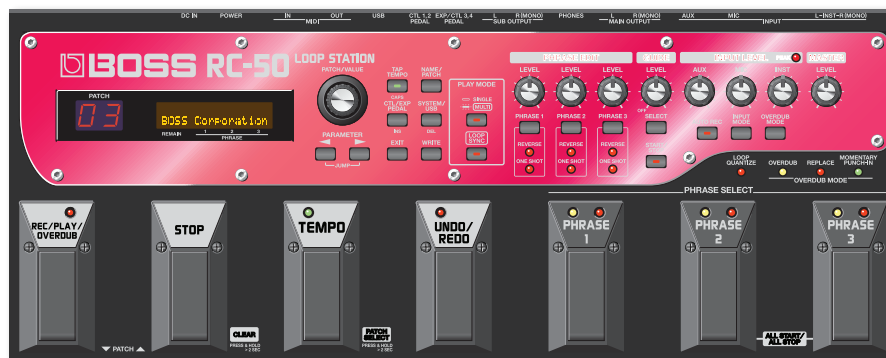


RC-50 Loop Station



Patches

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RC50WS03

About the RC-50 Workshop Series

The BOSS RC-50 Loop Station sets a new standard for performance loopers. With 49 minutes of mono recording time (or 24 minutes in stereo), onboard storage for up to 297 phrases, and massive realtime control, the RC-50 is a powerful realtime performance tool. While looping is its primary function, it can be used in many other ways as well: as a sampler, a backing track player, a practice aid, and more.

Each RC-50 Workshop booklet focuses on a specific topic to help you get the most out of your RC-50 and spark some ideas for its creative use. RC-50 Workshop booklets are intended as companions to the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

About This Booklet

The RC-50 has 99 onboard patches, and each contains three phrases into which you can record or import audio. A patch also contains many settings that determine how its phrases play. This booklet covers patches in detail, including how to store your phrase recordings and custom settings in them.

Understanding the Symbols in This Booklet

Throughout this booklet, you'll come across information that deserves special attention—that's the reason it's labeled with one of the following symbols.



A note is something that adds information about the topic at hand.



A tip offers suggestions for using the feature being discussed.



Warnings contain important information that can help you avoid possible damage to your equipment, your data, or yourself.

Hot Links

Each Workshop booklet is meant to be read in order from beginning to end. However, if we mention an upcoming section—and you see this arrow—you can click the arrow to jump there immediately.



Terminology

- On the RC-50, a “phrase” is a container for audio data.
- An RC-50 patch contains three phrases, and each can loop indefinitely or be triggered sampler-style using the “One Shot” function.
- When a phrase is empty, capturing audio into it is called “recording.”
- While recording a phrase, pressing the REC/PLAY/OVERDUB pedal stops recording and starts the phrase playing back from the beginning. This action determines the phrase's length, and we call it “closing the phrase.” Alternately, a phrase can be closed by pressing the STOP pedal during phrase recording.
- When a phrase already contains audio and you wish to layer more—or replace some—you “overdub” audio into the phrase.

What's in a Patch?

Whenever you play, record, or overdub phrases on the RC-50, you're working in a patch. Each patch contains:

- *three phrases*—into which you can record, overdub, and import audio. This audio can be saved with the patch, up to the limit of the RC-50's memory.



The RC-50's memory provides 49 minutes of mono recording time, or 24 minutes of stereo. This memory is shared by all 99 patches.

- *various phrase playback settings*—that determine how the patch's phrases behave. They include the Play mode (Single or Multi), loop or One Shot playback, Tempo Sync, and more.
- *guide settings*—including on/off status, pattern selection, and time signature.

- *realtime control assignments*—for the onboard TEMPO and UNDO pedals, optional external pedals, and MIDI controllers.
- *a master tempo setting*—used by the guide, Tempo Sync, and Loop Quantize.

The RC-50 features 99 patch locations into which you can save your work.

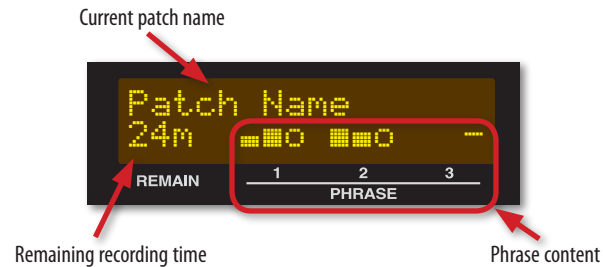
The PATCH Display and the Play Screen

The RC-50's front panel provides two patch status displays.

The current patch number is displayed in the PATCH display, shown in the illustration to the right.



The Play screen is the RC-50's "home" screen. It's the screen that's displayed after the RC-50 finishes its power-up sequence. At a glance, you can see the current patch's name, the remaining recording time, and information about the phrases' content.



The Play screen.



You can always return to the Play screen from any other screen by pressing EXIT.

Phrase Content

The phrase content area of the Play screen provides the following information about the patch's three phrases:

- is displayed when a phrase contains audio.
- is displayed when a phrase is empty.
- During playback, level meters——indicate the current phrase volume.

Selecting Patches



If the current patch contains any newly recorded phrase data or parameter changes that you wish to keep, you need to save it to one of the RC-50's 99 patch locations before selecting a new patch or turning off the power. If you don't, this data will be lost. The patch-saving procedure is covered later in this booklet.



Patches can be selected using a number of different methods, either when the RC-50 is stopped or during phrase playback.



Technically, the RC-50 allows you to select a patch during phrase recording or overdubbing as well. In actual use, however, you'll probably never want to; since your new recording/overdub won't be saved to the patch before a new patch is selected, it'll be lost immediately when the newly selected patch is loaded.

Using the PATCH/VALUE Dial

When the Play screen is displayed, patches can be selected using the PATCH/VALUE dial. Simply turn the dial to select the desired patch.



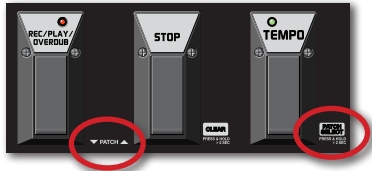
Using the Onboard Pedals

When the RC-50's in Patch Select mode, patches can be selected with the REC/PLAY/OVERDUB, STOP, and TEMPO pedals.

- 1 To enter Patch Select mode, press and hold the TEMPO pedal for at least two seconds. When the PATCH display flashes, release the pedal.
- 2 Use the following pedals to select the desired patch:
 - Press REC/PLAY/OVERDUB—to step down through patch numbers.
 - Press STOP—to step up through patch numbers.The number in the flashing PATCH display indicates the selected patch.
- 3 To finalize your selection, press TEMPO.



The Patch Select mode pedal functions are labeled next to the pedals.



Using External Pedals

If the onboard pedals aren't enough, you can connect optional external pedals (BOSS FS-5U and/or FS-6) to the CTL 1, 2 PEDAL and EXP/CTL 3, 4 PEDAL jacks.

Many different functions can be assigned for external control, and these assignments can be saved in a patch. Among them are PATCH INC (increment) and PATCH DEC (decrement). We'll discuss pedal settings a little later.

Using MIDI

Specific MIDI messages sent from an external device connected to the RC-50's MIDI IN jack can select patches.

- *Program Changes 1-99*—select Patches 1-99, respectively.
- *Control Change (CC) #80*—can control one user-assignable RC-50 parameter per patch. Among the parameters available for assignment are PATCH INC (increment) and PATCH DEC (decrement).



To learn about using MIDI devices with the RC-50, see Chapter 8 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

What Happens When a Patch is Selected

When you select a patch, one of two things will happen: it'll load immediately, or it'll be put on "standby" temporarily before it loads. The behavior that takes place depends on the playback status of the current phrase.



As you might have guessed, the "current phrase" is the phrase that's currently selected with a PHRASE SELECT pedal (when a phrase is the current phrase, the left indicator on its PHRASE SELECT pedal lights solid). The current phrase selection is retained when the patch is saved; this is important to know, as we'll see shortly.



- *If the current phrase is stopped when a new patch is selected*—the new patch loads immediately.
- *If the current phrase is playing when a new patch is selected*—the patch loads according to the Phrase Change mode setting. When the Phrase Change mode is set to:
 - *IMMEDIATE*—the current phrase stops playing, and the newly selected patch loads immediately.
 - *LOOP END*—the current phrase plays to its end, and then the newly selected patch loads.



We'll show you how to set the Phrase Change mode a little later.



When a phrase is selected with a MIDI Program Change message, it always loads immediately, even if the Phrase Change mode is set to LOOP END.



When the RC-50's in Single mode, the Phrase Change mode also affects phrase selection within the patch. We'll discuss this when we show you how to set the Phrase Change mode.

Phrase Change Mode Examples

Now, let's take a look at what happens when a new patch is selected during playback using the two different Phrase Change modes.

In the following examples, we're using Patch Select mode to select the patch, since this is the method you'll probably want to use while performing. However, you'll see the same behavior regardless of the patch-selection method you use.

Phrase Change Mode: IMMEDIATE

- 1 In the current patch, select a phrase that contains audio by pressing its PHRASE SELECT pedal.
- 2 Start the phrase playing by pressing REC/PLAY/OVERDUB.
- 3 While the current phrase is playing, enter Patch Select mode by pressing and holding TEMPO until the PATCH display flashes.
- 4 Select the desired patch with the REC/PLAY/OVERDUB and/or STOP pedal. The flashing PATCH display shows the currently selected patch number.
- 5 At the desired moment, finalize your selection by pressing TEMPO. The new patch loads immediately, with its last-selected phrase becoming the current phrase. If the current phrase:
 - *contains audio*—it begins playing as soon as the patch loads.
 - *is empty*—it begins recording as soon as the patch loads.

Phrase Change Mode: LOOP END

- 1 In the current patch, select a phrase that contains audio by pressing its PHRASE SELECT pedal.
- 2 Start the phrase playing by pressing REC/PLAY/OVERDUB.
- 3 While the current phrase is playing, enter Patch Select mode by pressing and holding TEMPO until the PATCH display flashes.
- 4 Select the desired patch with the REC/PLAY/OVERDUB and/or STOP pedal. The flashing PATCH display shows the currently selected patch number.
- 5 At the desired moment, finalize your selection by pressing TEMPO. The current phrase continues to play until it ends, and then the selected patch loads.

Until the current phrase ends, the new patch selection is put on standby, and both the PATCH display and the TAP TEMPO button flash in time with the current patch tempo.



During this standby state, a flashing PHRASE SELECT pedal shows you which phrase will be the current phrase in the selected patch. At this time, you can press any PHRASE SELECT pedal to choose a different phrase to be the current phrase when the new patch loads.

- 6 When the phrase ends, the new patch loads. If the current phrase:
 - *contains audio*—it begins playing as soon as the patch loads.
 - *is empty*—it begins recording as soon as the patch loads.

Patch Settings

Each patch offers a multitude of settings that allow you to configure the RC-50 the way you like for any particular composition or live looping performance. Following is a rundown of the various patch settings, with brief descriptions of their functions. In most cases, we'll show you how to adjust patch settings, too. However, some require more explanation than we can provide here—in these cases, we'll refer you to the *RC-50 Owner's Manual* and/or another RC-50 Workshop booklet for more information.

Play Mode

The RC-50 provides two Play modes: Single and Multi. In Single mode, only one phrase can play at a time. In Multi mode, all three phrases can play at once. Additionally, Multi mode offers a feature called Loop Sync, which provides an easy way to keep a patch's three phrases synchronized with each other.



To select a Play mode:

- 1 Press the PLAY MODE button to select the desired setting. To choose:
 - *Single mode*—press PLAY MODE so its indicator is dark.
 - *Multi mode*—press PLAY MODE so its indicator lights.
- 2 If you've chosen Multi mode, you can enable Loop Sync by pressing the LOOP SYNC button so its indicator lights. (The LOOP SYNC button is disabled when the RC-50's in Single mode.)



To learn more about the Play modes, see the RC-50 Workshop booklets *Using Single Mode* and *Using Multi Mode*, and Chapters 5 and 6 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Auto Recording

When the Auto Recording feature is enabled, recording doesn't begin until the RC-50 receives audio from one of its input jacks.

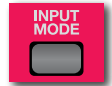
To enable Auto Recording, press AUTO REC so its indicator lights.



To learn more about Auto Recording, see Page 47 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Input Mode

The Input mode settings affect how audio signals are recorded from the RC-50's audio inputs, including whether they're captured as stereo or mono phrase recordings. To adjust Input mode settings:



- 1 Press INPUT MODE.
- 2 Use the PARAMETER buttons to display the desired Input mode screen.
- 3 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired setting.
- 4 Repeat Steps 2-3 to adjust other Input mode settings.
- 5 Press EXIT when you're done.

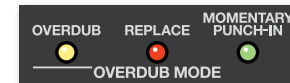
To learn about the Input mode screens, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Audio Inputs and Outputs* and Page 48 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Overdub Mode

The Overdub mode determines how audio is overdubbed into a phrase. Repeatedly press the OVERDUB MODE button to cycle through the three different Overdub modes.



The OVERDUB MODE indicators light to reflect the current setting.



- *When OVERDUB is lit*—overdubbed audio is combined with the audio previously recorded in the phrase.
- *When REPLACE is lit*—overdubbed audio replaces audio that was recorded previously.
- *When MOMENTARY PUNCH-IN is lit*—overdubbed audio replaces audio that was recorded previously, but only while the REC/PLAY/OVERDUB pedal is pressed. This is convenient for fixing—or “punching in”—mistakes in a previously recorded performance.



When REPLACE or MOMENTARY PUNCH-IN is selected as the Overdub mode, the previously recorded audio is heard during the overdubbing; the newly overdubbed audio won't be heard until the phrase loops.

Patch Tempo

The patch tempo provides the tempo reference for a number of functions, including the guide, Tempo Sync, and Loop Quantize.

The patch tempo can be set many different ways. To learn how, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Tempos and Tempo Sync* and Chapter 3 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Guide Settings

The RC-50's built-in guide provides a rhythmic backing for you to play with while you're recording and playing phrases. The guide offers many different patterns in various time signatures and musical styles, as well as high-quality audio using sampled drum and percussion sounds.

To learn about the guide and its various settings, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *The Guide and Loop Quantize* and Chapter 3 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Other Patch Settings (NAME/PATCH Button)

Various other patch settings can be accessed by pressing the NAME/PATCH button:

- 1 Press NAME/PATCH twice.
- 2 Use the PARAMETER buttons to display the desired parameter screen.
- 3 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired setting.
- 4 Repeat Steps 2-3 to set other parameters.
- 5 Press EXIT when you're done.



As the button name implies, the patch can be named from one of the NAME/PATCH parameter screens. We'll show you how a bit later.



NAME/PATCH Parameter Screens

- *Patch:Level*—Set the overall patch level here, from 0 to 200. 100 is the default level.



When an optional EV-5 or FV-500H Expression Pedal is connected to the EXP/CTL 3, 4 PEDAL jack, it can be assigned to control the patch level. In this case, the Patch:Level setting determines the patch level when the pedal is at its maximum setting (fully forward).

- *Patch:PhraseChng*—This parameter determines the RC-50's Phrase Change mode. As discussed earlier in "Selecting Patches," it affects how patches load during phrase playback.

When the RC-50's in Single mode, the Phrase Change mode also affects what happens when a new phrase is selected while the current phrase is playing or being overdubbed. When Phrase Change is set to:

- *IMMEDIATE*—the newly selected phrase begins playing or recording immediately.
- *LOOP END*—the newly selected phrase begins playback or recording when the end of the current phrase is reached.



To learn more about recording and playing phrases in Single mode, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Using Single Mode*.

- *Patch:Fade In*—When a phrase's Start mode is set to FADE IN, this parameter determines the fade-in time. The available values are 0-100, with a higher number resulting in a longer fade-in time.
- *Patch:Fade Out*—When a phrase's Stop mode is set to FADE OUT, this parameter determines the fade-out time. The available values are 0-100, with a higher number resulting in a longer fade-out time.



We'll cover phrases' Start and Stop modes in the next section.



- *Patch:SimulStart*—In Multi mode, there may be instances where you'd like two or more phrases to start playing simultaneously when you press the REC/PLAY/OVERDUB pedal, or when the patch is selected during phrase playback. This can be achieved using the Simul-Start function.



While on this screen, you can select the Simul-Start status for each phrase: Use the parameter buttons to select the desired phrase, and then turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired setting (ON or OFF).



Simul-Start settings have no effect when the RC-50's in Single mode. To learn more about Simul-Start, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Using Multi Mode* and Page 50 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.



You can also turn on Simul-Start for a phrase by pressing and holding its PHRASE SELECT pedal for at least two seconds. When Simul-Start is already on, you can turn it off using the same procedure.



In Multi mode, you can start and stop all phrases at once by simultaneously pressing both the PHRASE 2 and PHRASE 3 pedals.

- *Patch:Input Out*—This parameter determines the output pair (or pairs)—MAIN, SUB, or MAIN+SUB—used to output sounds arriving at the RC-50's INPUT jacks.



Sounds assigned to the MAIN outputs are also sent to the PHONES jack.



The RC-50 has system input settings that allow you to override the settings made in a patch. When they're set this way, changes made on the Patch:Input Out screen won't have any effect. To learn more about system input settings, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Audio Inputs and Outputs* and Page 69 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

- *Patch:MIDI Sync*—This parameter determines how the RC-50 behaves when receiving MIDI synchronization messages from an external device. The available settings are AUTO, INTERNAL, or REMOTE. To learn about these settings, see Page 50 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Phrase Settings

There are a number of settings that determine the behavior of individual phrases within the patch. These settings are made on the phrases' Phrase Edit screens:

- 1 Press the PHRASE EDIT button for the desired phrase: PHRASE 1, 2, or 3.
- 2 Use the PARAMETER buttons to display the desired Phrase Edit screen for the selected phrase.



In this example we've selected Phrase 2's One Shot screen.

- 3 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired setting.
- 4 Repeat Steps 2-3 to make additional settings. (While you're on any Phrase Edit screen, you can select a different phrase by pressing its PHRASE EDIT button.)
- 5 Press EXIT when you're done.

Phrase Edit Screens

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):One Shot*—This parameter determines how a phrase plays back. When it's set to:
 - *LOOP*—the phrase loops continuously.
 - *ONE SHOT*—the phrase plays once and then stops. While a One Shot phrase is playing, you can:
 - *restart it from its beginning*—by pressing REC/PLAY/OVERDUB.
 - *make it loop continuously*—by pressing and holding REC/PLAY/OVERDUB.

Each phrase has a front-panel ONE SHOT indicator that lights when it's set for One Shot playback.



Audio can't be overdubbed in a phrase when it's set to ONE SHOT.

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Reverse*—When this parameter is set to ON, the phrase plays in reverse. Choose OFF for normal playback.

Each phrase has a front-panel REVERSE indicator that lights when reverse playback is on.



- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Start*—This parameter determines what happens when phrase playback is started. When it's set to:
 - *IMMEDIATE*—the phrase starts playing at normal volume.
 - *FADE IN*—the phrase gradually fades in until normal volume is reached. The fade-in time is determined by the Patch:Fade In setting.

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Stop*—This parameter determines what happens when phrase playback is stopped. When it's set to:
 - *IMMEDIATE*—the phrase stops immediately.
 - *FADE OUT*—the phrase gradually fades out. When the volume reaches 0, phrase playback stops. The fade-out time is determined by the Patch:Fade Out setting.
 - *LOOP END*—the phrase plays to its ending and then stops.



When a playing phrase is set to FADE OUT or LOOP END, selecting the phrase and pressing the STOP pedal initiates the phrase's stop behavior. If desired, you can stop the phrase immediately with a second press of the STOP pedal.

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Level*—Set the phrase's volume level, from 0-200, here.



You can also use the front panel PHRASE EDIT LEVEL knobs to set the phrases' volume levels.

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Pan*—This parameter sets the phrase's pan position in its assigned output pair(s) and the PHONES jack. You can set the phrase's panning to any of the following values: L50-L1, CENTER, or R1-R50.



If you're using the RC-50 with a mono amplification system and/or you're only using a mono output (MAIN OUTPUT R/MONO or SUB OUTPUT R/MONO), the pan setting won't have any audible effect on the sound.

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Tempo Sync*—When this parameter is set to ON, the phrase plays at the current patch tempo. When it's set to OFF, the phrase plays at the tempo at which it was originally recorded.



To learn more about Tempo Sync, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Tempos and Tempo Sync*.

- *Phrase(1, 2, or 3):Output*—This parameter determines the output jacks that the phrase is sent to. You can select MAIN, SUB, or MAIN+SUB.



Sounds assigned to the MAIN outputs are also sent to the PHONES jack.



The RC-50 has system output settings that allow you to override the settings made in a patch. When they're set this way, changes made on the Phrase(1, 2, 3):Output screen won't have any effect. To learn more about system output settings, see the RC-50 Workshop booklet *Audio Inputs and Outputs* and Page 69 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Pedal Settings

The RC-50 offers an enormous amount of realtime control via its seven onboard foot pedals. While five of the onboard pedals are “hard-wired” to control the primary functions found on their labels...

- *REC/PLAY/OVERDUB*
- *STOP*
- *PHRASE 1, 2, and 3*

...two pedals—TEMPO and UNDO/REDO—can be reassigned to control alternate functions if desired.

If you wish to have even more control, you can connect optional pedals to the CTL 1, 2 PEDAL and EXP/CTL 3, 4 PEDAL jacks (four footswitches or two footswitches and an expression pedal) and use them to control numerous RC-50 functions. Additionally, MIDI CC messages (#1, #7, and #80) received at the MIDI IN jack can be used to control up to three different functions.



Adding it all together, up to fourteen different functions can be controlled in realtime when you incorporate external pedals and MIDI, and eleven of these are user-assignable. That's a lot of control! What's great is that your user assignments can be stored with patches, allowing you to reconfigure all of your control assignments with a simple patch selection.



If you prefer not to have your control assignments change with each patch selection, you can set them so they're the same for all patches.

Pedal and MIDI CC settings are adjusted on the CTL/EXP PEDAL parameter screens.

- 1 Press CTL/EXP PEDAL.
- 2 Use the PARAMETER buttons to display the desired screen.
- 3 Use the parameter buttons to place the onscreen cursor under the desired parameter.
- 4 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired setting.
- 5 Repeat Steps 2-4 to set other parameters.
- 6 Press EXIT when you're done.



To learn how to connect external pedals and MIDI devices and check out the RC-50 parameters that can be assigned on the CTL/EXP PEDAL screens, see Chapters 7 and 8 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Naming a Patch

Use the following procedure to name the currently selected patch:

- 1 Press NAME/PATCH.
- 2 Use the parameter buttons to select the desired character position.
- 3 To enter characters:
 - Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial—to select the desired character.
 - Press TAP TEMPO—to switch between uppercase and lowercase characters.
 - Press CTL/EXP PEDAL—to insert a blank space.
 - Press SYSTEM/USB—to delete a character.
- 4 Repeat Steps 2-3 to enter additional characters.
- 5 Press EXIT when you're done.



Saving and Organizing Patches

About Preset Protect

The RC-50 has a feature called Preset Protect that protects Patches 1-5 from being overwritten accidentally.

When shipped from the factory, the RC-50 has demonstration audio saved in Patches 1-5, and Preset Protect is enabled. If you want to use Patches 1-5 to save your own data, you'll need to disable Preset Protect first.



If you wish to save the factory data in Patches 1-5 for later use, you can back it up to a computer via USB. To learn how, see Chapter 9 in the *RC-50 Owner's Manual*.

Here's how to turn Preset Protect on and off:

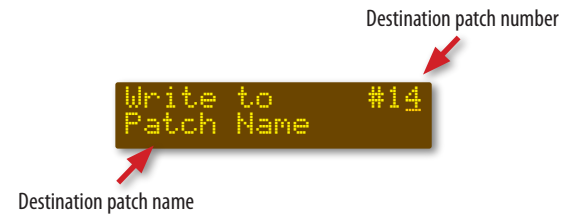
- 1 Press SYSTEM/USB.
- 2 Use the parameter buttons to display the Sys:PresetPrct screen.
- 3 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to turn Preset Protect on or off.
- 4 Press EXIT when you're done.

Saving a Patch

If the current patch contains any newly recorded phrase data or parameter changes that you wish to keep, you'll want to save it to one of the RC-50's 99 patch locations before selecting a new patch or turning off the RC-50's power. If you don't, the new data and/or changes will be lost.

Use the following procedure to save a patch.

- 1 Press WRITE.
- 2 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to select the desired destination patch number. The display shows the name and number of the selected patch.



Saving a patch overwrites any data existing in the destination patch. If the destination patch contains data you want to keep, select a different patch, or back up its data to a computer via USB before proceeding.



If you wish to cancel the patch-saving process at this point, press EXIT.

- 3 Press WRITE. "Now writing..." is displayed during the writing process. When it's complete, the RC-50 automatically returns to the Play screen.



Don't turn off the power to the RC-50 while "Now writing..." is displayed. Doing so can result in the loss of data you've saved in the RC-50.



If there isn't enough free memory to store the contents of the patch, "Memory Full" is displayed and the patch-saving process fails. To avoid this situation, check the Play screen to make sure there's enough free memory before recording to a patch's phrases.

Copying Patches and Phrases

Copying a Patch

Use the following procedure to copy a previously saved patch to another patch location.

- 1 Select the desired source patch.
- 2 Press WRITE. The Patch Copy screen appears.
- 3 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to select the destination patch number. The display shows the name and number of the selected patch.



Copying a patch overwrites any data existing in the destination patch. If the destination patch contains data you want to keep, select a different patch, or back up its data to a computer via USB before proceeding.



If you wish to cancel the patch-copying process at this point, press EXIT.

- 4 Press WRITE. “Now copying...” is displayed during the copying process. When it’s complete, the RC-50 automatically returns to the Play screen.



Don’t turn off the power to the RC-50 while “Now copying...” is displayed. Doing so can result in the loss of data you’ve saved in the RC-50.

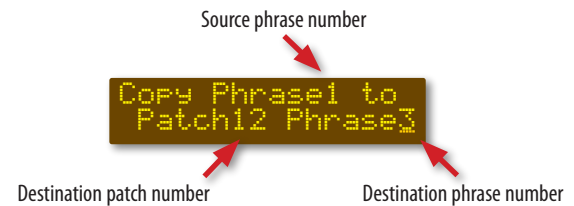


If there isn’t enough free memory to copy the contents of the patch, “Memory Full” is displayed and the patch-copying process fails.

Copying a Phrase to Another Patch

The RC-50 allows you to copy a single phrase to a phrase location in another patch.

- 1 Select the patch that contains the phrase you wish to copy.
- 2 Select the phrase you wish to copy by pressing its PHRASE SELECT pedal.
- 3 Press WRITE.
- 4 Use the parameter buttons to display the Copy Phrase screen.



- 5 Use the parameter buttons and PATCH/VALUE dial to select the desired patch and phrase destinations.



Copying a phrase overwrites the data in the selected destination phrase. If the phrase contains data you want to keep, select a different patch, or back up its data to a computer via USB before proceeding.



If you wish to cancel the phrase-copying process at this point, press EXIT.

- 6 Press WRITE. “Now copying...” is displayed during the copying process. When it’s complete, the RC-50 automatically returns to the Play screen.



Don’t turn off the power to the RC-50 while “Now copying...” is displayed. Doing so can result in the loss of data you’ve saved in the RC-50.



If there isn’t enough free memory to copy the phrase, “Memory Full” is displayed and the phrase-copying process fails.

Exchanging a Patch

To aid in organizing your patches, you can exchange the entire contents of one saved patch with another.

- 1 Select the desired source patch.
- 2 Press WRITE.
- 3 Use the parameter buttons to display the Patch Exchange screen.



- 4 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to select the patch you want to exchange locations with. The display shows the name and number of the selected patch.



If you wish to cancel the patch-exchange process at this point, press EXIT.

- 5 Press WRITE. “Exchanging...” is displayed during the exchange process. When it’s complete, the RC-50 automatically returns to the Play screen.



Don’t turn off the power to the RC-50 while “Exchanging...” is displayed. Doing so can result in the loss of data you’ve saved in the RC-50.



If there isn’t enough free memory to store the contents of the patch, “Memory Full” is displayed and the patch-exchange process fails.

Initializing a Patch

Initializing a patch clears its contents and returns all patch parameters to the factory defaults. A newly initialized patch is named “INIT PATCH.”



Initializing a patch clears any data existing in it. If the patch contains data you want to keep, select a different patch, or back up its data to a computer via USB before proceeding.

- 1 Press WRITE.
- 2 Use the parameter buttons to display “Initialize.”
- 3 Turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to select the patch you wish to initialize.
- 4 Press WRITE. “Initializing...” is displayed during the initialization process. When it’s complete, the RC-50 automatically returns to the Play screen.



Don’t turn off the power to the RC-50 while “Initializing...” is displayed. Doing so can result in the loss of any data you’ve saved in the RC-50.

Patch Strategies

Performance Setups

The RC-50 excels as a live performance tool for recording and looping phrases and building compositions on the fly. As you work with the RC-50, you’ll probably find that specific parameter settings suit certain musical situations better than others.

For example, Single mode is perfect for creating song sections one after the other, with each section captured in a separate phrase. Multi mode, on the other hand, is great for complex, layered multi-phrase performances. In either mode, sometimes you’ll want to use the guide, while at other times you may not need it. With other options such as Loop Sync, Tempo Sync, etc.—not to mention external pedal and MIDI control assignments—the creative possibilities are nearly endless.

With so many options, pre-saved patches can be a great help, especially during live performances. By saving your favorite parameter and realtime control setups in various blank patches, you can have a number of “blank slates” at the ready for any looping adventure.

Backing Track Storage

With its large onboard memory and the ability to store audio in phrases, the RC-50 makes a great backing track player. You can pre-record a song’s backing into phrases and save them to patches, or you can import audio into phrases from your computer via USB. In this way, the RC-50 becomes your own personal “band,” ready to support your performance at your command.



While we’re on the subject, a backing track doesn’t always have to be a full-blown ensemble arrangement. It can be as simple as a harmony vocal that you trigger on-command using One Shot playback, or a stored chord progression that you sneak in as a bit of audio “slight of hand” during an otherwise-live looping performance. Whether obvious or subtle, backing tracks can be used to great effect in many situations.



Using Preset Protect

As discussed earlier, the RC-50’s Preset Protect function protects Patches 1-5 from being overwritten accidentally. If you’ve created some custom performance setups—or have some critical backing tracks stored in a few patches—you might want to save them in Patches 1-5 and enable Preset Protect to keep them safe.



Using Patch Extent

Another handy performance feature is the Patch Extent function. It defines a lower and upper limit of patch numbers that can be selected.

For example, say that all the patches you plan to use for a particular performance are located within Patches 10-22. Using Patch Extent, you can set the RC-50 to limit patch selection to only this patch range, eliminating the need to increment or decrement through unnecessary patches.

Use the following procedure to set the patch selection range:

- 1 Press SYSTEM/USB.
- 2 Use the parameter buttons to display the Sys:Patch Extent screen.



Low patch number

High patch number

- 3 Use the parameter buttons to place the cursor under the low patch number, and then turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired patch.
- 4 Use the parameter buttons to place the cursor under the high patch number, and then turn the PATCH/VALUE dial to choose the desired patch.
- 5 Press EXIT when you’re done.

The End

We hope you’ve found this workshop helpful. Keep an eye out for other RC-50 Workshop booklets, available for downloading at www.BOSSUS.com and www.RolandUS.com.



For the latest RC-50 updates and support tools, visit the BOSS U.S. Web site at www.BOSSUS.com. If you need personal assistance, call our amazing Product Support team at 323-890-3743.