

AUREX

# MASHDECK

real time sampling sequencer and FX device



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# 1. Requirements and Installation

You will need the following:

- Novation Launchpad
- Ableton Live (8.2 or higher)

NO M4L / Bome / ... is required !

Connect you're Launchpad with Ableton.  
(Check <http://www.novationmusic.com> for the right setup)

Just open the **.als** file and you're ready to go.

Drop your tracks and audio in the **Subject** track (this is a track with pre-configured routing of it's outputs to MashDeck).  
You can also send any track you want to MashDeck by routing it's "Audio To" to **MD-INPUT**.

## 2. Ableton Settings

### LAUNCHPAD - PREFERENCES

The screenshot shows the 'Preferences' window in Ableton Live, specifically the MIDI section. The 'MIDI Sync' tab is selected in the left sidebar. The main area is divided into two sections: 'Control Surface' and 'MIDI Ports'.

**Control Surface Section:**

	Control Surface	Input	Output	
1	Launchpad	Launchpad	Launchpad	Dump
2	RemoteSL	SL MkII (Poort 2)	SL MkII (Poort 2)	Dump
3	None	LPD8	LPD8	Dump
4	None	None	None	Dump
5	None	Waldorf Blofeld (BI)	Waldorf Blofeld (BI)	Dump
6	APC20	None	None	Dump

Takeover Mode: Pickup

**MIDI Ports Section:**

	MIDI Ports	Track	Sync	Remote
▷	Input: LPD8	On	Off	On
▷	Input: Launchpad Input (Launchpad)	On	Off	On
▷	Input: SL MkII (Poort 1)	On	Off	On
▷	Input: RemoteSL Input (SL MkII (Poort 2))	On	Off	On
▷	Input: Maschine Controller (MIDI input port)	On	Off	On
▷	Input: Fireface (19D) (Port 1)	On	Off	Off
▷	Input: Fireface (19D) (Port 2)	On	Off	Off
▷	Input: Automap MIDI	On	Off	On
▷	Input: Automap Propellerhead	Off	Off	Off
▷	Output: LPD8	On	Off	On
▷	Output: Launchpad Output (Launchpad)	On	Off	On
▷	Output: SL MkII (Poort 1)	On	On	Off
▷	Output: RemoteSL Output (SL MkII (Poort 2))	Off	Off	Off
▷	Output: Maschine Controller (MIDI output port)	Off	Off	Off
▷	Output: Fireface (19D) (Port 1)	Off	Off	Off
▷	Output: Fireface (19D) (Port 2)	Off	Off	Off

Red boxes highlight the following rows in the Control Surface and MIDI Ports sections:

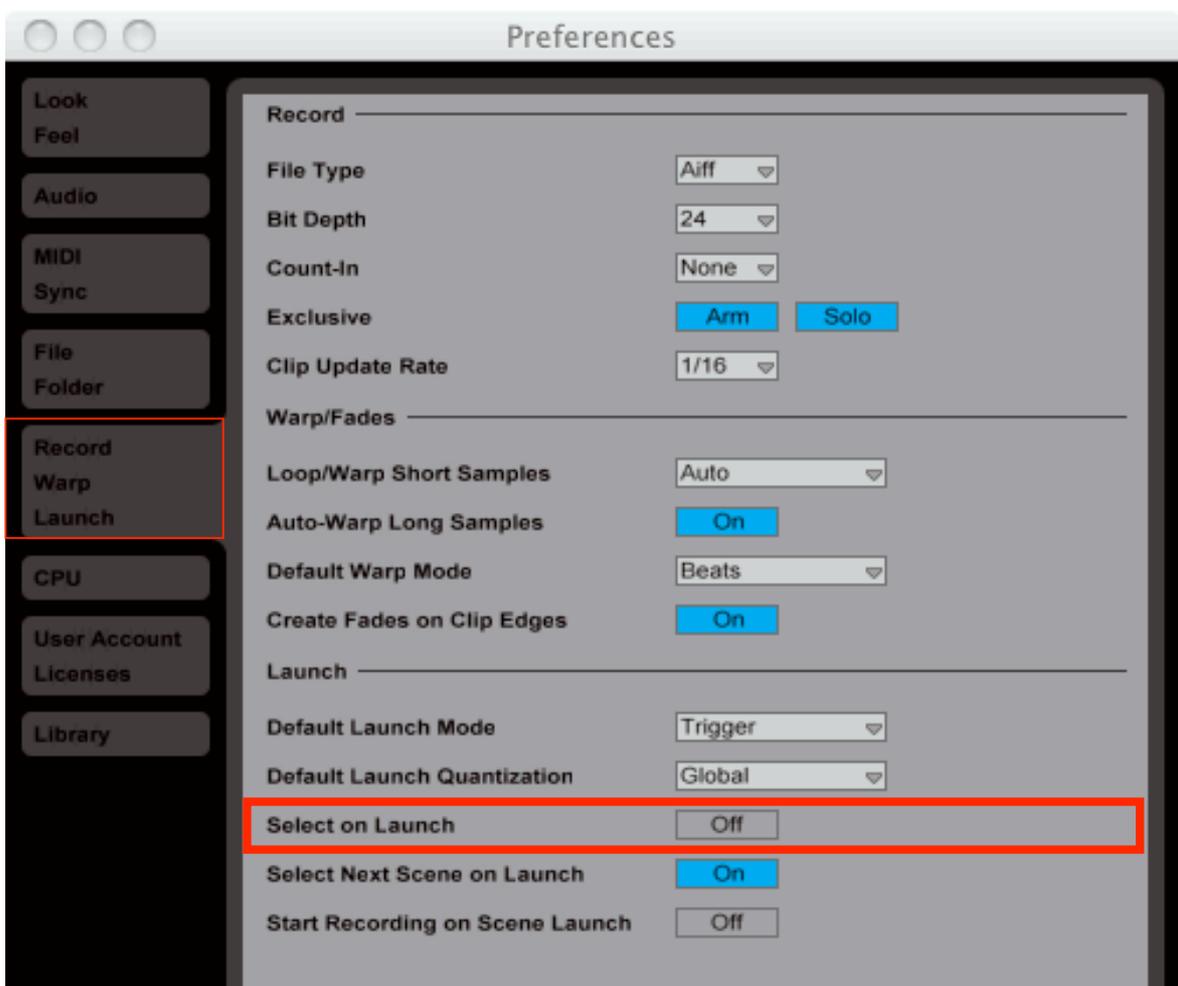
- Control Surface row 1 (Launchpad)
- MIDI Ports row 2 (Input: Launchpad Input (Launchpad))
- MIDI Ports row 11 (Output: Launchpad Output (Launchpad))

## SELECT ON LAUNCH

Because the SampleDeck uses clips for it's sampling and to give led feedback, Live jumps to these clips when performing certain actions with the SampleDeck. This can be unwanted when you're performing (for example when you're doing a dj set, you don't want Live to jump back to scene 1 when you're playing a song at scene 46). To make sure this doesn't happen, you have to make the "Select on Launch" inactive:

### “Select on Launch

By default, clicking a Session View clip's Launch button also selects the clip, since you will typically want the Clip View to show the newly launched clip. However, some power-users don't want the current focus (e.g., a return track's devices) to disappear just because a clip has been launched, especially when starting a clip in order to try it with the return track device settings. Turn off the Select on Launch option from the Launch Preferences if you prefer the view to remain as is when you launch clips or scenes.”



### 3. MashDeck - USER 1

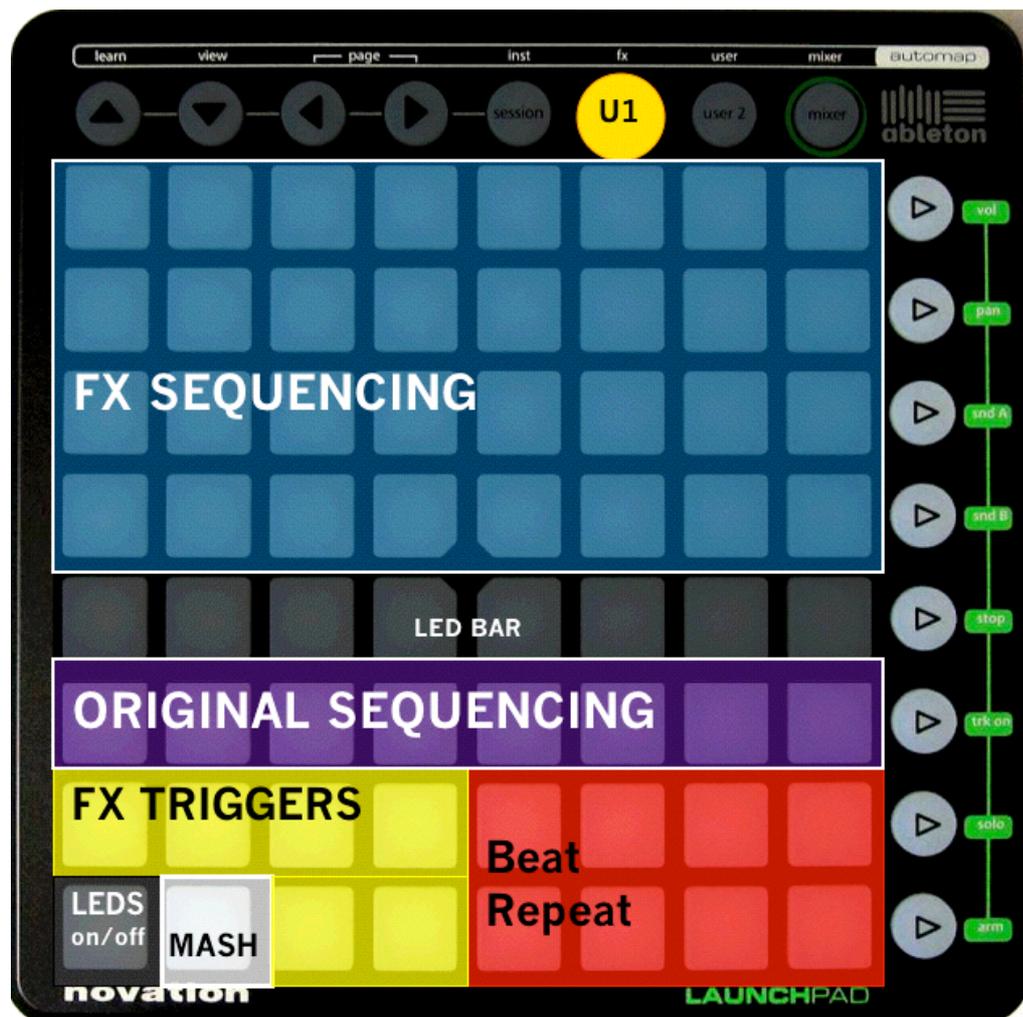
#### MASHER

Masher let's you perform sequenced FX actions.  
Each of the first 4 rows of the LaunchPad contains a different effect.  
You can also use your own effects for some more variations.

Press the buttons to select where a certain effect has to occur and press the “MASH” button to hear your sequenced FX pattern.

Masher also has some FX triggers and a beat repeater.

#### OVERVIEW

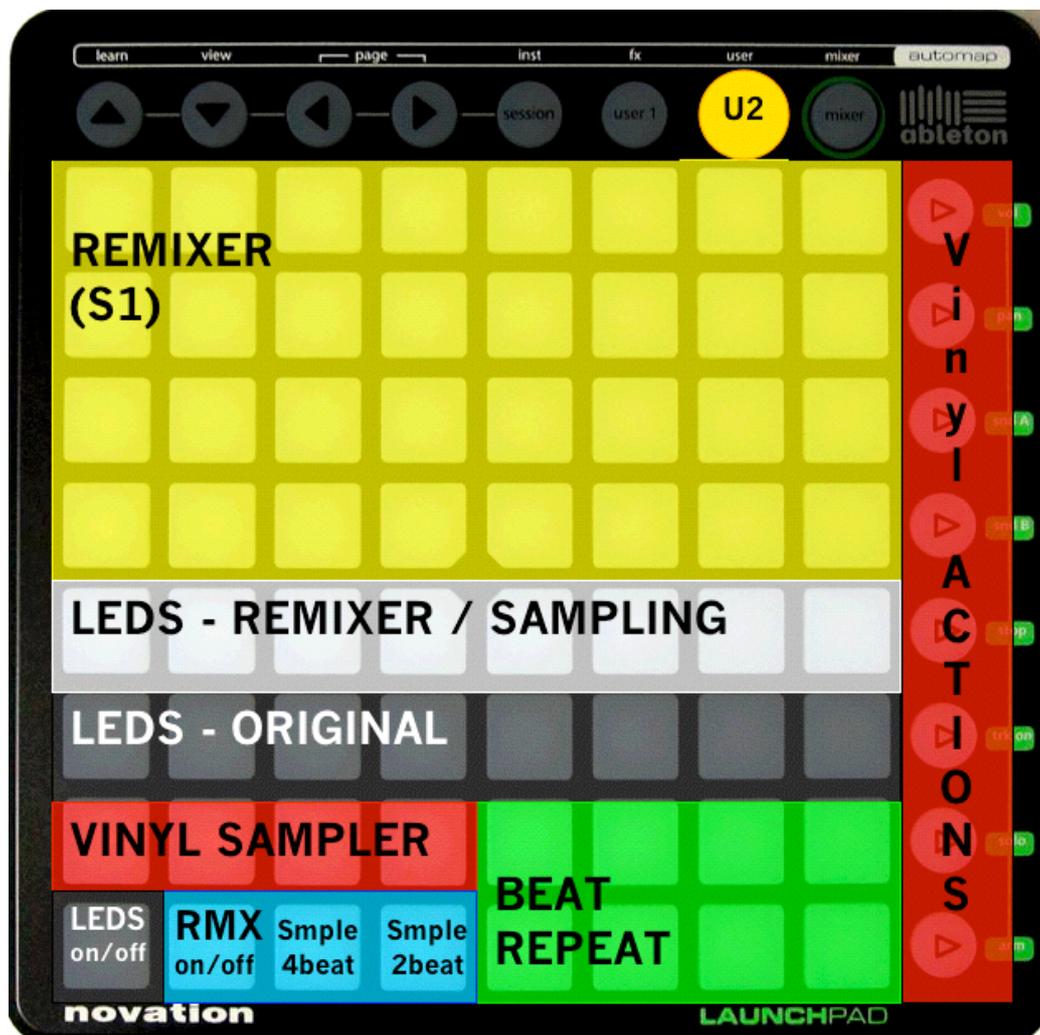


## 4.1 MashDeck - USER 2

### SAMPLEDECK (SD)

The SampleDeck is a realtime sampling and remix device for the Novation Launchpad. The SampleDeck also includes a Vinyl simulator (as an effect, not for beatmatching tracks or serious scratching). It uses 2 'samplers' to capture a loop while your song is playing and you have the ability to switch the audio to one of the samplers at any time you want. You can remix and transform everything you want: just a loop, full songs when dj-ing or even a realtime input to remix a live band on the fly.

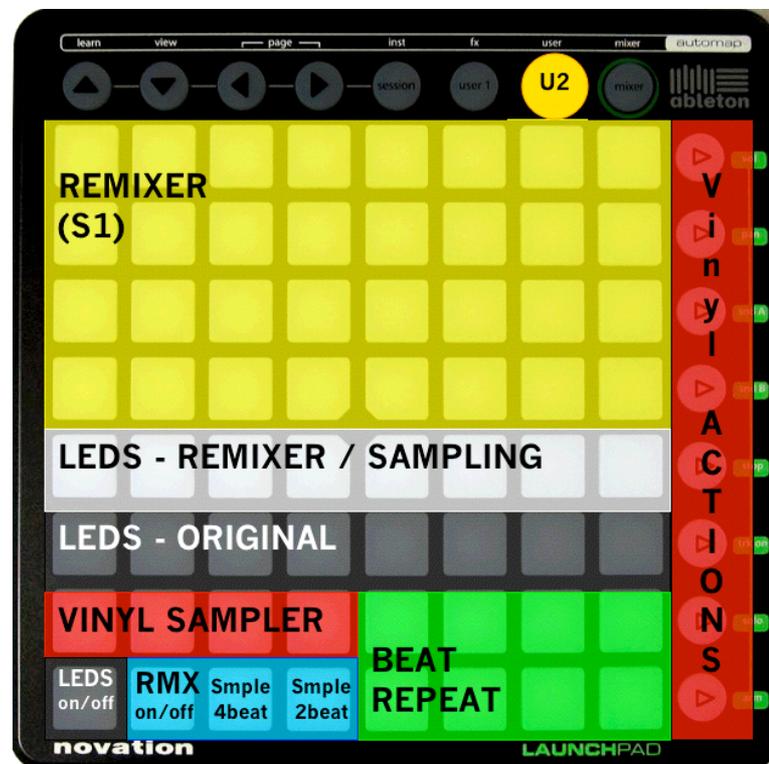
## OVERVIEW



## 4.2 U2 - RMX

The Remix Sampler samples a 1 bar or 1/2 bar loop, it chops it up in slices and let's you rearrange the slices in any way you want.

There are 3 main control buttons: The **RMX**, and the **Smple4b** and **Smple2b** buttons. Smple 4b and 2b both have a Launch quantisation of 1 bar to make sure you're sampling starts in time. The play button of the Remix Sampler (**RMX**) is just a switch to hear the audio from the Remix Sampler instead of the original audio. It has no quantisation, so you can perform some rhythmical cuts ;) The first four rows on the Launchpad are for rearranging the slices.



- **RMX**: This let's you switch between the audio of the subject (the song/loop/sample/realtime input you're playing) and the audio of the remix sampler.

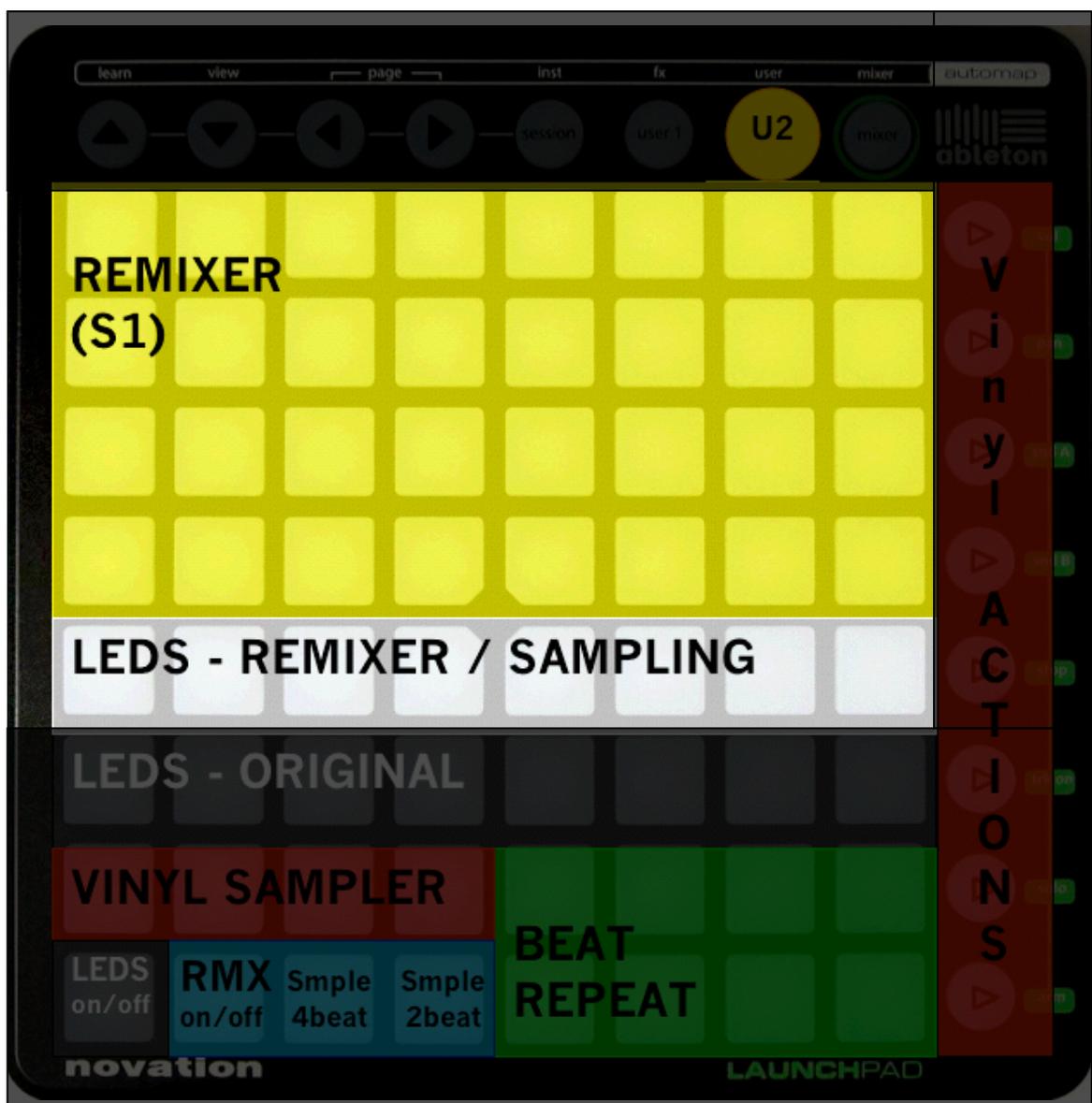
- **Smple 4beat**: This let's you sample a 1 bar loop with slices of a 1/4 note

- **Smple 2beat**: This let's you sample a 1/2 bar loop with slices of a 1/8 note

Notice that the Launchpad gives feedback when you're sampling.

After you pressed one of the "Smple" buttons, the LED sequence for the remix sampler starts building red pads (from left to right) until the sampling is done. To make sure every slice is available, you have to wait switching to the Remix Sampler's audio until the sampling is done.

The **Remixer**: For every sampled loop (doesn't matter which one of the 2 buffer sizes) you get 4 different slices. Slice 1 is on the first row, slice 2 on the second and so on. The LED-sequence of the Remix Sampler shows you when the slices are being played. To make sure you don't have dropouts when re-arranging the slices, make sure there's always a pad on when the led sequence passes this point (this is a bit difficult to explain, but you'll know what I mean when you're working with it). Also, you can sample something and rearrange it before you make the switch to the audio of the remix sampler (or place the steps of the Re-Arranger in the sequence you want and then start sampling the audio). This is most of the time the best option because you have all the time you need to make a clever rearrangement.



## 4.3 U2 - Vinyl Sampler

The Flex Sampler samples a loop (as long as you like) and let's you do Vinyl-like actions such as stopping/starting the plate, doing a backspin, reversing, ...

Before I get hate mails from junglists and Vinyl-lovers: this is just meant as an effect, I know it doesn't sound like the real deal and no, you can't beatmatch with it or make convincing scratches ;)

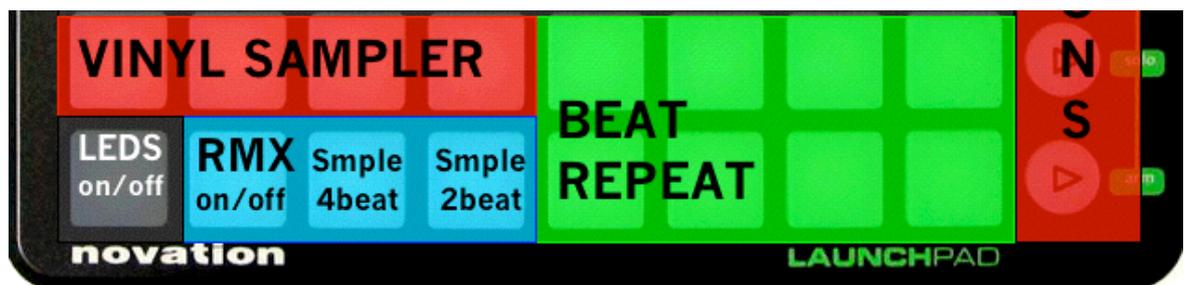
### Real Vinyl Plates ♥

There are 4 main control buttons: **Rec**, **Play**, **Stop** and **:2**

I guess rec, play and stop don't need much explanation. Just notice that you always have accurate feedback (when recording the rec button starts blinking, when playing the rec, play and stop button will go to an on-state). When you've sampled something you can play and stop it whenever you want.

If you press the play button, the audio automatically changes to the audio of the Vinyl Sampler. If you press the stop button, the audio changes back to the original audio (the Subject). Record and Play have a 1/2 bar quantisation.

The :2 button cut's the length of the current buffer in half. The material in the currently playing half is kept, while the other half is discarded.



On the right of the Launchpad, you have 8 **Vinyl triggers** (the buttons with the play icon on them). They perform the following actions:

- Stop: Stop the plate! Your loop slows down until complete silence, with a delay effect towards the end.
  - Start: Start the plate! Your loop speeds up until complete silence, with a delay effect towards the end.
  - Backspin: spin that record. The plate stops at the end.
  - Forward spin: spin that record (up). The plate plays at normal tempo at the end.
- Because of it's pitching and tempo changes, it will not be in time with the song (you can check it by looking at the Song and Remix Sampler LED-Sequences). A good idea is to perform another Vinyl Trigger (i.e. a backspin) before you switch to the original song.
- Fast Stop: Same as the normal stop, but much faster and without the delay effect.
  - Scratch: Is always doing a different kind of scratching, except for the beginning. When you press the trigger you'll always here a rapid scratch to start, it can be cool to trigger it again in time with the tempo. This effect sounds even better with the reverse on.
  - Reverse: ending towards beginning, you can turn this on or off for every Vinyl trigger.
  - Clear: just the sampled loop with no effects

Again I'm sorry if these terms are offensive to Junglists and Vinyl-lovers ;)

**Tip: Getting the beat right and avoiding silence**

As some of the triggers stop at complete silence or make certain tempo and pitch changes you can get some unexpected results when you sample a new loop while one of the Vinyl Triggers is still selected (notice you always have led feedback to see which trigger is currently selected).

Just make sure you have the Clear trigger selected before you sample something, or before you press the play button of the Flex Sampler and everything will be perfect.



## 5. Tips & Tricks

- check out the vids on <http://www.youtube.com/aurexlive>
- you can remix a live input 'on the fly'
- Make sure you set "Select on Launch" to off to avoid unwanted clip jumps
- set your slice steps before switching to the Remix Sampler
- Select the "clear" trigger before you use the Vinyl sampler
- you can sample two different parts of a song (1 in the Remix Sampler and 1 in the Flex sampler) and use them when playing another song
- try practicing some techniques that work really well so you know what will happen
- you can switch between Remix and Vinyl sampler by letting the Remix Sampler play and pressing the play and stop buttons of the Vinyl Sampler
- turn the LED feedback off when going to other Launchpad modes (Session, ...)

## 6. Donations and Contact

### Donations

As with all the other aurex sequencers, you can download them completely for free. However, as I put a lot of time and energy into them, I would really appreciate it if you made a donation. This way, I can continue to make new sequencers, write manuals for all and even make them available for the APC20.

Just click the “Donate” button on the website, [aurexmusic.com/downloads](http://aurexmusic.com/downloads)  
The money transfer is handled by Paypal and completely secured.

Thanks !

### Troxic, Masher and 8 Step-V2

All the other sequencers can be downloaded at [aurexmusic.com/launchpad](http://aurexmusic.com/launchpad)

### Contact

You can always contact me by writing a mail to [aurexmusic@gmail.com](mailto:aurexmusic@gmail.com)

(Doesn't matter if it's for a booking, a question or just a little chat).

I try to contact everyone in person asap, just don't be mad if it takes a few days ;)

Hope you're having fun with my sequencers.  
Cheers !

aurex

