

GROOVE MACHINE™

Digital Groove Productions | DAWSTORE.com
www.dawstore.com | www.digital-groove.com | 513-325-5329

READ THIS FIRST!!!!

First off, thank you for purchasing the Groove Machine™. You have made a wise decision in buying a PC that is made from the finest components and optimized for audio/video production. All of our Groove Machine™ PCs are carefully built by hand, by certified computer professional/musicians according to your specific needs and optimized for maximum performance with modern music applications (DAW software). Our goal is to remove as many obstacles as possible in your creative process.

Your Groove Machine™ has been bench-checked, optimized, tested and is ready to go. The installed Windows software has been activated with Microsoft and all necessary updates have been applied. If we haven't already done so, all you have to do is install any hardware or software related to your audio/video production and off you go.

Please note the Safety Instructions at the end of this manual before performing updates or maintenance to your Groove Machine for important information regarding your warranty.

Should you have any problems or questions about the operation of your Groove Machine™, contact us at support@digital-groove.com or call 513-325-5329 and we will do everything in our power to resolve the problem or answer the question.

Your Groove Machine™ is covered by a 1-year limited warranty, but the manufacturer warrants many of the components for a longer period of time. You can always get detailed Warranty Information on our website: <http://www.digital-groove.com/gm/warrantyinfo.asp>

If your having problems with DAW software that wasn't purchased or installed by us, or general use questions on DAW software, we recommend you contact the either the manufacturer or retailer of the software for support.

Note: We reserve the right to deny support for customers who use software for which they do not have a license, is cracked/pirated, or has modified by a third party.

Included Documents/CDs/keys with your Groove Machine™:

Note: Please keep these documents in a safe place where they can be located and accessed in case updates or support is required.

- The keys for locking enclosures and removable drives. We just cannot possibly keep spares of all keys - so this is up to you. We recommend you store a spare in a safe place in case the master gets lost/misplaced.
- Windows XP Pro Start Here Guide – This contains basic info on Windows XP Pro, keyboard shortcuts (pg16.), logging on as multiple users (pg. 10), recovery instructions, etc.
- Your Certificate of Authenticity (COA) for Windows XP Pro is located on the inside of the front-panel door or on the rear of the Groove Machine™. It

contains your Product Key for Windows XP Pro should you need it for support from Microsoft or other software providers.

- **Your Windows Admin User Name is Administrator and your password is Admin.** This is important because you may need to be logged in as Administrator to perform installs or software updates. If you want to change this password, go to START>Control Panel>User Accounts>Select the user password you want change and follow the instructions. See page 9 of the Windows XP Pro Start Here guide for details on how to log on and off, create users and set permissions.

Note: We recommend you create a user account for daily use that does not have Administrator Rights to avoid changing settings in error. We most likely have already created this for you. We usually use your first name for user and password. Log in as administrator ONLY to install software, perform updates to software, change system settings, etc. and then log off and login under your name to use the Groove Machine™.

- All CDs that came with the components of your Groove Machine™:
 - Windows XP Pro Restore CD (can be used to restore a Windows file or the entire system if required)
 - CD's related to the motherboard, BIOS, RAID drivers, audio drivers, audio cards, video cards, etc.
- Any additional software that may have come with your system.

Performance Guidelines

In order to ensure maximum performance of your Groove Machine™, we recommend the following:

1. Check our online store frequently for any information or upgrades (hard drives, memory, processor upgrades, drive trays, audio cards, etc.) for your Groove Machine™. We are always on the lookout for new technological breakthroughs and advances to enhance the performance and extend the life of your Groove Machine™.

We are always open on the web at <http://www.dawstore.com>

2. Only store audio and video files on your Audio Drives (usually named Audio1, Audio2, etc.). These drives are optimized for large files (300K and larger). Storing small files (word documents, e-mail, pictures, etc.) will only waste space that could be used for audio and lead to more fragmentation and reduced performance.
3. For optimum performance, Defragment your audio drives as often as possible with the Windows XP Pro Defragmenter tool. You can find it by clicking START>MY COMPUTER>Right-click the Drive you want to Defrag>Properties>Tools>Defragment Now>Analyze.

If the machine recommends you defragment the drive/volume, do it when you will not need to access the drive for 5-15 minutes depending upon

defragmentation status and size of drive/files on the drive.

Hint: The best time to Defrag a volume is just after you've deleted files following a session backup to another medium or file cleanup.

Hint # 2: Defrag weekly, make it part of your backup routine. Waiting to defragment your drive may require you to delete, move, or backup data from the hard drive/volume before the defrag utility will be able to reorganize the drive or will lead to LONG defrag times.

4. Keep Drive/Volume utilization below 75% if possible. This is very important for audio files due to their large size. This will also decrease the rate at which drives will become fragmented and reduce defragment times. You are better off to have 2 drives at 50% utilization than one at 80% and the other at 20%.
5. Dedicate the Groove Machine™ to audio/video production ONLY if possible. Use another PC to connect to the Internet for e-mail, web browsing, office documents, instant messaging, etc. This will virtually eliminate the potential for many problems including viruses, spy-software, Trojan horses, etc. that may negatively affect the performance and stability of your Groove Machine™.
6. Backup your audio data on a regular basis. All Groove Machine™ PCs are designed to make this very easy for you (removable drive bays, Firewire and USB ports, optical drives (CD and DVD), so take advantage of it. Direct Drive to Drive copies are the fastest and best way to backup your data. If you need additional drives or drive trays, we always stock them and they are guaranteed to work with your Groove Machine™.
7. Install only the software that is needed for audio/video production on the Groove Machine™. Our PCs are fast (I'm sure it's tempting to do everything on your Groove Machine™), but they are designed and optimized for audio/video production, not doing office related tasks. Avoid installing software that will run in the system tray at all times in the background (virus checkers, software firewalls, Real Audio, Norton System Doctor, etc.) as these rob your machine of precious CPU cycles and can reduce track count capability.
8. Download required software updates on a separate PC that includes up-to-date virus scanning software, burn them to a cd, and install them on your Groove Machine™ from that cd. This serves two purposes: 1.) it keeps your Groove Machine™ off of the Internet, and 2.) it provides an offline backup of critical updates should you have to reinstall Windows XP or Production Applications.

Note: Many of the frequent updates from Microsoft are patches for security holes in Windows XP or Internet Explorer. If you don't go out to the Internet on the Groove Machine™, you most likely do not need to apply these patches, and if applied, may adversely affect performance of Groove Machine™.

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If Microsoft releases critical patches or ones that have shown to improve performance of your Groove Machine™, we will notify you via e-mail.

9. If you must connect the Groove Machine™ to the Internet, be sure to install the following BEFOREHAND (most are available free of charge or for very low cost):
 - Up-to-date virus checking software (Symantec, McAfee, etc.)
 - A software firewall (Norton, Zone Alarm are recommended)
 - Spy software such as Ad-Aware or Spy-Bot.
 - A hardware firewall (such as a Linksys Router) for Ethernet-based connections or broadband Internet connections that are always on. This will make your Groove Machine™ and other computers on your network invisible to hackers that are scanning for vulnerable computers.

After disconnecting from the Internet, disconnect the Ethernet cable and close any software firewalls and virus checkers before running audio/video applications to ensure maximum performance.

10. Check the DAWSTORE.com support page occasionally at www.digital-groove.com/gm/support for updates to this information.

Once again, "Thank You" for your purchase and we are confident if you follow these guidelines you will enjoy years of solid performance from your Groove Machine™.

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Safety Instructions:

Please note the following before removing the cover of the Groove Machine. Failing to do so could void your warranty and/or cause you serious harm. If you are not sure of what you are doing, contact us or a computer professional before doing anything. One false move could prove to be very dangerous or costly, or both.

1. Always disconnect the power cable connected to the power supply before removing the cover or touching ANY internal component of the Groove Machine™.
2. Wait 15 seconds after removing the power cable before touching anything.
3. Always ground yourself by touching a grounded metal object to dispel static electricity before touching the Groove Machine™. Use of a static band is recommended.
4. Never force components into place or apply force to an attached component.
5. Never open DVD/CD Optical Drives (Burners) as this can expose you to dangerous laser beams.

Warranty Statement:

Digital Groove Productions warrants the Groove Machine™ to the original purchaser to be free from defects in materials and workmanship, under normal conditions of use, for a period of 1-year from the date of purchase. Some components of the system are warranted by the manufacturer for longer than the warranty period offered from Digital Groove Productions. It is the customer's responsibility to contact the manufacturer of the defective part after the 1-year warranty has expired.

All Groove Machine™ are tested to performing to rigorous standards when delivered. If you feel your Groove Machine™ is encountering a problem, the following steps have proven to be the most efficient method for resolution:

1. Consult the Groove Machine™ manual and the various software/hardware manuals of added components and/or web sites to ensure that the fault is not due to user error.
2. Log onto the Groove Machine™ Support website <http://www.digital-groove.com/gm/support.asp> to check for the latest updates
3. Back up all your work and run the Groove Machine™ Restore CD (if supplied) to restore your system to its original configuration.
4. Contact our technical support department by email (support@digital-groove.com) with a full description of the problem and we will attempt to resolve the issue in the quickest and easiest manner for you. Be sure to include your Groove Machine™ serial number (located inside the locking door on the on rack mounts and the back on tower units).
5. Our engineers will validate your Groove Machine™ and then go through a series of steps including the ability to securely connect to your Groove Machine™. This will result in either correction of the error or a diaanosis of the failina component and

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further instructions being given.

If the product needs to be returned, you will receive an RMA # from your support representative.

- Package the product in its original shipment box.
- Send the package PREPAID and Insured - Digital Groove Productions is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged goods in transit for return purposes - to:
 - Digital Groove Productions Returns
5392 Conifer Dr.
Mason, OH 45040
- Please write the RMA# on the outside of the package.

Warranty Details

Digital Groove Productions warrants to the original purchaser that any part of the hardware system excluding software, documentation and similar items will be free of defects in workmanship and materials for the period of your warranty from the date of purchase. During the warranty period, Digital Groove Productions agrees, at our option during the warranty period, to repair any defect in material or workmanship or to furnish an equal product in exchange without charges, subject to verification of the defect or malfunction and proof of the date of purchase. Digital Groove Productions will contact you once the item is received and a determination of the faulty component has been made. The remedy for this breach of warranty is limited to replacement or repair with parts warranted for the remainder of the warranty period. Any additional purchases or upgrades will not extend this warranty.

Limited Liability Statement

Digital Groove Productions shall, under no circumstances, be liable for any other damages, including but not limited to special, incidental, consequential and other similar claims whether based upon breach of contract, breach of warranty, negligence, absolute or strict liability, or any other similar theories. Damages excluded include but are not limited to: loss of profit, loss of revenue, loss of use of the hardware system, loss of use of related equipment, cost of substitute or replacement equipment, "downtime", purchaser's time, injury to property, and all claims of third parties.

Digital Groove Productions will not be responsible for consequential damage to any components installed by the owner or the system or any of its components caused by either internal or external equipment, shorted connections or components not installed by or purchased from Digital Groove Productions or DAWSTORE.com. Digital Groove Productions will also not be responsible for damages to any components or loss of any data inadvertently caused by products, under normal or abnormal use,

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purchased from Digital Groove Productions or DAWSTORE.com. The limited warranty also does not cover damages or defects that may have been caused by: Shipping damage (other than the original shipment), improper installation or maintenance, misuse, neglect or improper environment, repair, modification, adjustment, or installation of options or parts not by an Digital Groove Productions or DAWSTORE.com employee, inadequate or excessive electrical power surges, or other power irregularities. Digital Groove Productions or DAWSTORE.com will also not replace, repair, or refund on any purchase if the item serial numbers do not match, or if the product is not sold directly by Digital Groove Productions or DAWSTORE.com.