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KORG Em-1

Korg Electribe EM-1 Music Production Station User Manual

Model: EM-1

Brand: KORG

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Korg Electribe EM-1 Music Production Station. The EM-1 is a powerful and versatile groovebox designed for creating electronic music, beats, and melodic sequences. While often referred to as an "Analog Modeling Synth," it primarily operates as a sample-based instrument, offering a wide range of sounds and intuitive controls for dynamic performance and composition.

This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your EM-1. Please read it thoroughly to ensure proper use and to maximize your creative potential with this instrument.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Korg Electribe EM-1 features a compact design with a comprehensive control panel, allowing for hands-on manipulation of sounds and sequences.



This image displays the Korg Electribe EM-1, highlighting its central LCD screen, various rotary encoders for parameter control, illuminated step buttons for sequencing, and dedicated buttons for mode selection and transport. The layout is designed for intuitive workflow in music production.

SETUP

Unpacking and Inspection

Carefully remove the EM-1 from its packaging. Ensure all components are present and undamaged.

- Korg Electribe EM-1 Unit
- Power Adapter

Power Connection

1. Connect the supplied power adapter to the DC IN jack on the rear panel of the EM-1.
2. Plug the power adapter into a standard AC outlet.
3. Ensure the power switch is in the OFF position before connecting or disconnecting power.

Audio Connections

Connect the AUDIO OUT (L/MONO, R) jacks to your mixer, amplifier, or audio interface using appropriate audio cables. Note that the EM-1 has a single stereo output for both synth and percussion parts.

MIDI Connections (Optional)

To control the EM-1 from an external MIDI device (e.g., a MIDI keyboard) or to sync it with other equipment, connect MIDI cables to the MIDI IN and MIDI OUT/THRU ports as required. A MIDI keyboard is highly recommended for extended range and playability beyond the onboard pads.

OPERATING YOUR EM-1

Basic Operation

1. **Power On:** Press the POWER switch to turn on the EM-1. The display will light up.
2. **Volume Adjustment:** Use the MASTER VOLUME knob to adjust the overall output level.
3. **Pattern Selection:** Use the PATTERN SELECT buttons to choose a desired pattern.
4. **Start/Stop Playback:** Press the PLAY/PAUSE button to start or stop pattern playback.

Understanding Synth and Drum Parts

The EM-1 features both synth and drum parts.

- **Synth Parts:** The synth parts are monophonic, meaning only one note can sound at any given moment per part. There are 50 synth waveforms available, many of which are tweakable to achieve a variety of sounds.
- **Drum Parts:** The drum parts operate similarly to the ES-1 sampler, utilizing 144 drum 'waves' including percussion and effects.

Sequencing

The EM-1 allows for step sequencing. Use the step buttons to input notes and drum hits into your patterns.

- **Step Recording:** Select a part (synth or drum), then press the step buttons corresponding to where you want sounds to play.
- **Real-time Recording:** Press the RECORD button and play notes/hits in real-time to record them into the pattern.

Parameter Editing

Use the various knobs and buttons on the control panel to edit parameters for individual synth and drum parts, such as pitch, decay, filter, and effects.

Note: The global delay effect does not have its own dedicated set of knobs for direct control.

MAINTENANCE

Proper care will ensure the longevity of your Korg Electribe EM-1.

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the EM-1 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Power Off:** Always turn off the power when the unit is not in use or before disconnecting cables.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit to prevent overheating.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power	Power adapter not connected or faulty.	Check power adapter connection to the unit and wall outlet. Ensure the outlet is active.
No sound output	Volume too low; Audio cables not connected correctly; Incorrect pattern selected.	Increase MASTER VOLUME. Check audio cable connections to mixer/amp. Select an active pattern.
Synth parts sound monophonic	This is a design characteristic.	The EM-1's synth parts are monophonic. This is normal operation.
Dial value doesn't work as expected	Potentiometer wear or calibration issue.	Try rotating the dial fully back and forth several times. If the issue persists, contact Korg support for service.
MIDI input not responding	Incorrect MIDI settings; MIDI cable issues.	Check MIDI IN/OUT connections. Verify MIDI channel settings on both EM-1 and external device.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Em-1
Brand	KORG
Item Weight	2.78 pounds
Package Dimensions	12.7 x 9.1 x 3.2 inches
Included Components	Power Adapter
Manufacturer	Korg
Material Type	Bass Wood

Feature	Detail
Date First Available	May 2, 2011

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please contact Korg customer support.

Visit the official KORG website for the most up-to-date support resources and contact details:

www.korg.com/us/support/