Categories & Subcategories

How Kurzweil keyboards sort their programs, and what the display backgrounds mean

This guide lists the category definition in use since the PC4 generation - the PC4, K2700 and K2061/K2088, and in part the Forte, whose categories 1 to 4 are the same. The pictures are the display backgrounds of the K2061/K2088 OS; they have been in use since the Forte, which has a page of its own for its numbering. Older and smaller models number their categories differently; the tables on the last page show how.

Selecting programs with the Category buttons

Programs are sorted by instrument type into categories - 13 in the current definition: Piano, E.Piano, Clavier, Organ, Strings, Pads, Synths, Brass, Ensemble, Hybrid, Guitar/Bass, Drums/Perc and Misc. Multis are not categorised.

- In Program Mode, press the CATEGORY button so that it lights up. It is always off in Multi Mode.
- Press one of the Category buttons. The keyboard jumps to the first program of that category - or to its Category Default Program - and the button lights.
- Turn the Alpha Wheel or use PREVIOUS and NEXT to browse. At the end of a category the list simply continues with the next one, and backwards likewise.
- To make another program the Category Default: select it, make sure CATEGORY is on, and press and hold the lit Category button.
- With CATEGORY off the same buttons are a number pad: type a program ID and press ENTER. Browsing then runs by ID only and ignores the categories.
- The USER button limits browsing to your own programs, ordered by category and then ID.

Programs without a category (category 0, None) are shown as Piano.

What subcategories are

Every program carries a category and a subcategory, stored as two numbers in the program. The display shows neither number - only the program ID and name. Category and subcategory can be recognised by the background picture, and by the tab with a name at its upper left. Subcategory 0 means None.

On the keyboard a subcategory has exactly one job: it decides which background picture and colour the display shows - the pictures on the next pages. The tab is used in different ways: in general it shows the main category, but with some categories it shows the subcategory instead (Celeste, SynBass and Percussion, for example). Only some categories have subcategories with a picture of their own: Piano, E.Piano, Clavier, Organ, Strings, Synths, Guitar/Bass and Drums/Perc; the others show one picture only. In most of them None uses the picture of the first subcategory; E.Piano and Strings give None a picture of its own.

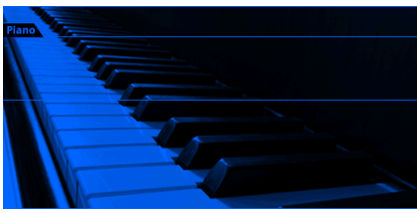
Good to know: on the keyboard itself you cannot change the subcategory of a program, and you cannot browse, filter or search by subcategory - the Category buttons work on the main categories only. Because the subcategory is stored in the program, it can be changed with external tools: edit the backup file and load it back into the keyboard.

Backgrounds that look the same on the keyboard are shown once on the next pages (1.0 None, for example, uses the picture of 1.1 German).

The background pictures

Category and subcategory number, with the display background it selects.

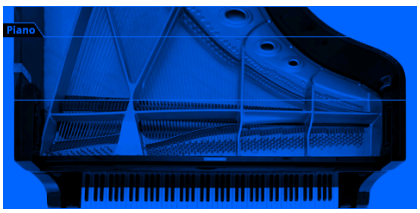
1 Piano



1.1 German also 1.0 None, 0.0 None

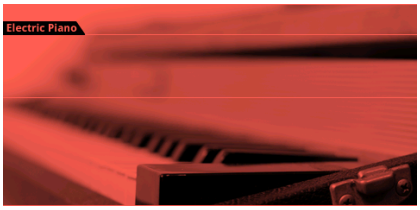


1.2 Japanese

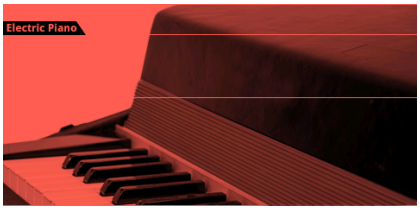


1.3 Triple Strike

2 E.Piano



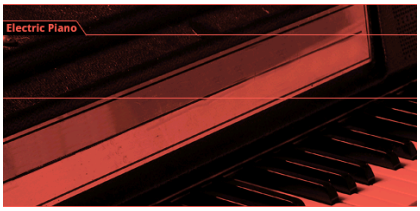
2.0 None



2.1 Tine EP 77



2.2 Tine EP 73



2.3 Reed EP

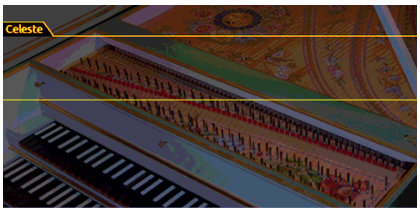
3 Clavier



3.1 Clav also 3.0 None

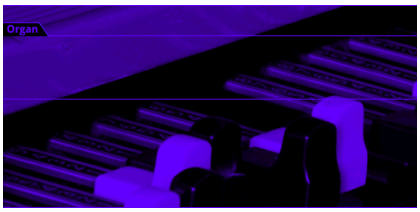


3.2 Harpsichord

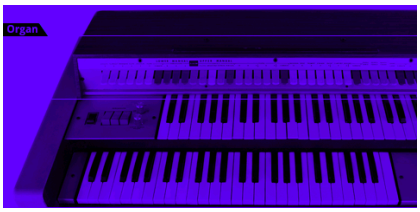


3.3 Celeste

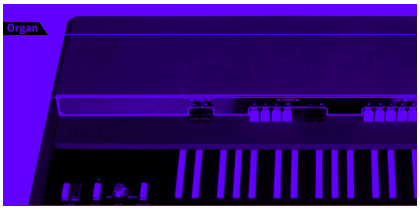
4 Organ



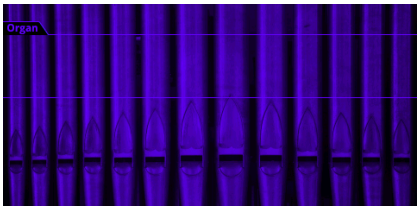
4.1 Tone Wheel also 4.0 None



4.2 Italian Combo

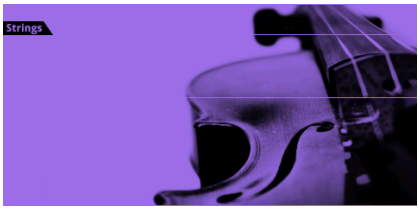


4.3 British Combo



4.4 Pipe

5 Strings



5.0 None



5.1 Tape Strings

6 Pads



6.0 None

7 Synths



7.1 Poly also 7.0 None



7.2 Lead



7.3 SynBass

8 Brass



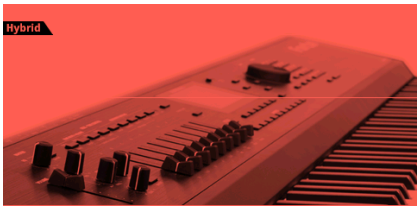
8.0 None

9 Ensemble



9.0 None

10 Hybrid



10.0 None

11 Guitar/Bass



11.1 Guitar also 11.0 None

12 Drums/Perc



11.2 Bass

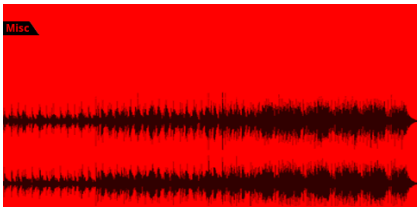


12.1 Drums also 12.0 None



12.2 Percussion

13 Misc



13.0 None

Forte and Forte SE

The Forte numbers its categories differently: 1 to 4 are the same as above, from 5 on it follows the older layout with 21 categories (0 to 20). Most of its pictures are identical to the ones above; a few are the Forte's own (Pads, Synths, Drums), and Winds, Voices and Mallets come with pictures of their own.

Which picture belongs to which Forte subcategory is concluded from the tab text and the subcategory names - please check it on an instrument. Where the picture for None is not known, only the numbered subcategories are shown.

5 Leads



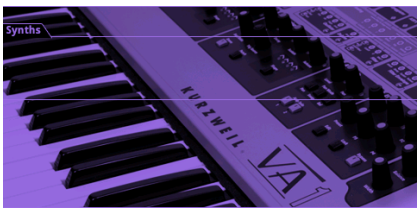
5.0 None

6 Pads



6.0 None

7 Synths



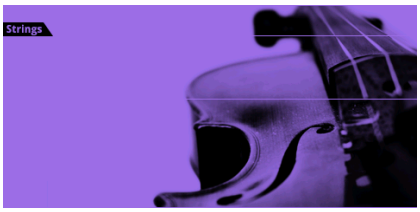
7.0 None

8 SynBass



8.0 None

9 Strings



9.0 None



9.1 Tape Strings

10 Brass



10.0 None

11 Winds



11.0 None



11.1 Tape Winds

12 Ensemble



12.0 None

13 Guitar



13.1 Acoustic



13.2 Electric

14 Bass



14.1 Acoustic



14.2 Electric

15 Drums



15.0 None

16 Percussion



16.0 None

17 Voices

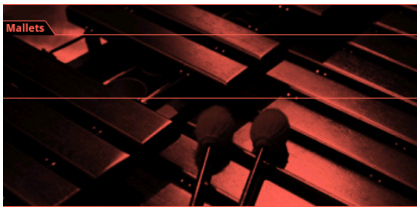


17.0 None



17.1 Tape Voices

18 Mallets



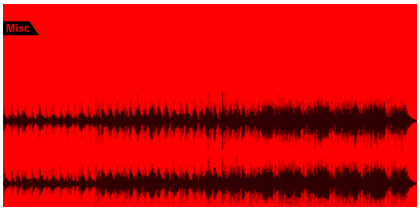
18.0 None

19 Hybrid



19.0 None

20 Misc



20.0 None

Category numbers by model family

The same number means different things on different families - a program moved between them must be renumbered. A dash: no such category.

ID	PC4 K2700 K2061/88	PC4 SE	SP8 SP6	Forte Forte SE	PC3 | PC3A PC3K PC3LE	SP4 SP5	Artis Artis SE
0	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
1	Piano	Piano	Piano	Piano	Piano	Piano	Piano
2	E.Piano	E.Piano	E.Piano	E.Piano	E.Piano	E.Piano	E.Piano
3	Clavier	Clavier	Clavier	Clavier	Clavier	Clavier	Clavier
4	Organ	Organ	Organ	Organ	Organ	Organ	Organ
5	Strings	Strings/Pads	Strings/Pads	Leads	Leads	Leads	Leads
6	Pads	Brass/Winds	Brass/Winds	Pads	Pads	Pads	Pads
7	Synths	Synths	Voices/Misc	Synths	Synths	Synths	Synths
8	Brass	Guitar/Bass	Leads/Synths	SynBass	SynBass	SynBass	SynBass
9	Ensemble	Drums/Perc	Guitar/Bass	Strings	Strings	Strings	Strings
10	Hybrid	Misc	Drums/Perc	Brass	Brass	Brass	Brass
11	Guitar/Bass	-	-	Winds	Winds	Winds	Winds
12	Drums/Perc	-	-	Ensemble	Ensemble	Ensemble	Ensemble
13	Misc	-	-	Guitar	Guitar	Guitar	Guitar
14	-	-	-	Bass	Bass	Bass	Bass
15	-	-	-	Drums	Drums	Drums	Drums
16	-	-	-	Percussion	Percussion	Percussion	Percussion
17	-	-	-	Voices	Voices	Voices	Voices
18	-	-	-	Mallets	Mallets	Mallets	Mallets
19	-	-	-	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	-
20	-	-	-	Misc	Sound FX	Misc	-
21	-	-	-	-	-	Test Tones	-

Subcategories on the other families

PC4 SE - categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 as in the PC4 generation; 5 Strings/Pads: Tape Strings, Pads; 6 Brass/Winds: Brass, Winds; 8 Guitar/Bass: Guitar, Bass; 9 Drums/Perc: Drums, Percussion.

SP8 - categories 1, 2, 3, 4 as in the PC4 generation; 5 Strings/Pads: Strings, Pads, Tape Strings; 6 Brass/Winds: Brass, Winds; 8 Leads/Synths: Synth, Lead, SynBass; 9 Guitar/Bass: Guitar, Bass; 10 Drums/Perc: Drums, Percussion.

SP6 - categories 1, 2, 3, 4 as in the PC4 generation.

Forte / Forte SE - categories 1, 2, 3, 4 as in the PC4 generation; 9 Strings: Tape Strings; 11 Winds: Tape Winds; 13 Guitar: Acoustic, Electric; 14 Bass: Acoustic, Electric; 17 Voices: Tape Voices.

PC3 / PC3A / PC3K / PC3LE - no subcategories.

SP4 / SP5 - no subcategories.

Artis / Artis SE - no subcategories.