LUMI Keys

User Manual

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INTRODUCTION

You're about to start exploring a new way to learn to play the songs you love. We're thrilled that you're on your way! LUMI is an integrated, interactive system that's the first of its kind. It combines a fully illuminated keyboard with an app that's full of songs and lessons. Choose a song, follow the light-up keys and the colored notes in the app, and you can start playing in seconds.

We know that music is good for us. That's why so many of us love listening to our favorite songs. But so few can play a musical instrument. 80% of those who try to learn an instrument quit before the age of 14. LUMI is for anyone who ever wanted to make music. It guides you as you start and helps you improve your skills and technique — while having fun every step of the way.

LUMI is not just for learners. it's also a state-of-the-art MIDI keyboard that can slot into any musician's workflow. It integrates with software tools like GarageBand that millions of people use, and its unique features are fully customisable.

In this manual you'll learn how to use LUMI, whether you're playing a keyboard for the first time or working in a studio. We'll update the manual when we add new features, so check in once in a while!

Happy exploring
Team ROLI

Please note: LUMI Keys may display flashing lights and patterns which may pose a risk to individuals with photosensitive epilepsy.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

BLOCKS:
A system of modular MIDI controllers that connect through magnetic DNA connectors to create customizable, adaptable kits. The Seaboard Block, Lightpad Block, Live Block, Loop Block, and Touch Block currently comprise the system. LUMI Keys also connects to BLOCKS.

Block(s):
The individual controllers within the BLOCKS system.

Brightkey Technology:
ROLI's proprietary technology that controls the fully illuminated RGB keys of the LUMI keyboard.

DNA Connectors:
Six-pin connectors that magnetically connect multiple LUMI Keys or Blocks and also transmit power and data between the connected units.

DS5.5 Keys:
LUMI's keys conform to DS 5.5 on the Donison Steinbuhler Standard. Approximately 7/8 the width of a standard piano key, they better fit the size of the average human hand.

LUMI Music:
The LUMI Music app is the mobile app companion to LUMI Keys. Synching the app on phone or tablet with LUMI Keys, you can choose songs and learn to play them through interactive content.

Loop Block:
An auxiliary Block that provides shortcut buttons to production features like recording, playback, and quantizing.

Lightpad Block:
A next-generation drumpad for playing beats and melodies, as well as producing and controlling effects on other Blocks in the BLOCKS system. Lightpad Block integrates fully with LUMI.

Live Block:
An auxiliary Block that provides shortcut buttons to performance features like switching sounds, turning notes into chords, and arpeggiating. When LUMI is connected to ROLI Studio Player software, Live Block controls software functions directly.

LUMI Keys:
That's this product! LUMI Keys is the illuminated keyboard, distinct from the LUMI Music app.

MIDI Polyphonic Expression (MPE):
MPE is an emerging protocol that enables deeper musical expression in digital music creation tools. MPE-compliant devices (like the ROLI Seaboard) and software (like Logic Pro X and Bitwig Studio) enable independent, per-note control of multiple sound parameters such as pitch and timbre. ROLI is a pioneer of MPE, which was adopted as part of the MIDI specification in 2018.

ROLI Connect:
A desktop application for players who use ROLI software. ROLI Connect is a portal for managing multiple ROLI products, and accessing software updates.

ROLI Dashboard: A desktop application for modifying and customising the internal settings of LUMI Keys and other ROLI devices. ROLI Dashboard is especially useful for skilled electronic musicians who want to integrated LUMI with digital audio workstations and synthesizers.

ROLI Studio:
A desktop software suite bundled with LUMI Keys. It includes 100s of sounds, effects, and production tools from across the ROLI software ecosystem. It includes two plugins: ROLI Studio Player and ROLI Studio Drums.

Seaboard Block:
A next-generation keyboard for playing and shaping sounds with far more expression than a normal piano keyboard allows. Seaboard Block connects LUMI Keys as well as the Lightpad Block and others in the BLOCKS system.

Touch Block:
An auxiliary Block that allows real-time control of expression parameters on the Seaboard Block an Lightpad Block.

USB-C:
The type of USB connector used to connect and charge LUMI Keys. There is a female connector on the keyboard, and a male connector on the included USB-C-to-USB-A cable.

LUMI OVERVIEW

LUMI is a new way to learn and play music. Unlike other music learning systems, it unites hardware, software, and content in an experience enlivened by light and color.
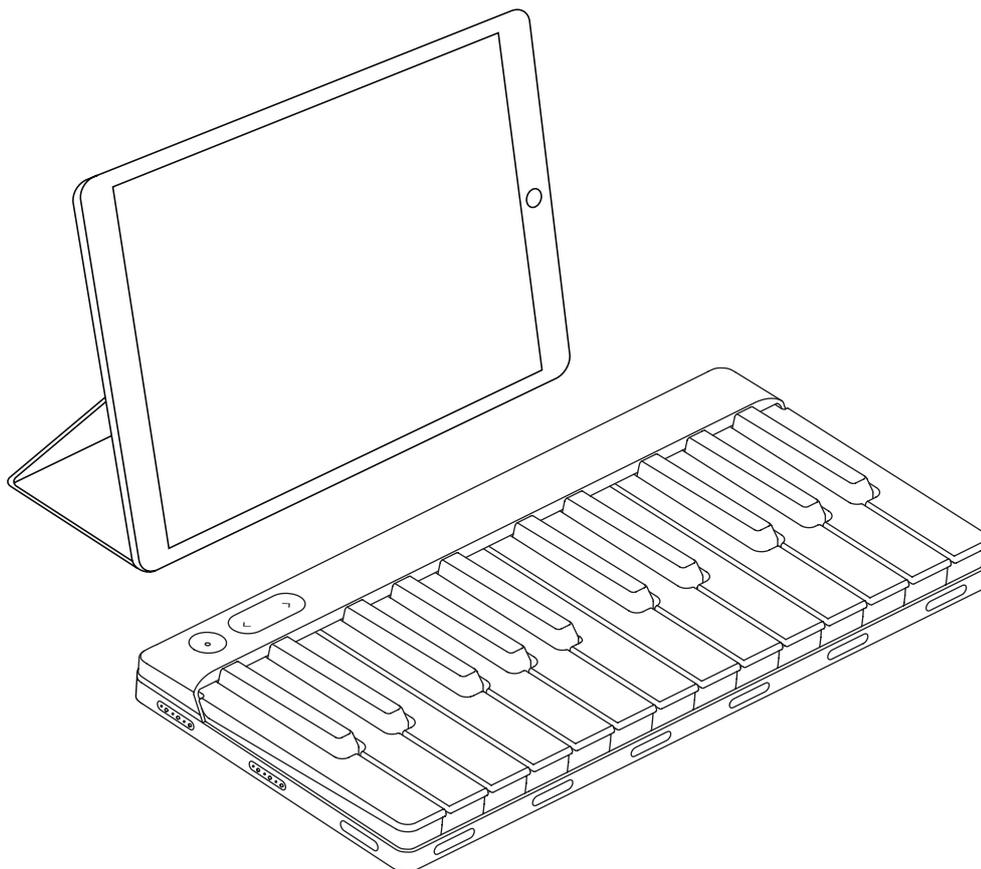
WHAT IS LUMI?

LUMI is three things interacting as one.

HARDWARE: LUMI Keys, the keyboard that lights up when connected to the app

SOFTWARE: The LUMI Music app for learners, plus ROLI Studio desktop software for pros

CONTENT: 100s of songs and dozens of lessons in the LUMI app

WHAT IS LUMI FOR?

PLAYING: Play songs you love, chosen in the LUMI app. Or go further and use LUMI Keys as an MIDI keyboard for composing and performing.

LEARNING: Learn how to play the keyboard by practicing songs in a fun, interactive way; then step back and take bite-sized in-app lessons about technique and other music basics.

WHO IS LUMI FOR

LEARNERS: LUMI is primarily for people who don't yet play an instrument confidently. This will always be the biggest group, because there are tens of millions of people who don't play, but wish they could.

MUSICIANS: LUMI Keys, and the included desktop software, are also extremely powerful tools for skilled musicians who want to bring a new keyboard, new sounds, and even a spectacular new look to their playing and producing.

LUMI KEYS FEATURES:

- 24 fully illuminated RGB keys
- Unique modular design for easily expanding or customizing instrument
- DS5.5 keys better sized for the average human hand
- Bluetooth connectivity
- Lightweight, compact, portable design

- 6 hour battery life
- USB-C connectivity
- Octave Shift capability
- Brightness controls
- Multiple color modes
- Included mobile and desktop software

GETTING STARTED

UNBOXING

Unbox your LUMI carefully. Check the contents to make sure that nothing is lost or damaged. Save all packing materials, just in case.

BOX CONTENTS

- LUMI Keys
- Quick Start Guide
- USB-C cable
- Warranty overview

CHARGE

Charge, before you do anything else. Use the included USB-C cable. Plug it into your LUMI Keys and plug the other end into a USB 3 charger or a computer with a USB 3 port.

An amber or green light on the Power/Mode button indicates a full charge.

DOWNLOAD THE LUMI APP

LUMI Keys connects to the LUMI app. Download from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Supported mobile devices: The LUMI app works with mobile and tablet devices. Check the ROLI Support page for a list of supported Android and iOS devices.

REGISTER YOUR KEYBOARD

When it's charged, go ahead and register your keyboard. There are two ways to do this:

via the LUMI App: Launch the app. Follow instructions to create a user account, or log in with your existing account. Then register.

via roli.com/start and ROLI Connect: If you intend to use your keyboard for music production or performance, you may prefer to register via www.roli.com/start. Follow the instructions on that page. You'll install ROLI Connect, which gives you access to all the software programs that come with LUMI.

PAIR LUMI KEYS WITH THE LUMI APP

You'll need to pair the app and the keyboard to start playing.

Your first connection to the app: When you switch the keyboard on, it will automatically enter Bluetooth pairing mode. You'll know this when the keys pulse with blue light. Then open the app, which will take you through a simple onboarding and connection process. After pairing, the keys will animate with a rainbow color.

Reconnecting to the LUMI App: If you have lost connection, a dialogue box will pop up on the LUMI App, assisting you with reconnection.

Also, you can always tap the bluetooth icon ✻ in the top right corner of the app interface. Make sure the keyboard is in pairing mode, displaying a blue pulse. Find your device name on the menu, and tap. This will reconnect the keyboard and app.

CONTROLS AND FUNCTIONS

LUMI Keys includes a 24 key illuminated playing surface, a Power/Mode button, an Octave Shift button, a USB-C port, 8 DNA connectors, and wireless Bluetooth connectivity.

THE KEYS
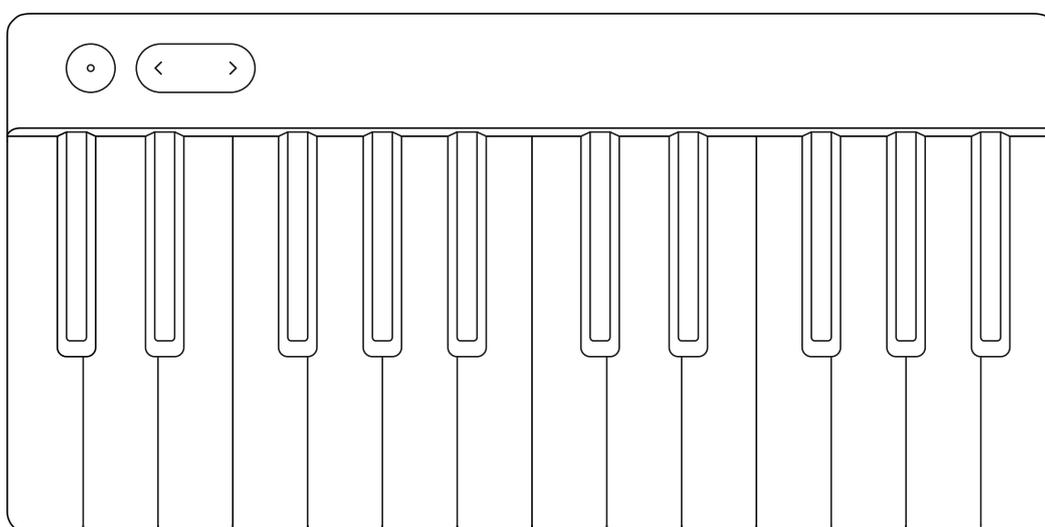
The keys operate like standard MIDI keyboard keys, but they are different in three ways:

Illumination: The keys are brightly lit with full-spectrum RGB illumination, enabled through ROLI Brightkey technology. Each key will appear in a variety of colors depending on what song or program you are accessing.

Key size: The keys conform to DS 5.5 on the Donison-Steinbuhler Standard. They are 7/8 the width of a standard piano key. Their slightly slimmer profile makes them better sized for the average human hand and more comfortable for playing.

Plunge depth: The keys' plunge depth is 92% of the plunge depth of a grand piano key. Combined with their weighting and resistance, this makes them feel more like piano keys.

CONTROL BUTTONS

Octave Shift
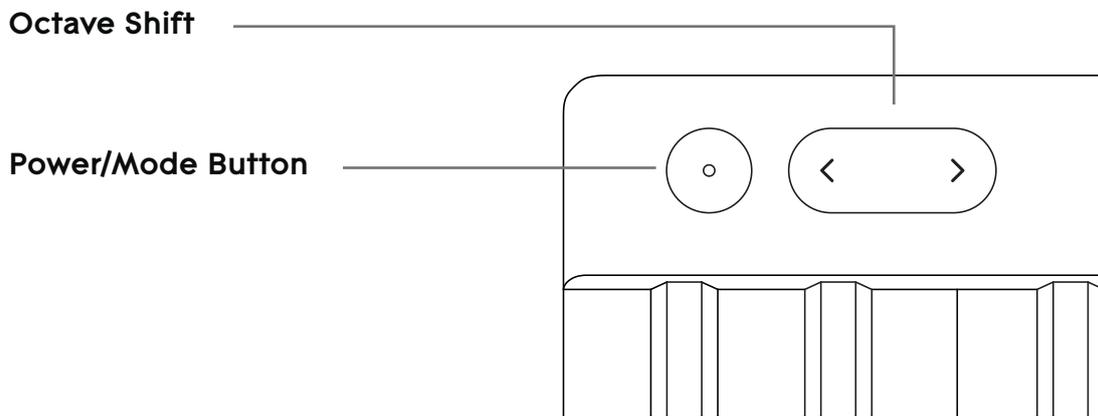
Power/Mode Button

There are three buttons, each with multiple functions.

Power/Mode Button: Located on the top left of the keyboard. Its functions are:

> **On/Off:** Turn the keyboard on by pressing the button once. Turn it off by holding it down for three seconds.

> **Battery Indicator:** The color of the LED in the button also indicates battery life. Green is full charge, yellow is medium charge, and red is low (20% or less battery life remaining). The button blinks when LUMI is charging.

Octave Shift: Located next to the Power/Mode button. For advanced users who are composing or performing with LUMI Keys, the button is for moving up and down octaves beyond the two-octave range of the keyboard.
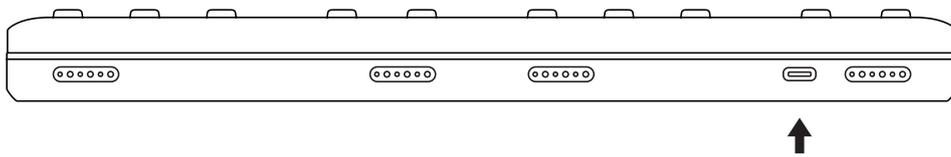
BLUETOOTH CONNECTION INDICATOR

When you turn on LUMI Keys without a wired USB connection, it will start pairing with Bluetooth. The Bluetooth pairing process is indicated by the keys pulsing blue. Once the connection is established, the keys will flash in a rainbow pattern.
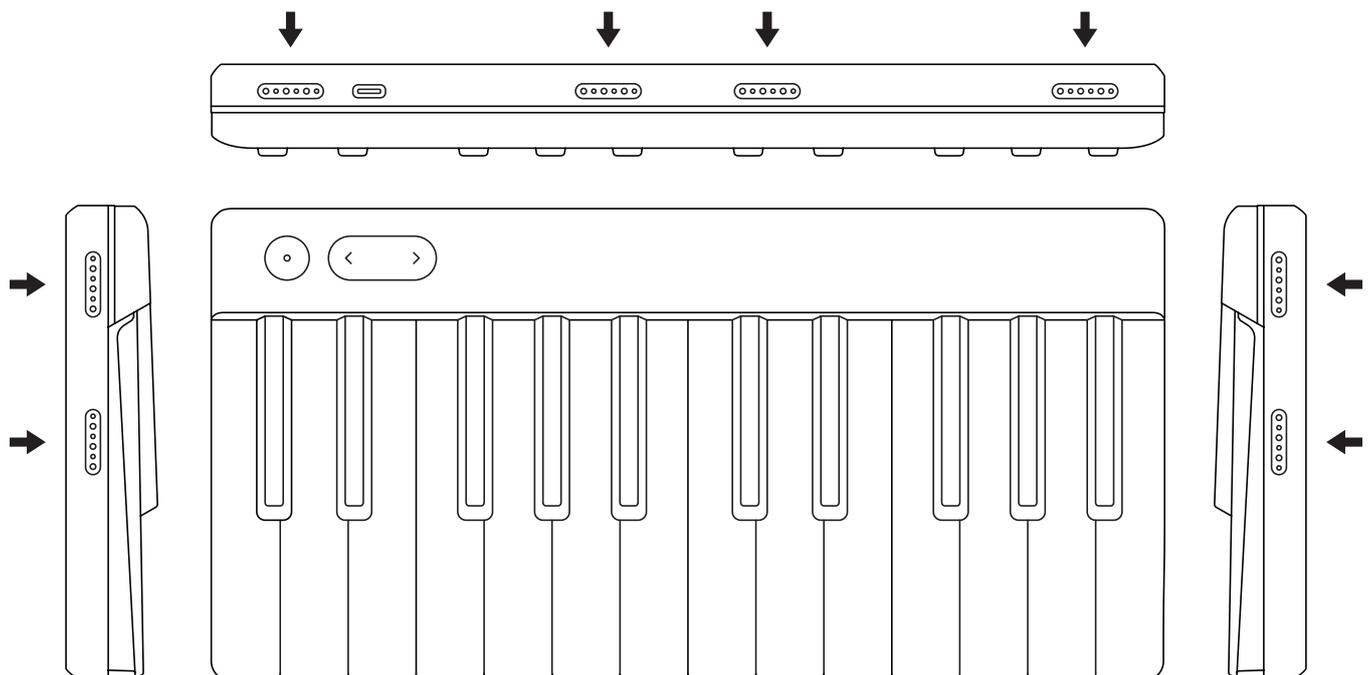
USB CONNECTION

Located on the top of LUMI Keys, the USB-C port connects to a USB 3 charger to charge the keyboard. The keyboard's battery will charge when connected to a computer that itself is plugged in to AC power.

DNA CONNECTORS

Located on the left, right, and top sides of LUMI Keys, DNA connectors magnetically connect two LUMI Keys. They also share power and data across the keyboards.
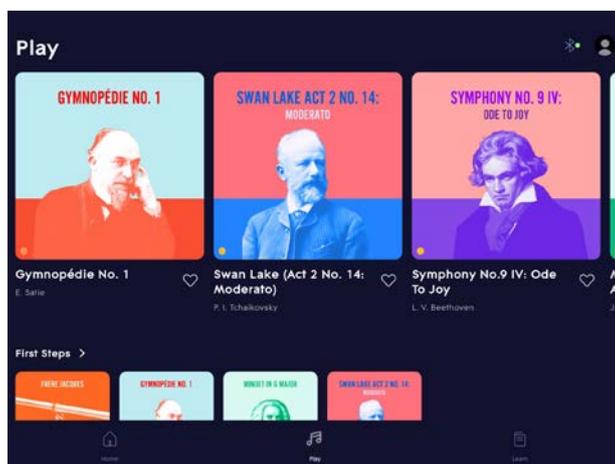
HOW TO PLAY

When the app and keyboard are connected, you're all set to choose a song or lesson and start playing.

Choosing songs

Hundreds of songs are available, spanning pop to classical to dance music. The free LUMI Essential tier has well known classical and folk songs, and the subscription-based LUMI Premium tier has contemporary songs including today's hits.

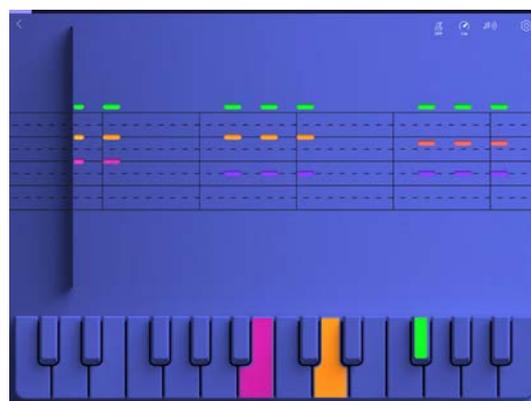Your interface for choosing songs looks like this.

Choosing views

After you've chosen a song, the next step is choosing how you want to view or "read" your song. Options include Cascade View and Rainbow View.
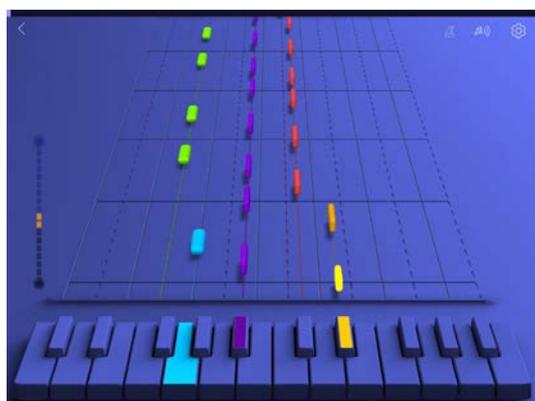
Cascade View

Rainbow View

Exploring lessons

The best resources for learning how to play are in the Learn section of the app. There you will find instructional content about subjects like

Playing technique

Play songs that build your right hand and left hand keyboard skills. Learn to play in step, in jumps, and how to cross fingers.

Music fundamentals

Get to grips with musical basics, including pitch, dynamics, scales and rhythm. Use what you've learned to improve every performance, and play more complex music.

Reading sheet music

Begin reading notes on the musical staff. Familiarize yourself with different note symbols, then play your favorite songs with traditional sheet music.

FEATURES AND USES
FOR MUSICIANS

LUMI Keys helps music learners take their first steps. But it is also a versatile, technologically advanced MIDI keyboard with groundbreaking applications for players. This section outlines key features and uses for musicians.

CUTTING-EDGE SOFTWARE

Explore a suite of pro software
LUMI comes with software applications that include the ROLI Studio bundle of sounds, effects, and production tools. Download them and unlock the full potential of LUMI as an illuminated, high-performance keyboard.

ROLI Studio Player
A desktop plugin with 300+ acoustic, hybrid acoustic, and synth sounds plus audio effects and production tools including Smart Chords and Multi Layered Arpeggiator

ROLI Studio Drums
A desktop plugin with 200+ percussion sounds that can be bent and warped at the touch of a finger, enabled by the world's first MPE drums engine

ROLI Dashboard
A tool for configuring LUMI to work with DAWs and third-party software plugins

ROLI Connect

A cloud-based platform for downloading software and managing connections between multiple LUMI Keys and ROLI BLOCKS.

Access your ROLI software

To access your software, download ROLI Connect for free. Follow instructions in the ROLI Support article about ROLI Connect.

Connect LUMI Keys to DAWs and plugins

As a MIDI class compliant device, LUMI connects to Logic Pro X, Ableton Live, Bitwig Studio, and other digital audio workstations (DAWs) that support MIDI device inputs. It is also compatible with plugins used within DAWs.

Find detailed guides about working with most DAWs on the ROLI Support page.
If you do not see your DAW on the list, get in touch with the Support Team.

EXPANDABLE HARDWARE

Connect multiple LUMI Keys

Connect two or three LUMI keyboards together to expand your playing surface. Multiple LUMI Keys snap together magnetically with DNA Connectors. Through ROLI Dashboard, assign sounds to the entire LUMI interface, or to each individual keyboard.

Note: the app currently supports a maximum of two LUMI Keys.

Connect LUMI Keys to ROLI BLOCKS

With its slim, compact profile and magnetic DNA Connectors, LUMI Keys is technologically part of the ROLI BLOCKS family. It works seamlessly with the Lightpad Block and Seaboard Block. Through ROLI Dashboard, assign different functions to each Block, plus LUMI Keys.

Note: When LUMI Keys is connected to BLOCKS, it can charge via the Block.

INTEGRATE LUMI WITH OTHER MIDI CONTROLLERS

LUMI Keys integrates easily with MIDI keyboards, drumpads, and other MIDI receiving devices in a studio workflow.

Although LUMI Keys does not have traditional five-pin DIN connectors, it connects to devices that do. One way to connect is via computer that transmits MIDI.

UPDATES THROUGH FIRMWARE

When you use LUMI Keys with ROLI Dashboard, the applications automatically check the firmware running on the keyboard. If a later version is available, you will be prompted to update. This is optional, but it's advisable to update to receive new features and fix bugs.

ADVANCED USE OF CONTROLS

Color Change Modes
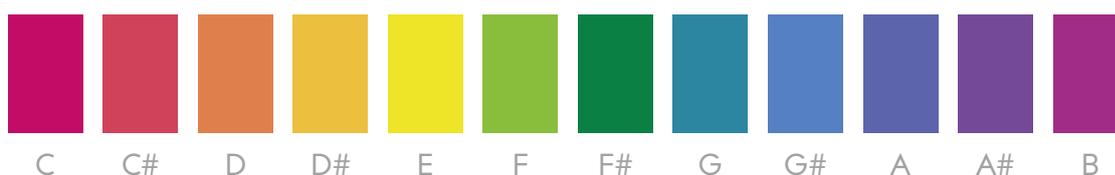When connected to a DAW, the Power/Mode button enables the lighting modes to change to one of three default settings. Press the Power/Mode button to cycle through the modes.

ROLI Rainbow Mode:
Sets a color per note. This mode is a good way to visualize the notes on the keyboard.

C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B

Single Color Mode:

Sets the color of the root notes and the in-scale notes, so you can easily find notes in the right key.

Piano Mode:

Turns keys to black and white, like on a classic keyboard — yet with a glow.

Night Mode:

Dims the keys until they are pressed. This mode makes performances more spectacular, by illuminating your finger work each time you strike a key.

Custom Color Mode:

Edits colors as you like. Connect to ROLI Dashboard, and customize.

Octave Shift:

Pressing the Octave Shift button once to the right raises the pitch by an octave, and pressing it to the left lowers it by an octave. A single LUMI Keys has a range of seven octaves (84 notes).

Changing Sensitivities

In ROLI Dashboard you can adjust the Strike (Velocity), Press (Pressure), and Lift (Note-off Velocity) sensitivities to suit your playing style or the needs of your project.

Strike: Adjust the curve to make it more or less sensitive

Press: Adjust control to make pressure values more consistent

Lift: Adjust control to make note-off velocity more consistent

Firmware Reset:

Press and hold all three buttons (Power/Mode, and both octave shift buttons) for three seconds to reset the firmware.

Dashboard Settings

Channel No: Select the MIDI Channel number your hardware uses for MIDI notes

Octave: Set the range of notes on the keyboard, ie C3 - B4 or C2 - B3

Transpose: Shift the notes in semitones, ie First key will play a D

Key: Set the root note for color display, ie C or D#

Scale: Set the scale for color display, ie Major or Minor

Fixed Strike: Set a consistent velocity value independent on how hard you play

Fixed Strike Value: Set the fixed velocity value if Fixed Strike is enabled

Press Mode: Sets between Poly Aftertouch or Channel Pressure. Because channel pressure is global for all notes played, there are three options:

- Last Note Played
- Highest Note Played
- Lowest Note Played

Both Channel Pressure and Poly Aftertouch are MIDI aftertouch messages which respond when pressure is applied to a key after the initial note-on. Some software will not respond to both types of aftertouch, so ROLI Dashboard includes the ability to select one or the other.

Strike Sens: Adjust the curve to make it more or less sensitive
Press Sens: Bring in the control to make pressure values more consistent
Lift Sens: Bring in the control to make pressure values more consistent
Color Mode: Sets between:

    Rainbow - Sets a color per note
    Single Color - Set the color of the root note and in scale notes
    Piano - Lights up with black and white keys
    Night - Dimmed keys only light up when pressed

Root Note Color: Sets the color of the root notes when in Single Color mode
In Scale Color: Sets the color of in scale notes when in Single Color mode
Brightness: Sets the global brightness of the Brightkeys

ADVANCED PLAYING CAPABILITIES

Polyphonic aftertouch: Add tremolo to a sound on LUMI Keys, when connected to a DAW. While sustaining a note, increase and decrease pressure on the key to modulate the note.

Note: this feature is not available when using LUMI Keys with the connected to the LUMI app. It requires players to be using a supporting plugin.

SPECIFICATIONS

Keys: 24 full spectrum illuminated keys featuring ROLI Brightkey™ technology

Key Size: DS 5.5®, 9.67mm wide high keys, 19.4mm wide low keys

Key Plunge: 10mm, 92% plunge distance of a grand piano

Octave Range: 2 octaves with octave shift buttons for full 7 octaves

Modular Design: 8 DNA connectors for connecting additional LUMI's or ROLI BLOCKS

Battery: Rechargeable Lithium battery (2,300 mAh) for 6 hours of fully illuminated playing. 4-5 hours charge time

Connectivity: Bluetooth 5.0 and USB-C port (MIDI out and power)

Bluetooth Range: 15 meters (50 feet)

Dimensions: (L x W x D) 282mm x 141mm x 27mm (11" x 5.5" x 1")

Expressive Performance: Pressure responsive keys featuring Polyphonic Aftertouch

Weight: 600g (1.3lbs)

ACCESSORIES

- LUMI Snapcase

Compatible BLOCKS Products
- Seaboard Block
- Lightpad Block
- Live Block
- Loop Block
- Touch Block
- Songmaker Kit

SERVICE AND SUPPORT INFORMATION

SUPPORT

We want you to have the best experience possible with LUMI. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.through support.roli.com.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Basic care and attention will protect your LUMI Keys and help it stay in optimal condition for years. Avoid excessive force on the keys, and try to keep the LUMI Keys away from direct sunlight, sharp objects, liquids, and especially oils and detergents.

To clean the key surface, please use a dry microfibre cloth. Do not use detergents or any chemical cleansing agents, bleaches or alcohol on the LUMI Keys. Do not spray any cleaning fluids directly on your keyboard.

When not in use, it's best to store the LUMI Keys horizontally, as in normal playing position.

If you anticipate not using your LUMI Keys for three months or longer, we recommend that you take the following steps to ensure its functionality:

- Keep it fully charged when not in use.
- Store it in an environment with low humidity and a temperature between 10-25.
- Keep it away from corrosive gas.
- Store your device in a LUMI Keys Snapcase, or suitable container.
- Do not store any items on top of your LUMI Keys.

To protect the health of the lithium polymer battery, we recommend you charge your LUMI Keys every six months at the minimum.

WARRANTY RETURNS AND REPAIR

To return your LUMI Keys, or have it repaired under warranty, you must get a RMA (Return Material Authorization) number. Contact the Support team via support.roli.com.

Once you have received the RMA number please carefully pack the LUMI Keys and ship the product to the address provided.

Once received, we will examine the product for any obvious signs of user abuse or damage as a result of transport. If the product is abused, damaged in transit, or is out of warranty, we will contact you with an estimate of the repair cost. Warranty work and return shipping will be performed free of charge.

Warranty and repair policies are subject to change.
Please see all of ROLI's most current policies at: www.roli.com/legal

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SAFETY NOTE

There are no user serviceable parts in LUMI. Refer all servicing via ticket submission to support.roli.com only.