

POLKASOUND PRODUCTIONS

M-W Bb TUBA VIRTUAL INSTRUMENT



Installation: Unzip the downloaded file and put the “M-W Bb Tuba” folder wherever you typically store your Kontakt instruments on your computer. If you plan on downloading more than one Polkasound Productions virtual instrument, I recommend you make a “Polkasound Productions” folder exclusively for them. For example:

- 📁 Local Drive (C:)
 - 📁 My Kontakt Instruments
 - 📁 Polkasound Productions
 - 📁 M-W Bb Tuba

To play the instrument in Kontakt, on the left side of the Kontakt window, select the Files tab. Navigate to the M-W Bb Tuba folder on your computer and load the .nki file.

About the Tuba:

What makes this virtual tuba different from all other virtual tubas available is that it was sampled in such a way to specifically suit polka music. As a tuba player, I understand how a polka tuba is played and why virtual tubas in concert band and symphonic libraries don't work in polka music. A virtual tuba for a polka music needs to be sampled a little differently than tubas from other types of libraries.

All of the sampled notes in this virtual tuba instrument were performed *sforzando* — a pronounced attack with a tapered sustain. The hard attack is what allows you to play staccato, as most notes are in polka music, but the sustain is what allows you to play a legato tie between two or more notes, which is essential to the polka tuba sound. Tuba players, when playing a run that ascends or descends a scale, don't typically play the entire run staccato — they tie some of the notes together in the same breath.

This instrument is comprised of multiple velocity layers, ranging from *mezzo* (moderate) to *fortississimo* (very, very loud.) The extreme high and low notes will only have one or two velocity samples, but the notes in the middle may have up to six velocity samples per note. The harder you press a key, the more of a loud, brassy “blat!” you'll get from the tuba.

The Envelopes: Attack and Release

Attack adjusts how quickly a note will sound when you press a key, and *Release* adjusts how long a note “hangs on” after you let go of the key. For the most natural sound, I recommend setting the tuba to an Attack of zero and a Release of approximately 50ms to 60ms.

Reverb:

This adjustment lets you add some pleasing hall acoustics to your instrument.

Technical Support:

This manual will suffice for anyone using this instrument in Kontakt. *If you do not know how to use Kontakt, please do not contact me for assistance!* I do not provide technical support for Native Instruments Kontakt software. Consult your Kontakt users manual. I only provide customer service for the instruments I sell. Thank you.

Customer service: tom@tombrusky.com