

BITWIG STUDIO CONTROLLER EXTENSION

AKAI  
**APC64**



# All Modes

## 1 Faders

Touch the faders to adjust various parameters. Hold CLEAR and touch a fader to restore automation control.

## 2 Fader Mode

Press a button to select the parameters to be controlled by the faders:

Press DEVICE to control the eight device remote controls of the currently selected track. Hold DEVICE and press the UP/DOWN cursor keys to select a different remote controls page, press LEFT/RIGHT to switch between devices of a track. When the first device is selected, press LEFT to control the Track Remotes, press LEFT again to control the Project Level Remotes.

Press VOLUME, PAN, or SEND to control these parameters of the currently selected bank of 8 tracks. Press SEND repeatedly to toggle between the different sends.

Press CHANNEL STRIP to control volume, panning, and send levels 1-6 of the currently selected track.

Press OFF to deactivate the faders.

## 3 Track Select Buttons

Press a TRACK SELECT button to select a track. Hold SHIFT and press a TRACK SELECT button to select a launch quantize value.

## 4 Control Row

Select a function on the left and press 1-8 to RECORD ARM, MUTE, SOLO, or STOP a clip.

## 5 Transport Control

Press PLAY, STOP, or RECORD to control the transport of Bitwig Studio. Hold SHIFT and press RECORD to toggle overdub mode.

## 6 Track Select/Metronome/Menu

Turn the encoder to select a track. Press the encoder to toggle the metronome. Hold SHIFT and press the encoder to access the Bitwig Menu.

## 7 Tempo

Press TEMPO repeatedly to set the BPM of the project.

## 8 Fixed Length

Press FIXED LENGTH to limit recordings to a pre-set length. Hold FIXED LENGTH and turn the encoder to set the recording length value.

## 9 Undo/Redo

Press UNDO to undo the last operation. Hold SHIFT and press UNDO to redo the last operation.

## 10 Shift

Hold SHIFT to execute various secondary functions.



# Clip Launcher Mode: Vertical Layout\*

## 1 Clip Launcher Mode/Overview

Press SESSION VIEW to switch to Clip Launcher Mode. Press again to toggle Overview Mode on or off.

## 2 Clips

Press a pad to launch or record a clip, press a pad of an empty slot to stop the currently playing clip of that track.

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to either select or ALT-trigger a clip (depending on the ALT-trigger option, see settings).

## 3 Scenes

Press a SCENE LAUNCH button to start all clips of a scene.

*To ALT-trigger a scene please use the ALT Modifier option in the Bitwig Menu.*

## 4 Track Select/Launch Quantize

Press a TRACK SELECT button to select a track.

Hold SHIFT and press a TRACK SELECT button to select a launch quantization value.

## 5 Move Grid

Press UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT to move the 8x8 grid in the clip launcher.

## 6 Delete Clip

Hold CLEAR and press a pad to delete a clip.

## 7 Duplicate/Double

Hold DUPLICATE and press a pad to copy a clip into the slot below.

Hold DUPLICATE and SHIFT and press a pad to double the content of a clip.

## 8 Quantize

Hold QUANTIZE and press a pad to quantize a clip.

Hold SHIFT and QUANTIZE and turn the encoder to set the Record Quantization value.

## 9 Shift/ALT-trigger Modifier

Hold SHIFT to execute Shift Functions of various buttons.

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to select a clip (if ALT-trigger function is deactivated).

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to ALT-trigger it (if ALT-trigger function is activated).



*\*See Options on the last page to read more about the horizontal and vertical layouts.*

# Clip Launcher Mode: Horizontal Layout\*

## 1 Clip Launcher Mode/Overview

Press SESSION VIEW to switch to Clip Launcher Mode. Press again to toggle Overview Mode on or off.

## 2 Clips

Press a pad to launch or record a clip, press a pad of an empty slot to stop the currently playing clip of that track.

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to either select or ALT-trigger a clip (depending on the ALT-trigger option, see settings).

## 3 Scenes/Launch Quantize

Press a TRACK SELECT button to start all clips of a scene.

*To ALT-trigger a scene please use the ALT Modifier option in the Bitwig Menu.*

Hold SHIFT and press a TRACK SELECT button to select a launch quantization value.

## 4 Track Select

Press a LAUNCH button to select a track.

## 5 Move Grid

Press UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT to move the 8x8 grid in the clip launcher.

## 6 Delete Clip

Hold CLEAR and press a pad to delete a clip.

## 7 Duplicate/Double

Hold DUPLICATE and press a pad to copy a clip into the slot below.

Hold DUPLICATE and SHIFT and press a pad to double the content of a clip.

## 8 Quantize

Hold QUANTIZE and press a pad to quantize a clip.

Hold SHIFT and QUANTIZE and turn the encoder to set the Record Quantization value.

## 9 Shift/ALT-trigger Modifier

Hold SHIFT to execute Shift Functions of various buttons.

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to select a clip (if ALT-trigger function is deactivated).

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to ALT-trigger it (if ALT-trigger function is activated).



*\*See Options on the last page to read more about the horizontal and vertical layouts.*

# Note and Chord Mode

## 1 Mode Select

Press NOTE MODE or CHORD MODE to enter the mode.

Press the same button again to open the Note or Chord Mode configuration page.

## 2 Notes

Press the pads to play notes or chords on the instrument of the selected track.

## 3 Transpose

Press UP or DOWN to transpose the notes of the pads by one octave.

*Please read the APC64 manual to find out more about using Note or Chord Mode, configuring the pad layout and selecting different scales and root notes.*





# Drum Mode

## 1 Drum Mode

Press NOTE MODE on a track with a Drum Machine device to enter Drum Mode.

## 2 Drum Pads

Press the pads to play 16 drum instruments of the currently selected 4x4 grid.

## 3 Fixed Velocity

Press one of the blue pads to activate Fixed Velocity. Select one of 8 different velocity values. The active value will be shown in white. Press the white pad again to deactivate Fixed Velocity.

## 4 Note Repeat

Press one of the pink pads to activate Note Repeat. Select one of 8 different Note Repeat values. The active value will be shown in white. Press the white pad again to deactivate Note Repeat.

## 5 Select Drum

Hold SHIFT and press a pad to select the drum instrument.

Hold SHIFT and press the same pad again to toggle the focus between the Drum Machine (container) device and the drum instrument.

## 6 Mute Drum

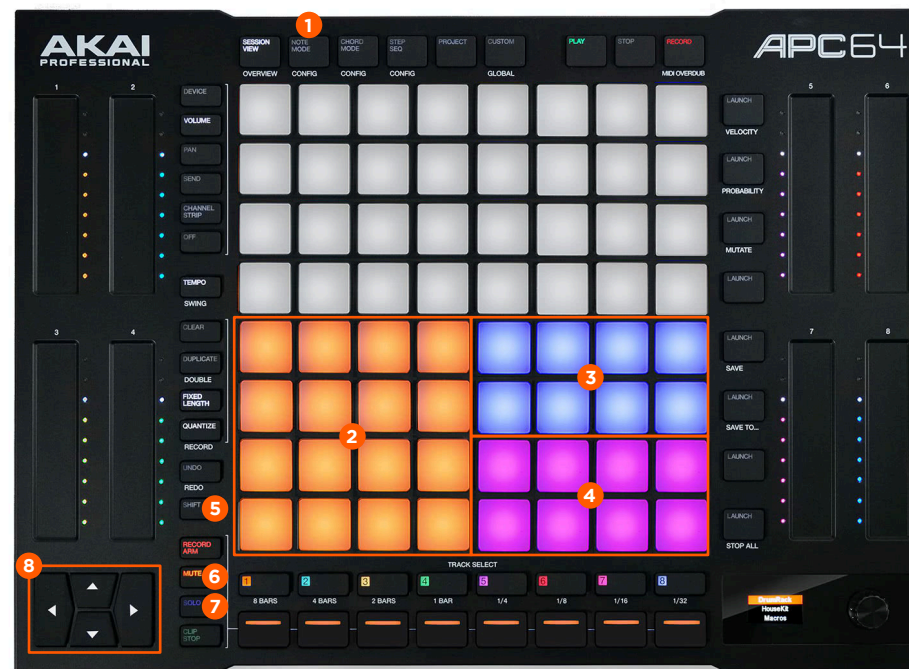
Hold MUTE and press a pad to mute the drum instrument.

## 7 Solo Drum

Hold SOLO and press a pad to solo the drum instrument.

## 8 Transpose

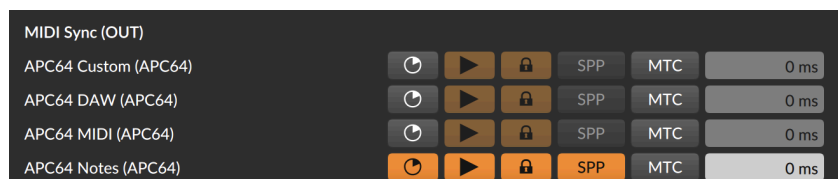
Press UP or DOWN to transpose the notes of the drum pads by four notes.



# Sequencer and Bitwig Menu

## APC64 Sequencer

To **synchronize** the APC64's internal sequencer to Bitwig Studio, go to Dashboard > Settings > Synchronization and activate MIDI clock on the APC64's Notes port:



To **export** a sequence made with the internal sequencer to Bitwig Studio:

- in Bitwig Studio, select a track and a clip slot where the sequence should be imported to
- on the APC64 in Sequencer Mode, hold SHIFT and press the encoder to execute the *Send to Clip* function

## Bitwig Menu

Hold SHIFT and press the encoder to enter the Bitwig Menu which contains various automation functions as well as layout and ALT-trigger options.

Navigate the menu entries by turning the encoder. Press the encoder to toggle an option. Hold SHIFT and press the encoder to exit the Bitwig Menu.

- **ALT Modifier** is an alternative method to ALT-trigger clips or scenes. Hold down the encoder and press the pads or scene buttons you would like to ALT-trigger.
- **Auto W. Mode** switches Automation Write Mode to Latch, Touch or Write.
- **Arrange Auto** toggles Automation Write in the Arranger on or off.
- **Launch Auto** toggles Automation Write in the Clip Launcher on or off.
- **SHIFT as ALT** re-assigns the SHIFT button as a modifier key for ALT-triggering clips.
- **Grid Layout** determines the orientation of the grid layout to match the Clip Launcher. You can select between Automatic, Mix Panel or Arrange Panel.

# Setup and Options

## Setup

The AKAI APC64 should be detected and set up automatically when it is connected. If you add the controller manually, make sure the correct MIDI ports are selected in the correct order:

### Mac/Linux:

In 1: APC64 DAW (APC64)  
In 2: APC64 Notes (APC64)  
Out: APC64 DAW (APC64)

### Windows:

In 1: APC64  
In 2: MIDIIN2 (APC64)  
Out: APC64

*Important: Make sure your APC64 firmware is version 1.1.0.14 or higher.*

## Options

In Bitwig Studio, go to Dashboard > Settings > Controllers > APC64 to select various options.

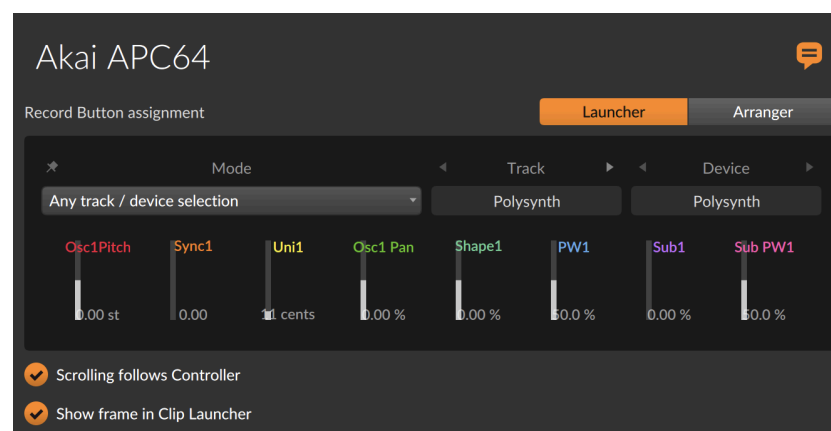
**Grid Layout** You can determine the orientation of the grid layout to match the clip launcher either in the Mix Panel (vertical tracks) or Arrange Panel (horizontal tracks). When set to Automatic, the APC64 follows the currently displayed layout in Bitwig Studio.

**ALT-Trigger** You can re-assign the SHIFT button as a modifier key for ALT-triggering clips.

## Controller Status Window

When the AKAI APC64 is recognized by Bitwig Studio, a small controller icon appears in the top right corner of the application window. Clicking on this icon will open the controller status window.

In the top of the window you can switch the assignment of the **Record Button** between the **Launcher** or **Arranger**.



In the middle section the current fader assignment is shown. Pressing one of the pin icons lets you permanently assign the controls to certain parameters. For more information please read the Bitwig Studio user guide.