

Which DSI Synth Should I Buy?

It all depends on what you're looking for in terms of features. The chart below shows how each synth differs.

FEATURE	PROPHET 12	PROPHET-6	PROPHET '08	PRO 2	TETRA	MOPHO	MOPHO KEYBOARD	MOPHO SE	MOPHO x4	EVOLVER
Voices	12	6	8	mono/4-voice paraphonic	4	1	1	1	4	1, plus 4-part combo mode
Split/Stack	2-way split/bi-timbral		2-way split/bi-timbral		4-part multitimbral					
Oscillators per voice	4 (plus sub osc)	2 (plus sub osc)	2	4 (plus sub osc)	2 (plus 2 sub osc per voice)	2 (plus 2 sub osc per voice)	2 (plus 2 sub osc per voice)	2 (plus 2 sub osc per voice)	2 (plus 2 sub osc per voice)	4 (two analog, 2 digital)
Oscillator Type	digital	analog VCO	analog DCO	digital	analog DCO	analog DCO	analog DCO	analog DCO	analog DCO	analog DCO (2), plus digital (2)
Superwaves				Yes						
Linear FM Synthesis (DX-style)	Yes									
Analog Filters	1 low-pass (Curtis) 1 high-pass (custom discrete)	1 low-pass (custom discrete) 1 high-pass (custom discrete)	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole operation	1 low-pass (custom discrete) 1 state-variable (custom discrete)	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole operation	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole operation	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole operation	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole operation	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole operation	1 low-pass (Curtis) 2- or 4-pole 1 custom high-pass
Effects	4 Digital Delays 5 Character FX (<i>Girth, Air, Hack, Decimate, Drive</i>) Feedback Stereo Analog Distortion	Dual digital effects processor (<i>Chorus, Phaser, Delay, Bucket-Brigade Delay, Reverb - Hall, Room, Plate, Spring</i>) Stereo Analog Distortion		3 Digital Delays 1 BBD emulation 5 Character FX (<i>Girth, Air, Hack, Decimate, Drive</i>) Feedback Stereo Analog Distortion						3 Digital Delays Distortion Tuned Feedback Hack (bit crushing)
Mod Matrix	16 x 2 26 sources 100 destinations	"Poly Mod" 2 sources (<i>Filter Env, Osc 2</i>) 5 destinations (<i>Freq 1, Shape 1, PW 1, LPF, HPP</i>)	4 x 2 20 sources 43 destinations	16 x 2 50 sources 140 destinations	4 x 2 20 sources 43 destinations	4 x 2 20 sources 43 destinations	4 x 2 20 sources 43 destinations	4 x 2 20 sources 43 destinations	4 x 2 20 sources 43 destinations	4 x 2 24 sources 75 destinations
LFOs	4 per voice	1 global	4 per voice	4 per voice	4	4	4	4	4 per voice	4
Envelopes	4	2	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3 per voice, with repeat/loop
Sequencer		64-step, polyphonic	16 x 4 gated step sequencer	16 steps x 16 tracks or 32 steps x 8 tracks monophonic	16 x 4 gated step sequencer	16 x 4 gated step sequencer	16 x 4 gated step sequencer	16 x 4 gated step sequencer	16 x 4 gated step sequencer	16 x 4 gated step sequencer
Arpeggiator	Yes, programmable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
CV In/Out				Yes, 4 x 4						
Ext Audio Input				Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Performance Touch Sliders	2			2						
Desktop version available?	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Polychain			Yes, 16-voices max		Yes, 16-voices max	Yes, 16-voices max	Yes, 16-voices max	Yes, 16-voices max	Yes, 16-voices max	Yes, 16-voices max
Keyboard Length	5 octaves, 61 keys	4 octaves, 49 keys	5 octaves, 61 keys	3 1/2 octaves, 44 keys		5 octaves, 61 keys	2.5 octaves, 32 keys	3.5 octaves, 44 keys	3.5 octaves, 44 keys	
USB	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	
MIDI	In, Out, Thru	In, Out, Thru	In, Out, Thru, Poly Chain	In, Out, Out 2/Thru	In, Out/Thru, Poly Chain	In, Out/Thru, Poly Chain	In, Ou/ Thru, Poly Chain	In, Out/Thru, Poly Chain	In, Out/Thru, Poly Chain	In, Out/Thru, Poly Chain
Pedal Inputs	1 sustain, 2 expression	1 sustain, 1 volume, 1 LP filter cutoff, 1 seq start/stop	1 sustain, 1 expression	1 sustain, 1 expression			1 sustain, 1 expression	1 sustain, 1 expression	1 sustain, 1 expression	
Recommended For:	A sound designer's polyphonic dream synth. It has the depth of a modular but is faster and easier to use. Crystal-clear tone is great for complex pads, effects, and evolving textures, but handles classic synth sounds equally well. Nearly endless sonic possibilities.	Classic big, punchy, analog sound. Excels at everything a vintage poly synth does, but with a broader tonal palette and greater reliability. Fat tone, ease of use, built-in effects, and portability make it a natural for on stage. Equally well suited to studio work due to its superb sound and ability to sit well in a mix. Sets the standard for modern analog poly synths.	Classic warm, analog sound. Well suited to vintage synth tones and expands on them with its modulation matrix. Two-part sound stacking and splitting adds variety and flexibility. A solid analog poly performer in the studio or on stage.	Like the Prophet 12, a sound designer's dream. That works as either a mono synth or a 4-voice paraphonic synth. It has the depth of a modular and the CV connectivity to interface with one. Sophisticated multitrack sequencer adds vast possibilities. Massive sound is well-suited to leads, basses, effects, complex evolving textures, and anything else you can dream up. Nearly limitless sonic exploration here.	Like a 4-voice, multitimbral Prophet '08 with additions such as 2 sub oscs plus oscillator feedback. Same classic warm, analog sound as Prophet '08. Well-suited to vintage synth tones and expands on them with its modulation matrix. Four-part multitimbral operation adds great flexibility. A solid analog poly performer in the studio or on stage. Great for sequencing multiple parts.	All-analog mono synth. Classic fat sound. Great for vintage synth tones and more through its flexible modulation matrix. Compact and affordable, but powerful. Maximum bang for the buck.	All-analog mono synth. Same sound engine as Mopho but with a 32-note keyboard. Classic fat sound. Great for vintage synth tones and more through its flexible modulation matrix. Compact and affordable, but powerful. Maximum bang for the buck.	All-analog mono synth. Same sound engine as Mopho but with a 44-key keyboard. Classic fat sound. Great for vintage synth tones and more through its flexible modulation matrix. Compact and affordable, but powerful. Maximum bang for the buck.	All-analog, 4-voice poly synth. Same sound engine as Mopho and Mopho SE. Classic fat sound. Great for vintage tones and more. Flexible modulation matrix. A compact and versatile performer in the studio or on stage.	Monstrously powerful analog/digital hybrid mono synth with true stereo filters and amplifiers. Has both analog warmth and digital grit. Includes digital waveshapes from the Prophet VS as well as distortion, feedback, and bit crushing. A sound designer's dream that can go from creamy to ultra aggressive with the turn of a knob. A massive, sound unlike any other synth.