1 [VOLUME] knob

Adjusts the output volume of the MIX OUT jacks and the PHONES jack.
This does not affect the volume of the ASSIGNABLE OUT jacks.

2 [CLEAR] button

Erases the recorded content for an individual instrument, or deletes a pattern.

3 Mode buttons

Controller		Explanation
[TR-REC] button		Step-records a pattern.
[PTN SELECT] button		Select a pattern.
[INST PLAY] button		Lets you use the pads (14) to perform in real time. You can perform even while a pattern is playing.
[INST REC] button		Lets you realtime-record a pattern.
DRUM SELECT	[KIT] button	Select a kit.
	[INST] button	Selects the sound (tone) for an instrument.

4 [LAST STEP] button

Specifies the length of the pattern.

5 Variation buttons [A][B]

Switches between variations (A/B) of a pattern.

6 [START/STOP] button

Plays/stops the pattern.

7 ACCENT section

Adds an accent to the specified step.
Midi velocity is variable via accent setting.

Adding an accent to an instrument's performance

When using INST-PLAY (realtime performance) or INST-REC (realtime recording), you can hold down the ACCENT [STEP] button and press a pad to add an accent to the specified step.
To adjust the volume of the accent, use the ACCENT [LEVEL] knob in the same way as for TR-REC (step recording). 5 INST-REC (realtime recording) now lets you record an accent at the step location that you play.

8 REVERB section / 9 DELAY section

Let you edit the parameters for reverb and delay.

Controller	Explanation
[LEVEL] knob	Volume of the reverb/delay
[TIME] knob	Length of the reverb/delay
[GATE] knob	Timing at which the reverb is cut off (only for reverb)
[FEEDBACK] knob	Delay repetitions (only for delay)
[STEP] button	Lets you use the pads **14** to specify the step to which reverb or delay will be applied.

10 EXTERNAL IN section

Here you can adjust the sound that's input to the EXTERNAL IN jacks.

Controller	Explanation
[LEVEL] knob	Volume
[SIDE CHAIN] knob	Adjusts ("ducks") the volume of the audio input according to the pattern being played by the TR-8 (side chain). Turning the knob toward the right produces a greater effect.
[STEP] button	Lets you use the pads **14** to specify the step to which reverb or delay will be applied.

11 INST edit section

Here you can adjust the tonal character of the instrument.

What is an "INST"?

The TR-8 lets you use 11 different INST (instruments; BASS DRUM–RIDE CYMBAL) in a pattern. You can assign a desired sound (tone) to each instrument.

Controller	Explanation
[TUNE] knob	Tuning (pitch)
[DECAY] knob	Length of decay
[ATTACK] knob	Strength of the attack (only for BASS DRUM)
[SNAPPY] knob	Volume of the snare (stretched wires) (only for SNARE DRUM)
[COMP] knob	Amount of compressor effect (only for BASS DRUM and SNARE DRUM)
[LEVEL] fader	Volume

- *For some tones, there might not be an effect.*

Instrument gain setting

1. Press the [KIT] button.
2. Turn the [TEMPO] knob while holding down each instrument button from [BD] to [RC].
   Its range is from 0 to 200 (-24 dB to +24 dB).
   This parameter is stored within each kit.

Color indication of the instrument's sound (tone)

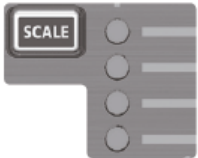When selecting a tone, the color that is shown when you press a pad now distinguishes the tone.

TR-808 type	Pink
TR-909 type	Yellow

12 INST select button

Mode	Explanation
TR-REC	Selects the instrument for TR-REC.
DRUM SELECT-INST	Selects the instrument whose tone will be changed.

13 SCALE section

Switches the scale of steps during TR-REC.

Button/LED	Explanation	
[SCALE] button	Choose one of the following four to specify the note value of each step.	
	8th note triplet	Three steps will be one beat.
	16th note triplet	Six steps will be one beat.
	16th note	Four steps will be one beat.
	32nd note	Eight steps will be one beat.

14 Pad [1]–[11](INST)/ Pad [12]–[15](ROLL)/ Pad [16](MUTE)

Mode		Explanation
TR-REC		For each step, specify whether the instrument will sound.
PTN SELECT		Select a pattern 1–16.
INST PLAY		• Pads [1]–[11](INST) play instruments. • If you hold down [12]--[15](ROLL) and press [1]--[11], a roll is played on that instrument; you can press two or more of the [12]--[15] pads to change the roll variation. • If you hold down the [INST PLAY] button and press the [12]--[15] and [1]--[11] pads, the sound will be held so that it continues playing even after you release your finger. • To cancel Hold, press the selected pad without pressing [INST PLAY]. • If you press [16](MUTE) and then press the instrument pad or INST select button, that sound is muted.
INST REC		During realtime recording, the pads record the corresponding instrument.
DRUM SELECT	KIT	Select kits 1–16.
	INST	Select a tone for the instrument.

Improved roll function

To play rolls, you can either press the instrument play buttons ([STEP1] – [STEP11]) first and then the roll variation ([STEP12] – [STEP15]) buttons, or vice versa.

15 SCATTER section

What is Scatter?

"Scatter" adds a digital-feeling groove to the loop playback by exchanging individual steps within the loop playback and also by changing the playback direction or gate length.
* The scatter effect will not apply to the first cycle of the loop; the effect will apply to the second and subsequent cycles of the loop.

Controller	Explanation
[SCATTER] knob	Selects the scatter type.
[DEPTH] button	If this is on, the [SCATTER] knob adjusts the scatter depth.
[ON] button	Enables the scatter function.

Scatter 1 cycle on

Press [ON] while holding down the [DEPTH] button.
Scatter is enabled in current cycle only.

Scatter [ON] button mode

1. While holding down the [PTN SELECT] button, turn on the power.
2. Press [STEP5].

ON	Momentary
OFF	Latch (default)

16 Display/ 17 TEMPO section

The current tempo is shown in the display (**16**)

Controller	Explanation
[TEMPO] knob	Adjusts the tempo.
[SHUFFLE] knob	Adjusts the amount of shuffle (bounce).
[FINE] knob	Makes fine adjustments to the tempo.
[TAP] button	To set the tempo, tap this button several times at the desired interval.

Playing/Selecting/Controlling a Pattern

What is a "PATTERN"?

The performance data that you record using TR-REC or INST-REC is called a "pattern." The TR-8 has 16 patterns, with two variations (A/B) for each pattern.

Playing a pattern

1. Press the [START/STOP] button (**6**)
2. Use scatter (**15**) or INST edit (**11**) to modify the sound.

Selecting a pattern

1. Press the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**)
2. Use the pads (**14**) to select a pattern.
   - The selected pad blinks. It remains lit during playback.
     If you select the next pattern during playback, the pad blinks.
     You can have a range selection by pushing two pads simultaneously. The selected patterns play sequentially.
3. Use the variation buttons (**5**) to select A or B.
   - If you make both buttons [A] and [B] light, A and then B are played successively.

Generating a random pattern

You can automatically generate a random pattern. This modifies the selected pattern.

1. Hold down the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**) and press the SCATTER [ON] button (**15**)
2. To save, press the [TR-REC] button (blinks).

Copying a pattern

1. Press the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**)
   If a pattern is playing, stop it.
2. Hold down the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**) and use the pads (**14**) to specify the pattern that you want to copy.
3. Press the pad to which you want to paste the pattern.

Copying a pattern for an individual instrument

1. Switch patterns by pressing the pad for the pattern that you want to copy.
2. Hold down the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**) and press the INST select button(s) (**12**) of the instrument(s) that you want to copy. (Multiple selections are allowed.)
3. When you've specified the instrument(s), press the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**)
4. Press the pad (**14**) to which you want to paste the pattern.

Lock pattern data

Turn the [TEMPO] knob while holding down the [PTN SELECT] button to lock or unlock the current pattern.
When pattern is locked any editing is erased in the case of turning off the power or choosing another pattern.

Sync reset

Press the [START/STOP] button while holding down the [TAP] button. When you play a pattern, it returns to the beginning immediately.

Edit Pattern A/B while playing the sequencer

Press the [A] or the [B] button while holding down the [TR-REC] button.

Deleting a pattern

1. Press the [PTN SELECT] button (**3**)
2. Hold down the [CLEAR] button (**2**) and use the pads (**14**) to specify the pattern that you want to delete.
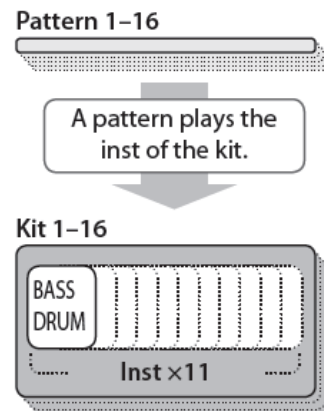
Changing Kits/Instruments

What is a "KIT"?

The 11 instruments are collectively called a "kit." The TR-8 has 16 kits. The pattern plays the instruments of the currently selected kit.

Changing kits

1. Press the DRUM SELECT [KIT] button (**3**)
2. Press a lit pad (**14**) to select a kit. The selected pad blinks.

Pattern 1–16

A pattern plays the inst of the kit.

Kit 1–16

BASS DRUM

Inst ×11

You can select the kit number via program change messages.

Changing an instrument's sound (tone)

This modifies the kit that is selected.

1. Press the DRUM SELECT [INST] button (**3**).
2. Use the INST select buttons (**12**) to select the instrument whose tone you want to change.
3. Press a lit pad (**14**) to select its tone. The selected pad blinks.

Changing an instrument's pan

Hold down the INST select button (**12**) and turn the [TEMPO] knob. (L64–0–R63)

Changing the type of reverb/delay/side chain

Press the [STEP] button (**8** **9** **10**) and use the pads (**14**) to change the type of delay, reverb, or side chain.

Turning each instrument's reverb/delay on/off

1. Press the DRUM SELECT [KIT] button (**3**).
2. Hold down the [STEP] button (**8** **9**) and use the INST select buttons (**12**) to turn the setting on/off.

INST-REC (Realtime Recording)

In this method of recording, you create a pattern by recording your performance on the pads (**14**) in real time. *Real time recording can also be done via MIDI.*
This will modify the pattern that is selected.

1. Press the [INST REC] button (**3**).
2. Press the [START/STOP] button (**6**) to start recording.
3. Perform on the pads (**14**).

    * Operations in the INST edit section (**11**) are not recorded.

Deleting a recorded instrument from the pattern

Function	Operation
Deleting a specific region	During playback, hold down the [CLEAR] button (**2**); the instrument that's selected by the INST select buttons (**12**) is deleted from the region of the pattern that plays while you hold down the [CLEAR] button.
Deleting all notes	Hold down the INST select button (**12**) of the instrument that you want to delete, and press the [CLEAR] (**2**) button.

TR-REC (Step Recording)

In this method of recording, you create a pattern by specifying the steps at which each instrument will sound.
This will modify the pattern that is selected. You can even play back the pattern while you're creating it.

1. Press the [TR-REC] button (**3**).
2. Use the variation buttons to select either A or B.
   If A and B are playing consecutively, you can hold down [B] and press [A] to select A, or hold down [A] and press [B] to select B.
3. Use the [SCALE] button (**13**) to specify the scale.
4. Press one of the INST select buttons (**12**) to select the instrument that you want to record.
5. Use the pads (**14**) to specify the steps at which you want the selected instrument to sound.
6. Repeat steps 3–4.

Specifying the length of the pattern (LAST STEP)

Here's how to specify the number of steps that the pattern will contain.

Hold down the [LAST STEP] button (**4**) and press a pad (**14**) to specify the last step.
* You can't specify LAST STEP if multiple patterns are selected.

Specifying accents

1. Press the [STEP] button (**7**).
2. Press the pads (**14**) for each step at which you want to add an accent.
3. Use the [LEVEL] knob (**7**) to adjust the volume of the accent.

Applying reverb or delay

1. Press the [STEP] button (**8 9**).
2. Use the pads (**14**) to specify the steps at which you want to apply reverb or delay.
3. Use the knobs such as [LEVEL] and [TIME] (**8 9**) to adjust the parameters.

Deleting a recorded instrument from the pattern

Refer to ➔"INST-REC"

Various Settings

Restoring the Factory Settings (Factory Reset)

Here's how to return the TR-8 to its factory-set state.

1. While holding down the [CLEAR] button, turn on the power.
   The display indicates "rSt" and the [START/STOP] button blinks. If you decide to cancel the factory reset, turn off the power.
2. Press the [START/STOP] button to execute the factory reset.
3. When the display indicates "CNP," turn the TR-8's power off, then on again.

System Settings

1. While holding down the [PTN SELECT] button, turn on the power.
   The [START/STOP] button blinks. If you decide not to make settings, turn off the power.
2. Use the [TEMPO] knob and the pads to change the settings.

Parameter	Controller	Explanation	
MIDI channel	[TEMPO] knob	OFF, C1–C16	Specifies the MIDI transmit/receive channel. The display indicates the channel. (default: C10)
		ONn (OMNI)	MIDI messages of all channels are received. The MIDI transmit channel will be 10.
MIDI clock source	[1]	Lit (AUTO)	If MIDI clock is being input to the MIDI IN connector or the USB port, the TR-8's tempo will automatically synchronize to MIDI clock (default). ** If MIDI clock is being simultaneously input from the MIDI IN connector and from the USB port, the USB port takes priority.*
		Unlit (INTERNAL)	The TR-8 operates at the tempo specified on the unit itself. Choose the "INTERNAL" setting if you don't want to synchronize to an external device.
MIDI through	[2]	Lit (ON)	Specifies whether data received from the MIDI IN connector will be retransmitted from the MIDI OUT connector (ON: default) or Unlit (OFF) will not be retransmitted (OFF).
		Unlit (OFF)	
BOOST mode	[3]	Lit (ON)	Boosts the output level of the MIX OUT jacks.
		Unlit (OFF)	

EXTERNAL IN select	[4]	Lit (STEREO)	Specifies whether the audio input from the EXTERNAL IN jacks will be stereo (default setting) or mono x 2.
		Unlit (MONO)	
ASSIGNABLE OUT A	Hold down variation [A]		If the INST select button or the EXTERNAL IN section's [STEP] button is lit, that instrument is output to ASSIGNABLE OUT A.
ASSIGNABLE OUT B	Hold down variation [B]		If the INST select button or the EXTERNAL IN section's [STEP] button is lit, that instrument is output to ASSIGNABLE OUT B
Screen-saver	Hold down [TAP] and turn the [TEMPO] knob		Specifies the time until the screen saver is shown. If this is OFF, the screen saver is not shown. (default: 5 min)
PROGRAM-MING MODE	[TR-REC]	Lit (PAD)	Each time you press the pad, the setting is switched in the order of Strong -> Weak -> Off. By holding down the INST select button and pressing a pad, you can enter a weak note (default value).
		Unlit (INST)	
EFFECT MODE	[KIT]	Lit (KIT)	The effect type is saved in the kit. All kits use the same effect type (default value).
		Unlit (SYSTEM)	

3. Press the [START/STOP] button to save the settings.
    The settings are saved, and the TR-8 restarts.

Switching the pattern sequencer's operating mode

Now you can change the operating mode of the pattern sequencer.
* Until Ver. 1.11, the sequencer operated with timing that models the TR-808.
1. While holding down the [PTN SELECT] button, turn on the power.
2. Press pad [7] to switch the operating mode.

| ON (lit) | The pattern sequencer operates with precise timing. |
| OFF (unlit) | The pattern sequencer operates with timing that models the TR-808. (Default) |

Data backup/restore

Backup

1. Hold down [STEP2] and switch on the power.
2. Connect your computer to the TR-8's USB port via USB cable.
3. Open the "TR-8" drive folder on your computer.
4. Copy the TR-8 kit/pattern files in the "BACKUP" folder to your computer.

KIT 1–16	TR8_KIT1.PRM–TR8_KIT16.PRM
PATTERN 1–16	TR8_PTN1.PRM–TR8_PTN16.PRM

5. After copying is completed, disconnect the USB cable.
   Windows 8/7: Right-click on the "TR-8" icon in "My Computer" and execute "Eject."
   Mac OS: Drag the "TR-8" icon to the Trash icon in the Dock.
6. Turn the TR-8 power off.

Restore

1. Hold down [STEP2] and switch on the power.
2. Connect your computer to the TR-8 USB port via USB cable.
3. Open the "TR-8" drive folder on your computer.
4. Copy the TR-8 kit/pattern files into the "RESTORE" folder.
5. After copying is completed, disconnect the USB cable.
   Windows 8/7: Right-click on the "TR-8" icon in "My Computer" and execute "Eject."
   Mac OS: Drag the "TR-8" icon to the Trash icon in the Dock.
6. Turn the TR-8 power off.

MIDI Settings

MIDI Local On/Off and MIDI Controller mode

1. Stop the sequencer.
2. Turn the [SCATTER] knob while holding down the [LAST STEP] button.

LOCAL ON	It produces sound through any operation including external MIDI message.
LOCAL OFF	It produces sound only through external MIDI message.
MIDI CONTROLLER	It doesn't produce sound through any operation, only outputs MIDI message.

MIDI implementation of scatter via control change

CC#70	SCATTER SW
CC#68	SCATTER TYPE
CC#69	SCATTER DEPTH

MIDI implementation of effect via note messages

C0	ACCENT PATTERN ALL ON/OFF
D0	REVERB PATTERN ALL ON/OFF
E0	DELAY PATTERN ALL ON/OFF
F0	EXT. IN PATTERN ALL ON/OFF
G0	ACCENT PATTERN ALL MUTE
A0	REVERB PATTERN ALL MUTE
B0	DELAY PATTERN ALL MUTE
C1	EXT. IN PATTERN ALL MUTE

MIDI Off

No MIDI messages are transmitted out when the MIDI channel is set to OFF.

Option to receive or ignore MIDI play/stop messages

1. While holding down the [PTN SELECT] button, turn on the power.
2. Press [STEP6].

ON	Only MIDI clock is received
OFF	MIDI clock, play, and stop messages are received (default)