

Roland SP-404MK2

Roland SP-404MKII Creative Sampler and Effector User Manual

Model: SP-404MK2

Brand: Roland

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Roland SP-404MKII is a highly versatile and powerful creative sampler and effector, designed for performance-based beatmaking and music production. It builds upon the legacy of Roland's renowned SP series, offering significant enhancements in speed, functionality, and user experience.

Key Features

- **Vivid OLED Display:** Provides clear visual waveform editing, full menu access, and detailed information.
- **Expressive Pads:** Features 17 velocity-sensitive, RGB pads with a no-click design for smooth and responsive playability.
- **Enhanced Workflow:** Offers quick startup and load times, 16 GB internal storage, low-latency pads, and rapid sample editing.
- **Expanded Capacity:** Supports 32-voice polyphony, 160 samples per project, and 16 internal projects for extensive programming possibilities.
- **Portable Design:** Compact and ultra-lightweight (2.6 lb./1.2 kg) with versatile power options including USB-C, mobile battery (via USB-C port), six AA batteries, or AC adaptor.
- **Pre-loaded Sound Library:** Includes 144 high-quality, professionally recorded samples and patterns to get started immediately.
- **Advanced Sample Editing:** Features blazing onboard sample editing with real-time or auto-chop mode, auto BPM detect, envelope, pitch shift, and resampling for layering sounds and phrases.
- **Software Integration:** Comes with a FREE SP-404MKII App and Six Months Roland Cloud Pro Membership for advanced editing and sample management.

SETUP

Unboxing and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove the SP-404MKII from its packaging. Verify that all included components are present:

- SP-404MKII Unit
- AC Adaptor
- Owner's Manual (this document)

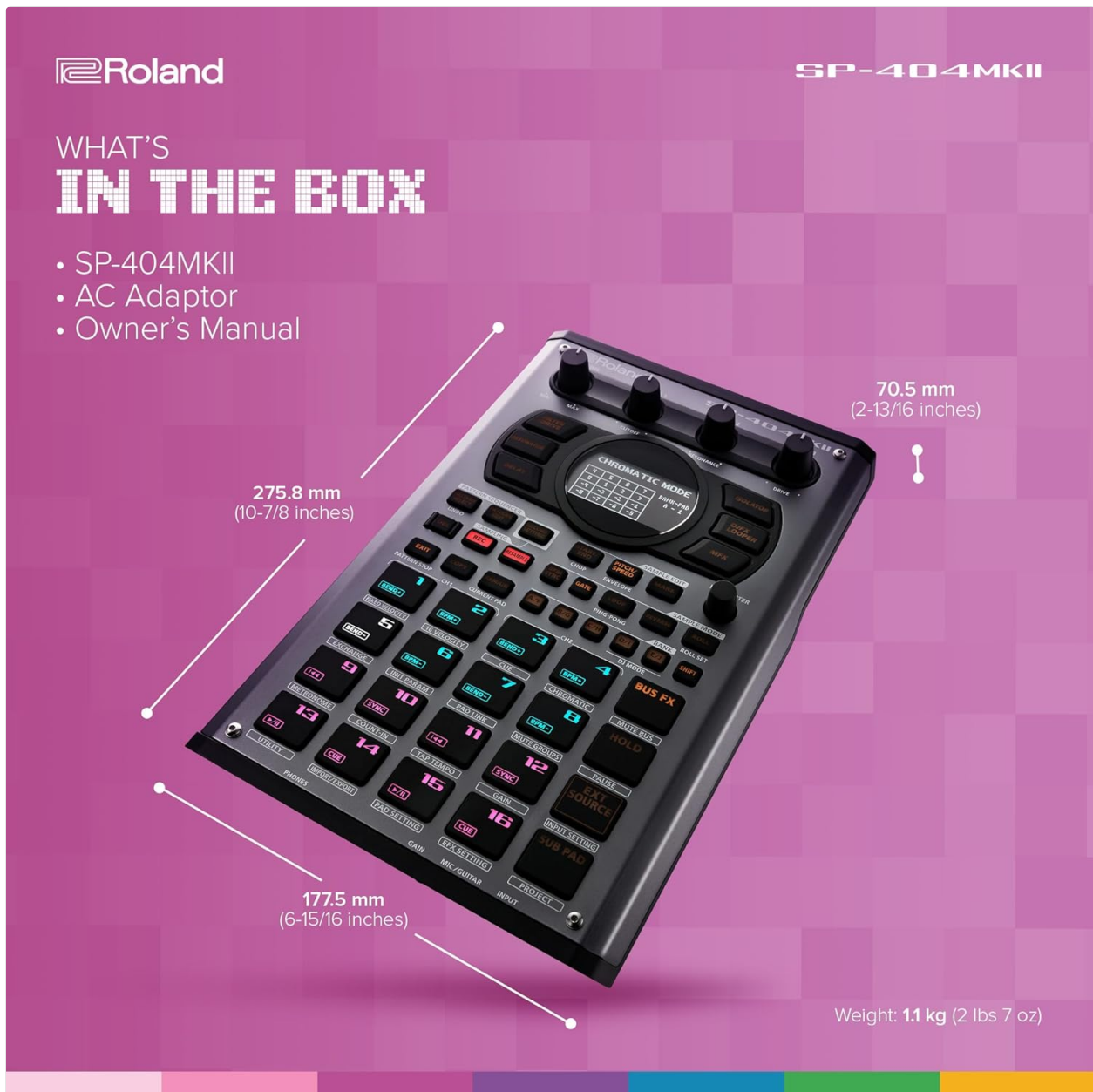


Figure 1: What's in the Box and Product Dimensions

Powering On

The SP-404MKII offers multiple power options:

- **AC Adaptor:** Connect the included AC adaptor to the DC IN jack on the rear panel and plug it into a standard power outlet.
- **USB-C:** Connect a USB-C cable to a compatible USB-C power source (e.g., a computer or a USB-C power adapter).
- **Mobile Battery:** Use a mobile battery pack connected via the USB-C port.
- **AA Batteries:** Insert six AA batteries into the battery compartment on the underside of the unit.

Once powered, press the power button to turn on the unit.

Connecting to Other Devices

The SP-404MKII features versatile connectivity options:

- **Audio Inputs/Outputs:** Connect external audio sources (e.g., turntables, instruments, microphones) to the input jacks and connect the output jacks to your mixer, amplifier, or headphones.
- **USB-C I/O:** Use the USB-C port for audio/MIDI communication with a computer or mobile device, as well as for power.
- **MIDI:** Connect to other MIDI devices for synchronization and control.

OPERATING THE SP-404MKII

Basic Controls and Interface

The SP-404MKII's intuitive layout includes a vivid OLED display, 17 velocity-sensitive pads, and various knobs and buttons for hands-on control. Familiarize yourself with the main control surface:



Figure 2: Roland SP-404MKII Main Unit

Sampling and Sequencing

The core functionality of the SP-404MKII revolves around sampling and sequencing. You can record audio directly into the unit, chop samples with precision using the OLED display, and arrange them into patterns.

The unit supports up to 160 samples per project and features 32-voice polyphony, allowing for complex arrangements.



Figure 3: Streamlined Beatmaking with SP-404MKII

Effects and Performance

The SP-404MKII boasts an extensive array of onboard effects, allowing for creative sound manipulation and dynamic live performances. Effects can be applied to individual samples, patterns, or the master output. The fluid sequencing capabilities enable seamless transitions and improvisation during live sets, including a dedicated DJ mode.



Figure 4: Creative Freedom Anywhere

Software Integration

Enhance your workflow with dedicated software tools. The free SP-404MKII App, available via Roland Cloud Manager, provides advanced editing, sample assignment, and legacy project import. Additionally, the SP-404MKII (Version 5 and later firmware) natively supports Serato DJ Lite, Pro, and Studio, transforming it into a pre-mapped Serato controller for seamless integration with DJ setups.

A SAMPLER WITH SOUL

Edit with precision on the vivid OLED screen— chop, auto-slice, tweak, and convert patterns instantly, then capture magic moments with Skip Back Sampling.



Figure 5: Seamless Software Integration

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning

To maintain the longevity and performance of your SP-404MKII, regularly clean the unit. Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the exterior. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth with mild soap can be used, ensuring no liquid enters the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.

Firmware Updates

Roland periodically releases firmware updates to improve functionality, add new features, and address any issues. It is highly recommended to keep your SP-404MKII's firmware up to date. Check the official Roland website for the latest firmware versions and detailed update instructions. Updates often require an SD card and an SD card reader.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Common Issues and Solutions

- **No Power:** Ensure the AC adaptor is securely connected, or check battery levels if operating on batteries. Try a different power source or fresh batteries.
- **No Sound Output:** Verify that the volume knob is turned up, headphones are properly connected, and output cables are correctly routed to your audio system. Check internal routing and effect settings.
- **Pads Unresponsive:** Ensure the unit is not in a locked mode. If issues persist, a factory reset (refer to the full user manual for instructions) might be necessary.
- **Connectivity Problems (USB/MIDI):** Check cable connections. Ensure correct drivers are installed on your computer if applicable. Verify MIDI settings on both the SP-404MKII and the connected device.

For more detailed troubleshooting steps and advanced solutions, please refer to the comprehensive User Manual available for download on the official Roland website.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	SP 404MKII
Item Model Number	SP-404MK2
Brand	Roland
Color	Black
Item Weight	1 pounds (16 ounces)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	5.1 x 9.1 x 17.1 inches
Body Material	Plastic
Connector Type	USB Type C
Hardware Interface	USB Type C
Musical Style	Electronic
Battery Type	Alkaline (AA x 6)
Included Components	Case (as per product listing)
Manufacturer	Roland
UPC	761294517796

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Roland SP-404MKII comes with a manufacturer's warranty. For specific details regarding warranty coverage, duration, and terms, please refer to the warranty information included with your product or visit the official Roland website.

For technical support, product registration, and additional resources, please visit the [Roland Global Support website](#). You may also consider purchasing extended protection plans for additional coverage, if available from your retailer.

