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MK-2 Micro Korg 2
Synthesizer Vocoder

MK-2 Micro Korg 2 Synthesizer Vocoder User Guide

Contents

KORG

MK-2 Micro Korg 2 Synthesizer Vocoder

Connections

- Before making any connections, ensure that all of your devices are turned off.
- Operating this unit or your devices in a careless way might cause electric shock, damage your speaker system or cause a malfunction.
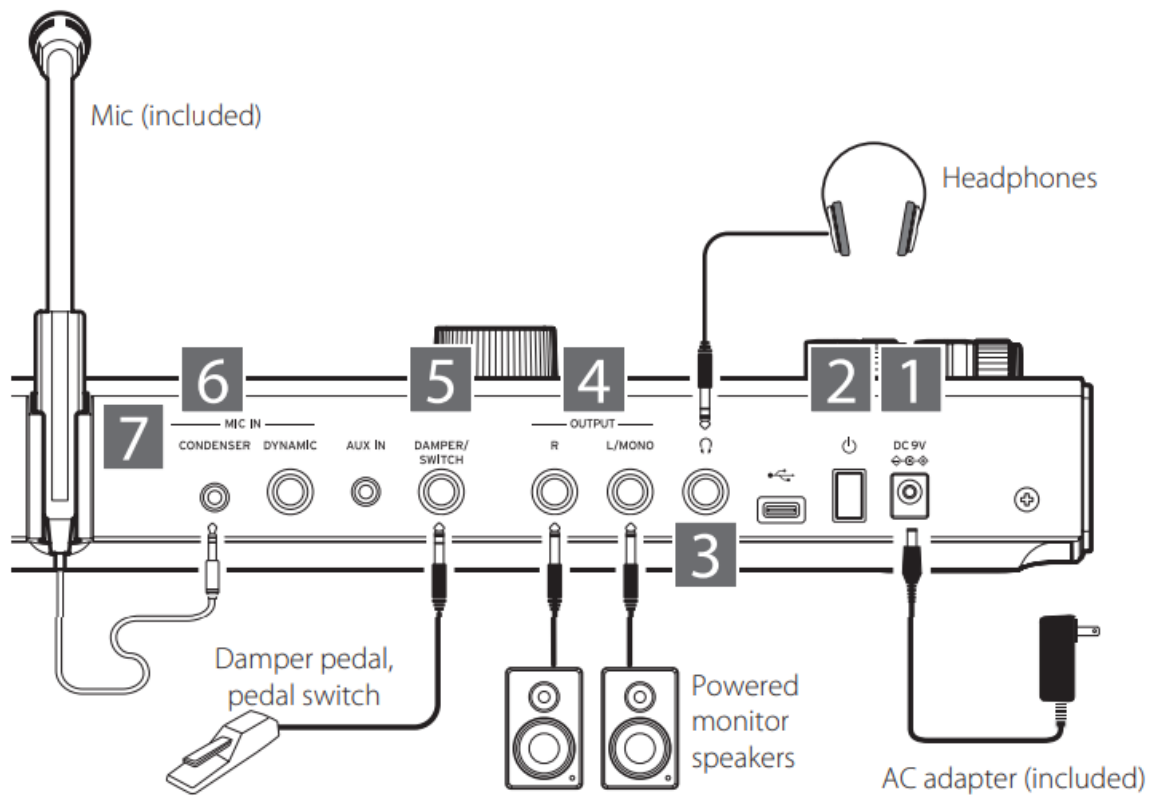
Connecting to a power source

- DC 9V jack 1: Connect the included AC adapter here.
- Be sure to use only the included AC adapter. Using a different AC adapter may cause a malfunction or other issues.
  Note: The microKORG2 can also operate on batteries. For details on how to insert the batteries and correctly display the remaining battery power, refer to the Owners Manual. Note that batteries are\ not included, and must be purchased separately.

Connecting audio devices

- OUTPUT LIMONO and R jacks 4: Connect these jacks to the INPUT jacks of your mixer, powered monitor speakers or other audio equipment.
- Headphone jack 3: Connect your headphones here.

Mic (included)

Headphones

MIC IN — CONDENSER DYNAMIC   AUX IN   DAMPER/SWITCH   — OUTPUT — R   L/MONO   ⏻   DC 9V

6   5   4   2   1

7

3

Damper pedal, pedal switch

Powered monitor speakers

AC adapter (included)

Connecting the included mic

- Mic holder 7: Connect the included mic here. While holding the shaft of the included mic, align the protrusion on the mic with the slit of the mic holder, and push the mic into the holder.
- Do not use excessive force. When removing the included mic, hold it by the shaft and pull it out. MIC IN CONDENSER jack6 :
- Connect the plug of the included mic here.

Protrusion

Mic shaft

Slit

7

Mic holder
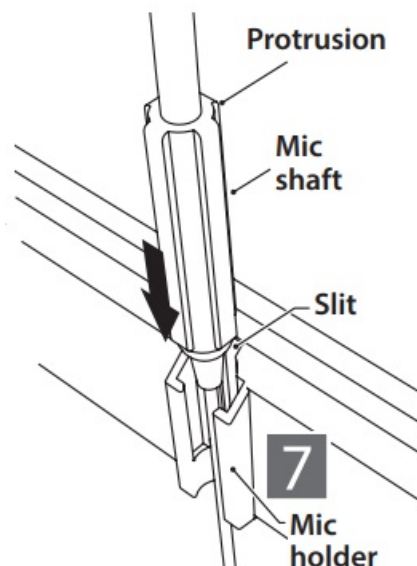
Other connections

- Connect the related devices and equipment to the following jacks as necessary.
- DAMPER/ SWITCH jack5 Connect accessories (sold
- separately) here, a damper pedal or pedal switch.

- For details on MIDI, USB, and AUX connections, refer to the Owner's Manual.

Turning the power on/off

Turning the power on/off

- Before turning the power on, make sure that the volume is turned all the way down on your other devices. If you've connected equipment such as monitor speakers, turn the power on/off in the following order.
- When turning the power on: turn the volume of all equipment all the way down → turn on the microKORG2 → turn on the monitor speakers
- When turning the power off: turn the volume of all equipment all the way down → turn off the monitor speakers → turn off the microKORG2
- Power button 2: Long-press the button to turn the power on or off.

Note: The microKORG2 automatically turns off when the front panel buttons, knobs, keyboard or other controls are not used for a certain length of time (the time is set to two hours by default). This is the auto power-off function.

Adjusting the volume

- **VOLUME knob**1: Use this to adjust the volume of sound that's output from the OUTPUT jacks and headphones jack.
- MIC knob2: Adjusts the mic volume.
- **Note**: Lower the volume when you're not using the mic.

Selecting and playing programs

Selecting a sound

1. Press the BANK button 8 to select a program bank.
2. Turn the PROGRAM SELECT dial 9 to select the program genre.
3. Press a PROGRAM NUMBER button10 between 1 and 8 to select the program number. Play the keyboard to11 hear the sound.

Controlling the octave, pitch, etc.

1. Press the OCTAVE SHIFT UP and DOWN buttons 5 to switch the octave range of the keyboard (over a range of\ ±3 octaves).
2. Use the PITCH wheel 6 to control the pitch.
3. Use the MOD wheel 7 to control the depth of modulation.

Performance edit
Use the edit controls (the five knobs) to adjust the sound and other elements while you're playing.

1. Press the FUNCTION 5 button (FUNC/HOME) 13
2. Use the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to adjust the sound.

Parameter examples

- Cutoff: adjusts the brightness of the sound with a filter
- Resonance: adds a unique character to the sound
- AMP EG Attack, Release: adjusts the speed at which the sound rises and falls in volume

Editing the sounds

The programs consist of two timbres and each timbre features three oscillators (OSC), a noise generator (NOISE), a filter, filter EG, amp EG, two LFOs and six patches. The addition of\ effects gives you a great degree of freedom in creating your own sounds.

Editing

1. Press the TIMBRE button 16 to select the timbre to edit.
   Note: This is enabled for dual programs, but is disabled for single programs.
2. Press the TIMBRE EDIT button 17 to select the section of the parameter you want to edit. The page switches each time you press the buttons.
3. Turn the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to edit the parameter values. See the Owner's Manual for details on the parameters.

Setting the volume balance between the two timbres

1. Long-press the TIMBRE button16.
2. Turn the edit control 1–4 knobs 15 to set the volume and pan.

Displaying the oscilloscope

1. Press the FUNCTION 3 button (SCOPE) 13 to show/hide the oscilloscope.
2. When the oscilloscope is shown, you can view the waveform on the display when you play a note on the keyboard.

Using the vocal processor

Playing the vocoder
The vocoder uses the audio that you input from a mic or other source to modulate the oscillator's waveform, creating an effect that sounds like the instrument is talking. We recommend that you first select from the program that's available when the VOCODER button 20 ON/OFF LED is lit (see the "Voice Name List")

OVERVIEW
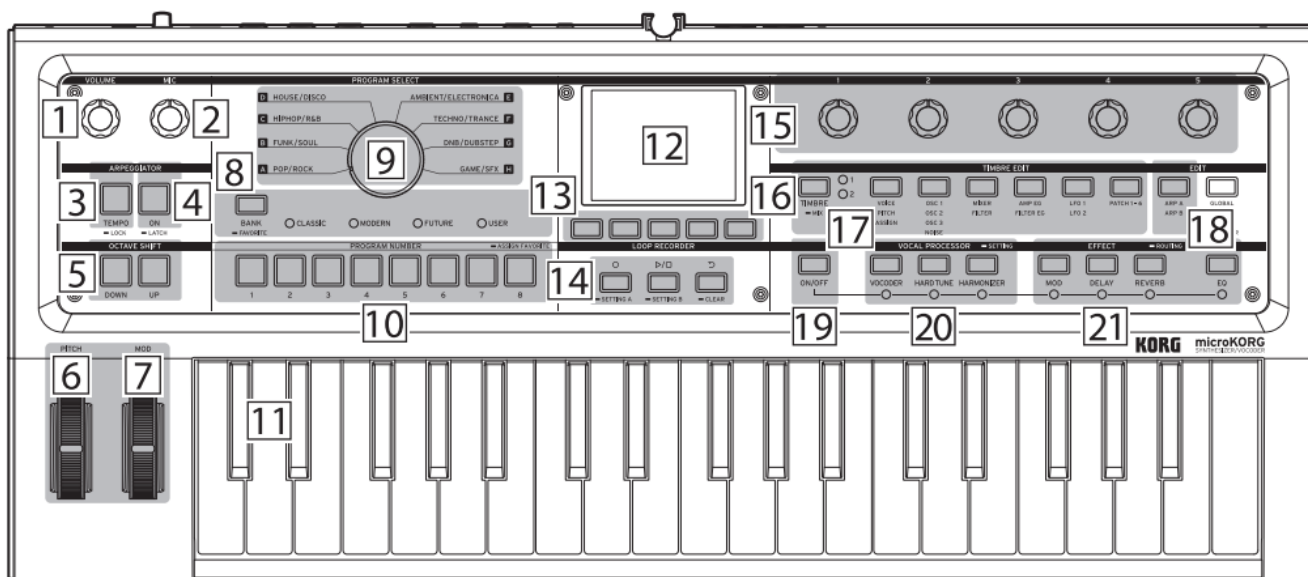
1. Press the VOCODER button 20 while holding down the ON/OFF button 19to turn the vocoder on/off.

2. While vocalizing into the mic, use the MIC knob to\ adjust the mic volume.

   Note: Adjust the input level so that "MIC2" doesn't appear in red in the upper left part of the display. This knob adjusts the signal volume after A/D conversion.

3. Play the keyboard while vocalizing into the mic.

Adjusting the settings

1. Press the VOCODER button 20 to show the VOCODER page and the FILTER BAND page.

2. Use the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to set the parameters

   Parameter examples

   1. Mic Direct: sets the direct output level for the mic audio

   2. Synth D/W: adjusts the balance between the synth and the vocoder sounds

   3. Formant Shift: sets each cutoff frequency for the filter on the carrier side

3. Use each of the TIMBRE EDIT buttons 17 and edit\ control 1–5 knobs 15 to set the parameters for each oscillator section.

Using hard tune to correct the pitch
This feature is used to correct the vocal pitch. Use this to create robot-like voices, or to adjust the formant for a thicker, lower vocal sound or for a thinner, higher sound. We recommend that you first select from the program that's available when the HARD TUNE button 20 ON/OFF LED is lit (see the "Voice Name List").

1. Press the HARD TUNE button 20 while holding down the ON/OFF button 19 to switch hard tune on/off.

2. Use the MIC knob 2 to adjust the mic volume (see\ "Playing the vocoder").

3. Vocalize into the mic.

Adjusting the settings

1. Press the HARD TUNE button20 to show the HARD TUNE page.

2. Use the edit control 1–3 knobs 15to set the parameters.

   Parameter examples

1. Intensity: sets the degree of pitch correction
2. Speed: sets the speed of pitch correction
3. Formant: changes the character of the voice

Changing your voice with the harmonizer

This shows how to shift the pitch of your vocals and add that voice as a harmony to the original vocals for output. We recommend that you first select from the program that's available when the HARMONIZER button 20 ON/OFF LED is lit (see the "Voice Name List").

1. Press the HARMONIZER button 20 while holding down the ON/OFF button 19 to turn the harmonizer on/off.
2. Use the MIC knob 2 to adjust the mic volume (see "Playing the vocoder").
3. Vocalize into the mic.

Adjusting the settings

1. Press the HARMONIZER button20 to show the Harmonizer page.
2. Use the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to set the parameters
3. Parameter examples
    1. HarmoLvl: sets the output level for the harmony sound
    2. Formant: changes the character of the voice
    3. Harmony: sets the number of harmonies to output
    4. Pitch 1, 2: sets how far to shift the pitches of harmonies 1 and 2

Controlling the pitch over a scale or via keyboard
Note: Check this setting if the vocal processor isn't working as expected.
The pitch of the vocal processor is controlled by the audio signal that's detected from the mic, or by what you play on the keyboard.

1. Long-press the VOCAL PROCESSOR button (VOCODER, HARD TUNE, HARMONIZER) 20 to show the VOCAL SETTING page.
2. Use the edit controls (1–3 knobs) 15
3. to adjust the values.
    1. Parameter examples
        1. Scale/KBD: when set to "Scale", the vocal pitch is corrected to match the "Scale Key" and "Scale Type" you set
        2. Scale Key: sets the scale tonic
        3. Scale Type: sets the scale to use
        4. Scale/KBD: when set to "Keyboard", the vocal pitch is corrected to match the keys you play on the keyboard

Configuring the effects

The output from the oscillator or from the vocal processor is sent through the following signal chain to apply effects: modulation effect (MOD) → delay effect (DELAY) → reverb effect (REVERB) → equalizer (EQ).

1. To turn each effect on/off, press the button for the respective effect (MOD, DELAY, REVERB, EQ) while holding down the ON/OFF button.19

2. Press the EFFECT MOD, DELAY, REVERB or EQ button to 21 adjust the effect. The respective page is shown.

3. Use the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to adjust the values

Parameter examples
MOD/DELAY/REVERB

- Type: selects the effect type
- Dry/Wet: sets the depth of the effect EQ
- Low Freq, High Freq: sets the frequency to adjust
- Low Gain, High Gain: adjusts the respective gains
- Note: If you raise the equalizer gain too much, the output may be distorted.

Using the arpeggiator

The arpeggiator automatically plays all the notes of a held chord as individual events

Playing arpeggios

1. Press the ARPEGGIATOR ON button 4 to toggle the arpeggiator.
2. Hold down a chord on the keyboard to make the arpeggio play.
3. Set the tempo by pressing the TEMPO button several times.

Modifying the arpeggio

1. Press the EDIT ARP A/B button 18 to select the ARP A, B page
2. Use the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to change the way that the arpeggiator plays.
    1. Parameter examples

        ARP A

        1. Swing: makes the rhythm swing
        2. Latch: keeps playing the arpeggio even after you take your hands off the keyboard
    2. ARP B
        1. Type: changes the order in which arpeggio notes are played
        2. Gate Time: changes the length of the notes played in the arpeggio
        3. Tip: You can also toggle the latch by long-pressing the
            ARPEGGIATOR ON button.
    3. Press the PROGRAM NUMBER 1–8 buttons 10 to turn on/off the arpeggio notes, up to eight steps. Pressing a button to turn off the LED changes the note for that step into a rest, which alters the performance (see the diagram). Type: Up Last Step: 8
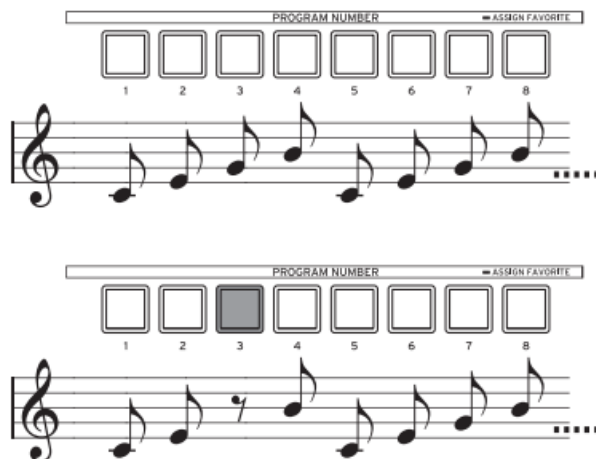
Saving a program

Save the programs you've edited to the memory of the microKORG2. Any edits you make will be lost if you turn off the power of the microKORG2 or select a different program\ before saving the data.

1. Press the FUNCTION 4 (WRITE) button13.
2. Press the BANK button 8 to select the bank where the program will be saved.

   Note: We recommend saving your data to the USER banks,\which contain initialized programs.
3. Turn the PROGRAM SELECT dial 9 to select the genre.
4. Press PROGRAM NUMBER buttons 1–8 to 10 and select the save destination program number. Press the FUNCTION 5 (CANCEL) button to cancel.
5. Name the program. Move the cursor using the FUNCTION 1 (CUR <) and 2 (CUR >) buttons, 13 and select the character with the edit control 1–5 knobs15.
6. To save, press the FUNCTION 4 (EXECUTE) button13. After the data is saved, the microKORG2 returns to its normal operating state

Registering and selecting favorites

You can register up to eight favorite programs and quickly recall them later. This is useful when you're playing live and in similar situations.

Registering a favorite program

1. Select a program to register.
2. Long-press the PROGRAM NUMBER 1–8 buttons you want to register. The button blinks and the program is registered.

Selecting a favorite

1. Long-press the BANK button 8.
2. Press the PROGRAM NUMBER 1–8 buttons 1O to select the favorite programs assigned to each.
3. To exit favorites mode, press the BANK button 8 or turn the PROGRAM SELECT dial.

Using the looper

This feature lets you record what you play on the microKORG2, and then play it back.

Recording

1. Press the LOOP RECORDER ⭘ button 14 (the button blinks red).

2. Press ▷/▢ the button. Recording starts after the\ pre-count.

3. Record what you play on the keyboard or the vocal processor. Recording is done over and over within the loop range, as an overdub.

    1. Press the ⭘ button 14 to stop recording and switch to playback mode.

4. Press the ▷/▢ button 14 to stop.

    Tip: You can also record the input signal from the AUX IN jack (see the Owner's Manual for details).

Playing back

1. Press the ▷/▢ button 14 to begin playback, and press the button again to stop.

Undo/redo

1. Press ↻ the button 14 to erase (undo) the audio you just recorded. Press the button again to return to the previous state (redo).

Deleting data

1. Long-press ↻ button 14 to delete all of the data you recorded.

    Note: The delete operation cannot be undone.

Editing the settings

1. Long-press ⭘ the button 14 to show the LOOP SETTING A page, which contains the recording-related settings. Long-press ▷/▢ button 14 to show the LOOP SETTING B page, which contains the playback-related settings.

2. Use the edit control 1–5 knobs 15 to set the parameters

    1. Parameter examples
    2. LOOP REC SETTINGS
    3. Length: sets the length of the recording
    4. Rec Start: sets when the recording starts from standby mode
    5. Quality: sets the quality of the recorded data
    6. LOOP PLAY SETTINGS
    7. St.Length: sets the stutter playback length

3. Press the FUNCTION 5 (HOME) button 13 to exit the settings.

The recorded audio data is deleted once you turn the power off.

Specifications

- Keyboard: 37 notes (mini keyboard, velocity-sensitive, no aftertouch)
- Sound generation system: Analog modeling synthesis system
- Timbres: max. of 2 (in Dual mode)
- Polyphony: Synth 8 voices, Vocoder 4 voices, Hard Tune: 1,
- Harmonizer: 2
- Effects, EQ: Modulation, delay, reverb, 2-band EQ
- Arpeggiator: 10 types, step arpeggiator function
- Programs: 256 (4 banks × 8 categories × 8 programs)
- Loop recorder: Approx. 43 sec (32-bit floating point, stereo)
- Input/output jacks: OUTPUT – L/MONO, R jacks (6.3 mm TS phone jack, unbalanced)
    - Headphone jack (6.3 mm TRS phone jack, unbalanced)MIC IN – CONDENSER jack (+5 V 3.5 mm TRS mini phone jack, unbalanced)
    - MIC IN – DYNAMIC jack (6.3 mm TS phone jack, unbalanced)
    - AUX IN jack (3.5 mm TRS mini phone jack, unbalanced)
    - DAMPER/SWITCH jack (6.3 mm TS phone jack)
    - MIDI IN, OUT connectors
      USB Type-C port
- Display: 2.8-inch TFT IPS LCD
- Power: DC 9 V AC adapter (included), six AA batteries (alkaline or nickel-metal hydride)
- Battery life: Approx. 4 hours or more (when using alkaline batteries) Dimensions (W × D × H): 542 × 238 × 65 mm / 21.34″ × 9.37″ × 2.56″
- Weight: MK-2 2.2 kg/4.85 lb, MK-2 MBK/MWH 2.1 kg/4.63 lb (without batteries and included microphone)
- Included items: Condenser mic, AC adapter (DC 9 V), Precautions/ Quick Start Guide
- Accessories (sold separately): DS-1H damper pedal, PS-1 or PS-3 pedal switch
- Specifications and appearance are subject to change without notice for improvement.
- The GUI design of this instrument was developed in collaboration\ with BLINKSONIC°.
- All product names and company names are the trademarks or\ registered trademarks of their respective owners.

Precautions

Location
Using the unit in the following locations can result in a malfunction.

- In direct sunlight
- Locations of extreme temperature or humidity
- Excessively dusty or dirty locations
- Locations of excessive vibration
- Close to magnetic fields

Power supply

- Please connect the designated AC adapter to an AC outlet of the correct voltage. Do not connect it to an AC outlet of voltage other than that for which your unit is intended.

Interference with other electrical devices

- Radios and televisions placed nearby may experience reception interference. Operate this unit at a suitable distance from radios and televisions.

Handling

- To avoid breakage, do not apply excessive force to the switches
- or controls.

Care

- If the exterior becomes dirty, wipe it with a clean, dry cloth. Do
- not use liquid cleaners such as benzene or thinner, or cleaning
- compounds or flammable polishes.

Keep this manual

- After reading this manual, please keep it for later reference.

Keeping foreign matter out of your equipment

- Never set any container with liquid in it near this equipment. If liquid gets into the equipment, it could cause a breakdown, fire, or electrical shock.
- Be careful not to let metal objects get into the equipment. If something does slip into the equipment, unplug the AC adapter from the wall outlet. Then contact your nearest Korg dealer or the store where the equipment was purchased.

Transporting and storing this unit in a soft case

- When transporting or storing this product in a soft case, be careful that the keyboard or the controls such as the switches are not facing downward. Also, do not place other objects on top of the case in which this product is stored.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CONSUMERS

- This product has been manufactured according to strict specifications and voltage requirements that are applicable in the country in which it is intended that this product should be used.
- If you have purchased this product via the Internet, through mail\ order, and/or via a telephone sale, you must verify that this product is intended to be used in the country in which you reside.
- WARNING: Use of this product in any country other than that\ for which it is intended could be dangerous and

could invalidate the manufacturer's or distributor's warranty.

- Please also retain your receipt as proof of purchase otherwise your product may be disqualified from the manufacturer's or distributor's warranty.

FCC STATEMENT

THE FCC REGULATION WARNING (for USA)
NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio TV technician for help.

If items such as cables are included with this equipment, you must use those included items. Unauthorized changes or modifications to this system can void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

SUPPLIER'S DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY (for USA)

This device complies with Part 15 of FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause harmful interference, and
2. this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Notice regarding disposal (EU only)
When this "crossed-out wheeled bin" symbol is displayed on the product, owner's manual, battery, or battery package, it signifies that when you wish to dispose of this product, manual, package or battery you must do so in an approved manner. Do not discard this product, manual, package or battery along with ordinary household waste. Disposing correctly will prevent harm to human health and potential damage to the environment. Since the correct method of disposal will depend on the applicable laws and regulations in\ your locality, please contact your local administrative body for details. If the battery contains heavy metals over the regulated amount, a chemical symbol is displayed\ below the "crossed-out wheeled bin" symbol on the battery or battery package.

CONTACT

Responsible Party: KORG USA INC.

- **Address:** 316 SOUTH SERVICE ROAD, MELVILLE, NY
- **Telephone**: 1-**631-390-6500**
- **Equipment Type**: SYNTHESIZER/VOCODER
- **Model:** MK-2

https://korg.com/html_manual/microkorg2/

Documents / Resources

	KORG MK-2 Micro Korg 2 Synthesizer Vocoder [pdf] User Guide MK-2 Micro Korg 2 Synthesizer Vocoder, MK-2, Micro Korg 2 Synthesizer Vocoder, Korg 2 Synthesizer Vocoder, Synthesizer Vocoder

References

- **User Manual**