

## KORG SQ-64

# Korg SQ-64 Polyphonic Step Sequencer User Manual

Model: SQ-64

Brand: KORG

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Korg SQ-64 is a sophisticated polyphonic step sequencer designed to be the central hub of your music production setup. It offers intuitive hands-on control and deep editing capabilities, providing flexibility for various musical projects. With its 64-step pad matrix, clear OLED display, and robust aluminum construction, the SQ-64 facilitates seamless control over your instruments, allowing you to focus on creative expression.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- **Power Supply:** Use only the specified AC adapter. Ensure the voltage matches the requirements of the unit.
- **Ventilation:** Do not block ventilation openings. Ensure adequate airflow around the unit to prevent overheating.
- **Liquid and Moisture:** Keep the unit away from water, moisture, and excessive humidity. Do not operate with wet hands.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping or subjecting the unit to strong impacts. Do not place heavy objects on the unit.
- **Cleaning:** Disconnect power before cleaning. Use a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosols.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service the unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- Korg SQ-64 Polyphonic Step Sequencer Unit
- AC Adapter
- Owner's Manual (this document)

## 4. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

### 4.1 Front Panel Controls



Figure 4.1: Front view of the Korg SQ-64, highlighting the main control surface.

The front panel of the SQ-64 features a comprehensive layout for intuitive sequencing:

- **64-Pad Matrix:** Used for step input, note entry, and various mode selections. Each pad illuminates to indicate status.
- **OLED Display:** Provides visual feedback for parameters, settings, and navigation.
- **Transport Controls:** Dedicated buttons for Play, Stop, and Record.
- **Tempo/Swing Knobs:** Adjust the master tempo and groove of your sequences.
- **Track Select Buttons (A, B, C, D):** Select one of the four sequencer tracks for editing. Tracks A, B, and C are melodic/CV tracks, while Track D is a drum track.
- **Mode Buttons (Control, Gate, Pitch, Mod, Loop):** Switch between different editing modes for the selected track.
- **Global/Projects/Patterns Buttons:** Access global settings, manage projects, and select patterns.
- **Shift Button:** Activates secondary functions printed below or above certain buttons.

### 4.2 Rear Panel and Connections



Figure 4.2: Rear view of the Korg SQ-64, illustrating the various connectivity options.

The rear panel provides extensive connectivity for integration into various studio setups:

- **MIDI IN/OUT1/OUT2 (TRS):** Connect to other MIDI devices using standard 3.5mm TRS MIDI cables.
- **SYNC IN/OUT:** For analog clock synchronization with other Korg devices or compatible gear.
- **CV/GATE/MOD Outputs (Tracks A, B, C):** Dedicated 3.5mm outputs for controlling modular synthesizers and other CV-compatible equipment.
- **GATE Outputs (Track D):** Eight individual 3.5mm gate outputs for triggering drum modules or other percussive elements.
- **USB Port:** Connects to a computer for MIDI communication and firmware updates.
- **DC 9V Power Input:** Connect the included AC adapter for power.

## 5. SETUP

### 5.1 Powering On

1. Connect the included AC adapter to the DC 9V input on the rear panel of the SQ-64.
2. Plug the AC adapter into a standard wall outlet.
3. The unit will power on automatically. The OLED display will illuminate, and the pads will light up.

### 5.2 Initial Connections

Before operation, connect the SQ-64 to your desired musical instruments or computer:

- **MIDI Devices:** Use 3.5mm TRS MIDI cables to connect the SQ-64's MIDI OUT ports to the MIDI IN of your synthesizers or drum machines. Connect MIDI IN to your master controller if desired.
- **Modular Synthesizers:** Connect the CV, GATE, and MOD outputs from Tracks A, B, and C to the corresponding inputs on your modular system. For drums, use the GATE outputs from Track D.
- **Computer:** Connect a USB cable from the SQ-64's USB port to a USB port on your computer. This enables MIDI communication with DAWs like Ableton Live or FL Studio, and allows for firmware updates.
- **Synchronization:** If using analog sync, connect the SYNC OUT to the SYNC IN of another Korg Volca series unit or compatible device, or vice-versa.

## 6. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 6.1 Basic Operation

- **Tempo Adjustment:** Turn the **TEMPO** knob to adjust the master tempo. The current BPM will be displayed on the OLED screen.
- **Swing Adjustment:** Turn the **SWING** knob to add a swing feel to your sequence.
- **Play/Stop:** Press the **PLAY** button to start playback and the **STOP** button to halt it.
- **Record:** Press the **RECORD** button to enable real-time recording of notes and parameter changes.

### 6.2 Step Sequencing



Figure 6.1: Interacting with the SQ-64's 64-pad matrix for step sequencing.

1. **Select a Track:** Press one of the **A, B, C, or D** buttons to select the track you wish to edit.
2. **Enter Steps:** In the default mode, press the 64 pads to toggle steps on or off. Illuminated pads indicate active steps.
3. **Edit Parameters:** Use the **PITCH, GATE, MOD** buttons to enter respective editing modes. In these modes, the pads or rotary encoders will allow you to adjust the pitch, gate length, or modulation value for each step.
4. **Sub-Tracks:** Each track has 16 sub-tracks, allowing for complex pattern variations. Use the **SUB-TRACKS 1-16** buttons to navigate.

### 6.3 Project and Pattern Management

- **Saving Projects:** The SQ-64 allows you to save multiple projects, each containing various patterns across all tracks. Refer to the on-screen prompts after pressing the **PROJECTS** button.
- **Loading Patterns:** Use the **PATTERNS** button to select and load different patterns within your current project.

### 6.4 Advanced Features

- **Polyrhythm:** The SQ-64 supports polyrhythmic sequencing, allowing tracks to run at different lengths or speeds.
- **Randomization:** Utilize the randomization features to generate new patterns or variations.
- **Loop Mode:** Create looped sections within your patterns for performance or arrangement.

## 7. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Regularly wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth to remove dust and fingerprints. Avoid abrasive materials or chemical cleaners.
- **Firmware Updates:** Korg may release firmware updates to improve functionality or add new features. Visit the official Korg website for the latest firmware and instructions on how to update your SQ-64 via USB.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the unit in a clean, dry environment, away from extreme temperatures and direct sunlight.

## 8. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Korg SQ-64, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Unit does not power on.	Ensure the AC adapter is securely connected to both the unit and a working power outlet. Verify the outlet has power.
No sound or MIDI output.	Check all cable connections (MIDI, CV/Gate). Ensure the receiving device is properly configured to receive signals from the SQ-64. Verify track mute status on the SQ-64.
Synchronization issues.	Ensure both the SQ-64 and the external device are set to the correct sync mode (MIDI clock or analog sync). Check sync cable connections.
Pads or knobs are unresponsive.	Try restarting the unit. If the issue persists, check for firmware updates or contact Korg support.

For further assistance, please refer to Korg's official support resources or contact their customer service.

## 9. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	SQ-64
Item Weight	2.2 Pounds (approx. 1 kg)
Product Dimensions	14.49 x 5.67 x 2.91 inches (approx. 36.8 x 14.4 x 7.4 cm)
Number of Keys/Pads	64 (step pads)
Connectivity Technology	USB, MIDI (TRS), Analog Sync, CV/Gate/Mod
Power Source	AC adapter (DC 9V)
Supported Software	Ableton Live, FL Studio (via USB MIDI)
Color	Black

Feature	Detail
Special Feature	Compact design

## 10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Korg SQ-64 comes with a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product for specific terms and conditions, or visit the official Korg website for detailed warranty information applicable to your region.





For product support, frequently asked questions, driver downloads, and firmware updates, please visit the official Korg support page:

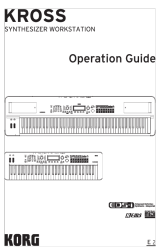
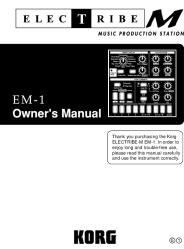
[Visit the KORG Store on Amazon](#)

For direct technical assistance, please contact Korg customer service through their official website.

© 2024 KORG Inc. All rights reserved. Specifications are subject to change without notice.

### Related Documents - SQ-64

	<p><a href="#">KORG SQ-64 System Version 2.0: New Features and Updates</a></p> <p>Explore the enhancements in version 2.0 of the KORG SQ-64 Poly Sequencer, including improved step input, drum pad mode for Track D, Rec Quantize, and Step Copy functionality, detailed in this manual.</p>
	<p><a href="#">KORG SQ-64 System Version 2.0: New Features and Guide</a></p> <p>Explore the enhanced features of the KORG SQ-64 Poly Sequencer with system version 2.0, including improved step input, drum pad mode, new quantization, and step recording functionalities.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Korg SQ-1 Step Sequencer Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive guide to the Korg SQ-1 Step Sequencer, covering its features, controls, connections, specifications, and operation for music production. Learn how to use the step knobs, buttons, modes, and connectivity options.</p>
	<p><a href="#">KORG minilogue xd Owner's Manual: Polyphonic Analogue Synthesizer Guide</a></p> <p>Discover the KORG minilogue xd, a 4-voice polyphonic analog synthesizer featuring a versatile multi-engine, 16-step sequencer, and high-quality digital effects. This owner's manual provides detailed instructions for setup, operation, and sound design.</p>

 <p>The image shows the cover of the 'KROSS SYNTHESIZER WORKSTATION Operation Guide'. It features the Korg logo at the top left, the title 'KROSS SYNTHESIZER WORKSTATION' in a bold font, and 'Operation Guide' below it. There are two small images of the Kross synthesizer unit: one showing the front panel with various buttons and a screen, and another showing the back panel with ports. The Korg logo is also at the bottom left.</p>	<p><a href="#">KORG KROSS SYNTHESIZER WORKSTATION Operation Guide</a></p> <p>Detailed operation guide for the KORG KROSS SYNTHESIZER WORKSTATION, covering setup, modes, program and combination editing, sequencing, effects, and advanced features. Learn to master your KROSS synthesizer.</p>
 <p>The image shows the cover of the 'ELECTRIBE M MUSIC PRODUCTION STATION EM-1 Owner's Manual'. It features the 'ELECTRIBE M' logo at the top, with 'MUSIC PRODUCTION STATION' in smaller text below it. The title 'EM-1 Owner's Manual' is prominently displayed. There is a small image of the EM-1 unit showing its control panel with various buttons and a screen. The Korg logo is at the bottom left.</p>	<p><a href="#">Korg ELECTRIBE M EM-1 Owner's Manual</a></p> <p>Official owner's manual for the Korg ELECTRIBE M (EM-1) music production station, detailing its features, operation, pattern creation, song sequencing, and MIDI connectivity for electronic music production.</p>