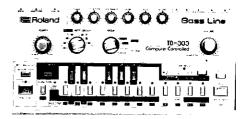


Computer Controlled

# Bass Line TB-303 owner's MANUAL



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#### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

#### LOCATION:

- Operating the TB-303 near a neon or fluorescent lamp may cause noise interference. If so, change the angle of the TB-303.
- Avoid using the TB-303 in excessive heat or humidity or where it may be affected by direct sunlight or dust.

#### **POWER SUPPLY:**

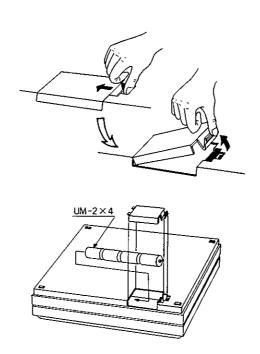
 When using an AC adaptor, use only a BOSS ACA120 or ACA220, 240 depending on your country's voltage system.

#### **CLEANING:**

 Use a soft cloth and clean only with a neutral detergent. DO NOT USE SOLVENTS SUCH AS PAINT THINNER.

### BATTERY REPLACEMENT AND PRECAUTIONS:

- Replace the batteries with a complete set of new batteries when the BATTERY CHECK indicator flashes, signalling a drop in voltage, or if the sound becomes inferior.
- Replace with four 1.5v dry cell batteries.
- The TB-303 features a non-volatile memory, which will retain patterns when switched OFF. It relies on its batteries for a backup circuit to protect these memories.
- If the batteries are changed within one minute, the memory will hold the DATA.
- Be sure to keep the batteries in the housing, even when using an AC adaptor.
   Then, if the AC adaptor is disconnected, operation immediately changes to battery, allowing continued performance.



### TB-303 INTRODUCTION

The TB-303 is an automatic Bass machine which can memorize the Bass line of a musical piece and replay it automatically.

#### **IBASS AND THE TB-303**

A musical bass lline involves many complex factors, such as different pitches and beats, and consequently it is a difficult thing to reproduce automatically. It may vary depending on the rhythm, chord progression, style of music and the character of the musician. Sometimes it can take the role of a low melody, then it might outline the chords or

become a strong rhythmic influence in an ensemble. But overall it is a very important part of the rhythm section, following the chord progression, mainly using the root and fifth note. (As shown below) Before you enter the Basic Course, it is necessary to understnd the idea behind the TB-303



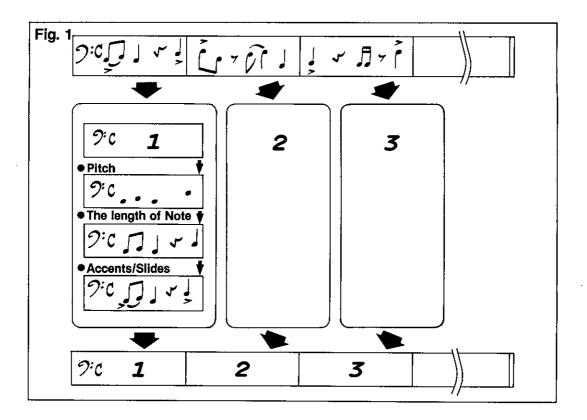
## **2 THE BASIC IDEA BEHIND THE TB-303**

In order to memorize a Bass line, divide it into each measure (pattern) and memorize one pattern at a time.

Each "pattern" can remember various musical factors, such as 'pitch', 'length of note' and 'accent', individually. After memorizing several patterns, these patterns may be joined in order to produce the Bass

line of a musical piece. (Fig. 1)

The following is a description only of the operation of the TB-303. For precise instructions refer to the Basic Course.



#### A. PITCH

#### 1. HOW TO MEMORIZE PITCH

Press the key switches on the panel, in order, for one pattern.

#### 2. KEY SWITCHES AND RANGE

The key switches have only one octave on the panel, but actually you can play four octaves by using the transpose switches. Then by using these additional switches, the TB-303 can easily cover the essential range of an electric or acoustic bass.

#### **B. THE LENGTH OF NOTE**

#### HOW TO MEMORIZE THE LENGTH OF THE NOTES

By pressing the correct combination of the switches labelled hand 7, the rhythm for one pattern can be memorized.

The use of sixteenth notes ( $\mbox{\ensuremath{\belowdex}{\belowdex}}$ ) as the basic writing tool allows highly technical

bass lines to be written into memory, while slower timings can be achieved by using combinations of this basic unit (e.g. J=ffff ).

#### NOTE:

"Length of note" in this manual means Timing Value.

#### C. ACCENT

After memorizing the pitch and length of note (rhythm), particular features of BAss instruments, like accent or portamento (slide), can be written into memory where needed.

#### ■ HOW TO MEMORIZE ACCENT OR PORTAMENTO

Whilst calling back the memorized pattern, place the accent or slide against the required note by using the switches.

One complete Bass PATTERN has now been written into memory.

## D. COMPLETING THE BASS

After memorizing several patterns, complete the Bass line for a piece of music by combining these patterns.

#### ■ HOW TO MEMORIZE THE BASS LINE

To memorize the Bass line, simply select each measure, in turn, and write them into the memory. One pattern can be chosen several times, and can also be transposed into any other key. Consequently, if the Bass line is simply a repetition of one pattern, or only a transposition of that pattern, then you only need to write one pattern into memory (Fig. 2).

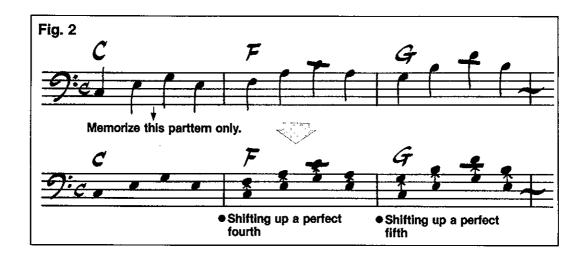
One complete Bass Line has now been written into memory.

#### E. CREATING A SOUND

The TB-303 cannot memorize the tone colour, but can make a Bass sound, just like a synthesizer, by using the TONE CONTROL SECTION. In this way, the TB-303 can create an appropriate Bass sound for the Bass line you have written.

## F. HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

The switches and control knobs have several functions, so operating the TB-303 may seem a little complicated. You may find difficulty using the TB-303 at first, because it is so different from a Bass Guitar or a keyboard instrument. Therefore, this manual includes a Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Course to help you understand these operations, step by step. However, each individual operation is quite simple, so take your time and master each step.

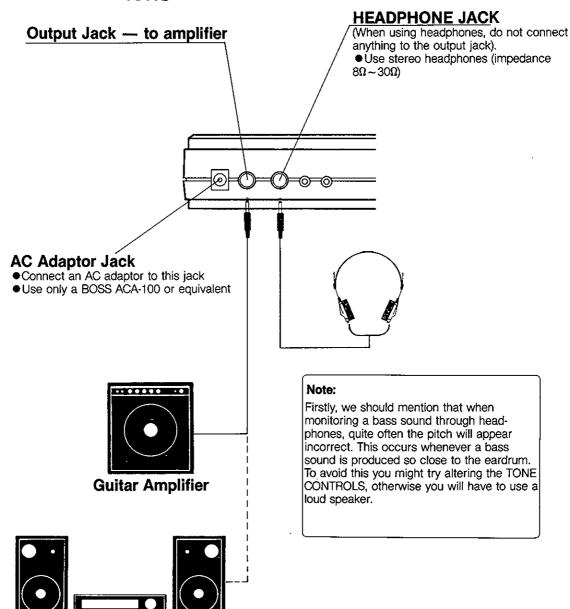


### **BASIC COURSE**

## **© CONNECTIONS AND INITIAL SETTINGS**

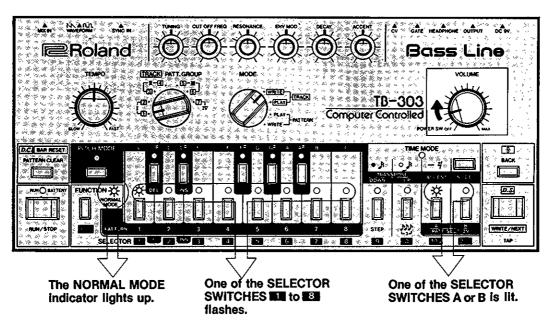
#### A. CONNECTIONS

SP Audio Amplifier

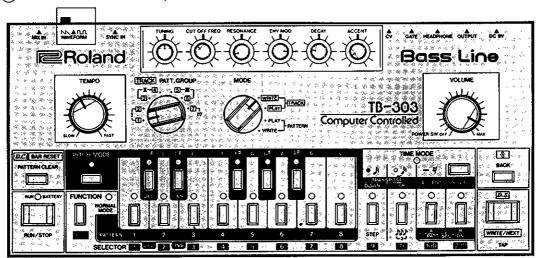


#### **B. INITIAL SETTINGS**

- 1 Complete the connections as instructed in A. CONNECTIONS on page 7.
- 2) Turn on the POWER SWITCH/VOLUME CONTROL (clockwise).



(3) Set the cotrol knobs on the panel as shown below.



#### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

When pressing the button, do not fail to release it once, and go on to the next operation, except for the cases that it is specifically instructed to keep the button pressed. (The TB-303 does not function properly if you go on to the next

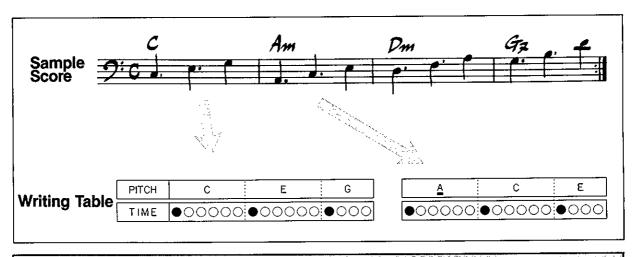
operation without releasing the button.) In some cases the "Results" written in the owner's manual are not obtained when you press the button, but it is obtained as soon as you release the button.

## 2 WRITING AND PLAYING A BASS LINE (Part 1)

## A. Operation.....Operate whilst looking at the Procedure Table as an appendix.

The TB-303 can memorize the Bass line into a computer memory by using switches, and we call this process PATTERN WRITING.

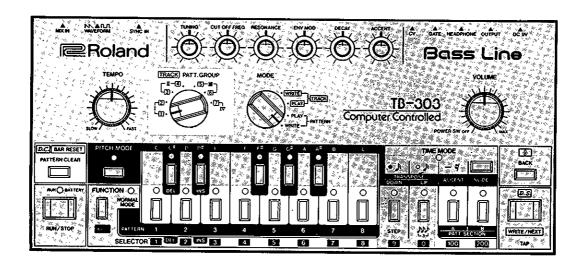
Let's begin by writing the following simple four bar Bass line.

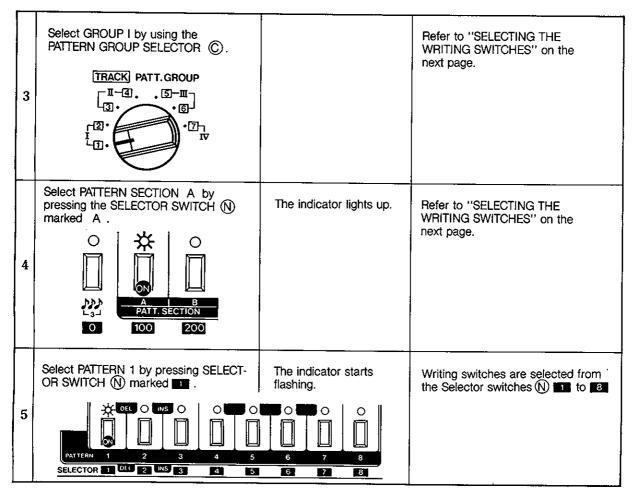


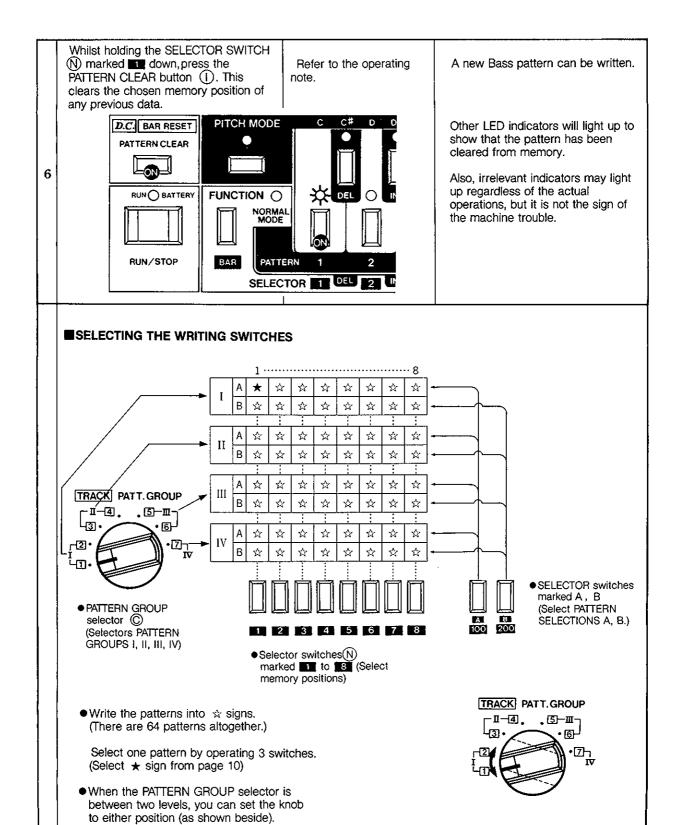
Write the Bass pattern of the first measure (in C major) into the memory position chosen by the SELECTOR SWITCH (N) marked 111.

	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
1	Set the TB-303 according to the instructions in INITIAL SETTINGS (page 8).		Make sure the TB-303 is not running. (the BATTERY CHECK/RUN indicator button ① is OFF).
	Set the MODE SELECTOR (B) to PATTERN WRITE.  MODE		The TB-303 is now ready to write a Bass pattern.
2	PLAY PATTERN		

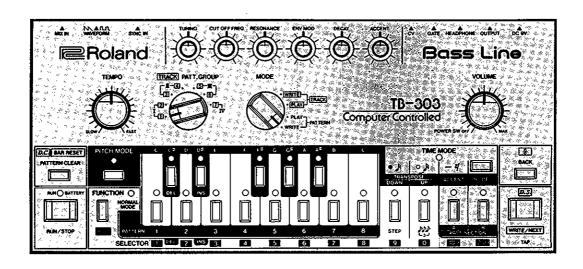
#### SELECTING

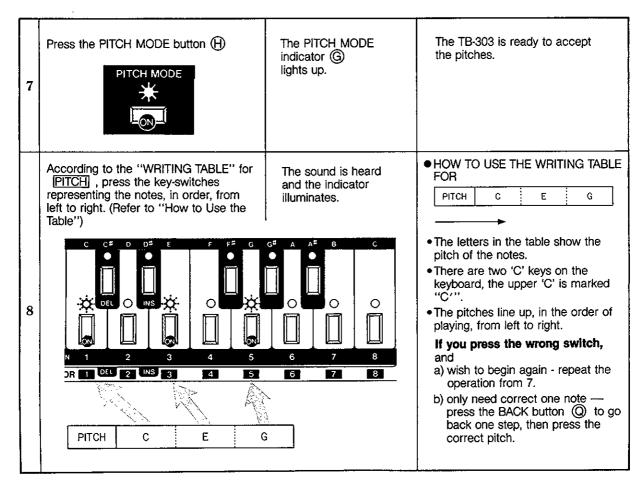


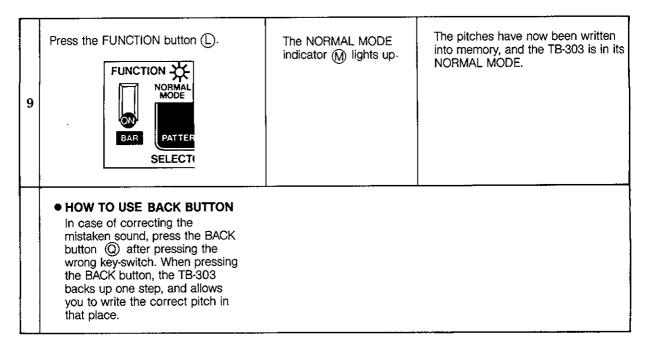


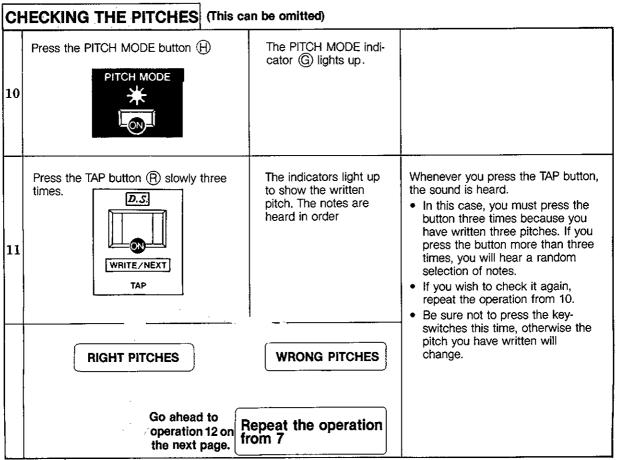


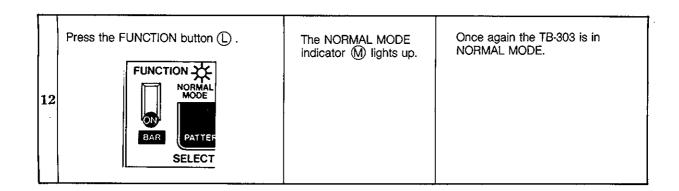
#### WRITING THE PITCH



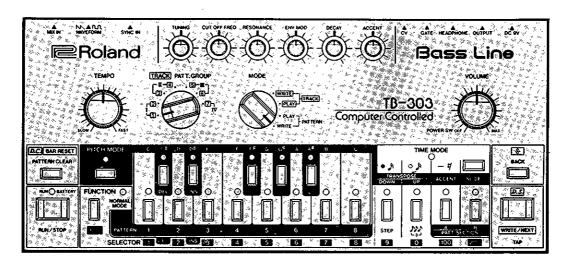


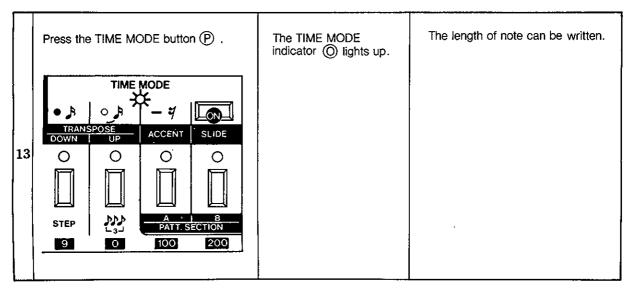


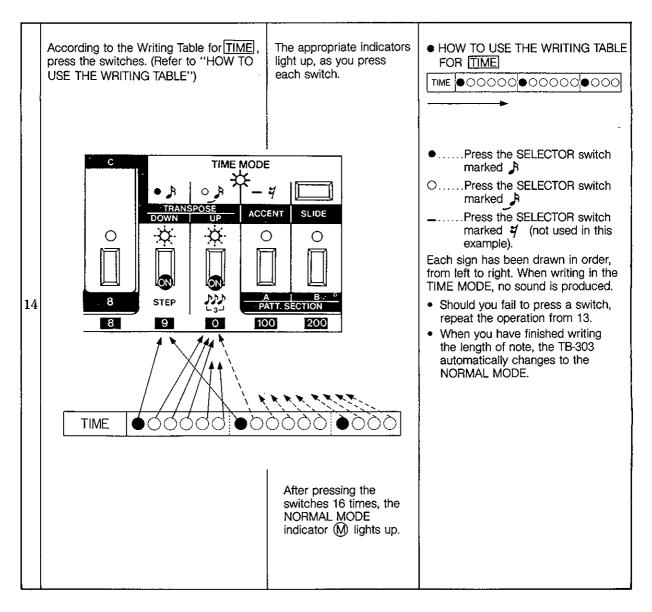


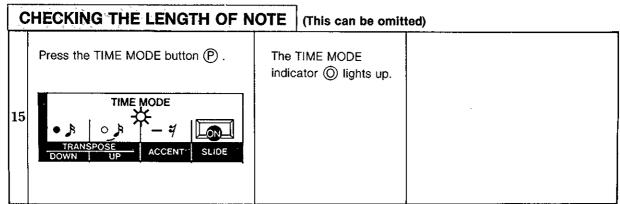


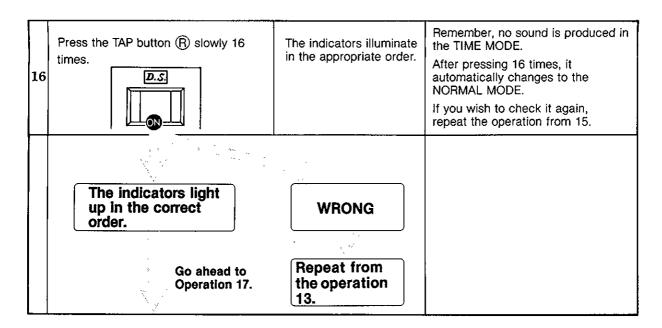
#### WRITING THE LENGTH OF NOTE



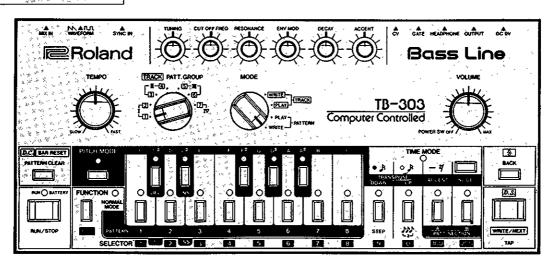


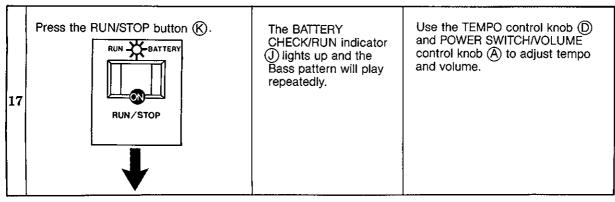


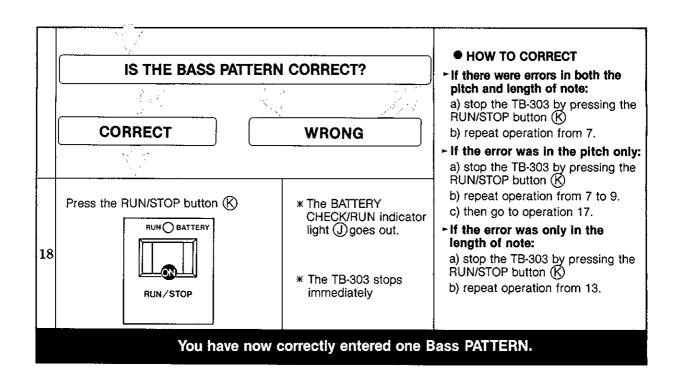




#### PLAY

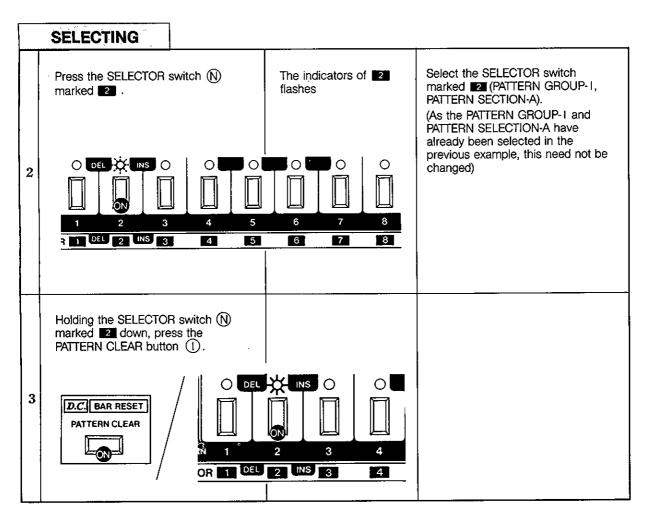


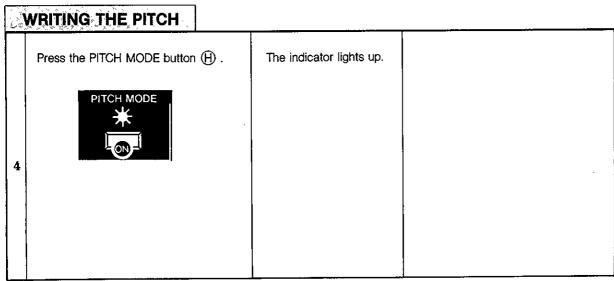


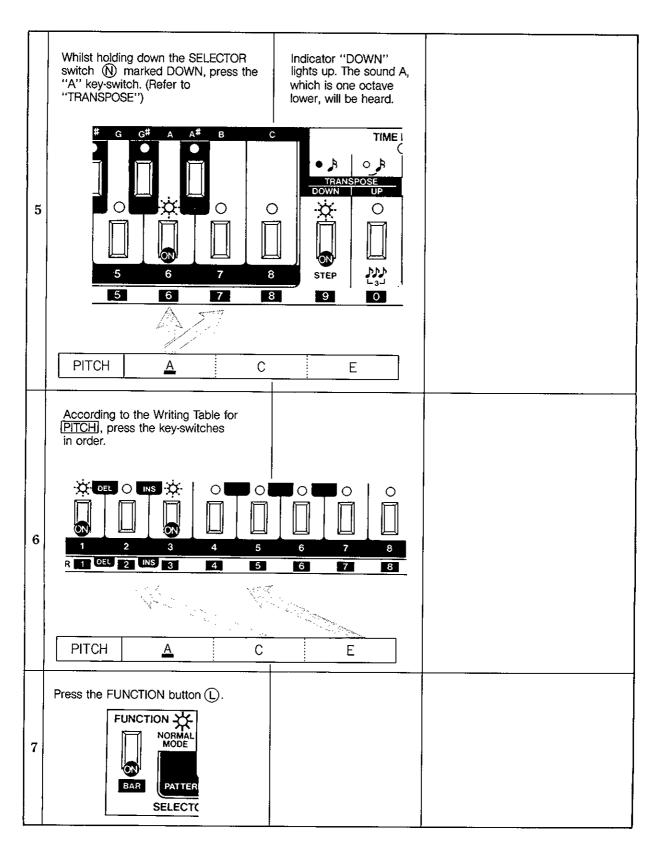


In the same way, write the Bass pattern of the second measure (in A minor) in the SELECTOR switch (N) marked 21 (memory position 2).

	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
	ne control knobs and e as shown below.		
CCI BAR RESE  ANYTOPIC EAR  RUAI/STOP	PITCH MODE	MODE  MODE  MODE  PATERN  COMPI  PATERN  COMPI  A S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	CONTRACTOR OF THE MACK OF THE







#### **TRANSPOSE**

When writing a pitch one octave down (or up) from the keyboard range, press the SELECTOR switch (N) marked DOWN (TRANSPOSE DOWN) or UP (TRANSPOSE UP) for moving the range of the keyboards, then press the appropriate key-switch.

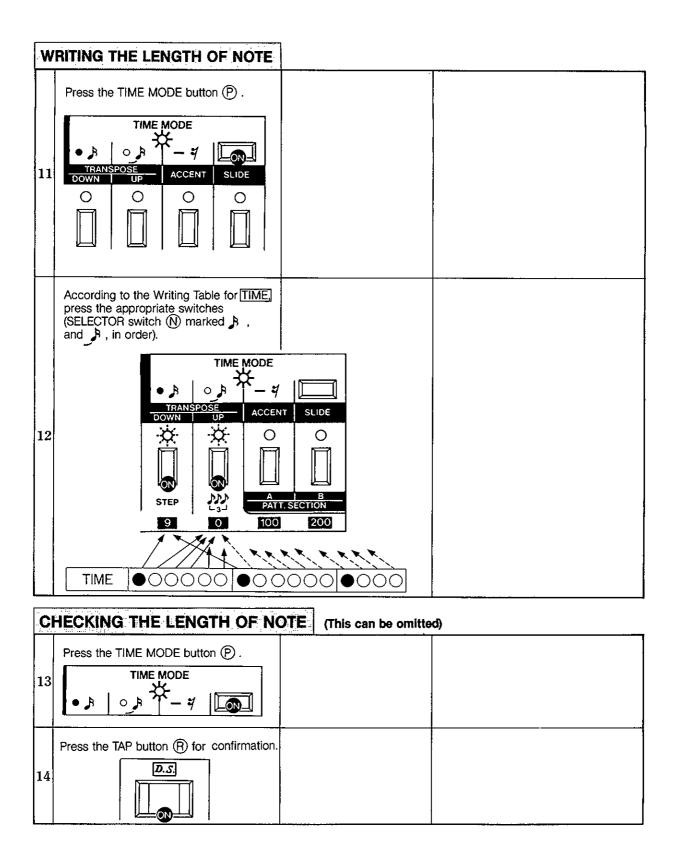
The first "A" sound of the second measure is one octave down from the keyboard on the panel.

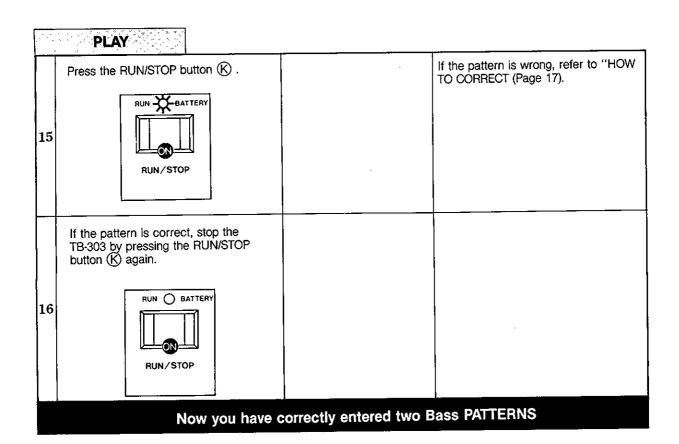
## HOW TO USE THE WRITING TABLE FOR TRANSPOSE

A (black bar <u>under</u> the pitch letter)
.....represents a note one octave <u>down.</u>
.....holding the SELECTOR switch marked
DOWN down, press the key-switch.

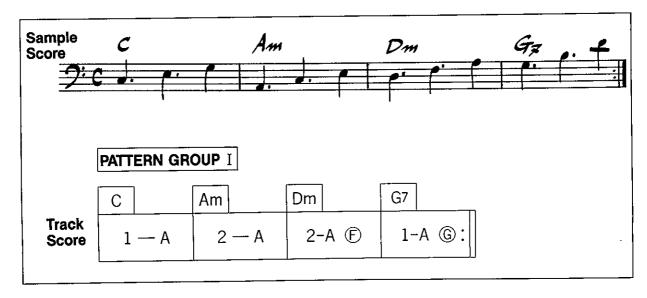
A (black bar <u>over</u> the pitch letter)
.....represents a note one octave <u>up.</u>
.....holding the SELECTOR switch marked
UP down, press the key-switch,

CHECKING THE PITCH			
8	Press the PITCH MODE button (H).		
9	Press the TAP button (R) for confirmation.  D.S.  WRITE/NEXT  TAP		
10	Press the FUNCTION button ().  FUNCTION () NORMAL () NOR		





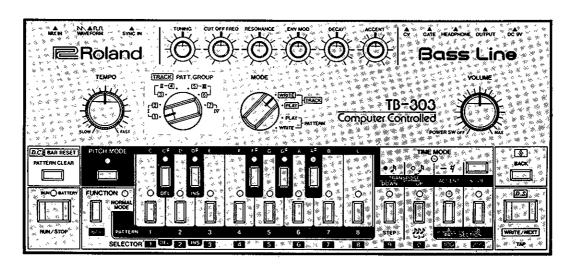


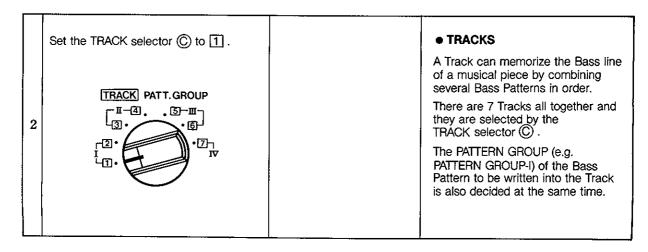


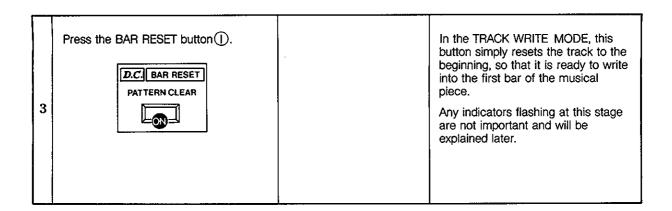
	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
	Stop the TB-303 by pressing the RUN/STOP button. Set the MODE selector (B) to TRACK WRITE.		
	MODE		
1	• PLAY - PATTERN		

#### SELECTING THE TRACK

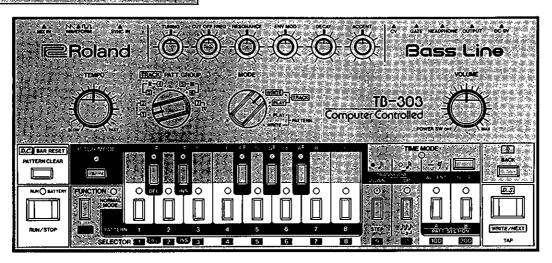
Select a TRACK in which to write the Bass line.(Refer to the Operation Notes)

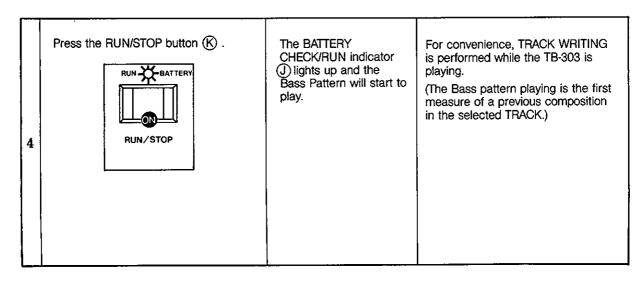


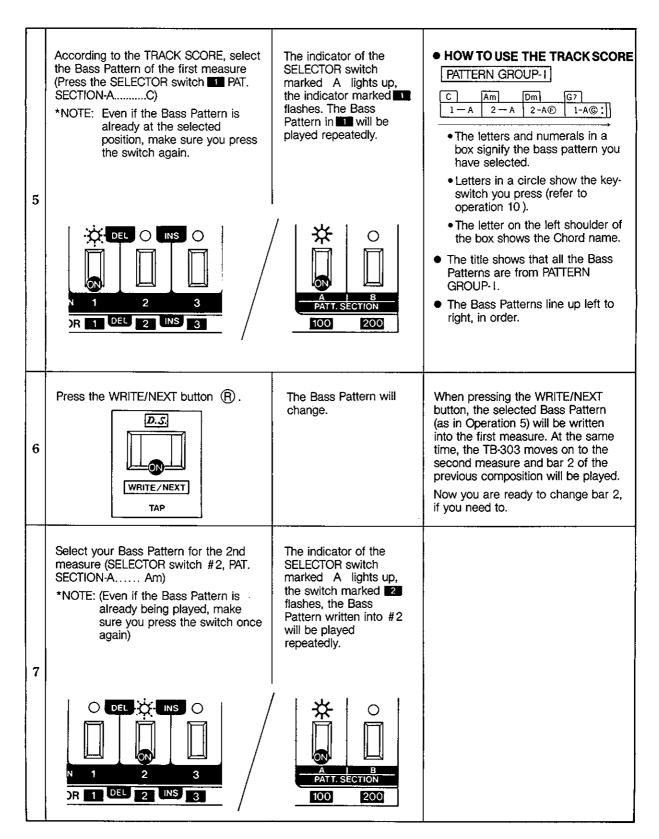


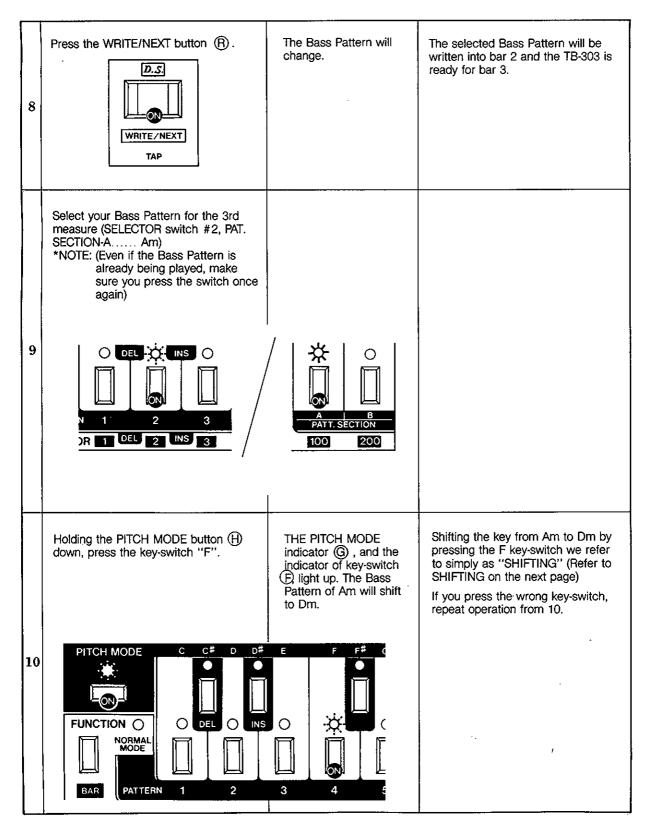


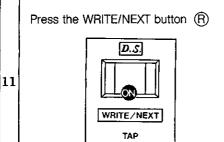
### WRITING INTO THE TRACK.











The Bass Pattern will change.

The 3rd measure, shifted to Dm in operation 10, will be written into the memory, and the TB-303 will proceed to the 4th measure.

#### **■SHIFTING**

The written Bass Pattern can be shifted into any other key you want by pressing the chosen key-switch. This saves a great deal of memory space while simplifying the operation of the TB-303.

#### **SHIFTING AND WRITING**

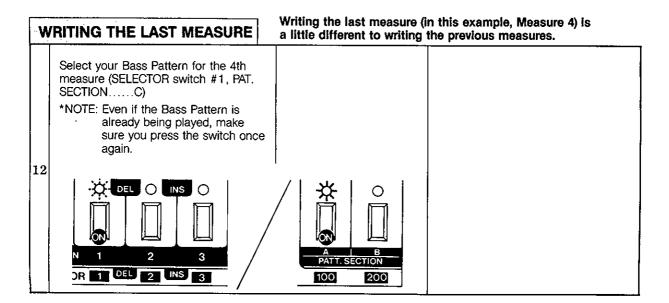
The key of Am (the 2nd measure) and Dm (the 3rd measure) of the Sample Score are different, but the organization of the patterns is the same. So by shifting the Am Pattern up, you have the Dm Pattern.

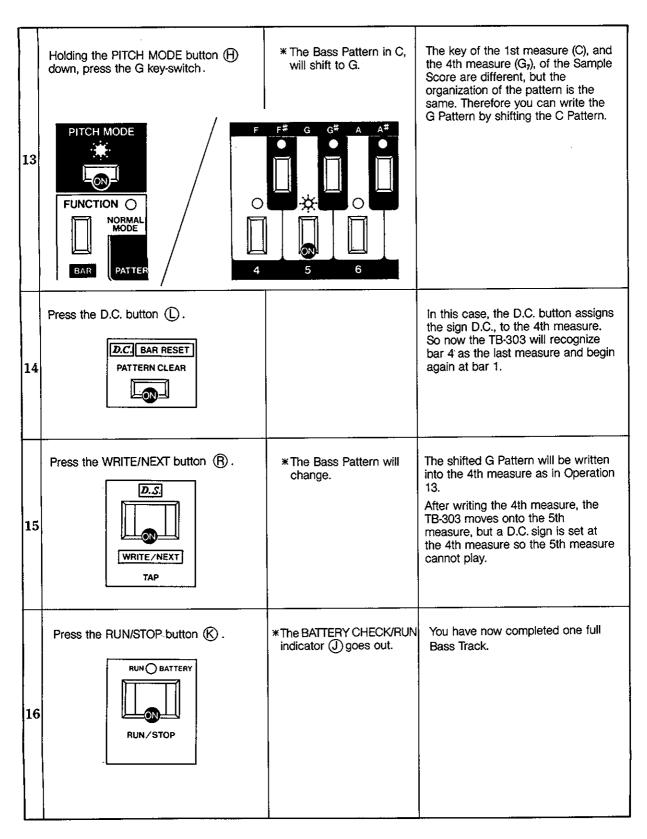
## ■HOW TO CHOOSE THE KEY-SWITCHES TO "SHIFT" CORRECTLY.

The key-switches, when shifting the Bass Pattern, are decided by the INTERVAL between the written

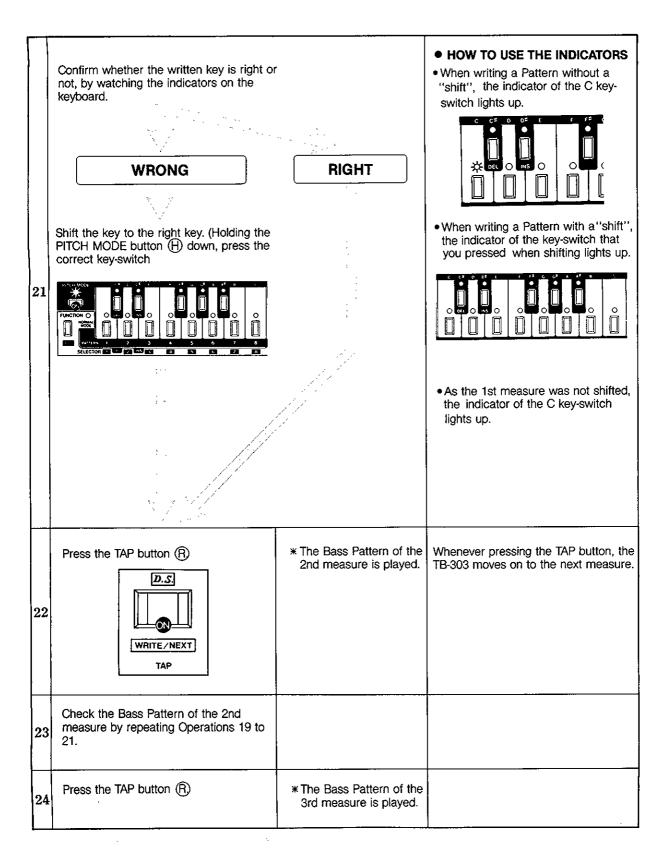
Pattern and the shifted Pattern. This interval is then added to the TB-303, but relative to the key of C. In this case, the interval between Am and Dm is a perfect fourth. When the original key is C, F is a perfect fourth from C, so select the F keyswitch. Similarly, to change an Am to Em, an interval of a perfect fifth, choose the key-switch that is a perfect fifth above C, that key-switch is G.

This method is very simple, although sometimes it can be confusing, so as an appedix to this manual, we have included a "CHORD SHIFT SCALE". Please read the explanation of this "CHORD SHIFT SCALE" carefully.





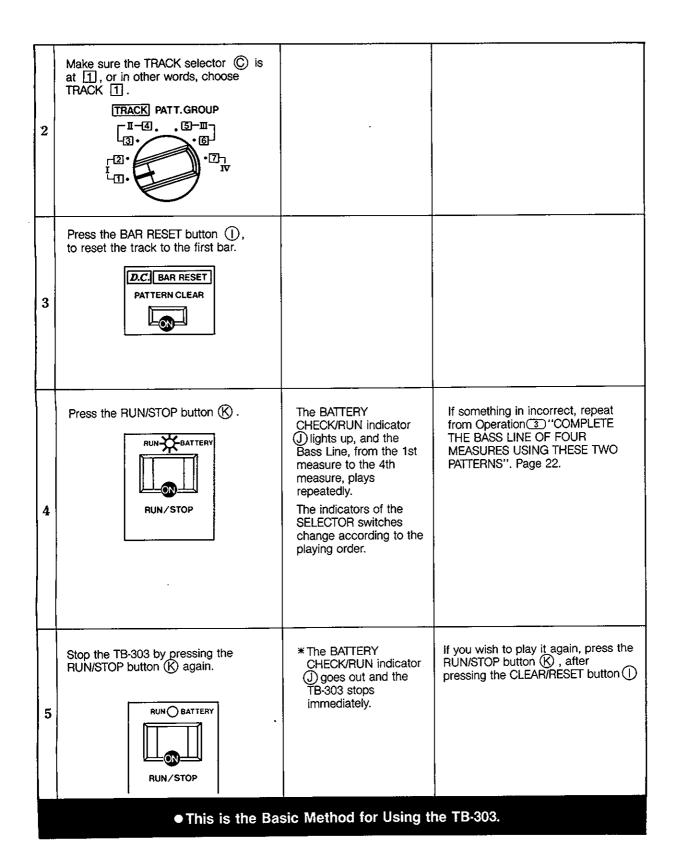
С	HECKING & CORRECTING THE T	FRACK (This can be omit	tted)
17	Press the BAR RESET button ① , this resets the track to the first measure.  D.C. BAR RESET  PATTERN CLEAR		
18	Press the RUN/STOP button (K).  RUN BATTERY  RUN/STOP	*The BATTERY CHECK/RUN indicator ① lights up, and the Bass Pattern of the 1st measure will be played.	
19	Check the Bass Pattern, is it the correct pattern, or not?  WRONG  Select the right Bass Pattern again.	RIGHT	
20	Hold the PITCH MODE button (H) down. (Right until operation 21 is completed)	* The PITCH MODE indicator (G), and the indicator of the C keyswitch lights up.	While holding the PITCH MODE button 日, you can check the amount of "shift".



25	Check the Bass Pattern of the 3rd measure by repeating Operations 19 to 21.		The indicator of the F key-switch lights up, because of the shift.
26	Press the TAP button (R).	*The Bass Pattern of the 4th measure is played.	
27	Check the Bass Pattern of the 4th measure by repeating Operations 19 to 21.		The indicator of G key-switch lights up, because of the shift.
28	Press the RUN/STOP button (K) after checking.	* The BATTERY CHECK/RUN indicator ① goes out, and the TB-303 stops.	
	You have now correctly writte	n Bass LINES of four	measures into Track 1.

### 4 PLAYING THE TRACK

Operation	Result	Operation Notes
Set the MODE selector (B) to TRACK PLAY, while the TB-303 is stopped. This sets the TB-303 into its PLAY MODE.		
MODE		
PLAY PATTERN		



### **INTERMEDIATE COURSE**

## **1 THE TONE CONTROL SECTION AND TUNING**

#### A. TUNING

There is a control at the top of the instrument that will allow you to adjust the tuning of the TB-303 to A (220Hz) or to other instruments, like a guitar or piano.

#### **TUNING METHOD**

- ① Set the TB-303 to its initial condition, according to the section "CONNECTION AND INITIAL SETTINGS". Page 8.
- ② Set the MODE selector ® to PATTERN PLAY.

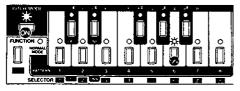
- (5) Adjust the TUNING control knob to tune the TB-303 to exactly A (220Hz) or to the pitch of other instruments.
- To raise the pitch, turn the knob clockwise.
- If you wish to tune to a note other than A, repeat operation 3, but press the keyswitch of the pitch you want (e.g. E), then press the TAP button (R). (Shown in Diagram 1)



#### MODE

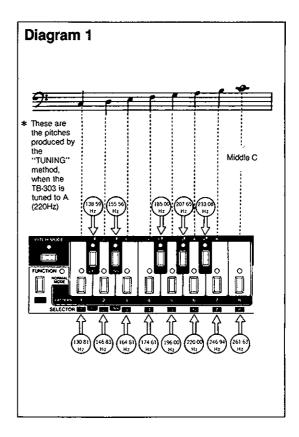


- (3) Holding the PITCH MODE button (H) down, press the A key-switch.
  - \*While pressing the button, the PITCH MODE indicator (a) and the A key-switch indicator lights up.



(4) Then, by pressing the TAP button (R), the pitch of A (approx 220Hz) will be heard. To repeat the sound, simply press the TAP button (R) again.





#### **B. TONE CONTROL SECTION**

This section is really a small synthesizer control panel, for creating the sounds to suit your music.

## 1. CUTOFF FREQ (Cutoff Frequency)

This knob controls the tone colour. By turning it counter-clockwise, it will begin to shave off the upper harmonics of the sound making the tone softer and reducing the volume.

#### 2. RESONANCE

Resonance emphasizes certain frequencies. The effect will become stronger when this knob is rotated clockwise.

## 3. ENV MOD (Envelope Modulation)

This knob controls the tone movement of a note. The effect will be stronger when the knob is turned clockwise.

#### 4. DECAY

This knob controls the time a note takes to fade. Both the volume and the tone will take a longer time to fade if the knob is turned clockwise.

#### 5. ACCENT

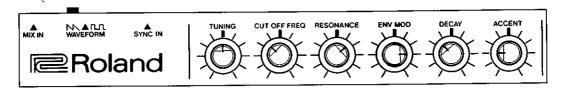
This knob controls the accent of the Bass Pattern. The effect will be stronger when the knob is turned clockwise.

#### 6. WAVEFORM

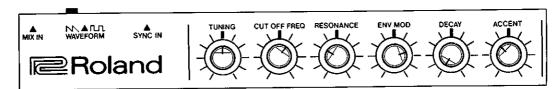
The TB-303 has two waveforms, and you can select either one of them. The tone colour will be changed by the WAVEFORM switch, even if the other dials in the TONE CONTROL SECTION are in the same position.

#### C. SAMPLE SOUNDS

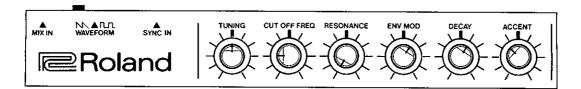
#### 1. Electric Bass Type A



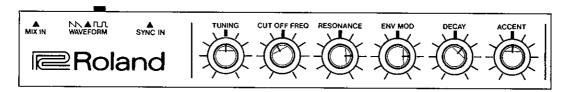
#### 2. Electric Bass Type B



#### 3. Acoustic Bass



#### 4. Synthesized Bass

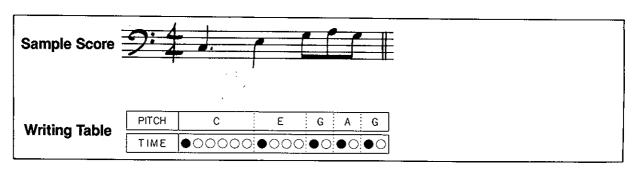


#### \*NOTE:

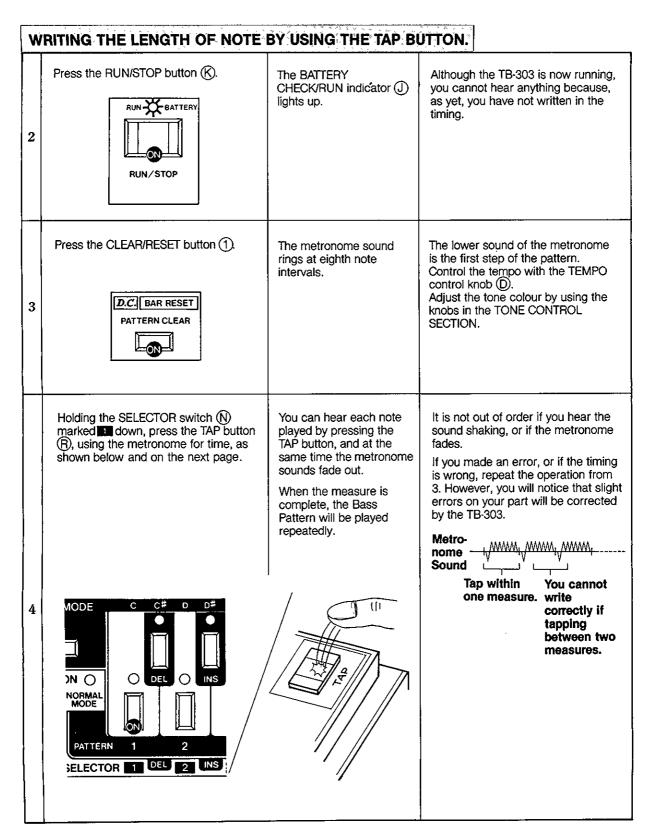
The tone colour will also depend on what type of amplifier, speaker or headphones you use.

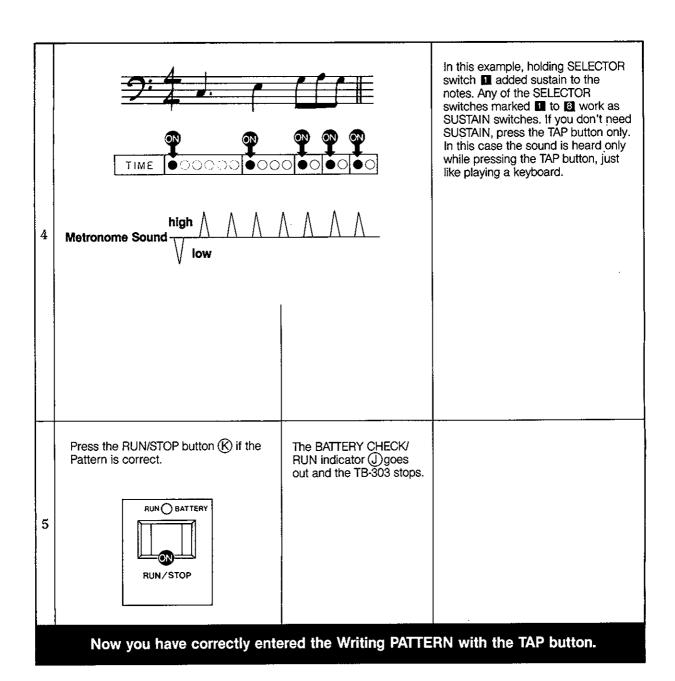
# **WRITING THE LENGTH OF NOTE** (ALTERNATIVE METHOD)

LET'S WRITE THE NEXT BASS PATTERN WITH THIS METHOD.



	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
1	Perform the operations up to CHECK-ING THE PITCHI, according to the section on WRITING BASS PATTERNS in the PROCEDURE TABLE.	The PITCH MODE indicator (G) lights up.	Select any memory position. (Refer to ABOUT THE MEMORY POSITIONS in the BASIC COURSE — Page 11).
	Omit the operation SELECTING STEP MODE , SETTING STEP NUMBER		





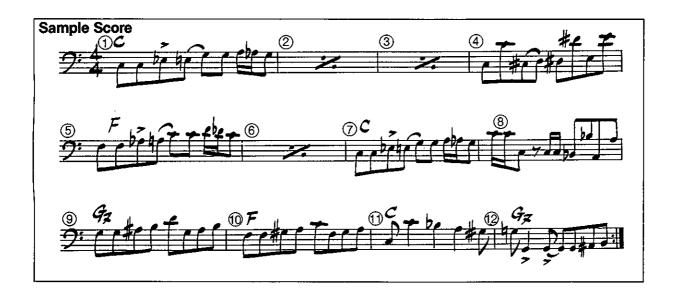
#### NOTE:

If you press the CLEAR/RESET button ① after writing the length of note whilst the TB-303 is running, the memory will be cleared of the timing information, although the pitches will remain.

### 3 WRITING AND PLAYING A BASS LINE (PART 2).

#### A. WRITING AND PLAYING

This Bass line of 12 measure is a sample score of Rock 'n' Roll.



#### **Outline of the Writing**

In case of the Sample Score above, writing should be done as instructed below.

- **★The 1st measure**—Write
- **★The 2nd and the 3rd measures**—Repeat the 1st measure
- **★The 4th measure**→Write
- **★The 5th and the 6th measures**→**Shift the 1st measure into F**
- **★The 7th measure**—Repeat the 1st measure
- ★The 8th measure -- Write
- ★The 9th measure—Shift the 10th measure into G.
- ★The 10th measure -- Write
- ★The 11th measure--- Write
- **★The 12th measure**→Write

#### **■BEFORE OPERATING**

Follow the PROCEDURE TABLE unless stated otherwise. If you do not understand the TABLE, please repeat the BASIC COURSE.

#### NOTE:

- The memory position of each Bass Pattern is chosen to suit the composition. So, for convenience, please use the memory positions designated here.
- Do not change the MODE selector (B)
   when the BATTERY CHECK/RUN indicator
   (J) is alight (i.e. when the TB-303 is running).
   If the operation is incorrect, turn the
   POWER switch OFF, and it will return to the
   normal condition.

### 1 WRITING A BASS PATTERN

By following PROCEDURE TABLE WRITING
A BASS PATTERN , write the Bass Patterns into the memory positions instructed (Refer to Writing Table below).

Omit the operation SELECTING THE STEP MODE and SETTING THE STEP NUMBERS.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

When changing the MODE SELECTOR from TRACK MODE to PATTERN MODE, do not fail to stop the TB-303 by pressing the RUN/STOP button and to press CLEAR/RESET button. Otherwise, improper operation might occur. When improper operation occurs, 1 turn off the Power switch once, then turn it on again. 2 set the MODE SELECTOR to TRACK PLAY and press the CLEAR/RESET button, then change into PATTERN MODE.

#### **Writing Table**

#### WRITE INTO PATTERN GROUP II

#### **★The 1st measure**→[Memory position 1·A]

PITCH	СС	D #	E	G	G ,	A G#	G
TIME	lacktriangle	•0	•0				
ACC.		ON					
SLIDE			ON				

★The 10th measure → [Memory position 4-A]

PITCH	F	F	G#	Α	C.	F	G"	Α
TIME	•0	•0	•0	•0	•0	•0	•0	•0

Write this pattern after reading operation 2 on the next page.

#### **★The 4th measure**—[Memory position 2-A]

PITCH	С	C.	C#	į (	(	)#	D≠	E	Ē
TIME	•0	•0	• 0		0			<b>●</b> C	
SLIDE	-		ОИ	:		- ;	-		:

★The 11th measure → [Memory position 5-A]

PITCH	С	C <b>⁴</b>	Α #	Α	G#
TIME	•0	•000	•000	•000	ullet

Write this pattern after reading operation [2] on the next page.

#### **★The 8th measure**→[Memory position 3-A]

PITCH	CA CA C	C C A	A #	A	Α
TIME	•••	•••0	•0	•0	•0

\*Press the SELECTOR SWITCH (N) marked # .

#### ★The 12th measure -- [Memory position 6-A]

PITCH	G	<u>G</u>	<u>G</u>		<u>A</u> #	<u>B</u>
TIME	•0	•000	•000	•0	•0	•0
ACC.		QN	ON			

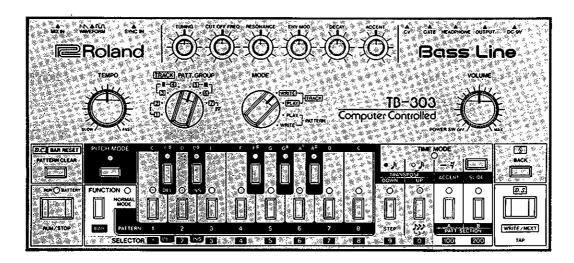
<sup>\*</sup>Write this pattern after reading operation [2] on the next page.

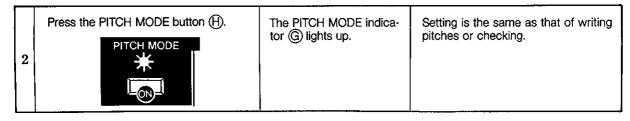
# WRITING A PATTERN WITH ACCENT & SLIDE I

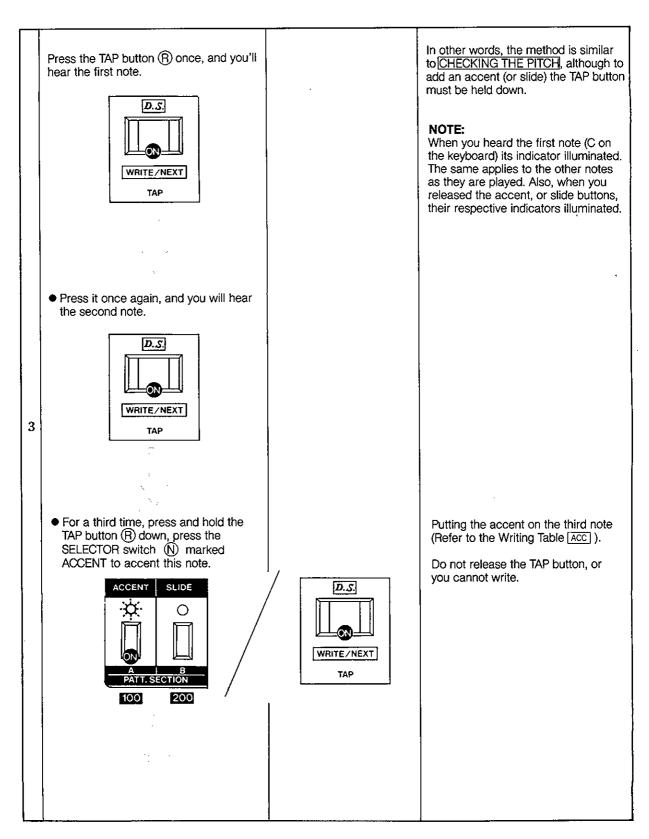
This method is quite different from what you have encountered so far. For example, let's write the first measure of the sample score, using the ACCENT and SLIDE.

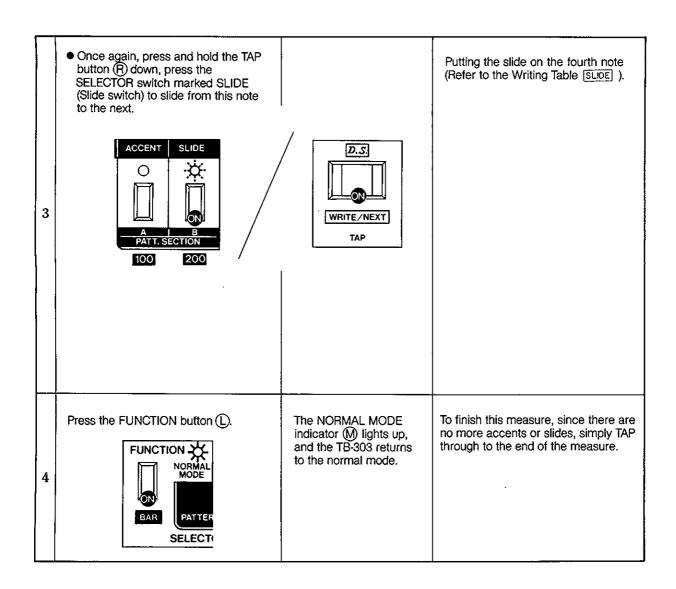
	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
	Complete all the steps up to CHECKING THE LENGTH OF NOTE as in the PROCEDURE TABLE	Make sure the TB-303 is in its NORMAL MODE.	Select the designated memory position for bar one, from the Writing Table.
1	Note:  Omit the operation SELECTING THE STEP MODE and SETTING THE STEP NUMBERS.  If you write the length of note by using the TAP button, use SUSTAIN.		

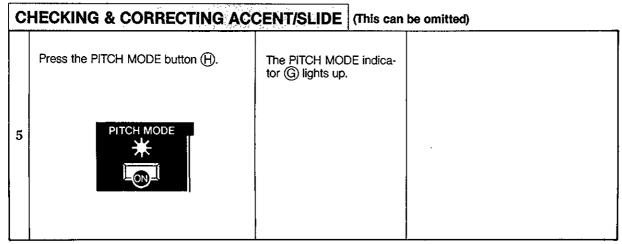
### WRITING ACCENT/SLIDE

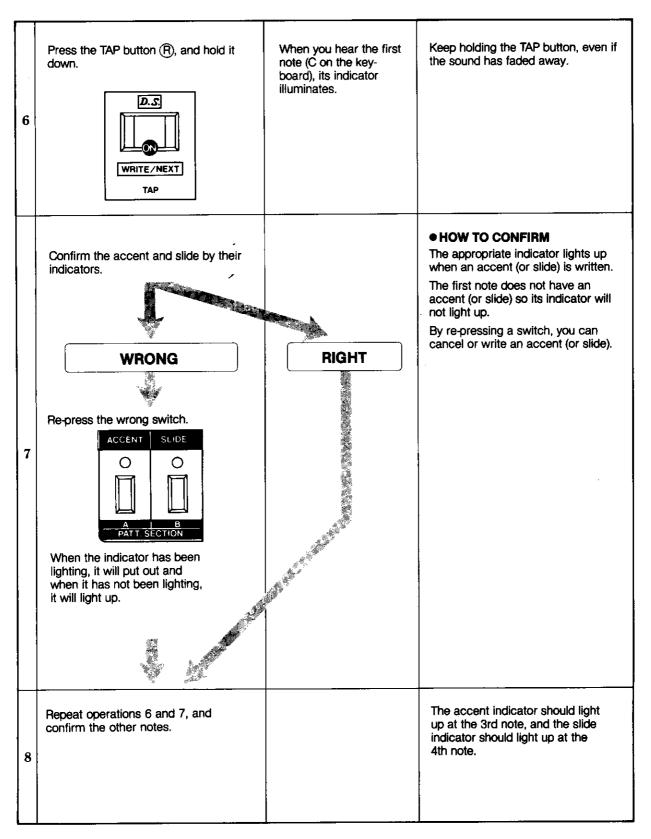


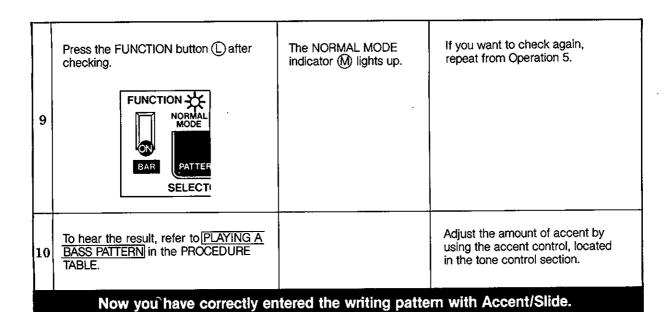












#### ■NOTE:

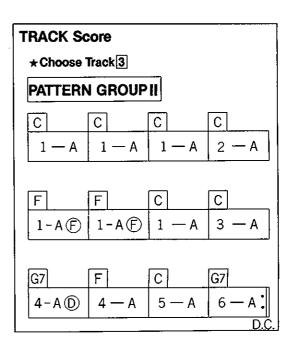
- When re-writing the pitch after writing an accent or a slide, the accent (or slide) will be cleared. However, this is not the case when you re-write the length of notes.
- To slide from one note to another, write the slide on the first of the two notes.
- When writing a slide, if there is a rest between the two notes, the slide effect does not work.
- If you write a slide between two notes of the same pitch, the result is a "TIED" note.

# WRITING A PATTERN WITH ACCENT & SLIDE II

Write the Bass Patterns of measure 4 and 12 as operation 2 on the page 40. Refer to PROCEDURE TABLE for operating. Omit SELECTING THE STEP MODE and SETTING THE STEP NUMBER.

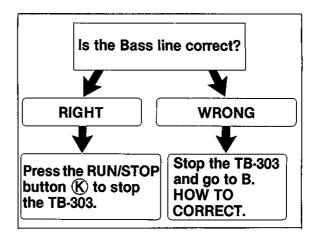
### **4 WRITING INTO A TRACK**

Compose the Bass line for this piece according to the TRACK score. Write into the designated TRACK. (Refer to WRITING INTO A TRACK in the PROCEDURE TABLE).



### 5 PLAYING/CHECKING A BASS LINE

Play the written Bass line according to the PROCEDURE TABLE "PLAYING A BASS LINE".



### **B. HOW TO CORRECT**

	Trouble Symptom	Possible Cause	Action to be Taken
	Wrong PITCH	Mistake in pressing the key-switch or TRANSPOSE switch	Refer to ① CORRECT-ING THE PITCH
Incorrect Pattern	Incorrect number of Notes  Length of Note is wrong	Mistake in pressing the SELECTOR switches \$ , \$ \$ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Refer to ② CORRECT- ING THE LENGTH OF NOTE.
	Accent/Slide is wrong	Mistake in pressing the switches	Refer to ③ CORRECT-ING ACCENT/SLIDE
Incorrect	Shift is wrong	Mistake in pressing the key-switch when shifting	Refer to 4 CORRECT- ING PATTERNS AND
Shift	Pattern which should not be shifted is shifted.	Mistake in pressing the key-switch when shifting, or used for the previous pattern.	SHIFTING.
	Order of patterns is wrong	Mistake in selecting	Refer to 4 CORRECT-
Incorrect	Unnecessary pattern	patterns.	ING A TRACK
Track	Track does not play repeatedly	Mistake in setting D.C.	Refer to ⑤ CORRECT-ING THE D.C.POSITION.
	Incorrect number of measures	Mistake in pressing the TAP button or setting D.C.	Refer to (4) and (5).

#### 1. CORRECTING THE PITCH

- 1) Set the MODE selector (B) to PATTERN WRITE.
- (2) Select the pattern that needs correction.
- (3) Re-write the pitch according to the PRO-CEDURE TABLE — WRITING THE PITCH.
- 4) Press the RUN/STOP button (K), to play the corrected pattern.
- Stop the TB-303 if the pattern is now correct.
- IF THE PATTERN STILL NEEDS CORRECTION, START FROM OPERATION(3).
- When correcting the pitch, an accent (or slide) will be cleared.

### 2. CORRECTING THE LENGTH OF NOTES

- 1 Set the MODE selector (B) to PATTERN WRITE.
- (2) Select the pattern in need of correction.
- (3) Re-write the length of the notes according to the PROCEDURE TABLE WRITING THE LENGTH OF NOTE.
- 4 Press the RUN/STOP button (K), to play the corrected pattern.
- (5) Stop the TB-303 if the pattern is now correct.
- IF THE PATTERN STILL NEEDS CORREC-TION, START FROM OPERATION(3).

#### 3. CORRECTING ACCENT/SLIDE

- 1 Set the MODE selector (B) to PATTERN WRITE.
- Select the pattern that needs correction.
- (3) Re-write the accent or slide according to CHECKING THE ACCENT/SLIDE CORRECTION on page 42 and 43.

- 4 Press the RUN/STOP button (K) to play the corrected pattern.
- Stop the TB-303 if the pattern is now correct.
- IF THE PATTERN STILL NEEDS CORRECTION, START FROM OPERATION (3).

#### 4. CORRECTING A TRACK

- ① Set the MODE selector (N) to TRACK WRITE.
- ② Select the TRACK that needs correction using the TRACK selector ①.
- (3) Correct the TRACK according to CHECK-ING 8 CORRECTING THE TRACK on page 29 to 31.
- 4 Play the track according to the Procedure Table — "Playing a Bass Line" after correction.
- (5) Stop the TB-303 if the TRACK is correct.
- IF THE TRACK STILL NEEDS CORRECTION, START FROM OPERATION (3).

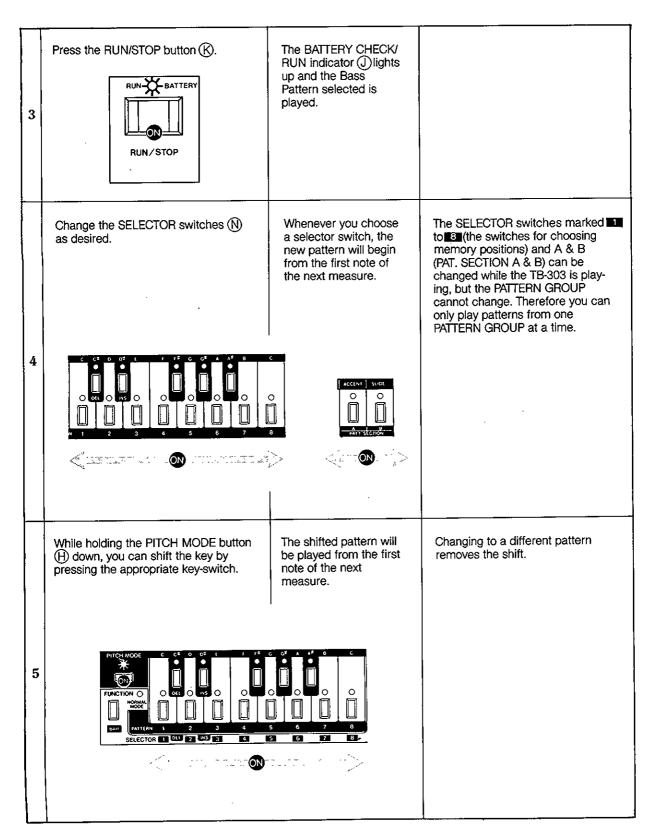
### 5. CORRECTING THE D.C. POSITION.

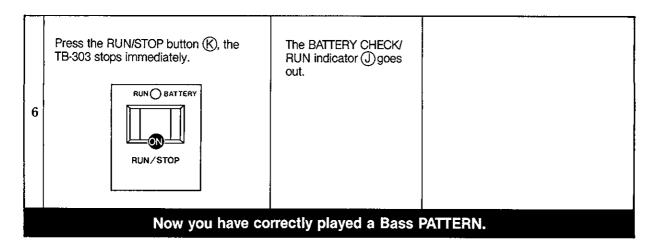
- (2) Select the TRACK that needs correction.
- (3) Reset the first measure of the TRACK by pressing the BAR RESET button (1).
- (4) Press the RUN/STOP button (K). (The 1st measure of Bass Pattern is played.)
- (5) By pressing the TAP button (R), proceed one measure at a time until you reach the measure at which you want to set the new D.C.
- 6 Set the D.C. by pressing the D.C. button (1), followed by the WRITE/NEXT button (R).

### C. PLAYING THE BASS LINE (Alternate Method)

In this method you control the order and amount of shift in which the patterns are played by pressing the appropriate keyswitches while the TB-303 is playing. This is a useful way of seeing how a track will sound before actually writing it into memory.

	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
	Set the MODE selector (B) to PATTERN PLAY.		
1	PLAY -PATTERN		
	Select the 1st pattern using the PATTERN GROUP selector © and SELECTOR switches (N).	One of the indicators of the chosen SELECTOR switches lights up and the other one flashes.	
2			
		ACCENT SUIDE  O O  PATT SECTION	·





#### ■NOTE:

- Do not press the TAP button.
- Shift cannot be done at PATTERN PLAY.

### **4TO WRITE YOUR OWN BASS LINES**

Firstly you must master the Basic Course up to "Writing and Playing a Bass Line (Part II)". However, in order to write more complicated Bass lines, a little extra theory is needed.

# A. HOW TO WRITE YOUR OWN BASS PATTERNS

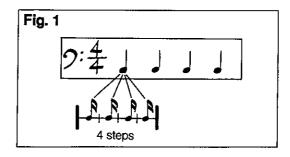
The TB-303 memorizes pitches, the length of notes, and other factors individually, but the most important part is to write "the length of note". A thorough understanding of this section will then make operation of the TB-303 much easier.

#### 1. THE STEP

#### a. THE STEP AND WRITING THE LENGTH OF NOTES

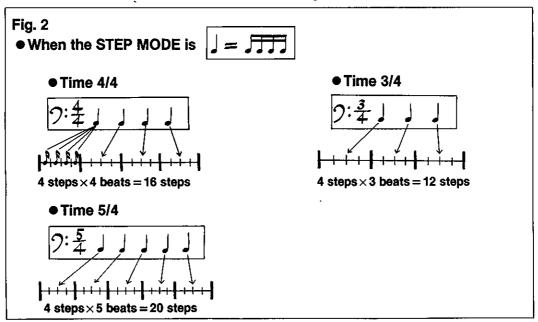
With the TB-303, one measure of a Bass Pattern is divided into four quarter notes ( ), and each quarter note is divided into four sixteenth notes ( ). Using the three switches of "SOUND BEGINS ( ), SOUND CONTINUES ( ), and REST ( )" you can write notes of any length.

This unit of division is called the STEP. One quarter note is equal to four sixteenth notes (J = P + P + P + P), so one beat equals four steps. (Fig. 1)



The STEP MODE is shown by I = fff when it is divided as in Fig. 1.

In this STEP MODE J=ffff the total number of STEPS per measure is shown in Fig. 2.



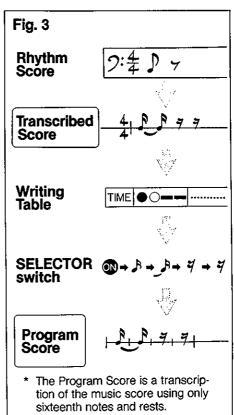
If each STEP has the length of one sixteenth note, by using  $\beta$ ,  $\beta$ , or 7, in the correct order you can write the timing and the length of various notes.

While actually Writing, press the SELECTOR switches marked  $\[ \]$ ,  $\[ \]$ , and  $\[ \]$  according to the WRITING TABLE FOR TIME using  $\[ \]$ ,  $\[ \]$ , and  $\[ \]$  respectively.

Fig. 3 shows the relationship of the Writing Table, STEP, the Score and so on.

# THE LENGTH OF NOTES AND HOW TO USE THE SWITCHES

With the STEP MODE J=ffff , you can write various kinds of Bass line, such as Rock 'n' Roll, using only sixteenth ( ) notes as shown here.



THE LENGTH OF	NOTES AND HOW TO USE	THE SWITCHES	*STEP MODE
امرورورورو=) ل	)⇔0000000	==(=7777777	) 🖒 —————
	₽ ●00000	<b>J</b> ·(= 7 7 7 7 7 7 7)	<b>⇔</b>
	□ •000	v (= 7 7 7 7)	<b>⇔</b>
	□ • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	7. (= 777)	<b>□</b>
) (age ) (	$\Diamond \bullet \Diamond$	7 (= 7 7)	<b>⇔</b>
P	$ ightharpoonup \bullet$	7	<b>□</b>
P.7	You cannot write	these with the TB-303.	
الريخ ا	You cannot write	triplets using the STE	P MODE [=fff].

### [NOTE]

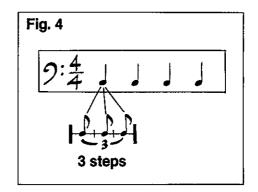
Ą	=	•	=	STEP	The sound is heard as the length of a sixteen note.
هي	=	$\circ$	=	ાં ફે 🔲 ં	This increases the value of the previous note by one sixteenth note value, a tied sixteenth note.
7	_	-	=	A PATT. SI	Rest (no sound) for one sixteenth note

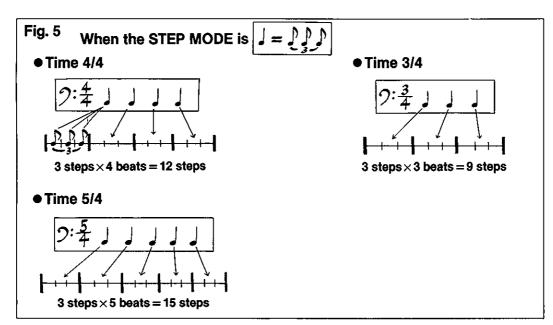
# b. ANOTHER DIVISION (ONE BEAT = 3 STEPS)

If you wish to write a Bass Pattern using triplets, you can set the STEP MODE by pressing the switch before writing the length of the notes.

With the STEP MODE  $\downarrow = \bigcirc$ , the length of step automatically changes, so that one quarter note is divided into three equal eighth notes, so now one beat  $( \ \ \ \ ) = 3$  steps.(Fig. 4)

In this case, the total number of steps in one measure is shown in Fig. 5.





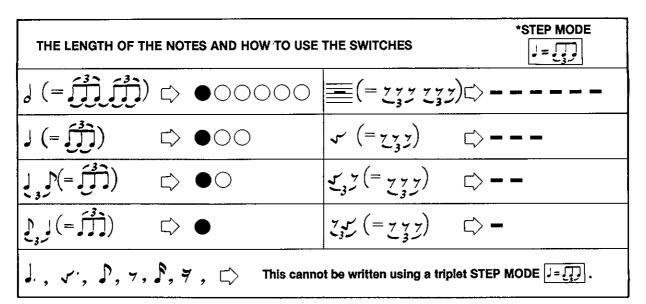
#### ■THE LENGTH OF THE NOTES AND HOW TO USE THE SWITCHES.

With the STEP MODE J= the length of the notes, using the SELECTOR switches,

change as in Fig. 6.

Fig. 6

Ą	•	دفتر		•	=		This note sounds for 1/3 of a beat.
هر	•		_	0	=	- (₹ <u>                                   </u>	This increases the value of the previous note by one third of a beat.
7	•	777	=		=		Rest (no sound) for 1/3 of a beat



#### c. SELECTING THE STEP MODE AND SETTING THE STEP NUMBER

#### 1 Selecting the STEP MODE

The regular STEP MODE is set automatically at []= []]. Writing with []= []] you need to select the MODE. When returning to []= []] from []= []] simply select and clear a new memory position.

#### 2 Setting the STEP number

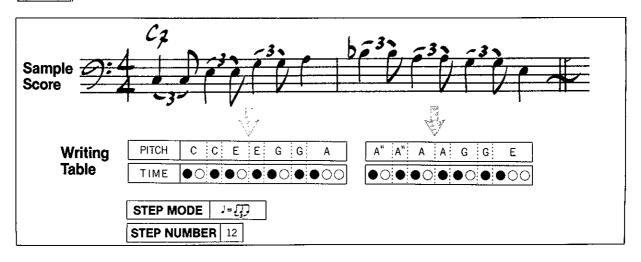
When you write a pattern with 16 steps, it is not necessary to set the STEP number because by pressing the PATTERN CLEAR button (), as in SELECTING A MEMORY POSITION,

16 steps are set automatically. You need to set the number of steps only when it differs from the number 16.

# 2. AN EXAMPLE OF A DIFFERENT STEP NUMBER

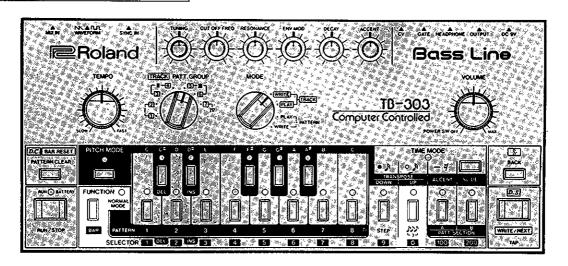
# A. WRITING A BASS PATTERN USING TRIPLETS.

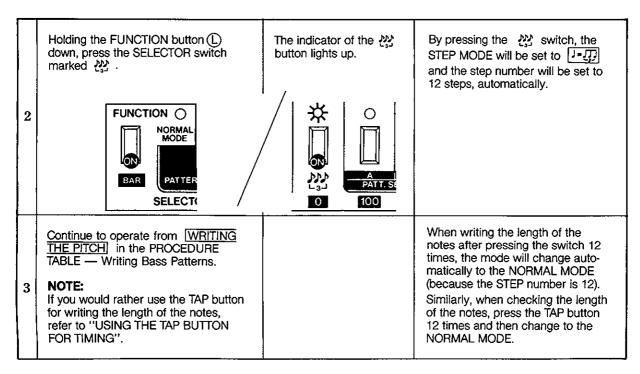
Let's write the following Bass Pattern (1st measure)



	Operation	Result	Operation Notes
1	Complete the operations up to SELECTING A MEMORY POSITION according to the PROCEDURE TABLE — Writing Bass Patterns.	After selecting a memory position, make sure the TB-303 is in its NORMAL MODE.	By pressing the PATTERN CLEAR button (1), the TB-303 is set automatically to a STEP MODE of []= #### and the step number is 16.

#### **SELECTING THE STEP MODE**





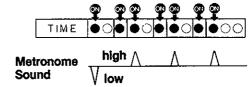
### Now you have correctly entered the Bass PATTERN in 3/4.

■When you have completed the second measure, you can write the two measures into a track, using the PROCEDURE TABLE — Writing into a Track.

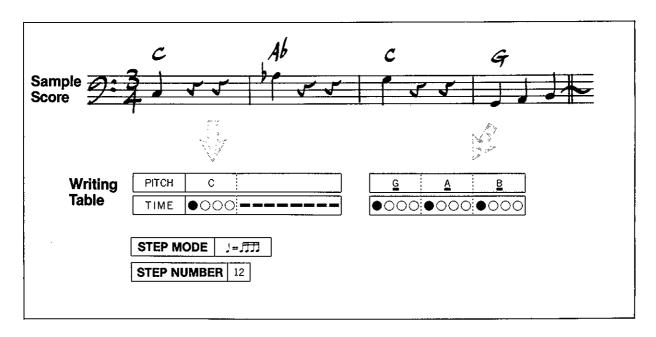
With the STEP MODE [J=]], the metronome sound rings at quarter note intervals. The writing method is the same as for the STEP MODE [J=]]

# b. WRITING A BASS PATTERN IN 3/4

Let's write the following Bass Pattern (1st measure)

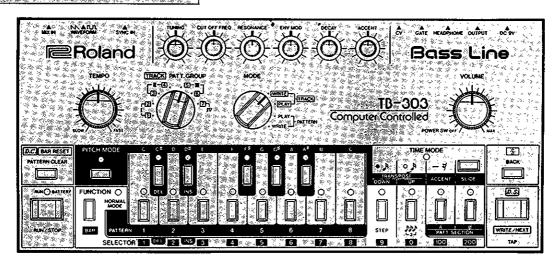


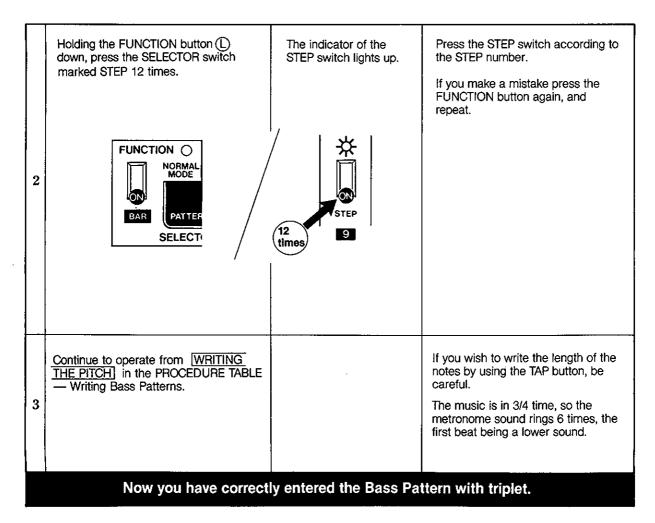
\*The metronome sound rings at fourth note interval.



	Operation	Operation Result	
1	Complete the operations up to SELECTING A MEMORY POSITION in the PROCEDURE TABLE — Writing Bass Patterns.		

### SETTING THE STEP NUMBERS





■To finish the track, notice that bars 2 and 3 can be reproduced by "shifting" bar one. Write measure 4 into another memory position, then refer to the PROCEDURE TABLE — Writing into a Track.

#### **■NOTE**:

- You wrote in 3/4 time here, but it is easily seen that the same method can be applied to 2/4 etc.,
- 2. If you want to write the same 3/4 pattern, but in a triplet feel, then set the STEP MODE to [] and the STEP number to 9.

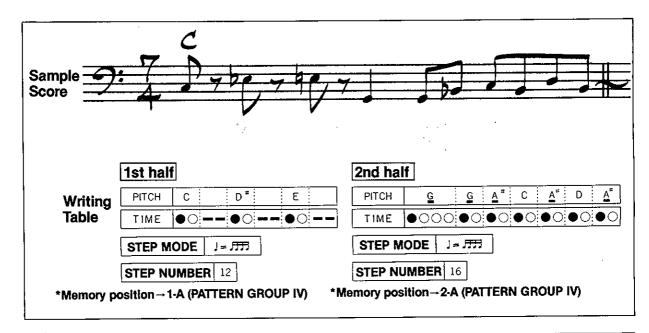
c. WRITING THE PATTERN WITH A STEP NUMBER GREATER THAN 16.

The step number of a Bass Pattern written into one memory position has a maximum of sixteen steps (in the case of the STEP MODE []=[]] 15 steps is the maximum).

So, to write in 5/4, with a STEP MODE []= \$\mathref{III}\$], it is impossible to write 4 (steps) \$\times 5\$ (beats) = 20 steps into one memory position.

In this case, divide the one measure pattern into two suitable parts, and write them into two different memory positions. Join the divided pattern when writing into the TRACK, and the pattern will be played as one measure.

LET'S WRITE THE FOLLOWING BASS PATTERN INTO TWO MEMORY POSITIONS. Use the positions designated here.

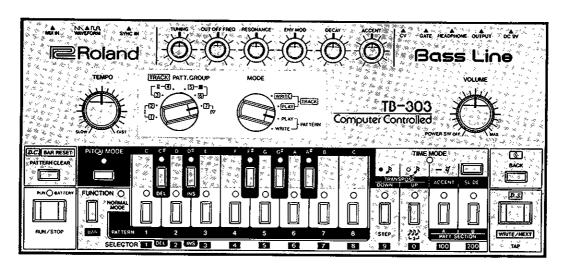


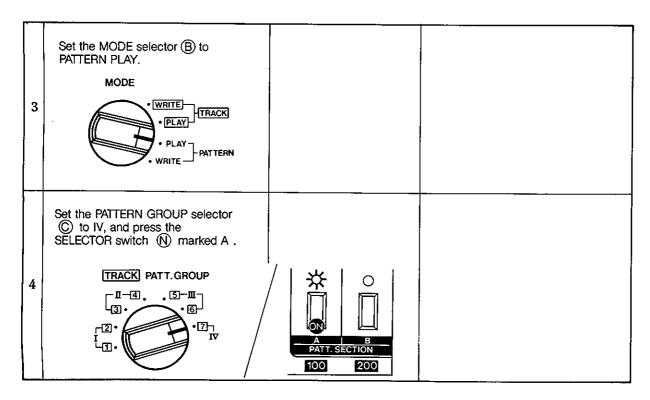
	Operation	Result	Operation Notes	
1	Write the first half of the pattern into 1-A (PATTERN GROUP IV)			

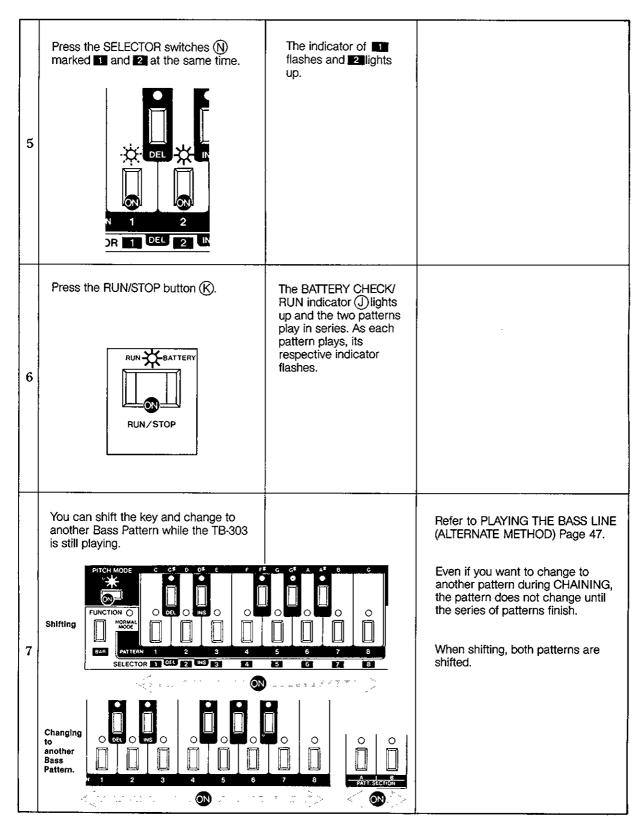
Write the second half of the pattern into 2-A (PATTERN GROUP IV).

#### CONFIRMING BY CHAINING

This is a method of playing consecutive patterns as a group.
 By using this method you can confirm the pattern without wiriting it into a TRACK.



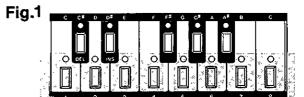




Now you have correctly entered the writing pattern with more than 16 steps.

#### **CHAINING**

The eight writing switches are divided into two parts, shown in Fig. 1. Each "block" can play the Bass Patterns in series by pressing any two switches in the same block, at the same time. (Refer to Diagram 1)



OR 11 CK 2 CKS 3 > 3 4

### Diagram 1

	How to Use the Switches					Order of Play	
1		2	[] [] 3	4	<b>†</b>		
2		2	3	[] []	<b>→</b>		
3		2			<b>→</b>	→ 3 → 4 —	
4	etc.						
	* Pres	ssing two case only ving from	switches	from diffolay.) Imbers to	erent blocks	y positions 5 to 6.  will not lead to CHAINING (For example 5 to 6, in bers ( 4 - 3 - 2 - 11) cannot be done, neither - 4).	

#### ■NOTES:

- The pattern is divided into the first half with 3 beats (12 steps) and the latter half with 4 beats (16 steps) here, but it can be divided into the first half with 4 beats and the latter half with 3 beats.
- When confirming the pattern by CHAINING, select two memory positions next to each other in the same block when you write and the first half should have the lower position number, while the latter half should be the next higher number.

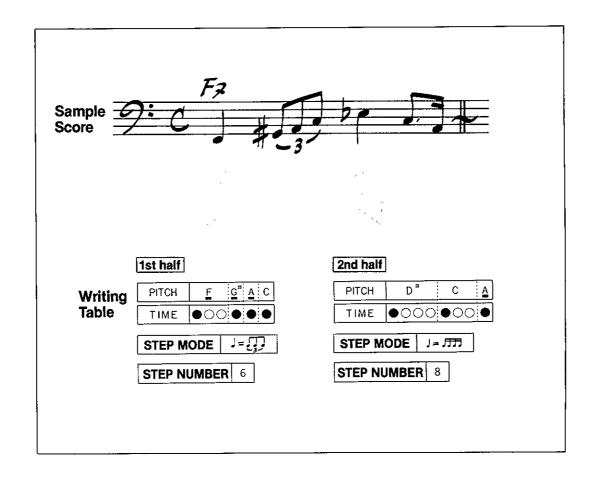
In this case, select memory positions in the same PATTERN GROUP and PATTERN SECTION (otherwise CHAINING cannot be achieved).

 In CHAINING, if each memory position contains just one measure, several measures in a series can be used as a Bass line.

## d. WRITING COMPLICATED PATTERNS

#### 1 Using Two Different Step Modes

It is impossible to write using two STEP MODES in the one memory position, so to write patterns with two STEP MODES, write the pattern into two different positions. LET'S WRITE THE FOLLOWING BASS PATTERN IN TWO STEP MODES

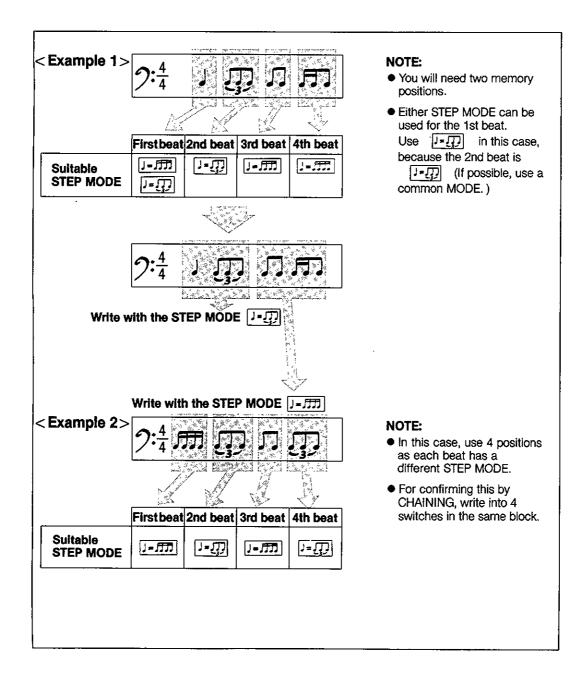


#### **■OPERATION**

- Simply follow the instructions in "c. WRITING THE PATTERN WITH A STEP NUMBER GREATER THAN 16."
- Write the pattern into two positions next to each other, in the same block, if you want to confirm by CHAINING.

#### ■NOTE:

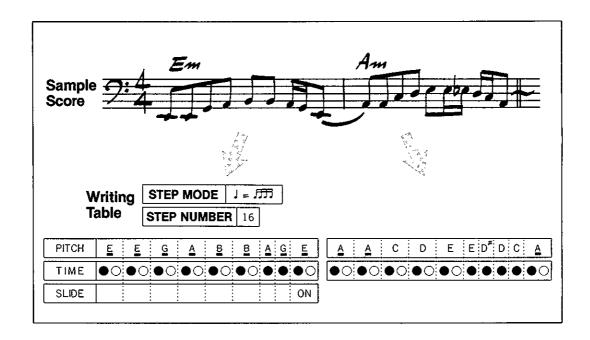
It is better to check the MODE of each beat in the bar, one at time, as in Example 1.



#### 2. Writing a Slide between Two Patterns

It is possible to slide from one pattern to another if the last note of the first pattern has a slide written onto it. LET'S WRITE THE FOL-LOWING TWO-MEASURE BASS PATTERN.

If you want to confirm the pattern by CHAIN-ING, use two switches next to each other in the same block.



#### **■**METHOD

This writing method makes use of the functions of slide (refer to WRITING ACCENT/ SLIDE (Page 40) not only within one pattern but also crossing between two patterns. Therefore, the first note of the second measure has a slide approaching it, no matter what this second measure may be.

(If the first note of the second measure is a rest, the slide does not work)

If the pitch of the last note of the 1st measure and the first note of the 2nd measure are the same, the two measures will be "TIED". If you continually repeat a pattern that ends with a slide, the first note of the pattern will 'receive' the slide.

#### 3. NOTES

- The STEP number of a track is automatically set at 16 for ↓ = ∫ (12 for ↓ = ∫ ) whenever you select and clear a new memory position.
- All steps are written as for f (ff) or find ) when writing the length of the note with SUSTAIN, using the TAP button. (There are no rests ( ) in this case).
- After setting the STEP MODE for you cannot reset for []=;;;] . To do this, repeat the operations from SELECTING A MEMORY POSITION.
- ◆ When writing "♣" (or ♬️ ) at the beginning of a pattern, it is automatically re-written as "♣" (or ♬️ ).

# B. TO WRITE YOUR OWN BASS LINES

You can write your own Bass lines and play them by understanding the functions of the TRACK.

#### 1. The TRACK

#### a. TRACK MEMORY

There are 7 TRACKS in the TB-303 and each TRACK can remember 64 measures. To write a piece of music that has more than 64 measures, you will have to use 2 or 3 consecutive TRACKS (Page 66). The remainder of the TRACK cannot be used (e.g. if you write 24 measures in the TRACK, the other 40 cannot be used). Even if only 1 measure is written into the TRACK, it is impossible to write into the remainder.

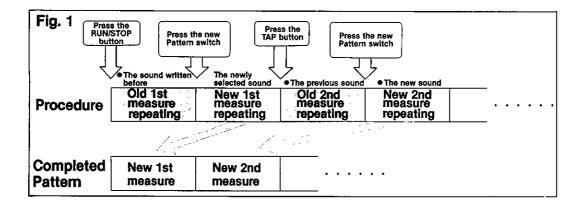
#### **b. HOW TO MEMORIZE A TRACK**

A TRACK can remember the order in which you want the patterns to play and also the key (shift) they should be in. It also remembers each pattern as a complete measure, even if you have chained two patterns together to create a measure. In this case, the TRACK will still remember each pattern as a separate measure.

#### c. WRITING

The new TRACK is not written in after clearing out an old one. In fact, what you do is call back (listen to) the old track, one measure at a time, and replace each measure with a new one. This means that you must

- a) listen to the old measure 1.
- b) find a new measure 1.
- c) Press TAP button to write in the new measure 1, and to move on to
- d) listen to the old measure 2.
- e) find a new measure 2. etc...(See Fig. 1)



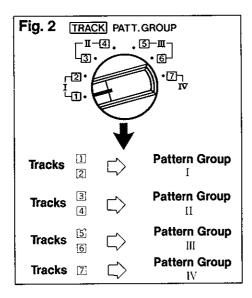
#### **1)SELECTING A PATTERN GROUP**

The PATTERN GROUP is decided automatically when the TRACK is selected, so you can write using 16 patterns (8 (switches) × 2 (A, B)) in that PATTERN GROUP. (Fig. 2)

The patterns from different GROUPS cannot be used at the same time, so it is necessary to write the Bass Patterns of one piece of music into one PATTERN GROUP only.

#### **(2)SETTING D.C.**

When selecting the last measure of the TRACK, set D.C. This tells the TB-303 where the TRACK ends and when you play this TRACK, it will repeatedly play from the first measure to this last measure.

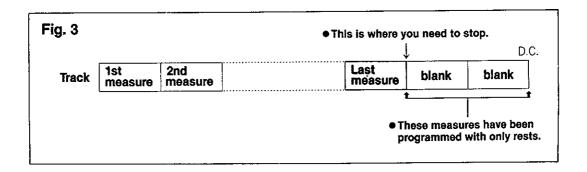


#### \*Precautions\*

- \* Make sure you set the D.C. If you don't set a new one, the previous D.C. measure will still operate.
- \* Set the D.C. at the last measure. If you set the D.C. about halfway through the TRACK, this measure is judged as the last measure and the rest of the measures will not be played.
- \* Set one D.C. per TRACK
- \* If you set more than one D.C. per TRACK, only the last one will operate.

#### **3NOTES**

- When playing a TRACK, it will repeat after the D.C. measure finishes by returning to the first measure. If you only want the TRACK to play once, press the RUN/STOP button after playing the D.C. measure. If this proves difficult, write two blank measures after the last measure to give you room to stop.
- When Writing into the TRACK, you can write by using CHAINING (the patterns between two switches pressed in one BLOCK can be written together). You can also "shift" while CHAINING and the selected patterns will all be shifted to the same key.



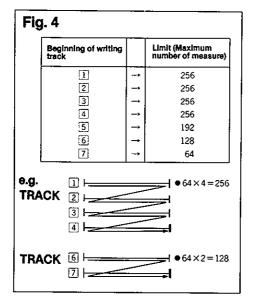
# 2. WRITING AND PLAYING A BASS LINE IN TWO TRACKS

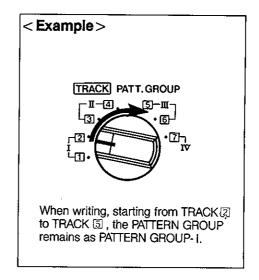
#### a. WRITING

The operation itself is the same as writing into a single TRACK.

#### 1) METHOD

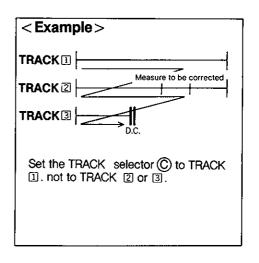
- Set the TRACK selector © at the first TRACK, and you don't need to change — the TRACK changes automatically.
- \* However, be careful, there is still a maximum number of measures that can be used in this way.
- \* If you exceed the limit (the maximum number of measures) the TRACK will return to the beginning and write over the first few measures.
- \* The PATTERN GROUP is decided by the TRACK from which you begin to write, you cannot change the PATTERN GROUP even if the writing continues to other TRACKS. (Refer to the Example.)





 As before, when using this method, set only one D.C. because in effect, you are really only writing one TRACK.

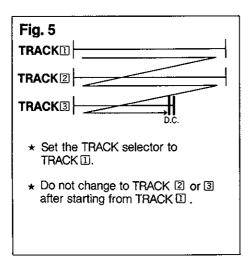
#### **2 NOTES ON CORRECTION**



#### **b. PLAYING THE COMBINED TRACKS**

\* Make sure you set the TRACK selector

(i) to the TRACK which has the 1st
measure to start to play. If you set it to
about halfway through the TRACK, it
cannot play correctly.

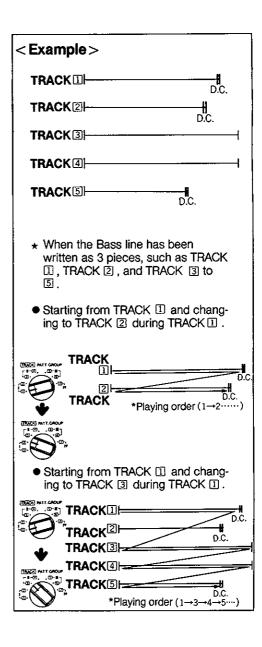


\* It is not necessary to change the TRACK selector ①, as the TB-303 changes automatically to the next TRACK. (If you do change the selector to the other TRACK, it cannot play correctly).

# 3. CHANGING THE TRACK WHILE PLAYING

#### a. METHOD

If you change the TRACK selector © to another TRACK while it is playing, then it will play through to its D.C. measure (the last measure) of the current TRACK before it changes to the first measure of the new TRACK and continues from there. (Refer to Example)



#### b. NOTES:

- \* Make sure you change the selector to the TRACK which starts the Bass line (TRACK 3 for example) when changing to the combined TRACKS (TRACK 3 to 5 for example). If you change to about halfway through a TRACK (TRACK 4 or 5 for example) it cannot play correctly.
- \* DO NOT START HALFWAY THROUGH A TRACK (TRACK (2) or (5) for example) WHEN STARTING A BASS LINE.

### **ADVANCED COURSE**

### **11 USEFUL FUNCTIONS OF THE TRACK**

To simplify writing a long Bass line, the TB-303 can easily do "Correction", "Confirm the measure numbers" and write a & sign to repeat a section of the TRACK, the same as in writing a sheet of music.

### A. PLAYING/WRITING/ CORRECTING A MEASURE/CHANGING THE D.C. FROM A DESIGNATED MEASURE

You can play or write from a designated measure about halfway through a TRACK.

# 1. DESIGNATING THE MEASURE NUMBER

Set the MODE selector B to TRACK PLAY when playing from a designated measure, and to TRACK WRITE when writing (or correcting).

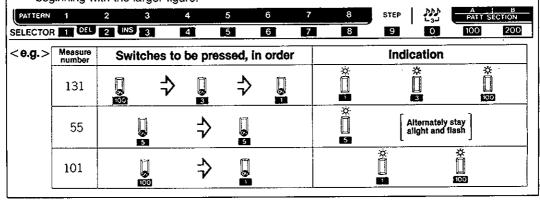
- ② Select the TRACK using the TRACK selector ©.
- If the Bass line uses combined TRACKS, set it to the TRACK which has the first measure.
- (3) Make sure the TB-303 is not running.
- While holding the BAR button ( down, press the SELECTOR switch (N) designating the measure number. (Refer to "HOW TO SELECT THE MEASURE NUMBER" below)
- \* The indicator of the SELECTOR switch (N) shows the designated measure number.
- If you choose the wrong measure number, release the BAR button (1) and repeat from operation 4.

#### HOW TO SELECT THE MEASURE NUMBER

- The SELECTOR switches to o , 100 and 200 work as the BAR number switches (the switches for designating the measure number) when pressing the BAR button (L).
- While looking at the BAR number in the examples, press the measure number beginning with the larger figure.

#### RULES OF INDICATION

- In a three digit number (say 236) the indicators of the first two numbers (2 and 3) will light up, whilst the last digit (6) will flash.
- If a number has a repeated digit (say 55) then its indicator will alternately stay alight and flash.



- (5) Release the BAR button (L) after you have selected the measure number.
- \* The indicator of the pattern designated by that number will flash.

#### • NOTE:

Do not designate a measure number greater than the last measure number (D.C. measure) of the TRACK.

#### 2.

### a. PLAYING A TRACK FROM A DESIGNATED MEASURE

Press the RUN/STOP button (K) after designating the measure number.

### b. WRITING A TRACK FROM A DESIGNATED MEASURE

Follow the PROCEDURE TABLE — WRITING INTO A TRACK (from operation 4) after designating the measure number.

#### c. CHECKING AND CORRECTING A DESIGNATED MEASURE

Follow the CHECKING AND CORRECTING
A DESIGNATED MEASURE in the Basic
Course Page 29 to 31 (from Operation 18)
after designating the measure number.

# d. CHANGING THE POSITION OF THE D.C.

Press the RUN/STOP button K after designating the measure in which you want to set the new D.C. and follow the PROCEDURE TABLE — WRITING INTO THE TRACK (from Operation 9).

# B. PLAYING A TRACK USING THE SIGN (D.S. and & )

After you set the \$\frac{1}{2}\$ sign at a measure in the TRACK, the TRACK goes back to the \$\frac{1}{2}\$ measure from any other measure by pressing the TAP button (R) during that other measure.

#### 1. SETTING THE & SIGN

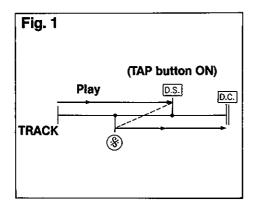
- ① Set the MODE selector (B) to TRACK WRITE.
- ② Designate the measure in which you want to set the \* sign according to the section on DESIGNATING THE MEASURE NUMBER (Operations 2 to 5).
- ③ Press the RUN/STOP button (K) (The Bass pattern of the designated measure plays).
- Press the & button Q, to write the sign & into this bar.
- You can set the sign & while Writing (or correcting) the TRACK.
- \* Write the Bass pattern first and select the pattern at which you want to set & , then press the & button Q.

#### NOTE:

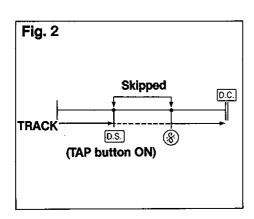
- \* You can only set one & sign per TRACK.
- \* If you set more than one & per TRACK, only the last one will operate.
- \* Do not set the & sign at the last measure (D.C. measure).
- \* If you do not set the \* sign, the previous position will be used.

# 2. PLAYING A TRACK USING D.S. &

Whilst the TRACK is playing, press the D.S. button (B) at any measure. After finishing the current measure, the TRACK will return to the & measure and continue from there. (Fig. 1)



\* If you press the D.S. button (R) before the & measure, the TRACK will jump to the beginning of & measure. (Fig. 2)



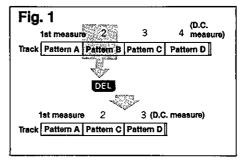
- \* If you press the D.S. button 
   during the D.C. measure, the TRACK will return to the measure and not to the first measure.
- \* In case of changing the track while playing, do not press the D.S. button, as D.S.→ % function does not operate properly. (When the track is being changed, % measure is not read properly.)

# C. DELETE AND INSERT A MEASURE

The TB-303 can delete or insert a measure after writing a piece of music.

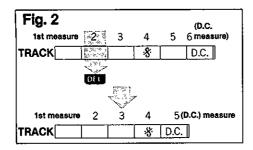
#### 1. DELETE

- ① Set the MODE selector (B) to TRACK WRITE.
- ② Designate the measure you want to delete, according to DESIGNATING THE MEASURE NUMBER (Operations 2 to 4).
- (3) Whilst holding the FUNCTION button (L) down, press the psy switch (C \* keyswitch).
  - The designated measure is deleted and the following measures move forward. (Fig. 1)

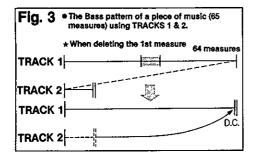


#### NOTE:

\* When you delete, the D.C. measure is corrected automatically but the \* measure cannot be corrected. (Fig. 2 on the next page)



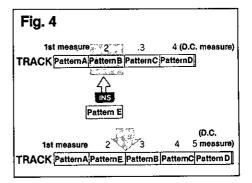
- \* Do not delete the D.C. measure and the measures after that (It may cause trouble in the written track).
- In Fig. 3, TRACK 2 is no longer combined with TRACK 1.



#### 2. INSERT

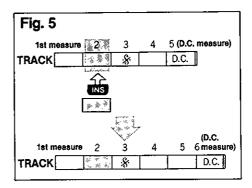
- ② Designate the measure before which you want to insert a BAR according to Designating the Measure Number. (Operations 2 to 5)
- e.g. If you wish to insert between the 5th and 6th measures, designate the 6th measure.
- ③ Whilst holding the FUNCTION button (L) down, press the INS switch (D\* key- ins switch).
- (4) Press the RUN/STOP button (K).
- \* The Bass pattern written into the designated measure plays.

- Select the Bass pattern you want to insert by using the appropriate SELECTOR switch (N).
- \* The selected Bass pattern is played.
- 6) Press the WRITE/NEXT button (R).
- Proceed to the next Bass pattern (this is done automatically by pressing the TAP button).
- (7) Press the RUN/STOP button (K).
- The new Bass pattern has been inserted into the designated measure and the following patterns move further back. (Fig. 4)

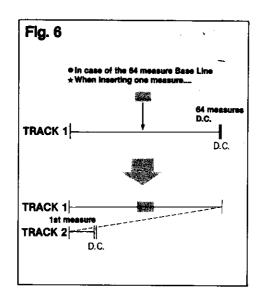


#### NOTE:

\* When you insert, the D.C. measure is corrected automatically but the \* measure cannot be corrected (Fig. 5).



- \* Do not insert after D.C. measure. (It may cause trouble in the written track.)
- \* If the TRACK has more than 256 measures after a BAR has been inserted, the D.C. Measure will move to the first measure of the next TRACK.
- In Fig. 6, the D.C. measure moves on to TRACK 2, so now TRACK 2 cannot be used without affecting TRACK 1.



### D. CONFIRMATION BY USING THE INDICATORS

### 1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MEASURE NUMBERS

When you want to know the number of the measure which is playing at the moment, whether you are Writing the TRACK or playing, press the BAR button ①, even if the TB-303 is running.

- The indicators of the SELECTOR switches show you the measure number. (Refer to RULES OF INDICATION on P.69)
- \* Whilst the TB-303 is playing, obviously the numbers will increase.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF THE AMOUNT OF SHIFT

When you want to know whether you have shifted or not, and where to put the shifted pattern whilst Writing the TRACK, press the PITCH MODE button whilst the TB-303 is running.

 The indicator of the key-switch shows the amount of shift.

### 3. CONFIRMATION OF D.C. AND & MEASURE

- 1 Set the MODE selector (B) to either TRACK PLAY or TRACK WRITE.
- 2 Stop the play.
- ③ \*In case of D.C. measure:
  While holding the BAR button (L) down, press the D.C. button (I).

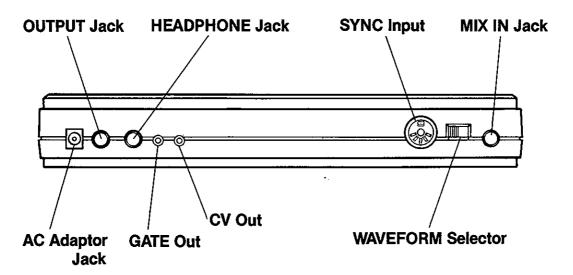
### In case of & measure:

While holding the BAR button ( ) down, press the & button ( ) . (Refer to RULES OF INDICATION, P. 69)

### **2 APPLIED METHOD OF THE TB-303**

The TB-303 can be synchronized with other units such as Rhythm machines and Sequencers, by using the SYNC input, and it can control other Synthesizers with its CV and GATE out.

### A. REAR PANEL



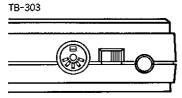
### B. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH OTHER UNITS

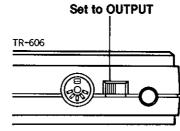
### 1. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH RHYTHM MACHINES

 The TB-303 can be synchronized with a TR-606, TR-808 or a CR-8000 using a standard five pin DIN cord.



### a. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH THE TR-606







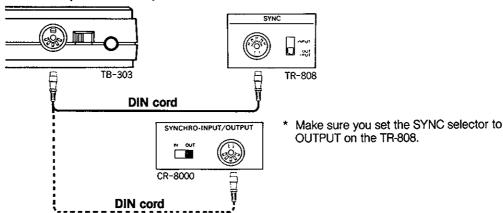
Make sure you set the SYNC selector to OUTPUT on the TR-606.

### NOTE:

- Control the tempo, start and stop functions of both units from the TR-606.
- \* It may also play D.S.→ \* again controlled by the TR-606. (When you press the TAP button of the TR-606, both units will return to the \* measure).
- Writing and correcting a Bass part or a Drum part is best achieved while they are disconnected.

\* Before starting a synchronized performance, make sure you press the CLEAR/ RESET button on both the TB-303 and the TR-606 (to set them both at the first measure).

### b. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH THE TR-808 (OR CR-8000)



### NOTE:

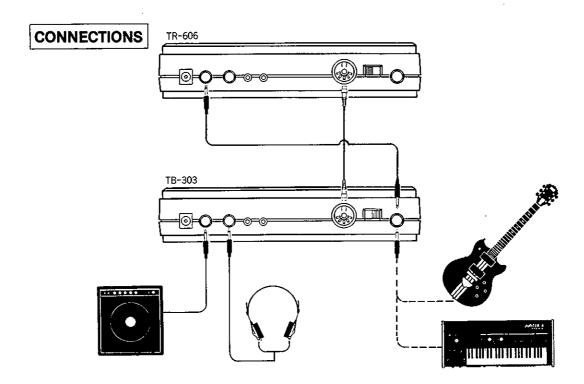
- \* Control the tempo, start and stop functions from the TR-808 (or CR-8000).
- \* The TR-808 cannot perform the D.S. function.
- Writing and Correcting a Bass part or a Drum part is best achieved whilst they are disconnected.
- Before starting a synchronized performance, press the CLEAR/RESET button of the TB-303.

### c. MIX IN

This Input Jack accepts other audio signals (in order to connect a Rhythm machine or an electric guitar), then both sounds come through the amplifier connection (OUTPUT), the new sound being mixed with the Bass sound of the TB-303. You can also monitor the mixed sound using headphones.

### NOTE:

- \* You cannot use the MIX IN if the POWER switch of the TB-303 is OFF.
- \* The relative volume of the connected machine is controlled by itself, not the TB-303.



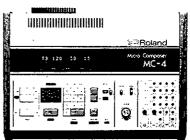
### 2. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH SEQUENCERS

 The TB-303 can be synchronized with sequencer units such as a CSQ-600 or an MC-4 sequencer again using a standard five pin DIN cord.

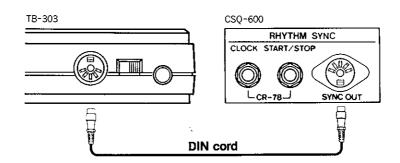








### a. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH A CSQ-600

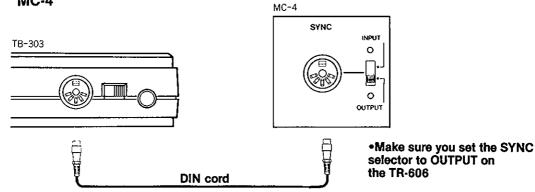


### NOTE:

- \* Control the tempo, start and stop functions from the CSQ-600.
- It cannot synchronize correctly using the STOP/CONTINUE function of the CSQ-600 (DO NOT START AGAIN AFTER STOPPING HALFWAY).

 Make sure you press the CLEAR/RESET button of the TB-303 before starting a synchronized performance.

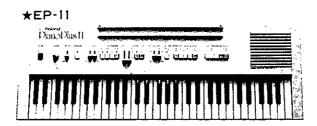


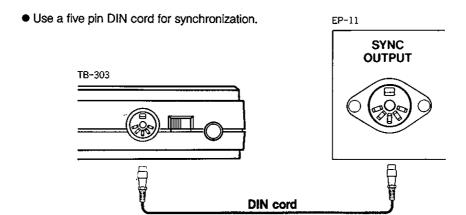


### NOTE:

- \* Control the tempo, start and stop functions from the MC-4.
- It cannot synchronize correctly using the STOP/CONTINUE function of the MC-4 (DO NOT START AGAIN AFTER STOPPING HALFWAY).
- Make sure you press the CLEAR/RESET button of the TB-303 before starting a synchronized performance.

### 3. SYNCHRONIZATION WITH THE EP-11





### NOTE:

- Control the tempo, start and stop functions by using the START/STOP button in the Rhythm section of the EP-11.
- \* Make sure you press the CLEAR/RESET button of the TB-303.

### C. CONTROL OF SYNTHESIZERS

By using the CV and GATE out of the TB-303, you can control other synthesizers (1 volt/oct 1) using the memorized contents of the TB-303.

The TB-303 can then be used as an advanced sequencer to play a Bass line, arpeggios or even a melody line.

### 1. CV. GATE

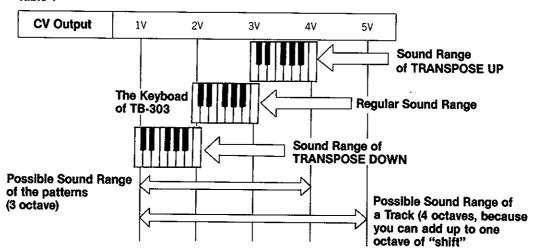
### ● CV Output (Control Voltage)

This voltage depends on the note being played, as shown in Table 1.

### GATE OUTPUT

The GATE output is related to the timing of the notes Written into memory, as shown in Table 2.

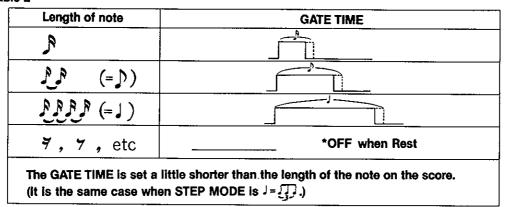
Table 1



### NOTE:

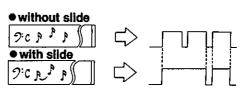
- \* Normally a synthesizer will play middle C when the VCO is set for the 8' range and is given a voltage of +2 volts. Therefore to produce the some pitch as the TB-303, set the VCO at 32'.
  (Refer to Sound Range Diagram on P.88)
- \* The slide of the TB-303 works the same way as the portamento on synthesizers, so when the pitch slides, the CV also changes smoothly.
- Accent in the TB-303 has no effect on the CV and therefore cannot be applied to other synthesizers.
- The CV can also be used whilst Writing (except when Writing the length of the notes).

Table 2



### NOTE:

\* GATE output with SLIDE — the GATE signal changes as shown beside.

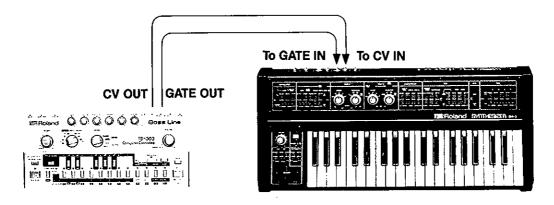


### 2. CONNECTION

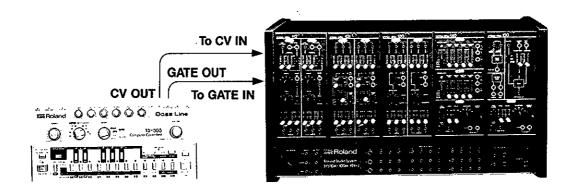
The TB-303 can be connected to any standard synthesizer (1 volt/oct) having CV IN and GATE IN Jacks.

### **EXAMPLE CONNECTIONS**

a. TB-303+SH-2

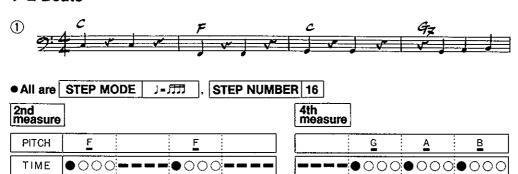


### b.TB-303+SYSTEM100M

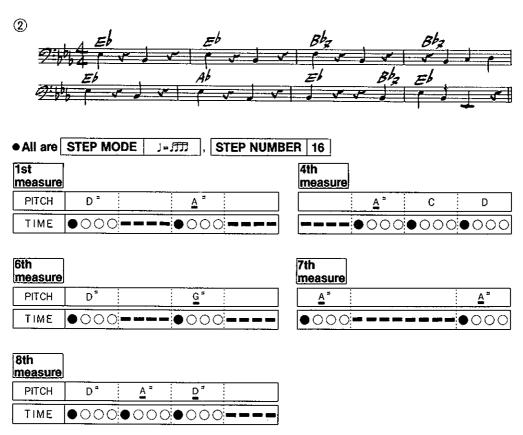


### SAMPLE BASS LINE

### ▶ 2 Beats



[Note] • Shift the 2nd measure for the 1st and the 3rd measures.



[Note] • Repeat the 1st measure for the 2nd and the 5th measures.

• Shift the 6th measure for the 3rd measure.

### ▶4 Beats

**PITCH** 

TIME

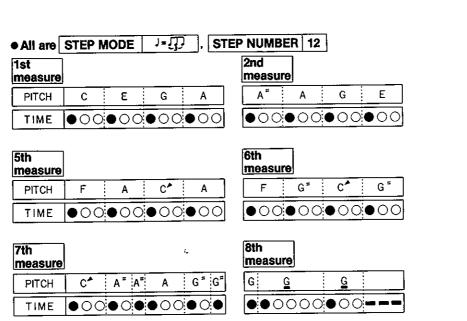


All are	STEP MO	DE J-	<b>fff</b> . [	STEP NUMI	BER 16
2nd measure					
PITCH	A	A	E	E	
TIME	●000	•000	•000	000	

●000●000●000

[Note] • Shift the 2nd measure for the 1st and the 3rd measures.

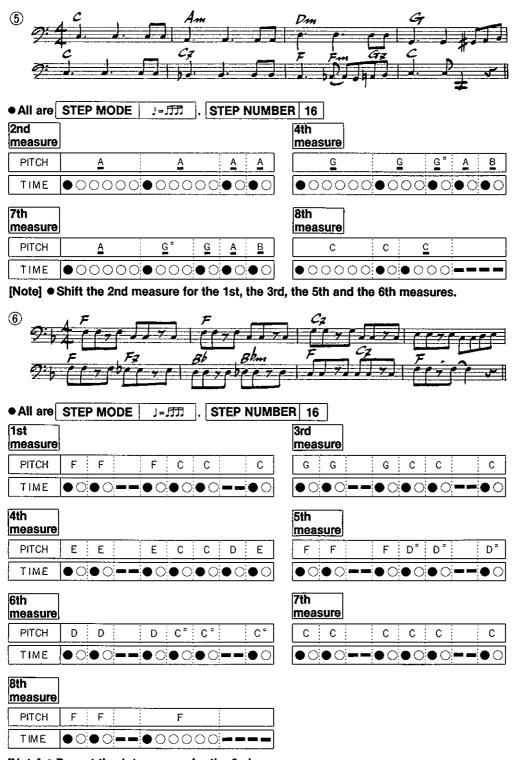




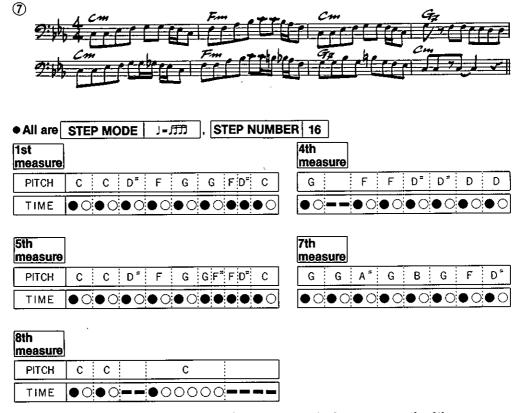
[Note] • Shift the 1st measure for the 3rd measure, and the 2nd measure for the 4th.

● 1st to 6th measures can be written with STEP MODE J=研 STEP NUMBER 16

### ▶ 8 Beats (ROCK, DISCO, BOSSANOVA)

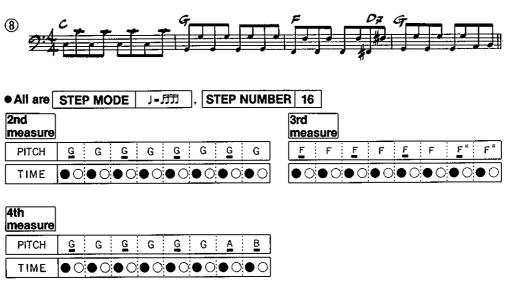


[Note] ● Repeat the 1st measure for the 2nd measure.

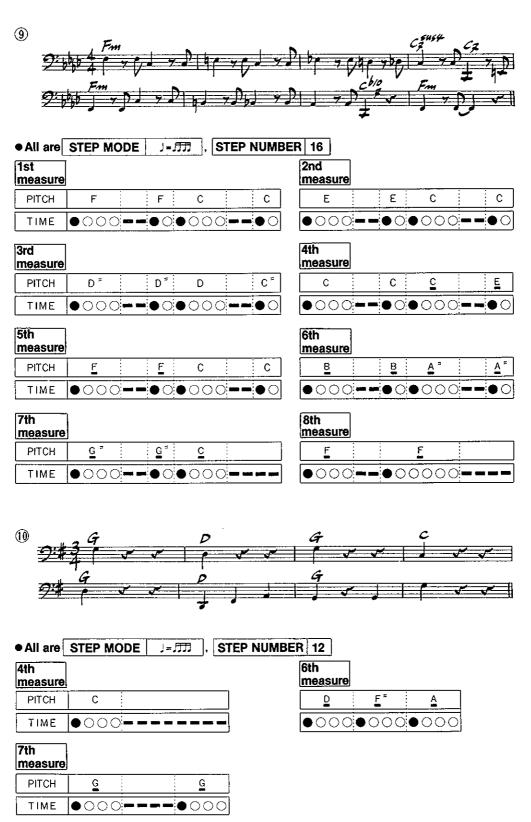


[Note] • Shift the 1st measure for the 2nd measure and 5th measure to the 6th.

• Repeat the 1st measure for the 3rd.



[Note] • Shift the 2nd measure for the 1st measure.



[Note] Shift the 4th measure for the 1st, the 2nd, the 3rd, the 5th and the 8th measures.



[Note] • As shown in the Table 1, write the patterns 1 to 12 into the corresponding switches and write these into the tracks according to the Table 2.

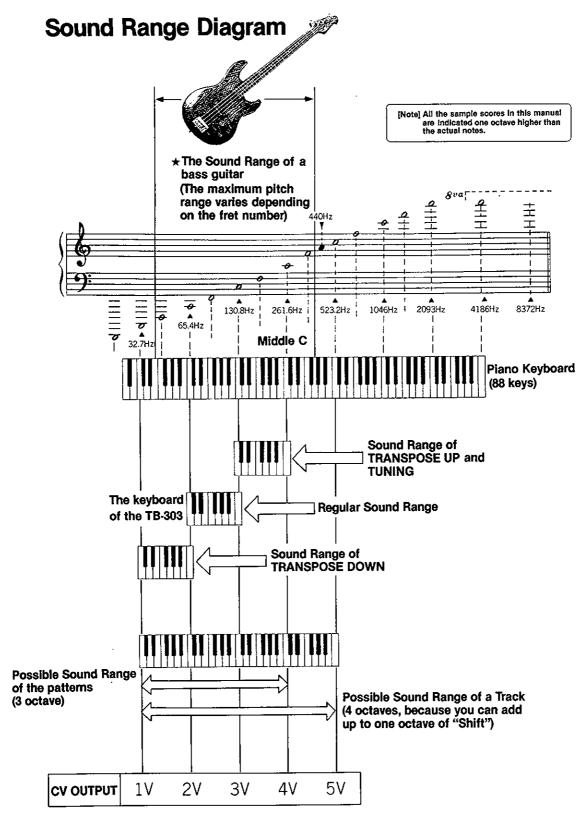
Table 1 ● Write all the patterns with STEP MODE J= UP STEP NUMBER 12

Pattern Number		Memory Positions	
rattern Number	Group	Section	Switch
①			1
2			2
3			3
4		Α	4
(5)	TTT		5
6	111		6
7			7
8			8
9			1
(0)		Б	2
0		В	3
(12)			4

Table 2. (Track Score)

2-A © 2-A © 1-A 2-A 3-A 4-A 5-A 7-A 2-A 2-A © 8-A 1-B 2-B 2-A A 3-B 4-B	2- A ©	2-A 🛈	1 — A	2 — A	3 — A	4 — A	5 — A	6 — A
	2- A ©	2-A 🔘	1 — A	2 — A	3 — A	4 — A	5 — A	7 — A
2 A 2 A 3 B 4 B								
2-A © 2-A D 1-A 2-A 3-A 4-A 5-A 6-A								

D.C.



### **SPECIFICATIONS**

### ■TB-303 ■BASS LINE

### **■NUMBER OF PATTERNS:**

64 patterns (8 x A, B x I, II, III, IV)

• Memorized Contents:

Pitch, Length of Note, Accent, Slide

• STEP MODE

• STEP number/1 measure

Sound Range

3 Octaves (4 octaves in a TRACK)

### **■NUMBER OF TRACKS:**

64 measures × 7 TRACKS (256 measures maximum)

• Memorized Contents:

Order of Patterns, Shift of Patterns, D.C. 8

### **ECONTROLS AND SELECTORS:**

• TONE CONTROL SECTION:

CUTOFF FREQUENCY, RESONANCE, ENVELOPE MODULATION, DECAY, ACCENT, WAVEFORM ( N\↔ ∏. )

• TUNING Control:

( ± 500 overcents)

• TEMPO Control:

MODE Selector:

PATTERN WRITE, PATTERN PLAY, TRACK WRITE, TRACK PLAY

- TRACK/PATTERN GROUP Selector:
- POWER SWITCH/VOLUME Control:

### ■ Switches, Buttons & Indicators:

- CLEAR/RESET Button:
- RUN/STOP Button;
- BATTERY CHECK/RUN Indicator:
- PITCH MODE Button:
- PITCH MODE Indicator:
- FUNCTION Button:
- NORMAL MODE Indicator:
- SELECTOR Switch & Indicator:
- TIME MODE Button:
- TIME MODE Indicator.
- ◆ 8 /BACK Button:
- TAP Button:

### **ECONNECTIONS:**

● DC9V×1:

AC Adaptor Jack (BOSS ACA Series)

• Output×1:

Regular Jack, Output Impedance  $10k\Omega$ 

• Headphone × 1:

Stereo Jack, Impedance  $8\Omega - 30\Omega$ 

• Gate Out×1:

Mini-Jack, OFF: 0V; ON: +12V:

● CV Out×1:

Mini-Jack, = +1V - +5V (1 volt/oct)

• SYNC in×1:

DIN connector (for TR-606, CR-8000, MC-4, CSQ-600)

• MIX IN×1:

Regular Jack, Impedance 100KΩ Input/ Output level: 1:1

● POWER: BATTERY — 6V (1.5V×4)

AC Adaptor: 9V

CURRENT DRAIN: 80mA (MIN)

120mA (MAX)

**Dimensions:** 300(W)×146(D)×55(H)mm

Weight: 1.0kg

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

### **ACCESSORIES:**

Compact Soft Case (SC303)  $\times$ 1 Connection Cord (PJ-1)  $\times$ 1

TB-303 OWNER'S MANUAL '82 APR.



### • PROCEDURE TABLE

### WRITING BASS PATTERNS

Set the MODE selector (6) to PATTERN WRITE.

### SELECTING A MEMORY POSITION

- 2 Select a memory position using a SELECTOR switch (8)
- Select the PATTERN GROUP using the TRACK/PATTERN GROUP selector ©
- Select the PATTERN SECTION using the SELECTOR switch (1) marked (200 or 200).
- While holding the "selected switch" down, press the CLEAR/RESET button

### SELECTING THE STEP MODE

Press the SELECTOR switch ( marked O (\langle) switch) while holding the FUNCTION button( down, to set the STEP MODE I=\langle).

### SETTING THE STEP NUMBER

White holding the FUNCTION button (C)
down, press the SELECTOR switch (B)
marked El (STEP switch) once for each
step.

### WRITING THE PITCH

- 8 Press the PITCH MODE button (B) .
- Press the key switches according to their order.
- 10 Press the FUNCTION button ().

### WRITING THE LENGTH OF THE NOTES

- 11 Press the TIME MODE button (P) .
- Use the SELECTOR switches (N)
  12 marked 52, 00 or 100 to write the length of the note.

### WRITING THE ACCENTS/SLIDES

- 13 Press the PITCH MODE button (1).
- While listening to each sound using the TAP button (B), press the SELECTOR switch (B) marked (EQ) for an accent, and the SELECTOR switch (B) marked (EQ) for a slide.
- 15 Press the FUNCTION button ().

### PLAYING A BASS PATTERN

16 Press the RUN/STOP button (§).

### WRITING INTO A TRACK

1 Set the MODE selector ® to TRACK

### SELECTING A TRACK

- 2 Select the TRACK using the TRACK/PATTERN GROUP selector ©
- 3 Press the CLEAR/RESET button ().

### WRITING INTO A TRACK

- 4 Press the RUN/STOP button ().
- Select the Bass patterns using the SELECTOR switches(N).
- Press the key switch while holding the PITCH MODE button down to write a "shifted" pattern.

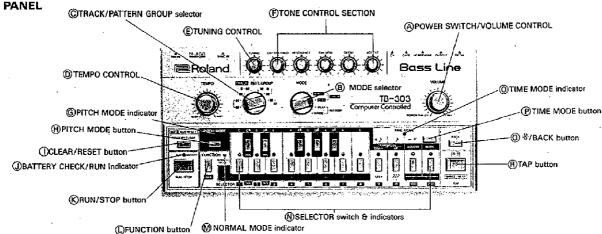
- 6 Press the TAP button ®
- Write all the Bass patterns until just before the last measure by repeating operations 5 and 6.

### WRITING THE LAST MEASURE

- 8 Select the appropriate Bass pattern for
- the last measure.

  9 Press the CLEAR/RESET button ①.
- 10 Press the TAP button ®
- 11 Press the RUN/STOP button (8)

### FRONT PANEL



### PLAYING A BASS LINE

- 1 Set the MODE selector ® to TRACK PLAY.
- 2 Select the TRACK using the TRACK/PATTERN GROUP selector ©
- 3 Press the CLEAR/RESET button ①.
- 4 Press the RUN/STOP button.

### PLAYING A BASS LINE (ALTERNATIVE METHOD)

- Set the MODE selector ® to PATTERN
- Set the first pattern using the TRACK/PATTERN GROUP selector (c) and SELECTOR switch (N).
- Press the RUN/STOP button ® When shifting, hold the PITCH MODE button ® down, and press the key-switch.

### DESIGNATING THE MEASURE

### NUMBER

3

- Set the MODE selector (8) to TRACK PLAY when playing from the designated measure, and to TRACK WRITE when writing from the designated measure.
- 2 Select the TRACK using the TRACK/ PATTERN GROUP selector © .
  - While holding the FUNCTION butter () down, press the SELECTOR switches () of the designated measure number.

### SETTING THE &

- Set the MODE selector ® to TRACK WRITE.
- Designate the measure according to "DESIGNATING THE MEASURE NUMBER".
- 3 Press the RUN/STOP button (6).
- 4 Press the &/BACK button ①.

### DELETION

- Set the MODE selector ® to TRACK WRITE.
- 2 Designate the measure according to "DESIGNATING THE MEASURE NUMBER".
- While holding the FUNCTION button (1) down, press the ord switch.

### INSERTION

- 1 Set the MODE selector ® to TRACK WRITE.
- 2 Designate the measure according to "DESIGNATING THE MEASURE
- 2 "DESIGNATING THE MEASURE NUMBER".

  3 While holding the FUNCTION button (1)
- down, press the switch.

  4 Press the RUN/STOP button (8).
- 5 Select the new pattern using the SELECTOR switch (v).
- 6 Press the TAP button ® .
- 7 Press the RUN/STOP button (6)

### TUNING

- Set the MODE selector (B) to PATTERN PLAY, while the TB-303 is stopped.
- While holding the PITCH MODE button down, press the key switch you wen to hear.
- Press the TAP button (B) and control the TUNING CONTROL knob (E) while listening to the sound.



# CHECK BEFORE CALLING FOR THE SERVICE

### ■Basic checks

- Aren't the batteries flat?
- Is the porality of the batteries correct?
- Have you connected the headphones.
  - guitar and amplifier etc. correctly?

    Is the Power switch on?
- Have you been operating the TB-303 cor-

■ Checking examples
The troubles of the TB-303 are usually caused by wrong operation procedure. The following examples of the symptoms are considered to be particularly tricky.

When you come across the symptoms which are excluded from those examples, please check and repeat the operations according to the owner's mannual.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

When changing the MODE SELECTOR from TRACK MODE to PATTERN MODE, do not fail to stop the TB-303 by pressing the RUN/STOP button and to press CLEAR/RESET button. Otherwise, improper operation might occur.

1 turn off the Power switch once, then turn 2 set the MODE SELECTOR to TRACK PLAY and press the CLEAR/RESET button, then change into PATTERN MODE. When improper operation occurs, it on again.

SYMPTOMS	CHECKING ITEMS	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
The Bass pattern (particularly the length of the notes) that you want to write cannot be written. The written pattern does not match other patterns in tempo and time.	Have you select the STEP MODE and set the STEP NUMBER correctly?	Refer to "£ITO WRITE YOUR OWN BASS LINES" on P. 49 to P. 64 in the owner's mannual.
Pattern selection does not turn out correct.	Did you press the CLEAR/RESET button when changing the MODE SELECTOR from the TRACK MODE to PATTERN MODE?	Refer to the IMPORTANT NOTES.
Even though it is RUN condition, the indicator of the switche you have chosen does not light up and the pattern is not played correctly.	Have you written the patterns correctly? Have you set the STEP NUMBER correctly?	Refer to "2. Setting the step number" on P. 53 and "b. Writing a Bass pattern in 3/4" on P. 55 to P.57.
Writing into the track is not done properly.	Have you written into the track correctly?  Did you press the CLEAR/RESET button before writing?	Refer to "The Track" on P. 22 to P. 31 and P. 64 to
While the track is being played, it is not correctly repeated.	Have you set D.C. correctly?	P. 66 in the owner's mannual.
While the track is being played, it does not begin from the 1st measure.	Did you start the TB-303 after pressing the CLEAR/ RESET button?	Refer to P. 31 and P. 32 in the owner's mannual.

