

Tiptop Audio – SD808

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Tiptop Audio SD808 Eurorack Module

(Roland TR-808 Snare Clone)

Quick Start

1. Patch a gate trigger into **GATE IN**.
2. Patch **SD OUT** to your mixer/audio interface.
3. Set **LEVEL** to halfway to begin.
4. Tweak **TONE**, **SNAPPY**, **ACCENT** for desired snare timbre and dynamics.

Panel Reference

Control	Type	Function	Voltage Range
LEVEL	Knob	Sets output gain (hot output enables overdrive/distortion).	-
TONE	Knob		-

Control	Type	Function	Voltage Range
		Crossfades between 2 sine waves: CCW = low, CW = high, center = both mixed.	
SNAPPY	Knob	Controls white noise amount/envelope (crack/brightness of snare).	-
ACCENT	Knob	Manual accent amount for snare hit; increases volume, noise amount, and attack.	-
ACCENT IN	Gate jack	Separate accent input. Gate/trigger here overrides default normalization (see below). Increases snare intensity when high.	5V/12V gate
GATE IN	Gate jack	Main trigger input. Fires snare sound. Auto-normalizes to ACCENT IN for single cable "maximum" snare punch.	5V/12V gate
SD OUT	Audio out	Snare drum audio output. Very hot – up to 20Vp-p (watch your input staging!).	up to 20Vp-p
Noise Trim	Trimmer	Sets internal white noise gain (side of module), for character tweaks.	-

Input/Output Summary

Inputs

- **GATE IN:** Gate or trigger, 5V or 12V. Triggers the snare.
- **ACCENT IN:** Gate/trigger, 5V or 12V. Boosts attack and output level. If unused, GATE IN is normalized to ACCENT IN (max punch).

Outputs

- **SD OUT:** Snare audio output, up to 20V peak-to-peak.

Voltage Levels

- **Input Trigger/Gate:** 5V–12V (Eurorack standard)
- **Output Audio:** Up to **20Vp-p** – much hotter than typical Eurorack line levels (be careful patching to line-level gear).

Knob & Trimmer Cheat Sheet

- **LEVEL:** Adjusts output loudness and drive (higher = hotter, more overdriven/distorted).
- **TONE:** CCW = Low sine; CW = High sine; between = both. Sets snare body color.
- **SNAPPY:** Amount/envelope of white noise. Low = dry/tonal snare; high = crispy/bright/snappy snare.
- **ACCENT:** Manual amount of hit "hardness."
- **Noise Trim (side panel):** Tweak internal noise generator (factory calibrated, but user-adjustable).

Usage Tips

- For classic soft 808 sound: LEVEL 0–50%, ACCENT low/mid, SNAPPY low-mid.
- For aggressive overdriven snare: LEVEL max, ACCENT max, SNAPPY at noon.
- Trigger **ACCENT IN** separately with rhythmic triggers for dynamic snare variation.
- Internal circuit is an authentic TR-808 clone – adding modular effects (filters, VCA, waveshapers, etc.) massively expands sound.

Quick Patch Ideas

- Patch multiple drum modules into a VCA or ring mod for amplitude modulation.
- Run the snare through filters or wavefolders for new textures.
- Use hot SD OUT signal to smash guitar pedals or tape preamps for analog distortion.

Internal Normalization

- If **ACCENT IN** is NOT patched, GATE IN also triggers accent circuit for that signature "punch."
- Patch a gate to both for independent trigger/accent control.

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