

FLAME

SIX-IN-A-ROW



MANUAL

Version 1.00

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1. Short description

The FLAME Six-In-A-Row is a small pocket universal MIDI-sequencer/controller which can be used as a stand-alone MIDI device but also as a remote for PC/ Mac via MIDI. It can be put into standard application or into MIDI remote mode booting after power on. Following updates or other software are loadable permanently per USB.

MIDI REMOTE

The remote mode offers the possibility to communicate with a PC/Mac via MIDI. A relatively simple protocol is implemented which is based on MIDI control change and on note commands. This makes it possible to put the LEDs and the LCDdisplay individually. The key buttons and the endless control dial send the according note / control change data. Up to 16 devices can be run at the same time using different MIDI channels. With the aid of MAX/MSP, PURE DATA, REAKTOR or with LOGIC ENVIRONMENT you can programme your own applications.

MIDI PHRASE SEQUENCER

The first standard application is a MIDI phrase sequencer. It operates independantly from PC/Mac as a single hardware tool. The sequencer is planned as a performance tool. It possesses 5 tracks: 2 MELODY tracks and 3 DRUM tracks. Unlike to the step sequencer the sequences are generated/ manipulated / recorded here directly. At your disposal are precast rhythm patterns (phrases, pulse) which can be combined arbitrarily. The generated pattern is at most 4 measures long but the particular measure parts can be switched on/off independantly from each other during the performance. That makes variations of the pattern cycle easily possible

Melody tracks:

Both melody tracks are arranged identically. To your disposal are SCALE/ KEYNOTE, CHORD, ARPEGGIO, PHRASES, PULSE, SINGLE NOTE, VELOCITY, MUTE and HOLD: The selected scale and keynote bends the bushbuttons to the according notes. For better orientation the pushbuttons of the keynote and the following octaves are put into green. The chords always adjust to the chosen key (tonality). The played sequence can be overwritten or combined optionally with other adjustments. There is a CLEAR-pushbutton to delete steps at the current position or all steps of the track. The tracks are monophonic (at single notes) or triple polyphonic (at chords- triads).

Drum tracks:

To your disposal are 3 drum tracks in the drum page. Per track it can be put 4 instruments (notes) on 4 play pushbuttons. The track is monophonic, that is per track only one single note can sound at the same time. PHRASES / PULSE can be put on 6 pushbuttons, which than can be changed while playing. Also playable are at a sixteenth quantised single notes. Each of the tracks has an own clear pushbutton to delete steps at the current position (or all steps of the track). MUTE/ HOLD are also at your disposal for each track. There are two playmodes: NORMAL (green) means the pressed bushbutton only plays the according note. ALTERNATE (yellow) means that the pressed pushbutton alternately plays the according note and the note of the adjacent bushbutton. (helpfull e.g. at HiHats!)

To each sequencer track can be assigned one own MIDI channel. The pattern can be back upped in the internal EEPROM. Synchronisation is possible per external MIDI clock. The sending of MIDI clock at external synchronisation can be switched off.

2. Introduction/ Installation

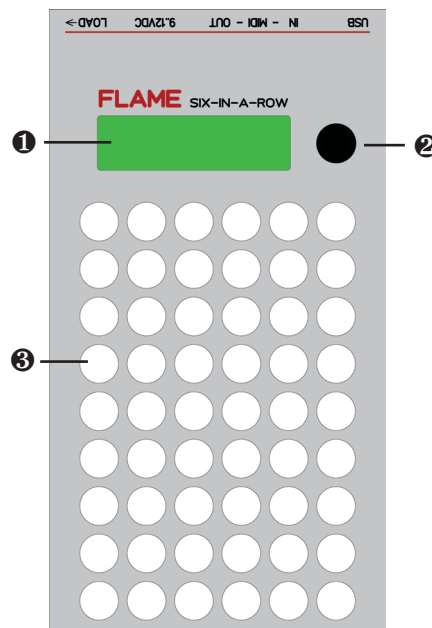
→ VIDEO TUTORIAL part 1

2.1 Hardware

We start with the hardware equipment:

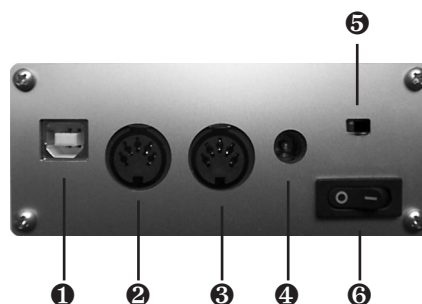
On the front side you find :

- ❶ a backlit LCD with 3 rows
- ❷ a data entry knob with key button function
- ❸ plus the backlit 6x9 pushbutton-matrix.



On the back you find the circuit points for:

- ❶ USB 2.0 (for loading new firmware / updates)
- ❷ MIDI-IN
- ❸ MIDI-OUT
- ❹ the jack for the wall wart (12VDC/800mA)
- ❺ the LOAD switch for loading new firmware via USB
- ❻ plus the contactor.



Please plug in the supplied wall wart and connect the MIDI-OUT of the SIX-IN-A-ROW with the MIDI-IN of the sound generator you want to play.

→ Advise!

Before switching on please make sure that the LOAD-switch is switched off and pointing inwards.

2.2 Activate the MIDI Phrase Sequencer

In boot sequence you can select the standard application (now the MIDI-phrase-sequencer) or the MIDI remote function.

Now we activate the MIDI-PHRASE-SEQUENCER.

1. Switch on the device.
2. While booting you can hold the key button below right to call the menu for the choice of the corresponding software.
3. With key button 1 please choose the phrase sequencer.

With the following switching-on the phrase sequencer will be loaded automatically, so that you don't have to repeat your choice.

3. MIDI PHRASE SEQUENCER

→ VIDEO TUTORIAL Part 2

3.1 Basics and MIDI adjustments

We continue with the basics of the MIDI-PHRASE-SEQUENCER and its MIDI adjustments.

PLAY MENU

In the upper array you have following key buttons:

❶ Start/Stop

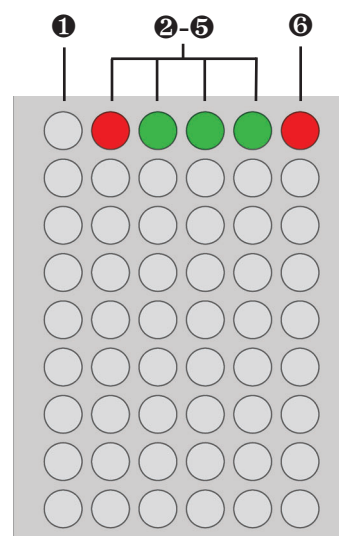
The Start/Stop switch ❶ - to start or stop the sequence at internal MIDI-clock.

❷-❺ Measure keys

The key buttons ❷-❺ activate/deactivate the 1-measured parts of the maximum 4-measured sequence. Deactivated measures will be overlapped at the playback of the sequence.

❻ Key SHIFT

The red shining push-button rightmost is the SHIFT key ❻ for double functions.



PAGE MENU

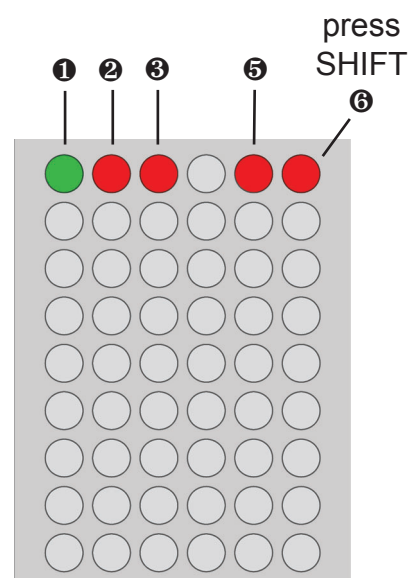
With the SHIFT-key ❻ pushed you can call the PAGES with the upper key array.

- ❶ Melody page 1
- ❷ Melody page 2
- ❸ Drum page
- ❺ Setup page

A green LED indicates the page currently activated.

→ Advice:

When starting the MIDI PHRASE SEQUENCER you are always in MELODY page 1 mode.



TEMPO MENU

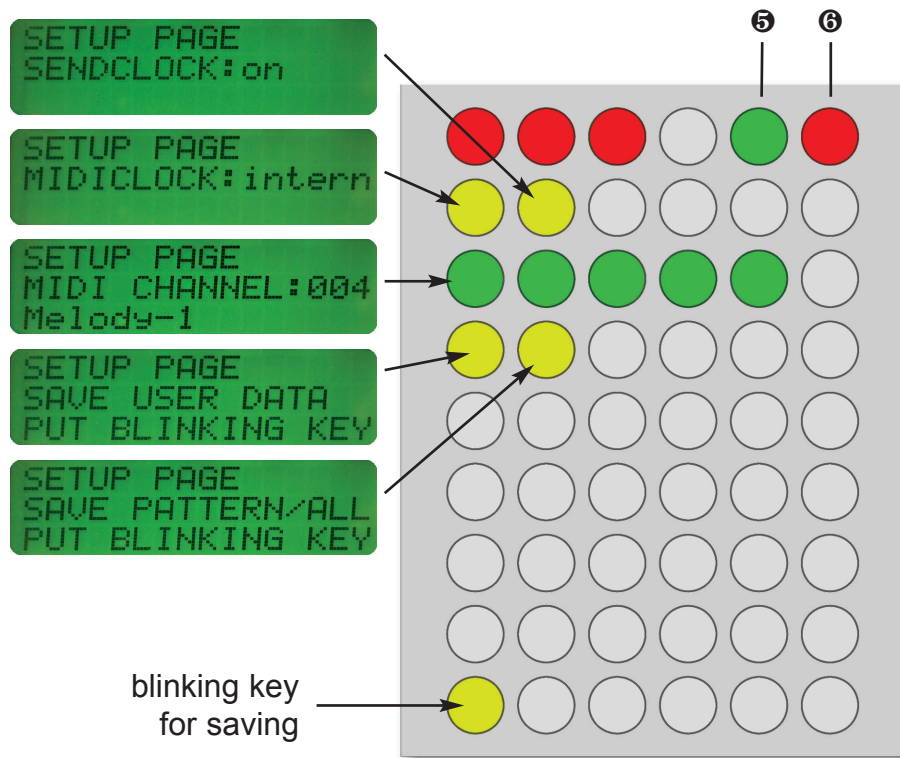
By pushing the data entry knob you fin the TEMPO menu,
by turning the data-entry-knob you convert the tempo.
Tempo range: 10...230 bpm.



SETUP PAGE / MIDI adjustments

Now we change into the Setup Page to complete the default settings for the sequencer. Push key SHIFT **6** and key **5** .

By pushing the key buttons you select the parameter of your choice
by turning the data-entry-knob you convert the data:



MIDICLOCK :

- intern - the sequencer runs with internal tempo
- extern - the sequencer runs with external MIDI-clock and is started/ stopped via MIDI-IN

SENDLOCK:

Here you can adjust if MIDI-clock data will be transmitted or not at the external MIDI-clock.

MIDI CHANNEL:

In this row you adjust the MIDI channels of the 5 tracks:

For track melody 1, track melody 2, drum track A, drum track B and drum track C.

SAVE USER DATA / SAVE PATTERN/ALL:

To record the adjustments first press the yellow key button 1 in the fourth row and confirm key button below with the blinking yellow one.

Now your adjustments are saved permanently.

→ VIDEO TUTORIAL part 3

3.2 Melody pages 1 and 2 (Melody tracks 1+2)

Both pages are arranged identically.

Please change into melody page 1:

Push key SHIFT ⑥ and key ①

(or for Melody page 2 key ②).

Melody Play Menus

Below the SHIFT key you will find the following functions at random access:

- MUTE on/off
- HOLD on/off
- CHORD on/off
- Arpeggio on/off.

The 3 Key buttons for the playmode:

- play phrases
- play beat-phrases
- play single notes

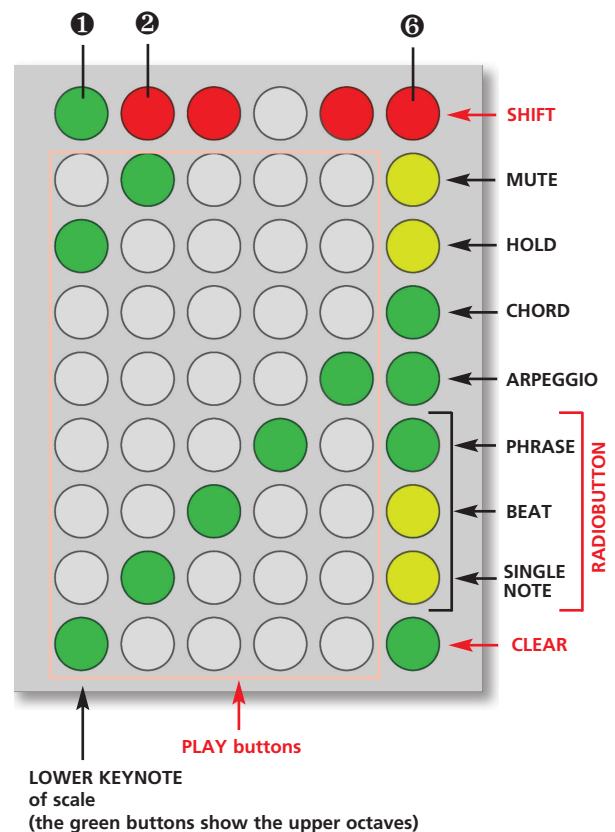
The last key button is the CLEAR key to delete events..

You adjust a scale that way:

Push SHIFT and scale and choose the corresponding scale with the data entry knob.

Playing:

You play with the 5x8 play keys. The notes start with the adjusted keynote down to the right and the according scale. The ascending octaves are indicated by green LEDs.



CLEAR FUNCTIONS

1. Press key CLEAR for clear Steps on current position (16th quantized)
2. Press key CLEAR and key LOWER KEYNOTE for clear all Steps of Track
3. Press key CLEAR and key START/STOP for clear all tracks of pattern

A PHRASE you choose the following way:

Push SHIFT and PHRASE or PHRASE directly and dial the data entry knob.

Put different phrases to play at the PHRASE keys.

Now you start the sequencer and play with the play keys to record a sequence.

You can change the phrases while pushing the play key. The performance will be recorded as long as the play key is pushed.

To delete a part push the CLEAR key. If you want to delete the whole track, push the key down left as well (see the red box "Clear functions").

Activate the chords:

Now not only one note is generated but a triad.

Chords: Triad1 invers, Triad2 invers, Octaves, Random

Activate arpeggio:

Now not only the note of the play key is played, but an arpeggio tone sequence among the chosen scale..

Arpeggios: Down, Up, Octave

Generate dynamical lines by alteration of velocity:

Choose SHIFT and velocity, push the play key and at the same time dial the time data entry knob at the same time to change the velocity.

Velocity values: 42 accent levels

HOLD:

Activate the HOLD key to play over running sequences without recording.

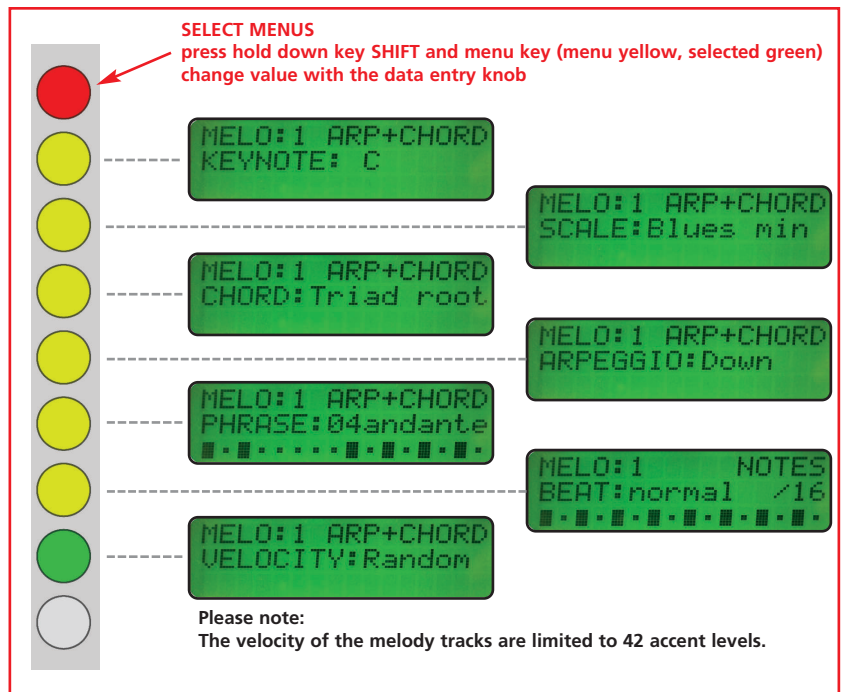
MUTE:

With MUTE the recorded sequence is switched into mute mode. You can still play, but without recording.

Melody Edit Menus

With SHIFT key pushed down the key row beneath can be used to call up the functions you want to edit:

- keynote
- scale
- chord
- arpeggio
- phrase
- beat-phrase
- velocity



3.2 Drum Page (Drum Spuren A-C)

Changing in to drum page:

Change into drum page with **③** and key **③**.

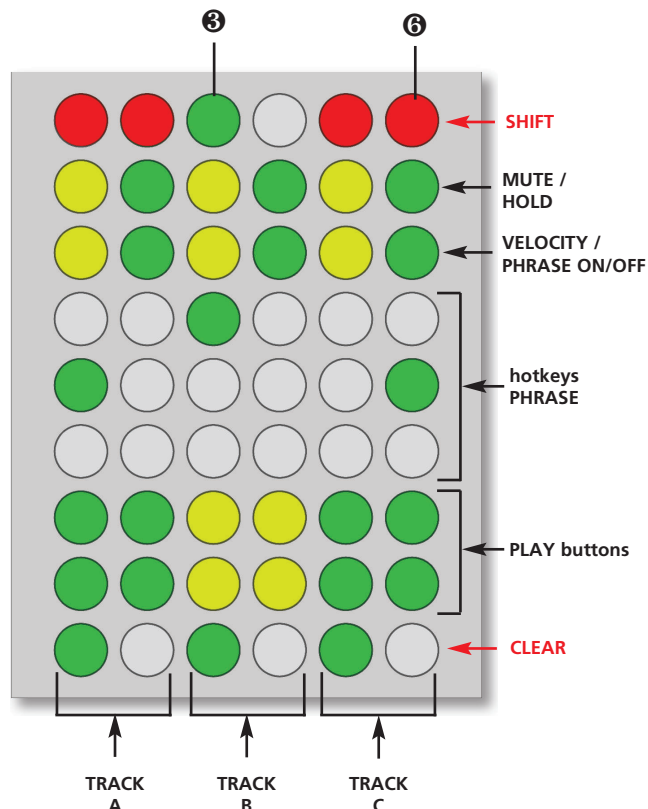
In the drum page you have a concurrent access to all 3 drum pages A to C.

All three tracks are composed in the same way and are made with two parallel key arrays respectively.

We like to show the functions using the example of drum track A now.

Drum pads:

The 4 green key buttons below are the drum pads 1,2,3, and 4. These are the play keys to play the sequence of the track. All other key buttons are only there to adjust or access functions.



Edit note number:

First you assign each key button a note number according to the drum instrument you want to play. For this purpose you push SHIFT and the pad. With the data entry knob you change the value.

CLEAR FUNCTIONS

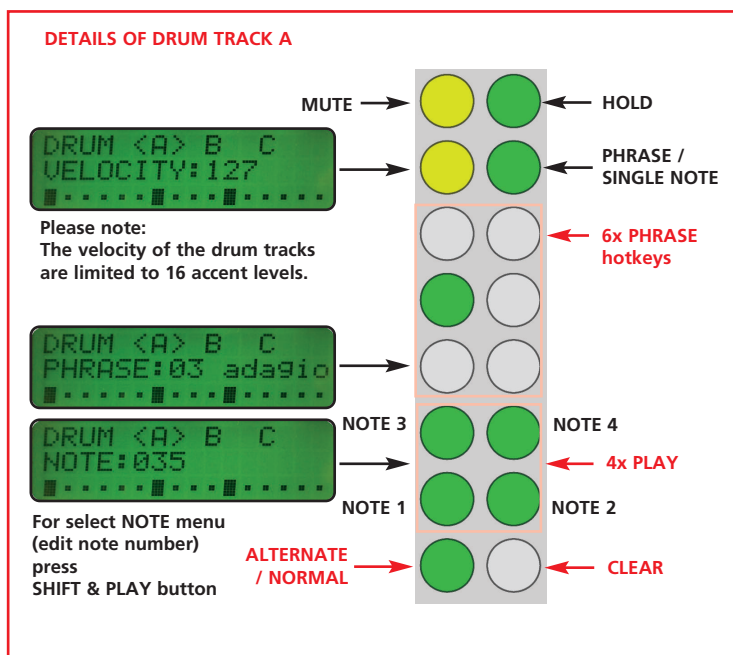
1. Press key CLEAR of track for clear Steps on current position of track
2. Press key CLEAR and key ALTERNATE of track for clear all steps of track
3. Press key CLEAR of TRACK-C and key START/STOP for clear all tracks of pattern

Phrase hotkeys:

The 6 key buttons beyond are hotkeys for phrases. Put the phrases you want to access faster on the key buttons. For this purpose push the key and dial the data entry knob to choose the phrase.

Phrase / Single mode:

With the right key in the array beyond you activate the phrases (green LED comes on) or you activate the single mode (PHRASE LEDs off). In single mode only a note quantised to a sixteenth will be generated.



Velocity:

The left key chooses the current velocity of the track you are playing. The recorded velocity cannot be changed later, unless you rerecord the part.

Velocity values: 16 accent levels

Mute / Hold:

In the array beyond you have MUTE (LED yellow means activ) and HOLD (LED green means activ)

MUTE: track mute. playing without recordings.

HOLD: track loud. playing without recordings.

Alternate Mode:

The key bottom left calls the ALTERNATE MODE (LED yellow means alternate, LED green means activ): so the drum pads will automatically be played one after the other. If you push drum pad 1 it will play drum pad 1 and 2 in phrase rhythm alternately.

Clear:

The key on the right below is the CLEAR key. Push it at the point you want to delete.

By additionally pushing the ALTERNATE key you will delete the whole track.

(see also the red box "Clear functions")

4. Appendix and technical informations

4.1 List of phrases

beat phrases

normal	/2	■																	
normal	/4	■						■											
normal	/8	■				■		■					■						
normal	/16	■		■		■		■		■		■		■		■		■	
normal	/32	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
offbeat	/2							■											
offbeat	/4					■							■						
offbeat	/8			■		■		■				■		■		■		■	
offbeat	/16		■	■		■	■	■		■		■	■	■		■	■	■	
shuffle1	/8	■				■		■						■					
shuffle2	/8	■					■									■			
shuffle3	/8	■						■	■									■	
shuffle	/16	■			■	■	■		■	■			■	■	■		■	■	

phrases moderato

[illegible]

phrases largo

[illegible]

phrases allegro

[illegible]

phrases adagio

[illegible]

phrases vivace

[illegible]

phrases andante

[illegible]

phrases presto

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

Algerian	1,2,b3,4, #4,5,b6,7
Arabian	1,b2,3,4,5,b6
Balinese	1,b2,b3,5,b6
Blues (minor)	1,b3,4, #4,5,b7
Byzantine	1,b2,3,4,5,b6,7
Diatonic	1,2,3,5,6
Dorian	1,2,b3,4,5,6,b7
Hindu	1,2,3,4,5,b6,b7
Lydian	1,2,3, #4,5,6,7
Major	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
Major 6	1,3,5,6
Major 7	1,3,5,7
Major 7 b5	1,3,b5,7
Minor (Aeolian)	1,2,b3,4,5,b6,b7
Minor 6	1,b3,5,6
Minor 7	1,b3,5,b7
Minor harmonic	1,2,b3,4,5,b6,7
Mixolydian	1,2,3,4,5,6,b7
Nine Tone	1,2, #2,3, #4,5, #5,6,7
Octatonic	1,b2,b3,3,b5,5,6,b7
Pentatonic	1,2,4,5,b7
Phrygian	1,b2,b3,4,5,b6,b7
Spanish	1,b2,3,4,5,b6,b7
Wholetone	1,3, #4, #5,b7
Chromatic	1/2 tone steps

4.3 Reset to factory defaults

You can reset the factory settings the following way:

While start the MIDI Phrase Sequencer display shortly the red SHIFT Led. Push the SHIFT key while the INIT Menu start. Follow now the instructions..

This procedure is necessary e.g. after making an update of the firmware.

→ **Advice:** This operation transcribes the user and pattern memory!

4.4 Firmware update via USB

You can make a prospective firmware update/upgrade via USB.

Where required you find further informations on our website:

<http://flame.fortschritt-musik.de>.

4.5 Technical details

Hardware:

Connections:

MIDI In

MIDI Out

external power supply adapter 12VDC / 800mA input

USB 2.0

3x16 character LCD

data entry knob

54 push buttons with bicolor LED's

size: 42x167x102mm

Software:

- MIDI Phrase Sequencer (MIDI hardware sequencer)

- MIDI Remote Protocol

4.6 Video Tutorials

You can find the video tutorials part 1-4 here (english and german versions):

<http://www.youtube.de/flameampere>

4.7 MIDI Remote Protocol

Please download the manual about the MIDI remote protocol here:

http://flame.fortschritt-musik.de/pdf/FlameSixRow_Midi_protocol_v102.pdf

5. Additional informations

5.1 Warrenty

Beginning from the date of purchase a 2-year warranty is guaranteed for this device in case of any manufacturing errors or other functional deficiencies during runtime. The warranty does not apply in case of:

- damage caused by misuse
- mechanical damage arising from careless treatment (dropping, vigorous shaking, mishandling, etc)
- damage caused by liquids penetrating the device
- heat damage caused by overexposure to sunlight or heating
- electric damage caused by improper connecting (wrong power supply/ jacks/ MIDI connections/ voltage problems).

If you have any complaints please contact your dealer or send an e-mail to:
service@flame.fortschritt-musik.de

5.2 Terms of production

conformity: CE, RoHS, UL

5.3 Disposal

The device is produced with RoHS-conformity (subject to the regulations of the European Union) and is free of hazardous substances (like mercury, plumb, cadmium and hexavalent chrome). But electronical scrap is hazardous waste. Please don't add this to consumer waste. For an environment friendly disposal of waste please contact your distributor or specialist dealer.

5.4 Support

Updated and additional informations, updates, downloads and more see:
<http://flame.fortschritt-musik.de>

5.5 Acknowledgment

For help and assistance big thanks to:

Schneiders Büro Berlin, Shawn Cleary (Analogue haven, Los Angeles), Thomas Wagner, Robert Junge, Anne-Kathrin Metzler, Chris Dreier and Lena Bünger.