

SIMMONS

electronic drums

Simmons Electronics Limited is situated in the ancient city of St Albans, some twenty five miles to the north of London. Occupying a new, 25,000 sq ft production facility, Simmons Electronic drums are manufactured to exacting standards, employing the latest production techniques and computer controlled test equipment. Simmons Electronics are represented by carefully chosen sales and service centres in over thirty countries and Simmons products are used by musicians worldwide.



I N T R O D U C T I O N

The rapid growth of Simmons Electronics is indicative of the extent to which drummers worldwide have welcomed the application of new technology to their instrument. It would not be unfair to say that there have been few exciting developments in drums over the past fifty years and Simmons, as the only company with the foresight to produce a full scale electronic drum kit, has justifiably become the world leader in the field of electronic percussion. Simmons feel that the company has provided drummers with their equivalent of the electric guitar or keyboard synthesizer and now have a duty to a continue developing new and more creative instruments. Therefore we are proud to bring you the latest generation of Simmons electronic drums.





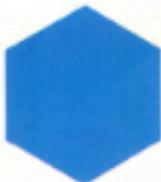
SDS 7

The advent of a truly classic instrument is a rare occurrence. The sort of instrument that revolutionises the musician's art and leaves its mark on the music of an era. The world's first electronic drum kit, the SDS5, was such an instrument. Its successor would have to embody its creative spirit while taking full advantage of relevant developments in technology. The SDS7 is a system fully equipped to shoulder such a responsibility.

The rack can house a maximum of twelve modules. Each has two independent sound sources; the analog section which generates the classic "Simmons sound" and the digital section which is a recording of a real drum stored in memory.

Various functions can be applied to the incremental controller, allowing the following sound processing facilities. The pitch of the analog and digital sound sources can be controlled independently, as can the amount of bend, (either up or down). Modulation of variable speed can be applied independently to each sound source and its depth can be individually controlled. At this point, a variable level of either or both of these sounds can be routed through a filter with control over cut-off frequency, sweep of cut-off frequency (up and down) and resonance and finally, the desired decay time is selected along with the level of the percussive "click" at the front of the sound. This unique flexibility provides an incredible range of sounds from real drums, through the classic "Simmons sound" to outrageous percussive effects.

The "programmer pad" enables one hundred different "drum kits" to be compiled. A "drum kit" is a selection of user-programmed sounds, one from each of the available modules. Therefore, when the rack houses a full complement of modules, twelve hundred different sounds can be programmed by the user for instant recall. A choice of sixteen pre-programmed "drum kits" can be selected by striking the appropriate section of the "selector pad." The newly designed hexagonal drum pads feature new "softened" playing surfaces, without compromising dynamic control. The mountings which clamp the pads to the stands are hidden inside the drum to enhance the visual image. We created a classic instrument — now we've created another.



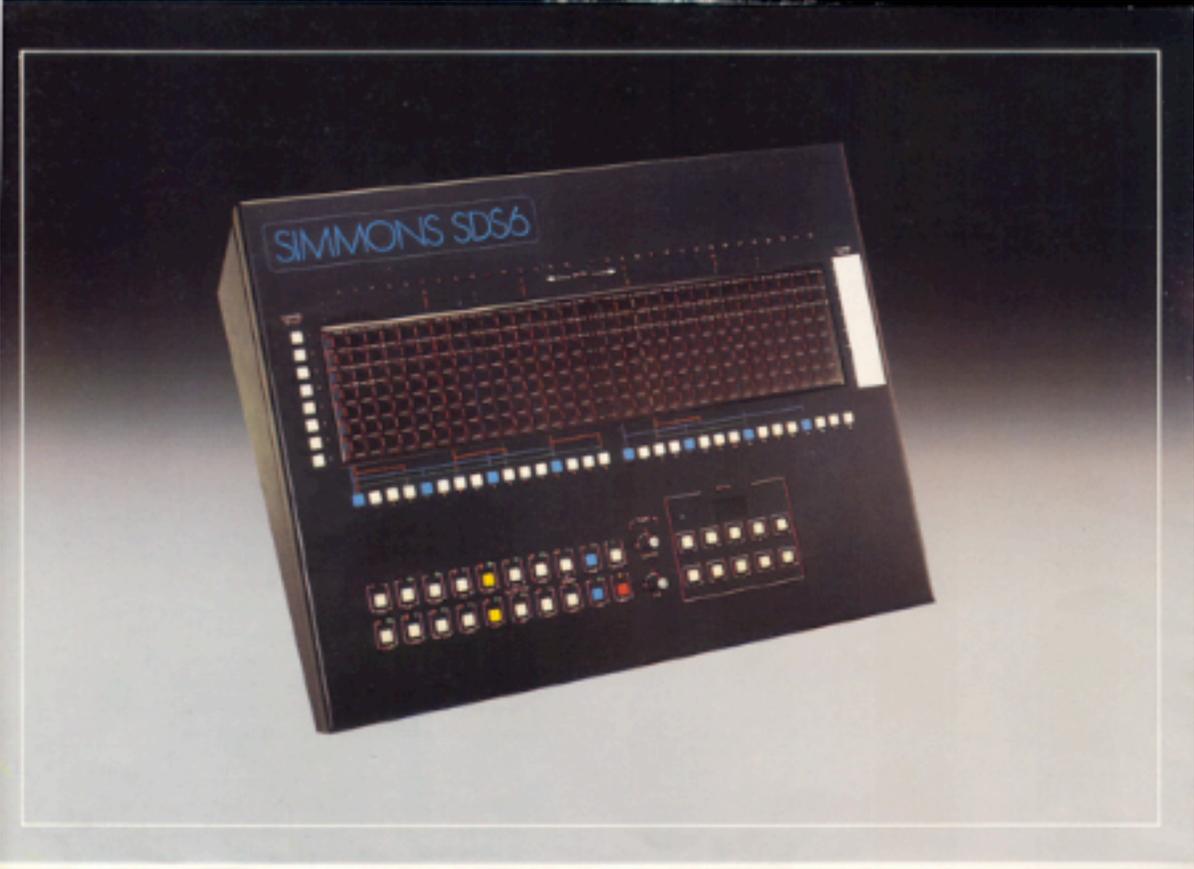


SDS 8

A combination of extensive research into the requirements of today's new breed of drummer, and a constant commitment to technical development has produced an electronic drum kit fully loaded with the new generation of "Simmons sounds" and packed with exciting features. The SDS8 is a full scale, professional electronic drum kit, with five separate channels for bass drum, snare drum, high, medium and low toms. Each channel has a classic Simmons factory pre-set sound plus a user programmable option with individual control over sensitivity, pitch, filter resonance, bend (up and down), decay, noise-tone balance and click content. There is a key switch at the base of each channel to select pre-set sounds and an overall master select, activated either by the key on the front panel or a remote footswitch to change all the channel pre-sets simultaneously. The unit is equipped with individual outputs for each drum, plus a stereo mixer on board and a multiway sequencer input to facilitate interfacing with the SDS6.

Hexagonal drum pads, available in 5 vibrant colours, provide the "human interface" for the SDS8. They allow unparalleled dynamic control and are secured to sturdy support stands by the newly developed "hidden" pad holder. The free-standing bass drum will accept most popular bass drum pedals and, like the other pads, is connected to the synthesizer with a heavy duty cable. No compromises — an electronic percussion system worthy of the name that revolutionised drums.





S D S 6

The SDS6 is a fully programmable eight channel sequencer designed specifically to trigger the SDS7 and 8 drum synthesizers. It allows the non-drummer and composer access to the exciting sounds of Simmons electronic drums, as well as widening the horizon of drummers and percussionists who wish to play "live" (using drum pads) over passages stored in the sequencer.

A unique system of green and red "option lights" guide the user through the method of programming a total of ninety-nine "patterns" of drum music, from which up to ninety-nine sequences can be compiled. Each sequence can be up to two hundred and fifty patterns long and in turn can be linked with other sequences to compose songs. Each pattern is displayed as it is compiled in drum music format by the "matrix" which can be accessed at any time to inform the user of the constitution of individual patterns, sequences and songs, and also of vacant memory locations. Every single drum "hit" can be assigned its own dynamic level from 1 to 9 and a variable humanizing control introduces a random feel. A comprehensive range of sync. inputs and outputs allow the SDS6 to work with a multitude of other electronic equipment and a tape sync. facility is provided along with program dumping to an external memory pack in 0.4 of a second, making a vast library of compositions instantly available.

S D S 6.7

The combination of the flexible programmability of the SDS6 with the extensive sound generating facilities of the SDS7 provides an extremely powerful and versatile electronic percussion system. The pads can be employed to play "live" over complex pre-programmed rhythmic compositions and at all times, the powerful control system of the SDS7 can be utilised to create and select an incredible range of sounds from straightforward digital drums to an infinite number of personally structured percussive effects.





CLAP TRAP

The Clap Trap has been designed to produce authentic and repeatable ensemble handclaps at your command — it can produce other sounds such as percussive crashes and bursts of noise to give a long decay to snare drums.

The instrument assembles it's characteristic sound by controllably blending a digital recording of people clapping, stored in memory, with a general background crash of white noise.

The recording is approximately 1.5 seconds long, however both the clap and noise components of the sound have individual controls governing pitch and decay time.

A switchable "humanizer" allows a different part of the digital recording to be outputted each time the unit is triggered, giving a random, human feel.

With a variety of possible trigger sources including footswitch, drum mic, tape track and of course, the SDS6, the clap trap is a handy little instrument, ideal for adding percussive handclaps to your music.





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