

Ketron SD90

Instructor – Bob Donovan



The Ketron SD90 is the latest sound module and arranger that can be your “back up” band and enhance your music experience. The SD90 has a choice of 400 factory styles, 140 live styles with drums, live guitars and grooves. The AjamSonic upgrade kit offers over 200 more styles with audio elements and over 140 more sounds with voice articulation. These function as automatic accompaniment, in which chords can be triggered with the left hand, so that the accompaniment always follows the chords and at the same time, sounds of the SD90 can be played with the right hand. The styles each have 4 or 8 variations, 4 fills and 4 breaks and 3 intros and endings. The live audio drums, guitars and bass make this sound as a live band.

For the right hand of your accordion, the SD90 has 368 preset voices that can be used as a palette to choose the right sound for the right part of a song. This makes it ideal for expanding your sound spectrum without having to bring another keyboard into the studio or on stage.

In addition to the above styles and sounds, the Ketron SD90 delivers an impressive list of capabilities:

- Create your own voices
- Sample Editor that provides the means for you to utilize your own sample files
- Tools for creating your own styles
- Ability to play Wav, Midi, Mp3, Mp4, Avi, Mov, Flv, Cdg, Jpg, Txt, Pdf
- Launch pad supports stitching together various styles, midi files, and audio files
- Audio and Midi recording, loop function
- Touch color screen
- Ability to project the touch screen to a monitor or TV

- Display of lyrics within midi files for karaoke
- Vocal harmonizer



Workshop Goals

This list of features is impressive and too much to teach in the two available sessions. The reason I listed these features was to show you the SD90's potential and to convey that the SD90 can be very complex. One could easily spend days, weeks, and months learning to use the SD90 to its fullest potential. This can be intimidating to the learner who is trying to get started with enjoying the instrument and using it for performances.



Therefore, the goal of this workshop is to focus on teaching you how to get started with the SD90 so that you can start enjoying the instrument as soon as possible and become proficient at configuring it.

Session 1

This session will focus on using the SD90 out of the box. How to start using the instrument without having to configure it. The three most important things to start learning to perform with the instrument are:

- 1) How to choose voices for the right hand of the accordion. While in this area we will also sample



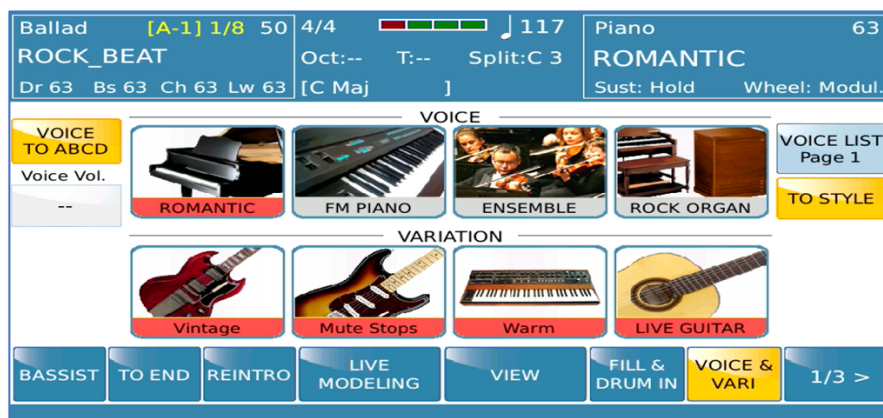
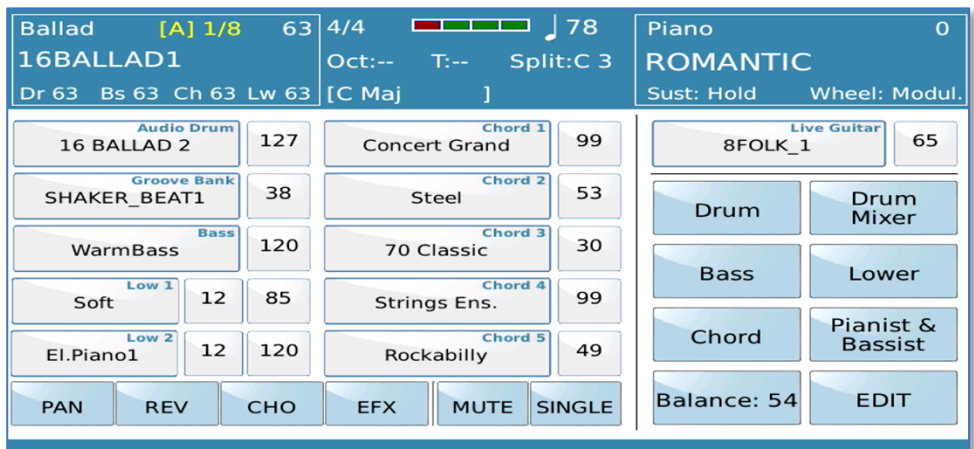
various voices for those interested in hearing the quality of the audio generated by the SD90.

- 2) Styles for the backing band, arranger A, B, C, D, start and stop functions.
- 3) Preset registrations. Registrations save (1) Voices and (2) Styles together so that they can be easily recalled during a performance.

Session 2

This will take you to the next level. How do I start configuring the SD90 to tailor the instrument to the way I want it to perform:

- First, we go back to the voices and show how to create your own voice. How to configure the effects of the voice, how to add additional sound layers and choose the "2nd" voice.
- Then we will show how to edit a style so that it is tailored to the way you would like the band to sound when you play your song.
- Then we will demonstrate how to create your own user registration where you save your style and a set of voices to be used for Arranger A, B, C, and D.



Training Style

Sessions will be taught as lectures with demonstrations. Lectures will be divided into approximately 20-minute segments followed by interactive questions and answers between each segment. During each demonstration you should follow along with your SD90 so that you are practicing what you learn from the demonstrations.



Can I attend if I do not have an SD90?

If you do not have an SD90 and are curious about purchasing one, these classes are a great approach to experience the instrument without having to purchase one. You will get an opportunity to hear the realistic audio quality of some of the available voices. Furthermore, you hear the audio quality of the styles and registrations and learn how to use and configure the instrument.

Be prepared before the workshop

If you have an SD90 and would like to follow along in the workshop, then you should be prepared ahead of time by having your accordion connected to your SD90. Session 1 and Session 2 will not teach how to connect your accordion to the SD90. Nor will these sessions cover troubleshooting issues for each individual. The focus of "Session 1" and "Session 2" is for the whole group to learn about the use the SD90.

Help with connecting your accordion to your SD90

If you need help with connecting your MIDI accordion to the SD90, please contact me by email before the symposium to setup a time to meet on zoom

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