

Toadstool Tech — Ectocore

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Creative Eurorack Patching Ideas with Ectocore

The Ectocore module is an inspiring sample player and FX processor, packed with intriguing controls like Grimoire, Break, and Amen, plus flexible clocking and CV support. Here are some creative patching strategies and module pairing recommendations to take your Ectocore explorations further!

1. Ectocore as a Glitch-Driven Drum Brain

How-To:

- Load breakbeat or percussive sample banks. - Use the **Amen** and **Break** knobs for generative beat slicing and randomized glitch fills. - Patch an **external trigger sequencer** (like Pamela's New Workout, Mutable Instruments Grids, or a simple clock divider/multiplier) into the **Clock In** for evolving rhythms synced to your system. - Mult the Trig Output to other drum modules for synced fill or accent triggers.

2. CV-Driven FX Morphing

How-To:

- Assign **LFOs**, **random CV** (like Make Noise Wogglebug, Intellijel

Tetrapad, or Mutable Instruments Marbles) to the Amen
Attenurandomizer or FX density (Break) to automate unpredictable
changes and textural evolutions. - Use the **Grimoire** under CV to morph
through FX combinations: try slow, slewed modulation for drone/shimmer
atmospheres and rapid random modulation for chaotic jamming.

3. Sequenced Sample and Bank Switching

How-To:

- Use a CV sequencer (like Malekko Voltage Block or Erica Synths Black Sequencer) to sweep through the **Sample** or **Bank** CV input. - Allows for phrase chaining, dynamic performance switching, or generative composition by automating sample/bank selection.

4. Tap Tempo Tricks with Modular Clocks

How-To:

- The **Tap tempo** also acts as a clock reset when external clock is patched. Send a reset pulse from a master clock module (e.g., Pam's, Arturia Keystep Pro, MIDI to CV interface) for song-structure transitions or to rein in wild generative patches.

5. DJ-Style FX Integration

How-To:

- Use the built-in **Volume+Drive and DJ Filter (LP/HP) FX** with slow, performative modulation from tactile controllers (like Make Noise Pressure Points or Erica Synths Matrix Mixer). - Process Ectocore's audio output with additional FX modules (eg: ALM MFX, Mutable Instruments Clouds, Strymon Magneto) for even deeper soundscaping.

6. Algorithmic Sample Remixing

How-To:

- Patch a probabilistic or logic module (like Mutable Branches, 2hp Logic, or a DIY OR/AND/NOT gate) to the **CV or Trig inputs**. Let generative CV/triggering mutate the performance. - Innovative results when combining with random rhythm sources, or for generative evolving backgrounds.

7. Live Performance Resampling

How-To:

- Mult Ectocore's output into a **looper/sample recorder module** (like 1010 Music Bitbox, or Squid Sample). - Build complex layers by resampling glitchy or mangled passages triggered by Ectocore FX or amen slices, then remix them live.

8. Sync, Divide, and Multiply

How-To:

- Chain clock outputs to other clock-based modules or sequencers for complex clock division polyrhythms and tempo-synced cross-module interactions. - Use clock mult/div to create everything from IDM micro-edits to slow ambient evolutions.

9. Visual Modulation Feedback

How-To:

- Monitor the onboard LED ring feedback with visual CV tools (like Mordax Data or O_C Hemisphere's CV recorder) to fine-tune and map FX changes to exact moments in your broader patch.

10. Experimental CV Feedback Loops

How-To:

- Set up feedback by sending CV from the Ectocore's outputs (Trig, Clock, etc.) back into control inputs of the module itself, or sample playback CV inputs, for generative, evolving, self-modifying patches.

Highly Compatible Modules (for reference and inspiration): - **Random/Chaos:** Mutable Instruments Marbles, Make Noise Wogglebug, SSF Ultra-Random Analog - **Sequencers:** Malekko Voltage Block, Intellijel Metropolis, Erica Synths Black Sequencer - **Logic/Trigger Utilities:** Mutable Branches, 2hp Div, 2hp Logic - **Clocks/Dividers:** Pamela's New Workout, 4ms QCD, ALM Busy Circuits Boss Bow Two - **CV/Attenuverters:** Happy Nerding 3x MIA, Befaco AB+C - *Performance FX:* ALM MFX, Make Noise Mimeophon, Strymon MagneTo - *Loopers/Samplers:** 1010 Music Bitbox, Squid Sample, Morphagene

Push your modular system deeper into generative, glitchy territories and beyond by creatively combining the Ectocore with your favorite modules!

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