

## Behringer 2600 GRAY MEANIE

# Behringer 2600 GRAY MEANIE Semi-Modular Analog Synthesizer User Manual

Model: 2600 GRAY MEANIE

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Behringer 2600 GRAY MEANIE is a special edition semi-modular analog synthesizer designed to provide a comprehensive sound design experience. This instrument features a triple Voltage Controlled Oscillator (VCO) design, a multi-mode Voltage Controlled Filter (VCF), and an integrated spring reverb. Its semi-modular architecture allows for immediate sound generation without patching, while also offering extensive patching capabilities for advanced sound sculpting and experimentation. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your 2600 GRAY MEANIE synthesizer.

## 2. SETUP

### 2.1 Unpacking and Inspection

Carefully remove the synthesizer from its packaging. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage that may have occurred during transit. Retain all packaging materials for future transport or storage.

### 2.2 Power Connection

Connect the provided power adapter to the DC input jack on the rear panel of the 2600 GRAY MEANIE. Plug the other end of the adapter into a suitable power outlet. Ensure the power switch, located on the front panel, is in the OFF position before connecting power. Turn the unit ON only after all other connections are made.

### 2.3 Audio Connections

- **Main Output:** Connect the main audio output (typically a 1/4" TS jack) to your mixer, audio interface, or amplifier.
- **Headphone Output:** For monitoring, connect headphones to the dedicated headphone jack. Adjust the headphone level control as needed.
- **External Audio Input:** The 2600 GRAY MEANIE includes an external audio input, allowing you to process external sound sources through its filter, VCA, and effects.

### 2.4 MIDI and USB Connections

- **MIDI In/Out/Thru:** Use standard 5-pin DIN MIDI cables to connect the synthesizer to a MIDI controller, sequencer, or other

MIDI devices.

- **USB MIDI:** Connect a USB cable from the 2600 GRAY MEANIE's USB port to your computer for MIDI control and firmware updates.

## 2.5 Rack Mounting

The 2600 GRAY MEANIE is designed for 8U rack-mount installation. Ensure proper ventilation and secure mounting using appropriate rack screws and hardware (not included).

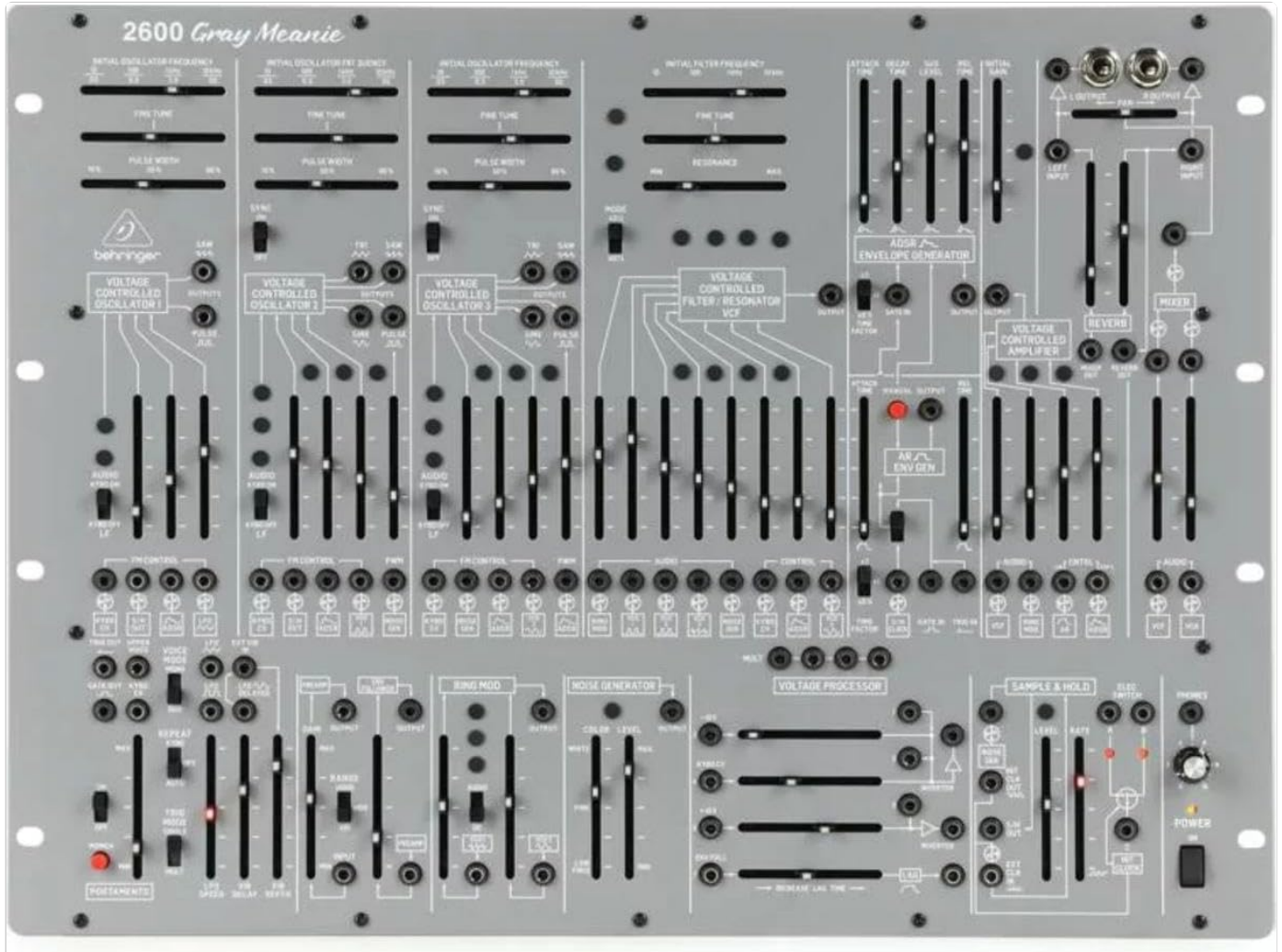


Figure 2.1: Front panel overview of the Behringer 2600 GRAY MEANIE synthesizer. This image displays the layout of all controls, sliders, and patch points, providing a visual reference for module identification and signal flow.

## 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The 2600 GRAY MEANIE is a semi-modular synthesizer, meaning many internal connections are pre-wired for immediate use. However, its true power lies in its patch points, allowing you to override internal routing and create complex signal paths. Familiarize yourself with the main modules:

### 3.1 Voltage Controlled Oscillators (VCOs)

- The 2600 GRAY MEANIE features three independent VCOs. Each VCO generates various waveforms (e.g., sine, triangle, saw, pulse) and includes controls for frequency, fine-tune, and pulse width.
- **LFO Mode:** VCO 1 and VCO 2 can operate in Low Frequency Oscillator (LFO) mode, providing modulation sources for other modules.
- **FM Inputs:** Each VCO has Frequency Modulation (FM) inputs for dynamic pitch variations.
- **Outputs:** Multiple waveform outputs are available for patching.

## 3.2 Voltage Controlled Filter (VCF)

- The VCF shapes the timbre of the sound. It is a multi-mode filter with dedicated low-pass output.
- **Cutoff Frequency:** Determines the point at which frequencies are attenuated.
- **Resonance:** Emphasizes frequencies around the cutoff point.
- **Additional Outputs:** Switched high-pass and notch outputs provide further tonal shaping options.

## 3.3 Voltage Controlled Amplifier (VCA)

The VCA controls the overall amplitude (volume) of the sound. It is typically modulated by an envelope generator to create dynamic changes in volume over time.

## 3.4 Envelope Generators

The 2600 GRAY MEANIE includes two Envelope Generators (ADSR: Attack, Decay, Sustain, Release). These modules generate control voltages that change over time, commonly used to modulate the VCF cutoff frequency and VCA amplitude, creating expressive sound contours.

## 3.5 Other Modules

- **Ring Modulator:** Creates complex, metallic timbres by multiplying two input signals.
- **Noise Generator:** Provides white and pink noise, useful for percussive sounds, effects, or as a modulation source.
- **Voltage Processor:** Offers utilities for scaling, inverting, and mixing control voltages.
- **Sample & Hold:** Generates stepped random voltages or holds a voltage at a specific point, often used for creative modulation.
- **Spring Reverb:** An integrated analog spring reverb unit adds depth and space to your sounds.

## 3.6 Basic Patching

While the 2600 GRAY MEANIE is pre-patched for immediate sound, using patch cables unlocks its full potential. Connect outputs (indicated by circles) to inputs (indicated by squares) to create custom signal flows. Experiment with modulating one module's parameter with the output of another (e.g., LFO to VCF cutoff, Envelope Generator to VCO frequency).

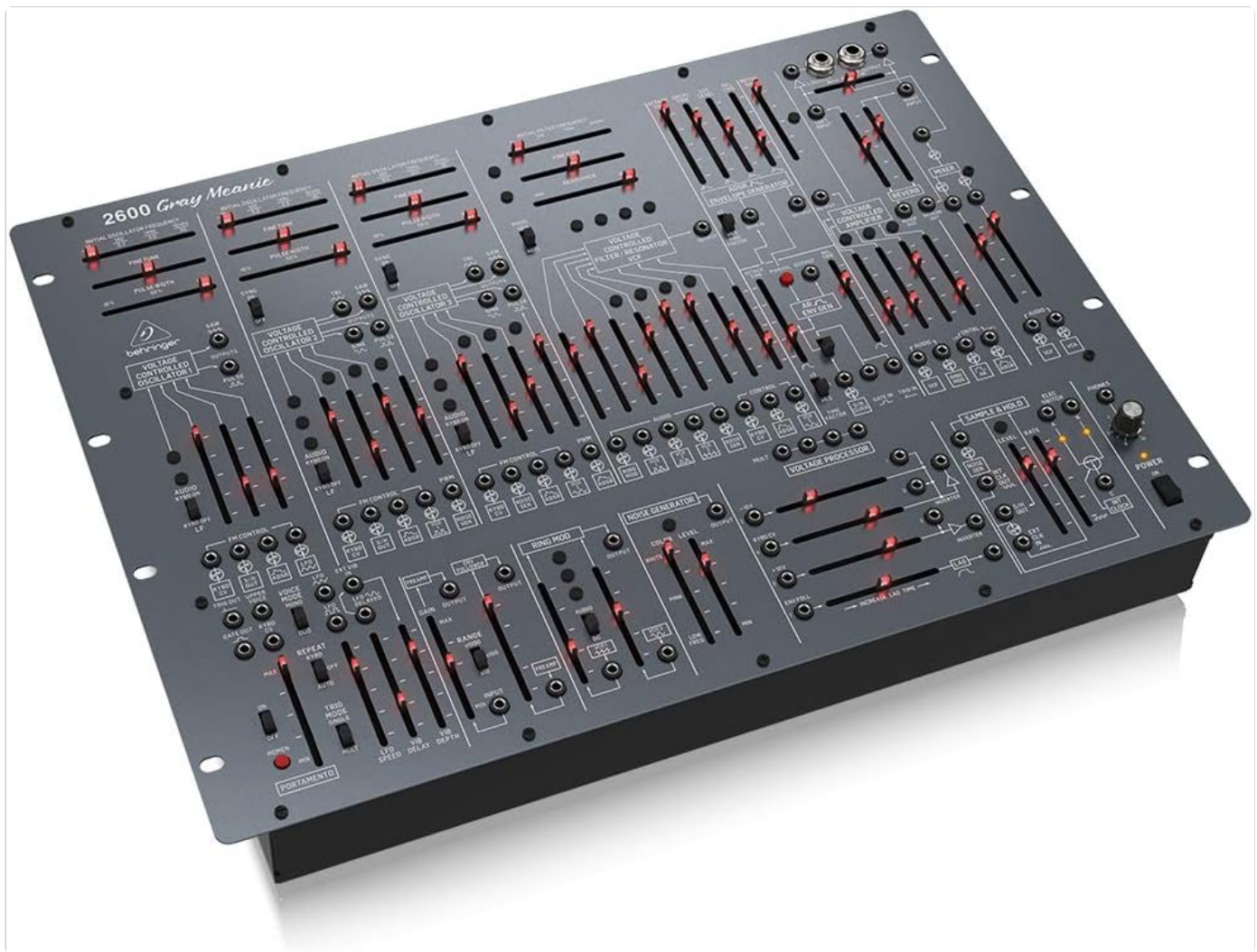


Figure 3.1: Angled view of the Behringer 2600 GRAY MEANIE, highlighting the depth and physical controls. This perspective helps in understanding the tactile nature of the sliders and patch points during operation.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

### 4.1 Cleaning

To clean the synthesizer, use a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth with mild soap can be used, ensuring no liquid enters the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, as these can damage the finish and components.

### 4.2 Storage

Store the 2600 GRAY MEANIE in a cool, dry environment, away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and excessive humidity. If storing for extended periods, consider using the original packaging or a protective case.

### 4.3 Calibration

Analog synthesizers may occasionally require calibration to ensure optimal performance, especially regarding pitch tracking and filter response. While the unit is factory-calibrated, environmental changes or prolonged use might necessitate recalibration. Detailed calibration procedures are complex and typically involve specific tools and knowledge. Refer to the official Behringer support website or authorized service centers for comprehensive calibration guides and assistance.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **No Sound Output:**
  - Check power connection and ensure the unit is turned ON.

- Verify audio cables are correctly connected to the main output and your audio system.
- Ensure VCA level is not at minimum and an envelope is triggering the VCA.
- If using MIDI, confirm MIDI connection and channel settings.

• **Unexpected Sound or No Modulation:**

- Review your patch cable connections. Incorrect patching can lead to unexpected results or silence.
- Ensure modulation sources (LFOs, Envelope Generators) are active and their outputs are correctly routed to the desired destinations.
- Check that all sliders and knobs are in their intended positions.

• **MIDI Issues:**

- Confirm MIDI cables are connected correctly (MIDI Out of controller to MIDI In of 2600 GRAY MEANIE).
- Check MIDI channel settings on both the synthesizer and your controller/software.
- If using USB MIDI, ensure drivers are installed (if required) and the device is recognized by your computer.

• **Pitch Instability:**

- Allow the unit to warm up for 15-20 minutes after powering on, as analog circuits can drift slightly.
- If persistent, refer to the calibration section or contact support.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	2600 GRAY MEANIE
Type	Semi-Modular Analog Synthesizer
VCOs	3 (with LFO mode, FM inputs, multiple wave-shape outputs)
VCF	Multi-Mode (Low-Pass, High/Notch outputs)
Reverb	Spring Reverb
Connectivity	MIDI In/Out/Thru, USB MIDI, Audio In/Out, Headphone Out
Form Factor	8U Rack-Mount
Dimensions (L x W x H)	3.94 x 3.94 x 3.94 inches (approximate, based on product data)
Item Weight	2.2 pounds (approximate, based on product data)
Material	Plastic (Body)

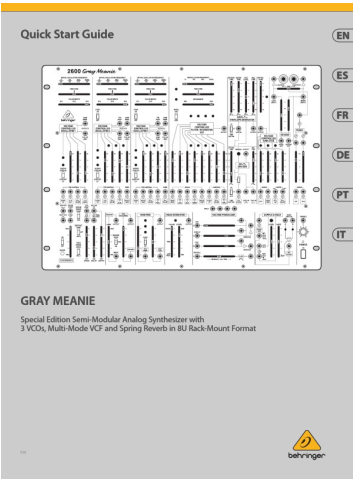
7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Behringer products are covered by a limited warranty. For detailed warranty terms and conditions, product registration, and technical support, please visit the official Behringer website or contact your local distributor. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

**Online Resources:** For additional information, tutorials, and community forums, visit [www.behringer.com](http://www.behringer.com).







[Behringer GRAY MEANIE Quick Start Guide](#)

Quick start guide and control overview for the Behringer GRAY MEANIE semi-modular analog synthesizer, detailing its features, connections, and specifications.  
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[\[pdf\] Dimension Guide](#)

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FM REVIEWS Korg ARP 2600 M 1,699 Korg are back with a smaller take on the ARP 2600. Bruce Asher ... s to recent recreations/ reimaginations of classic synths Behringer. At around 500, their rack-mount **2600 Gray Meanie** loses the loudspeakers but gains some useful additional features. There will always...  
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