SX Pro Companion — User Manual

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1. Introduction

SX Pro Companion is an independent macOS application by ADOQ-Lab that reads, compares and manages Roland SPD-SX PRO backups and kit exports offline, alongside Roland's own SPD-SX PRO APP. It adds what the official application does not do; it does not replace it.

What it does

- **Libraries** — keeps every backup and kit export in one library, organised in projects and favorites.
- **Analyze** — shows a whole backup, a kit, the set lists and the system settings, without the instrument.
- **Compare** — shows exactly what changed between two backups, two kits, or a whole chain of backups (Timeline).
- **Manage** — reorganises kits (swap, copy, import from another backup), renames, sets up pads on many kits at once, edits set lists and system settings, always on a copy.
- **Utilities** — plays the instrument from the Mac over MIDI (Remote), or previews the samples of a backup on the Mac without the instrument (Offline Mode).

What it does not do

- It does not edit sounds: layers, levels, pitch and effects of a kit are edited in SPD-SX PRO APP, with the instrument, where they can be heard.
- It never writes to the instrument directly. A backup prepared in Manage is sent to the instrument with SPD-SX PRO APP or with the instrument's own BACKUP LOAD.
- It never modifies an original backup. Libraries, Analyze and Compare only read; Manage writes only into the copies it creates.
- Offline Mode is a preview, not a sound module or a plug-in (no AU, no VST).

Requirements

Item	Requirement
macOS	14 or later
Mac	Apple silicon or Intel

Item	Requirement
Instrument	Roland SPD-SX PRO (needed only for Remote, and to load what Manage prepares)
Backups read	Firmware 1.10, 1.20 and 2.00 layouts, and Roland factory content (Contents V1020, V2000)
Distribution	Direct download (Developer ID, notarised), not the Mac App Store

Conventions in this manual

- `Menu ▸ Item` is a path through menus or pages; ⌘ Command, ⇧ Shift, ⌥ Option, ⌃ Control.
- **Backup** means a full backup of the instrument: a `BKUP-nnn_NAME` folder holding `BKUP-ALL.TD0` and `BKUP-ALL.spd`. **Kit export** is a single kit saved as a `.TD0` file.
- In Compare, the two sides are always called **Backup 1** and **Backup 2**. The letters **A** and **B** are kept for the two layers of a pad.
- Kits are numbered 001–200 as on the instrument; MIDI note names follow the instrument: 60 = C4 (C3 in MainStage and Logic).

2. Installation, demo, licence and updates

SX Pro Companion installs from a DMG, runs as a time-limited demo until a licence key is activated, and updates itself through Help ▸ Check for Updates….

Install

1. Download the DMG from sx-pro-companion.adoq-lab.com.
2. Open it and drag **SX Pro Companion** onto the **Applications** shortcut.
3. Launch it from Applications. The splash screen shows the version, then “Ready”.

Demo

Without a licence the application runs as a demo. A **Demo** strip above the workspace shows the state, the time left in its last five minutes, and an **Activate License…** button.

State	What works	What is locked
Demo (time left)	Everything	Manage ▸ Save

State	What works	What is locked
Demo Read-Only (time used up)	Libraries; Analyze on the first 5 full backups of the library (in the order of Libraries, by name) and on every kit export	Compare, Manage, Utilities, importing and Save

- The demo runs **20 minutes a week and 40 minutes a month**, counted only while the application is in front and in use.
- A locked workspace stays visible with a line “Demo Read-Only · … needs a license” and an **Activate License…** button.
- There is no separate trial: the demo is the way to try the application.

Activate a licence

The licence is a **lifetime licence for two Macs**, sold through Freemius.

1. Buy it: Settings ▸ Licence ▸ **Buy…** opens the Freemius checkout. The licence key arrives by e-mail after payment.
2. Open **SX Pro Companion ▸ Settings…** (⌘,), or click **Activate License…** in the demo strip.
3. Paste the key (**Paste** takes it from the clipboard) and click **Activate**. The key is kept in the macOS Keychain.

Once licensed, the Licence card shows the activations used (“Activations: 1 of 2”) and offers **Validate Now** and **Deactivate This Mac…**. Deactivating frees one activation and puts this Mac back on the demo; the demo time already used is kept. To move the licence to a third Mac, deactivate it on one of the two first.

The licence is checked online at launch, then every hour. Without a connection it keeps working for 15 days after the last successful check. A cancelled or refunded licence sends the Mac back to the demo at the next check.

Updates

- **Help ▸ Check for Updates…**, or **Settings ▸ Updates ▸ Check for Updates…**, looks for a new version (Sparkle 2) and installs it.
- Any open sheet closes before an update is installed, so the relaunch is not blocked. Save your work in Manage first.
- Release notes list the changes and compatibility of each version.

3. First launch and the library

Everything the application reads lives in one library folder: imports are copied into it, so the originals can be moved or deleted afterwards.

Set up the library

At first launch the **Set Up the Library** sheet offers two choices:

- **Choose Documents Folder…** — creates **SX Pro Companion Libraries** inside the Documents folder.
- **Use an Existing Folder…** — uses a folder you already have, as it is (for example a library moved from another Mac).

Change it later with **File ▸ Choose Library Location…** (⇧⌘O), the **Library** button of the toolbar, or Settings ▸ Library & Storage.

What the folder holds

Inside the library	Content
`Backups/<date time>/BKUP-nnn_NAME/`	Each imported backup, whole: `BKUP-ALL.TD0` and `BKUP-ALL.spd`
`Kits/`	Kit exports (a folder import keeps its sub-folders)
`Library.json`	Projects and favorites, stored as paths relative to the library so the folder can move or sync

Managed copies made by Manage are written next to the backup they come from, with `_sxcomp` added to their name.

Get backups and kit exports

- **Full backup** — saved by the instrument to a USB stick (BACKUP SAVE) or by SPD-SX PRO APP. Import the whole `BKUP-nnn_NAME` folder, or its `BKUP-ALL.TD0`.
- **Kit export** — a single kit exported as a `.TD0` file from SPD-SX PRO APP.
- **A folder** — searched: every backup folder found is imported as a backup, every other `.TD0` as a kit.

Import

1. Click **Import** in the toolbar, or **File ▸ Import…** (⌘O).
2. Choose files or folders.

3. The application copies them into the library. A file already in the library (same checksum) is skipped; a name already taken gets “ 2”. Nothing in the library is ever replaced.

After an import the application opens Libraries or stays where you were (Settings ▸ Navigation).

> A backup without its `BKUP-ALL.spd` can be analyzed and compared, but not managed, and Offline Mode cannot play it (the samples are in the `.spd`).

Library maintenance

- **File ▸ Rescan Library** (⌘T) reads the folder again, for files added or removed in Finder.
- **Reveal Library in Finder** is in the toolbar’s **Library** menu.
- Cloud storage (iCloud Drive, Dropbox, Google Drive): keep the whole library folder downloaded / available offline on this Mac. A backup weighs several hundred megabytes; a file still downloading cannot be read.

4. The interface

One window holds five workspaces, chosen in the middle of the toolbar or with ⌘1 to ⌘5; each workspace has its own pages, shown as tabs under the toolbar and listed in its menu.

Workspace	Pages	Writes?
Libraries (⌘1)	Imported · Projects · Favorites	Library references only
Analyze (⌘2)	Backup · Kit · Set Lists · Settings	Never
Compare (⌘3)	Backup · Kit · Set Lists · Settings · Timeline	Never
Manage (⌘4)	Organize · Import · Rename · Pad Setup · Reassign · Set Lists · Settings	Managed copies only, on Save
Utilities (⌘5)	Remote · Offline Mode	Never

Toolbar

The toolbar shows only the buttons that apply to the page in front of you.

Button	Where	What it does
Import	Everywhere	Copies backups and kit exports into the library (⌘O)
Library	Everywhere	Reveal Library in Finder, Choose Library Location…
Workspace switch	Everywhere	Libraries, Analyze, Compare, Manage, Utilities
Expand All / Collapse All	Compare ▸ Backup	Every kit on as many lines as needed, or one line each (⌥⌘→ / ⌥⌘←)
All Kits	Compare ▸ Kit	Previous / Next walk every kit, or only the kits that differ
Identical	Compare pages	Shows what is identical too (⇧⌘I)
Empty	Libraries, Analyze, Compare, Manage	Shows or hides empty kits and set lists everywhere (⇧⌘E)
Zoom	Kit pages, Board view	Zoom Out ⌘−, Zoom In ⌘+, Whole Board ⌘0; pinch on the trackpad works too
Search	Everywhere	Search kits and backups (⌘F)
One Page	Analyze ▸ Settings, Compare ▸ Settings	Every settings page one under the other instead of tabs (⇧⌘A, also View ▸ Settings on One Page)

Status bar and page help

- The left of the status bar shows the number of kits in the library, or the state of the page (for example Manage: Original or Modified, how much changed, the last action; Compare ▸ Kit: “Differs from Backup 1” or “Identical to Backup 1”).
- The **About …** button (ⓘ) of the status bar opens the help of the page shown. Pages carry no explanatory text themselves: the explanations are there.

Hover bubbles

- Any text that does not fit is shown whole in a bubble when the pointer rests on it, menus included. Nothing scrolls by itself.
- On boards and lists, a bubble shows the setting and its value; with two backups, the value of Backup 1 and of Backup 2.

Moving around with the keyboard

- **< and >** — previous and next kit, in the whole application (designed for AZERTY keyboards, where ⌘[and ⌘] are out of reach). Also in the View menu.
- ← → — step the kit on Analyze ▸ Kit, Compare ▸ Kit (changed kits), Remote and Offline Mode.
- ↑ ↓ — move in the list or menu clicked last: the board's page list, the lists of Manage, Libraries, Set Lists; the list scrolls to keep the row in view.
- ‹ › buttons beside each kit menu do the same as < > for that side only.

The keys are left alone while you type in a field, or when a sheet, panel or alert is open.

Search

File ▸ Search… (⌘F): type a kit name, a sub-name, a backup or a file name. Each result opens on Analyze ▸ Kit or Analyze ▸ Backup; Return opens the first one.

5. Libraries

Libraries is where backups and kit exports are found, grouped and opened; it never changes their content.

Imported

Everything the library holds: full backups and kit exports.

- A backup lists its used kits under it: click its arrow. With **Empty** on (⇧⌘E), its empty kits show too.
- The panel beside the list (the inspector) describes the line selected: backup or kit, firmware, and the actions available.
- **Double-click** opens a backup on Analyze ▸ Backup, a kit on Analyze ▸ Kit.
- **Right-click** for Analyze, Compare as Backup 1, Compare as Backup 2, Favorites, Projects, Reveal in Finder and Move to Trash.
- The **star** at the end of a line adds it to the favorites or takes it out.
- **⌘-click** adds or removes a line, **⇧-click** selects a range, ↑ ↓ move once a row is selected. With several lines selected, the panel and the right-click act on all of them; with exactly two backups or two kits, **Compare (1) with (2)** opens them in Compare.
- **Move to Trash…** (or the Delete key) puts a library file in the Trash, where Finder can still put it back. Only files inside the library can be trashed.

Projects

A project groups backups and kits for a show, a tour or a rehearsal, in folders and sub-folders. It holds references: the files stay where they are, and one file can belong to several projects.

1. **New Project…** makes a project at the top level; **New Folder…** makes a folder inside the project or folder selected (or right-click a folder: New Folder Inside…, Rename…, Move to Top Level, Delete).
2. Add items from Imported or Favorites: right-click, or **Add to Project** in the panel. A kit of a backup is referred to by its number in that backup.
3. Drag backups and kits from the list on the right onto a folder to move them there; every line selected goes together.
4. Drag a folder onto another to nest it, or onto **Top Level** to make it a project of its own. ⌘-click or ⇧-click selects several folders to drag, delete or move together.

Delete removes the selected references from the project, or, after a click in the folder list, the selected folder; Return confirms. Deleting a project removes the project only, never the files.

Favorites

Backups, kit exports and kits of backups kept at hand. Click the star of any item — in Imported, in Projects, or next to the pickers of Analyze and Compare — to add or remove it. Double-click opens in Analyze; right-click for Compare and Projects.

A favorite is a reference: removing it leaves the file in the library. A reference whose file has left the library is shown as missing.

6. Analyze

Analyze shows the content of one backup or one kit export, read-only, without the instrument.

Backup

A whole backup at a glance:

- **Summary** — the instrument (its unit code, or “Roland factory content”), the firmware layout, how many kits are used, how many layers and waves they play, how many of those waves were imported rather than factory waves, and how many set lists are filled.

- **Kit list** — one line per used kit, numbered as on the instrument, with its layers, its waves, the set list steps that play it, and a mark on the **selected kit** (the kit the instrument showed when the backup was saved). Click a kit to open it on the Kit page.
- Empty USER KIT slots are hidden unless **Empty** (⇧⌘E) shows them.

> The instrument has no clock: its backups carry no real date. Name your backups clearly when you save them.

Kit

The bar above the page chooses the backup (or **Kit exports**), then the kit; ‹ ›, < >, or ← → step through the kits. Changing the backup keeps the kit number, so you can follow one slot from backup to backup. The bar also shows the slot (number, name, sub-name, layers assigned) and a **Compare** shortcut.

Two views, kept per page:

Board — the kit laid out like the instrument's editor, scaled to the window:

- **Full**, **Pads** or **Trig In** choose the sources shown (nine pads, eight trigger inputs, two foot switches); **Tiles** shows or hides the tiles.
- Click a pad or input to show its parameters underneath. The lit square of each layer is its Layer Sw; Kit Volume and Tempo sit beside the kit name.
- The page list follows the editor: Wave & play · EQ · Transient · Output · Effects 1 (MFX1–4) · Effects 2 (Side Chain, Master Effect, Master Comp, Master EQ) · Pad link · Mute group · LED · Sequence · Click · MIDI · Knob & expression.
- **Zoom** from 100 % to 300 % in the toolbar (⌘+ ⌘− ⌘0) or by pinching; the zoomed board scrolls both ways and follows ↑ ↓ through the page list.
- **Waves Assigned** — bring the pointer to the bottom edge of the page: the pads and inputs that play a wave come up (Layer A then Layer B), with a count of distinct waves. A click shows that source on the board.

Parameters — every parameter of the kit, in cards: the kit's own settings (Name, Kit, Output, Click, Sequence, Knob & expression, LED, MIDI), the effects (MFX1–4, Master Effect, Side Chain), then each pad and trigger input with its pad settings and its two layers side by side. **All / Kit / Effects / Pads / Trig In** choose the part shown; **Assigned only** keeps the sources that play a wave.

Reading notes:

- Knobs are drawn only for parameters whose range is established; the others show their value alone.
- EFFECTS: with Tempo Sync, time and note share one cell, as on the instrument.

- PAD LED: USER COLOR 1–5 are set on the instrument (SYSTEM ▸ LED ▸ COLOR LIST).
- PAD SEQ: steps past Step Num are drawn faint.
- KIT CLICK: with Click Setting = SYSTEM the instrument plays its own click; the kit's values stay stored.
- PAD EDIT KNOB/EXP: a Setting on SYSTEM uses the instrument's own settings.
- PAD LINK: a pad that sends group n plays every pad that receives group n. PAD MUTE GROUP: a pad that sends group n mutes every pad that receives group n.
- A page drawn fainter holds values the application does not read yet.

Master Comp and Master EQ sit on Effects 2, next to Side Chain and Master Effect, as in the instrument's KIT EDIT ▸ OUTPUT / EFFECTS. They are system settings of the backup, shown with every kit of it:

- the switch in the card header, the other settings in two columns;
- Master Comp names its settings by band, as on the instrument: **Low …** and **High …** with a Split Freq, **Single …** without one; "Not used" stands where the instrument shows ---;
- a kit export holds no system settings: the cards read "System setting: not in a kit export.";
- they are edited in SPD-SX PRO APP, like the other effects. The Solo switches of Master Comp and Ctrl Preview of Side Chain are live states of the instrument, not saved in a backup, so they are not shown.

Set Lists

The 32 set lists of the backup. Pick one on the left (↑ ↓ once clicked) to see its steps; click a step to open its kit on the Kit page. Set lists are edited in Manage ▸ Set Lists.

Settings

Everything a backup holds besides kits and set lists, page by page as on the instrument:

Page	Instrument menu
Pad / Trig In	MENU ▸ PAD/TRIG IN
Click	SYSTEM ▸ CLICK
MIDI	SYSTEM ▸ MIDI
Control Setup	SYSTEM ▸ CONTROL SETUP
Audio Setup	SYSTEM ▸ AUDIO SETUP

Page	Instrument menu
USB Audio	SYSTEM ▸ USB AUDIO
LED	SYSTEM ▸ LED
Option	SYSTEM ▸ OPTION

- **Tabs or One Page**: one page per tab, or every page one under the other with **One Page** in the toolbar (⇧⌘A, View ▸ Settings on One Page). Compare ▸ Settings uses the same pages.
- **At a glance**: bring the pointer to the bottom edge of the page and the settings you follow come up, as What Changed on the Kit page. **Choose** opens the list: the kit shown and the set lists (Backup), then any setting of each page, in checkboxes; **Defaults** puts back the standard five, **None** clears them, **Done** closes.
- Master Comp and Master EQ are on the Kit page, Effects 2 (see above), not here.
- “Not used” stands where the instrument shows ---: the setting does not apply with the values of the others (Click Sound with a wave as click…).
- PAD/TRIG IN: a pad has Sensitivity, Threshold and Curve; a trigger input has the whole PARAM page of the instrument; the Input Mode of each TRIGGER IN jack is shown with the inputs.
- LED: colours are written as in SPD-SX PRO APP: a six-digit code (for example 5D5D5D), and red, green and blue in two digits each (5D).

7. Compare

Compare answers one question: what changed between two backups, two kits, or along a chain of backups. The two sides are always **Backup 1** and **Backup 2**; Backup 2’s differences are drawn in violet.

Backup

Two full backups, kit by kit.

1. Choose **Backup 1** and **Backup 2** in the two menus (or right-click two backups in Libraries ▸ Compare).
2. Read the counters: **Kits changed** counts the kits; **Modifications** counts the changes inside them.
3. Use the **chips** above the list to keep only the kits with one kind of change; click the chip again to show them all.

4. Hover a kit to list the values that changed, Backup 1 → Backup 2; hover a chip for those of that pad, input or effect.
5. Click a kit to open it on the Kit page, Backup 1 against Backup 2.

One modification is one category changed on one layer (or on a pad's shared settings, the kit's settings, one effect, or the kit name):

Chip	Means
Rename	The kit's name or sub-name changed
Sample changed	A layer plays another wave
Sample imported	The new wave is an imported wave, not a factory wave
Wave / Play	Wave and play-type parameters of a layer
Layer EQ / Layer Transient	The layer's EQ or Transient
Output	Output assignments
Link / Mute	Pad Link or Mute Group
Effects	MFX1–4, Master Effect, Side Chain
Kit settings	The kit's own settings (volume, tempo, click, MIDI…)
Other	Data changed outside every known parameter — so nothing goes unreported

Identical (⇧⌘I) adds the unchanged kits; kits empty in both backups appear only with **Empty**. **Expand All / Collapse All** (⌥⌘→ / ⌥⌘←) shows each kit's chips on as many lines as needed, or on one line.

One line under the counters gives the **firmware** and the **selected kit** (the kit each instrument showed when the backup was saved): "Firmware: Backup 1 … · Backup 2 …" and "Selected kit: Backup 1 … → Backup 2 …" when they differ; when they are the same, only with Identical on. Roland factory content counts as the firmware of its layout, so a factory backup and an instrument backup of the same firmware are not reported as different.

Kit

Two kits side by side, on the same Board and Parameters views as Analyze.

- **The bar above**: Backup 1 and Backup 2, each a backup (or Kit exports) then a kit, a **Swap** button, the state of the pair, and “Differing kit n of N” with Previous / Next.
- Changing a backup keeps the kit number, so two backups compare the same slot.
- **Previous / Next** (← → or ⌘← ⌘→) walk the kit numbers that differ, both sides together; with **All Kits** on, every kit. **< >** go to the kit just before or after, changed or not; the ‹ › buttons step one side only.
- **Board**: a tile with a violet dot differs in its pad settings or a layer; Backup 2’s wave and values are written in violet under Backup 1’s. In the page list a violet dot marks a page that differs (a ring: it differs on another source only).
- **What Changed** — bring the pointer to the bottom edge: the changes come up source by source; a click shows the source on the board.
- **Parameters**: both kits in cards, Backup 2 in violet where it differs, a violet dot before the parameter. Identical (⇧⌘I) adds the parameters that do not differ.
- The status bar says “Differs from Backup 1” with the number of modifications, or “Identical to Backup 1”.
- A kit of the 1.x layout compared with a 2.00 kit shows “No Master Effect in Backup 1 (1.x layout)”: the Master Effect does not exist in 1.x kits.

Set Lists

The set lists of two backups, step by step. A step is compared by the kit it plays (name and sub-name):

- **Blue** — the same kit under another number (kits swapped between the backups).
- **Orange** — another kit.
- **Green / red** — a step added / removed.

Only the set lists that differ are listed; Identical adds every set list in use.

Settings

Everything but kits and set lists, on the same pages as Analyze ▸ Settings (Pad / Trig In with the TRIGGER IN jacks and the pads, Click, MIDI, Control Setup, Audio Setup, USB Audio, LED with its Color List, Option), then the wave tags.

- Tabs, or every page on one page with **One Page** (⇧⌘A). Each section says “n of m differ”; a dot marks a value that differs; a page without difference reads “Same settings on this page.”
- **What Changed · n**: bring the pointer to the bottom edge of the page; one chip per page or part that differs. A click opens its tab, or scrolls to it on One Page.

- **Identical** (⇧⌘I) lists every setting of both backups. Data that no setting explains is listed when it differs, so a change made on the instrument always shows.
- Master Comp and Master EQ are compared on the Kit page (Effects 2), the selected kit and the firmware on the Backup page.

Timeline

Any number of backups, each compared with the next: the history of a set-up along a tour.

1. On the left, tick the backups of the chain and drag them into order. The instrument writes no date, so the order is yours; **Sort** gives a first order by name or by import.
2. With backups of several instruments, **Unit** keeps those of one instrument (its code is read from each backup).
3. On the right: one line per kit that changed somewhere, one column per step (1→2, 2→3…), with the same chips as the Backup page. **Moved → 052** marks a kit found unchanged under another number. **First → last** adds the net result.
4. Click a step to open that pair on the Kit page. Click a kit to see its history: every parameter that changed along the chain, its value in each backup. **Follow the kit when it moves** looks for it by name in each backup. With a history open, ↑ ↓ go to the kit above or below; the timeline scrolls so the selected kit's number and name stay on screen.

Identical adds a line for every kit that never changed along the chain.

8. Manage

Manage reorganises kits and changes settings in a copy of a backup, which you then load on the instrument; it never edits sounds and never writes to the original.

Working backup and managed copy

- **Working Backup** (menu at the top) is the backup you edit: any backup of the library, either as the instrument saved it (**Original**) or a copy already made by Manage.
- Every change stays in memory until **Save**. **Undo** (⌘Z) and **Redo** (⇧⌘Z) go back and forth one action at a time; **Reset** cancels every change since the last save.
- **Save** on an original creates a **managed copy** next to it, under the next free backup number, with `_sxcomp` added to its name (held to the 16 characters of a backup name). The copy then becomes the working backup. Save on a managed copy asks how: Overwrite it (what it held cannot be brought back), or Save as New Copy (it stays as it was; the changes go into a new copy under the next free number, which becomes the working backup). Use Overwrite to save between steps, a new copy to keep stages of changes apart.

- Both files of the backup (`BKUP-ALL.TD0` and `BKUP-ALL.spd`) are checked against each other before opening, and read back after every save.
- The status bar shows Original or Modified, how much has changed and the last action. Leaving with unsaved changes asks whether to discard them.
- After a save, **Compare with Original** opens Compare ▸ Backup with the original as Backup 1 and the saved copy as Backup 2 (Settings ▸ Navigation can make this automatic). **Reveal in Finder** shows the copy.
- In the demo, Save needs a licence.

Organize

The kits of the working backup, moved or copied among themselves. **Source** on the left, **Destination** (what Save writes) on the right.

1. Choose **Swap** or **Replace**.
2. Select one or several kits in Source (click, ⌘-click, ⇧-click; ↑ ↓ move).
3. Drag them onto a kit of Destination.

- **Swap** — the kits go to consecutive numbers from the one dropped on, and the kits that were there take their places. The instrument itself only offers a kit Copy.
- **Replace** — the kits are copied onto consecutive numbers from the one dropped on, which they replace.
- Set lists follow swapped kits: every step keeps playing the same kit. After a Replace, steps on that number play the new content.
- A moved or renamed kit carries a tag (FROM 090, RENAMED…); its bubble gives the kit number or name at the last save. Double-click a Destination kit to rename it.

Import

Kits of **another backup of the library**, copied onto the working backup with their waves. Choose the backup in **From**, then drag kits as in Organize.

- A wave the working backup already holds (same factory wave, or same name, length and audio) is reused; any other wave is imported under the first free wave number and the kit is pointed at it.
- The waves are written on Save, with the kits.
- A kit saved by another firmware (1.20 or 2.00) is converted.

Rename

Pick one or several kits on the left (the selection is shared with Organize), then type the **Name** and **Sub-name** (16 characters each, as the instrument shows them). With several kits, the names typed apply to all of them; a field showing “Several — kept” leaves each kit’s own value unless you type in it. **Edit ▸ Rename…** (⌘R) renames the kits (or the set list) selected.

Pad Setup

The LED, Output, Pad Link, Mute Group and MIDI pages, applied to one kit or many at once.

1. Select the kits on the left (**All** / **None** buttons, Filter field, ↑ ↓).
2. Choose the page.
3. Set the values. They start from the first kit selected; a changed value is marked with a dot, and ≠ marks a value that differs among the kits selected.
4. To set several sources at once, select their rows (click, ⌘-click, ⇧-click, or the SOURCE / EFFECT column title for all), then choose a value on one of them: every selected row takes it. Note No. goes on in sequence from the row changed. Selected rows whose values differ show “—”.
5. Click **Apply**: the changed values are written to every kit selected. Turn on **All Values** to write every value of the page, not only the changed ones.

Page	What you set
LED	Pad LED Layout: click a pad or a vertical LED (⌘-click or ⇧-click for several), then a colour. **Verticals Like Pads** gives each vertical LED the colour of the pad on its left; **All Off** turns everything off. Apply writes the whole layout. The colours are listed on the right of the pads; User Color 1–5 are chosen in a palette (the instrument’s colours, 12 hues in four shades, 12 greys, or Other…) and shown with their six-digit code, as in SPD-SX PRO APP. User Colors are system colours, saved with the backup.
Output	Output and Direct Output per source (pads, trigger inputs, foot switches), plus the four MFX and the side chain
Pad Link	Send / Receive group per source: OFF, 1–16
Mute Group	Send / Receive group per source: OFF, 1–16

Page	What you set
MIDI	Note No., MIDI Ch., Gate Time per source

- **Start From**: **First Kit** puts the page back to the first kit's values; **Defaults** sets Roland's defaults (notes 60 to 78, Gate Time 0.1, MIDI channel GLOBAL, outputs MASTER+PHONES, everything else OFF).
- **Layouts**: **Save Layout…** keeps the values of a page under a name, to use again on other kits. There is one set of layouts per page, so a MIDI layout and a Mute Group layout can be combined. Every page, LED included, has Start From and Layouts on the same line; the Layouts menu uses a layout, saves one (Save Layout…) or deletes one (Delete).

Reassign

Copies sources between pads and trigger inputs, or clears samples, on the kits selected.

- **Trig In → Pads** — Pads 1–8 get the waves, layers and settings of Trig In 1–8 (Pad 9 and the inputs stay).
- **Pads → Trig In** — the reverse (the pads stay).
- **Clear Pads** — removes the samples from layers A and B of Pads 1–9.
- **Clear Trig In** — removes the samples from layers A and B of Trig In 1–8.

Clearing removes the samples only: every other setting stays, and the waves stay in the backup for other kits.

Set Lists

The 32 set lists of the working backup. The source is the working backup itself (Swap) or, in Replace, another backup of the library.

- Drag set lists from Source onto Destination: **Swap** exchanges them, **Replace** copies them over.
- A set list taken from another backup plays the same kits as there: each step is matched by kit name and sub-name, never by number. A kit the working backup lacks is imported, with its waves, into an empty kit no other set list plays.
- **Double-click** a set list, or **Edit Steps…**, opens its steps: drag to reorder (several steps keep the order clicked), drop kits on a step to play them from that step on, or on the last row to add them at the end; double-click or **Add** puts the kits selected after the last step; **Insert** puts them before the first step selected; **Move Up / Move Down**, **Clear Steps**. The sheet has its own **Empty** box.
- Rename a set list with ⌘R or from its menu.

Settings

Every system setting, page by page as on the instrument (Pad / Trig In, Click, MIDI, Control Setup, Audio Setup, USB Audio, LED, Option), changed one by one. Master Comp and Master EQ are edited in SPD-SX PRO APP, like the other effects.

- A changed setting is marked with its value at the last save. **Revert Settings** cancels the setting changes.
- **Pad / Trig In**: choose P1–P9 or T1–T8. A pad has Sensitivity, Threshold and Curve. A trigger input shows the Input Mode of its jack first, then its parameters; Rim Gain, Head/Rim Adjust and Ext Noise Cancel are on Trig In 1, 3, 5, 7 (Ext Noise Cancel with RT-30K and RT-30HR only). These settings apply to every kit.
- **LED**: User Color 1–5 can be changed, in the same palette as Pad Setup ▸ LED, and are shown with their six-digit code; the other colours are the instrument's own.
- A setting whose meaning is not established yet cannot be edited (its bubble says so).
- **Copy Into Working Backup**: copy a group of settings from another backup (**From**):

Group	Copies
MIDI	The MIDI menu: Basic, Control and Sync
Audio Output	Audio Setup ▸ Output: Master, Phones and Direct Output Gain, Master Direct Sw, Master Mono Sw, Direct Out Sw
Triggers	PAD/TRIG IN: Input Mode of the jacks, then every setting of the pads and trigger inputs
System	Every system setting: MIDI, Click, Control Setup, Audio Setup, USB Audio, Master Comp & EQ, LED and its colours, Option

> **Roland factory content.** When the working backup is a copy of Roland's factory content (Contents V1020 or V2000), the instrument ignores the system settings of a factory backup. If you changed settings, Save first asks "Save as a regular backup?": the copy is then saved as a regular 2.00 (or 1.10) backup, and loading it applies **all** its settings, including those you did not change. A copy whose only changes are kits or set lists keeps its factory form, and the instrument keeps its own settings.

Send the result to the instrument

Save writes the managed copy into the library only. To load it on the instrument, use SPD-SX PRO APP, or copy the backup folder to a USB stick and use the instrument's BACKUP LOAD. **Test a managed copy on the instrument before relying on it on stage.**

9. Utilities

Utilities holds two players: **Remote** plays the instrument from the Mac over MIDI; **Offline Mode** plays a backup's samples on the Mac, without the instrument. Neither writes anything.

Remote

Remote strikes the pads, trigger inputs, foot switches and closed hi-hat of the connected SPD-SX PRO, and changes its kit, from the Mac.

Set-up

1. Connect the instrument to the Mac by USB (or a MIDI interface to its MIDI IN).
2. On the instrument, SYSTEM ▸ MIDI: **MIDI Tx/Rx Sw ON**; **Program Change Rx ON** to change kits from the Mac; **Program Change Tx ON** so the kit chosen on the instrument shows in Remote.
3. Click **MIDI** in the toolbar: choose the port and the instrument's Global MIDI Channel (CH 10 by default). The header shows **Connected** once a port is chosen.

Playing

- Press and hold a pad, input, foot switch or the closed hi-hat: the instrument plays it as if struck; releasing ends the note.
- Each source sends its MIDI note on the chosen channel. The instrument plays a pad when the note and channel match its KIT MIDI settings; a pad set to GLOBAL uses the Global MIDI Channel. Defaults: Pads 60–68, Trig In 69–76, Foot SW 77 and 78, Closed Hi-Hat 44 (**Default Notes** in the MIDI pop-over puts them back). Each note must match the kit's KIT MIDI ▸ NOTE NO.
- **All SPD-SX PRO** sends to every instrument connected by USB. **Omni** sends on all sixteen channels, for an instrument whose channel is unknown or several on different channels.
- **Velocity** is set in the MIDI pop-over.

Kits

- ‹ › (or < >, ← →) change the instrument's kit; the field beside them shows the kit and goes to another: type 1–200, then Return. This sends Bank Select and Program Change.

Stop

- **All Sound Off** (⌘.) stops every sound of the instrument (All Sound Off and All Notes Off on the sixteen channels).

Remote does not use SPD-SX PRO APP's connection: both can be open at the same time. Whether the instrument plays the foot switch and closed hi-hat notes has not been checked yet.

Offline Mode

Offline Mode plays a full backup of the library on the Mac, to check a kit without the instrument.

1. Choose the backup, then the kit (‹ ›, < >, ← → for previous / next).
2. Click a pad, input or foot switch: the higher the click on the tile, the harder the hit (127 at the top, 1 at the bottom); the velocity shows in the corner while held.
3. Choose the audio device, the channel pair, the volume and the default velocity with **Output**.

The waves are read from `BKUP-ALL.spd`; a backup without it cannot be played. A change made in Manage is heard once saved.

What is reproduced: layers A and B, Kit Volume and layer Volume, velocity (or Fixed Velocity when Dynamics is off), Pan, Coarse and Fine, Sample Delay, Loop (On, ×2, ×4, ×8), Alternate, Mono / Poly, Mute Group and Pad Link, and the Layer Type:

Layer Type	Offline Mode plays
MIX	A and B
FADE1, FADE2	B fades in between Fade Point and Fade End
XFADE	B fades in and A out between Fade Point and Fade End
SWITCH, SW(MONO)	A below Fade Point, B from it
ALTERNATE	A and B in turn
HI-HAT	B (open), or A while the Closed-Pedal is held

Closed-Pedal (key M on AZERTY, note 44, or the tile) is the hi-hat pedal: pressing it plays Layer A of the HI-HAT pad at its Closed-Pedal Volume and stops the open sound; while held, the HI-HAT pad plays closed; releasing opens it again.

Not reproduced: MFX, Master Comp and Master EQ, layer EQ and Transient, Fade In and Decay, Dynamics curves other than Linear, and the outputs (everything plays on the chosen Output). It is a preview of the samples, not the instrument's exact sound, and not a sound module or plug-in.

MIDI controller: **MIDI In** chooses the input (or all) and the channel (or any). Each Note On strikes the sources set to that note, with its velocity; notes are set under each pad, and **Default Notes** puts Roland's back.

All Sound Off (⌘.) stops every sound. A loop set On stops when the kit changes; other sounds play on, as on the instrument.

Computer keyboard (Remote and Offline Mode)

Both pages share the same keys, taken by their position whatever the keyboard layout.

Sources	Default keys (AZERTY)
Pads 1–9	Q S D F G H J K L
Trig In 1–8	A Z E R T Y U I
Foot SW 1–2	O P
Closed Hi-Hat / Closed-Pedal	M

- A key alone plays at the page's velocity; with ⇧ at 127 (hard), with ⌥ at 40 (soft). Held keys do not repeat.
- **Change a key**: click the key badge under a source, then press the new key (esc cancels). A key already used swaps with it. Return, Enter, Tab, Delete, Escape, the arrows and < > cannot be assigned.
- **Keys** in the toolbar: choose a saved layout, **Save Layout…** under a name (the same name replaces it), **Delete Layout**, or **Default Keys**. The menu title shows the layout in use, or "Keys (edited)".
- Keys with ⌘ or ⌃ stay with the application, as do the keys while typing in a field.

10. Settings window

SX Pro Companion ▸ Settings… (⌘,) gathers the application's options in cards.

Card	Options
Updates	Current version; **Check for Updates…**
Appearance	Theme: System, Light or Dark (Dark by default)
Library & Storage	Library Location; **Choose…**, **Show in Finder**, **Use Documents Default**; the cloud storage note
Environment	**Export Environment… / Import Environment…**
Licence	Demo state and time left, or the activations used (for example 1 of 2); key field, **Paste**, **Activate**, **Buy… (Freemius checkout)**; when licensed **Validate Now**, **Deactivate This Mac…**
Navigation	After importing backups or kits: **Open Libraries** (default) or **Stay on Current Page**. After saving a managed copy: **Stay in Manage** (default) or **Compare with Original**
Support	**Export Diagnostics…, User Manual**

Environment export and import

An environment backup holds the projects, the favorites, the application's settings and, if you choose, the library's backups and kit exports. Use it to move to another Mac or to keep a safe copy of your organisation.

Importing an environment asks for confirmation: its projects, favorites and settings replace the current ones (a copy of the current ones is kept in a Recovery folder), and its library files are added to the library; a file already there is kept.

Diagnostics

Export Diagnostics… writes a plain-text report: application version, macOS version, Mac model, library location and size (files, backups, unreadable files and their errors), theme and navigation choices. It contains no backup, kit or sample data. Attach it to a support request.

11. Keyboard shortcuts

Shortcut	Action	Where
⌘1 … ⌘5	Go to Libraries, Analyze, Compare, Manage, Utilities	Everywhere
⌘O	Import…	Everywhere
⇧⌘O	Choose Library Location…	Everywhere
⌘F	Search kits and backups	Everywhere
⌘T	Rescan Library	Everywhere
⌘,	Settings	Everywhere
⇧⌘E	Show Empty Kits and Set Lists	Libraries, Analyze, Compare, Manage
< / >	Previous / next kit	Kit pickers, Remote, Offline Mode
← / →	Previous / next kit (Compare: next changed kit)	Analyze ▸ Kit, Compare ▸ Kit, Remote, Offline Mode
⌘← / ⌘→	Previous / Next	Compare ▸ Kit
↑ / ↓	Previous / next row of the list clicked last	Lists, the board's page list, Compare ▸ Timeline with a history open
⌘+ / ⌘− / ⌘0	Zoom in / out / whole board	Kit pages, Board view
⇧⌘I	Show / Hide Identical	Compare
⌥⌘→ / ⌥⌘←	Expand / Collapse All Kits	Compare ▸ Backup
⌘R	Rename…	Manage
⌘Z / ⇧⌘Z	Undo / Redo	Manage
⌘.	All Sound Off (Offline Mode, and the instrument when Remote has a port)	Everywhere
⇧ + key	Strike at velocity 127	Remote, Offline Mode
⌥ + key	Strike at velocity 40	Remote, Offline Mode
Return	Opens the first search result; confirms a delete; goes to the kit typed in Remote	—

Shortcut	Action	Where
Delete	Move to Trash… (Imported), remove from project (Projects)	Libraries
⇧⌘A	Settings on One Page	Analyze ▸ Settings, Compare ▸ Settings
⌘?	SX Pro Companion User Manual (PDF on adoq-lab.com)	Everywhere (Help menu)

12. Typical workflows

Each workflow below starts from backups already imported into the library (section 3).

See what changed after a rehearsal

1. Save a backup before the rehearsal and another after it; import both.
2. Compare ▸ Backup: the older as Backup 1, the newer as Backup 2.
3. Read Kits changed and the chips; hover a kit for the values.
4. Click a kit: Compare ▸ Kit shows the board with Backup 2's changes in violet; ← → go to the next changed kit.
5. Check Compare ▸ Set Lists and Compare ▸ Settings for changes outside the kits.

Follow a set-up along a tour

1. Import every backup saved during the tour; group them in a project.
2. Compare ▸ Timeline: tick them, put them in order, use **Unit** if two instruments are involved.
3. Click a kit for its history; use First → last for the net result since the first date.

Reorder kits for a show and rebuild the set list

1. Manage, Working Backup = the latest backup.
2. Organize, **Swap**: drag kits into the show order. Set lists keep playing the same kits.
3. Set Lists: Edit Steps… to rebuild the running order.
4. Rename kits if needed (⌘R).
5. **Save**, then **Compare with Original** to check every change.
6. Load the `_sxcomp` copy with SPD-SX PRO APP (or a stick and BACKUP LOAD), and test it on the instrument.

Bring kits from another backup

1. Manage ▸ Import, **From** = the other backup.
2. Drag the kits onto free slots (Replace) of the working backup. Their waves come with them; waves already present are reused.
3. Save, compare, load, test.

Same MIDI notes, mute groups or outputs on many kits

1. Manage ▸ Pad Setup, select the kits.
2. Choose the page (MIDI, Mute Group, Output, Pad Link, LED); start from **First Kit** or **Defaults**.
3. Set the values, **Save Layout…** to reuse them later, then **Apply**.

Give a spare instrument the main instrument's settings

1. Manage, Working Backup = a backup of the spare instrument.
2. Settings ▸ Copy Into Working Backup, **From** = a backup of the main instrument, group **System** (or only MIDI, Audio Output or Triggers).
3. Save and load the copy on the spare instrument.

Check a kit without the instrument

Utilities ▸ Offline Mode: choose the backup and kit, then play the pads with the mouse, the computer keyboard or a MIDI controller to hear which samples are where.

Trigger the instrument from the Mac

Utilities ▸ Remote: choose the port and channel, then strike pads from the screen or the keyboard, change kits with ‹ ›, stop everything with ⌘.

13. Limits, safety and troubleshooting

Safety rules built into the application

- Original backups are never written. Manage writes only its `_sxcomp` copies, and only on Save.
- Nothing in the library is ever overwritten by an import; duplicates are skipped.
- Move to Trash goes to the macOS Trash, never to a permanent delete.
- The application never sends a backup, a setting or a parameter to the instrument. Remote sends only notes, Program Change, Bank Select, All Sound Off and All Notes Off.

Limits to keep in mind

- Sounds are edited in SPD-SX PRO APP, not here.
- Backups carry no date: name them clearly and order them yourself in Timeline.
- Some values are shown but not editable, or drawn faint, where their meaning is not established yet.
- Offline Mode is a preview without effects, EQ, Transient or outputs.
- A managed copy must be tested on the instrument before a show.

Troubleshooting

Problem	What to check
A backup cannot be opened in Manage	Its `BKUP-ALL.spd` must sit next to `BKUP-ALL.TD0`. If the two files hold different kits or settings, the backup is refused: save a new backup on the instrument.
A backup cannot be played in Offline Mode	Same: the waves are in `BKUP-ALL.spd`.
“Wave … is not ready yet” in Offline Mode	The kit’s waves are still being read; strike again a moment later.
Files missing or unreadable	Cloud storage: make the library folder available offline, then **Rescan Library** (⌘T). Export Diagnostics lists unreadable files.
A favorite or project item shows as missing	Its file has left the library (moved or trashed). Import it again or remove the reference.
Remote: nothing plays	MIDI Tx/Rx Sw ON on the instrument; the right port; the Global MIDI Channel (or Omni); the notes under each pad match KIT MIDI ▸ NOTE NO.; MIDI Ch. of the pad (GLOBAL or its own).
Remote: kit does not change	Program Change Rx ON (SYSTEM ▸ MIDI).
Remote: kit chosen on the instrument does not show	Program Change Tx ON.
Settings changed in Manage are not applied after loading	For a copy of Roland factory content, accept “Save as a regular backup?” (version 1.0.1 or later).

Problem	What to check
A key does not play in Remote or Offline Mode	A text field has the focus (click outside it), a sheet is open, or ⌘/⌃ is held.
Manage ▸ Save is greyed	Nothing has changed since the last save, or the demo needs a licence.
“This license is already active on the maximum number of Macs”	The licence is active on two Macs. Open Settings ▸ Licence on one of them, click Deactivate This Mac…, then activate on the new Mac.

FAQ

Does SX Pro Companion replace SPD-SX PRO APP? No. It reads, compares and organises; SPD-SX PRO APP edits sounds and transfers backups to the instrument.

Can both run at the same time? Yes, Remote included.

Can I load an `_sxcomp` copy with a USB stick? Yes: copy the whole backup folder into the stick’s backup folder and use BACKUP LOAD on the instrument, as with any backup.

What happened to Isolate SPD-SX? It was shown in the 0.60 demonstration build only and is not part of version 1.0. Its leftover files from 0.60 are moved to the Trash at the first launch of 1.0.

Where are my settings and layouts kept? In the application’s preferences on this Mac. Use Settings ▸ Export Environment… to move them, with projects and favorites, to another Mac.

Where are Master Comp and Master EQ? On the Kit page, Effects 2, as on the instrument (KIT EDIT ▸ OUTPUT / EFFECTS). They are edited in SPD-SX PRO APP. Manage ▸ Settings ▸ Copy Into Working Backup, group System, still copies them with the other system settings.

Why are Master Comp Solo and Side Chain Ctrl Preview not shown? They are live states of the instrument: a backup does not store them.

14. Legal notices and support

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Publisher. © 2026 ADOQ-Lab. Website: sx-pro-companion.adoq-lab.com. The About window (SX Pro Companion ▸ About SX Pro Companion) shows the version and build.

Support. Describe the problem, the version (About window) and attach the report from Settings ▸ Support ▸ Export Diagnostics…. Do not send backups unless asked. This manual opens from Help ▸ SX Pro Companion User Manual (⌘?) or Settings ▸ Support ▸ User Manual, as a PDF on adoq-lab.com.

This manual describes version 1.0.3 (build 63).