

# ALESIS®

## **DM6**

### **DRUM MODULE**

#### **User Guide**

English ( 3 – 10 )

#### **Guía del usuario**

Español ( 11 – 12 )

#### **Appendix**

English ( 13 )



## User Guide (English)

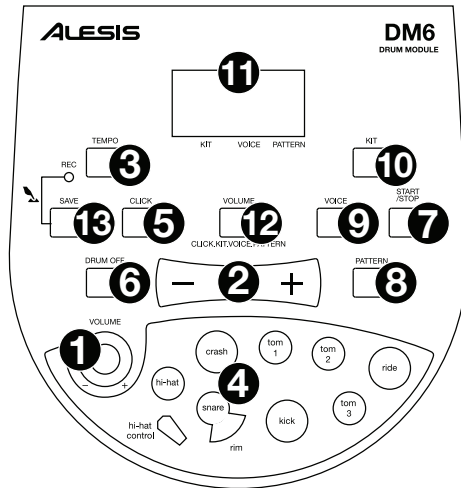
### Support

For the latest information about this product (system requirements, compatibility information, etc.) and product registration, visit [alesis.com](http://alesis.com).

For additional product support, visit [alesis.com/support](http://alesis.com/support).

### Features

#### Top Panel



- Volume:** Adjusts the module's master volume level.
- Value +/-:** Decreases or increases the value of each parameter.
- Tempo/Tap:** Enters Tempo Adjustment Mode.
- Pad Indicators:** Displays the pads currently being played.
- Click:** Turns the metronome on or off.
- Drum Off:** Mutes or unmutes the drum part of the song (pattern) being played.
- Start/Stop:** Starts or stops the current pattern.
- Pattern:** Enters Pattern Select Mode where you can select the pattern and the MIDI output format.
- Voice:** Enters Voice Select Mode.
- Kit:** Enters Kit Select Mode.
- LCD:** Displays the current parameter values and indicator lights for kit, voice, and pattern.
- Volume:** Enters Volume Adjustment Mode to adjust the volumes of kits, voices, patterns, and the metronome separately.
- Save/Rec:** Press once to save the current kit to a user kit. Press and hold to enter Record Mode.

Rear Panel



1. **Power In:** Connect the power adapter here, then connect the adapter to a power outlet.
2. **Power Switch:** Turns the module on or off.

**Note:** To save energy, the drum module will shut down automatically after 30 minutes of no activity. If you do not need this feature, press and hold the **Start/Stop** button each time you power the drum module on. This will disable the automatic shutdown feature.

3. **Headphones:** You can connect a set of 1/8" (3.5 mm) headphones to this output.
4. **Stereo Output:** You can connect an optional speaker system, recording input, etc. to this 1/8" (3.5 mm) output.
5. **Mix Input:** Connect the output of an external audio source, such as a CD player, to this stereo 1/8" (3.5 mm) input.
6. **USB Port:** Connect this port to a computer or other USB device with a standard USB cable (sold separately).
7. **Kick Type Switch:** Set this switch to select the type of kick drum you are using with the module. Select **Switch** if the kick pedal is a simple footswitch. Select **Pad** if the kick pedal is a velocity-sensitive pad (with a standard kick drum pedal).
8. **Trigger Input Connection:** Connect the included cable snake to this connector, then connect the cables to their respective triggers. See the included separate Assembly Guide for setup instructions.

## Operation

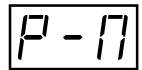
### MIDI/USB

The DM6 module has its own internal sounds, but you can also use it as a trigger-to-MIDI interface with drum module software by connecting its USB port to that of a computer. In this case, triggering the pads and pedals of the kit will send MIDI messages to your computer, so you can trigger drum sounds from your software's sound library. You will need to select the proper MIDI output format to use the DM6 module this way (see below).

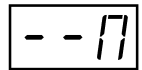
### MIDI Output Formats

The DM6 module can send MIDI information in two different formats: the internal format (default) or the GM format. (Note: If you record a performance using one format, it will only be playable on other devices that support that format.)

The internal format is used for the module to function as a sound source. Program change and Note On/Off messages will be transmitted in this mode. This is the default mode



The GM format is used when the module is connected to a computer. In this format, you can use DM6 as a trigger-to-MIDI interface, triggering sounds from your favorite drum module software. Only Note On/Off messages will be transmitted in this mode. (Also, the metronome and music that accompanies patterns will not be sent, since it is not MIDI information.)



#### To select the MIDI output format:

1. Press **Pattern** to enter Pattern Select Mode.
2. Press **Value +/-** to select **P-N** (internal format, the default setting) or **-N** (GM format).

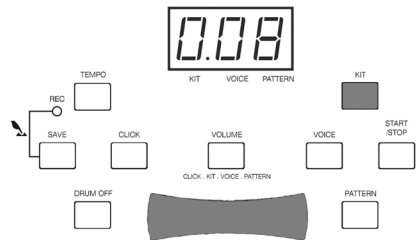
## Kits

### Selecting a Kit

The DM6 module comes with 10 preset kits (001–010) and 5 user kits (011–015).

#### To select a kit:

1. Press **Kit** to enter Kit Select Mode. The LCD will display the current kit number and the Kit Indicator will light up.
2. Use **Value +/-** to select a kit.
3. To adjust the kit's volume (which is different from the module's master volume level), press **Volume** to enter Volume Adjustment Mode. The Volume Indicator will light up and the LCD will display the kit's current volume. Use **Value +/-** to adjust it.
4. When you are finished, press **Kit** to re-enter Kit Selection Mode or press another button.



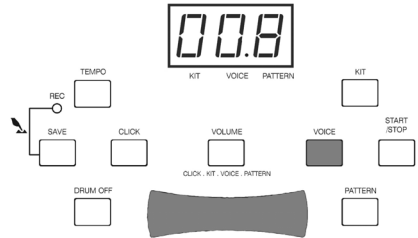
**Note:** When the module is recording-armed, the LCD will display the current kit's volume, but you will not be able to adjust it.

## Selecting Trigger Voices

There are 108 built-in voices that you can assign to each trigger.

### To select a voice:

1. Press **Voice** to enter Voice Select Mode. The LCD will display the current voice number and the Voice Indicator will light up.
2. Use **Value +/-** to select a voice.
3. To adjust a trigger's volume (which is different from the master or kit volume levels), press **Volume** to enter Volume Adjustment Mode. The Volume Indicator will light up and the LCD will display the trigger's current volume. Use **Value +/-** to adjust it.
4. When you are finished, press **Voice** to re-enter Voice Selection Mode or press another trigger button.

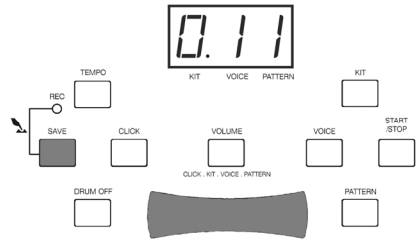


## Saving Kits

You can save a kit to any of the five user kits (11–15).

### To save a kit:

1. Press **Save** to enter Kit Save Mode. The LCD will display the current kit number and the Kit Indicator will light up.
2. Use **Value +/-** to select a user kit (11–15). User kit numbers will flash on the LCD.
3. Press **Save** to save the kit to that user kit number. (This includes all trigger voices and volumes.)



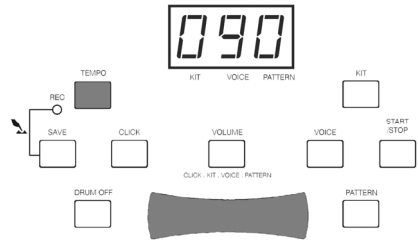
## Metronome

The DM6 module has a built-in metronome feature, for which you can adjust the tempo, time signature, volume, and “click” sound.

### Adjusting the Tempo

#### To adjust the tempo of a pattern:

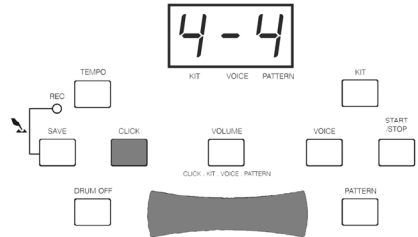
1. Select a pattern (see **Patterns** section).
2. Press **Tempo** to enter Tempo Adjustment Mode. The LCD will display the current tempo value for that pattern. The metronome’s range is 30–280 BPM (“beats per minute”).
3. Use **Value +/-** to adjust the tempo of that pattern. You can press **Value +** and **Value -** simultaneously to return to the pattern’s default tempo.



### Selecting the Time Signature & Adjusting the Volume

#### To select the time signature the metronome will follow:

1. Press **Click** to activate the metronome. The LCD will display the current time signature. There are nine different time signatures to choose from: **1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, 6/4, 7/4, 3/8, and 6/8.**
2. Use **Value +/-** to select a time signature.

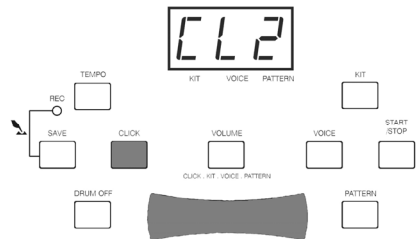


**Note:** The Click Indicator will flash in time with the beat of your selected pattern, whether or not the metronome is activated (i.e., audible).

### Selecting a Metronome Sound

#### To select the “click” sound the metronome will make:

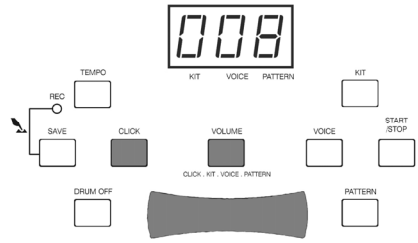
1. Press and hold **Click** then press **Value +/-**. The LCD will display **CL1, CL2, CL3, or CL4.**
2. Use **Value +/-** to select the click sound. You can choose from a standard metronome “click” (the default), a “beep,” a cowbell, or a voice.



## Adjusting the Metronome Volume

To select the “click” sound the metronome will make:

1. Press **Click** to activate the metronome. The LCD will display the current time signature.
2. Press **Volume**. The Volume Indicator will light up, and the LCD will display the current volume level.
3. Use **Value +/-** to adjust the volume.
4. Press **Click** when finished.

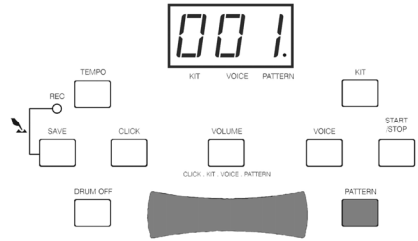


## Patterns

The DM6 module comes with 40 preset patterns (40 presets and one user pattern).

To select a pattern:

1. Press **Pattern** to enter Pattern Select Mode. The LCD will display the current pattern number and the Pattern Indicator will light up.
2. Use **Value +/-** to select a pattern. (If the user pattern, #41, is empty, the LCD will read **N-P**.)
3. Press **Start/Stop** to play or stop the pattern. While the pattern is playing, the **Click** button will flash in time with the beat and the **pad indicators** will light according to what pads' sounds are playing (a useful learning and practice tool).
4. To adjust the pattern's volume (which is different from the module's master volume level), press **Volume** to enter Volume Adjustment Mode. The Volume Indicator will light up and the LCD will display the current volume value for that pattern. Use **Value +/-** to adjust the volume of that pattern.
5. To adjust the pattern's tempo, press **Tempo** to enter Tempo Adjustment Mode. The LCD will display the current tempo value for that pattern (30–280 BPM or “beats per minute”). Use **Value +/-** to adjust the tempo of that pattern. Press + and – simultaneously to return to the pattern's default tempo.
6. When you are finished, press **Pattern** to re-enter Pattern Select Mode or press another button.



**Note:** The patterns and the MIDI In (over a USB connection) use the same 16 MIDI channels, which may affect pattern playback. If this occurs, turn the module off then on again to reset it.

**Note:** When the module is recording-armed, the LCD will display the current pattern's volume, but you will not be able to adjust it.

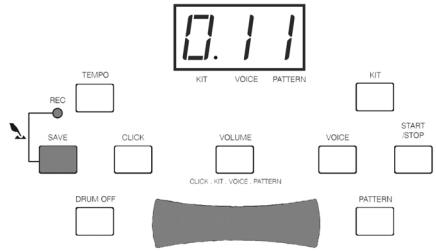


**Recording**

**Record-Armed Mode**

Press and hold **Save/Rec** for more than two seconds to arm the module to record a new user pattern. The LCD will display the kit number and the **Rec** light will flash.

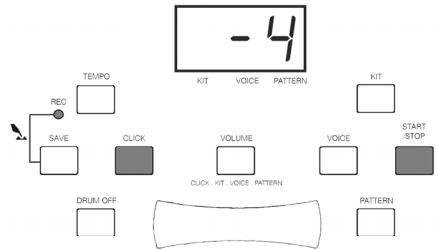
In this mode, you can adjust the pattern that will accompany you, the tempo, or the kit number. You can also mute the accompanying pattern (see **Drum Off**) or turn the metronome on or off. If no pattern is selected, the metronome's time signature can be used. Otherwise, if a pattern is selected, the time signature you select may not be used (because each pattern has an assigned time signature—the time signature will change if the pattern is changed).



**Recording Mode**

**To record the user pattern (Pattern 41):**

1. Record-arm the module by pressing and holding **Save/Rec** for more than 2 seconds.
2. Press **Start/Stop** or hit the pads. The **Rec** light will illuminate and the LCD will count down from 4 before it begins recording.
3. Record your pattern with the kit. The LCD will display what measure you are on.
4. When you have finished, press **Start/Stop** to stop the recording. (If the recording reaches full capacity—approximately 5,000 notes—the LCD will read **FUL**. Press **Start/Stop** to return to Pattern Selection Mode.)

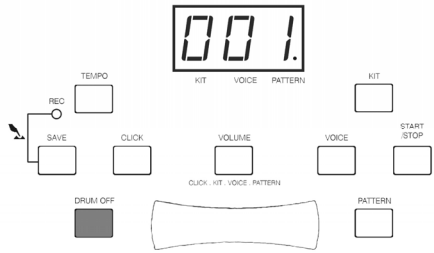


Recording will erase any previously recorded user pattern you had. You will not be able to adjust any of the module's parameters while recording. To stop the recording and return to Pattern Select Mode, press **Start/Stop**.

**Note:** To turn the metronome on or off before or during the recording, press **Click**. Either way, the metronome sound will not be recorded.

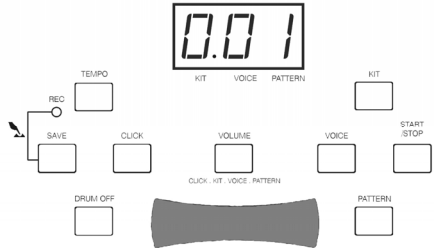
## Drum Off

You can press **Drum Off** to mute the drum sounds of the accompanying pattern. (This can be a useful practice tool when playing along with patterns.) The Drum Off Indicator will light up, and you will still be able to trigger all pads, cymbals, and pedals in this mode. To unmute the pattern, simply press **Drum Off** again and the Drum Off Indicator will be unlit.



## Factory Reset

To return the DM6 module to its original settings, hold down **Value +** and **Value -** simultaneously while turning on the module. This will restore its factory settings, erasing any recorded data or changed settings, including user kits, the user pattern, and any volume, metronome, or voice settings, which will return to their defaults.



## Auto-Shutdown

To save energy, the drum module will shut down automatically after 30 minutes of no activity. If you do not need this feature, press and hold the **Start/Stop** button each time you power the drum module on. This will disable the automatic shutdown feature.

## Guía del usuario (Español)

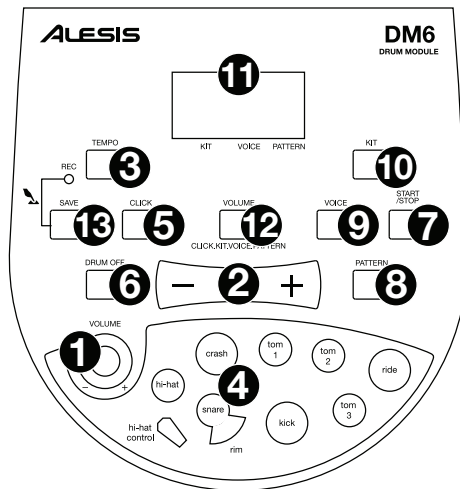
### Soporte

Para obtener la información más completa acerca de este product (los requisitos del sistema, compatibilidad, etc) y registro del producto, visite [alesis.com](http://alesis.com).

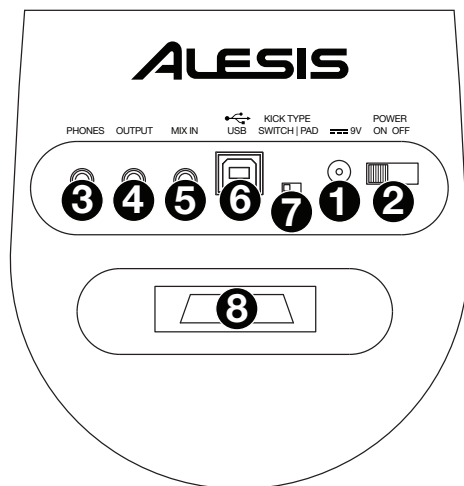
Para soporte adicional del producto, visite [alesis.com/support](http://alesis.com/support).

### Características

#### Panel superior



- Volumen:** Ajusta el nivel de volumen maestro del módulo.
- Valor +/-:** Disminuye o aumenta el valor de cada parámetro.
- Tempo/Tap:** Entra el modo de ajuste del tiempo.
- Indicadores de pad:** Muestran los pads que se ejecutan en ese momento.
- Clic:** Activa y desactiva el metrónomo.
- Batería apagada:** Silencia o anula el silenciamiento de la parte de batería (patrón) del tema que se está ejecutando.
- Inicio/Parada:** Inicia o detiene el patrón actual.
- Patrón:** Entra al modo de selección de patrón, donde es posible seleccionar el patrón y el formato de la salida MIDI.
- Voz:** Entra al modo de selección de voz.
- Kit:** Entra al modo de selección de kit.
- LCD:** Muestra los valores actuales de los parámetros y indicadores por el kit, la voz, y el patrón.
- Volumen:** Entra al modo de ajuste de volumen para ajustar los volúmenes de los kits, voces, patrones y el metrónomo por separado.
- Guardar/Grabar:** Pulse este botón una vez para guardar el kit actual en un kit de usuario. Pulse y retenga este botón para entrar al modo de grabación.



1. **Entrada de alimentación:** Conecte aquí el adaptador de alimentación y luego el adaptador al tomacorriente de pared.
2. **Interruptor de encendido:** Enciende y apaga el módulo.
3. **Auriculares:** Puede conectar a esta salida un juego de auriculares de 3,5 mm (1/8").
4. **Salida estéreo:** Es posible conectar a esta entrada de 3,5 mm (1/8") un sistema de altavoces, entrada de grabación, etc.
5. **Entrada de mezcla:** Conecte a esta entrada estéreo de 3,5 mm (1/8") una fuente de audio externa, tal como un reproductor de CD.
6. **Puerto USB:** Conecte este puerto a una computadora o a otro dispositivo USB con un cable USB estándar (vendido por separado).
7. **Interruptor tipo bongo:** Ajuste la posición de este interruptor para seleccionar el tipo de bongo que usa con el módulo. Seleccione **Switch** si el pedal de bongo es un interruptor de pedal sencillo. Seleccione **Pad** si el pedal del bongo es sensible a la velocidad (con un pedal de bongo estándar).
8. **Conexión de entrada de disparo:** Conecte a este conector el multicable ("snake") incluido y luego los cables a sus disparadores respectivos. Vea las instrucciones de instalación en la Guía de armado separada incluida.

## Appendix (English)

### Technical Specifications

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Voices</b>      | 108 instrument voices  |
| <b>Drum Kits</b>   | 10 preset kits<br>5 user kits  |
| <b>Patterns</b>    | 40 preset patterns<br>1 user pattern   |
| <b>Display</b>     | 3-digit 7-segment LCD  |
| <b>Connections</b> | (1) 1/8" (3.5 mm) stereo headphones<br>(1) USB port<br>(1) 1/8" (3.5 mm) stereo output<br>(1) 1/8" (3.5 mm) stereo mix input<br>(1) power adapter input<br>(1) 25-pin D-sub connection for cable snake |
| <b>Power</b>       | 9 VDC, 500 mA, center-positive (power adapter included)  |

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