

Blackbox 2 Quick Start Guide

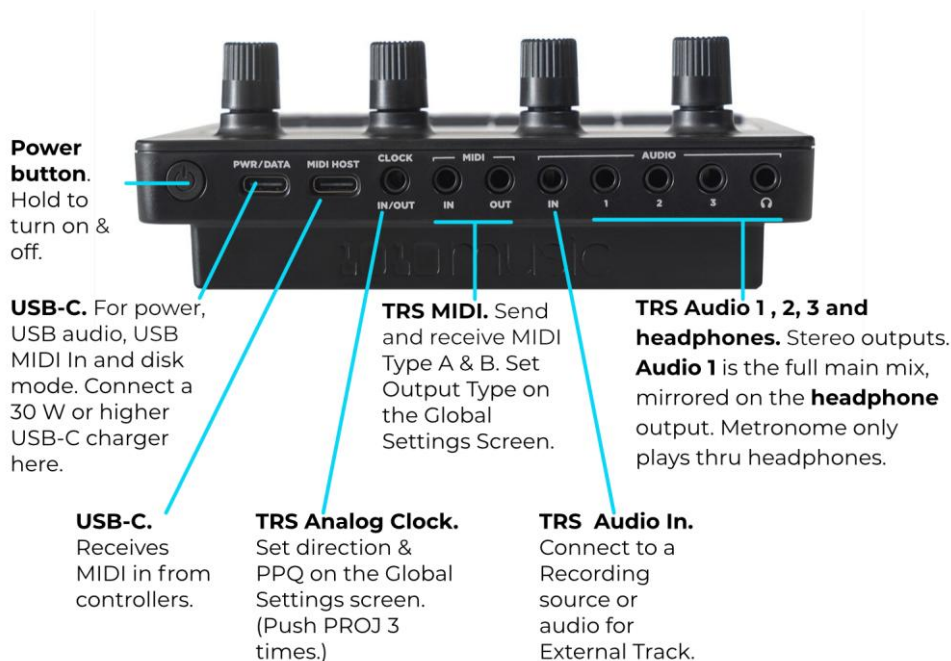
Welcome to blackbox 2, a compact, battery-powered desktop sampler and sequencer. This guide gets you from the box to your first beat — and your first sample — in a few minutes. For the full story on every screen, see the **Blackbox 2 User Guide** at 1010music.com/downloads.

What's in the Box



- Blackbox 2
- 2 MIDI adapters
- A microSD card, in the box or pre-installed
- A USB-C power cable
- A USB-C Power/Data splitter.

First-Time Setup



Note: All TRS jacks are 3.5 mm.

1. Insert the microSD card with the contacts facing down until it latches. Always power off before inserting or removing it. The microSD card slot is on the right edge.
2. Connect the **PWR/DATA** port to a 20 W or higher USB-C charger with the included cable, then hold the **power button** until the mode buttons light up.
3. Connect **Audio 1** to your mixer, interface, or amp, or plug headphones into the 🎧 jack.

First time only: Set the clock on the Global Settings screen (press **PROJ** three times, push Down to select a row and use the knobs to set the **Date** and **Time** parameters, and tap **Set Time**). Check for a firmware update at 1010music.com/downloads. Your installed version appears at the lower-left when you press **PROJ**.

Find Your Way Around

Knobs. 4 endless encoders adjust the parameters in the knob bar.

Knob Bar. Context specific controls. Tap to toggle the knob row focus when more than one row of knob labels is visible.

Arrow Buttons. Use Left/Right arrows to change the selected track, pad, sample, sequence or scene. Use Up/Down arrows to change the knob focus or scroll within a sequence.



Touchscreen: Tap to select and trigger. Use pinch and swipe gestures to zoom and scroll. Double-tap to open items. (Double-tap won't open something that triggers audio with a tap.)

Mode Buttons. Push to access the related function. On some buttons, pushing again opens further views or more details.

Transport Buttons. Control audio, loop, sequence and song recording and playback.

Footer. Look here for context labels, view selectors, buttons, status info, clock (bars:beats), battery level and menu.

How Blackbox 2 Works

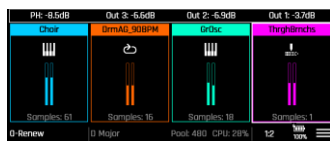
A **project** holds **four tracks**, and each track is one instrument — a drum pad bank, tempo-synced loops, a pitched multisample, a sliced sample, a granular “shredder,” or an external track that plays outboard gear. The **transport (PLAY / STOP)** drives loops and sequences, so they only play while it is running. You drive everything from the touchscreen, the four **knobs**, and the labeled **mode buttons**. And remember: **Blackbox 2 does not save automatically.**

Hear It First



1. Press **PROJ** to open the Project Browser.
2. Touch a project, then touch **Load** — or double-tap it. You are back on the TRACKS screen.
3. Press **PLAY** and **STOP** to control playback.
4. Adjust the volume by turning the Out 1 knob for Audio 1, or the PH knob for headphones.

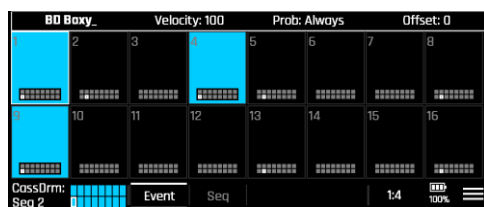
Play a Track



1. Press **TRACKS** to see all four tracks.
2. Touch a track to select it.
3. Press **INST** (or double-tap the track) to open its pads, keys, or slices.
4. Touch them to play the instrument.
5. For tracks with the Loop icon (shown on the orange track to the left), press **PLAY** to launch the armed loops.

You can also play a track from a MIDI controller connected to the TRS MIDI In or USB-C MIDI HOST port. The factory projects map track 1 to MIDI channel 1, track 2 to channel 2, and so on.

Load a Patch and Create Your First Beat



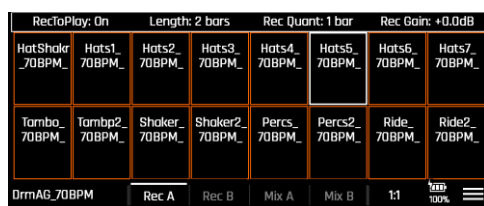
1. Push **PROJ** then tap New. Enter a name to create a new project.
2. Double-tap the left track to open the Patch browser.
3. Set the Type knob to **One-Shot**, and tap **All** in the Instruments list to filter the list.
4. Tap to select the **Club Kit** patch and then tap **Load**. You now have a one-shot track selected.
5. Press **SEQ** to open the Step Sequencer — a grid of 16 steps (shown above).
6. Tap **Event** to edit the event settings.
7. Turn the **left** knob to pick a pad; start with a kick.
8. Tap steps to place hits — try steps 1, 5, 9, and 13.

9. Turn the **left** knob to pick another pad (a snare, then hats) and add more.
10. Press **PLAY** to hear it loop. Watch the white square move through the steps as the sequence plays.
11. Push **STOP** to stop.

Prefer to play it in? Press **INST**, then **REC+PLAY**, and tap the pads in time — Blackbox 2 records as you play. Select a different sequence to record into on the **LAUNCH** screen.

Sample Your Own Sound

Blackbox 2 is a sampler, so you can capture your own audio. The easiest first sample is a **resample** of the beat you just made.



1. Push **Launch**, then turn the Met Gain knob down to -20dB to adjust the level of the metronome.
2. Press **TRACKS** to see all of the tracks.
3. Tap track 2 to select the empty track, then tap **INST** to open the patch browser.
4. Tap **New**, then **Loop** to create an empty Loop Track. You will see the Loop Bank screen (shown above).
5. Tap **Rec B** in the footer to enter recording mode.
6. Turn **Rec Input** (knob 1) to **Resample** to capture blackbox 2's own output.
7. Tap **Rec A**, then set Length to 4 bars.
8. Press **REC + PLAY** to start playing and recording the sequence. Recording will Stop after 4 bars, but the sequence will continue to play.
9. Your new sample is loaded into the Loop track and ready to play. Press and hold **STOP** for 3 seconds to disarm all sequences.
10. Tap the pad you just recorded to arm the loop, then push **Play**. You can now hear a resampled recording of your sequence.
11. Push **TRACKS** to watch the meters on each track and confirm that the Club Kit track is no longer playing.

Save Your Work

Blackbox 2 does **not** save automatically. If you load another project or power down without saving, your changes are lost.

1. Press **PROJ** to open the Project Browser.
2. Touch **Save** to write your changes to the same project, or **Save As** to keep the original and save your changes under a new name. All work is saved on the microSD card.

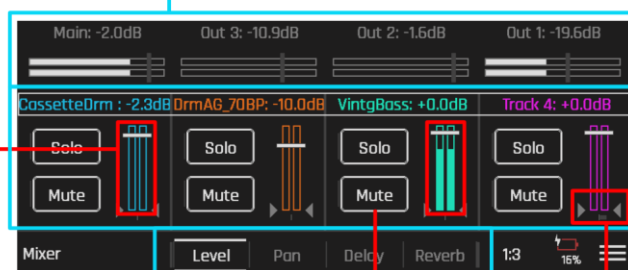
Control the Mix

Outputs Meter Bridge. When selected, the knobs control output levels. Meters show audio levels. Bars across meters indicate the level setting.

Tracks Meter Bridge. When selected, the knobs control track settings. Choose a setting to control with the Mode Selectors.

Track Level Meter.

Horizontal bar is the level setting indicator.



Mode Selectors. Only Level is available for the Output Meter Bridge. The currently active setting indicators change to white to show the selected meter bridge and mode.

Solo and Mute. Tap to toggle the state for each track. Solo overrides Mute.

Track Setting Indicators. Left Triangle = Delay Send. Right Triangle = Reverb Send. Bottom bar = Pan position.

Note: Use **UP** and **DOWN** arrows to select a meter bridge.

No Sound?

- Is the transport running? Press **PLAY**. Loops and sequences play only while the transports are running.
- Is the track muted or its level down? Check the **Mixer**.
- Are you monitoring the right output? Audio 1 and the headphone jack carry the main mix. Only the headphones jack carries the metronome.
- Is the main level up? Is the output level up? Check the **Mixer**.
- Is the audio cable pushed all the way into the jack?

Charge Your Blackbox 2

The Quickest Way to charge your battery to 100%: Plug in, power on, power off, then wait a few hours.

Use a 20 W or higher USB charger.

What to Do Next

Look through the Blackbox 2 User Guide available at **1010music.com/downloads**. The manual covers many more features, such as:

- Crafting the sound for each track type
- Creating and launching sequences and loop groups
- Assembling sequences and loop groups into Scenes
- Applying bused effects and DJ style effects
- Recording multi-sample sets
- Using MIDI to play tracks and control settings
- Export your song

Make sure you have the latest firmware. Check for the latest at **<https://1010music.com/downloads>**, then learn how to update in the **Blackbox 2 User Guide**.

Join the Community on the 1010music official Discord server and learn from other blackbox 2 users. You can join at **<https://discord.com/invite/FnmVWbzAeQ>**.

Get Support by contacting us through **<https://1010music.com/contact-us>**.

Watch Video tutorials on the 1010music channel on YouTube at **<https://www.youtube.com/1010music>**.