

# PCM 90 Quick Reference Guide



## Basic Operation

The PCM 90 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 5 banks of 50 presets. Press **Register Banks** to access 2 internal banks of 50 registers (or PCMCIA card banks) where you can store your versions of the factory presets.

Turn **SELECT** to view all of the effects. 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.

Simultaneously press and release both **Banks** buttons to view the previously loaded effect. Turn **SELECT** to view as many as 10 effects back.

**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.

Each set of PCM 90 controls is organized into a matrix of as many as 10 rows and 10 columns.

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

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

**SELECT** moves you horizontally across the matrix.

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| 1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.8 |     |
| 2 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.7 |     |     |
| 3 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.6 |     |     |     |
| 4 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.5 |     |     |     |     |
| 5 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.4 |     |     |     |     |     |
| 6 | 6.0 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.3 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 7 | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.2 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 8 | 8.0 | 8.1 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 9 | 9.0 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

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.

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 **Program**, **Register** or **Card Bank**. If there is no number shown here, you are in **Go** mode. (See **Edit**.)

In **Program** and **Register** modes, descriptive bank and row labels appear on the top line of the display — these can be customized for your own effects in **Control** mode.

## Effect Sorting

The PCM 90 lets you perform KeyWord sorting of your effects. (The default KeyWord **A to Z** displays all of the effects in the box in alphabetical order.)

As many as 4 KeyWords can be assigned in **Edit** mode to each effect. (We've already assigned at least one to every preset.)

Press either **Banks** button one push beyond the last bank to view the list of sorted effects. Turn **SELECT** to scroll through the list.

To select a different KeyWord for sorting, go to **Control 1.8** and use **ADJUST** to select any KeyWord from the following list.

## Tempo

Any PCM 90 delay parameter 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 linked to tempo. When you change tempo, the delay times will change to maintain the same rhythm at the new tempo.

To set PCM 90 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.

**PCM 90 KeyWords**

|            |            |            |
|------------|------------|------------|
| A to Z     | Gated      | Room       |
| Acoustic   | Guitar     | Short      |
| Ambience   | Indoor     | Slap FX    |
| Ballad     | Instrument | Small      |
| Bright     | Keyboard   | Spatial    |
| Broadcast  | Large      | Special FX |
| Cascade    | Live PA    | Splits     |
| Chamber    | Long       | Stereo     |
| Classical  | Mastering  | Surround   |
| Cncrt Hall | Medium     | Tempo      |
| Custom     | MIDI       | Unnatural  |
| Dark       | Mono       | Vocal      |
| Dialog     | Natural    | User 1     |
| Drums/Perc | Orchestral | User 2     |
| Dynamic    | Outdoor    | User 3     |
| Echo       | Plate      | User 4     |
| Film-ADR   | RandomHall |            |

**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.

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## Audition the Programs

Press **Program Banks** to cycle through 5 banks of 50 presets. Turn **SELECT** to view all of the presets in the selected bank. Press **Load/★** to load any displayed effect.

| P0 Halls        |             | P1 Rooms        |             | P2 Plates       |             | P3 Post         |              | P4 Splits       |             |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Matrix Location | Preset Type | Matrix Location | Preset Type | Matrix Location | Preset Type | Matrix Location | Preset Type  | Matrix Location | Preset Type |
| 0.0-0.9         | Orchestral  | 0.0-0.9         | Instrument  | 0.0-0.9         | Instrument  | 0.0-0.9         | Indoor Small | 0.0-0.9         | Mono        |
| 1.0-1.9         | Vocal       | 1.0-1.9         | Vocal       | 1.0-1.9         | Vocal       | 1.0-1.9         | Indoor Large | 1.0-1.9         | Stereo      |
| 2.0-2.9         | Live Sound  | 2.0-2.9         | Live Sound  | 2.0-2.9         | Live Sound  | 2.0-2.9         | Outdoor      | 2.0-2.9         | Live Sound  |
| 3.0-3.9         | Instrument  | 3.0-3.9         | Drums/Perc  | 3.0-3.9         | Drums/Perc  | 3.0-3.9         | Spatial      | 3.0-3.9         | Instrument  |
| 4.0-4.9         | Custom      | 4.0-4.9         | Custom      | 4.0-4.9         | Custom      | 4.0-4.9         | Custom       | 4.0-4.9         | Custom      |

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 90 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 250 presets. We have designed each set of parameters to allow you to make changes to the effect *without* losing the character of the sound.

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

**Pro** mode gives you access to the full effect edit matrix whenever you press **Edit**. The edit matrix contains all effect parameters, Patching and Modulation controls, and tools for creating Custom Controls and assigning KeyWords to effects.

Turn **SELECT** to view the available parameters.

Turn ADJUST to change the value of any displayed parameter.

The PCM 90 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**.

## 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 move the ★ to the Register ID number. 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.

## Info

The PCM 90 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, *press and hold* the button down. While you are holding down the button, an explanatory message will be displayed.

In addition to these easy plug and play techniques, the PCM 90 provides extensive system control via front panel patching or MIDI. For complete details on these and other features, read the PCM 90 User Guide.

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