

# Erica Synths – Octasource

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- [Manual PDF](#)
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[Erica Synths Black Octasource Manual \(PDF\)](#)

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## Creative Uses for Erica Synths Black Octasource in Your Eurorack System

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The Erica Synths **Black Octasource** is an ultra-versatile 8-output, phase-shifting LFO with extensive modulation and sync options. Here are several creative ways to integrate it with other modules for unique and inspiring patches:

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### 1. Complex Animation with Multiple Destinations

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- **Patch Idea:** Connect each of the 8 phase-shifted outputs to different CV destinations: filter cutoff, oscillator pitch, VCA, wavefolder amount, delay time, reverb mix, stereo panner, or waveshaper.
  - **Modules to Try:** Mutable Instruments Rings/Clouds, Intellijel Polaris, Make Noise Mimeophon, ALM Tangle Quartet, Doepfer A-132-8.
  - **Result:** Entire patches "breathe" cohesively with complex, interleaved modulation. All movements are rhythmically related but offset, resulting in deeply organic textures.
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## 2. Wavetable Morphing & Animated Soundscapes

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- **Patch Idea:** In **Multi Mode**, each output provides a different waveform. Patch several outputs to a wavetable oscillator's different CV inputs, or to multiple parameters on a digital effects module.
  - **Modules to Try:** 4ms SWN, Mutable Instruments Plaits, Noise Engineering Loquelic Iteritas, Expert Sleepers Disting EX.
  - **Result:** Continually evolving timbres, where the character of the sound morphs smoothly thanks to the Octasource's phased and morphing LFO outputs.
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## 3. Polyphonic/Polyrhythmic Modulation

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- **Patch Idea:** Use the Octasource to sync and modulate a bank of drum modules, with each output controlling a specific aspect (decay, pitch, FX send) of a drum voice or effect.
  - **Modules to Try:** Addac System 104 VC T-Networks, Hexinverter Mutant Drums, Endorphin.es BLCK\_Noir.
  - **Result:** Rhythmic, evolving percussive modulation. You can further modulate the *phase CV* or *wave CV* for non-static, generative beats.
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## 4. LFO as VC/Clock Generator for Sequencers & Random Modules

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- **Patch Idea:** Sync the Black Octasource to an external clock or gate source. Use one or more of its outputs (square/pulse preferred) to clock step sequencers or random modules.
- **Modules to Try:** Make Noise Rene, Winter Modular Eloquencer, ALM Pamela's New Workout, Toppobrillo Quantimator, Mutable Instruments Marbles.

- **Result:** Achieve evolving, phase-offset rhythmic control across several timelines. Modulate phase or rate with CV over time for shifting rhythmic landscapes.
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## 5. Quad/Octal Spatial Modulation (for Multi-Speaker or Panning Systems)

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- **Patch Idea:** Send outputs to a quad or octal panning module for immersive audio. Each pan CV input receives an offset LFO.
  - **Modules to Try:** Doepfer A-174-4, XAOC Devices Praga, Frap Tools QSC.
  - **Result:** Sounds swirl around a multi-speaker setup, with each sound/source orbiting in a unique phase over time. Dramatic for installations and surround sound experiments.
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## 6. Crossfading & Complex Morphing Between Sound Sources

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- **Patch Idea:** Use the LFOs to automate VCAs or crossfaders, crossfading multiple audio or CV sources with phase-shifted LFOs.
  - **Modules to Try:** Mutable Instruments Blinds, Doepfer A-134-1, LZX Visual Cortex (for video systems).
  - **Result:** Organic, ever-shifting blends between sound (or video) sources, perfect for evolving ambient pieces.
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## 7. Feedback & Self-Modulation

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- **Patch Idea:** Patch one or more Octasource outputs back into its own CV inputs (WAVE, PHASE, FM), or even use them to cross-modulate each other.

- **Result:** Unpredictable, chaotic modulation curves that can add life and motion to static patches. Try attenuating with a module like the ALM S.B.G. or Mutable Shades for finer control.
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## 8. Envelope Generation via Freeze Function

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- **Patch Idea:** Use the "Freeze" setting to capture the current voltage (via rate knob or external CV), holding the momentary LFO output as a static voltage. Trigger "freeze" with a gate or pressure controller.
  - **Result:** Temporarily sustain your modulation, creating stepped-automation effects or transforming the Octasource into a kind of multi-channel sample-and-hold.
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## Tips for Extra Exploration

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- In **Unipolar Mode** (0V–+5V), use your Octasource for pitch CV or quantizer inputs without needing external offset/shifting.
  - Modulate *WAVE* and *PHASE* with random, envelope, or stepped voltages from modules like Mutable Instruments Tides, Make Noise Maths, or Doepfer A-148.
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Have fun! The Black Octasource is exceptionally deep—the ideas above are just the beginning.

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