

K-Category & Info Editor 0.1

Quick guide – categories, info texts and names in a Kurzweil object file

Before you start

K-Category & Info Editor is a free, privately developed tool. It is not affiliated with, endorsed by or supported by Kurzweil. Kurzweil and all model names are trademarks of their respective owners.

The tool is provided as is, without any warranty. You use it at your own risk; to the extent permitted by law, no liability is accepted for damage or loss of data resulting from its use.

⚠ Before you load a file made with this tool into your keyboard, make sure you have a working FULL BACKUP of the keyboard.

The tool was developed with the help of AI. Its knowledge of the file format comes from analysing Kurzweil object files and public documentation, not from Kurzweil source code or specifications. It runs entirely in your browser - your files are not uploaded anywhere.

1 What the tool does

K-Category & Info Editor opens one Kurzweil object file – a backup or an export – and changes three things about the Programs and Multis in it: the Category and Subcategory of a Program, the Info text of a Program or a Multi, and the name of a single object. Saving writes a modified COPY; the file you opened is never touched.

It is built for a tablet held in portrait and operated with a finger: every target is at least 44 px and nothing depends on hovering or right-clicking. It runs entirely in the browser – no account, no server, no upload.

Deliberately not in it: no factory database (only what the file holds is shown), no QA banks (that is the K-QA Bank Editor), no MIDI, no renumbering, no bulk renaming, and no model switch – the file extension decides the model and nothing else.

Nothing is remembered between sessions. Every load starts a fresh edit, and closing the page throws away whatever has not been saved – the browser asks first.

2 Running it

One self-contained HTML file: copy it anywhere, open it, done. It works from the file manager, from a USB stick or from a web server, and it needs no network. Chrome, Edge, Firefox and Safari all run it, on desktop and on a tablet.

Every start opens with the notice from “Before you start” above; press I understand to continue. It is shown every time, because the tool remembers nothing between sessions.

Unlike the K-QA Bank Editor this tool never talks to the instrument, so there is no Web MIDI, no permission and no requirement to serve it over https. A file opened straight from the file manager is fine.

3 The screen

Where	What
Header	The app name, then Undo / Redo, then the File button – which carries the NAME of the loaded file. It turns amber while something has been changed and not written yet.
Tab strip	PROGRAMS and MULTIS.
Filter bar	Search by name or ID, and the filters: category, subcategory, and with / without info.
Table	One row per object. A tap selects. The left edge of a changed row carries an amber bar.
Action bar	How many are shown and selected, then Select many / All / None, then the editing buttons and Copy table.
Status bar	What just happened, and why something was refused.

4 Opening a file

Drop the file anywhere on the page, or press File ► Open a file. Both do the same thing.

The model comes from the file extension and cannot be switched. That is deliberate: a category number means something different on every model, so showing a .FOR file through the PC4's table would put wrong names on the screen with nothing looking wrong.

What is read	Detail
Programs	ID, name, category, subcategory, info text
Multis	ID, name, info text
Everything else	Skipped. Keymaps, samples, FX chains and the rest pass through the save untouched.

△ Only the object database is read, never the whole file. A backup holding your own samples carries the raw audio in a region behind the objects, and that region is usually far larger than the objects themselves. It is left exactly where it is and is copied through on save, so even a multi-gigabyte backup opens in seconds and comes out whole.

5 Picking what to change

The filters do the heavy lifting; the selection is the last step. The usual move is: narrow the list, press All, then press the button.

Control	What it does
Tap a row	Picks that one row and drops the one before it.
Select many	Switches that to add-and-remove, so a tap adds a row to the selection instead of replacing it. It is off when a file is opened.
All	Selects everything the filters left – not the whole file. It switches Select many on as it selects, or the next tap on a row would throw the whole selection away.

Control	What it does
Shift-click	With a mouse or keyboard: selects the RANGE from the row clicked last to this one, in the order the table shows. With Select many on, the range is added to what is already selected.
None	Clears the selection.
Search	Name and ID only – never the info text. Info is long prose, and searching it fills the table with rows whose names have nothing to do with what was typed.
Info: any / with / without	This is how info is picked out instead.
Subcategory filter	Matches by NAME and works with no category chosen, so “show me everything called Tine EP 77” is one step.
Column headings	Tap to sort, tap again to reverse.

6 Categories

Select the Programs, press Category, pick a category, pick a subcategory, press Assign. Each row in the sheet shows how many of the SELECTED Programs already carry it, which answers “did my filter catch what I meant?” before anything changes.

Both halves are always offered, and the button names the pair it will write – for example “Assign Organ / British Combo”. On the PC3, SP4 and Artis generation Kurzweil defined no subcategories at all, so the list there holds the single row “None”. That is the honest answer: it is the only value those models have.

6.1 “unknown ID (n)”

A category number the model does not define is shown in amber as unknown ID (14) rather than given an invented name. That is normal in a file that came from another model – the Forte has 21 categories, the PC4 family 14, the SP8 11 – and it is exactly what the instrument itself shows as “- - -”.

Assigning a category is the cure. The tool does not translate categories between models on its own - which category a sound belongs to on the target model is your call.

7 Info texts

Select any number of Programs or Multis, press Info, type, press Assign. The same text goes to all of them. Clear removes it again.

Program Info and Multi Info look alike on screen and are two entirely different objects underneath, with different rules:

	Program Info	Multi Info
Where it lives	Inside the Program object itself	Its own object, sharing the Multi's ID
Length	128 characters	230 characters
“@”	An ordinary character	A LINE BREAK on the instrument's three-line display – at most 2

	Program Info	Multi Info
Models	Every modern model	⚠ PC4, K2700, K2061/88 and SP8 only

Anything that is not printable ASCII is dropped while typing, and a tab becomes five spaces. Leading, trailing and repeated spaces are kept exactly as typed – they are how text is positioned on that small display. In the table a Multi's info is shown broken at its “@”, so the layout on screen is the layout on the instrument.

On a model without Multi Info the Multis are still listed and any text already there is still shown; the Info button is switched off and says why.

⚠ Clear REMOVES the info rather than blanking it. The instrument shows something different for “no info” than for “empty info”, so the two are not the same state.

8 Renaming

Rename is on only while EXACTLY ONE row is selected. A name is the one thing here that is not a property several objects can share – giving twelve Programs the same name is never what anyone meant.

16 characters, printable ASCII. Trailing spaces are kept, because Kurzweil's own names use them to line up in a list.

9 Changes, Undo and the way back

What you see	What it means
Amber bar at the left of a row	This object differs from the file the app is currently measured against.
Amber File button	Something is changed and not written yet.
Undo / Redo	40 steps, covering every category, info and name change. It is not carried across a page reload.
File ▶ Changed	How many Programs and Multis differ, with a Discard button that puts everything back to what the file said. That is itself one undo step.

Saving clears the amber marks: the file that was just written becomes the state everything is measured against from then on, and the app takes its name. The File sheet still says what it was opened as.

10 Saving

1. File ▶ Save as.
2. Check the name. The line under the field shows exactly what will be written.
3. Save file. The browser puts it wherever it puts downloads.

Everything the file held is carried over – every object of every type, and the sample audio behind them. Only the category bytes, the info texts and the names you changed are different.

⚠ The extension is always written in UPPER CASE, and on everything older than the PC4 the name is also cut to 8 characters and upper-cased. This is not cosmetic: with a lower-case extension the instrument does not recognise the file

properly and offers a REDUCED set of load options – Overwrite among them. The file looks loadable and quietly cannot do what you want.

Before a single byte is written the rebuilt file is walked once more the way the instrument walks it. If a size field does not add up, nothing is written at all and the status bar says what did not fit.

11 Loading it on the instrument

This tool edits objects that are already on your keyboard and puts them back, so the load mode matters more here than it does for a file of new sounds.

When a file is loaded, the instrument offers FILL or OVERWRITE, and OVERWRITE then asks a second question with two answers. Only one of the three is right for this tool:

Choice	What it does
FILL	Asks for an ID to start filling from. From there each object type is loaded into the free IDs; occupied ones are skipped and never overwritten, so every object gets a NEW ID. The normal way to load new sounds. ⚠ Not what you want here: you get a second copy of every edited object under a new number, and the originals stay unchanged.
OVERWRITE ▶ NO-MERGE	What you want. Every object goes to the ID it has in the file, and whatever sits there is overwritten. This is how changes made with this tool go back onto the instrument.
OVERWRITE ▶ YES	⚠ Deletes ALL your user objects first, then loads the file at its IDs. Only for putting your user objects back to the state of a full backup.

⚠ NO-MERGE and YES sit right next to each other. Take a breath before pressing: with an edited export, YES leaves you with nothing but the objects in that file.

An OS 4 instrument never overwrites a FACTORY object with a load. A file carrying factory IDs is therefore harmless: those objects simply have nowhere to land.

Category and info changes take effect as soon as the object is loaded; the category is what the instrument sorts and filters by, and the info text is what it shows on the display.

⚠ Clearing a Multi's info only clears it IN THE FILE. It removes the Multi Info object, and a load only ever writes what the file contains - so after OVERWRITE ▶ NO-MERGE the old info is still on the instrument and has to be deleted there.

The one exception is OVERWRITE ▶ YES with a full backup: the instrument deletes all user objects first and loads the complete file afterwards, so a Multi Info that is no longer in the file is gone from the instrument too. A Program's info is different in every case - it sits inside the Program itself, so clearing it travels with the Program.

12 Supported models

Series	Extensions	Subcategories	Multi Info
K2 series	.K27 .K20	yes	yes
PC4 series	.PC4 .P4S	yes	.PC4 only
Forte series	.FOR .FSE	yes	no

Series	Extensions	Subcategories	Multi Info
PC3 family	.P3A .P3K .PC3 .PLE	no – none defined	no
SP series	.SP8 .SP6 .SPX (SP4/SP5)	.SP8 and .SP6 yes	.SP8 only
Artis series	.ART .ASE	no – none defined	no

The K2000, K2500 and K2600 are refused with a reason: their objects use the older K2 layout, with no category bytes and no info field, so there is nothing here to edit.

13 If something does not work

Symptom	Cause and cure
"Not a Kurzweil object file"	The file has no COOL header. A .KUF update file, a SysEx dump or a K2000-family PRAM/SROM file are all different formats.
"not a Kurzweil object file extension"	The extension decides the model, so it has to be one of those in chapter 12. Renaming the file to the right extension is fine if you know which model it came from.
Every category reads unknown ID (n)	The file is from another model than its extension says – or it really does carry numbers this model has no name for. See 6.1.
The Info button on Multis is greyed out	The model has no Multi Info object. Chapter 7.
Rename is greyed out	Nothing is selected, or more than one row is. It is one object at a time on purpose.
"could not be given a NEW info field" after a save	A few Programs have an internal structure the tool will not insert into safely, so it refuses rather than risk the file. Existing info texts in those Programs can still be edited; only adding a first one is off.
"the rebuilt file did not check out"	Nothing was written. The self-check found a size field that does not add up – please report the file and what was changed.
The instrument shows a second copy of everything	The file was loaded with FILL instead of OVERWRITE ► NO-MERGE. Chapter 11.
All my other user objects are gone	OVERWRITE ► YES was pressed instead of NO-MERGE. Load your last full backup with OVERWRITE ► YES to get them back, then load the edited file with NO-MERGE.
Overwrite is not offered on the instrument	The extension is not upper case. Save again – the tool writes it upper case, so the name was probably changed afterwards.

14 Numbers worth knowing

What	Value
Object name	16 printable characters
Program Info	128 characters, "@" is an ordinary character

What	Value
Multi Info	230 characters, at most 2 "@" line breaks
Categories per model	14 on the PC4 family, 21 on the Forte and the PC3 family, 11 on the SP8, SP6 and PC4 SE, 22 on the SP4/SP5, 19 on the Artis
Undo history	40 edits, not carried across a page reload
File name	Upper-case extension always; 8 characters plus extension, upper case, before the PC4