



Roland **VA-7**

V-ARRANGER KEYBOARD
128 VOICE POLYPHONY



One step closer to reality



Imagine a powerful arranger keyboard with breathtakingly real sounds and accompaniments that remind you of a band when you close your eyes. Imagine a keyboard that starts singing when you play a melody on the keyboard. With real voices that sing real lyrics. Imagine an arranger keyboard with powerful functions organized in such a way that anyone can use them.

Then open your eyes and take a close look at Roland's VA-7 V-Arranger Keyboard, and you will admit that Roland's approach to virtual technology has produced an exceptional instrument with exceptional features.

And best of all: though packed with countless innovations, the VA-7 is the most intuitive instrument ever. With a functional front-panel design, and a touch screen that sails you through the functions you need.

The Virtual Band helps you set up your instrument by answering a few straightforward questions (in six languages) and provides very convincing accompaniments. And exceptional sounds we call "V" Tones that, for the first time ever, do not stop at the generation of the most vibrant instruments ever but also provide all the "noises" typically associated with these sounds.

Take, for instance, the acoustic guitars. By playing a low note (using the Octave function), you can produce the typical scraping noises. Press the key next to it, and the virtual guitarist starts knocking on the guitar body. Baffling! And how about a trumpet sound that is muted when you strike the keys lightly, and changes into a full-blown trumpet at higher velocities? Or a cymbal where you can clearly tell where the stick hits the bell or the cymbal proper? Or real vibrato instead of a mechanic-sounding LFO, and breath noises that take your breath away? Hearing is believing. The VA-7 is nothing short of amazing.

But the real icing on the VA-7's cake is a technology we call VariPhrase. This function allows you to play vocal phrases in any key and at any tempo, as single notes or harmonies, with lyrics and all. Calling it "sampling" would be like saying that an MP3 player is a gramophone. It may be based on the same fundamental concept of audio triggering via the keyboard. But it goes way beyond anything deemed possible only a few months ago. The VA-7 can really sing.

The VA-7 V-Arranger Keyboard will take your musical dreams and endeavors to new heights, whether you're a professional entertainer or a discriminating music enthusiast.

This virtual instrument is for real!

Perfect sonic control

Multitimbral parts available on the VA-7

Realtime parts:

Upper 1, Upper 2, Lower 1, Lower 2, Manual Bass, Manual Drums, VariPhrase, Audio In

Remarks: Upper 1 and Upper 2 can be layered, split (2nd split point) or used in Up2-to-Left mode, where Upper 1 plays the topmost note, and Upper 2 the remaining notes. Lower 1 and 2 can be layered (with added Manual Bass part).

Arranger parts:

Accompaniment Drums, Accompaniment Bass, Accompaniment 1~ 16 Melody Intelligence
Melody Intelligence adds harmonies to the Upper 1 notes.

Song parts:

Song parts 1~16

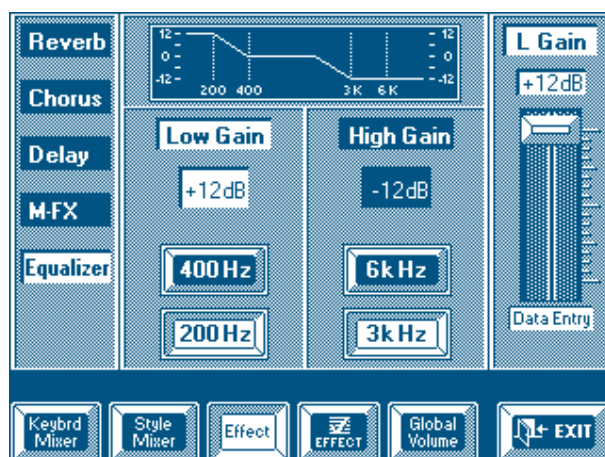
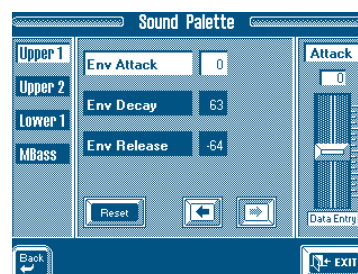
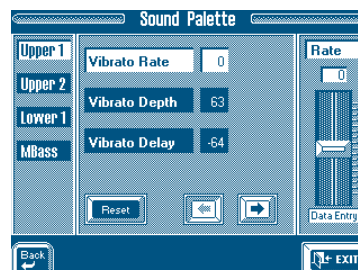
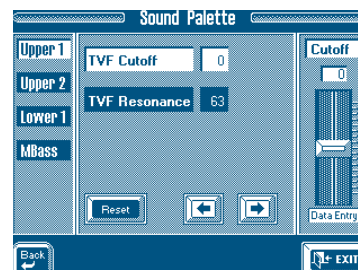
Far from an "upgraded" model, the VA-7 V-Arranger keyboard is an entirely new kind of arranger keyboard. A powerful 128-voice sound source uses extensive layering and velocity switching to create some of the most realistic and expressive sounds ever. These include aspects like real vibrato, scraping noises, knocks on the guitar body, etc. Extensive built-in velocity switching allows for changing a mute trumpet into a "full-blown" one, or to generate guitar bendings/hammer-ons simply by striking the keys more forcefully.

As for the drum sounds, they include real ambience, left-hand/right-hand snare sounds (D2, E2) allowing you to play stunningly realistic rolls, real flams, positional changes of the stick on a cymbal controlled by your playing force, and so on. With 118 Drum Sets to choose from, you're bound to create as big a bang with the drums as with your solos.

The Tone selection system is more flexible than ever: thanks to the Preferred Tone function, you can choose the Variation (or Capital) that is recalled whenever you enter the Tone's group/bank/number address. This saves you one step in the selection process! Of course, Tone selection for the VA-7 parts can also be written to the 128 User Programs.

The VA-7 even provides Tone editing functions for the Realtime parts, while they can also be velocity-switched.

For added convenience, the VA-7 comes with three Scale Tune memories that allow you to program oriental and Asian scales. (the 12 notes are now accessible via the touch screen).



The VA-7 provides countless possibilities for adding expression to what you are playing. The D Beam™ Controller can be used for changes to the timbre, increasing modulation, changing the Arranger tempo, playing chords, for muting Arranger parts, etc., simply by moving your hand above the infrared beam. VariPhrase control (pitch, tempo, timbre) is also possible. Looks great and sounds terrific.

The Ribbon controller is equally flexible, as is the Channel Aftertouch function that even allows you to switch Music Style patterns. Pitch Bend and modulation are a matter of course. For even more expressive potential, you can purchase a foot switch and/or expression pedal and assign it any function you like.

A multi-effects processor (called M-FX) allows you to add the finishing touch to the VA-7's sublime sounds. Use the knob on the front panel to control one M-FX parameter in realtime. Of course, the VA-7 also boasts dedicated Reverb, Chorus, and Delay effects as well as a 2-band EQ.

Use the Balance knob for quick corrections to the balance between the melody (Realtime parts) and the accompaniment (Arranger parts).

The VA-7's User Programs are surprisingly flexible as well. Although all settings (except for the MIDI parameters) are stored, you are free to load only the ones you need, thereby partially adjusting your current panel settings while ignoring the settings you do not want to change.

A user interface that makes you

D Beam Controller(*)

This light-sensing controller can be used for realtime changes to a wide range of VA-7 parameters, including the Cutoff frequency of the filter (for sweeps typical of Dance music), the tempo, and various VariPhrase parameters. Great for adding optical interest to your musical performance.

Touch Screen

Navigating the VA-7's powerful functions is a breeze. Just press the field that provides access to the desired parameter.



Ribbon controller

This is a new controller that has been added to the "traditional" Bender/Modulation lever, the D Beam™ Controller, etc., for even more flexibility. Very effective for organ and synthesizer sounds. The function is assignable.

M-FX pad

This is where you can switch the multi-effects processor on and off. Use the M VALUE knob for Realtime control of one of the multi-effects parameters. (There are 89 effects algorithms for you to choose from, including Distortion, Rotary, Compressor, Auto Pan, etc.).

New Keyboard Mode selection system

Press ARRANGER or PIANO for one-touch setup of your VA-7 (with or without split point, etc.). Other keyboard modes, split point settings, etc., can be accessed via the OTHER button. You can also configure the VA-7 using the on-screen Easy Routing function.

One Touch button

Provides four memories per Music Style (including the Disk Link Styles) with suitable Tones and effects settings for Upper1 and Upper2. These settings can be substituted with your own if need be.

Arranger

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(*) The D Beam has been licensed from Interactive Light, Inc.

Feel at home right from the start

VariPhrase section

This is where you can control the vocal and other audio effects played by the VA-7's VariPhrase function.

Super Tones buttons

Great for instant selection of a suitable Tone for the melody part (Upper 1). Choose among 40 pre-selected Tones, or make your own selection (5 memories with access to all internal Tones).

BANK/NUMBER buttons

These are the only buttons that serve several purposes. So they are color-coded for easy identification: green for Music Styles, red for Tones (sounds), and orange for User Programs. You simply can't go wrong. Selecting Styles, Tones, and User Programs is a breeze (and can also be performed via the display, if you prefer).



Virtual Band

The Virtual Band helps you set up your instrument by answering a few simple questions. The language is selectable and is stored.

Floppy and Zip™ drives

For maximum convenience, the VA-7 is equipped with both a floppy and a Zip drive. The floppy drive ensures that you can play back commercially available Standard MIDI Files and load Music Styles programmed for other Roland arranger instruments (backward compatibility).

The Zip drive, on the other hand, is more convenient for archiving new data and storing/importing VariPhrases. (The VA-7 is supplied with a Zip disk with over 580 additional Music Styles.)

Note: Given the new parameter structure and functions, User Programs/Performance Memories imported from older models may not always yield the expected result.

Parameter control

The buttons, of course, look and feel familiar. They allow you to select the desired Music Style patterns and to stop playback. Additional Music patterns can be accessed via the parameter button.

The VA-7's 61-note **keyboard** is, of course, velocity-sensitive. But it also sports Channel Aftertouch that can be used for controlling the Realtime parts and the Arranger in various ways (modulation, volume, tempo, etc.).

Specifications

Keyboard	.61 Keys, velocity sensitive, with Channel Aftertouch
User Programs	.128
PCM Tone Generator	
Max. polyphony	.128 Voices
Tones	.3,649 including 118 Drum Kits (MIDI/OS compatible), 48 MB worth of PCM Samples
Multitimbral parts	.32
VariPhrase Tone Generator	
Max. polyphony	.4 Voices
Phrases	.48 (up to 16 MB in ROM)
Sampling Phrases	.16 (up to 8 MB)
Display	.320 x 240 Backlit LCD, 1/4 VGA Touch Screen
Panel controls	.Data/Tempo Dial, D-Beam™ Controller, Pitch Bend/Modulation Lever, Touch Controller (Ribbon), Master Volume Knob, Keyboard/Accomp Balance Knob
Styles	[ROM]: 128, Disk Link from Zip™; 64, Disk User Style (loadable in RAM), Acoustic Styles: 16, 8-track User Style Composer, SMF-to-Style Converter
Sequencing	.Realtime SMF Player, Easy 2-track live Recorder, 16-track Sequencer, Song Header edit, Lyrics on display
Effects	.Reverb: 8 types, Chorus: 8 types, Delay: 10 types, Parametr. EQ, DSP: 89 types
Data Storage	.ZIP* (IDE/ATAPI), 3.5" floppy disk (2DD/2HD)
Types of files managed:	.Style, Song SMF, User Program, MIDI Set, VariPhrase Sample
Amplification	.25 +25 W
Speakers	.2-way Bass-Reflex
Connections	.MIDI (IN, OUT, THRU), Output (L/mono, R), Input (L/mono, R), VariPhrase Sampling Input & Gain, Sustain, Expression Pedal, Foot Switch, Foot Controller (FC-7), 2 phones
Power supply	.Mains (Universal 100V~240V)
Dimensions	.1190 (B) x 197 (H) x 406 (T) mm.
Weight	.16,5 Kg.
Accessories	.Owner's manual, Zip disk with over 500 Music Styles + SMS and VariPhrase Samples, Power Cable, Music Rest

(* Specifications and appearance subject to change without prior notice.

Options



PK-5
Dynamic MIDI Pedal



FC-7
Foot Controller



MSA/MSD/MSE
Music Style Disks



RH-20/80/120
Headphones



DP-2
Pedal Switch



EV-5
Expression Pedal



DP-6
Pedal Switch

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