

Sequential Pro-One - modifications and upgrades (part 2)

Following [part 1](#) of our trilogy (covering the idea of a pitch bend / mod wheel CV output modification), part 2 and part 3 deal with more general Pro-One upgrades. These include a new keyboard, new knob caps, an expanded CPU and MIDI upgrades that are currently available on the market and that are offered by a wide variety of manufacturers.



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Let's start at the beginning. As so often with vintage synthesizers, the Pro-One keyboard is a certain weak point. Its construction is relatively primitive (which, admittedly, also has its advantages in terms of service) and houses a "loud mechanism". Rattlings noises, double / multi trigger effects and other contact problems are not uncommon.

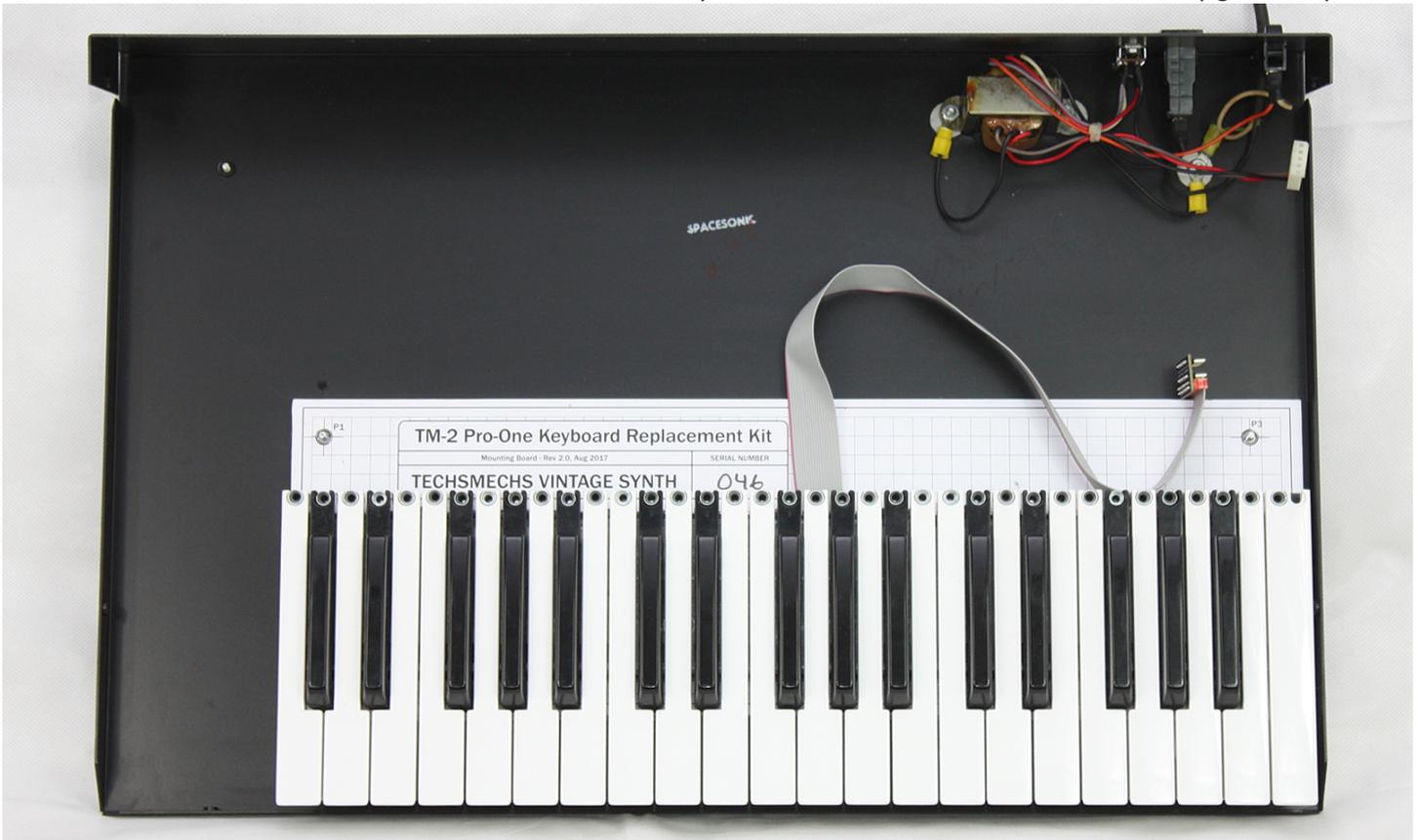
The Sequential Pro-One is not completely free of this. Its Pratt-Read keyboard (early models: J-Wire, later models: membrane switches) is of sufficient quality that it can be used for many decades (occasional maintenance work provided). *But*, modern keyboardists are used to a significantly different level of quality in terms of playing comfort.



Techsmechs TM-2 Pro-One Keyboard Replacement Kit: wooden plate, screws, keybed with ribbon cable and adapter.

The Swedish company [Techsmechs](#) hits the nail right on the head by offering a [TM-2 Pro-One Keyboard Replacement Kit](#), which comes together with a wooden base plate (assuring that the installation height is correct and the new keyboard matches the original base holes), a set of screws and the 3-octave keyboard itself (which is Fatar, we guess). The keyboard is soft to play and works perfectly - goodbye contact problems!

A small adapter is attached to the ribbon cable of the new keyboard, which allows for a simple replacement procedure. Just unplug the old Pratt-Read keyboard and plug in the new TM-2 keyboard. Depending on your Pro-One model, however, you should specify the appropriate keyboard type (J-Wire, membrane switches) when ordering, since the small adapter in question differs accordingly.



Techmechs TM-2 Pro-One Keyboard Replacement Kit: quick and easy installation.



As said, keyboard replacement is quick and easy. A screwdriver is all you need. And when the new TM-2 keyboard is installed, the Pro-One appears unchanged and therefore original – now with a reliable (easy-to-play, not rickety) keyboard.

Small note on the side: If your Pro-One has a SynthWood housing (as seen in [part 1](#) of our trilogy) a TM-2 keyboard can *not* be installed. The SynthWood case, being closer to the keyboard than the original Sequential plastic case, is two centimeters too narrow for a TM-2 keyboard installation.



Techsmechs TM-2 Pro-One Keyboard Replacement Kit.



Let's stay with [Techsmechs](#). The supplier's portfolio also includes metal caps (knob caps) for the Sequential Pro-One. These were not intended for the original instrument (which was a *cheap* synthesizer) but were provided for the top models [Prophet-5](#) and Prophet-10.

Nevertheless, a Pro-One with shiny metal caps looks much (!) better than the original version with its pure plastic-look. This TM-1 knob cap upgrade - definitely not expensive! - instantly improves the look of your Sequential Pro-One synthesizer.



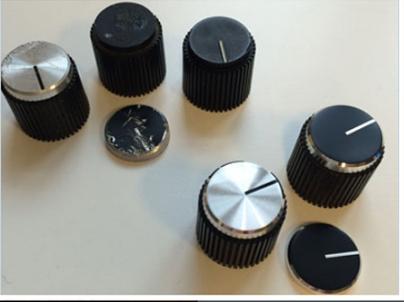
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However, when putting the caps on, ensure that the cap and its marker are pressed on at the *exactly* right place. Having the "0" position somewhere between 0 and 1 (or even in the minus range) would be annoying, of course.

In the end, loosening an incorrectly placed metal cap for optical purposes may - or may not - turn out to be a difficult task. Some caps sit extremely tightly on top of the knob and may be bent unintentionally when loosened again. So try getting this right the first time around.

TM-1: PROPHET KNOB CAPS

FOR PROPHET-5,
PROPHET-10,
PROPHET-600 &
PRO-ONE



52 EUR (EU) - 52 USD (rest of the world)

Cap Kit

of the world)

Ordering Info

These brand new knob caps fit most of the vintage Sequential Circuits gear: Prophet-5, Prophet-10, Prophet-600 and Pro-One.

These synths all used the same plastic knob, the only difference being that the more expensive models (Prophet-5/10) also sported aluminum caps on top. These caps are what I'm offering here.

Replace your scratchy Prophet-5/10 set or pimp your Pro-One/Prophet-600 knobs!



TM-1 Prophet-600 Knob Cap Kit

Var #250: All Black - closest to original look
Var #232: 23 Black, 2 Silver - Prophet-5 style

50 EUR (EU) - 50 USD (rest of the world)

Ordering Info



TM-1 Pro-One Knob Cap Kit

Var #280: All Black - closest to original look
Var #262: 26 Black, 2 Silver - Prophet-5 style

56 EUR (EU) - 56 USD (rest of the world)

Ordering Info

<https://techmechsvintagesynth.com>

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Techmechs offers this [Knob Caps Package \(called TM-1\)](#) for various Sequential synthesizers: [Prophet-5](#), [Prophet-10](#), [Prophet-600](#) and ... [Pro-One](#). There are two types of packages to choose from: sets with black caps *only*, or sets with black caps and *two* silver caps (Pro-One: filter / volume, Prophet-5: master tune / volume) or *three* silver caps (Prophet 10: Master Volume / Balance / Master Tune).

Once the Pro-One knobs shine metallic, you probably will want the silver badges (“Sequential Circuits” and “Pro-One”) to be of the same “shining” quality. Often scratched or bent, many Pro-One models are – after many decades of use – by no means a feast for modern eyes. However, there are new badges available ... e.g. from eBay member analog_u.s.

The screenshot shows an eBay product listing for 'Sequential Circuits Pro-One *badges*'. The page layout includes the eBay logo and navigation menu at the top, a search bar, and breadcrumb navigation. The main product image area is mostly blank, with a large blue and white graphic that reads 'SEQUENTIAL CIRCUITS Pro-One'. To the right of the image, the product title and details are displayed: 'Sequential Circuits Pro-One *badges*', 'Artikelzustand: Neu', 'Anzahl: 1', and '2 verfügbar 2 verkauft'. The price is listed as 'US \$39,99' (approx. EUR 36,38). Below the price are buttons for 'Sofort-Kaufen', 'In den Warenkorb', and 'Auf die Beobachtungsliste'. A seller information box on the right shows 'Angaben zum Verkäufer analog_u.s (839)' with a 100% positive rating. Shipping and delivery details are provided at the bottom, including a shipping cost of US \$14,94 and a delivery window from July 7th to September 3rd. Payment options like PayPal, SoPA, and credit cards are also listed.

Pro-One „badges“ available from eBay member analog_u.s. - photo (c) eBay 2020

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Now that pots and plaques have been offered to the fountain of youth, the wooden side panels could also stand replacement. Admittedly, the original wood is very hard and probably still looks respectable, even after almost 40 years of use. However, those Pro-One side panels are plain and solid, but nothing else.

New side panels, on the other hand, may also be simple wooden elements, but the neatly arranged (now precious) wood improves the overall appearance of the instrument. As with the silver “badges”, you’re likely to find new wooden side panels (Walnut) in the shop of eBay member analog_u.s.

The screenshot shows an eBay product listing for 'Sequential Circuits Pro-One - wood sides (walnut) - new'. The page includes the eBay logo, a search bar, and navigation links. The main image shows two vertical wooden side panels with a natural walnut grain. Below the image is a zoom-in feature. The listing details include the price 'US \$99,99' (approx. EUR 90,96), a 'Sofort-Kaufen' (Buy It Now) button, and an 'In den Warenkorb' (Add to Cart) button. Shipping information states 'Keine zusätzlichen Gebühren bei Lieferung!' (No additional charges on delivery!) and 'Versand: US \$59,18 (ca. EUR 53,84) International Priority Shipping nach Österreich'. Delivery is expected between Friday, June 5th and Monday, June 15th. Payment options include PayPal and SEPA credit cards.

Pro-One wooden side panels (walnut) from eBay member analog_u.s. - photo (c) eBay 2020

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Speaking of side panels, we should also mention [GMUSynth Woodworks](#). As with SynthWood, it is not entirely clear whether the company is still active or not (the “In Stock” area is completely empty, which is generally not a good sign). In any case, contacting GMUSynth should make things clearer. The website also mentions “custom orders”, so ... give it a try.

GMUSynth Woodworks impresses with wooden panels of extremely high quality for a variety of instruments (from Arturia DrumBrute to Sequential Pro-One). These are meticulous wooden imitations of the original plastic / wooden parts. As can be seen from the example of a [Moog Phatty](#), there is a lot of detail in these panels. They are not just wooden side panels, but wooden side panels for *exactly* this (or that) instrument.

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Moog Rogue / MG1 Wood Side Panels — \$ 75



Roland Boutique Synth Wood Panels — \$ 30



Roland Juno 106 Wood Panels — \$ 90



Roland Juno 6 - Juno 60 Wood Panels and Cases — \$ 145



Sequential Drumtraks Wood Panels — \$ 50



Sequential Pro-One Wood Panels — \$ 85

www.gmusynth.com

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Part 3 of the upgrade trilogy will deal with wooden side panels available in Europe, with the possibility of a new CPU (sequencer with 256 steps and non-volatile memory), with various MIDI retrofits, and with a sort of stabilization of the The Pro-One pots and rear sockets ...

Sequential Pro-One - modifications and upgrades (part 2)

Keyboard Upgrade

Knob Caps Upgrade

Name Plates Upgrade

Wooden Side Panels Upgrade

Links:

[Sequential Pro-One - modifications and upgrades \(part 1\)](#)

[Sequential Pro-One - modifications and upgrades \(part 2\)](#)

[Sequential Pro-One - modifications and upgrades \(part 3\)](#)

Review:

[Sequential Pro-One - best vintage monophonic?](#)