



no octaves MTS pack

This free pack contains new tunings and scales for your Xen-Arts virtual synthesizer.

Information

The No Octaves Pack features a variety of tunings which, you guessed it, contain no octaves.

The octave is the interval between one pitch and another at half or double its frequency. It's what makes an A at 440Hz the same identity as an A at 880 or 220Hz.

Wait, aren't octaves really important in music? It's true that almost all of the world's musical traditions use the octave in their tuning. There are exceptions, such as those which repeat at the perfect fifth or perfect twelfth. There's no rule about using octaves.

What does it sound like to use a scale with no octave? Imagine we start from the note A. Without an octave in the scale, there is no higher or lower As anywhere else. It appears only once. So the further you climb up or down the scale, the more unique pitches you will hear, and the further you'll be from A. It's an ocean of chaos. Pleasant harmonies occur in unexpected places (same goes for the unpleasant). Chord inversions become impossible. All rhyme and reason of what "should" work are thrown out the window. It becomes more important to rely on what sounds good.

This microtuning pack features three families of non-octave scales.

Our first family is the **ED₃ (equal divisions of 3/1)**. These are like the common n-TET scales (e.g. 12-TET divides the octave into 12 equal parts). In an ED₃, we divide a perfect twelfth (a fifth plus an octave) into equal parts.

Then we have the **ED_{phi} (equal divisions of phi)**. Like ED₃ and TET, we divide an interval into a number of equal pieces. This time, that interval is the Golden Ratio (ϕ , phi). This number is found commonly in nature. As a musical interval, phi is very dissonant. Perhaps the most dissonant of all.

The last family of tunings we have is the CET. These scales repeat at some small interval. To put things simply, these scales have a similar shape to the ED₃ and ED_{phi} scales.

Notes

Why no 13 ED₃ file? 13 ED₃ is also known as the Bohlen-Pierce scale, and is already included with every Xen-Arts synth.

Pack Contents

Equal divisions of 3/1

8 ED₃ (stretched version of 5 TET)

9 ED₃

10 ED₃

11 ED₃

12 ED₃

13 ED₃

14 ED₃

15 ED₃

16 ED₃

17 ED₃

18 ED₃

19 ED₃ (stretched version of 12 TET)

Equal divisions of the Golden Ratio (phi)

4 EDphi

5 EDphi

6 EDphi

7 EDphi

8 EDphi

9 EDphi

10 EDphi

11 EDphi

12 EDphi

Cent equal temperaments

65 CET

88 CET

This pack of microtunings was downloaded from sevish.com – Head there for more tuning packs and to check out [my microtonal music](#).

The microtuning files (.mid) are designed to work with the outstanding, free VST synthesizers from [Xen Arts](#). Download them and make some microtonal music!