

EasyStart

MicroKORG XL

STEP 1: PLUG IT IN!

Let's get this synth fired up!

- Insert 6 AA batteries, or connect the included AC power supply.
- Either plug headphones into the 1/4" headphone jack, or use the left and right main outputs to connect to an amplifier or monitors.
- Connect the included XLR gooseneck microphone to the front panel (or connect an external source to the audio input on the back panel).
- Press that power button, and get ready to rock!



Meet the New MICRO

STEP 2: GET TO THE GOOD STUFF!



When you want to find sounds, those two huge, vintage-looking knobs are your friends! They make it way too easy to find the sound you're looking for.

- If you want to play sounds within a specific style of music, turn the PROGRAM GENRE knob to the style you want, then turn the PROGRAM CATEGORY knob to choose different sounds in that genre.
- If you want to find a certain type of sound, just choose it with the PROGRAM CATEGORY knob, then turn the PROGRAM GENRE knob to get different examples of that instrument.
- Use the BANK SELECT toggle switch to get two different flavors for the genre/category you selected.

Note: There are 128 sounds total. You can overwrite any of them, and archive them in the editor/librarian software.

STEP 3: MANGLE THOSE SOUNDS!



Those preset sounds are great, but why leave well enough alone?

This is a Korg synth, my friend... that means the sounds are just begging to be customized.

- Use the OCTAVE toggle switch to jump up and down the octave range.
 - o Try playing a one-handed pattern while quickly switching the octave...Instant solo!
- Try the three real-time control knobs on the right side!
- Turn the KNOB FUNCTION SELECT dial (to the right of the display) to select different functions for the three real-time control knobs.
 - o The top row, ASSIGN, will change for every sound...This is where you'll usually find the most useful tweaks for each preset program!
 - o The bottom row is FULL EDIT. This is where you can pop the hood and get into deeper editing parameters. If you're creating your own sounds, you'll have lots of fun here.
- Always try the Pitch Bend and Modulation wheels to unlock some cool changes to the sound.

STEP 4: BOUNCE AROUND!

The microKORG XL has a killer arpeggiator that adds rhythmic texture to any sound. Here's an example of how you can interact with it in real time.

- Go to sound B14 (named Z-Field), and play some keys to start the arpeggiator.
- Turn the KNOB FUNCTION SELECT knob to the ARP row (second from the bottom).
- Turn the first knob (TYPE) to choose one of six arpeggio patterns.
- Turn the third knob (GATE TIME) to add gating to the pattern - you can lengthen or shorten the notes!

Note: In Full Edit mode, you can edit additional parameters, such as step muting, swing, octave range, resolution and more! See page 23 in the Owner's Manual for details.



STEP 5: DO THE ROBOT!

That gooseneck mic doesn't just look cool, it gets you into the microKORG XL's powerful 16-band vocoder!

- On the back panel, turn the LEVEL knob all the way down.
- While you're back there, make sure the input select switch is set to MIC.
- Turn the PROGRAM CATEGORY knob to 8-VOCODER/AUDIO IN.
- Turn the PROGRAM GENRE knob to 1-VINTAGE SYNTH, and set the BANK SELECT switch to "A." It's easy to remember program locations by their letters and numbers... This one is A18.
- Hold down some keys, speak into the mic, and slowly turn the LEVEL knob back up.
- Warn people of the imminent space robot attack!

Note: You can also freeze a vowel sound using the Formant Hold function. This is a great vocoder tool that first appeared on the classic microKORG. Check out page 56 in the Owner's Manual for more!

STEP 6: EDIT WITH YOUR COMPUTER!



You can go to www.korg.com/microkorgxl to download the USB-MIDI driver, as well as free editor/librarian software for either Mac or PC. It's a beautiful, intuitive interface that lets you see and control what's happening inside the microKORG XL. Here's how to get it rolling.

- If you don't already have it, download and install the universal Korg USB-MIDI driver (restart your computer if necessary).
- Download and install the Editor/Librarian software.
- Connect the microKORG XL to the computer using a standard USB cable.
- Run the "Install Korg USB-MIDI Device" program to install the microKORG XL driver.
- Start the Editor/Librarian software. It will automatically detect the microKORG XL.