surmen GS98 (98 Black)

Surmen Creamy Keyboard (GS98) User Manual

Model: GS98 (98 Black)

Brand: Surmen

Introduction	Package Contents	Setup	Operating Instructions	Maintenance	Troubleshooting
		Specifications	Warranty & Support		

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the Surmen Creamy Keyboard (GS98). This 96% RGB mechanical keyboard is designed for both office and gaming use, featuring a compact layout with a number pad, gasket-mounted construction for enhanced acoustics, and hot-swappable switches for customization. This manual provides detailed instructions for setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting to ensure optimal performance and longevity of your device.

Image: The Surmen Creamy Keyboard (GS98) showcasing its full layout with RGB backlighting and the detachable USB-C cable.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Please verify that all items listed below are included in your package:

- Surmen Creamy Keyboard (GS98)
- USB-C to USB-A Cable
- Keycap Puller
- Switch Puller

3. SETUP

3.1 Connecting the Keyboard

1. Locate the USB-C port on the back of the keyboard.

2. Connect the USB-C end of the provided cable to the keyboard.

3. Connect the USB-A end of the cable to an available USB port on your computer (PC or Laptop).

4. For a neat desk setup, utilize the cable routing grooves on the underside of the keyboard to direct the cable in your preferred direction.

Image: The underside of the Surmen GS98 keyboard, illustrating the integrated cable routing channels.

3.2 Initial Power On

Once connected, the keyboard will automatically power on and the RGB lighting will illuminate. Your computer should recognize the device without requiring additional drivers. If the keyboard does not light up or function, please refer to the Troubleshooting section.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 96% Layout Overview

The Surmen GS98 features a compact 96% layout, which efficiently integrates a full number pad and dedicated arrow keys into a smaller footprint compared to traditional 104-key keyboards. This design optimizes desk space without sacrificing essential functionality.

Multifunctional Knob

Play/Pause

Volume +

Volume -

Image: The Surmen GS98 keyboard demonstrating its 96% layout, which includes a number pad and arrow keys in a space-saving design.

4.2 RGB Lighting Customization

The keyboard offers 16 distinct RGB lighting effects. These can typically be cycled through using specific key combinations (often Fn + a designated key, refer to the keyboard's keycap legends for specific functions). Additionally, the keyboard supports macro customization, allowing users to record and edit macros and personalize lighting colors from a palette of 16.8 million options via dedicated software (software download details may be available from the manufacturer's website).

4.3 Multifunctional Knob

The knob located on the top right of the keyboard provides convenient control over media functions:

- **Press:** Play/Pause media.
- **Rotate Clockwise:** Increase volume.
- **Rotate Counter-clockwise:** Decrease volume.

Image: A visual representation of the multifunctional knob's controls for media playback and volume adjustment.

4.4 Hot-Swappable Switches

The Surmen GS98 features a hot-swappable PCB, allowing you to easily replace 3-pin or 5-pin mechanical switches without soldering. This enables customization of typing feel and sound.
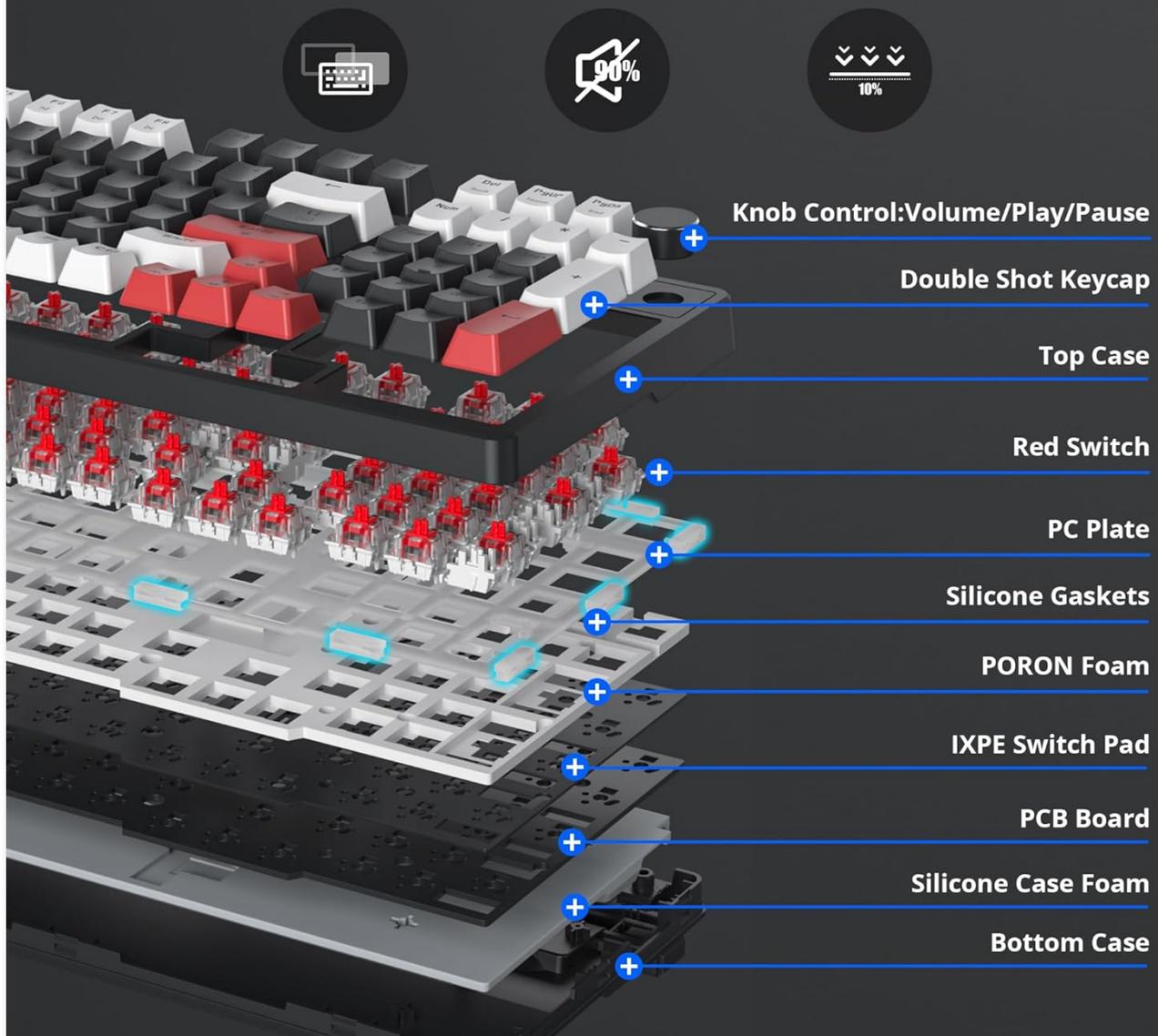
Gasket Structure

Knob Control:Volume/Play/Pause

Double Shot Keycap

Top Case

Red Switch

PC Plate

Silicone Gaskets

PORON Foam

IXPE Switch Pad

PCB Board

Silicone Case Foam

Bottom Case

Image: A close-up view of the hot-swappable sockets on the keyboard, demonstrating how switches can be easily inserted or removed.

4.5 Gasket Structure and Sound Absorbing Foams

The keyboard incorporates a gasket-mounted design along with IXPE switch dampener pads and thicker sound-absorbing foams. This construction significantly reduces noise and eliminates hollow sounds, providing a more satisfying and consistent typing experience with creamy or thocky acoustics.
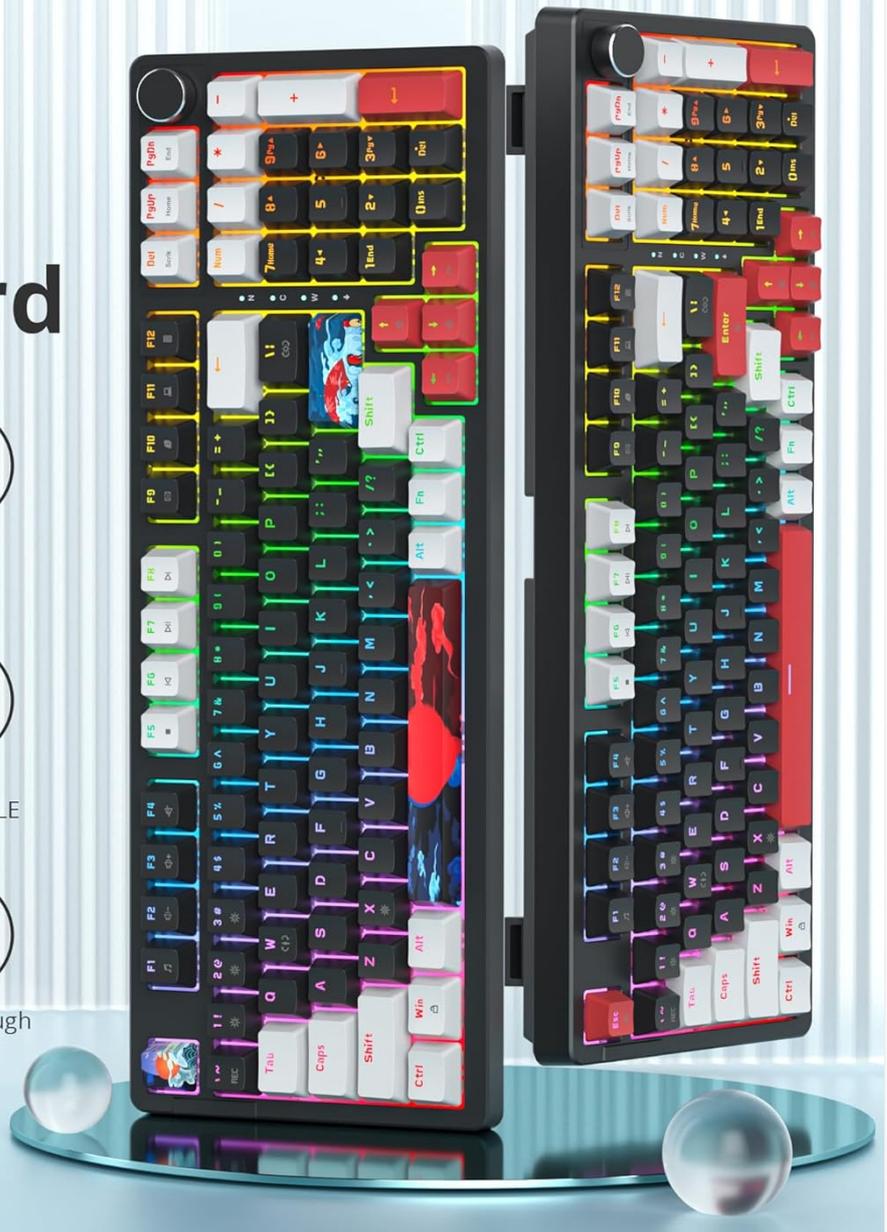
Image: An exploded view diagram detailing the internal components and gasket structure of the Surmen GS98 keyboard.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning Your Keyboard

To maintain optimal performance and appearance, regular cleaning is recommended:

- Disconnect the keyboard from your computer before cleaning.
- Use a soft brush or compressed air to remove dust and debris from between the keycaps.
- For stubborn dirt, gently wipe the keycaps and keyboard surface with a slightly damp, lint-free cloth. Avoid excessive moisture.
- Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.

5.2 Replacing Keycaps and Switches

The hot-swappable design allows for easy replacement of keycaps and switches:

1. **Keycap Removal:** Use the provided keycap puller to gently grip and pull keycaps straight up.

2. **Switch Removal:** After removing the keycap, use the provided switch puller to carefully grasp the switch from its top and bottom clips, then pull it straight up. Avoid bending the pins.

3. **Switch Installation:** Align the pins of the new switch with the holes on the PCB. Gently press the switch down until it clicks into place. Ensure the pins are not bent during installation.

4. **Keycap Installation:** Align the new keycap over the switch stem and press down firmly until it is seated.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Surmen Creamy Keyboard, please refer to the following common solutions:

- **Keyboard Not Responding:**

  - Ensure the USB-C cable is securely connected to both the keyboard and your computer.
  - Try connecting the keyboard to a different USB port on your computer.
  - Test the keyboard on another computer to rule out a computer-specific issue.
  - Restart your computer.

- **RGB Lighting Not Working/Incorrect:**

  - Check if the lighting has been turned off or set to a very dim setting using the keyboard's function keys (e.g., Fn + arrow keys or other designated keys).
  - If using software for customization, ensure it is running correctly and the settings are applied.

- **Specific Keys Not Registering:**

  - Remove the keycap and switch for the affected key. Inspect the switch pins for any bends or damage. Straighten bent pins carefully or replace the switch if damaged.
  - Ensure the switch is fully seated in its socket.

- **Mushy or Inconsistent Key Feel:**

  - While the keyboard features sound-dampening, if the feel is unexpectedly mushy, ensure all switches are properly seated.
  - Consider replacing switches with a different type if you prefer a different tactile or linear response.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	surmen
Model	GS98 (98 Black)
Layout	96% (98-Key) with Number Pad
Keyboard Type	Mechanical
Connectivity	Wired (USB-C to USB-A)
Switches	Hot-Swappable (3-pin/5-pin compatible)

Feature	Detail
Backlighting	RGB (16 effects, 16.8 million colors)
Special Features	Gasket Structure, Sound Absorbing Foams, Programmable Keys, Volume Roller
Compatible Devices	Laptop, PC
Material	Plastic
Dimensions (Approx.)	41.79 x 19.3 x 4.9 cm
Weight (Approx.)	1.18 kg

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please contact the retailer or manufacturer directly. Retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.
Manufacturer: GTSP
Brand: Surmen