

Thanks for downloading my gear checklist!

Some will say that this is all too much work, but they have less of a production.

It has taken a few years to get the gear I want through upgrades and trying out ideas. There's a lot of R&D behind this list. Even if you already know some of this stuff, keep reading, there'll be something in here you can use.. And, as always, shoot me any questions through my socials.

Everyone always says to me, as I'm loading in: "Man, you've got a lot of gear..." Well, basically, I'm setting up an entire band - minus the drum set.

Let's start with the instruments, and stage gear.

I play an Epiphone Les Paul, model: Traditional Pro II. It's tricked out with a Piezo bridge pickup to capture acoustic tones and with a toggle, I can sound like an acoustic guitar - without bringing another guitar, and storing it onstage.

I split the output of that with a stereo (TRS) jack, so I can route the magnetic pickups through a Line 6 Flextone III with 1 12" speaker. The other side is the Piezo pickup directly into the sound mixer. I use a Line 6 Shortboard foot controller, and use about 7 patches on a regular basis. I use the Flextone III on it's side, where I screwed rubber feet to each side, to support a 10 space rack containing a DMX lighting controller, a T.C Helicon Perform VK vocal processor, a Sure wireless microphone receiver.

Why do I need a 10 space rack?

Because on top of that, I have my QSC Touchmix 16 mixer, and out the back of that, a 6 channel snake, 25' connected with a power cable, and a CAT-5 cable for the shortboard. The snake runs to the bottom of the keyboard stand, and the keyboard get plugged into the snake, and the extension cord. All other hookups, and connections to the mixer are fastened inside the 10 space rack, so I have a stackable pedestal central point around which everything else is built.

Everything that plugs into the Touchmix 16 comes out of the back of the 10sp rack, where it all gets stored and transported. The snake that goes out to the keyboard is fastened with zip ties to the back of the inside of the rack. The connecting CAT5 cable is stored inside, and the attached extension cord is plugged into a power strip that's attached inside the rack.

Everything turns on/off with that power strip.

The snake goes out to the bottom of the keyboard stand. From there, I have another smaller snake (4') to include the keyboard's power cord, 2 R&L 1/4" to XLR signal cords, a sustain pedal, and a switch pedal (for the Leslie effect). The CAT5 cables plugged into the Line 6 Shortboard.

The Keyboard Korg Kronos2 with 73 weighted keys sits on an Ultimate pedestal stand, who's arms and legs fold up, and are stored inside the main body of it.

My main speakers are a pair of Harbinger V2312 1000w active speaker with 12" driver. The back of the speakers have 2 main inputs plus an aux input, and have bluetooth capabilities. I run both sides, R&L to one speaker (as 'master'), then daisy chain over to the other speaker as 'slave'. In some cases, where it's needed, I'll daisy chain into an active (1000w) subwoofer. If I'm unable to stand slightly ahead of the FOH mains to monitor, I'll daisy chain from the subwoofer into a hot spot monitor on my keyboard stand.

Turning to lighting, I have a small, fitted, padded tote which houses an 8 light, moving head

spider style light.. that's usually 1st in the DMX chain. Then, I run to a Chauvet Effect Par9 effect light, then a Chauvet DJ Storm. From there, I run to a pair of moving head gobo/color changers, and up to the overhead Eliminator RGBW mini pars.

These are attached to 2 4' sections of square tubing stock that I machined out and fitted with power outlets. All these plug into the bar to which they are attached. The 2 4' sections are supported on each side by my homemade crank up stands. On top of the stand is a 'T' that fits over the top of the stand (round) welded to a horizontal section of square tubing the same diameter as the light bar (2"). I use 1.5" sections to slide into the 'T' section and into the light bar. Then I use a connecting piece of 1.5" square tubing to join the 2 4' light bars, and one more section to join the 2nd light bar to the second stand topped with it's own 'T'. The wires are all there, and I just connect a few power, and DMX cords and crank it up out of the way.

The best way to be efficient, is to be consistent. So once you find your method, stick to it.. until you get another idea to increase efficiency.. then try it out.

I'm happy to answer any questions anyone might have, as I'm quite sure no one else has the exact rig as mine.

Loading into a venue sometimes depends on how you packed your vehicle, especially if loading space is tight. If space is not an issue, then it might help to unload the vehicle and then choose what to bring in first.

I try to pack so I can set up lights first, and crank them up out of the way. Another thing I do early is set up my sign so people can see who's going to be the entertainment. I bring in the speaker stands, so when I bring in the speakers, they can be stacked where they will be placed. From there, I usually just bring everything else in, and park my car. Once in, my pedestal home base is placed where it will be..centered directly behind me, and I start doling out power cords (Most have the same the same female end, so we're just looking to find the best length for each item. Then rough out the DMX cables. As I go down the sections in the rolling toolbox, The bottom contains my moving head lights, for the floor on each side of the stage. I'll connect up the rest of the DMX, connect up everything that needs power, and plug it in.

Then, I open the back of the 10space rack and start flopping out the cords that will go into the mixer. I run the snake out to roughly where the bottom of the keyboard stand will be, and I turn the rack 90 degrees into position on top of the Flextone III (I store and transport it on it's face so the back of the rack faces up, and I can pack everything inside it). I remove the front, where there's a piece of fitted non-slip foam on which to place the mixer. The mixer case has the mixer, and all the mic cords to connect to the powered speakers, and then one to the other. I'll set aside another mic cable if I know I'm using the subwoofer..usually a 6 footer won't take up too much space.

Cords out the back of the rack get plugged into the mixer.. color coded if necessary. Power cord for the Flextone III, CAT5 and XLR right & left also. The side of the split for the magnetic pickups on my guitar gets the input on the amp. The other side for the Piezo pickup goes directly into the board as would an acoustic guitar.

I use 8 of the 16 inputs for the QSC Touchmix 16:

Ch1 - Main Vox (vocals)

Ch2 - 2nd Vox (guest singers, or karaoke etc.)

Ch3&4 - Flextone III

Ch5&6 - Kronos

Ch7 - Jamzone tracks

Ch8 - Piezo pickup (acoustic guitar)

Now, on to the keyboard setup. First, set up the stand, and run the short snake up the center of the stand. Pull out the arms for the keyboard to sit on, and then set up the mic stand to the top of the keyboard stand. The mic clip has to be a shock mount holder, because when I'm pounding out a rhythm on the piano, the mic will pick up all those clunks and amplify those clunks (That took a little while to figure out lol!). Place the keyboard, and connect the power, audio signal, and pedals.

Turn everything on and you're ready for a sound check.

Happy gigging!!