a different snare (Ludwig Black Beauty and a Ludwig 402) with different combinations of kick, cymbal and percussion articulations (32 articulations per kit, covering banks A and B). 'Lite' versions are provided for smaller memory requirements.

We've then used the MPCs internal FX and other program parameters to create 15 additional 'snapshot' kits tailored to specific music genres. All kits feature the same core layout so you can easily try out different kits with your recorded sequences.

## **MIDI Grooves & Fills**

These kits are complimented by over 120 MIDI patterns containing grooves and fills recorded by real drummers in many different musical styles including hip hop, funk, rock, indie, pop, jungle, Neo Soul and many more. Use the MIDI grooves as instant inspiration and starting points for your own projects.

All MIDI grooves come with their own baked-in browser preview so you can hear how they sound before loading.

Additionally, each kit and snapshot is provided with its own extended demo sequence file (SXQ) built from the provided patterns. Full loading instructions are included later in this guide.

## **Velocity Switching & Round Robins**

‘Velocity switching’ kits are provided with up to 12 dynamic levels to provide an incredibly realistic emulation of the original kit. Additionally, ‘round robin’ kits will play back a different sample timbre each time a pad is played.

For more information on these different kits types and advice on which one to choose, check out the separate '**Velocity Kits Vs Round Robin Kits**' section of this guide.

## **Sample Chains**

The 1977 Session Kit is the first MPC expansion to utilise 'sample chains', which significantly reduce the number of individual samples needed in a kit. This bypasses the MPC's browser loading bottlenecks, dramatically speeding up loading times of multisampled kits in the MPC and Force browser (**up to 5 times faster**).

*Please note that we have also provided all the original individual drum multisamples in the separate '**Multisamples**' folder – these could be used to build your own custom kits in addition to the ready-built kits we provide in the expansion.*

# Articulations & Recording Chain

The 1977 Session Kit is built around a vintage 1977 Premier Elite B304 Kit combined with a number of different snares, cymbals and percussion. Each instrument was recorded with a number of different articulations over multiple dynamic levels to emulate the different sounds and timbres created by a real drummer.

The full instrument list is as follows:

Instrument	Articulations	Abbreviation	Maximum Dynamics
22" Premier Elite Kick Drum	Isolated With snare bleed	PE22 KI D PE22 KB D	12 velocities, 4 round robins
13x9 Premier Elite Rack Tom	Centre hit	PE13 TR C	8 velocities, 4 round robins
14x10 Premier Elite Rack Tom	Centre hit	PE14 TR C	8 velocities, 4 round robins
16" Premier Elite Floor Tom	Centre hit	PE16 TF C	8 velocities, 4 round robins
14x6.5 Ludwig 402 Snare	Centre of skin Edge of skin Rim Shot (skin & rim) Rim (edge of casing only) Cross Stick Variation 1 Cross Stick Variation 2 Flam (double hit)	L40214 SN C L40214 SN E L40214 SN RS L40214 SN RO L40214 SN XS L40214 SN XS2 L40214 SN FL	12 velocities, 4 round robins

	Drag (short buzz roll)	L40214 SN DR	
14x5.5 Ludwig Black Beauty	Centre hit Edge Rim Shot Rim Only Cross Stick Variation 1 Cross Stick Variation 2 Flam Drag	LBB14 SN C LBB14 SN E LBB14 SN RS LBB14 SN RO LBB14 SN XS1 LBB14 SN XS2 LBB14 SN FM LBB14 SN DR	12 velocities, 4 round robins
14" Zildjian Avedus Hi Hat	Tight Closed Centre Tip Tight Closed Centre Shank Tight Closed Edge Closed Centre (Tip of stick) Closed Centre (Shank of stick) Closed Edge Hit Open Full Open Halfway Pedal Shut Pedal Open	ZA14 HH TCT ZA14 HH TCS ZA14 HH TCE ZA14 HH CCT ZA14 HH CCS ZA14 HH CE ZA14 HH OF ZA14 HH OP ZA14 HH PS ZA14 HH PO	12 velocities, 4 round robins (open hats = 6 velocities)
20" Zildjian Istanbul Traditional Ride	Centre Edge Bell Choke	ZI20 RD C ZI20 RD E ZI20 RD B ZI20 RD CK	6 velocities, 4 round robins (chokes = 4 round robins only)
18" Zildjian A Custom Crash	Centre Edge Bell Choke	ZA18 CR C ZA18 CR E ZA18 CR B ZA18 CR CK	6 velocities, 4 round robins (chokes = 4 round robins only)
22" Byzance Jazz China Ride w/rivets	Centre Edge	MJ22 CH C MJ22 CH E	6 velocities, 4 round robins (chokes = 4 round robins)

	Choke	MJ22 CH CK	only)
Meinl Shaker	Open Down	SHK OP SHK D	4 round robins
Meinl Cabasa	Clockwise Counter clockwise	CAB CW CAB CCW	4 round robins

## Recording Chain

The kit was recorded at Mu Studios in Sheffield, UK using the following mics into an Amek 'Big by Langley' desk:

**Kick:** AKG D12 VR

**Snare Top:** Shure Beta 57A

**Snare Bottom:** AKG 414

**Hi Hat:** MXL 991

**Toms:** Sennheiser E904/5

**Overheads:** Neumann KM84

**Room:** Neumann U87

**Extra Grit:** Wasaphone Mk II

# 'Velocity Switching' vs 'Round Robin' Kits

In an MPC kit, each pad can be configured to play different dynamics using either **velocity switching** or '**round robins**' (it's not currently possible to combine both techniques together on a single pad).

In '**Velocity**' kits we've configured most pads to play a different sample depending on how hard you hit the pad. So strike a snare pad with a lot of force and it will play a 'hard' hit snare, a softly pad hit will play back a softly recorded snare. Articulations in the 1977 Session Kit feature up to **12 velocity layers**.

*You may be aware that each pad in the MPC has only 4 velocity layers – to overcome this limitation we've utilised the 'simultaneous play' feature to spread the 12 velocities over 3 linked pads. These additional pads are located in separate pad banks (banks E to H). The only pads that should be directly played are those in pad banks A and B, the MPC will take care of which velocity layer it will play.*

Another pad playback option in the MPC is that of '**round robins**'. Here the pad is configured to play a different sample each time it is hit, regardless of the velocity.

This works well when the pool of samples are all recorded at a similar velocity (typically using 'hard' or 'medium hard' samples).

In kits tagged '**Round Robin**' each pad is configured to play back one sample from a 'pool' of 4 round robins (this is the maximum allowed by the MPC).

*Please note that while most articulations in 'velocity' kits utilise velocity, chokes and percussion use round robins as we felt they just sounded more realistic with this type of pad setup.*

# Kit Layouts & Snapshot Genres

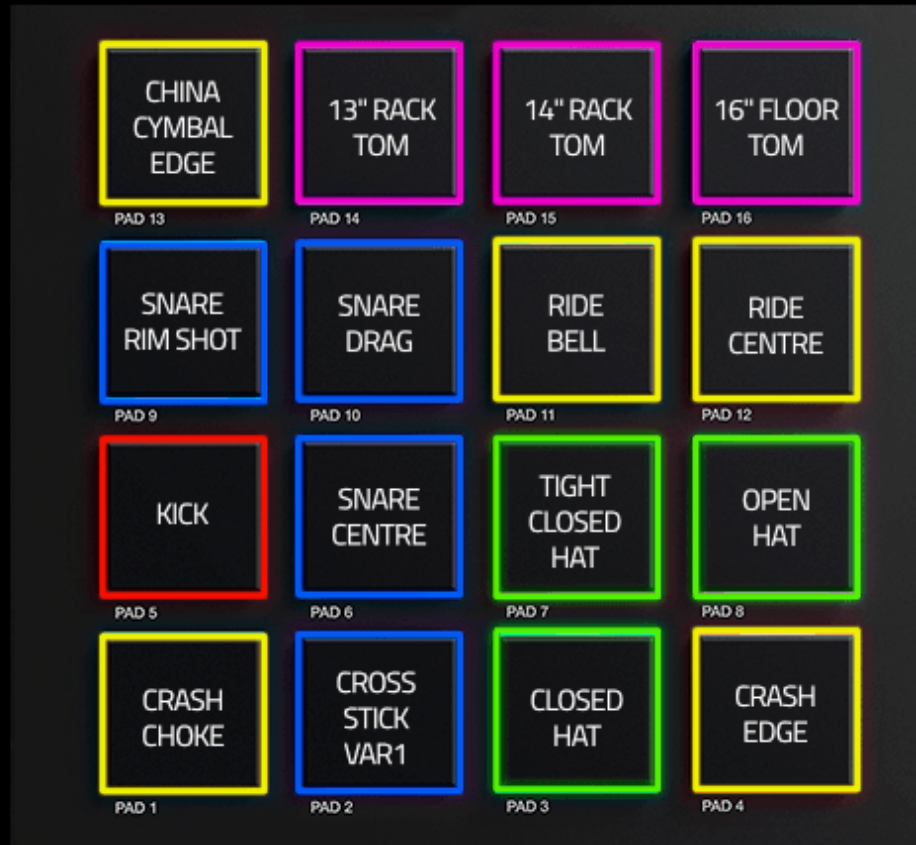
In addition to the complete 'raw' kits (provided in both 'velocity switching' and 'round robin formats), we've provided many different pre-built 'snapshot' kits as part of this expansion.

The kits '**SSK Kit A** and '**SSK Kit B**' are full 32 articulation kits, each built around a different snare with some differences in chosen articulations to produce slightly different vibe for each kit. **Kit A** is built around a **Ludwig 402 snare**, while **Kit B** is built around a **Ludwig Black Beauty snare**. Both these kits utilise the maximum available dynamic levels and hence use the most memory of all the provided kits.

'**Lite**' kits are reduced size versions of the two main kits; these contain 16 articulations in bank A only, with reduced dynamics for cymbals.

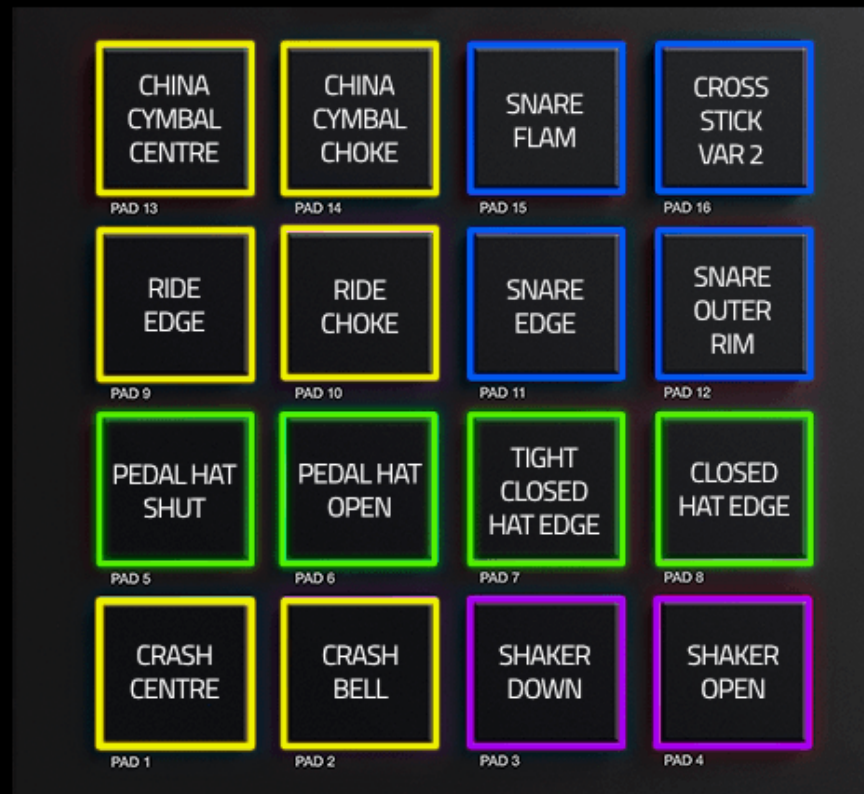
'**Snapshots**' contain FX processing and other tweaked program parameters and are each tailored to a specific musical genre. These kits are mostly 'round robin' kits and contain the full range of available dynamics in pad bank A, with reduced dynamics on some articulations in bank B.

The layout of Bank A in all kits contain the following articulations:



This layout was built with finger drumming in mind, with the core kick, snare & hats on row 2 (A05 to A08). Place your hands over this row and you also have easy access to the related articulations on rows 1 and 3, with minimal effort to reach row 4.

Kits with a Bank B contain the following 16 additional articulations:



All playable pads have pre-configured colours to reflect the type of instrument; **kick**, **snare**, **hi hat**, **cymbal**, **toms**, **percussion**.

*Please note that in 'velocity switching' kits there are some pads in banks E-H that have samples assigned, but these are used only for providing the additional velocity layers for the pads in banks A and B (via 'simultaneous play'). The only pads intended for direct playing are those within banks A and B.*

Kit 'B' has the same overall core layout as Kit A but uses a different snare (Ludwig Black Beauty), a different kick articulation (fully isolated with no snare bleed) and a ride utilised as a crash (pads A01 and A04). It also has cabasa instead of shakers in bank B.

In all kits, closed hi hats mute the open hats (including the open pedal hat) and all cymbal chokes mute their related open cymbal. We find the shakers/cabasas work really well when combined with 'note repeat' set to an appropriate quantise option (e.g. 1/16 or 1/8).

Here's a summary of the included kits and their file sizes:

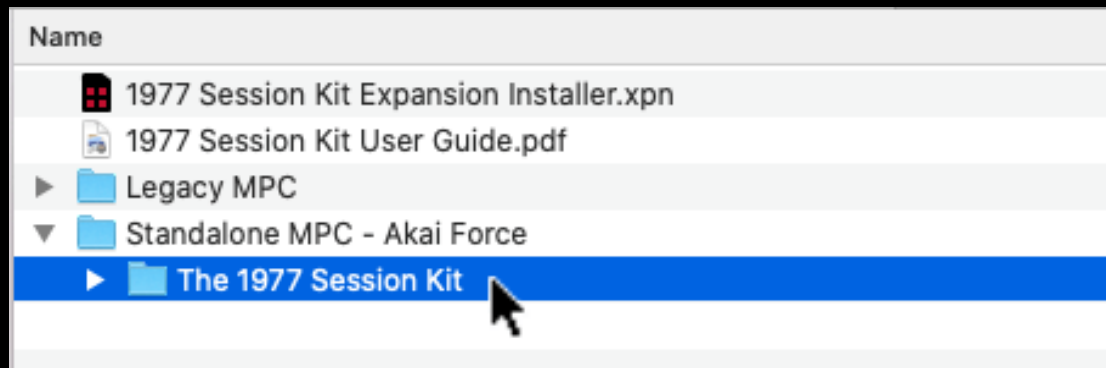
<b>Kit Name</b>	<b>Velocity Kit Size</b>	<b>Round Robin Kit Size</b>	<b>Notes</b>
SSK Kit A (Ludwig 402 Snare)	200MB	125MB	12 velocity dynamics, 4 round robins.
SSK Kit A Lite	72MB	41MB	16 articulations, reduced cymbal dynamics.
SSK Kit B (Ludwig Black Beauty)	200MB	125MB	12 velocity dynamics, 4 round robins.
SSK Kit B Lite	73MB	44MB	16 articulations, reduced cymbal dynamics.
SSK Blues Kit	152MB	Full dynamics in bank A, reduced dynamics in bank B. Includes FX, additional samples and other program parameter adjustments to obtain desired sound.	
SSK Boom Bap Kit	104MB		
SSK Disco Kit	101MB		
SSK Dry Kit	147MB		
SSK Funk Kit	117MB		
SSK Hip Hop Kit	103MB		
SSK Indie Rock Kit	101MB		
SSK Jazz Kit	152MB		
SSK Jungle Kit	104MB		
SSK LoFi Kit	103MB		
SSK Neo Soul Kit	103MB		
SSK Pop Kit	103MB		
SSK Reggae Kit	102MB		
SSK Rock Kit	103MB		
SSK Vintage Kit	105MB		

# Install: Standalone MPC & Akai Force

*The following instructions are suitable for any modern standalone MPC and the **Akai Force**. You can view the most up-to-date expansion installation instructions here: <https://mpc-samples.com/article/standalone-mpc-force-expansion-installation>*

First download the expansion from your File Bank and unzip using your computer's zip application.

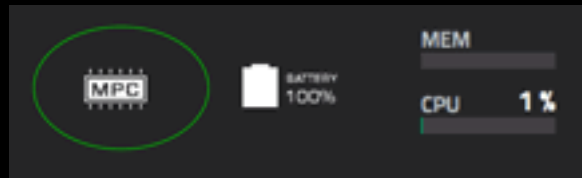
Enter the '**Standalone MPC-Akai Force**' folder and inside you'll see a sub folder '**The 1977 Session Kit**' – this is the folder we're going to transfer to your MPC/Force.



Expansions must be installed to either an **SD card**, a **USB drive** or, if you have one, an internal **SATA disk**.

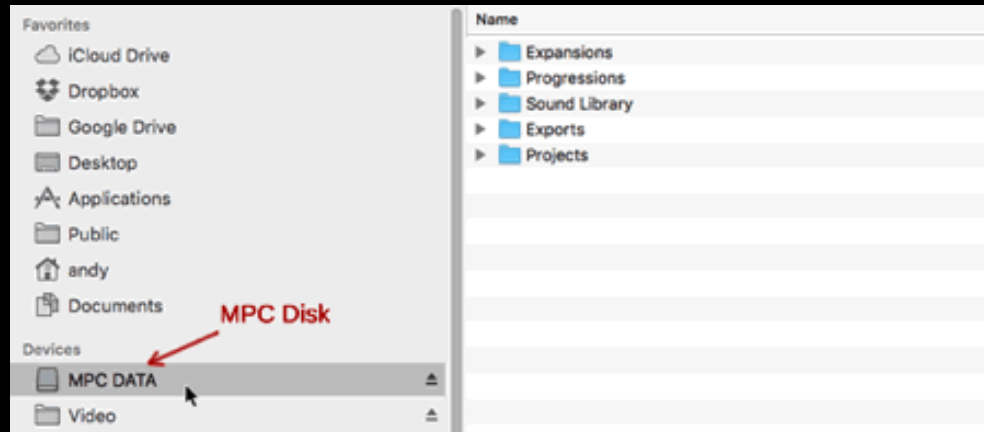
The first step is to mount this 'MPC disk' on your computer. If you use an SD card or USB disk, you can just eject the disk from your MPC/Force and physically insert it into your computer's SD card reader or USB port.

Alternatively, connect your MPC or Force via USB to your computer and go to **MENU** and hit the '**MPC chip**' icon at the top of the screen (this is the '**Laptop**' icon in the Force).

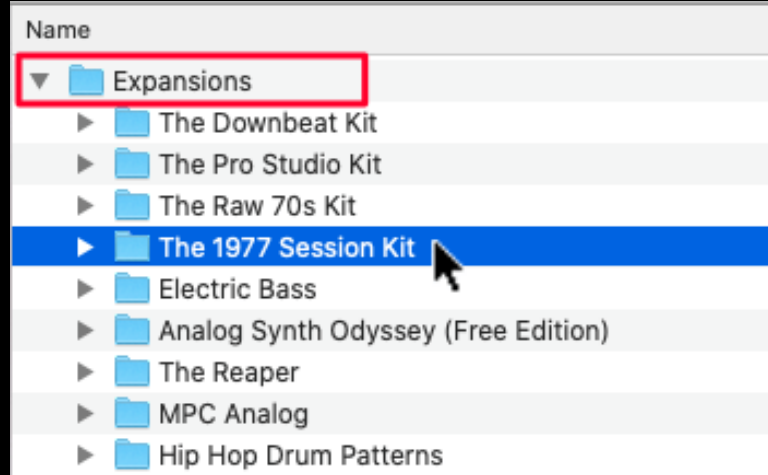


Now select **CONTROLLER MODE** ('**COMPUTER MODE**' in the Force).

Whichever connection method you choose, your MPC disk should now appear as a removable drive in your computer's file manager (e.g. Finder or File Explorer). Click on the drive to open its file system:



If it doesn't already exist, create a folder called **'Expansions'** in the root of your disk. Now copy the **'The 1977 Session Kit'** standalone expansion folder *inside* this 'Expansions' folder.

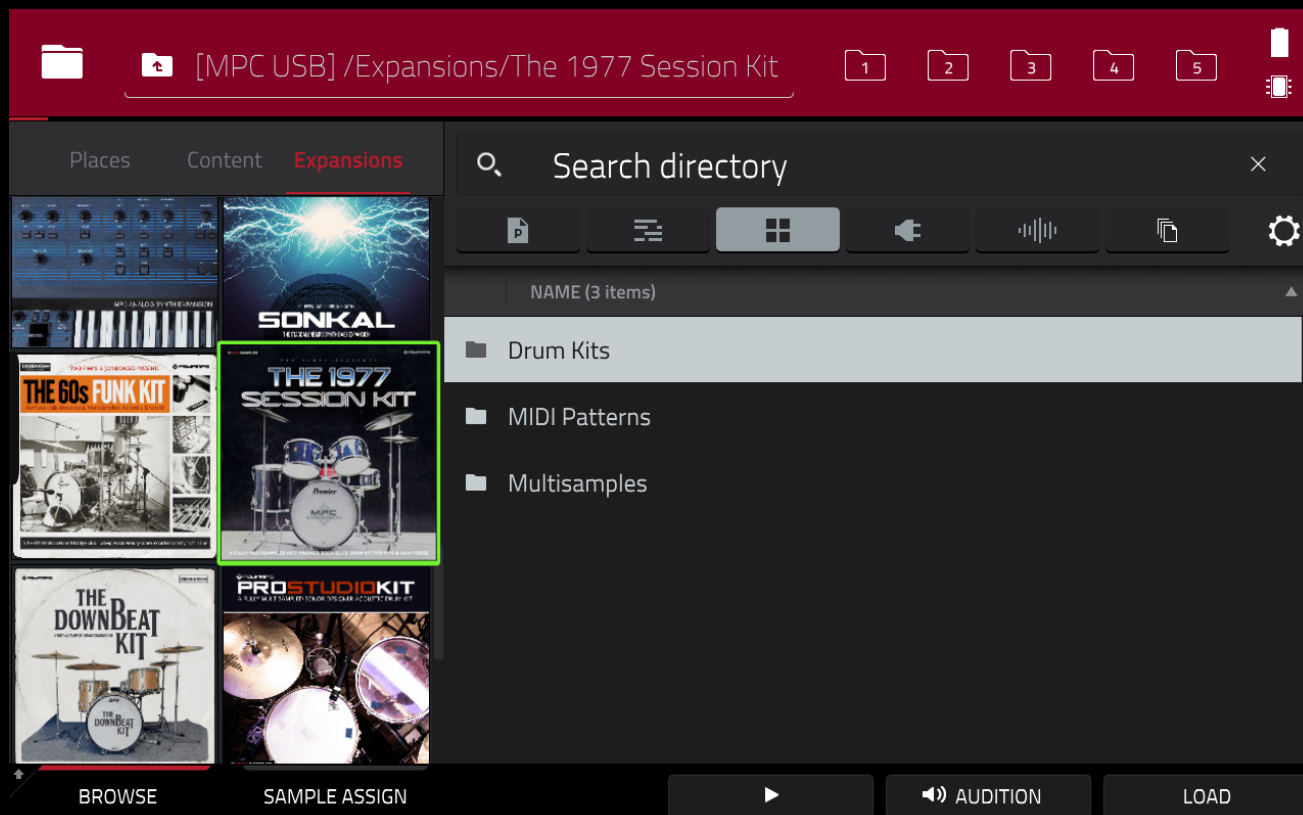


All done! If you had physically transferred the MPC disk to your computer you should now eject the disk from your computer and put the disk back in your MPC.

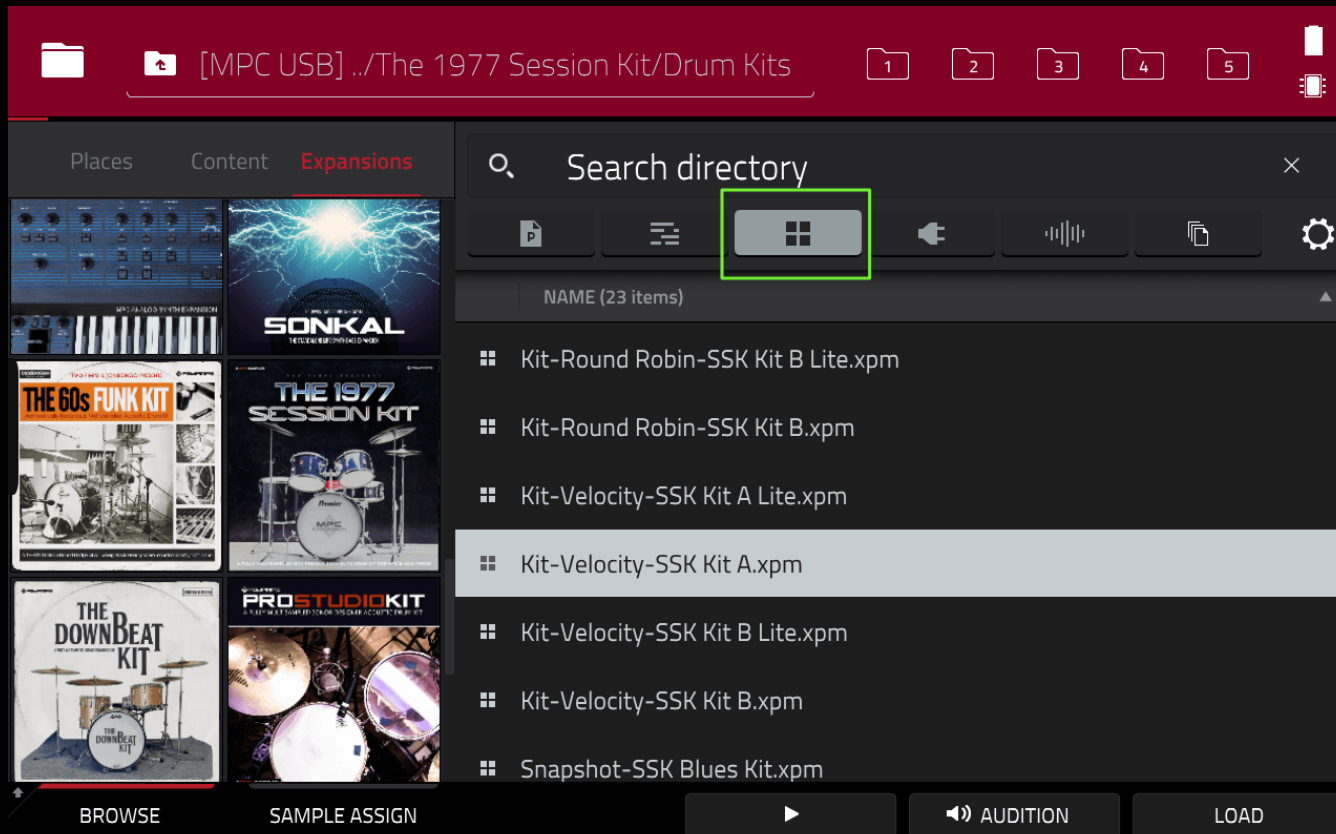
Alternatively, if you used USB transfer then go back to **MENU** and select the computer icon to return to standalone mode - *don't forget to eject/unmount the MPC from your computer first, this avoids any potential data loss.*

# Loading Kits & MIDI (Standalone MPC/Force)

Go to 'MENU > BROWSER > Expansions' and tap on the 'The 1977 Session Kit' thumbnail. On the right, you'll see multiple folders:



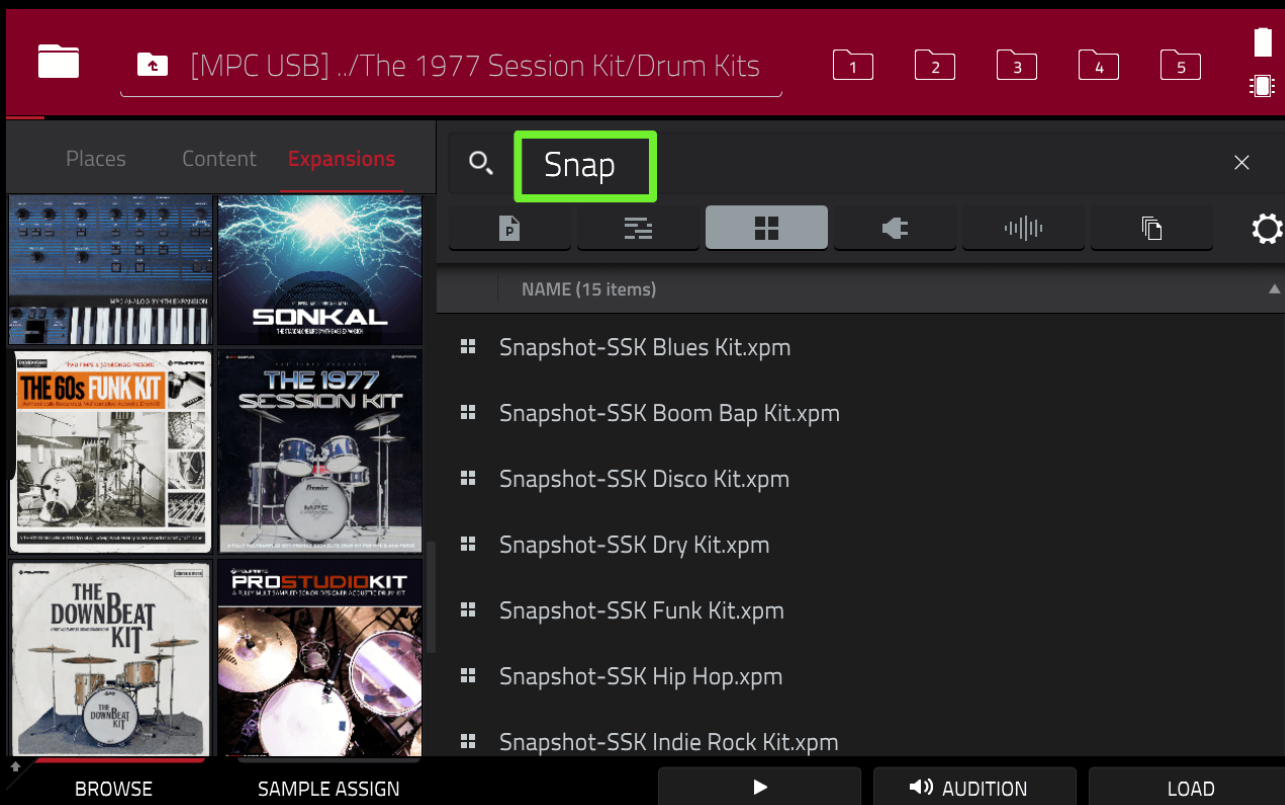
To browse the kits, enter the 'Drum Kits' folder and select the **PROGRAM** filter:



If you have '**AUDITION > AUTO**' enabled (bottom right of BROWSER screen) you can tap any program file to hear a preview of each kit before you load it. Double tap to

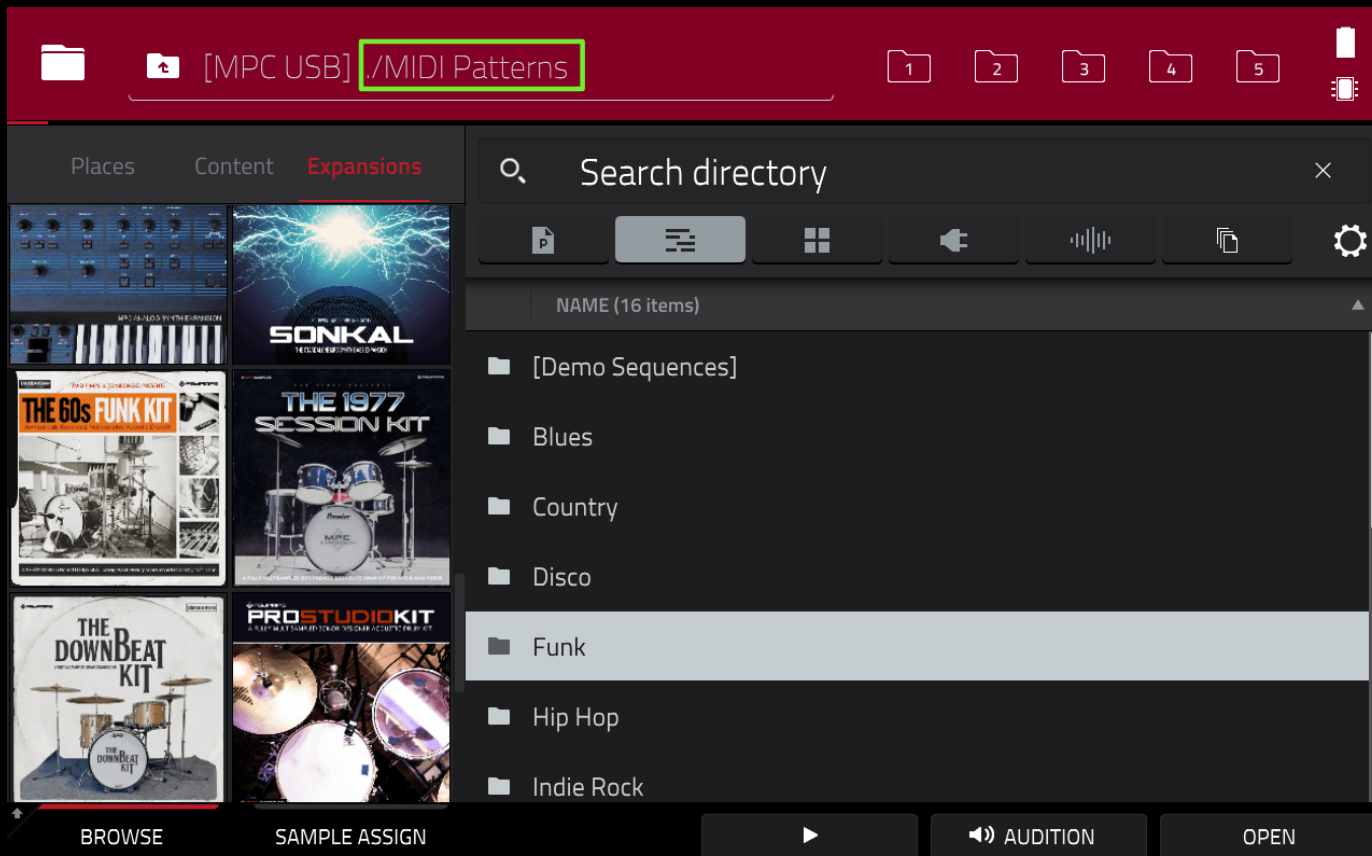
load the kit into your project and assign it to a **'DRUM'** type track in your current sequence in **MAIN**.

Use the **'Search Directory'** filter to view only certain types of kit. For example, type in **'snap'** to view only the **'snapshot'** kits, which are built for various music genres:

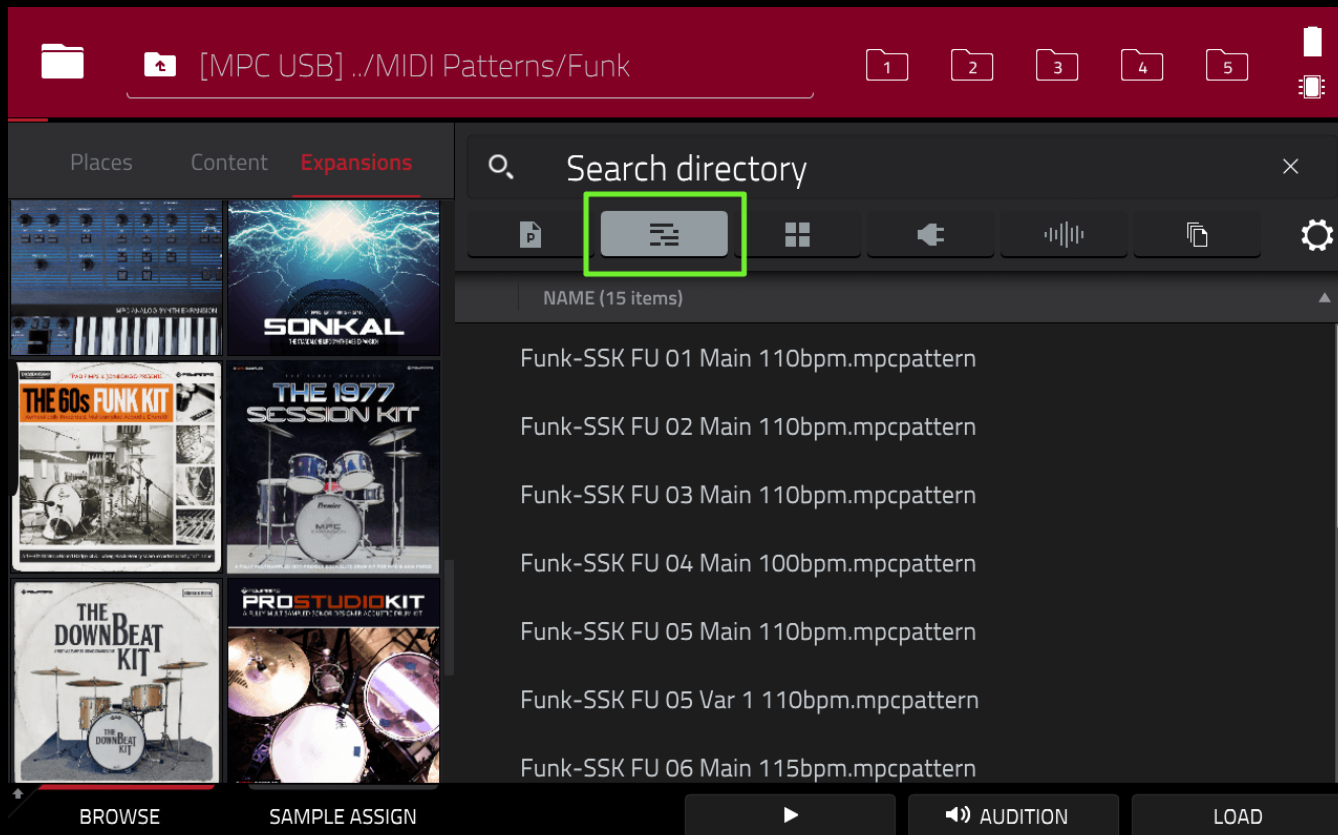


## Loading MIDI Patterns

Head back to the root location of the expansion and enter the **'MIDI Patterns'** folder. This contains over 120 MIDI grooves and fills, categorized by musical genre:



Enter a folder (e.g. Funk) and view the available patterns using the 'MIDI' filter:



If you have **AUDITION: AUTO** enabled, tapping a pattern will play a short audio preview of groove contained in the pattern. Double tap a pattern to load it (*loading occurs in the 'silently' background, there's no on-screen confirmation*).

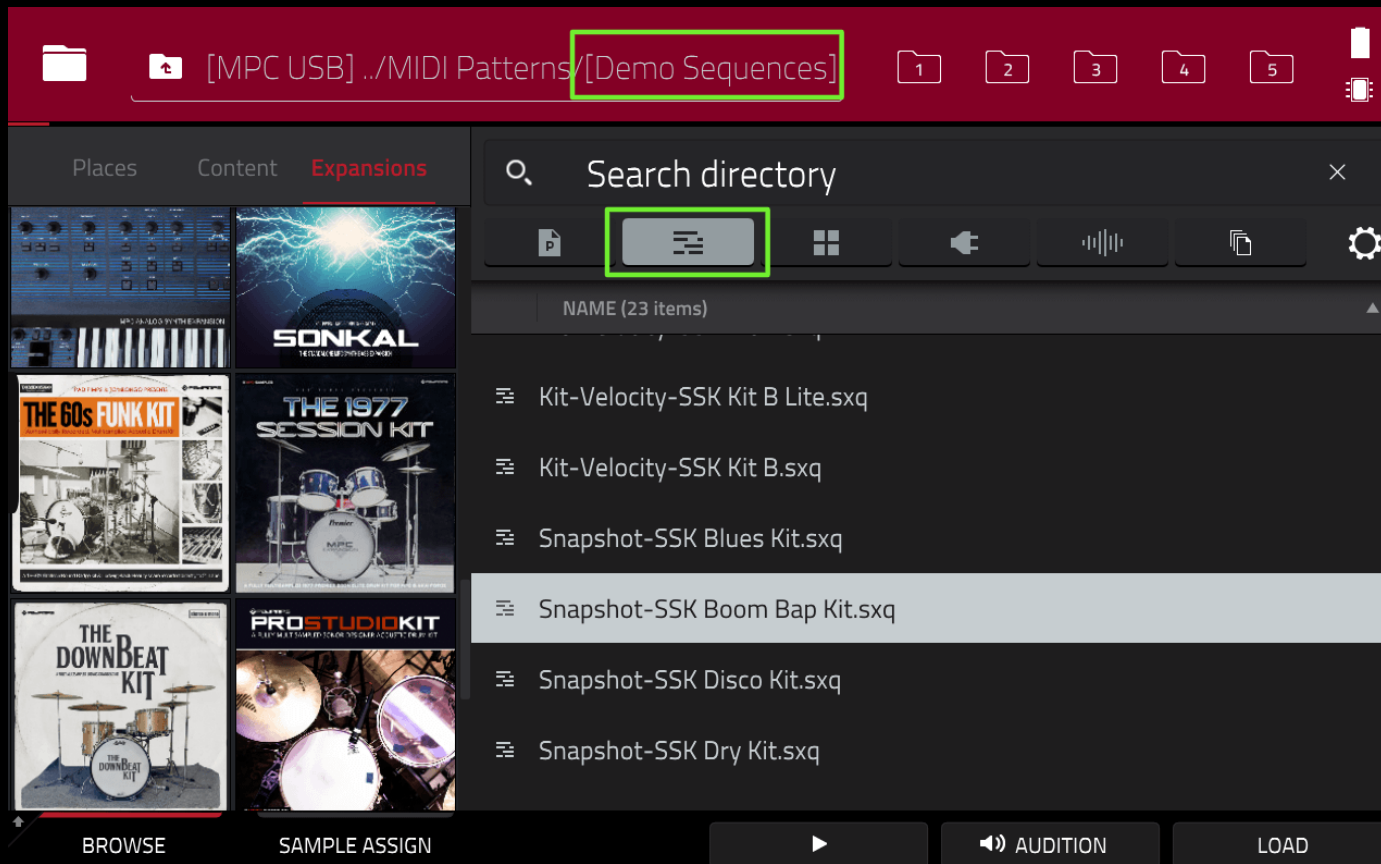
Your pattern will be loaded to the next available 'unused' track in your current sequence. Make sure this track is set up as a **DRUM** track and assign a kit to this track. Hit **PLAY START** to hear your pattern in action.

You can now view and manipulate the MIDI data using the MPC's many different sequencing functions (e.g. **LIST EDIT, GRID VIEW, MAIN, etc**). Check out the MPC Bible for many sequencing tutorials and workflows:

<https://www.mpc-samples.com/product.php/268/mpc-bible/>

## Demo Sequences

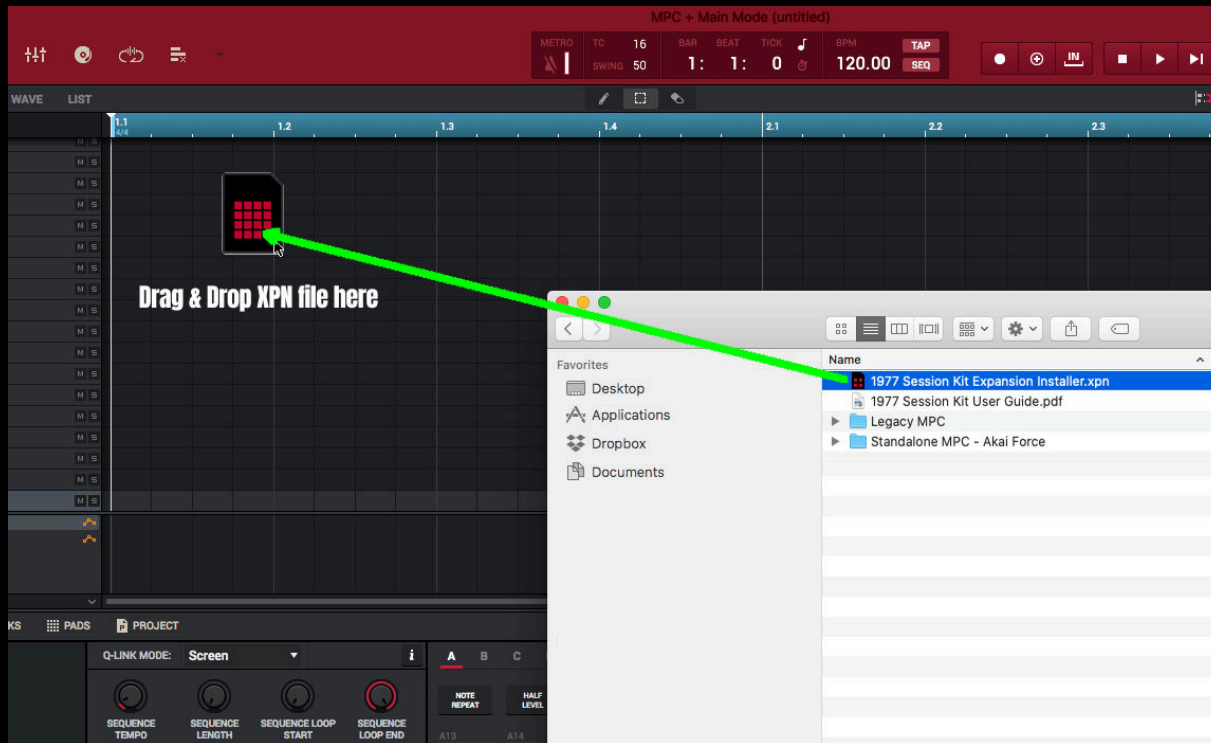
We have also included 15 demo sequences (one for each snapshot) which have been built from various MIDI patterns. These can also be found in the 'MIDI Patterns' folder via the '[**Demo Sequences**]' sub folder – again, make sure the 'MIDI' filter is enabled:



*Please note that in standalone mode, demo sequences do not auto-load their associated drum kit like they do in the MPC Software, so you'll have to load the drum kits manually.*

# Install: MPC Software/MPC Beats App

Locate the '1977 Session Kit Installer.XPN' file and drag & drop it directly into the MPC Software from your computer's File Explorer/Finder:



Please note that an XPN file **cannot** be installed by double-clicking, it must be dragged.

After dragging the XPN into the software UI you should see the following:



Select 'Import' and once installed, open the Expansion Browser ('X' on your keyboard), and click on the '1977 Session Kit' thumbnail to view:



The 1977 Session Kit  
Pad Pimps

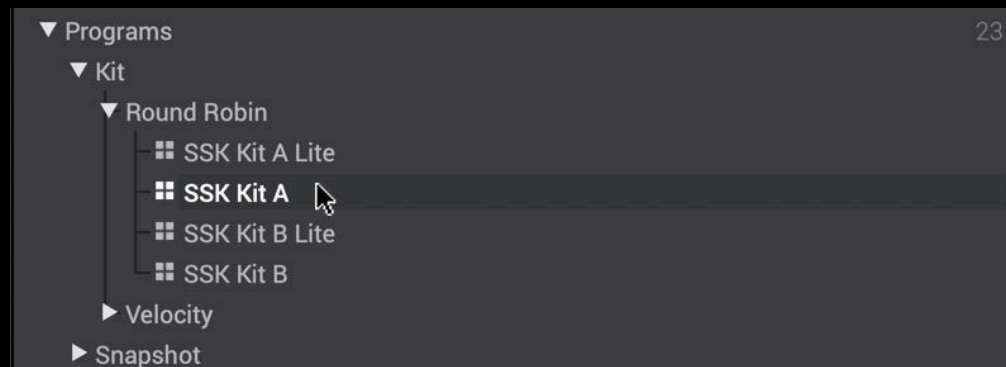
MPC SAMPLES PAD PIMPS PRESENTS

# THE 1977 SESSION KIT

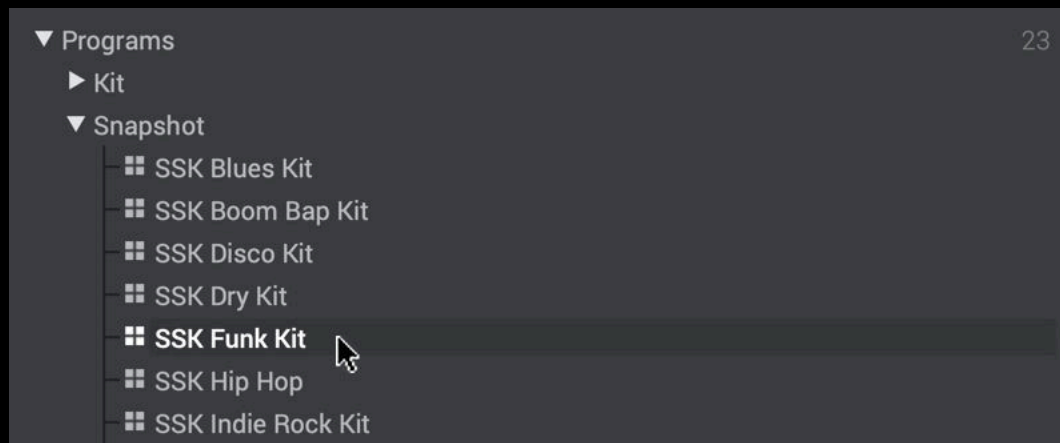
A FULLY MULTISAMPLED 1977 PREMIER B304 ELITE DRUM KIT FOR MPC & AKAI FORCE

▶ Programs	23
▶ Samples	612
▶ Patterns	129
▶ Sequences	23

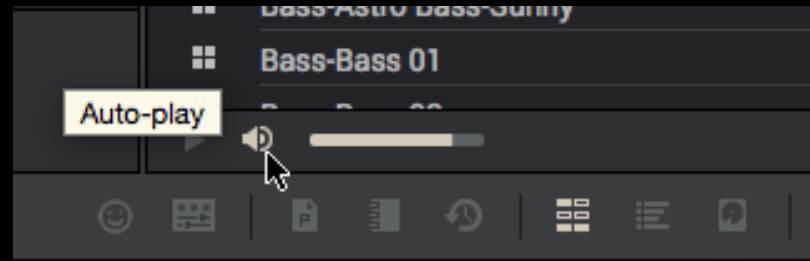
You will find the 'raw' acoustic kits within the '**Programs > Kits**' group, grouped by 'Velocity' and 'Round Robin':



Snapshot kits are found in the separate '**Snapshots**' group:



Single click the program to hear a preview (requires **'Autoplay'** enabled).



To load a kit, simply double-click the program or drag and drop it to a **'DRUM'** type track in your MPC sequence.

To load a pattern, first expand the **Patterns** group:

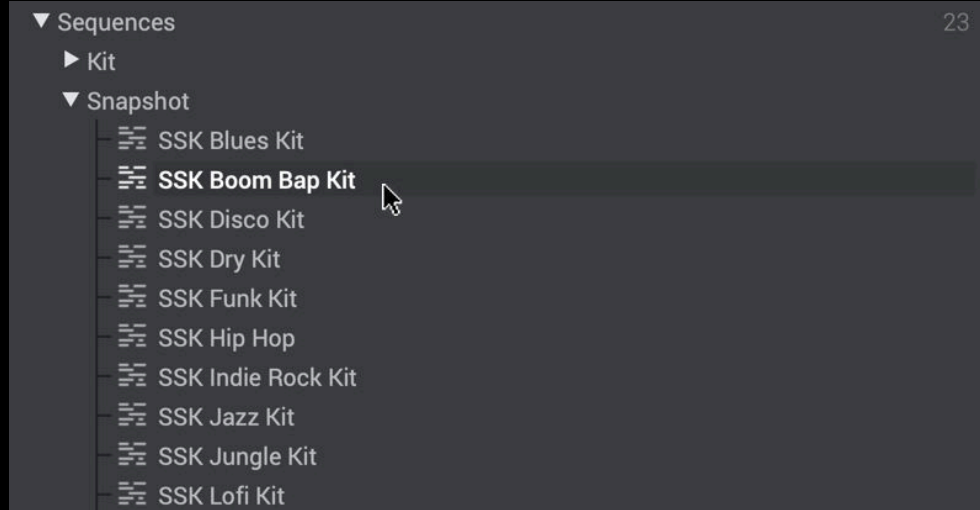
▼ Programs	23
▶ Kit	
▶ Snapshot	
▶ Samples	612
▼ Patterns	129
▶ Blues	
▶ Country	
▶ Disco	
▶ Funk	
▶ Hip Hop	
▶ Indie Rock	
▶ Jazz	
▶ Jungle	
▶ Lofi	
▶ Neo Soul	
▶ Pop	
▶ Punk	
▶ Reggae	
▶ Rock	
▶ Ska	
▶ Sequences	23

Expand a musical style to reveal the available grooves:



Single click on a pattern to preview the groove (this is a pre-recorded audio preview). Double click or drag and drop to load the pattern to the next 'unused' track in your current sequence – make sure this track is set as a DRUM track and assign a kit to this track.

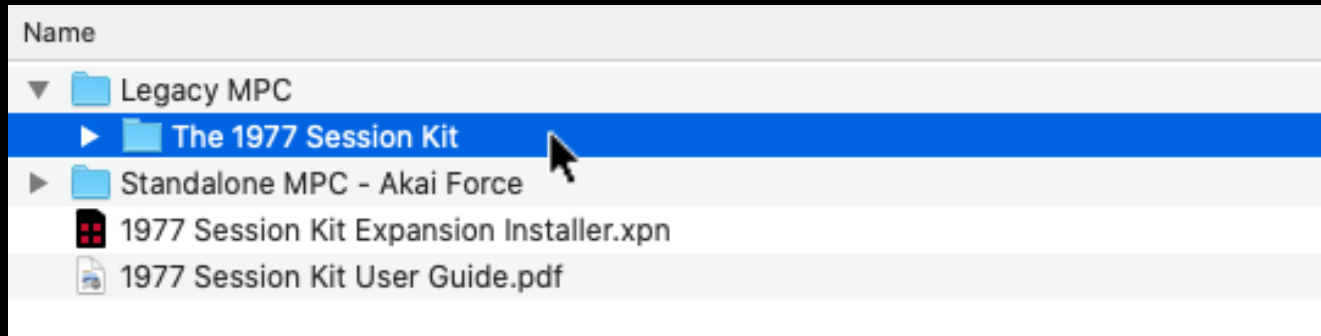
We've also provided a demo sequence for each kit – these are in the '**Sequences**' group:



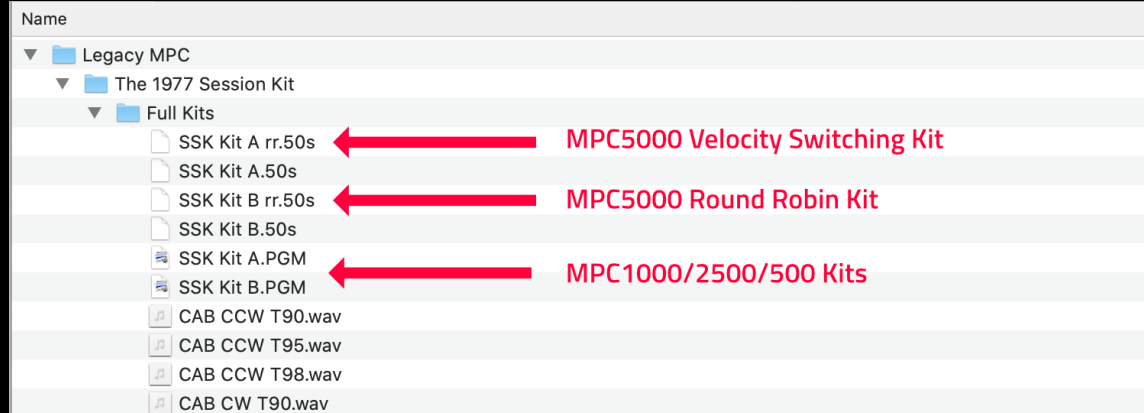
Just double click the sequence file to simultaneously load the demo sequence and the associated kit directly into your project.

# Install: Legacy MPCs

In the **Legacy MPC** folder we have provided legacy versions of the two raw kits A and B for the **MPC1000**, **MPC2500**, **MPC500** and **MPC5000** Simply copy the '**1977 Session Kit**' folder to your MPC disk:



The 3-layer versions of the kits are in the '**Full Kits**' sub folder. For the MPC1000, MPC500 and MPC2500, use the kits with the **.PGM** extension. For the MPC5000 use the kits with the **.50s** extensions (round robin versions contain the 'rr' tag):



We have also included a sub-folder called '**Lite Kits**' which contains single layer versions of the kits in PGM format for MPCs with only 16MB of RAM.

Finally the '**MIDI**' sub folder contains all the MIDI grooves (as '.SEQ' files), with a recommended tempo already set. To use, load a SEQ file and assign your chosen drum kit to track 1.

You can find more detailed legacy MPC transfer instructions here:

<https://www.mpc-samples.com/article/mpc-file-transfers>

# Further Resources

If you need help learning how to use your MPC, check out MPC-Tutor's range of **MPC tutorial** books and courses at:

<https://www.mpc-samples.com/section.php/8/0/mpc-tutorials-courses/>

The **1977 Session Kit** is part of our growing range of MPC and Force expansions – check out our entire range here, with loads of acoustic keys, pianos, drum kits, bass, synths & much, much more:

<https://www.mpc-samples.com/section.php/78/0/mpc-expansions/>

# Copyright & License

**'The 1977 Session Kit'**, published by MPC-Samples.com, 2023.

All recordings, MPC program files & audio previews by **Pad Pimps**. Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. User guide by MPC-Samples.com. Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved.

## License

MPC-Samples.com ('The Publisher') grants You a royalty free, non-exclusive, non-transferable, non-sublicenseable, worldwide License to use The 1977 Session Kit ('The Product') to create Musical Compositions for You and for third party projects, such as songs, albums, soundtracks, video and computer games as well as for use in public performances and media presentations. All other rights in and to The Product, including, without limitation, all copyright and other intellectual property rights relating to The Product are fully retained by the Publisher. Under no circumstances can The Product, or modified versions of The Product, be re-distributed, re-sold, sub-licensed, or used to form any part of a commercial sample library. THE SOUNDS ARE PROVIDED "AS IS" WITHOUT REPRESENTATION, WARRANTY OR CONDITION OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF MERCHANTABILITY, OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE PUBLISHER DOES NOT REPRESENT OR WARRANT THAT THE

SOUNDS WILL MEET YOUR REQUIREMENTS. THE ENTIRE RISK AS TO THE QUALITY, PERFORMANCE AND USE OF THE SOUNDS IS WITH YOU.

This License may be terminated without notice by The Publisher if at any time You fail to comply with any of its terms. Upon termination, You must immediately cease using The Sounds, delete all copies and archives of The Sounds and if requested, confirm to the Publisher in writing that You have complied with these requirements.

If You are unsure if this License covers Your intended use, please contact the Publisher for clarification; [licensing@mpc-samples.com](mailto:licensing@mpc-samples.com).

MPC-Samples.com is a trading name of Beat Box Digital LTD, a company registered in England & Wales, no. 06810062