

New features in software version 2.1

KRONOS software version 2.1 adds several new features, including a newly improved CX-3 and three new features tailored for live performance: a polyphony-saving option for Timbre/Track Mute, realtime indication of Rotary Speaker speed in all performance modes, and the ability to assign external MIDI CCs (from a pedal controller, for instance) to a number of special functions.

In addition to these new features, the update includes various improvements and resolutions to specific operational issues.

If you're using an older version, you can download the latest software free of charge from the Korg website (<http://www.korg.com/kronos>).

Improved CX-3

We've added a brand-new effects section to the CX-3, with many updates and improvements to the Amp, Rotary Speaker, and Vibrato Chorus, including:

- New amp model with warmer, smoother overdrive and more natural control from the expression pedal
- Three new speaker types, including one based on new measurements of a classic rotary speaker, another inspired by a popular rotary speaker pedal effect, and a third for bright sounds to cut through the mix, each with an option to include some of the direct signal for greater high- and low-frequency extension
- Improved stereo sensation, including revised mic distance control
- Many other improvements to the rotary speaker's timbre and authenticity
- Improved Vibrato/Chorus, more true to the original hardware

A new parameter on the CX-3 Basic page, **Amp/VC/Rotary Mode**, lets you switch between the old (**Classic CX-3**) and new (**Custom**) versions of the effects independently for each CX-3 instance, as desired. For more details, see “4–1c: Amp/VC/Rotary mode” on page 229 of the Parameter Guide.

To prevent unwanted changes to your data, existing sounds are not automatically updated to use the new effects. For information on converting sounds, see “Changing a Program from Classic CX-3 to Custom” on page 229 of the Parameter Guide. We've also provided a revised version of the factory preload Programs, which you can load separately if desired (see “New CX-3 Programs,” below).

With either **Classic CX-3** or **Custom**, you also can now use JSX (pitchbend) like the speaker speed switch on a vintage organ: move it to the left for Chorale (slow) and to the right for Tremolo (fast).

Rotary Speaker speed indicators

If you're using a Rotary Speaker, either as an effect or in the CX-3, a new graphic at the top of the display shows the current state of the Rotary Speaker (Fast, Slow, or Stop). Note that this is the current state—in other words, what you actually hear—which is a combination of the **Speed SW**, **Mode SW**, **Rotary On**, and **Amp Type** parameter settings and all associated AMS modulation. The CX-3's Play page

graphics now show this as well. For more information, see “Rotary Speaker speed indicator” on page 226 of the Parameter Guide.

New CX-3 Programs

We've updated the factory preload Programs to take advantage of the new CX-3. To prevent unexpected changes to your data, these new Programs are **not** loaded automatically. Instead, please download the separate file PRELOAD_V2.PCG and copy it to your KRONOS. You can then load the new sounds just as you would any other PCG file. The original PRELOAD.PCG file remains on your disk as well, so you can re-load it at any time if desired.

Before loading the new sounds, make sure to back up your data to a PCG file on disk; the Save All command is a quick and easy way to do so (see “Saving memory contents to disk” on page 189 of the Operation Guide).

Mute Mode

Version 2.1 gives you a choice as to how the Mute buttons work in Combinations and Songs.

Previously, in Combis the Mute buttons muted the Timbre's audio output, which is convenient for sound design; in Songs, they stopped only the sequencer's output to the Track, while leaving the keyboard active.

These behaviors are still available when the new **Mute Mode** parameter is set to **Studio**. A second setting, **Live**, provides alternative behaviors designed for use in live performance.

In **Live** mode, Combination Mute buttons stop the MIDI input to the Timbre; this saves polyphony, and is well-suited to muting and un-muting layered sounds as you play. Similarly, Song Mute buttons control MIDI input from both the sequencer and the keyboard.

For more information, see “Mute Mode” on page 751 of the Parameter Guide.

Function Assign for External MIDI In

You can now map incoming MIDI controllers to any of the special functions previously available only to the rear-panel foot switch input and SW1/2. This is particularly useful in conjunction with third-party MIDI and USB MIDI foot controllers with multiple built-in switches, each of which can now be mapped to a different function on the KRONOS. For instance, you can have multiple switches assigned to Program Up, Program Down, Octave Up, Octave Down, Tap Tempo, Chord On/Off, Ribbon Lock, etc.—all at the same time.

For more information, see “2–3: Function Assign” on page 777 of the Parameter Guide.