Donner DPD-16

Donner STARRYPAD DPD-16 Instruction Manual

Professional MIDI Pad Beat Maker Machine

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Donner STARRYPAD DPD-16 is a versatile and professional MIDI pad controller designed for beat making and music production. It features 16 highly responsive, velocity-sensitive pads with customizable RGB lighting, two assignable faders, two assignable knobs, and several shortcut buttons to enhance your creative workflow. This device is compatible with a wide range of operating systems and music software, making it an essential tool for both beginners and experienced producers.

Image: The Donner STARRYPAD DPD-16 MIDI Pad Beat Maker Machine, showcasing its 16 pads, faders, and knobs.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **16 Velocity-Sensitive Pads:** Equipped with 16 soft silicone backlit pads that can trigger drums, samples, and effects. Each pad offers adjustable velocity sensitivity curves (Normal, Hard, Light, Fixed) to cater to various performance needs.

- **Customizable RGB Lighting:** Pads feature 7 vibrant colors, allowing for visual grouping of instruments and enhanced aesthetic appeal.

- **Assignable Controls:** Includes 2 faders, 2 knobs, and 3 buttons for extensive customization and control over virtual instruments. A 'Shift' key provides an additional layer of control.

- **Multiple Pad Banks:** Quickly switch between 3 different pad banks for a total of 48 assignable pads.

- **Rhythm Enhancement Tools:** Features 'Tap Tempo' for DAW synchronization and 'Note Repeat' with ultra-low latency for seamless sample playback.

- **Broad Compatibility:** Class-compliant design ensures compatibility with Android, iOS, Mac, and Windows operating systems.

- **Bundled Software & Courses:** Comes with access to Melodics Courses and Cubase LE Software Kit for music production.

Image: The Donner STARRYPAD DPD-16 highlighting its colorful, backlit pads, indicating its use as a beat maker for music production.
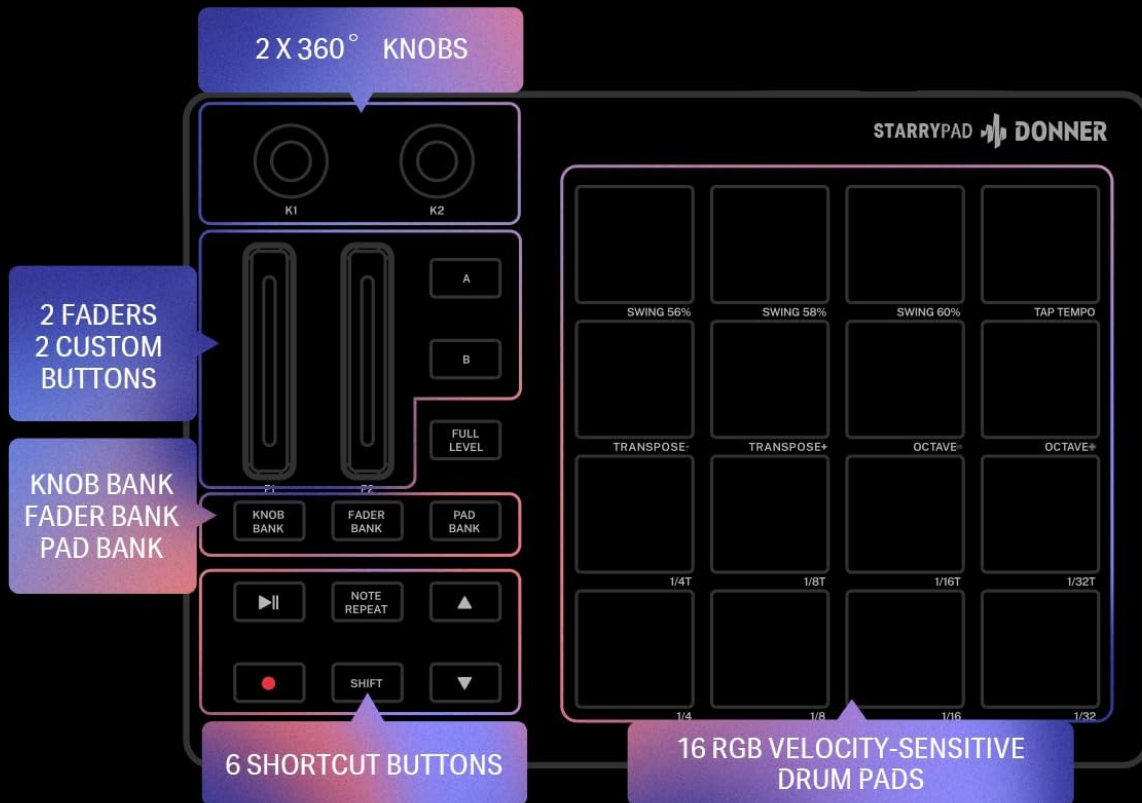
Image: A diagram illustrating the customizable controls of the STARRYPAD, including 2 knobs, 2 faders, 6 shortcut buttons, and 16 velocity-sensitive drum pads.

3. SETUP AND CONNECTION

3.1 Mobile Device Connection

To connect your STARRYPAD DPD-16 to a mobile device (e.g., iPhone, iPad, Android phone/tablet), you will need an OTG (On-The-Go) cable that is compatible with your device's port (e.g., Lightning to USB Adapter for Apple devices, USB-C OTG for Android). Ensure the OTG cable is connected correctly, with the side designed

for the mobile device plugged into your phone/tablet.

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Video: A demonstration of connecting the Donner STARRYPAD to mobile and computer devices. This segment specifically shows mobile device connection using an OTG adapter.
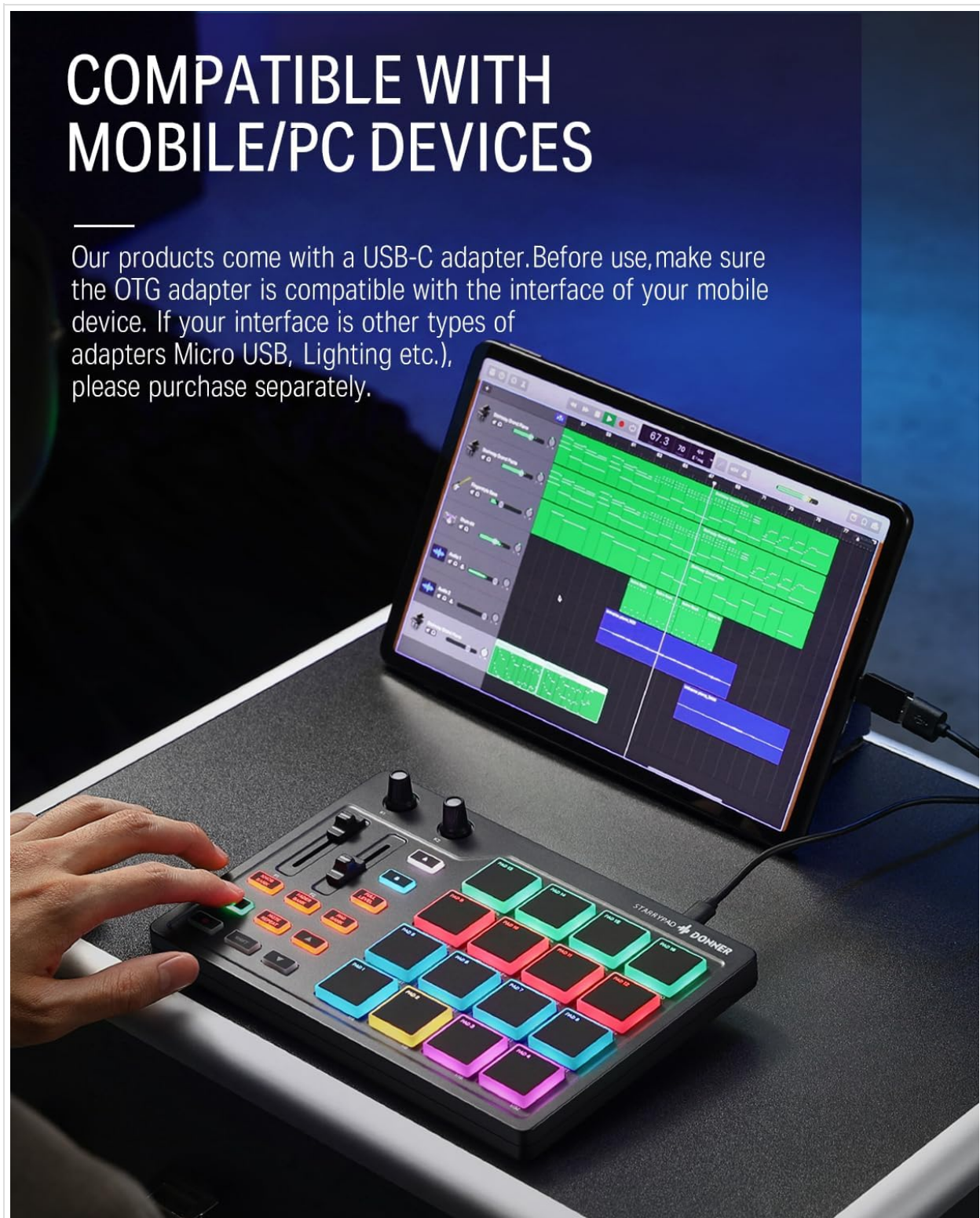

Image: The STARRYPAD DPD-16 connected to a tablet, demonstrating its compatibility with mobile devices for music production.

3.2 Computer Device Connection

For computer connection (Mac or Windows), simply connect the included USB-C cable from the STARRYPAD DPD-16's Type-C USB port to a USB port on your computer. The device is class-compliant, meaning it typically does not require special drivers and will be recognized automatically by your operating system.

3.3 Software Installation

The STARRYPAD DPD-16 requires Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software to produce sound. It does not generate sound independently. You can use popular DAWs such as Cubase LE, Cubasis LE, or Wavelab LE, which are often bundled or offered with the product. Additionally, access to Melodics Courses is provided to help you get started with beat making and improve your rhythm skills.

Image: The STARRYPAD DPD-16 shown with logos of bundled software and courses like Melodics, Cubasis LE, Cubase LE, and Wavelab LE.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Using the Pads

The 16 pads are the primary interface for triggering sounds. They are velocity-sensitive, meaning the harder you strike them, the louder the sound will be. You can switch between three pad banks (A, B, C) to access a total of 48 assignable sounds. Use the 'PAD BANK' button to cycle through these banks.

4.2 Faders and Knobs

The two faders (F1, F2) and two knobs (K1, K2) can be assigned to control various parameters within your DAW or virtual instruments, such as volume, pan, filter cutoff, or effect sends. Refer to your DAW's manual for specific MIDI mapping instructions.

4.3 Shortcut Buttons

- **Note Repeat:** Activates continuous repetition of a note while the pad is held down, with adjustable rates.
- **Shift:** Used in combination with other buttons to access secondary functions.
- **Tap Tempo:** Allows you to set the tempo of your DAW by tapping the button.
- **Play/Pause, Record:** Standard transport controls for your DAW.

4.4 Adjusting Velocity Curves

The STARRYPAD DPD-16 offers four velocity sensitivity curves to match your playing style:

- **Normal:** Standard response.
- **Hard:** Requires more force for higher velocities.
- **Light:** Responds with higher velocities at lighter touches.
- **Fixed:** All notes play at a consistent velocity, regardless of strike force.

These settings can typically be adjusted via the dedicated editor software or directly on the device using the 'Shift' button in combination with specific pads.

Image: Visual representation of the four velocity sensitive curves (Normal, Hard, Light, Fixed) available on the STARRYPAD DPD-16, catering to diverse performance needs.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Donner STARRYPAD DPD-16, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the surface of the device. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, but ensure no moisture enters the ports or buttons. Avoid abrasive cleaners or

solvents.

- **Storage:** Store the device in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity. When not in use, consider covering it to prevent dust accumulation.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping the device or subjecting it to strong impacts. Do not place heavy objects on top of it.
- **Cables:** Always handle cables by the connector, not the wire, when plugging or unplugging to prevent damage to both the cable and the device's ports.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your STARRYPAD DPD-16, please refer to the following common troubleshooting tips:

- **Device Not Recognized:** Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the STARRYPAD and your computer/mobile device. Try a different USB port or cable. For mobile devices, verify that your OTG adapter is functioning correctly and is compatible.
- **No Sound Output:** The STARRYPAD DPD-16 does not produce sound on its own. Ensure it is properly connected to a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) software, and that the software's audio output is correctly configured and routed to your speakers or headphones. Check MIDI input settings within your DAW.
- **Pads Not Responding / Incorrect Velocity:** Verify that the device is powered on and connected. Check the velocity curve settings (Normal, Hard, Light, Fixed) to ensure they match your playing preference. If using editor software, ensure settings are correctly applied and synchronized.
- **Lights Not Functioning:** Ensure the device is receiving power. If specific pads are not lighting up as expected, check the customizable lighting settings within the editor software.
- **Software Issues:** Ensure your DAW software is up-to-date. If issues persist, try reinstalling the DAW or contacting the software's support.

For more detailed troubleshooting or specific technical support, please visit the official Donner support website or consult the comprehensive user manual available for download.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	DPD-16
Item Weight	1.81 pounds
Product Dimensions	5.87 x 8.39 x 1.3 inches
Pads	16 Velocity-Sensitive Pads with RGB Backlighting
Controls	2 Assignable Faders, 2 Assignable Knobs, Shortcut Buttons

Connectivity	USB-C, MIDI In/Out
Compatible Devices	iPhone, PC, Phone, iPad
Supported Software	DAW software such as Cubase LE, Cubasis LE, Wavelab LE, etc.
Material Type	Silicone
Color	Black

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Donner products are designed and manufactured to the highest quality standards. For information regarding warranty coverage, product registration, and technical support, please refer to the official Donner website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims. Additional resources, including updated drivers, firmware, and detailed user guides, may be available on the Donner support page.

Documents - Donner – DPD-16

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