



Using Groove Check on DTXPRESS III

The Groove Check function is a valuable learning tool. This tutorial will show you how to use Groove Check and offer some tips on getting the most out of it.

The purpose of Groove Check is to show you by using positive and negative number where your beat placement is in relationship to the accompanying tempo you are playing to. Groove Check can be used either with the click or the internal sequencer.

When using Groove Check it's best to set the click to a value closest to the note values you will be playing. If you are playing simple grooves and patterns using quarter or eighth notes, set the click for quarter notes. If you will be playing sixteenth notes or faster set the click to sixteenth notes.

To adjust the click, hold the SHIFT button and press the TEMPO button. The tempo indicator will be flashing. To change the tempo press the VALUE +/- button to make the tempo faster or slower.

Press the SEL> button one time, the time signature will be flashing. To change the time signature press the VALUE+ button until you see the time signature you want to play in.

Press the SEL> button again and the note value will be flashing. The metronome defaults to quarter note. Press the VALUE+ button until you see the note division that you want. Experiment with different click divisions to develop a feel for playing different styles. Eighth note triplet patterns are great for learning Swing and Shuffles, sixteenth and sixteenth triplets are great for playing more complex rhythms and faster tempos. To exit the metronome setup, press the DRUMKIT button.

Now that the click is set up you are ready to activate the groove check. Hold the SHIFT button and press the GRV button.

Press the CLICK button and the metronome will begin to play. Start playing along with the metronome and the screen will indicate if you are behind the beat (negative number), on the beat (0), or ahead of the beat (positive number). After the first bar an average will show on the right side of the screen and will continue to average your beat placement.

To develop playing with a click and not sounding too stiff, try keeping the beat at -2 rather than right on the beat.

To use the Groove Check with the internal sequencer, select the song you want to play.

Start Groove Check and press the REC button to begin song playback. Groove Check will indicate your beat placement with a line graph at the top of the screen.