

THYME+

Bastl's THYME+ optimizes your sound and liberates you from the confines of routine work. With numerous parameters at hand, you can delve deep into time-based effects and explore their wildest combinations.

You have the freedom to experiment with delay, phaser, reverb, chorus, pitch shifter, multi-tap delay, tape delay, tremolo, vibrato, and much more – all in stereo!



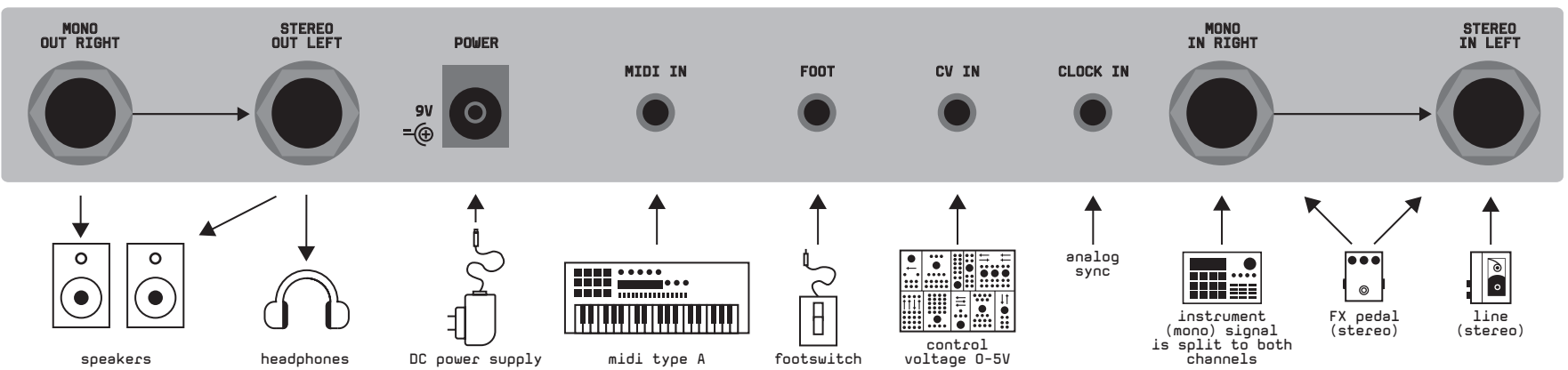
For full manual and documentation, scan the QR code.

There's a lot THYME+ can do and we will slowly dive into it. Follow these easy steps to comprehend it all, bit by bit...

In this quickstart guide, we will look into:

- Tape delay
- Sequencer (remember to save your progress as you go, it will be essential)
- Memory
- Freeze mode

For the best results, turn the page and follow each step – the way it's written.



ROBOT WAVESHAPES

ROBOT + SHAPE + SHAPE + SHAPE

The diagram illustrates the relationship between the ROBOT knob, the SHAPE knob, and the resulting waveform. The ROBOT knob has four positions: ROBOT, SHAPE, SHAPE, and SHAPE. The SHAPE knob has four positions: SHAPE, SHAPE, SHAPE, and SHAPE. The resulting waveforms are shown for each combination.

trigger only once when you select a PRESET

doesn't react to the SHAPE knob

ENV

CV

external control voltage (sent to CV IN)

ROBOT POLARITY

ROBOT + FREEZE + LINK + SYNC

There are three different settings:

- negative**: The knob value is subtracted from the modulation.
- bipolar**: The knob value modulates around the modulation.
- positive**: The knob value is added to the modulation.

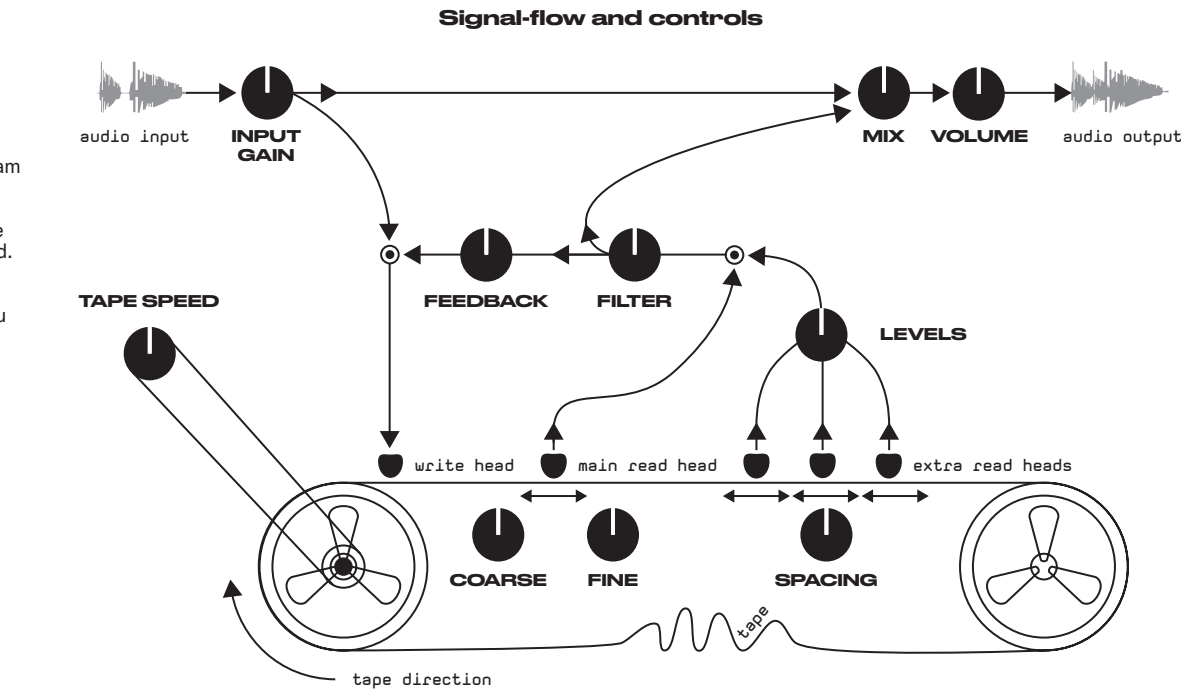
Each Robot can modify a parameter in three directions:

knob value

modulation

It can subtract from the knob value, it can modulate around it, or it can add its output to the knob value.

SEQUENCEABLE ROBOT-OPERATED DIGITAL TAPE MACHINE



FREEZE MODE

The **FREEZE** mode samples a short loop, with the length defined by the delay time.

FREEZE allows you to create drones with longer time frames, "lag" the sound with shorter ones, create feedback pitches with the shortest delay times, or glitch the sound with gradual movements.

Change the length of the frozen loop using the **COARSE & FINE** knobs.

Control the intensity of the loop with **FEEDBACK** (when fully to the right, the loop will stay indefinitely).

Mix in the extra read heads to the output with **LEVELS**. In the second half of the knob, the signal from extra read heads gets written into the frozen loop. Have fun!

BUTTON COMBOS

Tape machine

SHIFT + FREEZE: set tape speed to half

SHIFT + DELAY SYNC: set tape speed to double

SHIFT + TAPE SPEED: lo-fi/analog tape

SHIFT + FEEDBACK: wiggle negative/positive feedback

SHIFT + SPACING: wiggle synced/unsynced read heads

Robots

any KNOB wiggle: select for modulation

any KNOB movement: set modulation amount

robot SYNC: stereo robot mode

PRESET 1-8: select waveform of LFO

RATE: modulate waveform shape

A/B/C/D PATTERN: select phase of LFO

FREEZE/LINK/SYNC: select robot polarity

BYPASS: erase selected robot

Sequencer and clock

WRITE + PRESET 1-8: record preset (live mode)

SELECT + PRESET 1-8: select preset (write mode)

hold PRESET 1-8: select substeps (write m.)

SHIFT + TAP: select clock source

SHIFT + A/B/C/D: select tempo divider

Memory

SHIFT + PRESET: select bank

SHIFT + SELECT: save bank

SHIFT + WRITE: copy preset

SHIFT + PLAY: paste preset

BYPASS + SHIFT + PRESET: erase bank

BYPASS + PRESET: erase preset

BYPASS + A/B/C/D: erase pattern

PRESET 8 + PLAY: format memory (test mode)

Randomize

ROBOT + SHIFT + FREEZE: all robots parameters

ROBOT + SHIFT + LINK: tape machine parameters

ROBOT + SHIFT + SYNC: tape and robots parameters

Midi, hardware test

Hold buttons during power up:

WRITE: start/stop message

PRESET 1-8: midi channel 1-8

SHIFT + PRESET 1-8: midi channel 9-16

A+B+C+D: hardware test mode

TAP: bootloader mode

1. START HERE

Plug in your power supply, input signal, and output signal.

For starters, to learn the instrument and best hear the processes, it's best to use a simple continuous rhythm signal instead of drones or an instrument you would have to play actively.

- Select an empty BANK with empty PRESETS (SHIFT + PRESET)

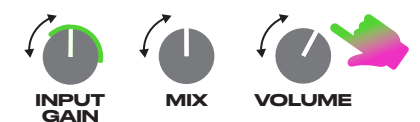


- Select an empty PRESET

2. LET THERE BE SOUND

- Adjust **INPUT GAIN** to a desired level. A GREEN light indicates an incoming signal, while a RED light indicates clipping (the signal is too loud)
- Adjust **VOLUME**. Now you can hear your signal!
- Quickly turn **MIX** to unfreeze the knob*
- Adjust between **DRY** (original) and **WET** (processed) signal

*Knob freezing is a function keeping the knob values set. It applies to all the knobs except **INPUT GAIN** and **VOLUME**.

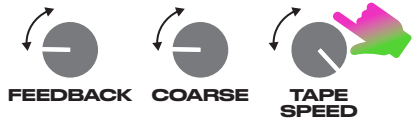


3. SIMPLE DELAY

Delay is the core of this instrument. It functions as an analog tape machine. There is a virtual digital "tape" as well as write and read heads interacting with it.

- Unlock and adjust the **COARSE** knob. It controls the main delay time
- Use **FINE** to make precise delay time adjustments
- Adjust **FEEDBACK** to control the amount of the signal fed back to the write head

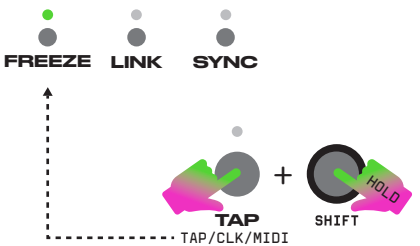
TAPE SPEED changes how fast the tape moves, so it affects the overall duration of the loop and, therefore, the audio sample rate. The slower the tape (turning the knob to the left), the more digital sound artifacts appear.



You can press **LINK** to compensate for the change in delay time caused by adjusting **TAPE SPEED**.

- Press **TAP** multiple times to set the tempo of the main clock. The tempo is indicated by the blinking green light above*
- Press the **COARSE SYNC** button to sync the delay time to the main clock
- Play around with all these parameters

*If there's no light indication, check the clock source (SHIFT + TAP) and select the TAP option. The setting is indicated by one of the three lights:



4. COPY & PASTE PRESETS

- Select a **PRESET** (or just stay in the current one)
- Press **SHIFT + WRITE** to COPY the current **PRESET** settings
- Select another **PRESET**
- Press **SHIFT + PLAY** to PASTE

5. ADDING DENSITY

You can add three more extra read heads to the tape. They will be added after the main read head.

- Unfreeze and adjust **LEVELS**. This knob controls the volume level of all three read heads
- Play around with **SPACING**. This knob controls the distance between the three extra read heads

These heads also react to **FEEDBACK** and **TAPE SPEED**. Let's try it out!

6. ERASING A PRESET

If you happen to get lost because things grow a bit too chaotic ... don't panic!

- Press **BYPASS + PRESET** to erase the corresponding preset

Since you still have the first preset in your device's memory, you can always PASTE it again (SHIFT + PLAY).

7. ROBOTS

Now's the time to learn how to automate parameters using Robots.

Let's try it on the **FILTER** parameter:

- Select an empty **PRESET**. PASTE your copied preset again
- Play around with the **FILTER** knob. On the left, it acts as a lowpass (LP), and on the right, as a highpass (HP)
- Hold the **ROBOT** button and then wiggle the **FILTER** knob
- While still holding **ROBOT**, the light over the **FILTER** knob should light up green with full brightness. It indicates you've selected this parameter to be modulated by a Robot



- While still holding the **ROBOT** button, select one of the Robot waveshapes
- Release the **ROBOT** button
- Adjust the **RATE** and **AMOUNT** knobs to set the modulation. The R light indicates the modulation progress of the selected Robot



Adjust **FILTER**. The Robot still reacts to the knob's position. Its value is a reference point the Robot modulates around. Try it.

8. MORE ROBOTS

Using Robots, you can create interesting modulations, such as the following one, resulting in a flanger-like effect:

- Select a new **PRESET**
- Adjust **FEEDBACK**
- Turn the **FINE** knob, and listen to the flanger effect
- Hold **ROBOT** and wiggle **FINE** to automate **FINE** with a Robot
- Release **ROBOT** and play with **AMOUNT**, **RATE**, and **FINE**

You can change the waveform shape from triangle to sine wave:

- Hold **ROBOT** and turn **RATE** fully to the right. It now functions as **SHAPE**

Choose a different waveform shape for the Robot modulating the **FINE** knob:

- Hold **ROBOT** and press a corresponding **PRESET** button to select the desired waveshape. Let's try the random shape (TAP/CLK/MIDI) for a Sample & Hold-like effect. Now, you can smooth out the edges with the **SHAPE** knob

Every waveshape reacts differently.

If you're curious, check the table on the other page for all the possible waveshaping variants.

9. EVEN MORE ROBOTS

In this next example, we will build a simple tremolo effect:

- Hold **ROBOT** and automate **VOLUME**
- Set **RATE**, **AMOUNT** and **VOLUME**

Robots can be synced (quantized) to the clock in rhythmical intervals:

- Press the **SYNC** button next to the **ROBOT** button
- Hold **ROBOT** and press **SYNC** again. This turns the modulation into **STEREO**. Really cool!

Try to automate more parameters using Robots in the same way!

There is even more to Robots on the other page.

10. TOO MANY ROBOTS

Hold **ROBOT** to see which knobs are automated. Those with an active Robot will flash briefly. Afterwards, the one knob with a lit light is the currently selected Robot.

To deactivate a Robot, select it with a wiggle of the knob and press **ROBOT** + **BYPASS**.

11. SAVE & ERASE

- Press **SHIFT + SELECT** to SAVE your whole BANK

This will save all the current settings. All will stay saved even after restarting the device.

Save your presets, so that you can build a sequence with them.

- Press **SHIFT + PRESET** to select a BANK (1-8)
- Press **PRESET** to select a PRESET (1-8) from the active BANK

THYME+ is, by default, shipped with all the BANKS and PRESETS empty. However, if you need to clear a BANK, press **BYPASS + SHIFT + PRESET**.

BASIC POST SOUND INSTRUMENTS

Now that you have a few presets prepared & saved, let's learn how to turn them into sequences...

It's THYME to COMPOSE

Press **PLAY**, this will start the sequencer, and the **WRITE** light will start blinking.*

WRITE **PLAY**

Since there are no presets recorded into the sequence yet, all the steps are set to **BYPASS** by default.

BYPASS

To temporarily listen to different presets, hold the corresponding **PRESET**.**

PRESET

To record presets into the sequence, hold **WRITE + PRESET**.

WRITE **PRESET**

*if not working, make sure your clock source is set to TAP
if not working, stop the sequencer and make sure that the **WRITE light is off.

The sequence is stored in the active **PATTERN**. There are four PATTERNS. A B C D

A B C D

Change the tempo of the sequencer by tapping the **TAP** button.

TAP

When switching the sequencer off by pressing **PLAY**, you stay on the preset that played last in the sequence. **WRITE** light stops blinking.

WRITE **PLAY**

Now you understand how the sequencer works in the LIVE MODE.

There's also a **WRITE MODE** which is the more detailed mode and allows for much more precise editing. Learn how the **WRITE MODE** works in the full THYME+ manual.