TORAIZ

8-track Groovebox

Chordcat

Additional information for Instruction Manual

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Introduction

The original Chordcat Instruction Manual is based on the version 1.00 firmware.
This document describes features added in subsequent firmware updates.
This document also describes features added in Chordcat Manager, the dedicated software for Chordcat, in subsequent updates.

■ Firmware

Version 1.40 added the following feature:

[NEW]

・ Performance function for Chord Performance mode via external MIDI input

Version 1.20/1.30 added/improved the following features:

[NEW]

・ Chord Edit mode
・ Real-time recording of MIDI input from external MIDI devices
・ Temporary mode switching to Track Selection mode / Pattern Selection mode
・ Shortcut for saving a project (Save)
・ Chord-based scale change function (Transpose)

[IMPROVED]

・Expanded the range for transposing scales in Chord Performance mode.

Version 1.10 adds the following new features:

- Saving and loading user Chordsets
- All-Tracks Pattern Change mode
- Metronome volume setting

■Chordcat Manager

Version 1.2.0-1.4.0 added the following features:

・ Account registration and login function
・ Latest information window that appears when you start the app, showing recent updates and new features.

Version 1.1.0-1.1.1 added the following features:

・ **Import and export of user Chordsets**

Details of each feature are explained in the following pages.

Firmware version 1.40

■Performance function for Chord Performance mode via external MIDI input

You can now play chords set in Chord Performance mode using MIDI input from external MIDI devices. You can play the chords on this unit in real time from external sequencers or pad controllers that support DAW or MIDI output. This expands possibilities for using the unit with external devices.

・Enable/Disable Chord Performance mode via external MIDI input

1. Press the [Menu] button to open the menu screen.

2. Select in the following order.
   MIDI IN Settings > MIDI Chord Trigger > Mode

3. Use the [<] or [>] button to select either Disable or Performance mode, then press the [Enter] button.

   Disable:
   Disable performance function in Chord Performance mode via external MIDI input.

   Fixed:
   You can play chords using a fixed 13-note scale starting from any note number you set. Playable chords correspond to the touch keys [1] to [13] on this unit's keyboard.

   Key-follow:
   You can play chords reflecting the octave of external MIDI input, based on a set reference octave. Playable chords correspond to the touch keys [1] to [12] on this unit's keyboard.

Custom:

You can freely assign note numbers to each touch key on this keyboard's keyboard to play chords. Playable chords correspond to touch keys [1] to [13] on this unit's keyboard.

・Configure Fixed mode settings

1. Press the [Menu] button to open the menu screen.

2. Select in the following order.

   MIDI IN Settings > MIDI Chord Trigger > Fixed Setting

3. Use the [<] or [>] button to select the range of note numbers to assign to the touch keys [1] to [13] on this unit's keyboard, then press the [Enter] button.

   Example: If you select E4-E5(64-) in the screen example above, the chord for the touch key [1] on this unit's keyboard can be played by inputting E4 (note number 64) from an external MIDI device.

   Note: If you enter a note number outside the set range, the single note corresponding to that note number will be played.

・Configure Key-follow mode settings

1. Press the [Menu] button to open the menu screen.

2. Select in the following order.

   MIDI IN Settings > MIDI Chord Trigger > Key-follow Setting

3. Use the [<] or [>] button to select the base octave to assign to the touch keys [1] to [12] on this unit's keyboard, then press the [Enter] button.

Example: If you select C5(72) in the screen example above, you can play the touch key [1] on this unit's keyboard by inputting C5 (note number 72) from an external MIDI device. Here, entering C6 (note number 84) will play the code for the touch key [1] on this unit's keyboard one octave higher.

Note 1: In Key-follow mode, you can't play the keyboard's touch key [13] chord because it reflects octave information from external MIDI devices.
Note 2: If changing the octave via external MIDI devices causes the note number within that chord to exceed the range of 0 to 127, that note won't be played.

・Configure Custom mode settings

There are two ways to configure Custom mode settings:

(i) Using External MIDI Devices

(ii) Using Chordcat

1. Press the [Menu] button to open the menu screen.

2. Select in the following order.
   MIDI IN Settings > MIDI Chord Trigger > Custom Setting

3. Touch the touch key on the keyboard of the unit you want to set the note number for. The note number currently assigned to the selected touch key is displayed on the main unit display.

Example: In the screen example above, you can play the chord for the touch key [10] on this unit's keyboard by inputting note number 57 from an external MIDI device.

4. **Set the note number for the touch key selected in step 3.**

(i) Using External MIDI Devices

Press the keyboard or pad on the external MIDI device you wish to assign, and its note number will be set.

Note: You can’t assign the same note number to multiple touch keys. If a touch key already has the same note number assigned, assign a different note number.

(ii) Using Chordcat

Use the [<] button or [>] button to change the note number.

Note: You can’t assign the same note number to multiple touch keys. If the same note number has already been set, that note number can’t be selected.

5. Press the [Enter] button to confirm the settings.

Firmware version 1.20/1.30

■Chord Edit mode

You can now create your own chords from scratch or customize assigned chords in Chord Performance mode. Using Chord Cruiser and Chord Voicing features, you can easily discover chord progressions naturally connecting to your own chords or alternative voicings for that chord, expanding your musical ideas.

Create an original chord.

1. Press the [Chord] button to enter Chord Performance mode.

2. While holding down the [⇧] button, touch the keyboard's touch key [10] to enter Chord Edit mode. The main unit display will show Edit Chord Select.

3. Touch the touch key you want to create an original chord for, or the touch key where the chord you want to customize is assigned.

4. Press the [Enter] button to edit the chord assigned to the selected touch key. The chord being edited will appear on the main unit display.

5. Touch a touch key on the keyboard to edit the chord.

・ Touch a touch key for a note not included in the chord you're editing
  ・・・Adding a note
・ Touch a touch key for a note already included in the chord you're editing
  ・・・ Deleting a note

* The LED for the touch key of the note contained in the chord being edited will light up.

* In Chord Edit mode, the keyboard key is fixed to “C”, and the scale is fixed to “Chroma”.
* While holding down the [⇧] button, touch the keyboard's touch keys [1] or [2] to move the keyboard's pitch by octaves.
*While holding down the [⇧] button, touch the keyboard's touch keys [3] or [4] to move the keyboard's pitch by semitones.

6. Press the [Enter] button to confirm your edits.
* Press the [Back] button to cancel your edits and return to Chord Edit mode.

■Real-time recording of MIDI input from external MIDI devices
You can record performances using MIDI keyboards and external MIDI devices connected to this unit in real time.

1 Select a track and pattern to record.
⇒ See “Selecting a track” (p.24) and “Selecting a pattern” (p.25) in the Instruction Manual.

2 Press the [Rec] button.

3 Press the [Play] button to start sequencer playback.

4 Play the external MIDI device.
MIDI input from the external MIDI device will be recorded.

5. Press the [Rec] button and [Play] button to stop the sequencer recording and playback.

■Temporary Mode Switching to Track Selection mode / Pattern Selection mode
The Step button can temporarily switch to Track Selection mode or Pattern Selection mode from other modes. This allows for quick switching of tracks and patterns even during live performances.

・Temporary switching to Track Selection mode
1. In any mode other than Track Selection mode, press and hold the [Track] button, then press any of the step buttons [1] to [8] to change tracks.
2. Release the [Track] button to return to the previous mode.

・Temporary switching to Pattern Selection mode
1. In any mode other than Pattern Selection mode, press and hold the [Pattern] button, then press any of the step buttons [1] to [16] to change the pattern.
2. Release the [Pattern] button to return to the previous mode.

Note: When using the Temporary Mode Switching to switch to Track Selection mode or Pattern Selection mode while in Mute/Solo Setting mode or Pattern Chain Setting mode, the unit will return to Step Input mode after the operation is completed.

■Shortcut for saving a project (Save)
You can overwrite and save the currently open project without opening the menu screen.

1. While holding down the [⇧] button, press the [Enter] button.

■Chord-based scale change function (Transpose)
In Chord Performance mode, you can now transpose only the chord assigned to a touch key.

1. Press the [Chord] button to enter Chord Performance mode.

2. While holding down any touch key on the keyboard, press the [<] or [>] button to transpose the chord assigned to that touch key by semitone.

Firmware version 1.10

■ Saving and loading user Chordsets

You can save the Chordsets created with the Chord Cruiser and Chord Voicing functions. You can call up saved Chordsets and use them anytime in any project.
With Chordcat Manager, Chordcat's dedicated software, you can import and export Chordsets between the unit and a PC/Mac. You can share your Chordsets with others, or call up Chordsets created by others and discover new ideas.

Save the Chordsets you've created:

1. Create a chord progression with the Chord Cruiser or Chord Voicing functions, and press the [Menu] button.

2. Press the [<] or [>] button to select UserChordset then press the [Enter] button.

3. Press the [<] or [>] button to select the menu and press the [Enter] button.

Save: Saves the current chord progression as a new Chordset with the name "Chordset XX", where XX is automatically assigned starting from 0 (zero).

Save As: Saves the current chord progression as a new Chordset with a name. Refer to page 21 of the Instruction Manual to find out how to enter the characters.

Delete: Deletes the saved Chordset. Press the [<] or [>] button to select the Chordset you want to delete and press the [Enter] button. Press the [<] or [>] button to select OK then press the [Enter] button again to delete the Chordset.

To call up a saved Chordset:

1. While holding down the [⇧] button, press the [Cruiser] button to enter Chordset Selection mode.

2. Press the [<] or [>] button to select a Chordset.
   The saved user Chordset is displayed after the Chordset initially loaded in the product.

3. Press the [Enter] button to call up the selected Chordset. After calling it up, the screen returns to the Menu screen.

■ All-Tracks Pattern Change mode

By selecting the All-Tracks Pattern Change mode, you can change patterns for all 8 tracks at once. For example, by setting pattern 1 as intro, pattern 2 as melody, pattern 3 as chorus, etc., it's easy to visually and intuitively grasp the structure of a track and change it all at once for each breakdown. This makes Chordcat easy to use, not only for music production but also for live performances.

Select Individual or All for the All-Tracks Pattern Change mode.

- Individual mode

Pattern change: When a pattern is selected, only the pattern of the selected track changes.
Pattern change timing: The pattern is changed when the pattern playing on the selected track finishes (the change is targeted for only that track).
Pattern chain setting/deletion: Sets or deletes only the pattern chain of the selected track. You can make chain settings for each track individually.

- All mode

Pattern change: When a pattern is selected, the patterns of all 8 tracks change at once, regardless of which track is selected.
Pattern change timing: Patterns in all 8 tracks are changed at once when the pattern playing in the selected track finishes.
Pattern chain setting/deletion: Regardless of which track you select, the pattern chain that is set or deleted is applied to all 8 tracks.

Note 1: When the pattern chain is set in All mode, the pattern will change to the next pattern when the longest pattern among the 8 tracks finishes playing.

Note 2: Pattern chain settings created and saved in each mode are retained for each project. Even if you switch between Individual and All modes while making a project, the pattern chain settings will be retained unless they're intentionally changed. So, if you change the mode and play while the pattern chain is already set, the pattern may change at an unintended timing.

To change the All-Tracks Pattern Change mode.

1. Press the [Menu] button.

2. Press the [<] or [>] button to select System Settings then press the [Enter] button.

3. Press the [<] or [>] button to select Pattern Change then press the [Enter] button.

4. Press the [<] or [>] button to select Individual or All then press the [Enter] button.

■ Metronome volume setting

The metronome volume can now be set in 4 levels.

1. Press the [Menu] button.

2. Press the [<] or [>] button to select System Settings then press the [Enter] button.

3. Press the [<] or [>] button to select Metronome Volume then press the [Enter] button.

4. Press the [<] or [>] button to change the volume from 1 to 4. The volume will change instantly.

Chordcat Manager version 1.2.0-1.4.0

■Account registration and login function

We've added account registration and login functionality for Chordcat Manager. Now you can get software updates and other support information easily, such as new features, improvements, and bug fixes, via your AlphaTheta account.

Registered information will be used to enhance the Chordcat hardware functionality and further improve our support.

Login window

1. Email Address
   Enter the email address you set during AlphaTheta account registration.
2. Password
   Enter your account password.
3. Login button
   After entering your email address and password, click this button to log in to Chordcat Manager.
4. Create a new account button
   Click this button to move to the AlphaTheta account registration site.
5. App Close button
   Closes Chordcat Manager.

Chordset window after login

1 Account Information

Displays the email address of the currently logged-in account.

Note: Click the [▼] button to the right of the email address and select [Profile Change] to go to your account's My Page. You can change your registration information here.

2 Logout Button

Click to log out to return to the login window.

Chordcat Manager version 1.1.0-1.1.1

■ Import and export of user Chordsets

Chordcat Manager, Chordcat's dedicated software, allows you to import and export Chordsets created on Chordcat between the unit and a PC/Mac. You can share your Chordsets with others or call up Chordsets created by others and discover new ideas.

Chordset window

(i) Chordset list (Chordcat)

Displays a list of Chordsets saved in Chordcat.

(ii) Chordset list (PC/Mac)

Displays a list of Chordsets saved on the computer.

(iii) Chordset Rename button (Chordcat)

Renames Chordsets saved in Chordcat.

(iv) Delete Chordset button (Chordcat)

Deletes a Chordset from Chordcat.

(v) Save Chordset button

Saves a Chordset from Chordcat to the computer.

(vi) Chordset Load button

Loads a Chordset saved on the computer to Chordcat.

(vii) Folder Selection button (PC/Mac)

Selects a folder to be displayed in the Chordset list (PC/Mac). When a Chordset is saved from Chordcat to the computer, it's saved in the folder selected here. Also, when loading Chordsets from the computer to Chordcat, you can choose the Chordsets in the folder selected here.

(viii) Delete Chordset button (PC/Mac)

Deletes a Chordset from the computer.

(ix) Rename Chordset button (PC/Mac)

Renames a Chordset saved on the computer.

(x) Remaining Chordset capacity (Chordcat)

Displays the remaining number of Chordsets that can be saved to Chordcat.

Select a folder to be displayed in Chordset List (PC/Mac)

1. Click the Folder Selection button (PC/Mac).
   The [Folder Selection] window will appear.
2. Select a folder to be displayed in the [Chordset List (PC/Mac)] from the [Folder Selection] window and click the [OK] button.
   The Chordset stored in the selected folder will be displayed in the [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].

Save the Chordset to your computer

1. Select a Chordset you want to save to your computer from [Chordset List (Chordcat)].
2. Click the [Save chord set] button.
   The selected Chordset will be saved to your computer and displayed in the [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].

To load a Chordset into Chordcat

1. Select a Chordset to load to Chordcat from [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].
2. Click the [Chordset Load] button.
   The selected Chordset is loaded to Chordcat and displayed in [Chordset List (Chordcat)].

Renaming a Chordset stored in Chordcat

1. Select a Chordset you want to rename from [Chordset List (Chordcat)].
2. Click the [Rename Chordset (Chordcat)] button.
   The [Rename Chordset] screen appears.

3. Enter the name of the Chordset in the [Rename Chordset] window and click the [OK] button.
   The selected Chordset will be renamed to the name you entered in the [Chordset Rename] window displayed in the [Chordset List (Chordcat)].

Deleting a Chordset from Chordcat

1. Select a Chordset you want to delete from [Chordset List (Chordcat)].
2. Click the [Delete Chordset (Chordcat)] button.
   The [Delete Chordset Confirmation] window is displayed.
3. Click [OK] on the [Delete Chordset Confirmation] window.
   The selected Chordset is deleted from Chordcat and disappears from the [Chordset List (Chordcat)].

Renaming a Chordset stored on the computer

1. Select a Chordset you want to rename from [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].
2. Click the [Rename Chordset (PC/Mac)] button.
   The [Rename Chordset] window appears.
3. Enter the name of the Chordset in the [Rename Chordset] window and click the [OK] button.
   The selected Chordset will be renamed to the name you entered in the [Rename Chordset] window and displayed in the [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].

Deleting a Chordset stored on the computer

1. Select a Chordset you want to delete from the [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].
2. Click the [Delete Chordset (PC/Mac)] button.
3. The [Delete Chordset Confirmation] window will appear.
   Click [OK] on the [Delete Chordset Confirmation] window.
   The selected Chordset will be deleted from the computer and disappear from the [Chordset List (PC/Mac)].

The specifications and design of this product are subject to change without notice.

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