

V Expressions Ltd



Arsenal Expansion Pack

a sound enhancing expansion pack for the Roland TD-50X Drum Module

[Ephesians 6:10-18](#)

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Introduction

Arm yourself with an **Arsenal** of realistic instruments and acoustic kits in a vast variety of sounds, styles, and production levels.

Arsenal includes **25 realistic acoustics in 3 different production styles** - for a total of **75 foundational kits to fit any need**. Kits **can be warmed up or brightened with detail in seconds with the simple turn of the ambience overhead and or room knobs!**

Additionally, **Arsenal** comes with **6 cymbal sets** for easily copying your favorite cymbals into your favorite kits in only seconds. You'll be able to **copy in individual cymbals or sets, audition them, change them, and all without the need for additional adjustment!**

But wait, there's more! **Arsenal** also includes **5 pre-created artist-inspired kits**, as well as **5 pre-created "style" kits at full-production level**. These kits are to demonstrate the power you have at your fingertips with the initial **75 kits** and only a few minutes of copying and tweaking to **build even more kits to fit your every desire and need!**

Arsenal starts out with **25 "dry" acoustic kits**. These "dry" kits are a direct response to requests for less "wet" kits and instruments for recording, direct routing, and practicing in general. These "dry" kits are the **foundational structure of realistic instruments and kits bearing minimal-to-no ambience, no reverb, and only enough compression to achieve direct mic and booth-type kit results**.

Next, we take these **25 kits to an all newly customized "natural" state** by introducing environmental ambience that **breathes light dimensional life into the kits** with specific and custom ambience, reverb, and structured medium level parallel compression to **achieve slightly more dynamic and "natural" small-to-medium sized studio room result**.

Finally, we take our foundational **25 kits to a third "wet" level**, introducing mixbus level parallel compression, ambience, and detailed snare reverb to **meet the needs of a kit behind produced music** - all while **retaining the realism of the original kit!**

Furthermore, all **75 kits can be endlessly edited via overheads and rooms to expand all 3 versions of each kit into many additional variances of warm or detailed styles**. We will show you how easy it is in our introduction video to **turn these 75 kits into at least 3 times as many kits!**

Every instrument in every kit is pre-designed to flawlessly copy into another kit with zero or next-to-zero need for adjustment! You'll be able to find the kit family you desire for your need, choose the dry, natural, or wet version, and dial in your desired level of warmth or bright detail **in seconds**. Creating new kits by copying components to a new clone, and dialing in your warmth or brightness, can be done **in less than a minute or two!**

Finally, our last **5 "artist" and 5 "style" pre-designed kits** (for a **total of 85 kits and 6 cymbal sets**) show you how easy it is to create full production level mastered sounding kits with easily adjusted master compressor editing. We've started you out with a handful of well-known names and styles, but we're going to show you how to add to your **Arsenal** with our upcoming "recipe" videos/pdfs for **Arsenal** owners!

Start learning and experiencing the true power of your TD-50X!

Arsenal Kit Listing

Kit Name Description

Remember, there are **three versions** of the first 25 kits below in **dry, natural, and wet** options. Each provides **differing mixes of overhead, room and reverb ambiences**. See our *Tips n' Tricks* section for helpful customization tips! While we may have used similar cymbals across the kits, **you can copy any of the cymbal instruments you desire from cymbal kits starting at kit #81**.

Atomic	Powerful rock acoustic kit with a strong presence.
Cherry	Smooth & tight kick and snare with cherry toms.
Country	Thick and deep mainstream kit great for today's country rock.
Customly	Custom crackin' snare and a tighter kick with nice explosive clear-headed toms.
Damascus	General beast of a kit centered around a Damascus snare.
Deep	Focused kit with deep mahogany toms.
Dirty	Modeled on an old school Slingerland kit.
Endestruction	Sub-sonic kick with power toms for metal.
Ensnared	Kit centered around focused maple tones.
Funky	This kit was created in the month of September.
Jazz	General jazz kit for a little bit of everything from 50's jazz to the 70's rock.
Lewd Wig	Very organic Ludwig modeled kit.
Looser	Loosely tuned classic kit.
Nostalgic	Mellow classic kit.
Oak Tubs	Kit modeled around hard tubby oak toms.
Oldies	Dirty old classic kit.
Pitched	Tighten all the things!
Pop 80s	This kit is hungry like a wolf from Rio.
Poplar	Opened up standard poplar sound.
Popped	Poppy snare with muffled dual ply headed toms.
Straight	Straight forward acoustic kit for general use.
Studio	Standard mainstream Nashville studio kit.
Thick	Sub kick with very round explosive toms.
Thin 60s	Old school thin kit for everything 60s.
Toight	General tight kit with low tuned toms for more powerful music.

Cymbal Packs *(copy any of these cymbals/sets you prefer to any of our kits)*

Cymbal Kit 1	Bright - Modeled after Zildjian Custom A Brilliants.
Cymbal Kit 2	Classic - Fuller bodied classic thinner cymbals, trashier hats, deep ride.
Cymbal Kit 3	Vintage - Similar to the classic cymbals with a more tamed body, trashier hats, high pitched ride
Cymbal Kit 4	Trashy - Rounding out our full-bodied aged cymbal sets with a trashier sound all around.
Cymbal Kit 5	Signature - Modeled after Paiste Signature series.
Cymbal Kit 6	Three sets of stacked options in high and low pitches.

Examples of what can be created with the Arsenal Kits above *(we will have tutorials to help you create even more!)*

Artist 1	1982 - Jeff Porcaro
Artist 2	1992 - Carter Beauford
Artist 3	2007 - Gavin Harrison
Artist 4	2000 - Simon Phillips
Artist 5	1980 - Neil Peart
Style 1	Dead Alive - Example of a crushed master compression in a modern detailed kit.
Style 2	Tubby Explosion - Example of our heavier master compressor with a smoother result.
Style 3	Proggy 1982 - Example showing heavy master compression with more aged progressive voices.
Style 4	Hella Gaeish - Example illustrating heavy master compression on tighter & drier instruments.
Style 5	Hardly Tight - Example of heavier master compression on cleaner tight instruments.

READ ALL OF THE FOLLOWING BEFORE CONTINUING!

BACKUP YOUR CURRENT SETTINGS BEFORE BEGINNING!!

Please take a moment to read all our procedures below before attempting them.

Your default reset information is never disturbed, and the “factory” version of the TD-50X can be reset at any time to return to your default purchased starting point. If you have questions before attempting any of the procedures below, please refer to your TD-50X owner’s manual or email your expansion designer. *(see the last section in this manual)*

Note: To load **Arsenal** from V Expressions Ltd successfully to your TD-50X, your SD Card must have the proper file structure. **Making a BACKUP of your current settings** (Section III below) **or formatting your UNUSED SD Card in the module** (Section II below), **will create the file structure needed. Choose wisely.**

Section I: Preparing your downloaded VEX file

Make a backup of your download for safe keeping before you begin! *(copy to HDD, USB, SD, etc.)*

Step 1: Create a new folder on your desktop named “VEX Arsenal”.

Step 2: Double-click your downloaded zip on PC or Mac to open it.

Step 3: Drag the contents inside the downloaded zip to your new folder “VEX Arsenal”.

Step 4: Re-number our backup TD0 file as desired for number location placement.

You may rename our backup file any number you wish (001-099). However, the file name must remain in the original Roland format: (BKUP-###.TD0). The module WILL NOT read anything different.

Step 5: Make a backup of your updated “VEX Arsenal” folder.

Step 6: Continue with section II or III below as needed.

Section II: Formatting an SD Card in the TD-50X

page 56 in your TD-50X manual

ONLY DO THIS IF YOU HAVE NOT USED YOUR SD CARD YET. FORMATTING WILL ERASE ANY PREVIOUS BACKUPS YOU’VE ALREADY CREATED!

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

Step 1: Insert an SD card into the TD-50X.

Step 2: Press the [SD CARD] button.

Step 3: Press the PAGE [DOWN] button to access page 3 (SD CARD UTILITY).

Step 4: Press the [F3] (FORMAT) button.

Step 5: Press the [F5] (FORMAT) button.

Step 6: Select “OK” and press the [ENTER] button.

Note: Never turn off the power or remove the SD card while formatting is in progress.

Press the "KIT" button at any time to cancel the process.

Step 1: Insert an SD card into the TD-50X.

Step 2: Press the [SD CARD] button.

Step 3: Press the PAGE [UP] button to access page 1 (SD CARD BACKUP ALL).

Step 4: Press the [F1] (SAVE) button.

Step 5: Choose Backup Settings.

Step 6: Press the [F5] (SAVE) button.

Step 7: Press the [F5] (EXECUTE) button.

Step 8: Select "OK" and press the [ENTER] button.

Section III: Saving Your Backup to the SD Card

Ensure the expansion number is unique from any backup number already on your SD card in the "Roland > TD-50X > Backup" folder. Any backup of the same number in this folder **WILL BE OVERWRITTEN!**

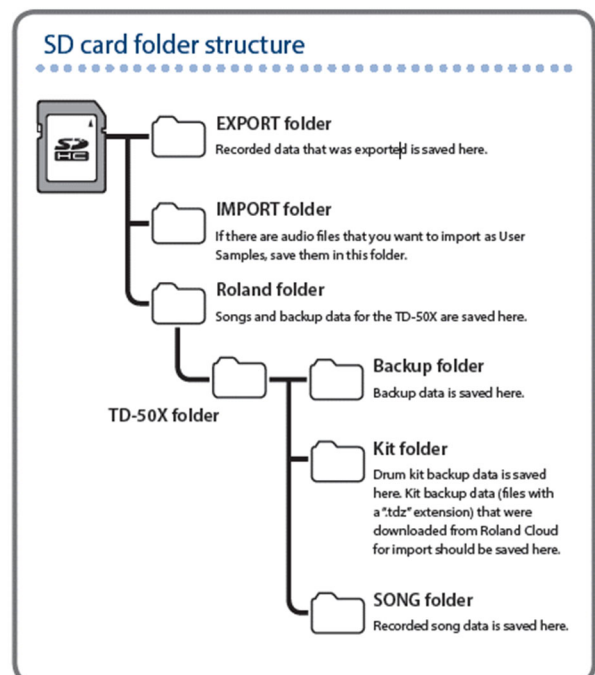
Step 1: Insert your SD Card into your computer's reader.

Step 2: Open the Roland > TD-50X > Backup folder.

Step 3: Drag your new backup to the Backup folder.

Step 4: Verify the backup is INSIDE the BACKUP folder.

Step 5: Eject and or remove the SD Card.



Section IV: Loading Backup Data from an SD Card

Don't forget! Scroll to the number of your file to see and load it. (*Arsenal is delivered as bank #005, unless you change it.*)

Option A: Load Entire Backup from an SD Card

page 54 in your TD-50X manual

Press the "KIT" button at any time to cancel the process.

Step 1: Insert an SD card into the TD-50X.

Step 2: Press the [SD CARD] button.

Step 3: Press the PAGE [UP] button several times to access page 1 (SD CARD BACKUP ALL).

Step 4: Press the [F2] (LOAD) button.

Step 5: Choose loading settings.

Step 6: Press the [F5] (LOAD) button.

Step 7: Select "OK" and press the [ENTER] button.

Option B: Copying 1 Kit Data from an SD Card

pages 45-47 in your TD-50X manual

Note: You can copy individual kits from your main backup using the Copy > SD tab in the copy section of your module. Therefore, we do not provide "individual" kits with your expansion as there is no need for them.

Step 1: Insert an SD card into the TD-50X.

Step 2: Hold down the [SHIFT] button and press the [SD CARD] button.

Step 3: Press the PAGE [UP] button several times to access page 1 (SD CARD BACKUP ALL).

Step 4: Press the [F1] (KIT) button.

Step 5: Press the [F3] (SD CARD) button.

Step 6: Choose loading settings.

Step 7: Press the [F5] (COPY) button.

Step 8: Select "OK" and press the [ENTER] button.

Repeat this process for each kit you want to load individually.

Section V: Initial Settings of your VEX expansion

Pad levels: This expansion loads as a default setup. Following installation, update pad setup to match YOUR setup, and re-save the backup.

Snare Head/Rim levels: The snare drum levels are designed for seasoned players who use rimshots regularly. Adjust for YOUR personal technique. (*there may be no need for adjustment here*)

Slider & Ambience levels: Set all sliders even at first. 0dB is ideal. Adjust as needed when customizing kits. (*see the Tips n' Tricks section below*)

Additional mixing: Minor adjustments as personally desired are expected. Expect to use both sliders and internal mixing to levels with your bands, songs, etc. Remember! You can easily copy cymbal sets to any kit for faster adjustment. Cymbal packs are where additional rides, splashes, and crashes can be found!

Tips & Tricks

How to use Arsenal:

Creation: When creating new kits via the copy function, pay attention to “production” of each kit. It is better to start with the kit whose overall production you like most to copy into. Copy this preferred “production” kit to a new or blank bank. (*this is your “recipient” kit*) From there, copy in other desired components (*individual drums, cymbals, etc. from the “donor” kits*) with the “Inst/VEdit Only” contents only. By taking these steps, you can easily create new custom kits with your desired snare, toms, cymbals, etc. This process ensures the best results when creating new kits.

Turning Each Kit into Three: We’ve purposely designed **Arsenal** in a manner that **allows you to control the warmth, brightness, and ambience of each kit; turning each kit into three options**. Of course, when you choose a kit to play, try the dry, natural and wet versions first. If you wish to adjust these parameters to your personal taste, simply click the Ambience button a couple of times to reach the main Ambience home page. You can control warmth/brightness with the overhead knob. You can increase or decrease room ambience with the Room knob.

Changing Styles: We’ve provided alternative compression styles in kits #91-100. If you prefer heavier compression styles to achieve a more “mastered” result, you can clone any of these kits to copy instruments into. Simply clone the Artist or Style kit you desire, and copy your favorite instruments, instrument sets and or cymbals into the newly cloned kit. Adjust as desired. (*hint: you can learn a lot from the master compressor differences in the dry, natural, wet, and style kits*)

Detailed Ambience: While we’ve mixed and designed overheads and room mixer levels for optimum results, you can seek out issues by turning these options off/on in the Ambience section to find issues. You can also adjust these levels individually if you desire to do so. Remember, we have mixed Reverb separately in the MFX section for the snare drum. MFX1 is your SN Reverb. You can choose your snare pad and increase or decrease the reverb as desired in this area. Be sure to rule out Room issues first.

Performing: In live situations, it is suggested that the kits be played to the mixing console in stereo as they are modeled and then adding/reducing the desired effects to accommodate the current environment. We suggest creating a “sound check” pattern of your personal playing that utilizes as many of the components as possible for your sound engineer to use during sound check.

Thank you once again for purchasing the **Arsenal** from V Expressions Ltd. We hope you enjoy it!

Troubleshooting

If you are having problems with your pads not responding normally (*usually volume issues*), your rim features have been shut off, or seem quiet or muffled with low dynamics, check the following:

1. **FIRST - ENSURE YOUR TRIGGER SETTINGS MATCH YOUR PAD SETUP!**
2. **Hi-Hat** not performing properly: Ensure trigger type selection & re-establish offset parameters.
3. **Ride** has no bell sound: Ensure trigger type selection and or check & switch cables.
4. **Snare** not performing properly: Ensure trigger type selection. Adjust rim gain as needed. This can be based solely on personal preference and pad type. (*highly unusual*)

*Due to deeper modeling we perform, you could experience time/pitch issues with loaded **user samples**. Under advanced, be sure to check that “Pitch” & “Pitch Sweep” are set to zero, and “Decay” is set to 100.*

If instruments (*usually toms*) don’t “sound right” (*warbly sustain*) after adjusting tuning, it is likely you are adjusting an instrument that is **layered** with a similar sub-instrument. You will need to adjust **both layers** equally for some settings (*tuning, shell depth, etc.*) to battle “phase” issues. This is simply the nature of matching layers/samples.

Contact & Support

If you have questions before attempting any of the above procedures, please refer to your TD-50X owner's manual or email V Expressions Ltd from our website at www.vexpressionsLtd.com.

Contact Information:

Expansion Pack	Programmer	Contact
Arsenal	Alan Miller	email: alanmiller068@gmail.com