

Behringer – 173

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[Behringer 173 Quad Gate/Multiples Manual PDF \(Quick Start Guide\)](#)

Using the Behringer 173 Quad Gate/Multiples for Hyper-Complex Percussion in Eurorack

Module Overview

The Behringer 173 Quad Gate/Multiples is not a sound-producing voice or effect in itself. Instead, it provides:

- **4 Gate circuits** (each with Gate In, Gate Out, Gate CV in)
- **6 sets of 4-way passive multiples** for distributing signals.

Roles In Rhythm Generation: - **Gate processing:** Control the presence or shape of rhythm signals. - **Multiples:** Distribute clocks, triggers, or CV/gates to multiple modules for tight, intricate synchronization.

This makes it a **utility module** ideal for routing, shaping, and complexifying trigger/gate signals—crucial for hyper-rhythmic and polyrhythmic patches.

Strategies for Hyper-Complex Percussion Patching

1. Gate Shaping for Polyrhythms

- **Multiple Gate Inputs:** Take several rhythmic triggers (from sequencers, clock dividers, Euclidean rhythm generators, etc.) and process them through the 173's GATE sections.
- **Gate CV Input:** Patch another independent rhythm or random gate to the CV in—using active high (non-inverting) or active low

(inverting). This allows one rhythm to modulate the output from another, effectively *multiplying* or *masking* polyrhythms, as one gate will only pass when the CV is high.

Example:

- **Trigger 1:** 5/8 rhythm pulse to GATE IN 1.
- **Trigger 2:** 4/4 clock, but running at 2x speed, to GATE CV 1.
- **Result:** You get a complex, composite rhythm at GATE OUT 1, combining both patterns with unusual overlaps.

2. Using Multiples for Complex Timing

- **Flow Routing:** Use the multiples to split a master clock or trigger into several destinations.
- **Pattern Interleaving:** Stack several sources (e.g., clock divisions/multiplications) via multiples, then route these to various GATE INs and CVs. Each gate path can selectively shape when and how often a trigger passes, letting you layer odd and even time signatures together.

3. Percussive Variability via Gate Length Manipulation

- Feed envelopes or variable-length triggers into GATE IN/CV, letting sustain/decay on the input affect how long the percussive voice is open.
- Use the inverting and non-inverting CV inputs to alternate between *open* and *muted* percussive “hits” depending on your signal polarity.

4. Mute/Slice/Cut Triggers On The Fly

- Use manual or pattern-based gates to quickly silence or reactivate voice channels.
- Feed a hand-controlled or performance-based gate into CV—this allows you to bring layers in and out for dynamic live rhythms.

5. Unique Routing Exploits

- **Stacking Gates:** Patch several rhythmically related gates together in a multiple, then use them to modulate different CV ins on the 173 gates.
 - **Triggered Muting:** Create improvised breaks or fills by gating your main voices with a complex CV rhythm (from something like a Turing Machine, random looped sequence, etc.).
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Example Patch for Hypercomplex Percussion

1. **Sequencer A** (polyrhythmic odd time) → GATE IN 1
 2. **Sequencer B** (straight 4/4, faster clock) → GATE CV 1 (non-inverting)
 3. **GATE OUT 1** → **Kick Drum Module**
 4. **Euclidean Rhythm Generator (3 against 8)** → GATE IN 2
 5. **Random Trigger Output (with swung rhythm)** → GATE CV 2 (inverting)
 6. **GATE OUT 2** → **Snare/Clap Module**
 7. Use multiples to fan out main/fill/break rhythms to additional percussion voices (hi-hats, glitch percussion, etc.), modulating their “mutes” or “accents” by further complex gate patching.
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Tips for Density and Punch

- Chain the 173's gates for sequential rhythmic gating—output of one gate into the next's gate or CV input for chained logical rhythmic logic.
 - Use sharp digital or analog envelopes to accentuate percussive attack, then gate those signals with the 173 for extra control.
 - Experiment with cross-patching—gate A controls the length or presence of gate B, etc.
 - Use the inverting CV option to subtract or “cut” holes in regular patterns, making for irregular and unpredictable grooves.
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For more creative patching tools, browse [Generated With
Eurorack Processor](#)