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XSONIC AIRSTEP Kat EX

XSONIC Airstep Kat EX Footswitch User Manual

Model: AIRSTEP Kat EX

Brand: XSONIC

INTRODUCTION

The XSONIC Airstep Kat EX is a powerful and flexible footswitch designed specifically for Boss Katana amplifiers. It provides musicians with advanced control over their amplifier's functions, including wireless editing via a mobile application, multiple control modes for effects and channels, and support for external expression pedals. This manual will guide you through the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Airstep Kat EX.



Image: The XSONIC Airstep Kat EX footswitch, a compact black unit with five illuminated footswitches and a small display.

SETUP

Connecting to Your Katana Amplifier

The Airstep Kat EX connects to your Boss Katana amplifier via a standard USB cable. This connection enables communication between the footswitch and the amplifier, allowing for control and wireless editing capabilities.

Apps for different models



KATANA Gen 3



KATANA Librarian

Gen3



KATANA AIR



KATANA Librarian

MkII & MkI



KATANA Gen 3



KATANA Librarian

Image: Diagram illustrating the connection of the Airstep Kat EX to a Katana amplifier via USB, with optional expression pedals and wireless connection to a mobile device running the BTS App.

Connecting Expression Pedals

The Airstep Kat EX features two dedicated inputs for expression pedals. These inputs allow for real-time control over various parameters such as volume, wah, or pitch, as assigned within the BTS app.



Image: A user's foot positioned near the Airstep Kat EX, which is connected to two external expression pedals, demonstrating its expandability.

App Installation and Pairing

To unlock the full potential of the Airstep Kat EX, download and install the appropriate Boss Tone Studio (BTS) app for your mobile device (iOS or Android). The Airstep Kat EX facilitates wireless communication between your device and the Katana amplifier, eliminating the need for a computer or separate Bluetooth adapter.

- For Katana Gen 3 models, use the dedicated KATANA Gen 3 app.
- For Katana MkII & MkI models, use the KATANA Librarian app.



Image: Screenshots of the KATANA Gen 3 and KATANA Librarian mobile applications, indicating their compatibility with different Katana amplifier generations.

OPERATING MODES

The Airstep Kat EX offers multiple control modes, indicated by LED colors, to provide comprehensive command over your Katana amplifier's functions.



Image: Diagram illustrating the different control modes of the Airstep Kat EX: Channel Mode (Blue LED), Effect Mode (Green LED), GA-FC Expand Mode, and Dual Press functions.

1. Channel Mode (Blue LED)

In Channel Mode, the footswitches are primarily used for selecting amplifier channels and accessing effects.

- **CH1, CH2, CH3, CH4:** Selects the corresponding amplifier channel.
- **Long Press CH1-CH4:** Switches between A and B variations of the selected channel.
- **Effect:** Toggles the effect on/off.
- **Long Press Effect:** Switches to Panel mode on the amplifier.

2. Effect Mode (Green LED)

In Effect Mode, the footswitches provide granular control over individual effects and tap tempo.

- **BST (Boost), MOD (Modulation), FX (Effects), DLV (Delay):** Toggles the respective effect block on/off.
- **Long Press BST, MOD, FX, DLV:** Changes the effect type within that block (e.g., different types of boost, modulation, etc.).
- **Tap Tempo:** Taps in the tempo for time-based effects.
- **Long Press Channel:** Toggles Reverb on/off.

3. GA-FC Expand Mode

The Airstep Kat EX can work simultaneously with the BOSS GA-FC footswitch, offering expanded control options. This mode allows the Airstep Kat EX to complement the GA-FC's functionality.



Image: Diagram showing the Airstep Kat EX connected via USB and a BOSS GA-FC connected via TRS to a Katana amplifier, illustrating their combined use for ultimate control.

4. Dual Press Functions

Certain functions can be accessed by simultaneously pressing two footswitches, providing quick access to common controls.

- Specific dual press combinations are detailed in the control mode diagram and can be customized via the BTS app.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Airstep Kat EX, follow these simple maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the footswitch in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Battery:** The unit uses a Lithium Ion battery (included). While designed for long life, if you experience issues, ensure the unit is fully charged.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Airstep Kat EX, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Connection to Amplifier:** Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the Airstep Kat EX and the Katana amplifier. Verify that the amplifier is powered on.
- **App Connectivity Issues:** Confirm that Bluetooth is enabled on your mobile device. Ensure the Airstep Kat EX is powered on and within range. Check for any available updates for the BTS app and your Katana amplifier's firmware, as outdated software can sometimes cause compatibility problems.
- **Footswitch Unresponsive:** Check if the unit is powered on and fully charged. If issues persist, try restarting both the Airstep Kat EX and your Katana amplifier.
- **Expression Pedal Not Working:** Ensure the expression pedal is correctly plugged into the designated input. Verify that the parameter is assigned to the expression pedal within the BTS app.

For persistent issues not resolved by these steps, please refer to the support section.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	AIRSTEP Kat EX
Item Weight	1.76 pounds (0.8 kg)
Package Dimensions	11.81 x 5.51 x 2.76 inches (30 x 14 x 7 cm)
Battery Type	1 Lithium Ion battery (included)
First Available Date	April 20, 2022

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding product warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official XSONIC website. For technical support, troubleshooting assistance beyond this manual, or service inquiries, please contact XSONIC customer support through their official channels.

You can visit the XSONIC Store on Amazon for more information: [XSONIC Store](#)

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