

Ultra-Thin 25-key Synthesizer
with integrated Master Keyboard and
Audio/MIDI Interface

Xsynth

Quick Start Guide

artesia PRO



Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of **Xsynth**, a portable synthesizer, based on the Xkey series, fitted with a MIDI and Audio interface. Perfect for mobile use and fulfilling ideas, wherever you go.

This manual is written for beginners and more experienced users alike.

In order to save our planet and our oceans, only this Quick-start manual has been printed. You will find the full manual on our web site. The full manual will also be updated regularly, which would not be possible if it was printed.

Software

PLEASE NOTE THE ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE, TO GET STARTED RIGHT AWAY

TO DOWNLOAD, SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO THE FOLLOWING PAGE:

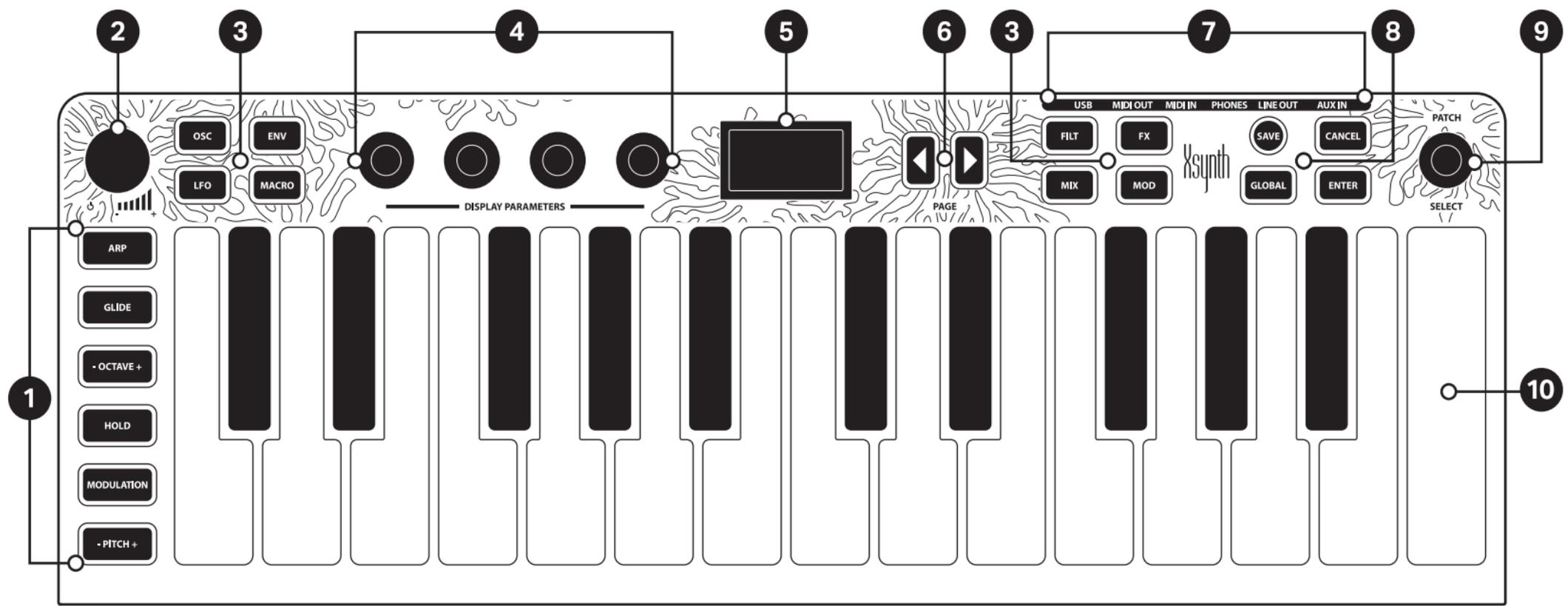
<http://en.esi.ms/131>

MORE INFORMATION: www.esi-audio.com



General Overview

1. Keyboard control buttons
2. I/O and Volume potentiometer
3. Module buttons
4. Display Parameters encoders
5. Display
6. Page ◀▶ buttons
7. Connectors
8. System buttons
9. Patch Select encoder
10. Keyboard



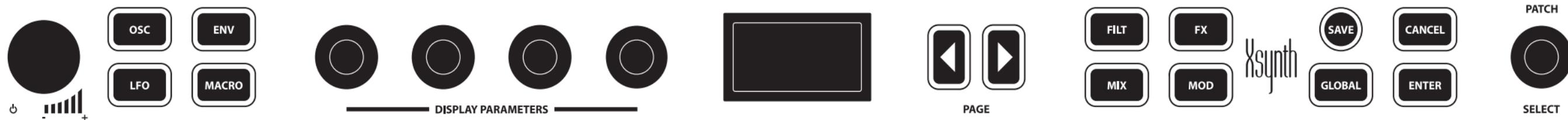
Using the Synthesizer

Turn the **PATCH SELECT** encoder on the upper right corner of the device to change through patches. Press some keys to hear a sound.

To adjust the sound settings: Choose a Module that you want to adjust, for example the Oscillators. Press the corresponding button (**OSC** in this case) to call up the Page for this module.

The button will light up, this shows which module is currently selected. Adjust the settings shown on the screen by turning the four **DISPLAY PARAMETERS** to the left hand side of the screen. These encoders are mapped to the parameters on the screen from left to right or from top to bottom. Press the button of the Module again to access further instances (**OSC1/2/3 etc.**) Press the **PAGE** ◀ ▶ buttons for advanced settings.

To create an Init patch, press **GLOBAL**, then **ENTER**. To access the system settings, press **GLOBAL** several times. If you want to use MIDI In or Out, you may have to activate it in the **GLOBAL** settings.



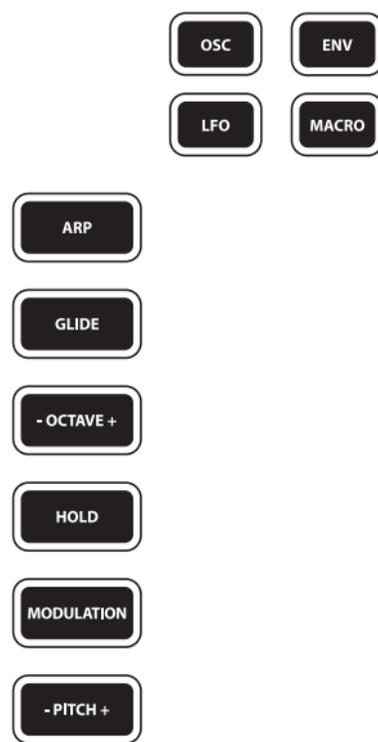
Using the Keyboard

By default, **Xsynth's** keyboard is linked to the internal synth engine. You can press the keys at any position. These have mechanics similar to space bars on QWERTY keyboards, so the **Xsynth** keys will not get wedged. Keys produce Velocity and polyphonic Aftertouch.

To shift the Keyboard up or down, press the **- OCTAVE +** button at the left hand side of the keyboard. Press it at the left side for **-**, at the right side for **+**.

The **MODULATION** button is pressure sensitive. **- PITCH +** is also pressure sensitive, but in two ways: the more you press on the left side, the lower the pitch and vice-versa for the right side.

If you want to use MIDI In or Out, you may have to activate it in the **GLOBAL** settings. Press **MACRO** and **GLOBAL** to access the **MIDI CC** page. Then, the four encoders to the left hand side of the display will transmit CC messages when turned.



Using the Audio interface

Connect **Xsynth** to your computer through USB.

Your computer will automatically recognize **Xsynth** as an audio interface and MIDI interface.

Connect your external signal to **AUX IN** of **Xsynth**. Connect **Xsynth LINE OUT** to your speaker system/Mixing console/audio interface/amplifier etc. or connect your headphones to **PHONES**.

The audio interface must be activated in **GLOBAL**.

How to update

Download our Editor and newest firmware from **esi-audio.com**. Open the Editor and go to **GLOBAL>Update firmware**. Select the update file and click **OK**.

Observe the progress bar on your computer as **Xsynth** may not show anything on screen. Wait until the process is finished. Usually, this only takes a few minutes. On larger updates, this may take 15 minutes or more.

While the update is running:

- Do not switch Xsynth off.
- Do not play any notes on Xsynth and do not touch any of the controls.
- Do not send any other MIDI data towards Xsynth.
- Do not terminate the connection to your computer.
- Do not run anything on your computer that causes a high CPU and/or RAM usage.

NOTE: **Xsynth** must be connected through USB for the update process.

Please wait until the Editor displays that the update is finished. Then, restart **Xsynth** to finish the update.

Troubleshooting

Xsynth does not switch on ►

Check the USB connection. Try a different USB cable or connect it to a different port on your computer. If you use **Xsynth** without a computer, make sure the power supply works correctly. The **Volume potentiometer** also works as an I/O switch. Turn it clockwise to switch on **Xsynth**.

There is no sound output ►

Make sure **Xsynth** is switched on. Check your cable connections, try different cables. Cables with a plug diameter larger than 10mm may be too big to fit. Restart **Xsynth** and recheck. Press the **MIX** button and make sure that at least one oscillator is at an audible volume. Check the modulations in **MOD** if there are modulations that change the volume. If you are using MIDI, make sure that MIDI is activated in the **GLOBAL** settings. Check if **Xsynth** is set to the same MIDI Rx channel as the sending device.

Check that the **Filter Cutoff** is not set to zero (or maximum when using High pass), check the corresponding modulations. Check the effects, make sure no effect has a **Post level** of zero. Check **GLOBAL**, page 3: **Channel vol.** This must not be zero. Update the firmware and retry.

I cannot access the system settings. When pressing Global, the display just says „Init Sound, Press ENTER“►

Press **GLOBAL** again, then the system settings will be shown.

Xsynth does not react to MIDI ►

Make sure that **GLOBAL>DIN MIDI In To Engine** is set to **Enable**. Check if **GLOBAL>MIDIRxCh** is set to **ALL** or the same MIDI channel as the sending device. Check your cable connections. When using DIN MIDI, the MIDI Out of the sending device needs to be connected to the MIDI In of

Xsynth. If you are using a 3.5mm to 3.5mm jack cable, make sure the other device has the same pin configuration as **Xsynth**.

Xsynth does not connect to my computer through USB ►

Do not use front USB, a USB hub or longer extension cables. Try other cables or different USB ports on your computer. If you use a computer which is so fancy that it does not have native USB support, try a different hub/bridge adapter or try another computer. Remove all other USB devices except for a mouse. Check if dust has accumulated in **Xsynth's** or your computer's USB ports. Make sure the Audio Interface is activated in the **GLOBAL** menu.

Xsynth is not recognized as a MIDI device by a standalone device with USB MIDI host ►

Some standalone sequencers or controllers with MIDI host have difficulties with **Xsynth**, as this is a combo device with MIDI and audio interface. Try disabling the audio interface in **GLOBAL** or use DIN MIDI instead.

I cannot record a signal on AUX IN on my computer ►

Check if the AUX cable is plugged in correctly. Open the **Editor** and select the **OSC** page. Look at the **MIXER** section. Set **Ext Source** to **Analog** and make sure the **External** value is not zero. **Xsynth** does not have a mic preamp and cannot supply phantom power. Use an external mic preamp if necessary.

Xsynth has crashed and does not react to any inputs anymore ►

First, restart your device. Make sure **Xsynth** is using the most current firmware. Check back with our web site for

the current version. This may be caused by sending too much data through MIDI to **Xsynth**. Avoid sending MIDI data to **Xsynth** which was meant for a different device. If possible, avoid sending unnecessary CC or Sysex messages.

If you can reproduce a crash, please contact our support team with a detailed description.

There is an issue with Xsynth while the device is connected to other hardware ►

Disconnect everything but a power supply and a pair of headphones. If the issue is gone, it may possibly be caused by one of the other devices and not **Xsynth** itself. Connect the other devices one by one and re-check inbetween if the issue is back. This might help identifying the source.

The updating process has failed ►

Check your USB connection. Restart the Editor once and reboot Xsynth two times. Then try updating again. If your

computer recognizes Xsynth as a device named „RWAHK“ or similar, press **Refresh** in the **Editor** and retry performing the update. Repeat this process up to 5 times if needed. If it still does not work then, please contact our support.

There is a setting I would like to adjust, but I cannot find it on Xsynth ►

Many additional settings can be accessed through the **Editor**. Sound-related requests might be solved through the Mod Matrix.

The Aftertouch or MODULATION button do not seem to do anything ►

These controls have to be used in the Mod Matrix to a destination before they have any effect. Note that the **MODULATION** button (=Mod wheel) is pressure sensitive.

I have connected Xsynth to a different device, but Aftertouch messages do not seem to be transmitted ►

Xsynth produces Polyphonic Aftertouch, not all devices are compatible to this. If necessary, use the **Editor>GLOBAL>AT type>Channel** setting. Then, **Xsynth** sends Channel Aftertouch messages which can be received by most devices.

Xsynth wildly plays a lot of notes which cannot be stopped ►

Deactivate **ARP** and **HOLD** by pressing the buttons at the left hand side of the keyboard. If you are connected to a computer or other MIDI device, make sure you have not created a MIDI feedback loop.

How can I change the internal tempo of Xsynth from 120 to something else ►

Use **Arpeggiator>Tempo**.

How do I connect a Sustain Pedal to Xsynth ►

Connect an external MIDI device to **Xsynth** which has a pedal jack and connect your pedal there. Send the MIDI output of this device to **Xsynth**. You may also use the **HOLD** button on **Xsynth** instead. Due to its compact size, **Xsynth** itself does not feature a pedal jack.

General Information

If something is not working as expected, please don't simply return the product and use our technical support options via www.esi-audio.com, www.artesia-pro.com or contact your local distributor.

Please also check our extensive **Knowledge Base** with Frequently Asked Questions and technical details about our products in the support section of the **ESI website**.

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Disclaimer:

All features and specifications subject to change without notice. Parts of this document are continually being updated. Please check our web sites www.esi-audio.com and www.artesia-pro.com occasionally for the most recent update information.

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