

Doepfer — A-140

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[Doepfer A-140 ADSR Manual \(PDF\)](#)

Doepfer A-140 ADSR Cheat Sheet

The **Doepfer A-140 ADSR** is a classic envelope generator for the Eurorack modular system. It outputs a voltage envelope shaped by Attack, Decay, Sustain, and Release (ADSR) stages, and is a modulation source for VCAs, VCFs, VCOs, and more.

Quick Operation

1. **Connect a Gate** (from sequencer, keyboard, LFO, etc.) to the **Gate** (!) input or use internal INT.GATE.
 2. **Set A, D, S, R** knobs to your desired envelope shape.
 3. **Patch Output** (§ or \$) to the destination to modulate (VCA, VCF, etc.).
 4. (Optional) Use **Retrig** (") to re-trigger the envelope while the gate is high (great with LFOs/clocks).
 5. **Select envelope time range** (H, M, L) with the 3-way switch.
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Panel Control Reference

#	Control/ Input	Type	Description	Range / Details
1	A (Attack)	Knob	Sets the attack time	0~10; ms to minutes (L-H range)
2	D (Decay)	Knob	Sets the decay time	0~10; ms to minutes (L-H range)
3	S (Sustain)	Knob	Sets the sustain level (hold voltage)	0~10; 0V to max (approx. +8V)
4	R (Release)	Knob	Sets the release time	0~10; ms to minutes (L-H range)
5	ADSR Control	LED	Visual indicator of envelope activity	-
6	Time Range	3-way Switch	Sets overall envelope time scale	H (hours), M (mid), L (<100 μ s)

Inputs & Outputs

Symbol	Jack Name	Type	Description	Typical Range
!	Gate	Input	Starts envelope on rising edge	Threshold: +0.8V / > 2V
"	Retrig	Input	Retriggers attack while gate is high	>+2V pulse recommended

Symbol	Jack Name	Type	Description	Typical Range
§, \$	Output	Output	Normal (positive) envelope voltage	0V (rest) to +8V typ, up to +12V
%	Inverse Output	Output	Inverted envelope voltage	0V (rest) to -8V typ

Each output simultaneously provides the same envelope. Both outputs (§, \$) are available for patch flexibility.

Voltage Ranges

- **Envelope Out/Inverted Out:**
 - Normal: 0V (rest) up to approx. +8V (max, up to +12V)
 - Inverse: 0V (rest) down to approx. -8V (min)
 - **Gate/Trig Inputs:**
 - Triggered at +0.8V ("gate on" >+2V safe)
 - Retrigger: >+2V pulse recommended
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User Examples

- **ADSR → VCA:** Volume envelope for dynamic articulation.
 - **ADSR → VCF:** Moving filter envelope for sweeps.
 - **ADSR → VCO PWM:** Modulates pulse width, giving timbral movement.
 - **ADSR → VCO Pitch:** Creates pitch swoops/attack transient effects.
 - **ADSR → Effects (Phase, LFO freq):** Modulates FX or LFO for evolving patches.
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Patch Notes

- Gate input is normalled to INT.GATE (from system bus/keyboard) unless a cable is inserted.
- Retrig re-triggers attack phase on each pulse received, while gate is high.
- Use the three time ranges to fit applications from percussive plucks (L), standard synth envelopes (M), to very slow pads (H).
- Inverse output can be used for complementary modulation.

Reference: [Doepfer A-140 ADSR Manual \(PDF\)](#)

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