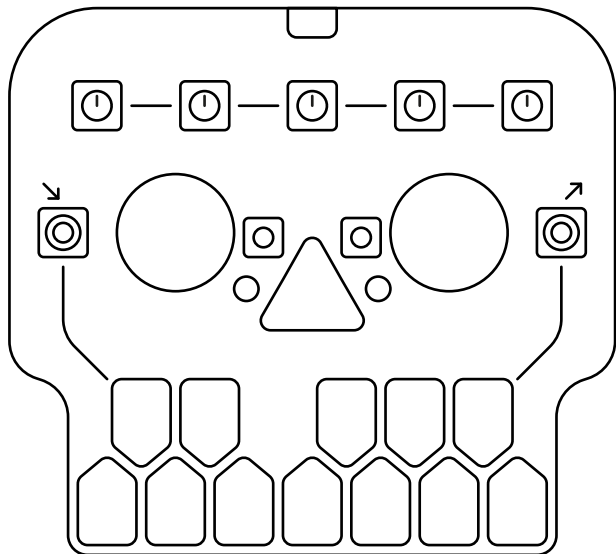
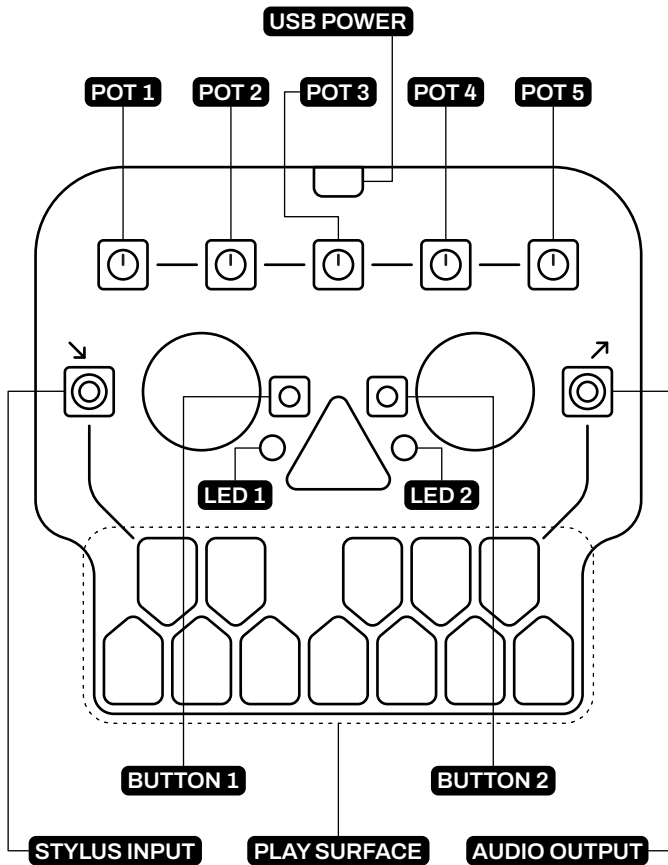


# YORICK

QUICK START GUIDE VERSION 1.0



BRISTOL COMMUNAL MODULAR  
2023



## MEET YORICK

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Conjured up from the ashes of acid grooveboxes of yore and the souls of crunchy, broken stylophones, Yorick is a friendly DIY synthesizer from Bristol Communal Modular.

Yorick is a monophonic synthesizer with a playable keyboard and an internal sequencer, which enables you to record and play back patterns of notes.

Yorick, *a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy*, has plenty to offer for any adventurous synthesist, boasting an impressive profile full of sweet spots from bass deep enough to shake off any cobwebs, to high-pitched timbres that can only be described as mysterious dolphin calls from a far-away dimension...

Despite his somewhat menacing looks, Yorick does enjoy playing with friends and pairs exceptionally well with effects - be it modular, pedals or software.

This guide will help you on your journey of getting to know Yorick and serves as a useful point of reference for all of his functionality.

Godspeed!

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### BEFORE YOU START: Useful items and accessories

#### MICRO USB CABLE

Yorick is powered via USB, meaning you can breathe life into him from your computer, phone charger or portable battery bank.

#### OUTPUT CABLE

Yorick is happiest when plugged into a mixer, audio interface or a modular system. His output is equivalent to a hot line level signal and benefits from light amplification when used with modular.

#### STYLUS CABLE

Plug a standard 3.5mm patch cable into the Stylus Input and use the other end to touch Yorick's gnashers that act as a stylophone-esque play surface.

## SOUND MODE

LED 1 — ON

BUTTON 1 — CHANGE MODE    BUTTON 2 — NEXT PAGE

### PAGE 1: Pitch and tone

BUTTON 2 → LED 2 —



POT 1

#### PITCH

Rotate to change the tuning of Yorick's oscillator



POT 2

#### WAVE SHAPE

Rotate to choose between the four available wave shapes



POT 3

#### LFO DEPTH

Rotate to adjust how much the LFO effects the filter cutoff



POT 4

#### CUTOFF

Rotate to adjust the cutoff frequency of the lowpass filter



POT 5

#### RESONANCE

Rotate to adjust the resonance of the lowpass filter

### PAGE 2: Modulation

BUTTON 2 → LED 2 —



POT 1

#### LFO SHAPE

Rotate to choose between the four available shapes



POT 2

#### LFO SPEED

Rotate to adjust the rate of the LFO



POT 3

#### LFO DEPTH

Rotate to adjust how much the LFO effects the filter cutoff<sup>1</sup>



POT 4

#### CUTOFF

Rotate to adjust the cutoff frequency of the lowpass filter



POT 5

#### RESONANCE

Rotate to adjust the resonance of the lowpass filter

### PAGE 3: Envelope

BUTTON 2 → LED 2 —



POT 1

#### ENV ATTACK

Rotate to adjust the attack portion of the amp and filter envelopes



POT 2

#### ENV DECAY

Rotate to adjust the decay portion of the amp and filter envelopes



POT 3

#### LFO DEPTH

Rotate to adjust how much the LFO effects the filter cutoff



POT 4

#### CUTOFF

Rotate to adjust the cutoff frequency of the lowpass filter



POT 5

#### RESONANCE

Rotate to adjust the resonance of the lowpass filter

<sup>1</sup> If the LFO shape is set to envelope, POT 3 controls the decay portion of the filter envelope independent of the amp envelope

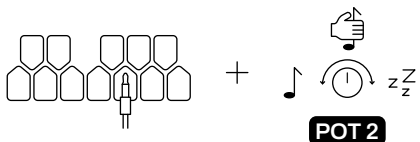
## SEQUENCER MODE

**LED 1** OFF

**BUTTON 1** CHANGE MODE

## RECORDING A SEQUENCE

To record a sequence into Yorick's memory, press and hold Button 2 to clear the sequencer (see detail below). Once Yorick's mind is clear, tap in the desired sequence using a stylus on the teeth-shaped Play Surface.



Use Pot 2 to create more expressive sequences by choosing between a regular note (1/3rd of Pot 2's range), a held note (2/3rd of Pot 2's range) and a rest (3/3rd of Pot 2's range).

## PLAYING A SEQUENCE

Press Button 2 once to start sequencer playback. Press Button 2 again to stop the sequencer.

**BUTTON 2** ▶ / ||

Rotate Pot 1 to change the speed of the sequencer.

Press Button 1 to toggle between Sequence Mode and Sound Mode, so you can sculpt the sound while the sequencer is running.



Note that it is not possible to start or stop the sequencer whilst in Sound Mode. For this, you need to switch between the modes using Button 1.

**POT 1**

## DELETING A SEQUENCE

To clear Yorick's memory, press and hold Button 2 for two seconds without touching the Play Surface.

LED 2 will blink rapidly to confirm the operation has been completed.

**BUTTON 2**

+  
⌚ 2 seconds

→

**LED 2** ○ ✨

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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**Yorick is not making any sound**

**Check that the filter cutoff isn't closed all the way down.**

**When recording a sequence, ensure that you aren't recording in just rests with Pot 2 rotated all the way to the right.**

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**I can't stop the sequencer!**

**The sequencer can only be started and stopped in the Sequencer Mode. If you are in Sound Mode and want to stop the sequencer, re-enter the Sequencer Mode by pressing once on Button 1. When in Sequencer Mode, press Button 2 to stop and start the sequencer.**

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**Yorick is very noisy**

**Try switching out your USB Micro cable. If this does not silence Yorick's inner demons, try to power him up from a different source, such as a portable battery pack.**

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**I'm not sure what mode my Yorick is in**

**When Yorick is in Sound Mode, LED 1 is lit. When navigating between the three available pages in Sound Mode, LED 2 will flash upon changing pages to indicate which page is currently active.**

**If Sequencer Mode is active, LED 1 is not lit.**

## BRISTOL COMMUNAL MODULAR

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Bristol Communal Modular is a group of circuit explorers and sonic plunderers, meeting at Bristol Hackspace every week to share skills and knowledge around designing and building synth modules, as well as learning how to patch and play a modular system in an informal and non-judgemental space.

Running accessible workshops outside of these weekly sessions, the BCM team have rained down pew-pew percussion machines, screaming face masks and electronics knowledge in and around Avon!

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### INSTAGRAM

[bristol\\_communal\\_modular](#)

### WEB

[bristol-communal-modular.github.io](#)

### BRISTOL HACKSPACE

[bristolhackspace.org](#)



