

ROSS TECHNOLOGIES

MIDIPIPES

ELECTRONIC BAGPIPES



MADE IN CANADA

www.ross-canada.com

MIDIPIPES

by Ross Technologies

General Description

The Ross Technologies *MidiPipes* are an affordable, high quality digital instrument, equally suitable for use as a convenient practice chanter, or with an amplifier for live performance.

The notes are played in a very realistic manner, by covering electronic touch sensors, positioned to exactly match the finger spacing of a regular pipe chanter.

The sound is produced from actual Great Highland Bagpipe samples stored in a wavetable for an accurate and realistic playing experience.

The *MidiPipes* incorporate fingering for natural notes and vibrato to enhance the range of notes and expression available.

Also available is an option to select a novel and realistic “strike in” feature, which allows the drones to sound before the chanter, giving a staged strike-in like an actual set of bagpipes.

The unit may be configured to play in the regular bagpipe key of “b-flat”, or one of seven different keys to match the pitch of other instruments – all by simply playing the desired key on the finger holes ie: all holes covered for the key of “G”.

The pipes may also be set to play an automatic harmony accompaniment (seconds) if desired.

The unit may be easily configured to turn on with or without drones, and will save the last volume setting used. They will also automatically shut down after a period of non-use to conserve battery power.

Regular Operating Instructions

- 1) Press the ON button
- 2) During an approximately 3 second delay, the blue LED will blink rapidly, followed by a short “beep”.
- 3) At the “beep” sound, whatever note is being “played” on the chanter will determine the playing key for the current session. Example: playing “E” will put the unit into the key of “E”. Playing HiA (or no fingers on the chanter) will place the unit into the default bagpipe key of “b-flat”.
- 4) The unit will now be placed in MUTE mode, with the blue LED illuminated.
- 5) Touching the upper right corner of the instrument (above the headphone jack) activates a touch sensor which extinguishes the blue LED and activates the drones and chanter.
- 6) Pressing the ▲ or ▼ buttons will increase or decrease the volume level.
- 7) Playing may be paused by touching the upper right corner of the instrument, which will silence the chanter and drones – and put the unit into MUTE mode with the blue LED illuminated.
- 9) Pressing the OFF button at any time will turn the unit off. Note – if the unit is left on for approximately 3 minutes without playing, it will turn off automatically to extend battery life.

Changing the Sound – Harmony & Band Mode

- 1) Pressing the ON button while the unit is playing will briefly blink the red LED and enable automatic harmony (“seconds”) to be played.
- 2) Pressing the ON button again while the unit is playing will briefly blink the violet LED and enable Band Mode, which simulates the sound of multiple pipes playing in unison.
- 3) Pressing the ON button again during play will briefly blink the blue LED and return to regular pipes sound.
While the pipes are muted, the LED will illuminate steady with the colour to match the sound mode, and may be cycled through modes by repeatedly pressing the ON button.

BLUE (REGULAR) ▶ RED (HARMONY) ▶ VIOLET (BAND) ▶ BLUE (REGULAR)

Optional - Strike In Feature

- 1) Press and hold the volume down (▼) button.
- 2) Press the ON button, then as soon as the red LED begins blinking, release the volume down (▼) button.
- 3) The unit will now be in MUTE mode with the blue LED illuminated.
- 4) Touch the upper right corner of the instrument to start the drones – the blue LED will still be illuminated.
- 5) Touch the upper right corner to start the chanter – the blue LED will be off.
- 6) Touch the upper right corner again to MUTE the drones and chanter – blue LED ON

Optional – Saving Preferences

- 1) Press and hold the OFF button.
- 2) Press the ON button, then as soon as the LED begins blinking, release the OFF button. The LED will blink, alternating between blue & red to indicate the pipes are in preference saving mode.
- 3) The unit will now be in MUTE mode with the blue LED illuminated.
- 4) Any settings, such as KEY volume, mode (regular/seconds/band) & strike-in mode will be saved when the pipes are shut down. --- For instance, press & hold OFF & volume down (▼) while powering the unit up, and then finger the note “E” on the chanter. Cycle the ON button to the band (violet LED) mode and then turn the pipes off. This will lock in *Strike-In & Key of E & Band Mode* as your saved preference for future use.

Optional – Playing Using Saved Preferences

- 1) Press and hold the volume up (▲) button.
- 2) Press the ON button, then as soon as the red LED begins blinking, release the volume up (▲) button.
- 3) The pipes will now be set to play using your saved preferences from the previous step.

Low Battery

When the batteries are at the end of their useful life, the unit will enter MUTE mode automatically. This will first occur at higher volume settings, when the power draw is higher. Replace the batteries with fresh ALKALINE AA cells to resume normal operation.

Headphone

Stereo headphones may be connected for private listening. Be sure to use a 3.5mm (1/8”) 3 conductor (STEREO) headphone. A 2-conductor (MONO) plug will NOT work properly.

MIDI

A standard 5 pin DIN connector on the back of the instrument is provided for MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) output. This enables the pipes to control MIDI instruments such as keyboards, or music software running on a Mac or PC. The chanter data is output on Midi Channel 1, and can be used simultaneously with the headphones or speaker. Depending on your equipment configuration, you may require a standard MIDI cable (Male to Male) - available at any music store.

Troubleshooting

First and foremost, remember that once the pipes have been powered-up they will be in MUTE mode with the LED illuminated steadily. In order to begin playing, simply touch the top right area of the instrument with your finger, chin etc . A problem which may be encountered when first using the Electronic Bagpipes is the “skipping” of notes (ie: when playing down the scale – jumping from C, for example to Low A without sounding the B), or simply not being able to sound certain notes. This is caused by having extremely dry skin, which raises your natural skin resistance, and can cause difficulty in sensing if your fingers are actually covering the holes. The remedy is to simply wash your hands to moisten them, and thus lower your skin resistance. On the other end of the spectrum, moisture and contamination buildup (sweat, lotion etc) on the chanter can trick the sensors into thinking they are covered, when they are not by “bridging” adjacent contacts with a conductive “moisture bridge”. Simply cleaning the chanter with a clean dry cloth – dry polishing the contacts and the space between them - will clear this up. Unexpected MUTE mode entry or shutdown will occur with a weak battery. Of course, never underestimate the importance of having GOOD AA ALKALINE batteries installed ... if in doubt, change the batteries first !

Frequency

KEY	LoA=
E	330 Hz
F	349 Hz
G	392 Hz
A	440 Hz
B flat*	468 Hz
B	494 Hz
C	523 Hz
D	293 Hz

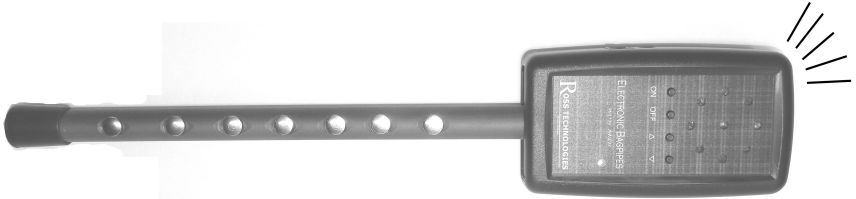
* B flat = Regular Bagpipe Key

Specifications

Battery	2 x AA (ALKALINE REQUIRED)
Output	3.5mm Stereo Jack
MIDI	5 Pin circular DIN
Size	70 x 35 x 380 mm
Weight	200 g
RoHS	RoHS Compliant

MidiPipes

WITH TOUCH SENSOR CONTROL !



**Touch Top Right Corner To toggle MUTE function ...
No more pushbutton switch – clean smooth function**

ROSS TECHNOLOGIES MidiPipes Fingering Chart

	HiA	HiG	F	Fnat	E	D	C	Cnat	B	LoA	LoG
Left Hand	○ ○ ○ ●	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○
Right Hand	● ● ○	● ● ○	● ● ○	● ● ○	● ● ○	○ ○ ●	○ ○ ●	○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○

Open ○ Closed ● Vibrato ☼

Warranty

Your new Ross Technologies *Electronic Bagpipes with Midi* are guaranteed to be free of defects for a period of 90 days from the date of purchase. In the unlikely event of a warranty claim, carefully package your instrument and return it with proof of purchase, prepaid to the point of sale. This warranty excludes accidental damage, batteries, battery leakage, any connected equipment or accessories, and misuse.



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