Let’s be honest: you aren’t going to read me. I’ve probably unceremoniously fallen to the floor, brushed aside like navel lint as you unboxed your TELEXb (TXb). I bet your cat is sitting on me right now as you are trying to figure out how to use the thing that I’m here to help you with. Well, it is hard to help you when I am being literally smothered by cat-ass! You try it sometime. (In case you actually did decide to read this, sorry about the cat-ass stuff. I get a little moody.)

Look, even if you are reading this, I know with every fiber of my being that you would rather not. So, to that end, I’ll keep it short. Let’s start with an assumption that we both can agree on: you purchased this TXb to connect an i2c bus of some sort. Why do I assume that? Because that is all it really does. I won’t bother explaining i2c and why you would need this thing. That would waste of both of our time – not to mention the cat’s. Let’s just get on with the information.

Things You Should Know about Your TXb (in No Particular Order)

1. If your i2c bus has multiple bus boards for distribution purposes, only connect one of them to power at any given time.
2. If you have more than one TXb on your bus, make sure that only one of them is connected to power. I know this is redundant; just want to make sure you got it.
3. You might not need to power the TXb if you have a newer Teletype as the latest board revision natively supplies more “pull-up” to the i2c bus.
4. For best results, keep your i2c runs as short as possible. Long runs can destabilize your bus. How long? I knew you would ask that. It is hard to say. It is all dependent on the types of cables you use, how long they are, and how many modules you connect to your bus. You clearly can hook a bunch of stuff to your bus; just be smart and willing to experiment in order to find what works for your topology.
5. Do not hot-plug your modules to the i2c bus. Always have the power turned off when connecting and/or disconnecting things.
6. Do not allow any other voltage sources to short out to the bus’s i2c pins. You can severely damage your instruments if you let the higher voltages in your case pollute the bus. (I’ve seen it happen and still have nightmares – though they will most likely be eclipsed by the feline full moon I just experienced. Thanks for that.)
7. The front panel i2c connections are guarded by the 3D printed dust caps. Please take care when you remove them from the module so as not to snap them off in the jacks. It would suck for you to have to fish that little plastic piece out. Really.
8. Put the jack caps back in the i2c connections when they aren’t in use. Accidental patching of hostile high voltage (audio/CV/triggers) can damage your modules.
9. When connecting a 16n or second TXb to one of the jacks on the front, use short, high quality, STEREO cables. Mono cables cause problems and (potentially) can damage your instruments.
10. Do not hot-plug the jacks on the front. There is a chance you will fry things if you do and it will not be my fault! I’ve given you (and your cat’s ass) fair warning.
11. Have fun and good luck. The TXb is easy to use properly; don’t get freaked out.

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