

ALESIS Top 5

Ion Analog Modeling Synthesizer



Overview

The Ion is a unique and powerful analog-modeling synthesizer built at an amazingly affordable price. Its high-resolution synthesis engine replicates many popular vintage synths with flawless precision and adds in a number of one-of-a-kind features.

Top 5 Sales Points to Talk about

Massive Synth Power

- 500 MIPS (500 million instructions per second) processor provides the serious horsepower needed for precise analog synth emulation
- Continuously variable wave shapes, pulse sync, ring modulation, and FM synthesis
- Uncompromised sound: 8 polyphonic voices each built from 3 oscillators, 2 multi-mode filters, 3 envelope generators, 2 LFO's, a programmable effects send and a modulation matrix
- Quality first. The Ion's horsepower generates 8 great sounding voices, not 12 or 16 (or more) mediocre ones

Intuitive Control

- 31 amply-spaced, 360-degree potentiometers operate at 12-bit resolution – 32 times the resolution of a typical MIDI controller. These high-resolution pots provide extraordinary precision and a very “analog” sound throughout the entire frequency range
- Large 160x160 graphic display provides instant visual feedback as a parameter is edited

Arpeggiator

- 32 rhythmically distinct arpeggiation patterns
- Unique, real-time arpeggiation variations: forward, reverse, trigger, R-N-R IN, R-N-R X, and Octave Jump

Built-in Effects

- Drive effects create the natural overdrive of analog synth components
- 4 individual insert effects plus a stereo master multi-effects processor
- 40-band vocoder

High Quality Design

- Cool looking, modern design in a rugged metal case
- Pitch and Mod wheels with cool backlight indicators
- Great feeling 49-note, velocity-sensitive keyboard

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What Features to Show

Massive Synth Power

The Ion has tons of great Programs to show. There are 4 banks of sounds that are described in color for the synth timbre. Each bank has Bass Synths (0-9), Leads (10-19), Pads (20-29), Sweeps (30-39), Brass (40-49), Strings (50-59), Synth (60-79), Keyboards (80-89), Effects (90-109) and Percussion (110-128). Try out these Programs to hear the sonic diversity of the Ion.

Go to program mode

1. Press the Recall Setup button within the “part” section, near the bottom-center of the control panel.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display. Watch the top of the display as you turn the knob. Turn until you reach *00 Default Setup*.

To hear Red

1. Press the Red Bank Button.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to hear the Red Synth Programs.

Some examples in the Red bank to try:

00 TomSawyerBass	25 Intruder	101 Threefinity
10 StixMiniMogue	54 Dutch Choir	102 Deutsche Bahn
11 Sizzler	63 Dude!	103 Metallic Body
15 Mahavishnoid	94 Mad science	115 Stringed Pots
16 Lucky PortaMW2	98 Insane Dentist	

To hear Green

1. Press the Green Bank Button.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to hear the Green Synth Programs.

10 Mini Classic	27 Massive Pad	43 Scary Bouncer
17 Tarkus Carcass	33 Ionizer	62 RubberSynth
22 Materialize	36 Metal Moths	64 Laser Surgery
25 Morten'J	38 SolarWire	

To hear Blue

1. Press the Blue Bank Button.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to hear the Blue Synth Programs.

11 Ghostly Lead	53 Prog Brass	105 Sambalby?
21 PhasePAD	97 X-Mod	
30 Infrastructure	98 Bromide	

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Setups

1. Press the Recall Setup button within the “part” section, near the bottom-center of the control panel.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to *01 Ion Groove*.
3. Press the C key on the far left end of the keyboard. You should hear a drum pattern.
4. While holding the C key play the C key above that. You should hear a bass line pattern along with the drum pattern.
5. Play notes from the C an octave above that you can hear a synth lead program to go along with the bass and drum pattern.

Arpeggiator

Go to program mode

1. Press the Recall Setup button.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to *00 Default Setup*.

Audition the arpeggiator types

1. Press the Red Bank Button.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to select *101 Threefinity*.
3. Press the Latch Button under the “arp” section of the Ion (on the far upper left side).
4. The LCD will show a list of different Arpeggiations to select from. Turn the clear white knob to select Other Arpeggiations.

Output Section: Overdrive and Effects

Go to program mode

1. Press the Recall Setup button.
2. Turn the clear white knob next to the LCD display to *00 Default Setup*.

Overdrive

Select program *Red 000 TomSawyerBass*.

1. Play the sound on the keyboard.
2. Press the edit button next the Drive knob on the upper right side of the keyboard. The top of the LCD display should show “edit Output”
3. Press the button below the screen that says “drive type”. The LCD display should show a selection of different Overdrive types.
4. Change the drive type with the clear white knob and play the sound.
5. Change the output level by turning the “drive” knob.
6. Repeat steps 3 through 6 to experiment with different settings.

Effects

1. Turn the effects knob on the upper right side of the keyboard clockwise until the display reads “100% wet.”
2. Press the edit button next to the effects knob. The LCD display will show a list of different effects types.
3. Use the clear white knob to change the effects type.
4. Play the keyboard to hear the changes.