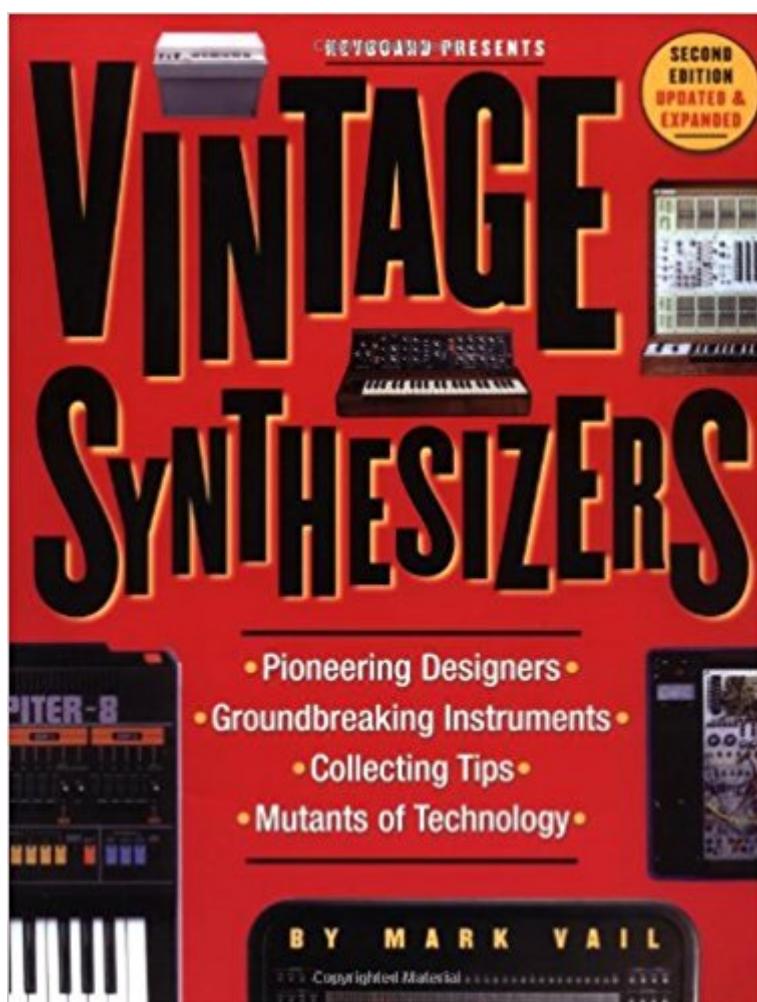


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# Vintage Synthesizers: Pioneering Designers, Groundbreaking Instruments, Collecting Tips, Mutants Of Technology



## Synopsis

This new edition is the ultimate exploration of the upstart instruments - and their unique analog growls and screams - that paved the way over the last four decades for today's fast-paced electronic music world. Explores the development of the modern synthesizer from 1962 on, with in-depth interviews with pioneering designers Bob Moog and Alan R. Pearlman of Moog Music and ARP Instruments fame. These and other designers reveal their initial ideas, reflect on their hits and misses, and discuss how star performers have used their creations. Histories of groundbreaking instruments examine modular, analog & digital synths and samplers, plus more unusual instruments like the Mellotron. Noted synthesist Keith Emerson and composer Wendy Carlos ("Switched-On Bach") offer musical insights and performance techniques. Includes fully updated pricing and production info, and more than 200 photos and a stunning color section.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"For anyone interested in synthesizers, *Vintage Synthesizers* is a fascinating read. Be careful: it may fuel a lust for yet more equipment that would be fun to own." -- Computer Music Journal

"Informally anecdotal, yet packed with great info and historic detail. I couldn't put it down." -- Wendy Carlos, composer and synthesist, *Switched-On Bach*

"Mark Vails book could be the most entertaining and useful synth book yet." -- Sound On Sound

"The most comprehensive guide on this technology ever written. Highly recommended." --Mix

Mark Vail is the senior associate editor of Keyboard. He joined the magazine in 1988, and assumed responsibility for the "Vintage Synths" column (now called "Vintage Gear") from Bob Moog in 1990. Vail is also the author of The Hammond Organ: Beauty in the B, and has performed with numerous San Francisco Bay Area bands.

I bought a P600 new, just when the DX7 was introduced. Back then, I questioned removing myself from Yamaha's waiting list after only 8 months, and taking the old-school Prophet instead. But I still have it, Its in full working order, and I'm really glad now. Its also heartening to see that today, Dave Smith is reclaiming his turf ! All in all, I found the unique, American stories of Sequential, ARP, Moog, OB and the pianos a journey thru a life left behind. Don't believe the price reference of top-tier analog synths is accurate though. Probably just needs an update. I wish I'd have kept the P5 I got for free LOL couple years back. I'd recommend this book to anyone coming of age in the heyday. Kudos.

This collection of articles provides a very rich source of information about many aspects of synthesizers, from how ideas were gestated, how business, politics, and personality influenced the lifecycle of products, how devices were used (and abused), to the quality and longevity of instruments. I even found the overlap and inconsistencies telling, painting a picture of a business full of pioneering and exploratory efforts.

As one of the designers of the early ARP 2500, it was interesting to see a recap of those years at the company. The book presents a fascinating panorama of the history and evolution of analog synths, and is a good study of what drives product success in the marketplace. It is interesting to note how technology has disruptively moved from analog to digital, making synthesizer design into a completely different process from what it was in the good old days.

great book for any synth electronic fan

Great coffee table book!

a wonderfull book! keep reading it and okey I also keep looking at the pictures one extra chapter should be in it, on Roland. they deserve a chapter otherwise very good book

I bought this as a present for my brother, who is a musician. He absolutely loved it! I definitely would recommend this for any vintage synthesizer lover :)

An anthology of articles about synths. Every article is several pages long, and like any magazine is always punchy, so you'll never get bored. Vintage synths deserve a proper biography, and this may not be it, but until then this is a great read.

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