Ample China Pipa Main Panel Manual



Ample Sound Technology Co.

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1 Instrument Panel

1.1 Overview of Instrument Panel



1.	Sample Library Switch
2.	Preset Bar
3.	Position Assignment
4.	Note Information
5.	String Assignment Display

1.2 Sample Library Switch

2 Pipa libraries: Modern and Classical.


Modern Style


Classical Style

*Sample Library cannot be switched during playing.

1.3 Preset Bar

There are four buttons: Previous , Next , Play , and Save .

Clicking the preset name text box will open the preset file list window.

2 Main Panel

2.1 Overview of Main Panel



1.	Articulations
2.	Sound Mode
3.	Middle Mic Volume
4.	Side Mic Volume
5.	Master Volume
6.	Pan
7.	Tremolo Gain
8.	Resonance Gain & Time
9.	Capo
10.	Position Mode
11.	Release Sound Gain
12.	FX Sound Gain
13.	Nail-on-String Gain
14.	Fingering Sound Gain
15.	Playing Mode
16.	Open String Priority
17.	Automatic Legato Mode
18.	Stroke Noise Toggle

19. Bend
20. Mod Wheel
21. String Assignment
22. Position Assignment
23. Tremolo Legato Switch
24. Expressive Tremolo Legato Switch
25. Sustain Legato Switch
26. FX Sound Group
27. Strummer Mode Toggle
28. Automatic Legato Mode Keyswitch
29. Note Repeater
30. FX Sound Group 2
31. Open String Priority Keyswitch
32. Position Logic Mode Keyswitch
33. Hold Pedal Toggle

2.2 Articulations

2.2.1 Articulation List

Abbr.	Full Name	Keyswitch	Range
Tri	Short Tremolo	A♯-1	A1-D5
Str	Strum	B-1	A1-D5
Sus	Sustain & Strum	C0	A1-D5
NH	Natural Harmonic	C♯0	A1-E4
Tr	Straight Tremolo	D0	A1-D5
TrE	Expressive Tremolo	D♯0	A1-D5
LS	Legato Slide	E0	A♯1-D5
HP	Hammer-On & Pull-Off	F0	A1-D5
BF2	Bend and Release	F♯0	A♯1-C♯5
BU2	Bend Up	G0	A♯1-B4
BD2	Bend Down	G♯0	C2-C♯5

2.2.2 Short Tremolo

Keyswitch is A♯-1.

2.2.3 Strum

Keyswitch is B-1.

2.2.4 Sustain & Strum

Keyswitch is C0.

- Maximum velocity triggers a Strum.
- Sustain Legato: Tremolo or Short Tremolo can be legato-transitioned into Sustain. The sustain velocity inherits the velocity of the starting note.

2.2.5 Natural Harmonic

Keyswitch is C♯0.

2.2.6 Straight Tremolo

Keyswitch is D0. This articulation includes three playing techniques: tremolo, roll tremolo, and shake tremolo.

- Strings 1 & 4 trigger Tremolo;
- Strings 2 & 3 trigger Roll Tremolo at high velocity;
- Strings 2 & 3 trigger Shake Tremolo at low velocity.

2.2.6.1 Tremolo Legato

- Same-note Tremolo Legato: If the current articulation is not Tremolo, play a note first, then press this key to legato-transition into Tremolo.
- Tremolo Release Legato: If the articulation is Tremolo, play a note first, then press this key to transition into a Tremolo release.

- Cross-note Tremolo Legato: Legato between two Tremolo notes automatically keeps the performance on the same string.

2.2.6.2 Note velocity determines the Tremolo start position

When performing Tremolo, a slow fade-in may be needed in some cases, while in others a fast attack is required.
ACP Tremolo allows control of different playback start points via velocity: velocity values from 30 to 120 correspond to 90 different start points. The higher the velocity, the faster the Tremolo begins.

2.2.6.3 The Tremolo supports Loop mode, allowing it to be sustained indefinitely

2.2.6.4 Poly Tremolo

To perform Polyphonic Tremolo, please enable the "Poly Tremolo" option in Settings.

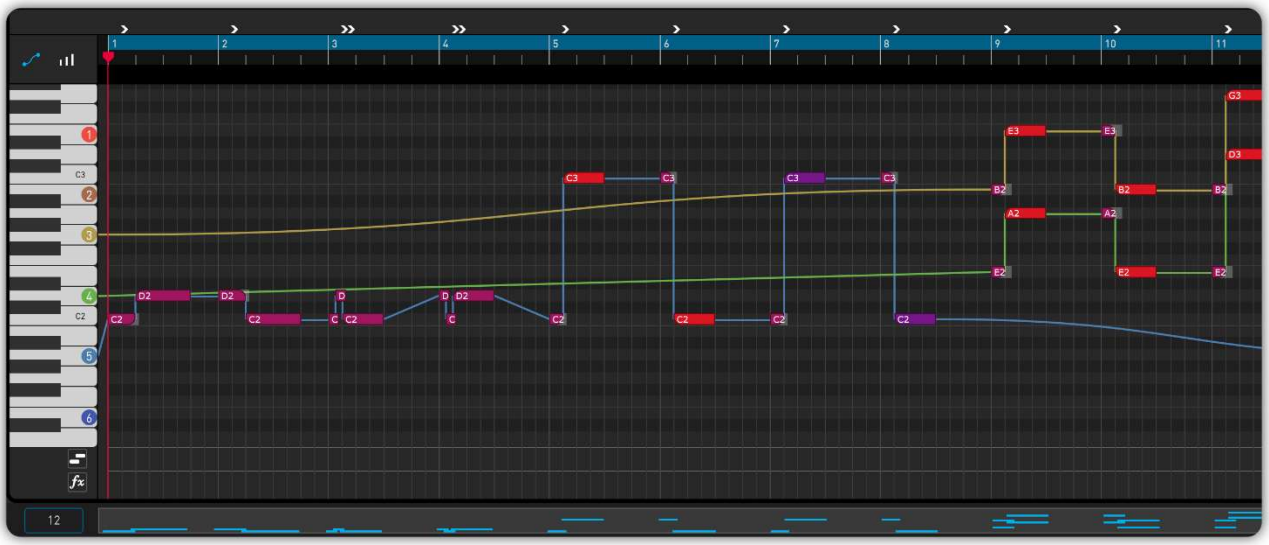
2.2.7 Expression Tremolo

Keyswitch is D♯0. This is an expressive tremolo with dynamic variation and vibrato, and its functionality is the same as the straight tremolo.

2.2.8 Legato Slide (Poly Legato)

Keyswitch is E0.

- Press E0 first, then play two overlapping notes on the same string to slide from the source note to the target note.
- Support controllable slide speed (by note velocity) and intervals.
- Reverts to previous articulation automatically after slide.
- E0 with high velocity will change position. Otherwise the position will not be changed by slide.



Poly Legato: When sliding polyphonic notes, only the highest or lowest target note needs to be played.

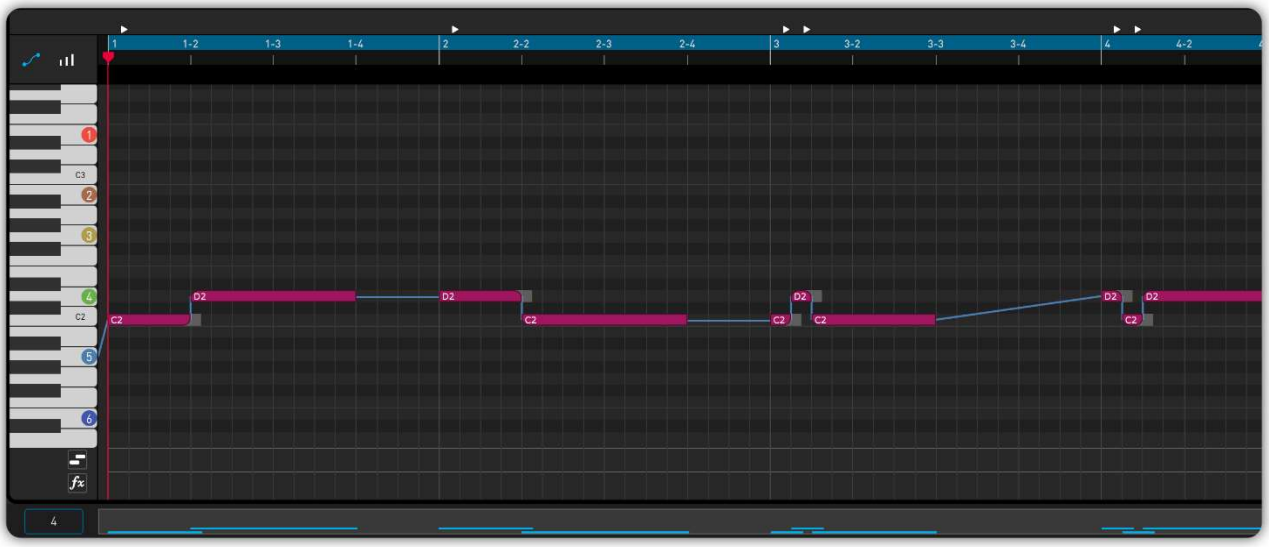
Slide Smoother: For intervals larger than a whole step, the velocity of the target note controls the slide speed — higher velocity results in a faster slide.

Tremolo Slide: Allows two tremolo notes to be connected with a slide.

2.2.9 Hammer-On & Pull-Off (Poly Legato)

Keyswitch is F0.

- Press F0 first, then legato two notes on the same string to Hammer-On & Pull-Off from the source note to the target note.
- Reverts to previous articulation automatically after HP.
- F0 with high velocity will change position, otherwise the position will not be changed by HP.



Poly Legato: When performing polyphonic Strike & Pull, only the highest or lowest target note needs to be played.

2.2.10 Bend & Release

Keyswitch is F♯0.

- High-velocity notes trigger fast bends; low-velocity notes trigger slow bends.

2.2.11 Bend Up

Keyswitch is G0.

2.2.12 Bend Down

Keyswitch is G♯0.

2.2.13 Legato Switch

- Tremolo Legato Switch (D1), Same function as D0.
- Expressive Tremolo Legato Switch (D♯1), Same function as D♯0.
- Sustain Legato Switch (E1) , Same function as C0.

2.2.14 Doubled Keyswitches

Pressing two articulation keyswitches simultaneously will combine both articulations in performance.

- C0 and D0 pressed together: Notes of high velocity will be Sustain and notes of low velocity will be Tremolo.

2.3 Sound Mode

Mono and Stereo DI modes are available.

1.  Stereo Mode

2.  Mono Mode

2.4 Controllable Resonance Sound

Resonance is an indispensable part of the expressiveness and realism of an acoustic instrument. Ample Sound Sample Engine can control the Resonance Time and Resonance Volume.



Resonance Time



Resonance Gain

2.5 Rich Fret Sound

Simulates the variety of fret noises that naturally occur during real performance.

- **FA:** Nail-on-String Gain
- **FR:** Noise of fingers releasing from the string.

2.6 Capo

It simulates the real guitar capo. It can transpose the pitch without changing the fingering.

2.7 Position Logic Mode

Three position modes are available:


1.Melody Mode: Covers three octaves, suitable for melodic playing.
Keyswitch: B6 low velocity.


2.Chord Mode: Each position spans five frets, suitable for chord playing.
Keyswitch: B6 high velocity.


3.Treble String Mode: Notes are prioritized to be played on the Treble string.

2.8 Open String Priority Mode

The four notes A1, D2, E2, and A2 will be played on open strings.
* It can be toggled on with note G♯6, High velocity toggles on; low velocity toggles off.

2.9 Playing Mode

Instrument Mode:  Constrained by real instrument rules (e.g., two notes on the same string cannot sound simultaneously).

Keyboard Mode:  Not limited by real instrument rules.

Solo Mode:  Allows only monophonic playing.

* Keyboard Mode and Solo Mode will both disable automatic legato.

2.10 Automatic Legato Mode

There are 3 modes: Automatic Slide; Automatic Hammer On and Pull Off; Off.
High velocity D♯6 turns on Automatic Slide mode; Low velocity D♯6 turns on Automatic Hammer-On & Pull-Off mode.

2.11 Stroke Noise

A strummed noise will be generated automatically for polyphonic notes.

2.12 Vibrato Wheel

The default is Auto Vibrato Mode.
To change parameters such as vibrato depth or speed, adjust them in Settings.
When the vibrato depth in Settings is set to ≥ 0.75, a vibrato noise will be triggered.

2.13 String Assignment and Position Assignment

2.13.1 String Assignment

Specify a string to be played. A0-C1 correspond to 4th string-1st string. High velocity String Force will affect fret position, while low velocity will not.

2.13.2 Position Assignment

Switch to a fret position manually. A yellow line will be displayed after pressing C♯1, notifying the notes that represent positions from 0 and up, then press the position note (A1 - D3) to switch to a particular position.
*A position covers a range of 5 frets (12 frets in Melody mode).



2.14 FX Sound Group

Note	FX Sound
F5	Scratch Noise
F♯5	Twisted Strings
G5	Muting
G♯5	Wind
A5	Downstroke Noise
A♯5	Upstroke Noise
F6	Hit Left Top
F♯6	Hit Right Top
G6	Flick

2.15 Note Repeater

Press D6 and E6 to repeat notes being played. Multiple notes are supported.

2.16 Hold Pedal Toggle

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