

LordAR-1009

ANALOG SOUL HYBRID · VINTAGE SYNTHESIZER MODULE

Owner's Manual · Version 2 · 2026

A 1970s-style analog synthesizer for the sounds of
Stevie Wonder, Herbie Hancock, Parliament, Kool & The Gang, and The Isley Brothers.

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The LordAR-1009 panel — MELLOW, GRIT, COMPARE and PANIC switches across the top.

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1 · QUICK START

1. Open **LordAR-1009** from the Dock (or load it on an instrument track in your DAW).
2. Pick a sound from the **PRESETS** button (top of the Global section).
3. Play — your USB keyboard connects automatically, or click the on-screen keys.
4. Turn knobs. You cannot break anything: **double-click any knob** to reset it, or re-pick the preset to start over.

2 · HOW THE SOUND IS MADE

OSCILLATORS → MIXER → LADDER FILTER → ENVELOPES → WORM DRIVE → ENSEMBLE ·
ECHO · SPACE → OUT

Every classic 70s synth works this same way, and once you feel this chain, every knob makes sense:

- **Oscillators** make raw, buzzing tone — the vocal cords.
- **The filter** darkens and shapes it — the mouth. This is where the funk lives.
- **Envelopes** control how each note evolves over time — pluck vs. swell.
- **Effects** put the sound in a space — echo, shimmer, room.

3 · OSCILLATORS & MIXER

Three oscillators (VCO 1, 2, 3), each with its own waveform menu and mixer fader.

Wave	Character
Saw	Bright, brassy, rich — the classic lead and string wave
Square	Hollow, woody, reedy — clarinets, hollow basses
Pulse	Thin, funky, pinched — use the PW knob to change its pinch
Triangle	Soft, round, mellow — gentle leads and warm basses
Sine	Purest tone of all — whistles, subs, dream sounds
Off (VCO 2/3)	Silences that oscillator

Control	What it does
TUNE	Shifts VCO 2 or 3 in semitones (± 24). Set -12 for an octave-below layer — instant fatness (that's the Flash Light trick).
DETUNE	Pushes VCO 2 sharp and VCO 3 flat by a few cents. More = wider, lushier, more "analog." The 70s Synth STRs sound is mostly this.
PW	Pulse width — <i>only</i> audible when a wave is set to Pulse.
DRIFT	Subtle random pitch wobble, like aging analog circuits. A little (2–5) makes everything feel alive.
MIXER faders	Volume of each VCO. An oscillator set to Off makes no sound regardless of its fader.

4 · THE LOW END (FILTER)

A Moog-style 24dB ladder filter — the single most important sound-shaping section.

Control	What it does
LADDER FILTER	The brightness knob. Low = dark and muffled; high = open and bright. When in doubt, reach here first.
RESONANCE	Adds a vocal, squelchy peak at the filter point. High values = the "talking" quality of Funky Worm and Aqua Boogie.
ENV AMT	How much the Filter Envelope moves the filter on each note. This is the master switch for the FILTER ENV knobs — at zero they do nothing; turned up, every note gets a filter sweep (the "wah" in funk bass).
THE WORM DRIVE	Analog saturation — pushes the sound into gentle overdrive. More = thicker, grittier, more aggressive.

5 · ENVELOPES — SHAPING NOTES

Both envelopes are A-D-S-R: **Attack** (fade-in time), **Decay** (fall after the peak), **Sustain** (the held level), **Release** (fade-out after you let go).

- **AMP ENV** shapes the note's *volume*. **A** low = instant, percussive attack; high = slow swell. **R** low = stops dead; high = long tail.
- **FILTER ENV** shapes the note's *brightness* over time — but only as far as **ENV AMT** allows. Short decay + no sustain = plucky "quack."

Want a more immediate attack? Lower **AMP ENV A** toward 1–5 ms. That's the difference between a sound that *blooms* (Love Melody, ~60ms) and one that *speaks instantly* (1974-VintageBass, ~2ms).

6 · HYBRID SECTION & FILTER BLEND

The big glowing knob is **FILTER BLEND** — a one-knob "character" macro:

- **Center** = neutral. Every preset starts here.
- **Left (LOW-END)** = the whole synth gets darker, thicker, more driven.
- **Right (LEAD)** = the filter opens up into a bright, cutting solo voice.

It's designed for live sweeps — grab it mid-phrase. Double-click to snap back to center. The **WORM LEAD** button underneath is a shortcut that jumps straight to The Worm preset.

7 · PERFORMING: GLIDE, VIBRATO, BEND

Mono vs Poly (**MODE**)

- **Mono** — one note at a time, like the original Moog/ARP leads and basses. Unlocks legato glide.
- **Poly** — up to 8 notes for chords: clavs, strings, pads.

The golden rule of Mono mode

Hold to glide, release to re-attack. Press a new key *while holding* the old one → the pitch slides smoothly between them with no new attack (the Summer Madness swoop). Release first, then tap → a fresh attack. **GLIDE** sets how slow the slide is.

Vibrato

RATE = speed, **DEPTH** = amount, **DELAY** = how long a note is held before vibrato fades in — the signature expressive move of 70s soloists. Your keyboard's **mod wheel** controls DEPTH live.

Pitch Bend

The wheel (on-screen or on your keyboard) bends pitch and springs back to center. **BEND RANGE** sets its reach in semitones: **2** = subtle blues bends, **7** = big swoops, **12** = full-octave dives. This setting survives preset changes.

Sustain pedal

Fully supported — notes hold while the pedal is down, in both modes.

Control**What it does****ENSEMBLE**

The string-machine shimmer (chorus). Essential for 70s Synth STRs; lovely in small doses on leads.

TIME / REPEAT / ECHO

Tape-style echo: delay time, number of repeats, and how loud the echoes are (ECHO is the on/off in practice — at zero there's no echo).

SPACE

Reverb — the size of the room around the sound.

VOLUME

Overall output level.

MELLOW

The first lit rocker at the top-left: tap it and it glows amber while gently rolling back the top end of the whole instrument — rounder, warmer, cozier. Tap again for full brightness. Like Bend Range, it stays put when you switch presets.

GRIT

The second lit rocker at the top-left: a punch chain — compression, saturation, and make-up gain applied to the raw voice *before* the effects — louder, denser, more aggressive, while the echo and reverb stay natural. Born for bass presets (try it on Flash Light Bass), great for roughing up leads too. Also preset-proof.

COMPARE

The lit rocker next to PANIC (top-right): after tweaking a sound, tap it to hear the preset *as it was before your edits* — lamp on = original, lamp off = your edited version. Your edits are never lost; picking a new preset resets the comparison.

9 · THE 19 PRESETS

Preset	The sound
Summertime Lead	The Kool & The Gang <i>Summer Madness</i> glide lead — soft, singing, swooping
The Worm	Ohio Players <i>Funky Worm</i> — squelchy, talking, high-glide lead
Dream Lead	<i>For the Love of You</i> floating melody, take 1
1974-VintageBass	Round, punchy vintage synth bass
Chameleon Bass	Herbie Hancock squelch bass
The Odyssey	Bright, cutting solo lead
Funk Clav	Percussive comping keys, horn-ish honk (poly)
Superstition Clav	Authentic snappy clavinet bite (poly)
70s Synth STRs	Punchy 70s string-machine stabs (poly, voiced by the boss)
Sunrise Pad	Slow, warm analog pad (poly)
Flash Light Bass	P-Funk rubber bass — all three VCOs, one an octave down
Boogie On Bass	Round, resonant sine-core funk bass (voiced by the boss)
Boogie On Reggae Bass	Its darker, heavy-vibrato sibling
Aqua Squelch	Bernie Worrell's watery <i>Aqua Boogie</i> talking lead
Space Race Lead	Billy Preston's bright ARP solo with slap echo
1999 Brass	Punchy early-80s Minneapolis poly synth-brass (poly)
Delirious Hook	Bouncy high plucky 1982 chorus line
Ironside Saw	HypeFuze original — blooming resonant saw lead with GRIT baked in
Love Melody	<i>For the Love of You</i> , take 2 — softer bloom, more air

10 · SAVING YOUR OWN SOUNDS

- **SAVE** — writes the current sound (every knob) to a file. Your presets live in `Documents → LordAR-1009 Presets`.
- **LOAD** — brings one back.

- Factory presets can't be overwritten — tweak freely, save under your own names.
- In a DAW, the current knob settings are also saved automatically inside your project.

11 · YOUR MIDI KEYBOARD & MIDI LEARN

Plug and play: USB keyboards are detected automatically, even mid-session. Keys, velocity, pitch wheel, mod wheel (→ vibrato depth), and sustain pedal work instantly.

Pre-wired knob conventions (if your controller sends them): CC74 → Ladder Filter, CC71 → Resonance, CC7 → Volume, CC1 (mod wheel) → Vibrato Depth.

Linking any hardware knob to any panel knob

1. **Right-click** the panel knob you want to control.
2. Choose "**Learn MIDI control.**"
3. **Turn the physical knob** on your keyboard. Done — linked permanently.

Right-click again to **Unlink**. Links survive preset changes, quitting, everything.

Novation / Arturia note: some controllers' knobs start in a "DAW control" mode and don't send normal MIDI until you switch them to a Custom/MIDI mode on the keyboard itself. If Learn hears nothing, that's why.

12 · SOUND COOKBOOK

"I want it..."

Reach for

Punchier / instant attack

AMP ENV A down to 1–5 ms

Harder, louder, more intense

Tap the **GRIT** switch (top-left) — compression + limiting, made for bass

Fatter / bigger

Turn on VCO 3 (Saw), **TUNE** -12, raise its fader; add **DETUNE**

Darker / warmer

Tap the **MELLOW** switch (top-left), or **LADDER FILTER** down; a touch more **WORM DRIVE**

Brighter / cutting

LADDER FILTER up, or sweep **FILTER BLEND** toward LEAD

More funky "quack"

ENV AMT up, **FILTER ENV D** short, **RESONANCE** up

Dreamier / more floating

AMP ENV A up, **ECHO** & **SPACE** up, slow **VIB**

More "analog" / alive

DRIFT 3–6, **DETUNE** 5–10

Talking / vocal

RESONANCE 0.5+, **GLIDE** up, play expressively

Smoother between notes

GLIDE up (Mono mode, hold-to-glide)

Stops too abruptly

AMP ENV R up

13 · USING IT IN YOUR MUSIC PROGRAMS

- **Logic Pro / GarageBand:** Software Instrument track → plugin slot → **AU Instruments** → **LordAR Instruments** → **LordAR-1009**.
- **Ableton Live:** Browser → Plug-Ins → VST3 → LordAR-1009. Drag onto a MIDI track.
- **Cubase:** Instrument track → LordAR Instruments → LordAR-1009.
- New builds require quitting and reopening the DAW to be picked up.

Symptom	Likely cause & fix
A knob "does nothing"	It may be inactive in this patch: PW needs a Pulse wave; FILTER ENV knobs need ENV AMT up; VCO knobs need that VCO on and its fader up.
Tap after release doesn't sound	Shouldn't happen (fixed) — but remember: hold = glide, release = re-attack.
No sound from USB keyboard	Wait 2–3 seconds after plugging in; check the keyboard is in MIDI mode, not DAW mode.
Learn hears nothing	Controller knobs are in DAW mode — switch to Custom/MIDI mode on the hardware.
Preset sounds wrong after tweaking	Re-pick it from PRESETS to reset, or double-click individual knobs.
DAW shows old version	Quit and reopen the DAW after an update.

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