

PRESETS

WELL DONE. Now you have a total of ten different drum sounds - the five factory sounds and the five sounds that you have just programmed. There are various ways of switching between these sounds and the first is by using the blue "select" keys at the base of each channel. When depressed, the program selected on the relevant channel will change to the other option; i.e. factory to user programmed or vice versa. By using the blue "master select" key, the pre-sets of all five channels can be changed simultaneously from one to the other. This function can also be controlled by the remote footswitch, facilitating pre-set switching while playing.

AMPLIFYING AND RECORDING

The question of a recommended amplification system has no easy answer. Obviously, such variables as the size of venue and the type of music being played should affect your choice but remember, the SDS 8 has been provided with a stereo output in addition to the mono "mix" output and there is no doubt that stereo is better. There is also no doubt that drums sound best loud - at least as loud as conventional drums and by their very definition, "percussion" sounds are very percussive, therefore your chosen amplification system will have to be capable of reproducing very dynamic sounds, spanning a broad frequency range.

Which output should I use

The SDS 8 has seven outputs. Five of these are individual outputs for each channel of the synthesizer console and are labelled bass out, snare out, etc. The volume controls at the base of each channel do not affect the level of these outputs which is pre-set. The stereo output is a two channel, mixed output of all five drum channels. The relative level of each channel and the position of each drum within the stereo image is set using the "volume" and "pan" controls. Two volume controls marked left and right are provided to set the overall levels of the stereo output. Finally, the "mix" output is a mono, mixed output of all five drums with their relative levels set in the same way as for the stereo output. The overall level of this output is set by the control labelled "mix".

If the SDS 8 is being played live and you wish to utilise the facilities of an external mixing desk, the individual outputs should be used to connect the synthesizer console with five independent channels of the mixing desk. If vacant channels are in short supply, the stereo output may be utilised to connect the SDS 8 to two channels of an external mixing desk. Please note that the stereo output is a single, stereo jack socket and you may require a special lead. Ask your Simmons dealer for advice. When using either of these options the "mix" output can be utilised to send a signal to a monitor amplifier and speaker. This facility is invaluable when playing live with other musicians.

When recording with multi-track equipment, the individual outputs should be utilised to direct inject into the mixing desk, allowing perfect separation of drum tracks. If you are recording at home with a stereo tape deck, mix and pan the drums with the on-board mixing facilities of the SDS 8 and use the stereo output. At all times, ensure that the output of the SDS 8 is not overloading the input of ancillary equipment. If this occurs, decrease the level of the output with the relevant volume control.

PLAYING YOUR SDS 8

So, now your Simmons electronic drum kit is set up, connected up to a suitable amplification system and waiting to be played.

The choice of drum sticks and bass drum pedal is yours. The playing surfaces of the SDS 8 have been designed to emulate the response of a conventional drum head but we do recommend that you experiment with various weights of stick and select the type that suits you best. Similarly with bass drum beaters the choice is yours, however we do suggest that you avoid the use of wooden beaters. The playing surfaces will not wear out but will mark at the point of impact. These marks can be removed with a damp cloth.

The drum pads trigger the synthesizer dynamically. This means as the drum is struck harder, the characteristic of the sound changes. It gets louder, slightly brighter, has a harder attack and, dependent upon the setting of the "bend" control, varies slightly in pitch.

The vast range of effects, pedals and signal processors, previously available only to guitarists and keyboard players, are now available to you. Try experimenting with delay and flanging units by patching them into the output cable.

The master select footswitch, if used in the manner of a hi-hat pedal, creates a very interesting effect within rhythms. Try programming a very different, up sweeping snare drum sound and use it to accent a pattern played on the "factory" snare drum. This facility in effect provides you with ten drums to play.

Finally we would like to emphasize that the SDS 8 has been designed to allow drummers to be more creative with their range of sounds. Forget your preconceived notion of how a drum should sound and create your own. GOOD LUCK!

SPECIFICATION

Trigger range	Pads	5 mv Minimum	1.5v Maximum
	Sequencer	1 volt Minimum	15v Maximum

Maximum output occurs at 75mv and 7 volts respectively

Input Impedance	Pads	4.7k ohms
	Sequencer	18k ohms

Output Level (Max)	Mix	600mv (rms) low impedance
	Stereo	600mv (rms) low impedance
	Individual	600mv (rms) low impedance

Power requirements

UK, Europe, Australia	220v-240v 50Hz 5va
USA and Canada	110v-120v 60Hz 5va

Fuse	USA/Canada 500ma	UK/Europe/Australia 250ma
------	------------------	---------------------------

Dimensions

Small Pads	365mm	(corner-corner)
Bass Pad	555mm	(corner-corner)
Synthesizer Console	349mm x 289mm x 50mm	

Simmons Electronics Ltd reserve the right to alter any specification shown in this manual without prior notice.

WARRANTY

Any fault that, in the opinion of the appointed distributor who supplied this product, has not occurred through mis-use or operating practices other than those outlined in this manual, shall be repaired free of charge for a period of twelve months from the original date of purchase. In the event of a fault occurring, please contact your Simmons dealer first to ensure that the unit is malfunctioning.

This warranty is non-transferable, therefore please fill in the form and return it to the address below.

**Pro
PERCUSSION
CENTER** Inhaber
Alex Mühlbauer
Theresienstraße 60
8000 München 2
Tel. 0 89 / 23 50 03 - 04

gek. 22.5.84
[Signature]

NAME -----

ADDRESS -----

DATE OF PURCHASE ----- SERIAL NUMBER -----

PURCHASED FROM -----