

V Expressions Ltd



ATLAS Expansion Pack

a sound enhancing expansion pack for the Roland TD-17 V2 Drum Module

TD-17 V2

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Introduction

Thank you for purchasing V Expressions Limited's **ATLAS for TD-17 V2!**

This expansion pack intended for the TD-17 V2 provides 20 + unique and specialized stereo drum kit selections. It has been designed with the enhancements offered on the V2 TD-17.

Note: This file version for V2 will not load into a Version 1 – TD17.

Atlas provides you with plug n play kits designed for ease of use, selection, and 'fit your mix' capabilities. Fully genre based, Atlas is variety laden with something new for many musical situations, recording and live performance alike. Most of the pack is acoustic drum based, featuring well defined kicks/snare/toms for real world use. Well thought out cymbal selections and tunings provide a balanced group of cymbals custom tailored to each kit. Modern Electronic/EDM inspired kits cover a wide array of musical creation. Programmed with an assortment of excellent instrumentation, the use of multiple master effect engines make playing fun and interesting, along with well-placed percussive accessories programmed through many of the kits. This pack spotlights great production value for clear/concise recording quality with an overall modern postproduction drum sound approach.

You will find kits for Reggae, Rock, RnB, Pop/Dance, Metal, Country, Funk, Jazz and Fusion, Electronica not to mention many other uses. The acoustic drum kits in this pack are programmed and created with the feel of direct mic'ing along with added ambience, eq, and compression. All models feature wide ambience in stage, studio, and larger room environments.

While developing these kits, many acoustical considerations were carefully thought out and created to translate well in a headphone performance setting and with loudspeakers. Combining our vast knowledge of acoustic drum sets, these kits were created from ear to best fit into various genres of music. What you get is a cohesive drum sound to fit the part perfectly.

You can dial down the ambience and reverb effects without affecting the produced sound of the kit.

For all experience levels and functionality, this pack will deliver a great enhancement to the TD-17 V2.

The **ATLAS** expansion pack has been ear-created on the TD-17 V2 KV drum set from scratch on a highly expressive platform.

Atlas Kit Listing:

Kit

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. NY Club | Jazz |
| 2. Chicago Nights | Jazz Blues |
| 3. East Reflection | Fusion |
| 4. Pacific Coast | Funk/Fusion |
| 5. Southern Cross | Classic Rock |
| 6. Golden Child | Classic Rock |
| 7. Kentucky Bound | Country |
| 8. The Bottom-Line | Country & Western |
| 9. Happy Roots | Reggae |
| 10. Calypso Air | Calypso |
| 11. Platinum | Pop / Rock |
| 12. Jump in: Jack | Electronic Dance |
| 13. Mind Signals | Hard Rock |
| 14. Eleven UP | Hard Rock |
| 15. Hammer Down | Metal |
| 16. Thrash Talk | Metal |
| 17. Conga Rain | Atmospheric Percussion |
| 18. It's Go Time | Electronica |
| 19. South Central | Hip Hop |
| 20. Diamond Life | EDM |

5 additional Bonus kits are included with purchase.

Getting Started

To increase customer understanding and awareness, we proudly offer this step-by-step instruction manual to ensure quick and smooth implementation with our expansions.

Comprised of both Roland's and our very own streamlined step-by-step instructions, this helpful document will answer all your questions and get you on your way to playing your new kits.

IMPORTANT - READ BEFORE CONTINUING!!

Accidents can always happen!

We highly recommend backing up your current module to save personal modifications before loading any expansion from V Expressions Ltd. It is important you follow our steps in this guide to achieve the best results during the processes of module back-up, file preparation, and loading of your new V Expressions Ltd expansion.

NOTE: To preserve your pad setup, any driver input settings including all vendor / custom settings for DAW use, and any custom kits you've created – Make a backup of your setup configuration to the SD Card.

Custom user kits **WILL BE ERASED** during a load of your expansion backup file. However, your module's **factory reset data is never touched**, and this original factory state of your module can always be reset at any time.

Please take a moment to read all procedures below before attempting them. If you have questions before attempting any of the procedures below, please refer to your Roland TD-17 V2 Reference or Quick Guide manual, or feel free to email **V Expressions Ltd** from the appropriate link on our website at www.vexpressionsltd.com

When you are ready to begin, start with Section I below.

Section I: Apply Latest Updates

FOR YOUR INSTALLATION AND EXPANSION TO WORK PROPERLY, YOUR MODULE MUST HAVE THE LATEST FIRMWARE UPDATE(S) IMPLEMENTED BEFORE YOU BEGIN!

Check Roland website for updates and load the latest firmware if needed.

Section II: Formatting your SD Card in the TD-17 V2

See page 22 in your TD-17 manual

Skip to Section III if you have already used a SD Card with your module!

If you have never used a SD Card with your module, and have no data on it, you have to format the drive in the module to create the Roland folder structure.

IMPORTANT! Any data on the SD Card WILL BE deleted by formatting the card in the module!

- Step 1:** Insert your SD Card into the TD-17 module.
- Step 2:** Press the **SETUP** Button.
- Step 3:** From the Setup Menu arrow down to SD Card.
- Step 4:** Use the dial to select SD Card Format and Press Execute F3.
- Step 5:** Press **ENTER** to confirm and execute the format.

Note: Press Cancel if you do not wish to Format your SD Card.

Remember to make a backup of your module in the previous step before you continue!

Step 1: With SD Card in the TD-17 V2 module, Press the **SETUP** button.

Step 2: From the setup menu screen, Press SD Card, then **ENTER**.

Step 3: Use the dial to choose Save Backup, then **ENTER**.

Step 4: Use the dial and arrow buttons to make backup settings – choose a backup other than Bank 05/06.

Step 5: Press **NEXT F3** (Press **F1** if you want to **NAME** backup)

Step 6: Press **EXECUTE**, and then Press **ENTER**.

Note: Press Cancel at any time if you do not wish to Save a backup to your SD Card.

IMPORTANT: Once saved, remove your SD Card from your TD-17 V2 and insert into your computer/laptop. Copy the Roland folder to your Desktop. Don't move it there, only copy it, so it leaves the Roland folder on the SD Card as well. This will preserve a copy of your module on your computer before any V Expressions changes have taken place.

Section III: Saving Your Newly created TD-17 V2 Backup to your computer

Step 1: Insert your SD Card into your computer's Reader

Step 2: Open the Roland > TD-17 V2 > Backup folder.

Step 3: Drag your new backup to your desktop.

Step 4: Create a Folder to store the file in, and move file to this folder.

Step 5: Once complete: Eject and or remove the SD Card.

Section III: Preparing Your Expansion

Memory Loading Requirements: We recommend a 2 - 16GB SD CARD. We use Roland/ HP/ SanDisk 2-16GB SD Cards.

Backup File Information

- One backup file (expansion) supplied
- Kit files are supplied
- Aux is programmed as Tom 4, but may alter.
- Generally, the Tom rim triggers are sound programmed
- Some models: TOM 1 may have Rim programmed with a higher pitched tom for a 5 tom setup
- V2 Kit Compression and dedicated Reverb settings have been utilized
- **BKUP-005.TD0:** This is **Bank 05**, and will read as: **ATLAS17v2**
- **Kits 1-70 are Roland Factory Default**
- **ATLAS** Kits 71-95 are optimized for stereo headphone use
- Kit 71 appears first upon loading
- Crash 2 trigger input is supported
- **ATLAS** Drum kits will load in as Kits 71-95
- All **ATLAS** Drum kits are supplied with the Snare Xstick available
- **Initial KNOB SETTINGS:** Set your AMBIENCE, BASS and Treble knobs to: Twelve o clock. Adjust as necessary
- **For a less Effected, less Verb experience** – Reduce your AMBIENCE knob
- To best optimize your trigger performance, please read the Performance Settings Guide on pages viii/ix of this manual
- The Roland VH-10 is fully supported and was used in the creation of ATLAS on the TD-17 V2

Section III: Transferring ATLAS to your SD Card

Ensure the expansion number is unique from any backup number already on your SD Card in the “Roland > TD-17 > Backup” folder. Any backup of the same number in this folder **WILL BE OVERWRITTEN!** Atlas is Backup / Bank 05.

Step 1: Insert your SD Card into your computer’s USB port.

Step 2: Find the Files: **BKUP-005.TD0** that came with your download.

Step 3: Open the Roland > TD-17 > Backup folder on your SD Card.

Step 4: Drag the file: **BKUP-005.TD0** from the download to this folder: “Backup” (on SD Card).

Step 5: Once verified and complete: Eject and or remove the SD Card.

Section IV: Loading ATLAS kits from a SD Card for TD-17 V2

NOTE: If you are using a VAD Kit {with/and/or} a CUSTOM TRIGGER set up: Skip to section B below

Press the “KIT” button at any time to cancel the process.

A. Load Backup: SKIP to Section B for the preferred loading method.

(A. Load Backup: This will load all the kits at once and will overwrite all kits 1-100. 1-70 remain factory upon this load. Additionally, it loads a second copy of all the OG User Samples that came with the V2 update. Skip to B to avoid this.)

Bulk Loading ATLAS to the TD-17 V2

See page 22 in your TD-17 manual

Step 1: Insert your SD Card into the module.

Step 2: Press SETUP and scroll to the SD Card

Step 3: Select Load Backup and Press **ENTER**.

Step 4: Use up/down arrows and dial to specify settings – User Sample will be checked if a sample is used -

Step 5: Use the turn dial to select **Bank 05 (named: ALTAS17v2) with various programming on AUX**

Once the load completes: Almost ready but.....you are NOT done yet!

Note: Perform these following steps to align the pack properly to your kit!

Step 9: Recalibrate your VH Series Hi Hats – but if you have a floor pedal with pad (PD/CY) setup instead...then skip this.

Step 10: **IMPORTANT:** Make sure your pad settings match your kit’s pad types. Most likely these have changed.

Step 11: Re-save a copy of **ATLAS** to your SD Card with your corrected pad settings.

B. INDIVIDUALLY Kit by Kit

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ. This loading procedure is recommended for most advanced users.

Use this method of loading the kits:

- 1) **Most VAD users / acoustic & third-party trigger users**
- 2) **When custom trigger settings have been created**
- 3) **When you are using any special DAW /vendor settings and drivers**
- 4) **When you have a fully custom trigger setup/ legacy Roland pad configuration**
- 5) **If your TD-27 is controlling midi sequencing software**
- 6) **If your TD-27 module is a midi performance controller for external samplers**
- 7) **If your TD-27 is being remotely triggered by other Roland Drum modules**

Loading your kits individually: PREFERRED

This preserves your trigger settings and kit placements, but will take a lot more time.

Kits: 1-25

:

All Sample Data will load automatically

To prepare:

With your SD card in computer reader: Find the **Kit** folder that came with your download. Copy and paste all the kits from this folder to your SD Card Kit folder: **“Roland > TD-17 > Kit”**. Once all in there, eject SD Card from computer reader and insert into your TD-17 module.

1. Press the [OTHER] button.
2. Arrow down to select **“SAVE/LOAD.”**
3. Select **LOAD** and use buttons and dial to make Load settings.
4. Press[F2] (**LOAD**)

Note: When loading kits that do not include user samples, you will be unable to select the “With User Sample” check box.

5. Press the [F3] (EXECUTE) button. A confirmation message appears. If you decide to cancel, press the [EXIT] button.
6. Press the [ENTER] button to execute.

Repeat the above steps until all desired kits have been loaded.

Pad Configuration

The pad assignments and trigger information should be set to standard Roland default trigger settings for the following pads:

The pad assignments and trigger information are set to standard Roland TD-17 K VX w/ default trigger settings for the following pads:

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Kick: | KD TYPE |
| Snare: | PD TYPE |
| Tom(s) 1-3: | PD TYPE |
| HH: | VH-10 |
| Ride: | CY-13R |
| CR1/2: | CY TYPE |
| AUX: | PD TYPE |

If your pad setup is different than the above-mentioned groupings you will need to write down any/all of your pad types and/or custom trigger settings you may have adjusted. After loading **ATLAS**, you may need to recreate all the custom pad settings you have made (pad type, sensitivity, re-trig, etc.)

This will help align **ATLAS** with your kit configuration. This is important when using your module with other brands.

Note: Try not to overdrive your pad triggers. Lower Sensitivity as much as possible without losing all your volume.

My Pad & Trigger Settings

IMPORTANT: If your pad setup is different than the above, you will need to write down any/all of your pad types and/or custom trigger settings you may have adjusted. After loading, you may need to recreate all the custom pad settings you have made. (pad type, sensitivity, re-trig, etc.)

If you are using custom trigger, older Roland pads, or other hardware: Please take a moment to write down your personal pad and trigger settings before loading your expansion.

IE: Kick drum is a KD-10, Snare is a PDX-12, Tom 1 is a PDX-8.....

Kick: _____

Snare : _____

Hi Hat: _____

Ride: _____

Tom 1 : _____

Tom 2: _____

Tom 3: _____

Tom 4: _____

Crash 1: _____

Crash 2: _____

Aux 1: _____

Performance Settings

Trigger Sensitivities...

Roland Default TD-17 V2 Sensitivities range from 6-9 depending on which pad you are using. The rule is: the higher the sensitivity setting, the louder the sound will be, but you lose dynamics.

By adjusting the Sensitivity and Threshold settings, this will help prevent mis-triggers, velocity issues, and playability concerns you may be having.

To adjust up or down: go to Pad Settings and mess with the Sensitivity values. Remember: Increasing this value increases the sensitivity, so that even soft strikes on the pad are sounded at high volume (less dynamic). Decreasing this value too much reduces sensitivity, so that even strong strikes on the pad are sounded at low volume (less dynamic). Finding the middle road while you play your drum kit is key.

Note: Try not to overdrive the pad sensitivities with your playing. Look at the meter on the module and try to keep the hardest ATLASs just below max velocity

Trigger Threshold...

Threshold pertains to the minimum sensitivity of the pad. This setting allows a trigger signal to be received only when the pad is hit above a determined force level (a.k.a. velocity). Threshold can be used to generally prevent a pad from mis-triggering because of vibrations from other drums/pads. Check this with your pads and adjust accordingly. Usually, a setting ranging from 2 to 6 is acceptable, but if you still find mis-triggering happening, keep adjusting up. This setting works in tandem with the XTALK setting.

Advanced Trigger Settings...

SCAN TIME: 1.4 is optimal / 2.0 is standard

STRIKE Force: You may notice that identical hits (velocity) you play may produce sound at different volumes. Adjust the “Scan Time” so your way of hitting/playing can be detected more precisely by the module. While repeatedly hitting the pad at a constant force, gradually raise the Scan Time value from 0ms, until the resulting volume stabilizes at the loudest level. At this setting, try both soft and loud strikes to make sure that the volume changes appropriately. With higher settings, latency increases so set this to the lowest value possible you are comfortable with

RETRIG CANCEL: 1 for Roland Pads is standard – 6 for all types of Roland CY Cymbals is standard.

Correcting mis triggering:

Important when you are especially using acoustic drum triggers or “non” Roland brand triggers. Many aftermarket triggers produce altered waveforms, which may also cause mis-triggering. This occurs at the decaying edge of the waveform which is annoying when you hear it. Retrig Cancel detects this and prevents it from occurring. To Adjust: while repeatedly striking the pad, raise the “Retrig Cancel” value until retriggering no longer occurs. Although setting this to a high value prevents retriggering, it then becomes easy for sounds to be omitted when the drum is played fast (roll etc.). Set this to the lowest value possible while still ensuring that there is no retriggering.

You can also eliminate this problem of retriggering with the Mask Time setting. Mask Time does not detect trigger signals if they occur within the specified amount of time after the previous trigger signal was received. Retrig Cancel detects the attenuation of the trigger signal level and triggers the sound after internally determining which trigger signals were actually generated when the head was struck, while weeding out the other false trigger signals.

MASK TIME: 4-8ms is optimal / 8-10ms is standard.

Double triggering prevention: When playing a kick trigger – it is quite common for the beater to bounce back and hit the head a second time immediately after the intended ATLAS. Many times, on acoustic drums the beater stays against the head and you do not hear it. Anyway, this bounce back causes a single hit to “double trigger.” The Mask Time setting helps to avoid this extra dbl trigger. Once a pad has been hit, any additional trigger signals occurring within the specified “Mask Time” will be ignored.

Adjust the “Mask Time” value while playing the pad.

When using a kick trigger, try to let the beater bounce back and hit the head very quickly, then raise the “Mask Time” value until there is no more sound made by the beater rebound.

XTALK CANCEL: 15-30 is optimal / 30-80 is standard and will depend on your setup.

Do not be afraid to max these values out. When multiple pads/drums/cymbals are attached to the same stand, this Crosstalk Cancel setting prevents vibrations produced by a strike from falsely triggering the other pads/drums/cymbals. For example, if Crash 2 is falsely triggered when you strike TOM 2, you will increase the XTalk Cancel value of Crash 2 until crosstalk no longer occurs.

Note: If the setting is too high, a strike played on Crash 2 **might** be omitted when Tom 2 and Crash 2 are played simultaneously. If you experience this lower both XTALK values on both pads.

Tips & Tricks

Using ATLAS with a live PA...

ATLAS kits 1-24 are optimized for STEREO/HEADPHONE USE. The settings below will help dial in your drum sound thru speakers.

Room/OverHeads/MFX Reverbs: Avoid the larger hall settings when gigging. Most of time: Less is more. **To adjust:** Press “**AMBIENCE**”, then “**ROOM – OVERHEADS**” and adjust LEVEL. MFX settings are found at mixer button then paging down.

PAN: Tom and cymbal separation can also be adjusted using the PAN edit feature to widen or reduce the depth of your instruments without harming the kit model. Keeping a tighter pan will sound better through the PA.

Master EQ: Reduce or Add low/hi eq frequency amounts to even out your kit models on the PA. Use PAD EQ settings to help fine tune the sounds of the kit. Sometimes reducing Bass is the way to add Treble. Subtractive EQ-ing works well with Boomy PA's.

SNARE EQ/VOL: To help your Snare cut through the mix.... Snare depth is at 160-250 HZ, Snare body is at 400-630, Snare clarity is at 2 kHz. Adjust the EQ frequencies in your snare channel until your Snare is cutting while guitars and vocals are present. Crank the output volume level of the snare in the TD-17 V2 to assist.

LOW XSTICK / HI HAT PEDAL VOL: To adjust: Press “Mixer”, then KIT VOL – use arrows/dial to make adjustments.

STEREO L/R OUT to PA: For a simple stereo connection to the mixing console use the TD-17 Master L/R outputs. You can then add / reduce the desired effects to accommodate the current environment.

**** MONO L Output:** If in Mono, send your signal via the L MONO OUT. We suggest panning to L15 on all triggers for your particular gig kit. This should greatly enhance your drum set’s power in the PA. Panning this way should give you much stronger/ punchier audio and help curb the “drown in effects” wash sound.

Contact & Support

If you have questions before attempting any of the procedures above, please refer to your Roland TD-17 V2 owner’s manual, or feel free to email **V Expressions Ltd** from the appropriate link on our website at www.vexpressionsltd.com

Contact Information:

Expansion Pack

Programmer

Contact

TD-17 V2 Atlas

Chris Blood

email: fiddlebak@gmail.com

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