

# Digital Bass Line



## Owner's Guide

DB-303 Version 1.0

[www.pulsecodeinc.com/db-303](http://www.pulsecodeinc.com/db-303)

Copyright Pulse Code, Inc. © 2009, All Rights Reserved

**PULSE CODE**

---

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the DB-303 Digital Bass Line. The DB-303 is a bass synthesizer, which can be played with an internal step sequencer. The audio output of the DB-303 is routed through two virtual effects pedals which can add tonal color and character.

Pulse Code, Inc. created the DB-303 to emulate the look and sound of one of our favorite retro analog synthesizers. We hope you enjoy this application as much as we enjoyed making it.

The following pages have some tips on writing bass patterns, changing tonal color and adding effects.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

### **Moving the Knobs**

To move a knob, touch the knob with your finger. While still touching the screen, move your finger in a circular motion around the knob. The knob will track your finger movement.

Note: You do not have to move your finger in a small arc right on top of the knob. Once the knob is tracking your movement, you can move your finger anywhere on the screen.

### **Fine Tuning Tempo**

When you are adjusting tempo, its value will be displayed on the virtual LCD screen. To fine tune the value, touch the LCD screen while the knob value is still displayed and move your finger left or right. The value will increment very slowly to allow you to fine tune and get the exact tempo setting you want.

## DB-303 DIGITAL BASS LINE OVERVIEW

The DB-303 Digital Bass Line application consists of two views. The main view being the DB-303 virtual synthesizer and the secondary view which shows the two virtual effects pedals.



### EFFECTS VIEW



### SYNTHESIZER VIEW

To navigate between each view, simply touch the screen with two fingers and slide them up or down to access the next view.

Note: The application tracks your finger positions, so depending on how much you move your fingers depends on how much the screen moves. This allows you to move the DB-303 synthesizer knobs to the center of the screen for full range of motion of the knobs. A quick swipe up or down may not result in the screen completely switching to the next view.

## DB-303 DIGITAL BASS LINE SYNTHESIZER VIEW



- |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. Waveform selector switch    | N. Down button                        |
| B. Tuning knob                 | O. Up button                          |
| C. Cutoff knob                 | P. Accent button                      |
| D. Resonance knob              | Q. Slide button                       |
| E. Envelope Modulation knob    | R. Back button                        |
| F. Envelope Decay knob         | S. Next button                        |
| G. Accent knob                 | T. Copy button / C sharp              |
| H. Tempo knob                  | U. Delete button / D sharp            |
| I. Pattern Group selector knob | V. Transpose button / F sharp         |
| J. Mode selector knob          | W. Shift pattern button / G sharp     |
| K. LCD display                 | X. Randomize pattern button / A sharp |
| L. Volume knob                 | Y. Pattern buttons / Keyboard buttons |
| M. Run/Stop button             |                                       |



## WRITING A BASS PATTERN

| SELECTING A PATTERN |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 1                   | Set the MODE selector (J) to PLAY.  |
| 2                   | Select the PATTERN GROUP using the PATTERN GROUP selector (I).  |
| 3                   | Select a pattern by touching a PATTERN button (Y). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If the pattern has a bass pattern already written to it, use the DELETE Function to erase it. (See Additional Functions)</li> <li>b. If the pattern is blank, go to step 4.</li> </ul> |
| 4                   | Set the MODE selector (J) to WRITE.   |

| WRITING THE PITCH |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 5                 | Touch a key button (T-Y). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Touch either the UP or DOWN OCTAVE switch (N/O).</li> <li>b. Touch either the NEXT or BACK button (R/S) to change the currently selected step.</li> </ul> |
| 6                 | Repeat Steps 5, 5a and 5b until the pattern is complete.  |

| WRITING ACCENTS & SLIDES |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 7                        | Select the desired step by touching either the NEXT or BACK button (R/S).                               |
| 8                        | Touch the ACCENT button (P) to add an accent to that note or touch the SLIDE button (Q) to add a slide. |

### PLAYING A BASS PATTERN

- 1 Touch the RUN/STOP button (M) to play the currently selected pattern.

Note: The currently playing pattern LED light will flash when in play mode.

### CHANGING PATTERNS

- 2 Set the MODE selector (J) to PLAY.
- 3 Select the PATTERN GROUP using the PATTERN GROUP selector (I).
- 4 Select a memory position by touching a PATTERN button (Y).

Note: The target pattern is designated with an active LED light and will only play when the currently playing pattern is finished. This enables you to change patterns in while sequencer is playing.

### GROUPING PATTERNS

- 5 Select a pattern by touching a PATTERN button (Y).
- 6 Select the last pattern of the group by double-tapping a PATTERN button (Y) which is a higher number than the first pattern.

Note: The group of patterns will have active LED lights and the currently playing pattern will be flashing.

### ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS

- 1 Set the MODE selector (J) to PLAY.
- 2 Hold the current pattern for 2 seconds to access the function.

### COPY PATTERN

- 1 Touch the COPY function button (T).
- 2 Touch the target PATTERN button (Y) you want to copy the current pattern to.

### DELETE PATTERN

- 1 Touch the DELETE pattern function button (U).
- 2 Touch the current PATTERN button (Y) to confirm delete.

### TRANPOSE PATTERN

- 1 Touch the TRANPOSE pattern function button (V).
- 2 Touch either the UP or DOWN button (N/O) to transpose the entire pattern up or down.
- 3 Touch the current PATTERN to exit.

### SHIFT PATTERN

- 1 Touch the SHIFT pattern function button (W).
- 2 Touch the NEXT or BACK button (R/S) to shift the pattern sequence forward or back.
- 3 Touch the current PATTERN to exit.

### RANDOMIZE PATTERN

- 1 Touch the RANDOM function button (X).
- 2 Touch the current PATTERN button (Y) to overwrite the pattern with a random pattern.

## CHANGING TONAL COLOR

| TONE CONTROLS |  |
|---------------|--|
| A             | <p><b>Waveform Selector Switch</b><br/>This switch will select either a sawtooth or square wave. Slide your finger left or right over the switch to move it.</p> <p>Note: The DB-303 simulates an analog oscillator which produces a distinct sound. This is completely intentional.</p> |
| B             | <p><b>Tuning Knob</b><br/>This knob controls the pitch tuning of the DB-303. This knob only detents to full octave positions.</p>  |
| C             | <p><b>Cutoff Frequency Knob</b><br/>This knob controls tone color. Turning the knob clockwise will brighten the sound.</p>   |
| D             | <p><b>Resonance Knob</b><br/>This knob emphasizes the cutoff frequency. Turning the knob clockwise will increase the emphasis.</p>   |
| E             | <p><b>Envelope Modulation Knob</b><br/>This knob controls the filter envelope. Turning the knob clockwise increases the effect of the Decay Knob as well as the tone color.</p>  |
| F             | <p><b>Decay Knob</b><br/>This knob controls the time a note takes to fade. Turning the knob clockwise increases the decay time.</p>  |
| G             | <p><b>Accent Knob</b><br/>This knob controls the amount of accent applied to notes in the bass pattern. Turning the knob clockwise will increase the effect of accent on these notes.</p>  |

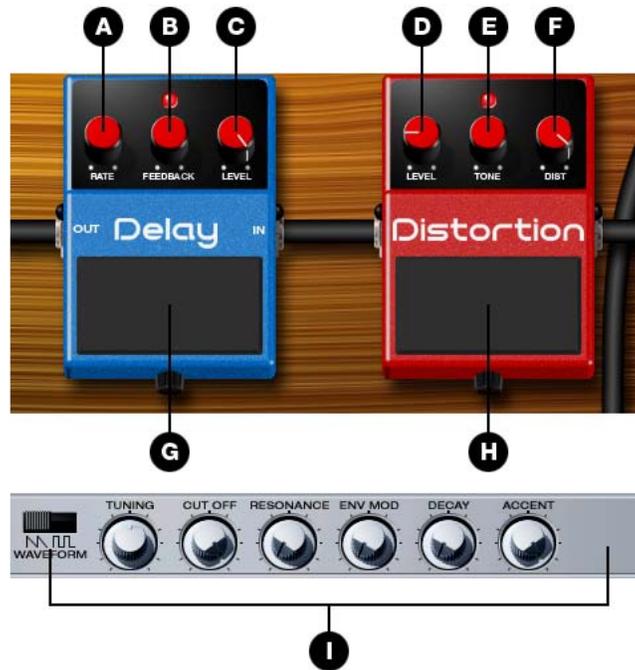
## EXAMPLE SOUNDS

Set the tone controls to the following positions to obtain the example sounds.

Note: The DB-303 knobs have markers which represent every 10% of their range. Starting at fully counter-clockwise, the knob position is at 0%. When the knob is turned fully clockwise, it is at 100%.

| ELECTRIC BASS 1  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Waveform         | Saw |
| Cutoff           | 35% |
| Resonance        | 65% |
| Env Mod          | 80% |
| Decay            | 35% |
| Accent           | 20% |
| ELECTRIC BASS 2  |     |
| Waveform         | Saw |
| Cutoff           | 60% |
| Resonance        | 30% |
| Env Mod          | 75% |
| Decay            | 0%  |
| Accent           | 35% |
| ACOUSTIC BASS    |     |
| Waveform         | Saw |
| Cutoff           | 20% |
| Resonance        | 0%  |
| Env Mod          | 60% |
| Decay            | 60% |
| Accent           | 35% |
| SYNTHESIZER BASS |     |
| Waveform         | Saw |
| Cutoff           | 40% |
| Resonance        | 80% |
| Env Mod          | 80% |
| Decay            | 65% |
| Accent           | 50% |

## EFFECTS VIEW



### USING EFFECTS

To navigate to the Effects View, simply touch the screen with two fingers and slide them down. You will notice that the DB-303 tone controls (I) will remain visible. You will have full control over the tone controls while in the effects view.

### DISTORTION

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Select the amount of input signal with the LEVEL knob (D).       |
| 2 | Select the color of the distortion sound with the TONE knob (E). |
| 3 | Select the amount of distortion with the DIST knob (F).          |

### DELAY

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Select the time it takes for input signal to repeat with the RATE knob (A).<br>Note: The RATE knob is based off of a percentage of the current tempo. This enables you to quickly dial in usable delay settings which will automatically change if the tempo is changed. |
| 2 | The FEEDBACK knob (B) controls the amount of signal which is fed back into the delay to create multiple echoes.  |
| 3 | Select the amount of the delayed signal to be mixed into the output with the LEVEL knob (C).   |