

RETROAKTIV

PG-800 MINI

CONTROLLER FOR ROLAND JX-8P, SUPER JX & MKS-70

Installation Manual & User Guide



GETTING STARTED

Thank you for purchasing a PG-800 Mini controller. This product allows for hands-on programming of the Roland JX-8P, Super JX, and MKS-70 synthesizers.

The PG-800 Mini is available as a stand-alone desktop unit that connects to the JX via a cord, or it can be mounted directly inside of the instrument itself. (JX-8P and Super JX models only) The PG-800 Mini was designed to take advantage of the blank panel space in the JX-8P and Super JX, where it fits easily into the upper right corner of the synth.

This product was based on a project by Bas at Poesboes.com entitled "Fitting your PG-800 with a new processor". His article can be viewed at this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/yc87fns2> This project would not have been possible without Bas and we appreciate his generosity and technical assistance. The firmware in the PG-800 Mini is different from the firmware available from Bas. Be aware of this if you ever need to flash the firmware in your unit. Firmware updates can be found at the PG-800 Mini product page at www.RetroaktivSynthesizers.com.

Many versions of the original JX firmware do not respond correctly to the WRITE command from the PG-800. By default, the WRITE button on the PG-800 Mini will act as a SCRATCH PROG and RANDOM PROG generator. To disable this function and allow the WRITE button to send WRITE commands to the synth, hold down MANUAL while powering up.

To begin using the programmer (Desktop unit), simply plug the 6-pin DIN cable into the PG-800 Mini and the synth. If you have a PG-800 Mini installed in your JX, the programmer starts up as soon as the synth is powered on.

FEATURES

The PG-800 Mini allows for easy, hands-on programming of Roland JX-8P, Super JX, and MKS-70 synthesizers. While incorporating all of the features of the original PG-800, the PG-800 Mini adds some useful new features.

- **RANDOM PROGRAM GENERATOR** - Holding the WRITE button for .8 seconds will generate a random sound.
- **SCRATCH PROGRAM** - Tapping the WRITE button once (for less than .8 seconds) will generate a basic program, which serves as a useful starting point when creating a new sound.
- **MANUAL** - Tapping the MANUAL button once will transmit the panel positions of all 44 controls to the synthesizer.
- **COPY/PASTE** - To copy the state of the PG-800 Mini's controls without actually transmitting them to the instrument, hold MANUAL for .8 seconds or more. Once the copy has been made, holding the MANUAL button will transmit the stored panel state to the synth. Once pasted, the memory will be cleared, and holding MANUAL will act as the copy function once again.
- **DISABLE PG-800 MINI** - Holding WRITE and MANUAL down together for 1 second will disable transmissions from the PG-800. This is useful if using the JX in a performance. Once in disable mode, tapping manual will return the PG-800 Mini to its normal state. Any controls that were moved while transmission was disabled will be updated upon enabling transmission.
- **WRITE MODE** - Holding the MANUAL button down on power-up will disable RANDOM/SCRATCH generators and WRITE button will transmit the "WRITE" message to the JX. Whether this function works correctly on a JX will depend on JX firmware. WRITE MODE is off by default.

THANK YOU

Thank you for using Retroaktiv products. Please visit us on the web at www.RetroaktivSynthesizers.com for product updates, new products, or to contact us. Enjoy the PG-800 Mini!