

## Kraftwerk - The Man-Machine (1978)

Written by bluesever

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## Kraftwerk - The Man-Machine (1978)



01 - *The Robots* 02 - *Spacelab* 03 - *Metropolis* 04 - *The Model* 05 - *Neon Lights* 06 - *The Man-Machine* Musicians: Ralf Hütter – voice, vocoder, synthesizer, keyboards, orchestron, synthanorma sequencer, electronics, cover (i.e. art direction) Florian Schneider – vocoder, votrax, synthesizer, electronics, Prophet 5, Prophet 10, Yamaha CS-80, minimoog in "The Robots" Karl Bartos – electronic drums Wolfgang Flür – electronic drums

The Man-Machine is closer to the sound and style that would define early new wave electro-pop -- less minimalistic in its arrangements and more complex and danceable in its underlying rhythms. Like its predecessor, Trans-Europe Express, there is the feel of a divided concept album, with some songs devoted to science fiction-esque links between humans and technology, often with electronically processed vocals ("The Robots," "Spacelab," and the title track); others take the glamour of urbanization as their subject ("Neon Lights" and "Metropolis"). Plus, there's "The Model," a character sketch that falls under the latter category but takes a more cynical view of the title character's glamorous lifestyle. More pop-oriented than any of their previous work, the sound of The Man-Machine -- in particular among Kraftwerk's oeuvre -- had a tremendous impact on the cold, robotic synth pop of artists like Gary Numan, as well as Britain's later new romantic movement. --- Steve Huey, allmusic.com

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