

# Bome's Mouse Keyboard V2.00 beta 6

Welcome to Bome's Mouse Keyboard !

## OVERVIEW

This program primarily simulates a MIDI keyboard which you can play with the mouse or the computer keyboard. You can control your MIDI devices without having a real keyboard - for example you can play the internal synth of your sound card. With a virtual MIDI cable (for example Hubis Loopback Device or MIDI Yoke) you can play any sequences into your sequencer or route your external synthesizer through the chord-maker of Bome's Mouse Keyboard. Additionally, you can define as many knobs as you want and control with them any MIDI controller.

## SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- Windows 95/98/ME/NT4/2000/XP
- Some kind of MIDI connection/synthesizer/soundcard

*Optionally supported:*

- Mouse with wheel
- Joystick

## POSTCARDWARE

This program is not Freeware. It's PostcardWare. When you find that Bome's Mouse Keyboard is useful for you and you want to continue using it, you have 2 options:

1. Send me a real postcard (for private use only): Address at <http://www.bome.com/postcardware/>
2. Pay the registration fee (see register.txt for more details)  
Direct registration link on the secure server: <https://secure.element5.com/register.html?productid=143202>

In both cases, you'll receive an email with a personalized password to remove the PostcardWare reminder at startup. Obviously, the postcard way takes some time, whereas with an order by credit card, you'll get the licence key immediately.

On <http://www.bome.com/postcardware/> you'll find out more about the concept of PostcardWare.

If you don't have access to the Internet, send your postcard to my parents (they'll forward it to me):  
Florian Bomers / Colmarer Str.11 / 28211 Bremen / GERMANY

## QUICK START

1. Select a MIDI out device in the menu. Everything that you play will be sent to that MIDI device.
2. Now you can already play: Use the left mouse button or the keyboard keys. A right click will play in Pitching Mode: While the right mouse button is pressed, you can alter the pitch/modulation by moving the mouse horizontally/vertically.
3. Adjust the size of the keyboard by
  - resizing the window
  - changing the base note (Alt+Mouse drag)
  - adjust the key width (in the Settings Dialog)
4. Change the chord and play: Ahhh !
5. To find a good patch/program, enter the Hold Mode by playing a note with CTRL+right mouse button. The note will keep on being played when you release the mouse button. Now, change the program number or patch - it will replay your note for each new program so it's made easy browsing through the programs. The same applies to the bank numbers or chords. Which bank numbers to use is detailed in the documentation of your MIDI device.
6. Change the master volume with the volume knob. You can add more knobs in the menu "Knobs|Set Up...".

## TUTORIALS

For more tutorials, see <http://www.bome.com/midi/keyboard/help/> .

## ADVANCED FUNCTIONALITY

*\*\*\* not all beta functions included yet in this description \*\*\**

When you have a real keyboard connected to your computers MIDI port, select this as MIDI in and check the menu Options|Midi thru. Like this, the keys you play on the real keyboard are visualized on the mouse keyboard and the note and any chords you selected are routed to the MIDI out device.

To use several mouse keyboards at once (with their own settings and knobs) create a copy of MouseKeyboard.exe under a new name, e.g. SynthKeyb.exe. SynthKeyb will then use its own set of settings.

## MOUSE OPERATIONS

### There are several modes to play with the mouse:

- Left mouse button: "Normal Mode": the note/chord that you press down will be played. Moving the mouse while having the mouse button pressed will always play the new note/chord and release the old one.
- Right mouse button: "Pitching" mode: only the initially pressed note/chord will be played. With moving the mouse while the right mouse button is still pressed you can alter 2 controllers - one is changed by moving up/down, the other one by moving left/right. When you release the right mouse button, the note/chord will stop playing. You can set these controllers in the Settings dialog. By default, you change pitch and modulation wheel.
- CTRL+mouse button: "Hold Mode": When you release the mouse button while holding down CTRL, the note/chord will keep on playing. The note will not be released before you play another note with the mouse. While a note is on hold, you can change patch/program, chords, etc. to browse through them: each time you change something, the note will be replayed with the new patch/program/chord.
- SHIFT: Pressing SHIFT while playing will lower the velocity of the played notes/chords. The velocity is the dynamic volume of the key. It differs from the general volume in that it does not change the volume of anything else played on that synthesizer - just the notes played with the mouse are affected. You can set the amount of lowering in the Settings dialog.

### Other mouse operations:

- ALT+left mouse button on the keyboard: Drag the mouse keyboard left/right to change the view of keys.
- Wheels (at left of keyboard): You change the value by dragging the mouse up and down. Holding SHIFT while dragging is the "Fine Mode" which will give fine control. Double clicking the wheel will revert it back to its default position. For the pitch wheel, holding CTRL while releasing the mouse button will keep the wheel at its position without rolling back into the middle position. You can change the controller of the right wheel in the Settings dialog.
- Mouse Wheel: (the little wheel on the mouse itself - where present):
- You can change a controller with the mouse wheel. Holding down shift while rolling is the Fine Mode as with operating the wheels. The controller which is changed with the mouse wheel can be chosen in the Settings Dialog.
- Knobs: They work exactly the same way as the wheels (including Fine Mode with SHIFT and double click). However, the knobs will be selected (blue on selection) and grab the mouse wheel while selected. So rolling the mouse wheel while a knob is selected, will always change the knob controller. Once a knob is selected, you can also change its value with the cursor up/down and page up/down keys.

## COMPUTER KEYBOARD OPERATIONS

### The computer keyboard has 2 manuals mapped to the notes:

- The first manual occupies the first 2 rows: the 1st row ("23567..." on English keyboard layout) are black keys, while the second row ("qwerty..." on English layout) are the white keys.
- The second manual is used analogously with the third and fourth rows of the computer keyboard. It is one octave lower than the first manual. By default, the first white key is mapped to note "C", i.e. keys Q and Z on the English keyboard layout. You can change this in the Settings Dialog.

Playing with SHIFT pressed down will lower the velocity just as it does when playing with the mouse.

### There are a number of key shortcuts that you can use:

*(SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOR FINAL RELEASE)*

<b>chord +/-</b>	Pos1/End	<b>Knob Editor</b>	Ctrl+K
<b>patch +/-</b>	PageUp/PageDown	<b>Chord Editor</b>	Ctrl+E
<b>program +/-</b>	Shift+PageUp/Shift+PageDown	<b>Choose Patch set</b>	Ctrl+P
<b>Panic</b>	Ctrl+Space	<b>Octave +/-</b>	F3/F4
<b>Transpose</b>	Ctrl+T	<b>Apply Snapshot</b>	F5...F12
<b>Settings</b>	Ctrl+S	<b>Store Snapshot</b>	Ctrl+F5...Ctrl+F12

## KNOBS, PATCHES, SNAPSHOTS, JOYSTICK, TRANPOSE, DISTRIBUTION

...Later

Bome's Mouse Keyboard may be distributed freely in the form of the original distribution file. Please write me a short email when you write a review of Bome's Mouse Keyboard.

## COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, PROPOSALS, PROBLEMS, BUGS

Go to <http://www.bome.com/contact.php?subject=MouseKeyboard2beta6>

## UPDATES

Latest updates can be downloaded at <http://www.bome.com/midi/keyboard/>

There you can also subscribe to the announcement mailing list, which will keep you up to date of further developments.

## VERSION HISTORY

### 03/2003, 2.00 beta 6

- new installer
- detect virtual MIDI driver feedback loops
- safer panic function
- fixed bug when scrolling base note with mouse.

### 04/2001, 2.00 beta 5 (in order of programming):

- fixed note hold when changing octave while playing
- note off ALWAYS when a computer key is released - no matter what state of shift/ctrl/alt
- alt+mouse drag on keyboard: shift the keyboard
- settings: choose whether to have the base note buttons (arrow buttons)
- knob editor external window
- knob editor: fixed problem with update
- Shift+Mousewheel = fine mode (also for knobs)
- shift+play: alternate velocity (settings)
- mouse play over the edges
- new Shift/Ctrl/Alt combinations for mouse/keyboard playing
- mouse play: change play mode "on the fly" by pressing left and right buttons at once
- fixed bug when controller for "Pitching Mode" was set to "none"

### 03/2001, 2.00 beta 4 (in order of programming):

- new graphics/colors
- File|Exit now works
- Loadable patch sets in cubase format
- "sorted" in PatchList
- stay on top
- extensive joystick control
- change keyboard mapping - which computer key corresponds to note "C"
- also play when knobs etc. are focused
- panic button
- key names are displayed when defined in Cubase patch script (e.g. for drums)
- save snapshot of knobs
- cleaned registry usage
- key names are displayed when played with the computer keyboard
- more "intelligent" knob layout
- tooltip window for knobs while tracking
- "sticky" Pitch (with CTRL)
- Foot controller (FC) removed (can be done as knob)
- Pitch/MW as image, remove their number-box
- arrow buttons at left and right to change base note instead of slider
- by default the MIDI Mapper is opened for MIDI Out and the first Midi in port is opened (->instant fun!)
- moved octave, base note, and current note display to statusbar
- transpose (also for MIDI thru)
- chord editor
- keyboard shortcuts for changing patch, program, chord, etc.
- mouse wheel support (as modulation wheel, etc.)
- new internal algorithm for knobs - cleaner handling.
- knobs are now stored in the registry. Use the import/export functions to use the old ini files.
- fixed bug: knob preset is not always loaded correctly
- import/Export of settings, knob presets, knob snapshots, chords to ini files for easy transfer across installations/computers.

### 03/1999, V1.01

- added playing with computer keyboard
- added Knob presets

### 03/1999, V1.00

- initial Release

## THANKS

Many people have made proposals and bug reports. Among these are Sören Åslund, Falk, Jason Hensley, Sascha Kamps, Moohman, Felix Petrescu, Christian Segui. Thank you very much ! When you feel your name is missing here, send me an email.

## COPYRIGHT

Bome's Mouse Keyboard is (c) 1999-2003 by Florian Bomers  
<http://www.bome.com/>