



press release

SQUARP INSTRUMENTS
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VAT: FR60 802 353 946

PRICING & AVAILABILITY

Core + xp32 bundle	590 €
Core + 2x xp32 bundle	990 €
Core alone	190 €
xp32 alone	490 €

Prices excl. VAT. Core is available on the Squarp store only. Authorized retailers will follow this year.

Core requires an xp32 expander.

PRESS IMAGES

High-resolution photography, panel renders and logos.

Download kit

FURTHER INFORMATION

contact@squarp.net

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Core: the 6 HP that drives 64 outputs

Squarp Instruments introduces **Core**, a 6 HP MIDI hub that converts and generates CV and Gate, with fourteen onboard Engines driving up to 64 freely assignable outputs through one or two xp32 expanders.



Core: 6 HP, monochrome OLED, one encoder, four buttons.

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INTRODUCING CORE

Core takes MIDI in and turns it into precise CV and Gate. USB Host, USB Device, TRS In and TRS Out are all on board, and all of them merge at once, so a DAW, a hardware sequencer and a keyboard can play the same rack at the same time. Every port is independently set for sync or MIDI forwarding. There is a Play/Stop button, an internal clock from 1 to 360 BPM, a global swing, and per track latency compensation for modules that take their time.

Core has no jacks. Not one. Core is the brain, the xp32 is the body. Connect an xp32 to SLOT A with the included ribbon cable, add a second one on SLOT B, and the outputs are live with nothing to configure. Firmware updates come off a USB flash drive on the Host port, so no computer and no driver either.

Core started as a utility. We wanted a Hapax to reach into a Eurorack without putting a 26 HP Hermod+ in front of the xp32, and 6 HP looked like the right size for a bridge. Then the Engines started piling up, because writing them was a lot more fun than writing a bridge, and the utility ended up playing by itself.

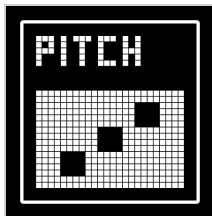
Unplug everything and Core keeps going. Its fourteen Engines run on the internal clock, so the rack has something to do before a single MIDI cable is connected.

Core is not a sequencer.

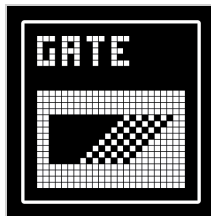
No tracks, no patterns, nothing recorded. It routes, converts, generates and remembers.

FOURTEEN OUTPUT ENGINES

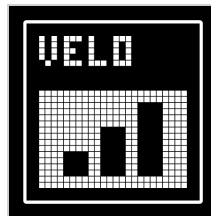
Every output on every connected xp32 is freely assignable to one of fourteen Engines, so every signal lands exactly where it is needed.



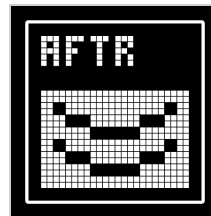
NOTES TO V/OCT
OR HZ/V



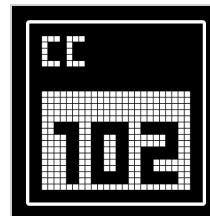
NOTE ON, NOTE
OFF



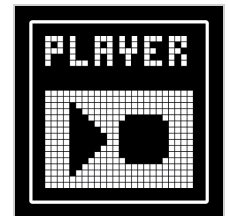
HOW HARD THE
NOTE WAS PLAYED



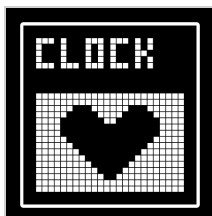
KEY PRESSURE,
AFTER THE NOTE



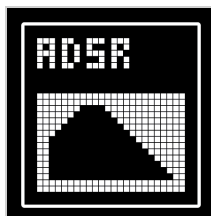
ANY CC FROM 0 TO
119, SLEWABLE



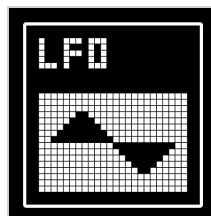
START, STOP AND
RESET



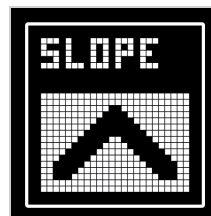
MUSICAL RATES,
SWING AND PHASE



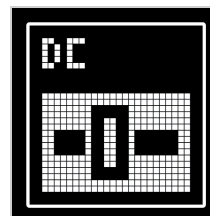
ENVELOPE, FIRED BY
A NOTE



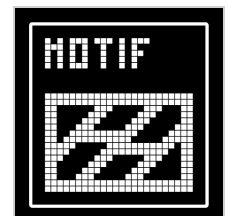
FREE RUNNING
MODULATION



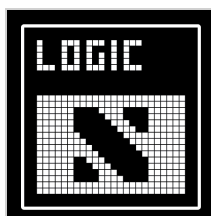
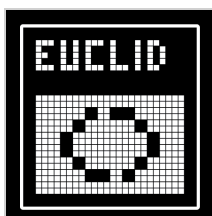
ENVELOPE, GATED
OR LOOPED



A FIXED VOLTAGE,
HELD



MELODIC LOOPS
THAT MUTATE



Motif folds Euclidean rhythm, arpeggiation and persistent step mutation into melodic loops that drift as they repeat. **Euclid** adds probability and rotation to Bjorklund patterns. **Logic** runs twenty operations between any two outputs, across tracks. **AHDSR** envelopes are loopable, velocity scaled and invertible for ducking, which is one module fewer to buy.

SIXTEEN BITS PER OUTPUT

Core drives the xp32's dedicated 16-bit industrial grade DACs, one per output, over a -10 V to +10 V range. Pitch tracks accurately in V/Oct or Hz/V, and any compatible Engine can be quantized to a custom scale edited in real time. That scale applies to every output at once, and it can be played: change it mid-take and the whole rack moves with it.

CORE USE CASES

Core does two jobs, and plenty of people will only ever ask it for one. On one side it is an interface: a keyboard or a DAW playing voices in the rack, polyphonically, with pitch, gate, velocity and envelopes. On the other it is a generator: clocks, LFOs, Euclidean rhythms and melodic loops running on their own, with nothing plugged in. Run both and you have two hands in two different worlds, one playing, one being played. Either way, Core is also the preset manager for the rack: it holds the state of the whole thing and gives it back on demand.

- **Polyphonic keyboard to Eurorack:** tracks sharing a MIDI input form a voice pool, with cycling, deterministic or random allocation, and full per-voice control of pitch, gate, velocity, aftertouch and CC.
- **Drum triggers from a DAW:** route specific MIDI notes to different modules with TRIG NOTE, up to twelve triggers and four velocities across four tracks.
- **A giant modulation matrix:** assign every output to a CC number and an xp32 becomes thirty-two lanes of MIDI automation turned into CV.
- **Patch memory for a modular:** DC outputs hold precise fixed voltages, so a preset becomes a saved state for the whole rack.

Eight global presets store everything: routing, Engines, parameters, scale, BPM and swing, for both xp32 slots. Recall is instant, including over MIDI Program Change, so a footswitch can reconfigure the rack mid-set. Any parameter of any Engine can be MIDI learned to a CC in seconds, with custom min and max range and inverted response, up to thirty-two mappings per preset.

CORE PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

Core is an interface. It needs one or two xp32 expanders to put out a single volt.

ARCHITECTURE

Works with 1 or 2 Squarp xp32 expanders
32 outputs per xp32 (8 tracks × 4 outputs)

OUTPUTS

14 Engines
Range -10 V to +10 V, configurable
V/Oct and Hz/V
Custom scale quantization

PRESETS & MAPPING

8 global presets, instant recall, Program Change
MIDI CC learn, up to 32 mappings per preset

HARDWARE

Width 6 HP
Depth 25 mm (ribbon cables connected)
Height 128.5 mm (3U)
Weight 60 g
Monochrome OLED display, 64 × 128 px

CONNECTIVITY

USB Device, USB Host, TRS MIDI In, TRS MIDI Out
Sync or MIDI forwarding configurable per port

PERFORMANCE

Resolution 384 PPQN
Internal clock 1 to 360 BPM, external MIDI sync
Latency compensation -128 to +127 ms per track

OPERATING SYSTEM

coreOS 1.0
Updated by USB flash drive on the Host port

POWER

-12 V 5 mA, +12 V 5 mA, +5 V 150 mA
Without xp32 connected. Add up to 500 mA on the +5 V rail if a device on the USB Host port draws its power from Core.



Core with one xp32: 20 HP, 32 outputs.

XP32 NOW PAIRS WITH BOTH

Until today the xp32 expander could only be driven by Hermod+. **It now works with Core as well:** same module, two possible brains. An xp32 owner can add a Core for 190 € and get a second, 6 HP way to drive those thirty-two outputs, independently of their Hermod+.

Hermod+ owners lose nothing. Hermod+ drives the xp32 exactly as it always has.



Core between two xp32: 34 HP, 64 outputs.

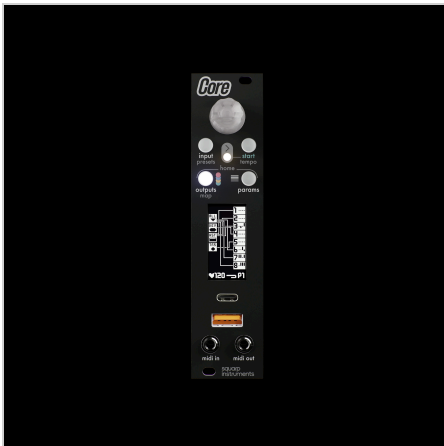
QUOTE

"You'd think we'd know our own bad habits by now. We set out to build a small utility in two months, just enough to drive an xp32 from a Hapax. Two years later we have a machine that plays on its own. It still isn't a sequencer."

BENOIT DESAISSEMENT, CO-FOUNDER, SQUARP INSTRUMENTS

PRESS KIT

High resolution product photography, panel renders, logos and this release as a PDF. The images below are web previews, the kit ships the full resolution files.



FRONT



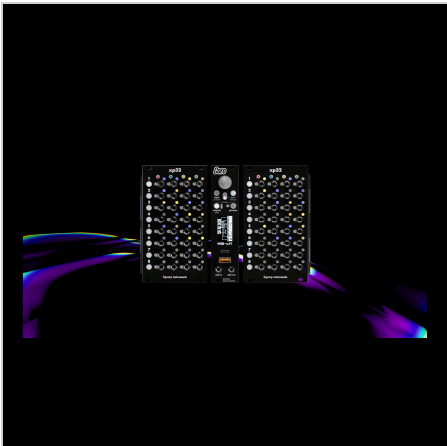
THREE-QUARTER



BOARD SIDE



CORE + XP32



CORE + 2x XP32



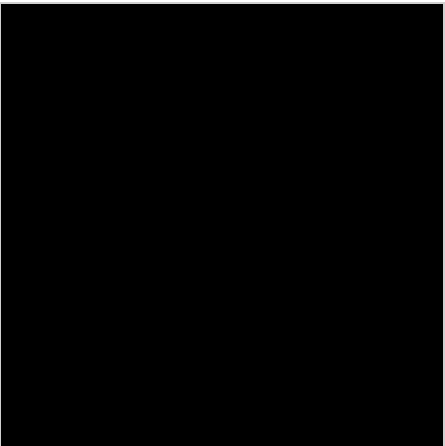
LOGO, GLITCHED



LOGO, GLITCHED II



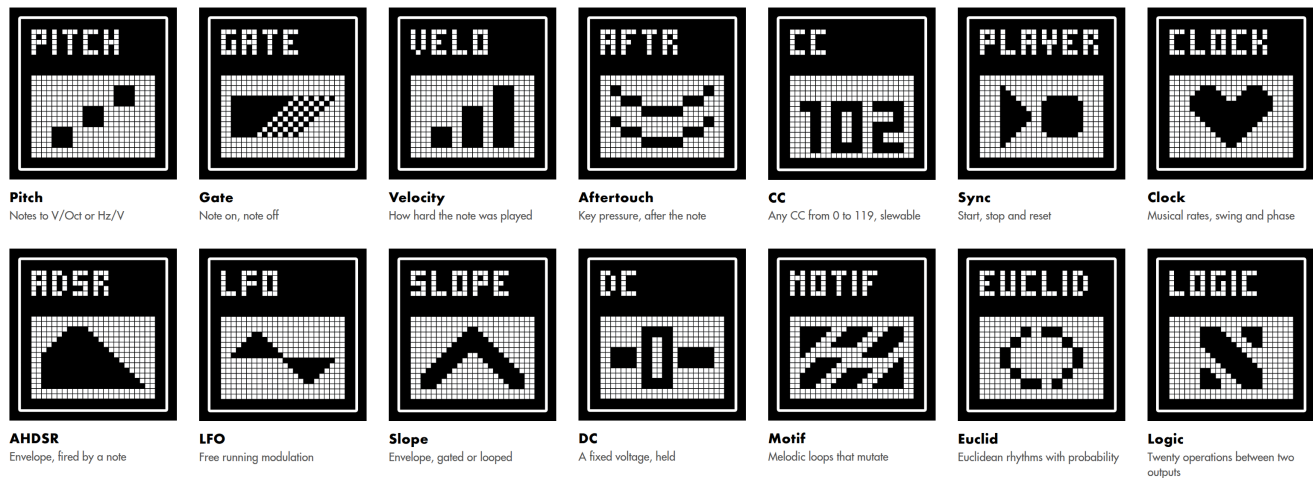
IRIDESCENT



MOTION, 1.9 MB LOOP

FOURTEEN OUTPUT ENGINES

Core, Squarp Instruments. Every output on every connected xp32 is freely assignable to one of these.



The fourteen Engines at a glance. The kit ships this chart on white and on a transparent background.

[Download press kit \(ZIP, 16 MB\)](#)

[Download this release \(PDF\)](#)

[Watch the video](#)

Product page: squarp.net/core · Manual: squarp.net/core/manual

ABOUT SQUARP INSTRUMENTS

Squarp Instruments is a small team in Paris, building hardware for people who write and perform music with their hands. Pyramid first, then Hermod, Rample, Hermod+, xp32, Hapax, and now Core.

We make the instruments we want to play ourselves, which is why they take longer than planned and why we can spend weeks on what a single button should do. Electronics, firmware, music theory and ergonomics all sit at the same table here, and none of them gets to win on its own.

Our machines keep growing after they ship. Hapax and Hermod+ have both had years of free firmware updates adding features nobody was promised on day one, and that is not going to stop.

We have been at this since 2013, and the list of things we still want to build is longer than the list of things we have built. Core was near the top. Press contact: contact@squarp.net