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## KORG VOLCAFM2

# Korg Volca FM2 Digital Synthesizer Instruction Manual

Model: VOLCAFM2

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The Korg Volca FM2 is a powerful 6-voice, 6-operator digital FM synthesizer designed for intuitive music programming and dynamic performances. This compact unit features a 16-step sequencer, built-in effects, and versatile connectivity, making it suitable for musicians of all skill levels in both studio and live environments.



Figure 1: Front view of the Korg Volca FM2 Digital Synthesizer.

## 2. SETUP

### 2.1 Unpacking

Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Ensure the following items are present:

- AA alkaline battery x 6
- Sync Cable
- Parameter List

### 2.2 Powering the Unit

The Volca FM2 can be powered by six AA alkaline batteries (included) for portable use or via an optional Korg KA-350 AC adapter (not included) for extended studio sessions. Insert batteries into the compartment on the underside of the unit, observing correct polarity.

## 2.3 Connections

Connect the Volca FM2 to other devices using the available ports:

- **MIDI In/Out:** Use the included MIDI adapter cables to connect to external MIDI devices for control or synchronization.
- **Sync In/Out:** Connect to other Korg Volca units or compatible devices for synchronized playback.
- **Headphone Out:** Connect headphones for private monitoring.



Figure 2: Detail of the MIDI, Sync, and Headphone connections on the Volca FM2.

## 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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### 3.1 Basic Controls

The Volca FM2 features a clear layout of knobs and buttons for direct access to sound parameters and sequencer functions. Familiarize yourself with the front panel controls for modulation, carrier, LFO, program, and effects.



Figure 3: Overview of the Korg Volca FM2 control panel.

## 3.2 FM Synthesis Engine

The Volca FM2 utilizes a 6-voice, 6-operator FM synthesis engine, compatible with classic Yamaha DX7 algorithms. Use the MODULATOR and CARRIER sections to sculpt complex FM sounds. The PROGRAM knob allows selection of various preset sounds, which can then be edited and saved.

## 3.3 16-Step Sequencer

The integrated 16-step sequencer enables intuitive creation of melodic and rhythmic patterns. Key features include:

- **Motion Sequence:** Record knob movements and note data to add dynamic changes to your patterns.
- **Warp Active Step:** Create unique rhythmic variations by skipping steps.
- **Pattern Chain:** Link multiple patterns together for longer compositions.
- **Arpeggiator:** Generate arpeggiated phrases from held notes.

## 3.4 Effects

Enhance your sounds with the built-in chorus and reverb effects. These can be applied to individual sounds or entire patterns to add depth and atmosphere.

## 3.5 MIDI Connectivity

The MIDI In and Out ports allow the Volca FM2 to integrate seamlessly with other MIDI-compatible equipment. Use an external MIDI keyboard to play the synthesizer or synchronize it with a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) or other hardware.

Video 1: A detailed review of the Korg Volca FM2 Digital FM Synthesizer, showcasing its features and sound capabilities.

## 4. SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Item Weight</b>	14.1 Ounces
<b>Product Dimensions</b>	7.6 x 4.53 x 1.65 inches
<b>Body Material</b>	Metal
<b>Power Source</b>	Wired (DC 9V) or 6x AA Alkaline Batteries
<b>Included Components</b>	AA alkaline battery x 6, Sync Cable, Parameter List
<b>Number of Keyboard Keys</b>	27 (multi-touch keyboard)
<b>Connector Type</b>	MIDI
<b>Proficiency Level</b>	All

## 5. MAINTENANCE

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To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Korg Volca FM2, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the surface of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the unit in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Battery Care:** Remove batteries if the unit will not be used for an extended period to prevent leakage.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your Volca FM2, consider the following common solutions:

- **No Sound:** Check volume levels, headphone connection, and ensure the unit is powered on. Verify that a program is selected and the sequencer is playing or keys are being pressed.
- **Unit Not Powering On:** Ensure batteries are correctly inserted and charged, or that the AC adapter is properly connected and functioning.
- **MIDI Issues:** Confirm MIDI cables are correctly connected (In to Out, Out to In). Check MIDI channel settings on both the Volca FM2 and external devices.
- **Sequencer Not Playing:** Ensure the sequencer is in play mode and a pattern is loaded. Check tempo settings.

## 7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For information regarding product warranty, repairs, or additional technical support, please refer to the official KORG website or contact your local KORG distributor. Extended protection plans may also be available for purchase.

Visit the official KORG Store for more information: [KORG Store on Amazon](#)