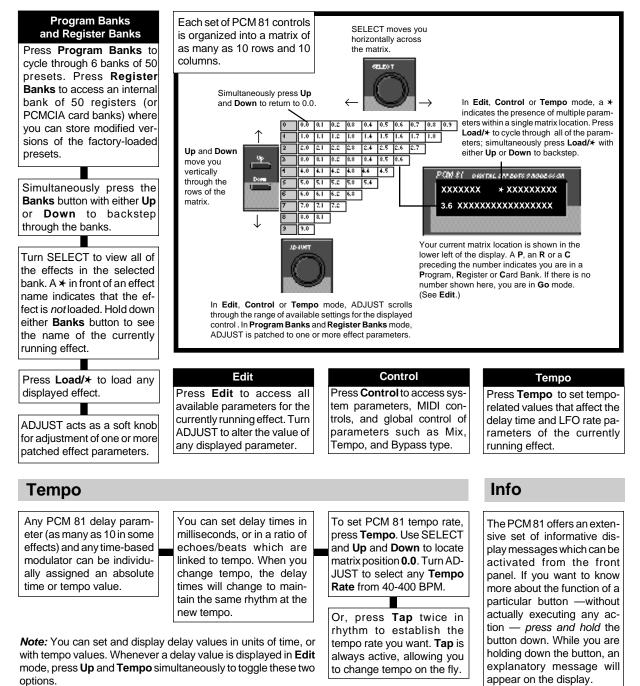# PCM 81 Quick Reference Guide

Basic Operation

The PCM 81 has 5 basic modes of operation, selected by pressing: **Program Banks**, **Register Banks**, **Edit**, **Control** or **Tempo**

Program Banks and Register Banks

Press **Program Banks** to cycle through 6 banks of 50 presets. Press **Register Banks** to access an internal bank of 50 registers (or PCMCIA card banks) where you can store modified versions of the factory-loaded presets.

Simultaneously press the **Banks** button with either **Up** or **Down** to backstep through the banks.

Turn SELECT to view all of the effects in the selected bank. A ✶ in front of an effect name indicates that the effect is *not* loaded. Hold down either **Banks** button to see the name of the currently running effect.

Press **Load/✶** to load any displayed effect.

ADJUST acts as a soft knob for adjustment of one or more patched effect parameters.

Each set of PCM 81 controls is organized into a matrix of as many as 10 rows and 10 columns.

SELECT moves you horizontally across the matrix.

Simultaneously press **Up** and **Down** to return to 0.0.

Up and **Down** move you vertically through the rows of the matrix.

In **Edit**, **Control** or **Tempo** mode, a ✶ indicates the presence of multiple parameters within a single matrix location. Press **Load/✶** to cycle through all of the parameters; simultaneously press **Load/✶** with either **Up** or **Down** to backstep.

Your current matrix location is shown in the lower left of the display. A **P**, an **R** or a **C** preceding the number indicates you are in a **P**rogram, **R**egister or **C**ard Bank. If there is no number shown here, you are in **Go** mode. (See **Edit**.)

In **Edit**, **Control** or **Tempo** mode, ADJUST scrolls through the range of available settings for the displayed control . In **Program Banks** and **Register Banks** mode, ADJUST is patched to one or more effect parameters.

Edit

Press **Edit** to access all available parameters for the currently running effect. Turn ADJUST to alter the value of any displayed parameter.

Control

Press **Control** to access system parameters, MIDI controls, and global control of parameters such as Mix, Tempo, and Bypass type.

Tempo

Press **Tempo** to set tempo-related values that affect the delay time and LFO rate parameters of the currently running effect.

Tempo

Any PCM 81 delay parameter (as many as 10 in some effects) and any time-based modulator can be individually assigned an absolute time or tempo value.

You can set delay times in milliseconds, or in a ratio of echoes/beats which are linked to tempo. When you change tempo, the delay times will change to maintain the same rhythm at the new tempo.

To set PCM 81 tempo rate, press **Tempo**. Use SELECT and **Up** and **Down** to locate matrix position **0.0**. Turn ADJUST to select any **Tempo Rate** from 40-400 BPM.

Or, press **Tap** twice in rhythm to establish the tempo rate you want. **Tap** is always active, allowing you to change tempo on the fly.

Note: You can set and display delay values in units of time, or with tempo values. Whenever a delay value is displayed in **Edit** mode, press **Up** and **Tempo** simultaneously to toggle these two options.

Info

The PCM 81 offers an extensive set of informative display messages which can be activated from the front panel. If you want to know more about the function of a particular button —without actually executing any action — *press and hold* the button down. While you are holding down the button, an explanatory message will appear on the display.

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Audition the Programs

Press **Program Banks** to cycle through six banks of 50 presets.
Turn SELECT to view all of the presets in numerical order.
Press **Load/✷** to load any displayed effect.

P0		P1		P2		P3		P4		P5	
0.0-1.9	Multi Effects	0.0-3.6	Rhythmic Echo and Delay Effects	0.0-1.0	EQ Effects	0.0-2.8	Reverb Effects	0.0-0.9	Vocal Shift	0.0-0.9	Sci-Fi FX
2.0-3.5	Modulation Effects			1.1-2..4	Spatial Effects	2.9-3.9	Processed Reverb Effects	1.0-1.9	Vocal Harmony	1.0-1.9	Pitch & Delay
3.6-4.9	Special Effects	3.7-4.9	Ambience Effects	2.5-4.0	Gain Effects			2.0-2.9	Guitar Magic	2.0-2.9	Pitch Sequences
				4.1-4.9	Resonant Chord Effects	4.0-4.9	Remix Effects	3.0-3.9	Instrument Shift & Harmony	3.0-3.7	Pads & Drones
								4.0-4.9	Percussion & Tempo	3.8-3.9	Utility Programs
										4.0-4.9	Pitch Correct

Each preset has one or more parameters patched to the ADJUST knob.

Turn ADJUST to display the name and the current value of the patch.

Continue turning ADJUST to change the value of the patch along its entire range. The screen will return to its normal display when you stop turning ADJUST.

Compare

When you turn ADJUST, or perform any other parameter edits, the front panel **Compare** light will go on to indicate that the program has been modified since it was last stored. Press **Compare** to hear the unedited version. Press again to return to your edited program.

Edit

The PCM 81 offers two levels of editing control: **Go** mode and **Pro** mode.

Go mode gives you access to a specific set of as many as 10 parameters for each of the 300 presets. We have designed each set of parameters to allow you to make changes to the effect *without* losing the character of the sound.

Pro mode gives you access to the full effect edit matrix whenever you press **Edit**. The edit matrix contains all effect parameters, as well as Patching and Modulation controls.

The PCM 81 is shipped in **Go** mode. To change the Edit mode, press **Control**, use SELECT and **Up** and **Down** to locate matrix position **1.0**. Turn ADJUST to select **Go** or **Pro**.

In **Go** mode, press **Edit** to access the most useful preset parameters for the currently running effect.

Turn SELECT to view the available parameters.

Turn ADJUST to change the value of any displayed parameter.

Bypass

Press **Bypass** to mute the input signal. A Bypass Mode parameter at **Control** mode **1.3** allows you to select input muting, output muting, input and output muting, or bypass as alternatives. You can also assign the bypass function to an external controller.

Store

Press **Store**. The current program name will appear with a flashing cursor over the first letter of the name.

Turn ADJUST to select a new character. Press **Up** or **Down** to select a new *type* of character (upper or lower case, numeric, symbolic, or blank). Turn SELECT to move the cursor to a new character.

Press **Load/✷** to display the name currently assigned to the ADJUST knob patch. Use the same procedure for entering a new name.

Press **Load/✷** twice to move the ✷ to the Register ID number in the lower left corner of the display. Use ADJUST or SELECT to choose the register where you want the effect saved.

When the display shows the register number you want, press **Store**. Press **Store** in response to the "Are you sure?" message to save your new effect to the displayed register location.

Note: The PCM 81 will not perform a store instruction if the Memory Protection option is on. To turn Memory Protection off, press **Control**. Use **Up** and **Down** and SELECT to locate matrix position **1.5**. Turn ADJUST to display **Off**.

In addition to these easy plug and play techniques, the PCM 81 provides extensive system control via front panel patching or MIDI. For complete details on these and other features, read the PCM 81 Owner's Manual.

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