

Panel Descriptions



1 Knobs
These adjust the following values.

Knob	Explanation
VOLUME	Volume
CUTOFF	Filter cutoff (brightness of the sound)
RESONANCE	Filter resonance (distinctive character)
ACCENT	Strength of accents you've input in the pattern
EFFECT	Effect depth * The most suitable effect for the sound you've selected is applied.

2 Pad mode buttons / 3 Touchpad
Use these pad mode buttons to switch the mode of the touchpad (which we'll simply refer to as "the pad").
* **Don't touch the pad in two or more locations simultaneously; the locations cannot be detected correctly (the pad does not support multi-touch).**

Button	Explanation
KEY-BOARD	Use the pad to play notes. Play notes Apply pressure to the pad: modulation Octave up Octave down • Key pads that can be operated are lit. • If you press the pad while a pattern is playing, the sound of the pad takes priority (mono playback).
	Use the horizontal (X) and vertical (Y) axes of the pad to perform pitch. X-axis: Perform pitch (continuous change) Y-axis: Volume Apply pressure to the pad: modulation

Button	Explanation
XY PLAY	X-axis position is lit • This controls the most appropriate parameters for the sound that's selected. In general for most sounds, the parameters listed above are controlled. • If you press the pad while a pattern is playing, the sound of the pad takes priority (mono playback). • By holding down the [XY PLAY] button and turning the [VALUE] knob you can change the tonic note (key).

Button	Explanation
ENV MOD	Control envelope modulation (tonal change) and decay (duration of the sound). X-axis: Envelope modulation (tonal change) Y-axis: Decay (duration of the sound) Apply pressure to the pad: modulation • This controls the most appropriate parameters for the sound that's selected. In general for most sounds, the parameters listed above are controlled. • If the pattern is stopped, pressing the pad won't produce sound.

PTN SELECT
Select a pattern.
→ Refer to "Playing, Selecting, and Performing a Pattern" – "Selecting a pattern"

Button	Explanation
SCATTER	Use the Scatter function to add a digital-feeling groove. X-axis: Scatter depth (10 steps)

What is Scatter?
"Scatter" adds a digital-feeling groove to the loop playback by exchanging individual steps within the loop playback and also by changing the playback direction or gate length.
• Scatter will be on while you're pressing the pad. It turns off when you take your finger off of the pad.
• Turn the [VALUE] knob to select the scatter type ([SC 1-5][CB]).
* The Scatter effect will not apply to the first cycle of the loop; the effect will apply to the second and subsequent cycles of the loop.

- 4 16-step indicators**
The step numbers (1–16) light during pattern playback or step recording.
- 5 [TEMPO] button**
When you press the [TEMPO] button, the display shows the tempo. You can use the [VALUE] knob to change the tempo.
• **Tap tempo:** To set the tempo, hold down the [TEMPO] button and tap the [SCATTER] button several times at the desired interval.
• **Shuffle:** To specify shuffle, hold down the [TEMPO] button and turn the [VALUE] knob(-50-0-50; 0=shuffle off).
- 6 Display**
Shows the currently selected sound number (e.g., A01). Depending on the mode, the pattern number (e.g., 1-1), step number, or tempo may be shown.

What is a "sound"?
The TB-3 provides cutting-edge synth tones powered by four oscillators and effects, including faithfully reproduced classic tones from the TB-303 (A01: TB-303 sawtooth wave, A02: TB-303 square wave). On the TB-3, each of these is called a "sound." You can use the [VALUE] knob to easily select sounds.
* You can't edit the sounds.

Sound	Explanation
A 0 1 -	TB-303 sounds
b 0 1 -	Bass sounds
c 0 1 -	Lead sounds
d 0 1 -	SFX (Sound effects)

- 7 [VALUE] knob**
Modifies the value that's shown in the display.
- 8 [STEP REC] button** → Refer to "Step Recording"
- 9 [REALTIME REC] button** → Refer to "Realtime Recording"
- 10 [▶/■] button**
Plays/stops the pattern.

Connecting Your Equipment
* To prevent malfunction and equipment failure, always turn down the volume, and turn off all the units before making any connections.



- A USB (←) port**
Use a commercially available USB 2.0 cable to connect this port to your computer. It can be used to transfer USB MIDI and USB audio data. **You must install the USB driver before connecting the TB-3 to your computer.** Download the USB driver from the Roland website. For details, refer to Readme.htm which is included in the download.
→ <http://www.roland.com/support/>
- B DC IN jack**
Connect the included AC adaptor here. Use only the included AC adaptor. Using any other adaptor may cause overheating and malfunction.
* When connected via USB, power is supplied from the USB connection, so the AC adaptor does not need to be connected.
- C MIDI connectors**
For connecting MIDI device.
- D OUT jacks**
Connect these jacks to your amp or monitor speakers. If your system is monaural, use only the L/MONO jack.
- E PHONES jack**
Connect headphones (sold separately) here.
- F Security slot (Ⓜ)**
→ <http://www.kensington.com/>

Turning the Power On/Off

- G [POWER] switch**
This turns the power on/off.
* After you've made connections correctly, be sure to **turn on the power in the order of the TB-3 first, and then the connected system.** Powering-on in the incorrect order may cause malfunctions or damage. When turning the power off, **power-off the connected system first, and then the TB-3.**
* This unit is equipped with a protection circuit. A brief interval (a few seconds) after turning the unit on is required before it will operate normally.
* Before turning the unit on/off, always be sure to turn the volume down. Even with the volume turned down, you might hear some sound when switching the unit on/off. However, this is normal and does not indicate a malfunction.

Playing, Selecting, and Performing a Pattern

What is a "pattern"?
A "pattern" is musical data that you've recorded by step recording or realtime recording. There are 64 patterns (8 patterns x 8 banks). In Pattern Select mode, the display shows the current bank and pattern (e.g., 1-2 = bank 1, pattern 2).

- Playing a pattern**
1. Press the [▶/■] button to play a pattern.

- Selecting a pattern**
1. Press the [PTN SELECT] button.
2. Use the pad to select a pattern.



You can also use the [VALUE] knob to select a pattern.

- Switching sounds**
1. Press the [KEY-BOARD], [XY PLAY], or [ENV MOD] button to make the display show the sound number (e.g., A01).
2. Use the [VALUE] knob to switch sounds.
If you hold down the [KEYBOARD] button and turn the [VALUE] knob, the sound number changes in steps of +/-10.

"Performing" with the TB-3
You perform on the TB-3 by operating the **knobs (1), pad mode buttons (2), and touchpad (3)** while a pattern plays.

Functions	Explanation
Pattern transpose	To transpose the pattern, hold down the [KEY-BOARD] button and press a key pad (default: C).
Playing patterns consecutively	When selecting a pattern, you can select multiple patterns by sliding your finger while continuing to press the pad. The patterns you've selected will play consecutively. The currently-playing pattern lights.
Random pattern	If you hold down the [PTN SELECT] button and press the [SCATTER] button, a random pattern is generated for the current pattern number. If you want to save the random pattern, press the [REALTIME REC] button (blinking). If you want to discard the random pattern, select a different pattern.
Random pattern 2	If you hold down the [KEYBOARD] button and press the [SCATTER] button, the octave shift, slide, and accent will randomly change from the current pattern, letting you create variation without changing the character of the pattern. You can save or discard the variation in the same way as for Random Pattern.
Copying a pattern	1. Hold down the [PTN SELECT] button and press the pad to select the copy-source pattern. The copy-source pattern lights, and the other patterns blink. 2. Select the copy-destination bank and pattern (blinking pad).
Deleting a pattern	1. Select the pattern that you want to delete. 2. Hold down the [PTN SELECT] button and press [CLEAR] in the pad. The display indicates "C 1 r" and the [▶/■] button blinks. 3. Press the [▶/■] button; the pattern is deleted.

Step Recording

In this method of recording, you enter notes or rests, accents, and slides/ties at each step. When you record, the current pattern will be overwritten.

What is "step"?
Each pattern is divided into 16 grid locations called "steps." (You can change the number of steps in the range of 1–32.) One step is a 16th note long (♯). The current step is shown by the **16-step indicators (4)**.

- Press the [STEP REC] button.
 - Use the pad and the [VALUE] knob to enter musical data for each step.
 - Enters a rest and proceeds to the next step.
 - Enters a note and proceeds to the next step.
 - Enters accent on/off.
 - Enters a slide (if the preceding step is the same note, a tie) on/off.
 - Octave up
 - Octave down
 - When you're finished step recording, press the [STEP REC] button to make it go dark.
- The display shows the current step number (1–32). You can use the [VALUE] knob to move between steps.
• Even during step recording, you can press the [▶/■] button to play the pattern.

Functions	Explanation
Changing the number of steps in the pattern	Hold down the [STEP REC] button and turn the [VALUE] knob to change the number of steps in the pattern (1–32, default: 16).
Selecting a triplet grid	Hold down the [STEP REC] button and press the [TEMPO] button to switch the triplet grid on/off. OFF: 1 step = 16th note (♯) (default) ON: 1 step = 8th note triplet (♯)

Realtime Recording

In this method of recording, the notes you perform are recorded in real time. The current pattern will be overwritten.

- Press the [REALTIME REC] button.
The [▶/■] button blinks; the TB-3 is in record-ready mode. To cancel, press the [REALTIME REC] button to make it go dark.
- Press the [▶/■] button to start recording.
- Perform on the pad; your performance is recorded.
Notes that loop-play while you hold down [CLEAR] are deleted.
Record notes. Hold down the same note pad to enter a tie.
* Use step recording to enter accents or slides.
Octave up
Octave down
- When you're finished realtime recording, press the [REALTIME REC] button to make it go dark.
 - The TB-3 will return to pattern playback. To stop pattern playback, press the [▶/■] button.
 - During playback, you can switch realtime recording on/off by pressing the [REALTIME REC] button.

Synchronizing with Other MIDI Devices

The TB-3 can receive MIDI Clock (F8) data to synchronize its tempo. It can also receive MIDI Start (FA) and MIDI Stop (FC) to start/stop itself.

Synchronizing with a TR-8
You can synchronize the TB-3 with a TR-8 by using a commercially available MIDI cable to make connections.

Synchronizing with your computer DAW via USB
By using a commercially available USB 2.0 cable to connect the TB-3 to your computer, you can synchronize the TB-3 with your computer DAW or record the sound of the TB-3 to a track of your DAW via USB audio.

Various Settings

Restoring the Factory Settings (Factory Reset)

- Here's how to return the TB-3 to its factory-set state.
- While holding down the [REALTIME REC] button, turn on the power.
The display indicates "r 5L" and the [▶/■] button blinks. If you decide to cancel the factory reset, turn off the power.
 - Press the [▶/■] button to execute the factory reset.
 - When the display indicates "C 1 P", turn the TB-3's power off, then on again.

MIDI and Other Settings

- While holding down the [SCATTER] button, turn on the power.
The display indicates the current MIDI channel (e.g., C 2), and the [▶/■] button blinks. If you decide not to make settings, turn off the power.
 - Use the [VALUE] knob and the pad to change the settings.
- | Parameter | Controller | Explanation |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| MIDI Channel | [VALUE] knob
OFF, C 1 - C 16 | Specifies the MIDI transmit/receive channel. The display indicates the channel. (default: C 2) |
| MIDI Clock Source | OMNI (OMNI) | MIDI messages of all channels are received. The MIDI transmit channel will be 2. |
| | Pad [C] | If MIDI clock is being input to the MIDI IN connector or the USB port, the TB-3's tempo will automatically synchronize to MIDI clock. (default)
* If MIDI clock is being simultaneously input from the MIDI IN connector and from the USB port, the USB port takes priority. |
| MIDI Thru | Unlit (INTERNAL) | The TB-3 operates at the tempo specified on the unit itself. Choose the "INTERNAL" setting if you don't want to synchronize to an external device. |
| | Unlit (OFF) | Specifies whether data received from the MIDI IN connector will be retransmitted from the MIDI OUT connector (ON: default) or will not be retransmitted (OFF). |
| Pad Aftertouch Sensitivity | [KEY-BOARD] button (hold down)
+ [VALUE] knob | Adjusts the sensitivity of the pad to pressure (aftertouch). With higher settings, it will be easier to apply an effect even when you apply light pressure to the pad. (default: 3) |
- Press the [▶/■] button to save the settings.
The settings are saved, and the TB-3 restarts.

Main Specifications Roland TB-3: TOUCH BASSLINE

Power Supply	AC adaptor, or obtained via USB port (USB bus power)	
Current Draw	500 mA	
Dimensions	240 (W) x 173 (D) x 57 (H) mm	9-1/2 (W) x 6-13/16 (D) x 2-1/4 (H) inches
Weight	820 g (excluding AC adaptor)	1 lb 13 oz
Accessories	AC adaptor, Owner's manual, Leaflet "USING THE UNIT SAFELY"	

* In the interest of product improvement, the specifications and/or appearance of this unit are subject to change without prior notice.