Roland® MC-909
SAMPLING GROOVEBOX

TurboStart

It's a Fact...

The Roland MC-909 Sampling Groovebox is an entirely new type of dance music workstation. At last, audio and MIDI are fused together in an ultra-intuitive environment. Features include:

- Professional MIDI sequencing with velocity-sensitive pads and hundreds of new preset patterns
- Hundreds of new waveforms, patches and rhythm sets, with SRX-series expansion
- Large VGA LCD backlit display and realtime controllers, including Twin D Beams and Turntable Emulation for audio and MIDI
- 64-voice polyphony and 16-part multitimbral
- 16MB sample memory, expandable up to 272MB
- USB port for .WAV/AIFF/SMF file transfer
- Optional SmartMedia storage
- Dedicated mastering effects, reverb and compressor, plus 2 multi-effects processors
- New V-LINK feature allows you to control video clips from the MC-909 during live performance

Selecting Patterns

The MC-909 has 1,056 internal patterns. Use the following procedure to select a pattern:

1. Press the MODE PATTERN button.
2. Press F1 (List).
3. Press F1 (Preset) or F2 (User).
4. Turn the VALUE dial to select a pattern.
5. Press F6 (Select Pattern).
6. Press PLAY to begin playback.

Creating A Pattern

Use the following procedure to create a pattern on the MC-909:

1. Press PATTERN.
2. Press F1 (List).
3. Press F2 (User).
4. Turn VALUE to select an empty pattern location.
5. Press F6 (Select Pattern).

   Next, you'll select a part and patch.

6. Press the MODE PATCH/SAMPLE button.
7. Press PART SELECT/MUTE so it's not lit.
8. Press the desired part's round button, located beneath the faders.
9. Press F1 (List).
10. Press F1 to select the preset patch bank.

11. Turn the VALUE dial to select a patch.
12. Press F6 (Select) to confirm your selection.

    The MC-909 is now ready to record a pattern.

13. Press RECORD.
14. Press F1 (Realtime)—the metronome starts.
15. Press ▼ to select Rec Measure Length.
16. Turn the VALUE dial to select the desired number of measures for your pattern.
17. Press ▼ to select Quantize Resolution.
18. Turn VALUE to select the desired resolution.

    Note: We recommend "1/16" if you're not sure what to use.

19. Press F6 (BPM/Click).
20. Turn the VALUE dial to select the desired tempo.

    Note: Hold SHIFT while turning the VALUE dial to move by whole BPM numbers.

21. Press F6 (Close) to return to the Record Standby screen.
22. Press PLAY to start recording.
23. After the two-measure count-in, play the VELOCITY PADS to record your pattern.
24. Press STOP when you're finished recording.
25. Press PLAY to listen to your pattern.

Saving A Pattern

The MC-909 has 200 user memory locations for saving patterns you've created. Use the following procedure to save a pattern:

1. Press WRITE.
2. Press F1 (PTN).
3. Turn the VALUE dial to select a first character for the pattern's name.
4. Press ▶ to select the next character position.
5. Turn the VALUE dial to select the name's second character.
6. Repeat Steps 4 and 5 for the rest of the pattern name.
7. When you're done naming the pattern, press F6 (Write).
8. Turn the VALUE dial to select the desired user memory location.
9. Press F6 (Write).
10. Press F6 (Execute).

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Sampling

The MC-909 has 16MB of Flash RAM for storing samples. Use the following procedure to grab a sample from a CD player:

1. Connect the stereo outputs of the CD player to the stereo Inputs on the back of the MC-909.
2. Press SAMPLING/RESAMPLING.
3. Press F1 (Sampling).
4. Play the CD player.
5. Turn the INPUT knob to adjust the level of incoming signal.

    Note: Make sure the signal's level doesn't clip in the meter on the MC-909's display.

6. Press F6 (Start) to begin sampling.
7. Press F5 (Stop) to stop sampling.
8. Press and hold VELOCITY PAD 2 to play back the sample at its original pitch.

    Now we'll save the sample into the MC-909's memory.

9. Press WRITE.
10. Press F6 (Sample).
11. Name the sample using the same procedure you used for naming a pattern on the previous page of this TurboStart.
12. Press F6 (Write).
13. Turn the VALUE dial to select an unused memory location.
14. Press F6 (Write).
15. Press F6 (Execute).

Selecting A Background Picture

The MC-909 can display one of 10 background images on its screen. Use the following procedure to select a background picture:

1. Press PATTERN.
2. Press MENU.
3. Press ENTER to display the System menu.
4. Press F1 (Panel/Control).
5. Press F4 (Back Ground).
6. Turn the VALUE dial to select the desired picture.
7. Press F6 (System Write).
8. Press EXIT.

Note: Refer to Page 127 of the MC-909 Owner's Manual to learn how to import your own background pictures.

USB Connection

You can transfer WAV, AIFF and SMF files from the MC-909's internal user memory—or an installed SmartMedia card—to and from a computer using the MC-909's USB port.

Note: USB communication with the MC-909 requires a computer running Windows Me/2000/XP or later, or Mac OS 9.04 or later.

Use the following procedure to connect the MC-909 and your computer via USB:

1. Connect a USB cable from the MC-909's USB jack to your computer's USB jack.
2. Press MENU on the MC-909.
3. Press ▾ to select USB.
4. Press ENTER.
5. Press F3 (Internal) or F4 (Memory Card) to select the location of the files you want to transfer.

Note for Windows users: A drive named "Removable Disk" is displayed within My Computer on your PC. This drive contains a folder named "ROLAND" in which you'll find the MC-909's files.

Note for Macintosh users: A drive icon named "MC-909 USER" or "MC-909 CARD" appears on your Mac's desktop. This contains a folder named "ROLAND" in which you'll find the MC-909's files.