

# TB-3 FRONT PANEL TIPS

[brackets mean hold down the button]

## PATCHES & PATTERNS

[Pattern Lock](#)  
[Set Pattern Steps](#)  
[Copy Pattern](#)  
[Delete Pattern](#)  
[Randomize Notes](#)  
[Randomize Accents, Glides, Octaves](#)  
[Set Swing Amount](#)  
[Change to Triplet Timing](#)  
[Transpose a Pattern](#)  
[Change Pattern Pitch](#)  
[Use Tap Tempo](#)  
[Backup Patterns](#)  
[Restore Patterns](#)  
[Link a Patch to a Pattern](#)

## GLOBAL SETTINGS

[Set Keyboard Mode](#)  
[Set MIDI Channel](#)  
[Set MIDI Clock Source](#)  
[Set MIDI THRU](#)  
[Set Keypad Sensitivity](#)  
[Master Tune](#)  
[Tuning](#)  
[LED Demo Mode](#)

## NAVIGATION

[Save Sound to User Slot](#)  
[Select a Patch](#)  
[Select a Pattern](#)

## OTHER FUNCTIONS

[Check firmware version](#)

## ***PATTERN SELECT Mode:***

- Pattern lock:
  - turn off **STEP REC & REALTIME REC**
  - **[PTN SELECT]** → **VALUE** then choose OFF or Loc . Default = OFF
  - If set to Lock, pattern edits will not be saved as they normally would.
- Select a pattern:
  - **VALUE** or **PAD + -OCT+**. Run fingers along pad to select multiple patterns to play.
- Copy a pattern:
  - stop the sequencer
  - **[PTN SELECT]** → **PAD** → **START/STOP** to confirm
- Delete a pattern:
  - stop the sequencer
  - **[PTN SELECT]** → **PAD CLEAR** → **START/STOP** to confirm
- Semi-randomize the notes pattern:
  - **[PTN SELECT]** → **SCATTER**
- Link a patch to a pattern:
  - turn on **STEP REC** or **REALTIME REC**
  - **[ENV MOD]** → **VALUE** to select a patch number, **START/STOP** to confirm
- Apply pitch shift to pattern notes:
  - turn on **STEP REC** or **REALTIME REC**
  - **[KEYBOARD]** → **VALUE** to change all pattern notes in half step increments
- Tap tempo:
  - **[TEMPO]** → tap **SCATTER** button on the quarter notes

## ***KEYBOARD Mode:***

- Set the number of steps in a pattern:

- **[STEP REC]** → **VALUE** 1-32 steps, stored per pattern.
- Turn triplet timing on/off:
  - **[STEP REC]** → tap the **TEMPO** button. Stored per pattern.
- Semi-randomize the accents, glides and octaves:
  - **[KEYBOARD]** → **SCATTER**
- Transpose a pattern:
  - turn off **STEP REC & REALTIME REC**
  - **[KEYBOARD]** → **PAD** to increment the pattern's base key by half steps
- Select a sound patch:
  - **VALUE** (1 at a time) or **[KEYBOARD]** → **VALUE** (10 at a time). Range: U01→D17
- Save a sound patch to a user slot:
  - stop the sequencer
  - **[ENV MOD]** → **VALUE** to select user slot U01→U15, **START/STOP** to confirm

## **GLOBAL SETTINGS:**

### **STARTUP Mode (hold SCATTER and restart):**

- Set the midi channel: **VALUE**
  - **OFF**: no midi channel selected, only front panel input
  - **C1-C16**: sets both send and receive channels. Default = **C2**
  - **OMn**: Omni mode. Receive channel is set to ALL, transmit channel is set to 2
- Set the midi clock source: **PAD C**
  - **Lit/auto**: Accepts both DIN & USB clock. If both are present, USB has priority.
  - **Dim/internal**: internal clock only, set by tapping **TEMPO** and changing the **VALUE**
- Set midi out to midi thru: **PAD D**
  - **Lit/On**: MIDI OUT is also MIDI THRU, passing on any data received from MIDI IN
  - **Dim/Off**: MIDI OUT is normal, no passthrough of data
- Adjust pad Z sensitivity: **[KEYBOARD]** → **VALUE**
  - Range: **0-10**, with **10** most sensitive. Default = **3**
- Master tune: **[ENV MOD]** → **VALUE**
  - Range: 430Hz to 450Hz in 1Hz increments. Default = **440**
- LED demo: **[TEMPO]** → **VALUE**
  - This sets the number of minutes of to wait before starting the LED routine.
  - Range: **OFF** to **30** minutes. Default = **OFF**

### **Real-time Global Settings:**

- Keyboard modes: **[SCATTER]** → **VALUE**
  - Local off [**OFF**]: Produces sound only with external midi message. The keypad and knobs are disabled.
  - Local on [**On**]: Produces sound through any operation including external midi message. The keypad and knobs are enabled.
  - Controller only [**Ctr**]: Doesn't produce sound from any operation, only outputs midi messages.
- Set swing / shuffle amount: **[TEMPO]** → **VALUE**
  - Sets positive or negative swing amount. Range: **-50** to **+50**
- Real-Time Global Tuning:

- stop the sequencer and turn off **STEP REC & REALTIME REC**
- **[ENV MOD]** → **PAD** adjusts the tuning in increments of .1, or 10 cents
- Range: -7.0 to +7.0, equivalent to -700 to +700 cents, same as the TB-303.

### **Other Special Modes:**

- Check firmware version:
  - **[STEP REC] + [REALTIME REC]** → restart the device
  - press **PLAY/STOP** and the display will show the version (**104** means version 1.04).
  - Final version is 1.10. Do not update your firmware if it's up-to-date.
- Backup patterns:
  - **[PLAY/STOP]** → restart the device
  - connect with USB cable
  - Copy the "TB-3" pattern files in the "BACKUP" folder to your computer
  - After it's finished, disconnect the cable and restart the device.
- Restore patterns:
  - **[PLAY/STOP]** → restart the device
  - connect with USB cable
  - Copy the pattern files from your computer to the RESTORE folder on the TB-3.
  - After it's finished, disconnect the cable and restart the device.

### **Other notes:**

- The TB-3 touchscreen doesn't respond to velocity from the keypad. However, velocity values over 100 trigger the accent function when sent from an external controller.
- User patches U01-U15 cannot be selected with program change, only with the value knob. For live performance, the only way to select user patches without touching the front panel is by using the [patch data sysex command](#).
- Pad Z functions as a switch, not as aftertouch *per se*, and should be assigned to parameters with only two values. For example, you can set Pad Z to distortion or noise switch and it will stay active as long as you hold keypad down. When you release, the sound will switch off. If it doesn't seem to work, your sensitivity might be set too low, so go into global settings and [increase the sensitivity](#).
- The difference between pattern transpose and pattern pitch shift is that pattern pitch shift changes the notes of the pattern while transpose changes the base key or starting root of the pattern without changing its notes. Also, with pattern pitch shift, when the notes are pitch shifted beyond the upper and lower limit of the note range, they cannot be shifted back to their original pitch. Essentially pitch shift is destructive (changing the pattern's notes) while transpose is nondestructive (saving a key signature on which to start).