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› BOSS RC-202 Loop Station Instruction Manual

BOSS RC-202

BOSS RC-202 Loop Station Instruction Manual

Model: RC-202 | Brand: BOSS

INTRODUCTION

The BOSS RC-202 Loop Station is a compact, tabletop two-track looper designed for performers and electronic musicians. It offers powerful looping capabilities, multi-effects, real-time loop saving, and expanded control features for seamless, hands-free performance. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your RC-202 Loop Station.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Powerful Performance Control

The RC-202's panel offers hands-on control with buttons and knobs, plus footswitch and MIDI compatibility for expanded control and synchronization with other devices like the RC-505 and drum machines.



Audio Connections and USB

The RC-202 features XLR, instrument, and aux inputs for mixing multiple audio sources, click track monitoring, and USB connectivity for archiving loops, triggering backing tracks, and functioning as a USB audio/MIDI interface for seamless integration with music software.

Image: The BOSS RC-202 Loop Station, its AC Adapter, and the Owner's Manual as packaged in the box.

Upon unpacking your BOSS RC-202 Loop Station, please ensure all the following items are present:

- BOSS RC-202 Loop Station Unit
- AC Adapter
- Owner's Manual (this document)

If any items are missing or damaged, please contact your retailer or BOSS customer support.

SETUP

Power Connection

Connect the supplied AC adapter to the **DC IN** jack on the rear panel of the RC-202. Ensure the adapter is securely connected before plugging it into a power outlet. Use only the specified BOSS AC adapter to prevent malfunction and electric shock.

Audio Connections

The RC-202 features versatile input options for various audio sources:

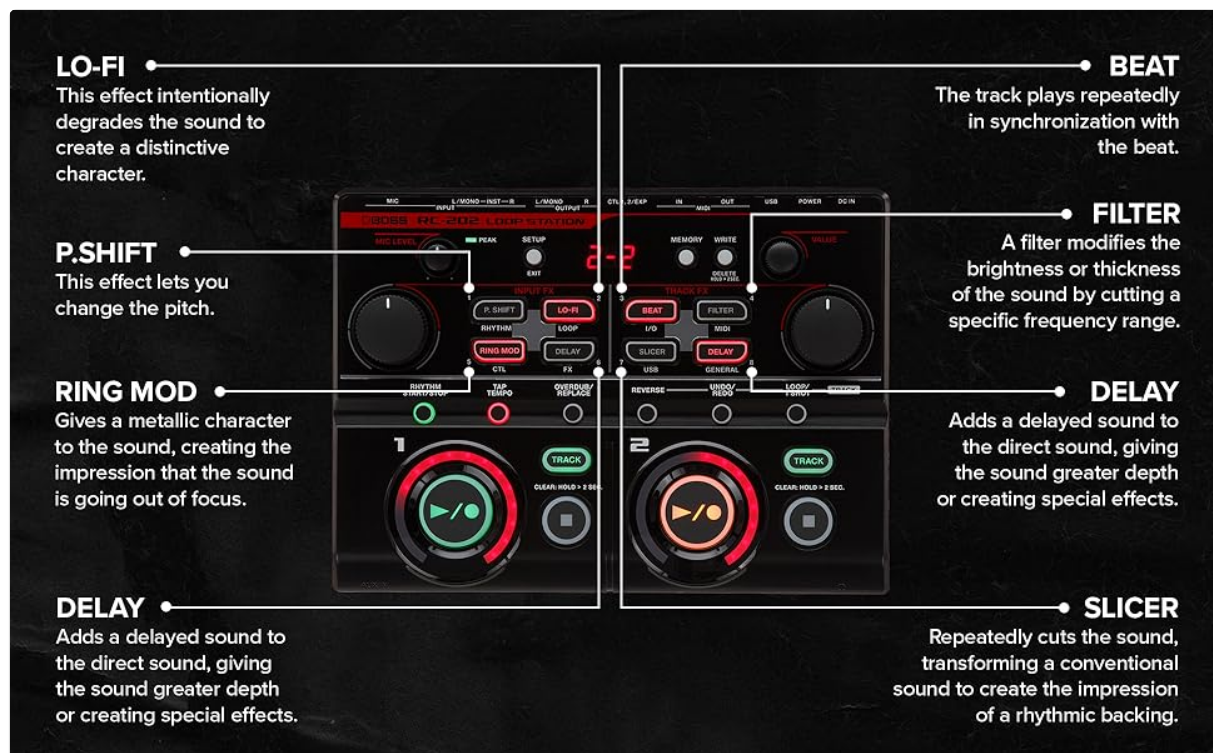


Image: Rear view of the RC-202 highlighting the various audio input and output ports, including XLR, instrument (L/MONO, R), and USB.

- **MIC Input:** Connect a microphone to the XLR input for vocal or acoustic instrument looping.
- **INST Inputs (L/MONO, R):** Connect instruments such as guitars, keyboards, or other audio devices using 1/4-inch cables. Use the L/MONO input for mono signals.
- **AUX Input:** Connect portable music players or other stereo devices to the 1/8-inch AUX input.
- **OUTPUT (L/MONO, R):** Connect these outputs to your amplifier, mixer, or audio interface. Use L/MONO for mono output.
- **CTL 1, 2/EXP:** Connect an optional footswitch (e.g., BOSS FS-5U, FS-6, FS-7) or expression pedal (e.g., Roland EV-5) for expanded real-time control.

USB Connection

The **USB** port allows you to connect the RC-202 to a computer for audio recording/playback, MIDI control, and data backup/restore. This functions as a USB audio/MIDI interface for seamless integration with music software.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



Image: The main control panel of the RC-202, featuring two distinct loop tracks with play/record buttons, stop buttons, and track-specific controls.

Basic Looping (Record, Play, Stop)

The RC-202 features two independent stereo phrase tracks (Track 1 and Track 2), each with dedicated controls.

1. **Select a Track:** Ensure the desired track (1 or 2) is selected.
2. **Start Recording:** Press the **PLAY/RECORD** button for the chosen track. The button will illuminate **orange**, indicating recording has started.
3. **End Recording & Start Playback:** Press the **PLAY/RECORD** button again. The button will turn **green**, and your recorded loop will begin playing back.
4. **Stop Playback:** Press the **STOP** button for the corresponding track. The button will turn **red**.
5. **Clear Track:** To delete a loop, hold the **STOP** button for more than 2 seconds.

Overdubbing

To add layers to an existing loop:

1. Ensure a loop is playing on a track (**green** light).
2. Press the **PLAY/RECORD** button again. The button will turn **orange**, indicating overdubbing mode.
3. Play your new part. It will be added to the existing loop.
4. Press the **PLAY/RECORD** button once more to exit overdubbing and return to playback.

Using Effects (FX)

The RC-202 offers a wide range of effects, categorized into Input FX (applied during recording) and Track FX (applied to playback loops).

Two Stereo Tracks and 64 Phrase Memories

The RC-202 features two stereo loops with fingertip controls, 64 phrase memories across eight banks for easy access, and the ability to save loops in real-time, allowing seamless performance and arrangement transitions.



Intensive FX

The RC-202 offers unmatched real-time processing with four simultaneous Input FX and Track FX, allowing for extensive sound enhancement and high-impact playback effects, all easily controlled with large knobs and dedicated buttons.

Image: A visual guide to the RC-202's Input FX and Track FX, detailing their names and functions.

- **Input FX:** Apply effects like P.SHIFT, LO-FI, RHYTHM, RING MOD, LOOP, and DELAY to your incoming audio before it's recorded.
- **Track FX:** Apply effects like BEAT, FILTER, I/O, SLICER, MIDI, and DELAY to your playing loops.
- Use the dedicated **FX** buttons and **VALUE** knob to select and adjust effects.

Saving Phrases (Memories)

The RC-202 can store up to 64 phrase memories (8 memories x 8 banks). Each memory can contain two phrase tracks, custom effects, and playback settings.

1. After creating your desired loops and settings, press the **MEMORY** button.
2. Use the **VALUE** knob to select a memory location.
3. Press the **WRITE** button to save your phrase.

Rhythm Function

The built-in rhythm guide helps you record loops in perfect time.

- Press the **RHYTHM START/STOP** button to activate the rhythm guide.
- Adjust the tempo using the **TAP TEMPO** button or the system settings.
- The rhythm guide can be routed to headphones only, allowing you to monitor it without it being part of the main output.

USB Audio/MIDI

Connect the RC-202 to your computer via USB to use it as an audio interface for recording directly into your DAW or for MIDI control of software instruments and effects. You can also import/export WAV files to and from the RC-202's phrase memories.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	3.77 pounds
Product Dimensions	13.8"L x 9.25"W x 4.55"H (or 14 x 9 x 4.25 inches)
Model Number	RC-202
Hardware Interface	USB
Signal Format	Analog
Power Source	Corded Electric
Voltage	9 Volts
First Available Date	April 27, 2016

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues with your BOSS RC-202 Loop Station, please refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Power:** Ensure the AC adapter is securely connected to both the RC-202 and a working power outlet. Verify the power outlet is active.
- **No Sound:** Check all audio cable connections (inputs and outputs). Ensure volume levels on the RC-202 and connected devices are appropriately set. Verify that the correct input source is selected.
- **Loop Not Recording/Playing:** Confirm that the track's play/record button is pressed correctly and illuminates as expected (orange for record, green for play). Ensure sufficient memory is available.
- **Distorted Sound:** Adjust input levels to prevent clipping (the PEAK indicator should not constantly light up). Check cable integrity.
- **Effects Not Working:** Ensure the desired effect is selected and its parameters are adjusted correctly. Verify that the effect is enabled for the active track or input.

For more detailed troubleshooting or persistent issues, please consult the full Owner's Manual or contact BOSS customer support.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your BOSS RC-202 Loop Station, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the unit in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping the unit or subjecting it to strong impacts. Do not place heavy objects on top of it.

- **Power:** Disconnect the AC adapter from the power outlet when the unit is not in use for extended periods.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The BOSS RC-202 Loop Station comes with a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product for specific terms and conditions. For technical support, service, or inquiries regarding extended protection plans, please visit the official BOSS website or contact their customer service department.

For additional resources and product information, you may visit the [BOSS Store on Amazon](#).