GrainPilot User Manual
Version 1.0

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Welcome to GrainPilot !

Thank you for choosing **GrainPilot**, the ultimate companion app for the Roland P-6 Creative Sampler.

GrainPilot has been designed to unlock the full potential of the P-6's powerful granular synthesis engine. It provides instant access to every granular parameter through a modern, intuitive interface, allowing you to shape sounds faster than ever before.

Whether you're creating evolving textures, ambient pads, glitch effects, rhythmic grains, or experimental soundscapes, GrainPilot helps you stay focused on sound design—not on menu navigation.

Why GrainPilot?

The Roland P-6 offers an exceptionally powerful granular engine, but editing its parameters directly from the hardware can interrupt the creative process.

GrainPilot solves this by presenting all granular controls in a clear and organized workspace, making sound design faster, more intuitive, and more enjoyable.

With GrainPilot you can:

- Edit every granular synthesis parameter in real time.
- Save and recall your favorite sounds as presets.
- Perform precise adjustments using Fine Mode.
- Control the P-6 from the comfort of a larger touchscreen.

Requirements

To use GrainPilot, you will need:

- A Roland P-6 Creative Sampler
- An Android device running Android 7.0 or later
- A USB connection between your Android device and the P-6

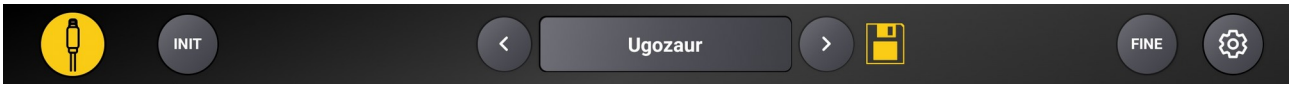
Once connected, GrainPilot automatically detects your P-6 and is ready to control it.

Before You Begin

Before exploring the different sections of the application, take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the Header Bar, located at the top of the screen.



The Header Bar provides quick access to the application's most important functions, including MIDI connection status, preset management, Fine Mode, and application settings.



MIDI Connection Indicator

Yellow	Connected
Flashing red	No P-6 detected or connection lost

If this happens:

- Make sure the P-6 is powered on.
- Verify that the USB cable is properly connected.
- Ensure your Android device has granted USB MIDI permission.

Tip: After connecting the P-6, it may take a few seconds for GrainPilot to establish the MIDI connection.

INIT Button

The **INIT** button instantly loads the default initialization preset.

This preset restores all GrainPilot parameters to their factory default values, providing a clean starting point for creating a new granular sound.

Using the INIT preset before designing a patch helps avoid unexpected parameter interactions left over from previous presets.

Preset Selector

The Preset Selector is located at the center of the Header Bar.

It consists of:

- the name of the currently loaded preset,
- a **Previous** button,
- a **Next** button.

Use the arrow buttons to browse through your saved presets.

Whenever a preset is selected, all of its parameters are immediately transmitted to the Roland P-6.

Save Preset

The disk icon saves the current preset.

If the preset is new, GrainPilot creates a new preset entry.

If the preset already exists, GrainPilot will ask for confirmation before overwriting it.

FINE Button

The **FINE** button enables **Fine Mode**.

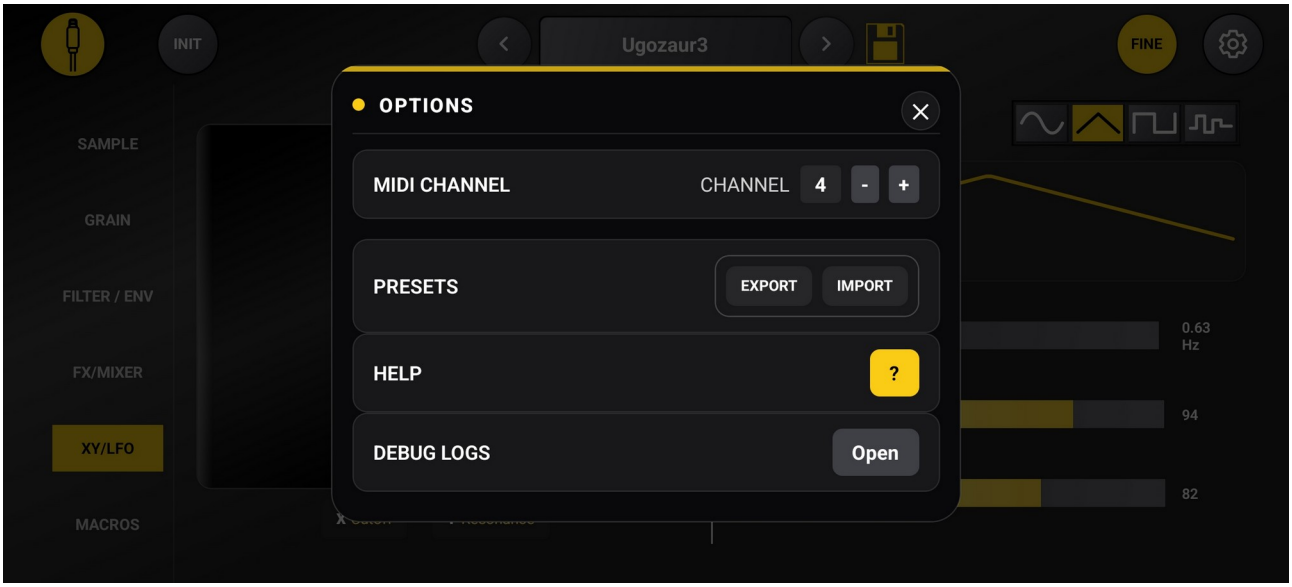
When Fine Mode is active, all sliders become significantly more precise, making it easier to perform subtle parameter adjustments.

This is particularly useful when tweaking parameters such asGrain Size, Position, Fine Tune,...

Gear Icon (Options)

The **Options** menu provides access to GrainPilot's global settings and utility functions.

From this menu, you can configure the MIDI channel used to communicate with your Roland P-6, import or export your preset library, access the user guide, and open the debug log window.



MIDI Channel

GrainPilot communicates with the Roland P-6 using standard MIDI Control Change (CC) messages.

Use the **MIDI Channel** setting to select the MIDI channel on which GrainPilot will send these messages.

> **Important:** The selected MIDI channel must match the **Granular MIDI Channel** configured on your Roland P-6. If the channels do not match, parameter changes made in GrainPilot will have no effect on the P-6.

Use the **–** and **+** buttons to decrease or increase the channel number.

Finding the Granular MIDI Channel on the P-6

On the Roland P-6, press SHIFT + MENU, then use the TEMPO/VALUE knob to navigate to G.CH and select it(C# button).

Set the same MIDI channel in both the P-6 and GrainPilot to establish proper communication.

Tip: The factory default Granular MIDI Channel is **Channel 4**.

Presets

The **Presets** section allows you to back up your preset library or restore it on another device.

Export

Tap **Export** to save all your presets to a single backup file.

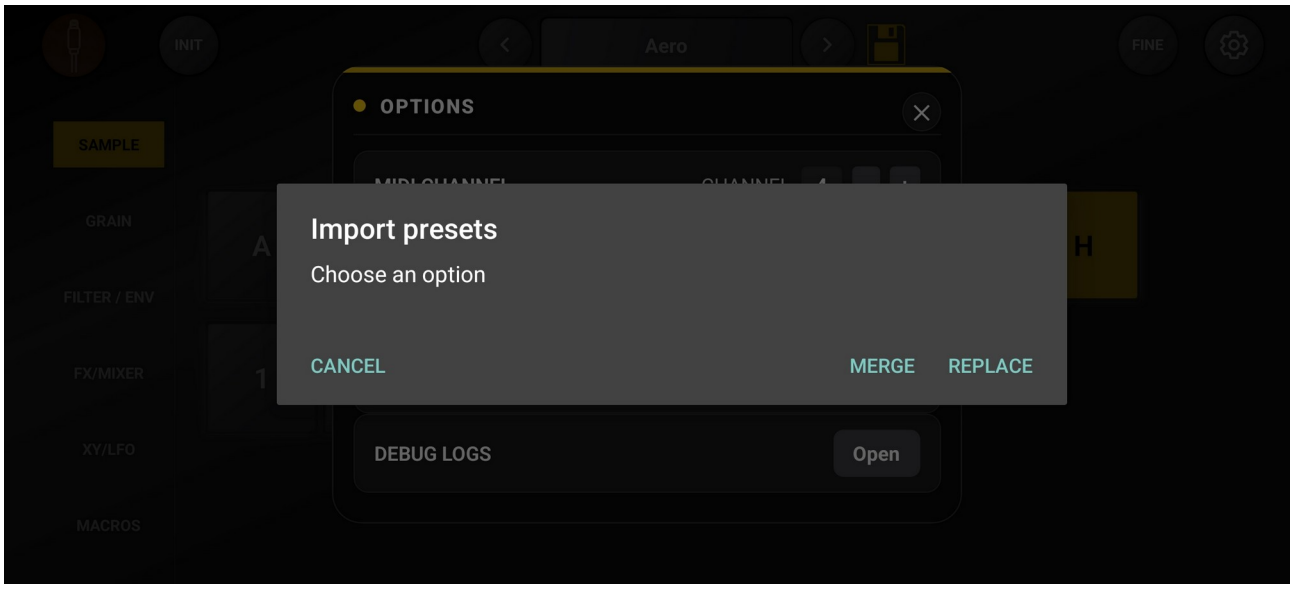
This file can be archived for safekeeping or transferred to another Android device running GrainPilot.

Exporting your presets regularly is recommended to prevent accidental data loss.

Import

Tap **Import** to load a previously exported preset library.

After selecting a backup file, GrainPilot will ask how you would like to import it:



- **Merge** — Adds the imported presets to your current library. Existing presets are preserved.
- **Replace** — Deletes the current preset library and replaces it with the imported one.

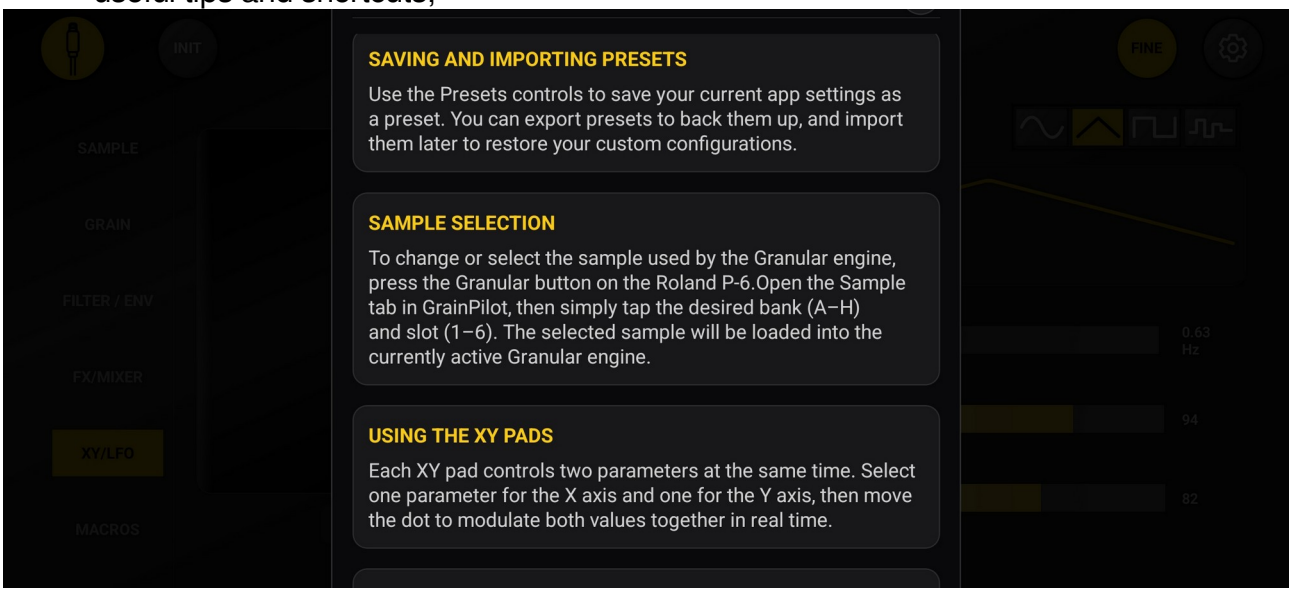
Warning: The **Replace** option permanently removes all existing presets before importing the new library.

Help

The **Help** section provides quick access to useful documentation and support resources.

From here, you can access:

- the GrainPilot User Manual;
- quick start information;
- useful tips and shortcuts;



Debug Logs

The **Debug Logs** window displays diagnostic information generated by GrainPilot.

This information can be useful when troubleshooting connection issues or reporting a bug.

If you contact support, you may be asked to include the contents of the debug log to help identify the source of the problem.

> **Note:** The Debug Logs section is primarily intended for troubleshooting and advanced users. Most users will not need to access it during normal operation.

Presets

GrainPilot includes a powerful preset management system, allowing you to save, organize, and instantly recall your favorite granular sounds.

Unlike the Roland P-6, GrainPilot stores presets directly on your Android device. This makes it easy to build your own sound library, experiment freely, and switch between different granular configurations in seconds.

Whenever a preset is loaded, every parameter is immediately transmitted to the P-6, ensuring both devices remain perfectly synchronized.

Loading a Preset

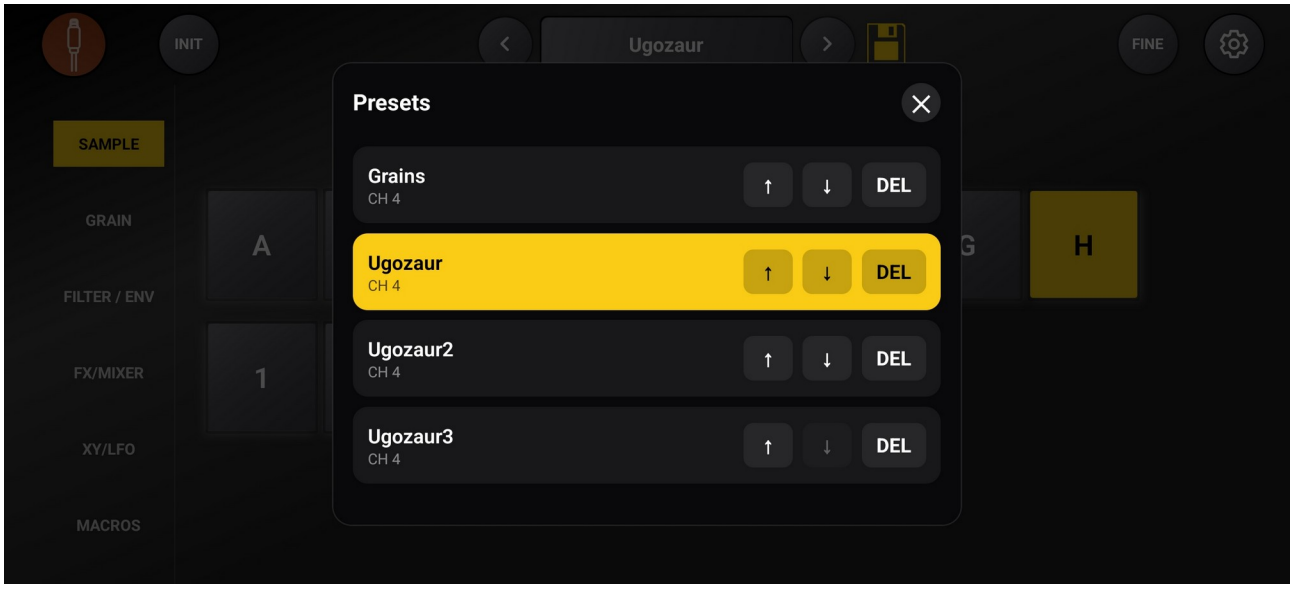
GrainPilot offers two convenient ways to load a preset.

Using the Header Bar

The quickest way to browse your library is by using the **Previous** and **Next** buttons located on either side of the preset name in the Header Bar.

Each time you select a preset, its parameters are immediately transmitted to the Roland P-6.

Using the Preset Browser



For faster navigation through large preset libraries, tap the **preset name** displayed in the Header Bar.

The **Preset Browser** opens, displaying all available presets in a scrollable list.

Simply tap any preset to load it instantly.

Preset Information

Each preset displays additional information to help you identify it before loading.

MIDI Channel

Below the preset name, GrainPilot displays the MIDI channel associated with the preset.

This allows you to quickly verify which **Granular MIDI Channel** the preset was created for.

This is particularly useful if you use multiple P-6 units with GrainPilot.

If necessary, you can adjust GrainPilot's current MIDI channel before loading the preset to ensure proper communication with your Roland P-6.

Deleting Presets

Each user preset includes a **DEL** button.

Press this button to permanently remove the preset from your library.

To prevent accidental deletions, GrainPilot asks for confirmation before deleting a preset.

Important: Deleted presets cannot be recovered unless they have previously been exported using the **Export** function.

Organizing Presets

The order of your presets can be customized directly from the **Preset Browser**.

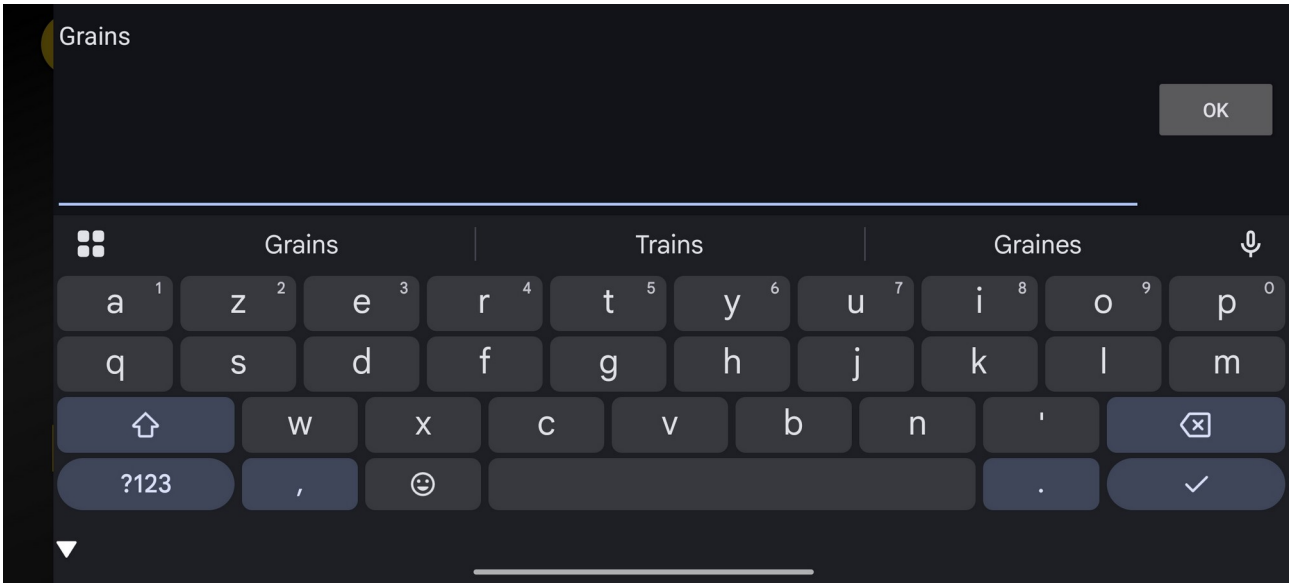
Use the **arrow buttons** next to a preset to move it up or down in the list. This allows you to arrange your presets in any order that suits your workflow.

The custom order is also reflected when browsing presets with the **Previous** and **Next** buttons in the Header Bar.

Tip: You can place your favorite or most frequently used presets next to each other for faster access during live performance.

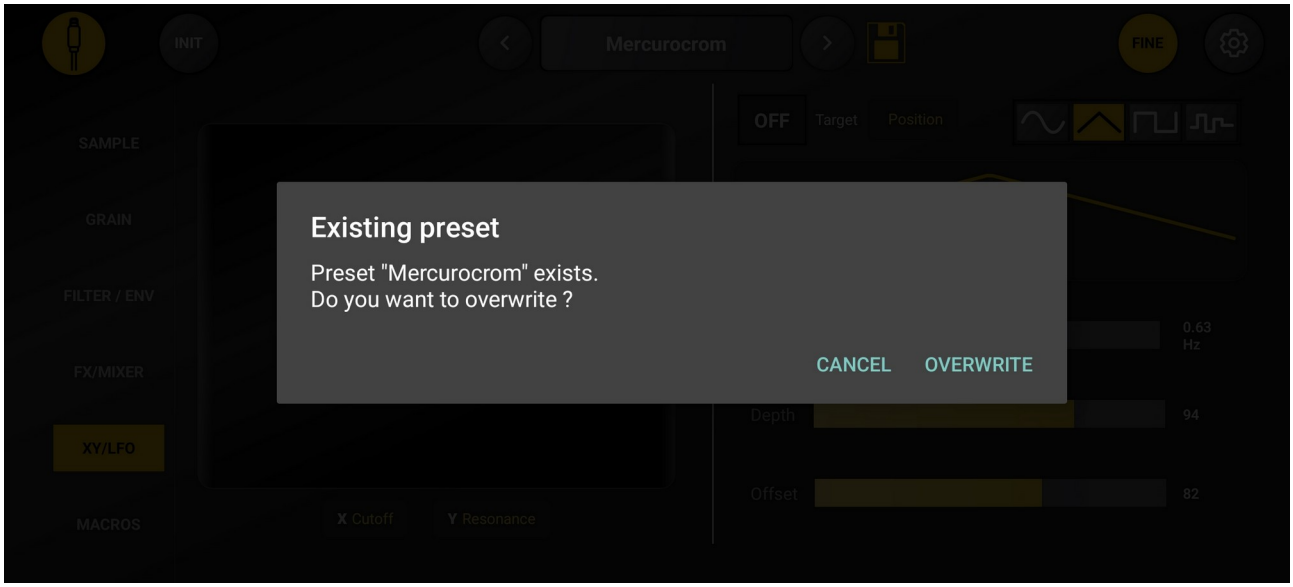
Saving a Preset

Press the **Yellow Floppy Disk** button to store the current settings.



When saving, GrainPilot will either:

- create a new preset if it does not already exist;
- update an existing preset after confirmation.



It is also important to note that presets store parameter settings, not the sample itself. If a sample is deleted, moved, or replaced on the P-6, recalling a preset will apply the saved parameters to the sample currently in that slot. As a result, the sound may be different from the one you originally saved.

Preset Compatibility

GrainPilot presets contain only parameter values.

They **do not** include audio samples stored on the Roland P-6.

If a preset references a sample that is not currently loaded on the P-6, the parameter settings will still be restored, but the resulting sound may differ.

For best results, make sure the appropriate sample is loaded before recalling a preset.

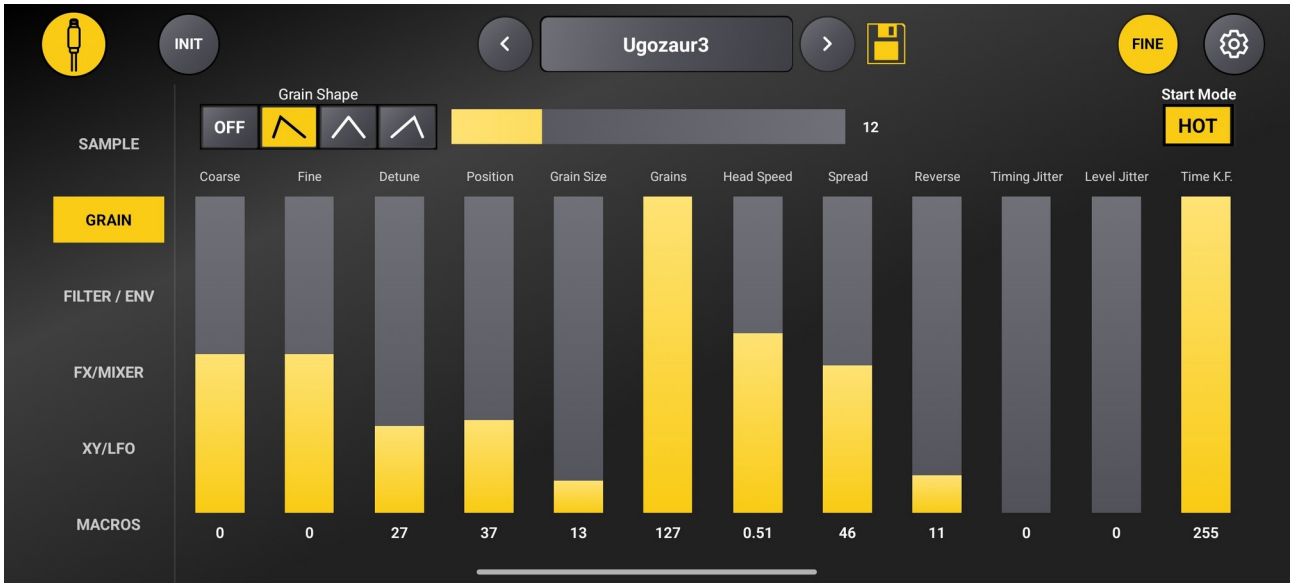
Note: GrainPilot does not transfer audio samples to or from the Roland P-6. Only synthesis and effect parameters are stored.

Backup Your Presets

Your preset library represents your personal work.

We strongly recommend exporting your presets regularly using the **Export** function available in the **Options** menu.

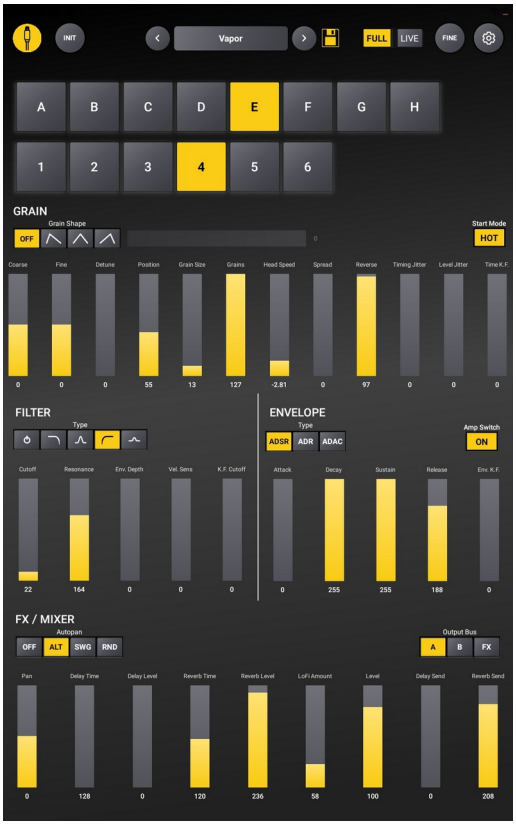
Keeping a backup allows you to restore your library after changing devices or reinstalling the application.



On smartphones, GrainPilot uses a vertical navigation bar located on the left side of the screen.

The navigation bar provides quick access to every major section of the application. Simply tap a section to switch instantly between the different editing pages.

Each page focuses on a specific aspect of granular sound design, helping keep the interface clean and uncluttered.





On tablets, GrainPilot uses a different layout designed to take advantage of the larger screen. All parameters are accessible from a single page, eliminating the need to switch between sections.

Available Sections

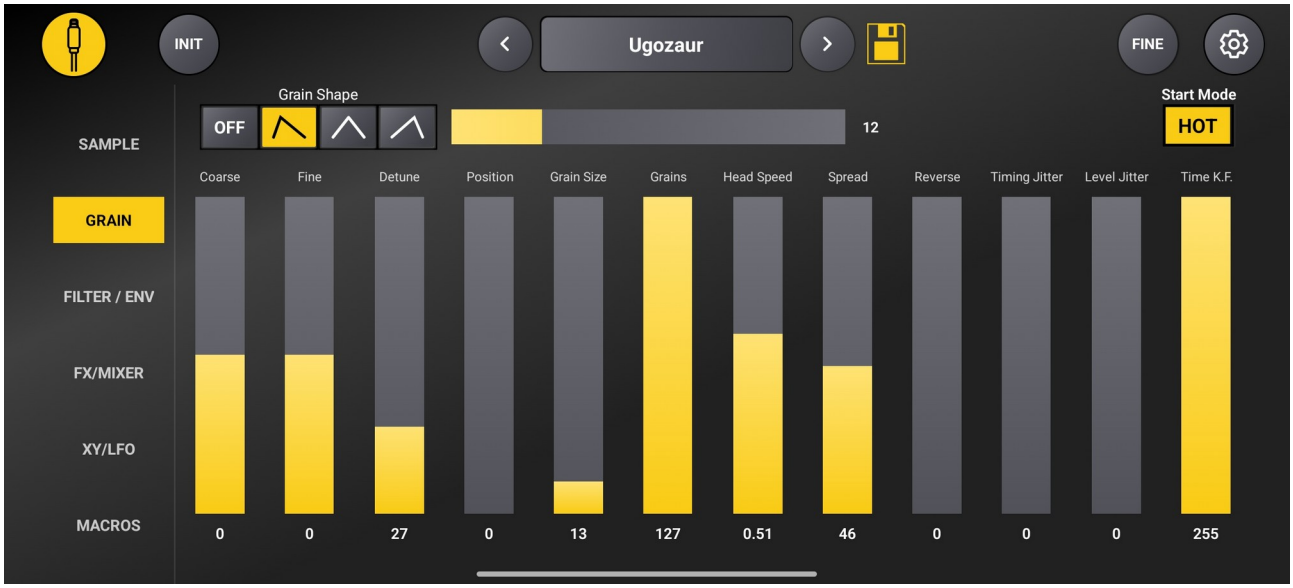
Sample



The **Sample** page contains all controls related to sample selection.

From this page, you can choose the sample used by the granular engine.

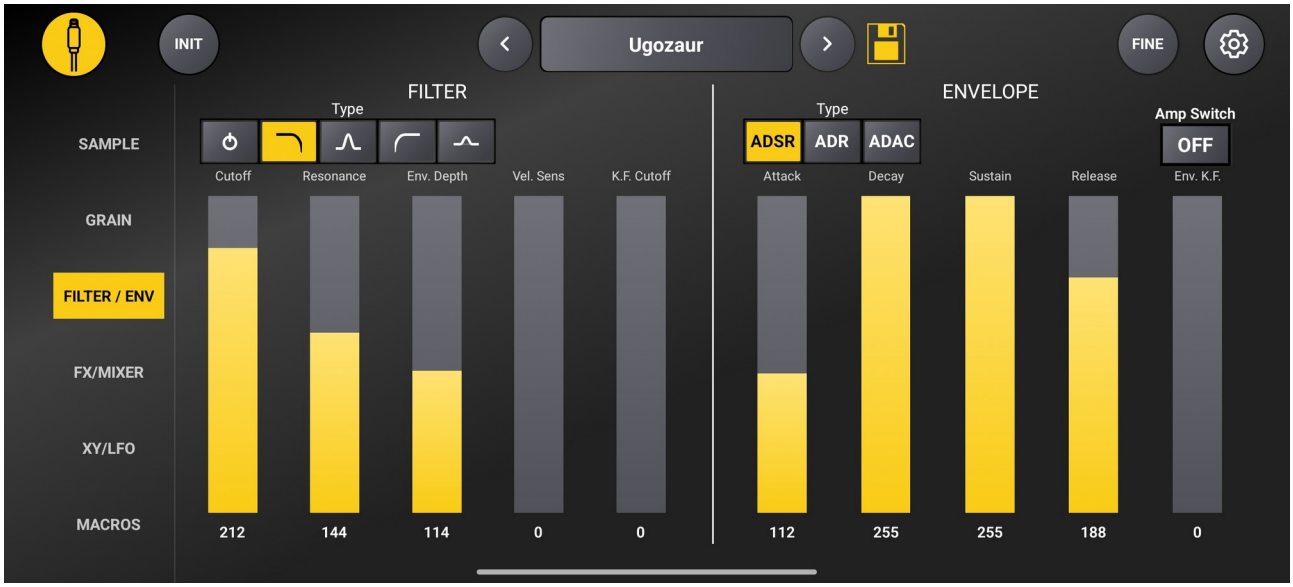
Grain



The **Grain** page contains the core parameters of the Roland P-6 granular engine.

This page is where most granular sound design takes place.

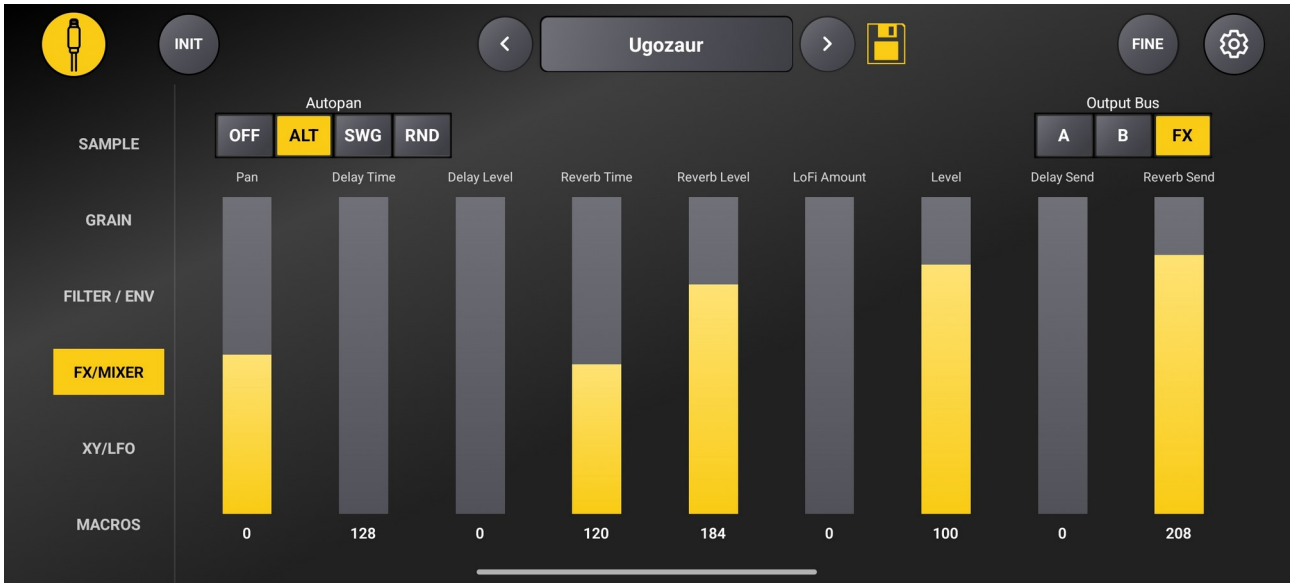
Filter / Envelope



The **Filter** / **Envelope** page groups together all filtering and envelope parameters.

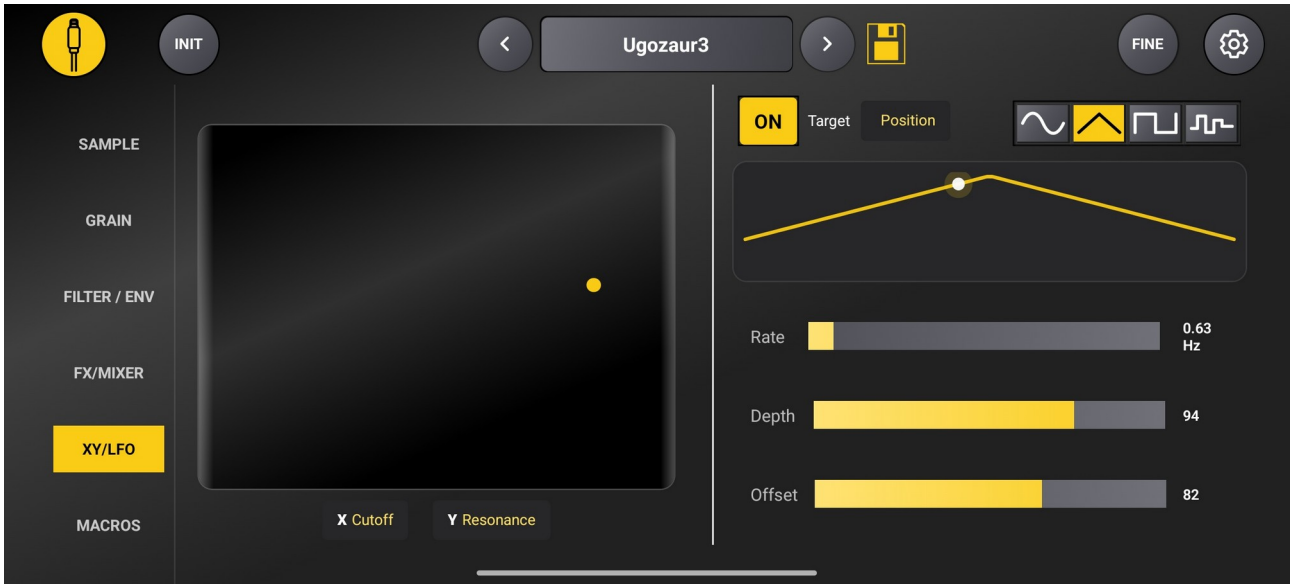
From here, you can shape the tonal character and dynamic response of your sound .

FX / Mixer



The **FX** / **Mixer** page contains all output routing and effects controls

XY / LFO



The **XY** / **LFO** page combines two powerful modulation tools.

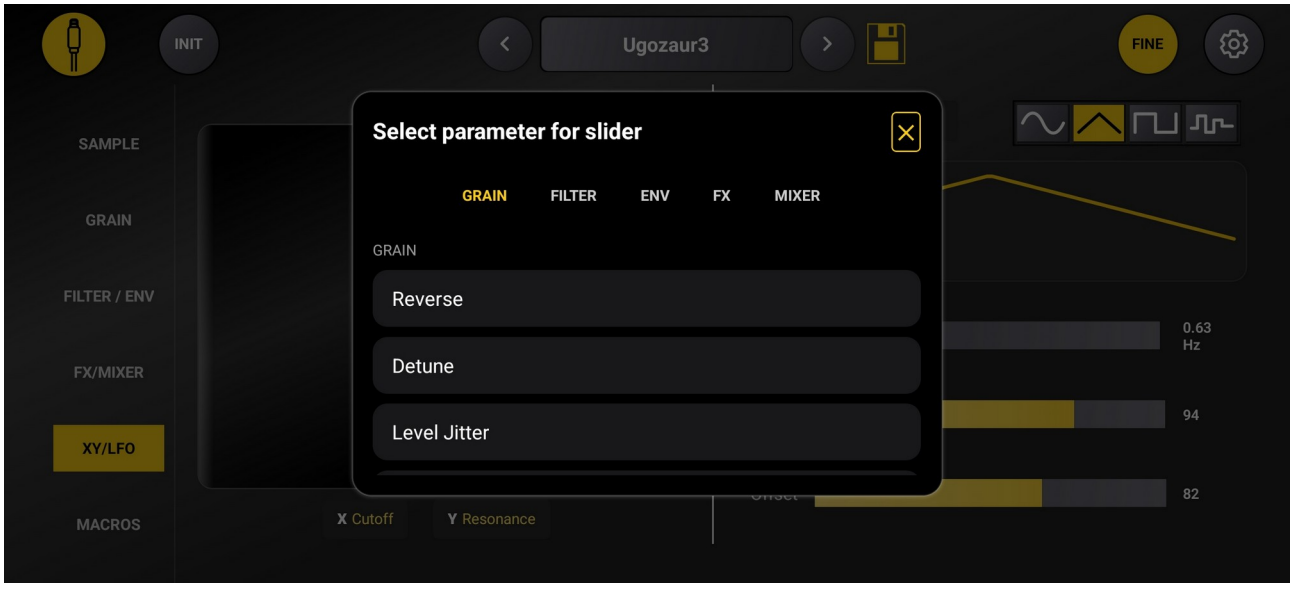
The **XY Pad** allows you to assign independent parameters to the X and Y axes for expressive real-time control.

The integrated **LFO** can modulate almost any compatible parameter using multiple waveform types, making it easy to create evolving textures and dynamic movement.

Assigning Modulation Targets

Both the **XY Pad** and the **LFO** allow you to choose which parameter they control.

Simply tap the current target label to open the **Parameter Selection** window.



The available parameters are organized into categories:

- **Grain**
- **Filter**
- **Envelope**
- **FX**
- **Mixer**

Select any compatible parameter, and the new assignment is applied immediately.

This makes it easy to experiment with different modulation destinations without navigating through the main editing pages.

XY Pad Assignments

The **X** and **Y** axes are assigned independently.

This allows you to control two different parameters simultaneously.

For example:

- **X:** Filter Cutoff
- **Y:** Resonance

or

- **X:** Grain Position
- **Y:** Grain Size

The possibilities are entirely up to your workflow.

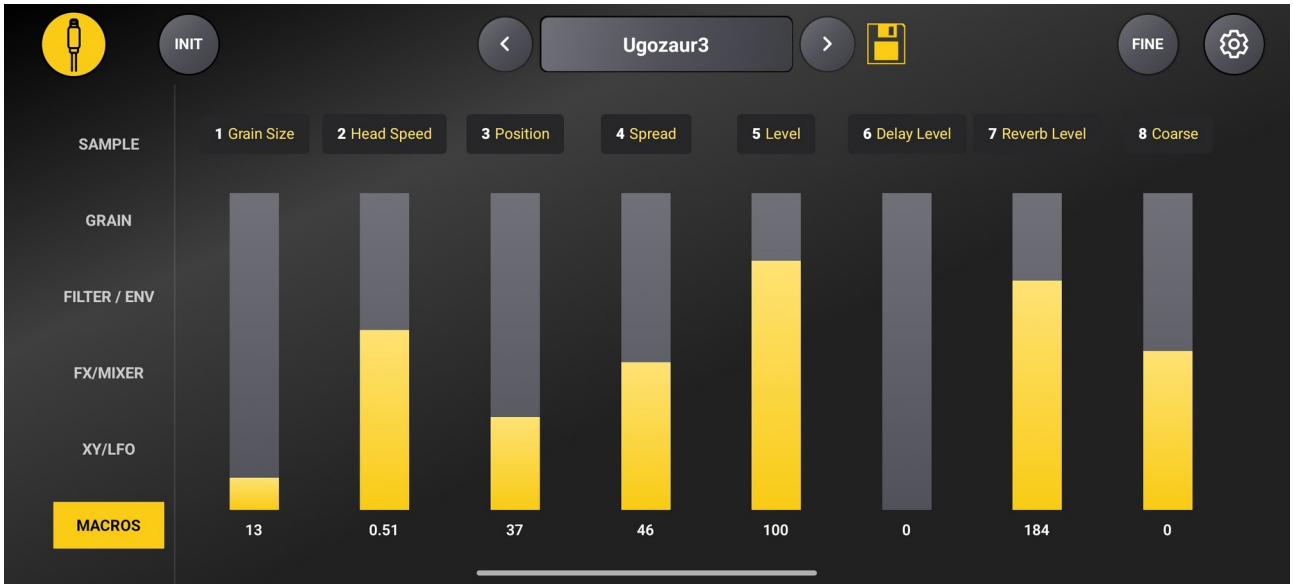
LFO Target

The LFO can modulate a single parameter at a time.

To change the destination, tap the **Target** field and choose a new parameter from the Parameter Selection window.

Once selected, the LFO immediately begins modulating the new target using the current waveform, rate, depth, and offset settings.

Macros(Custom Sliders)



The **Macros** page provides quick access to your most frequently used parameters.

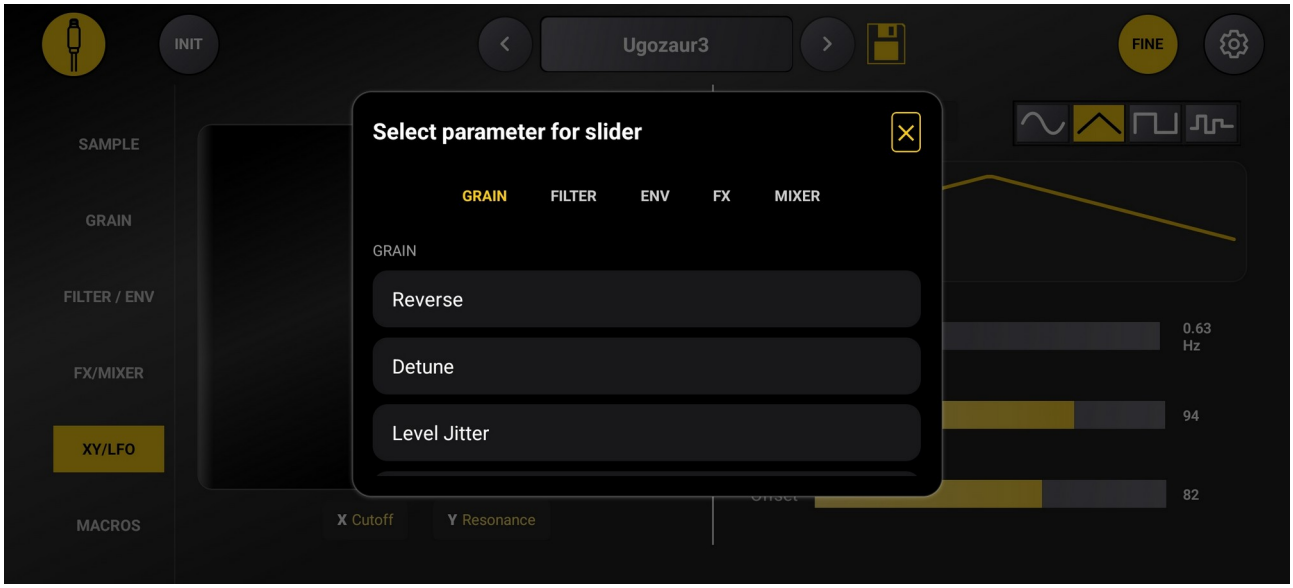
Instead of navigating between the different editing pages, you can assign your favorite controls to eight customizable sliders, creating a personalized workspace tailored to your own workflow.

This is especially useful when performing live or when repeatedly adjusting the same parameters during sound design.

The page contains **eight independent sliders**.

This allows you to group together parameters that are normally spread across several pages.

Assigning a Parameter



To assign a parameter to a slider, simply tap its label.

The **Parameter Selection** window opens, allowing you to browse all available parameters by category.

Select the desired parameter, and the slider is immediately updated.

The assignment is saved automatically and will remain available the next time you launch GrainPilot.

It acts as a **custom control panel**, giving you instant access to the parameters you use most often.

For example, you could dedicate your sliders to:

- Grain Size
- Head Speed
- Position
- Spread
- Filter Cutoff
- Resonance
- Delay Level
- Reverb Level

Or create an entirely different layout depending on your personal workflow.

That's it!

You should now have everything you need to get the most out of GrainPilot and explore the granular capabilities of your Roland P-6.

GrainPilot was designed to make sound design more immediate, intuitive, and fun — so experiment, save your favorite sounds, and don't be afraid to push things into unexpected territory.

Have fun, and happy sound designing!

Nicolas - Mittery