

PROPHET64
SID MUSIC SOFTWARE

Glenn Holmer CommVEx Expo July 29, 2006

Prophet64

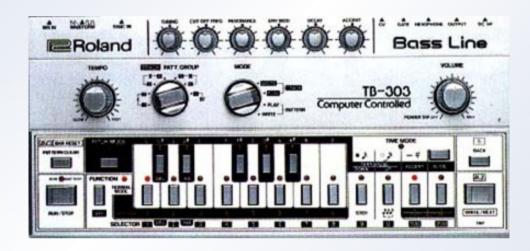
- What is Prophet64?
- How can I get it?
- How do I use it?
- What else can I do with it?
- Demo (if all goes well...)
- Q & A

What is Prophet64?

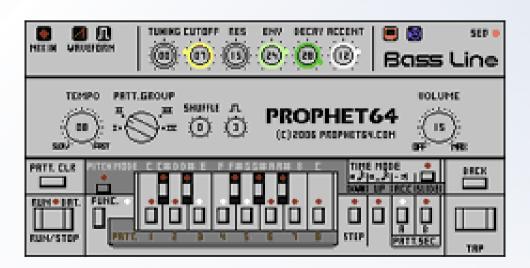
- Commodore 64 software to emulate the early Roland synthesizers that have now become fashionable again:
 - TB-303 ("Transistor Bass")
 - TR-606 Drumatix ("Transistor Rhythm")
 - introduced 1982, discontinued soon after
 - popular in house music from late 80's onward
- the "retro" sound of the Commodore 6581/8580 SID has also come back into fashion
- two versions: free trial (distributed as a .D64 image), and full version (distributed as a cartridge)
- not all docs are available yet, requires some exploration via "key mashing"

User Interface Comparison

Roland TB-303



Prophet64 Bass Line

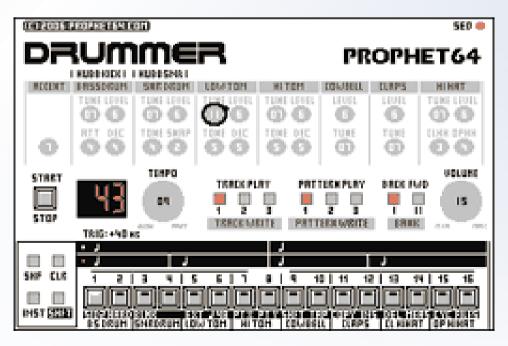


User Interface Comparison

Roland TR-606

Prophet64 Drummer





Prophet64 Mono Synthesizer

Trial version (.D64)

Full version (cartridge)





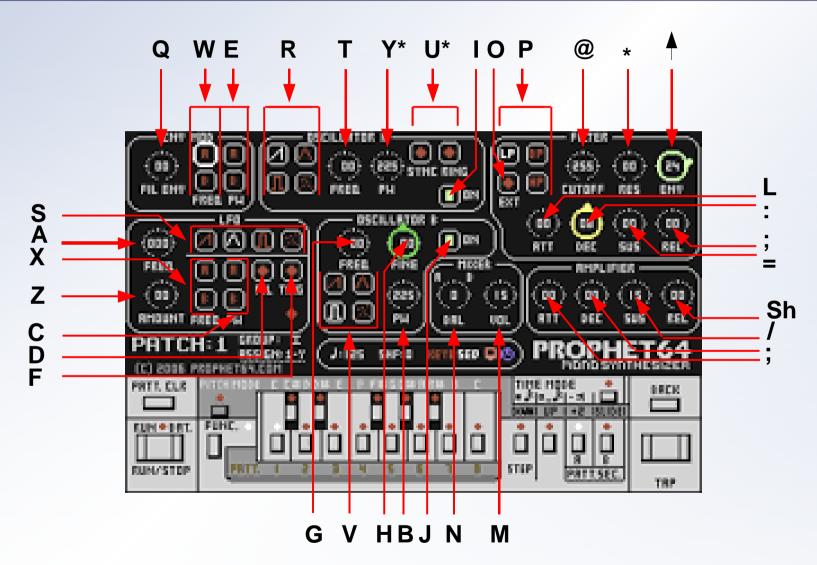
How can I get Prophet64?

- trial version available for download at the website: http://prophet64.com/
- cartridge version can also be ordered there (39 EUR)
- ships from Sweden
- forums at http://www.prophet64-forum.com/index.php
- want the t-shirt? mouse pad? coffee cup? http://www.cafepress.com/prophet64

How do I use Mono Synthesizer?

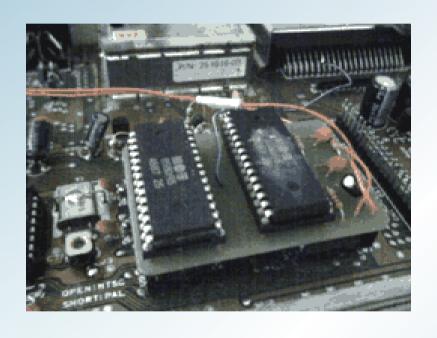
- for D64 version, read the docs, then load 'n' go...
- hit control for setup screen, a pair of paddles can be used for input devices (may be problematical)
- loading a patch set (.P64) will override selection of joystick/paddles
- support for 2nd SID via SID2SID; may also work with a stereo SID cartridge and an expander like Aprospand or CARDBOARD/5
- for cartridge version, not all docs are available yet:
 - unshifted cursor keys select underlined functions
 - C= + unshifted cursor keys select within that function
 - "assign" means select item that paddle controls
 - see next page for key assignments

Keyboard Controls



*paddle may not work

SID2SID



A bare circuit board marked with component outlines, and instructions for installing two SID chips (to avoid the maze of wires typically associated with piggy-backing two SIDs inside the machine). Available as a "package deal" with the cartridge version.

- plans for a MIDI interface available from http://www.firestarter-music.de/prophetcart/
- another hobby project that must be assembled from parts



 GetLofi's pot mod: http://www.getlofi.com/2006/06/c64-knob-mod-for-prophet64.html



M64: http://kikencorp.com/8gb/m64/



One Step Beyond...

http://www.ucapps.de/midibox_sid.html



MIDIbox SID features more software implemented highresolution modulation sources (LFOs, EGs), independent sound engines for all 3 voices and a low-latency MIDI interface (no note drops...) - these capabilities can only be realized with a CPU that runs much faster than the 6502.

Demo/Q&A

Resources:

- http://www.prophet64-forum.com/index.php Prophet64 forums
- http://www.tb-303.org (resources on the original TB-303
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TB-303 (self-explanatory)
- http://www.artofcolor.com/tb303/ (TB-303 manual and schematics)
- http://c64music.blogspot.com/ (radical C64 mods)