

# Make Music With Me



**SUZUKI**  
CORPORATION

**OMNICHORD SYSTEM ONE  
OPERATION MANUAL  
MODEL OM-36**

# GUITAR ORGAN PIANO BASS DRUMS...ALL IN ONE!

The all new OMNICHORD SYSTEM ONE by Suzuki makes it possible for you to sound like a pro, even if you've never played before.

This electronic musiccomputer provides you with the ultimate combination of musical instruments in a lightweight, portable and dynamic sounding package never before available.

Advanced microtechnology allows you to program all the background chords, rhythms, bass and drums to your favorite songs without knowing one note from another. The new Omnichord System One can even be strummed like a guitar to add depth and expression to your music with the amazing SonicStrings strumplate.

Your pre-selected chord is electronically matched to the 4 octave strumplate so you can actually strum any song's correct chord progression - just like a guitar! All of Omnichord's functions can be used individually or in exciting combinations. There's no end to the music you can make!

This operation manual contains easy-to-follow, step-by-step explanations to all of your Omnichord System One functions. Read them carefully in order to fully utilize the potential of this exciting new instrument. In just a few minutes, you'll be playing GUITARORGANPIANO-BASSDRUMS all at the same time - Imagine the music!



## CONTROL POSITION & FUNCTION

### MASTER CONTROL

1. POWER - Main on/off switch
2. INDICATOR LIGHT - Main unit on/off indicator
3. VOLUME - Master control

### LEVEL/MODE SELECTION

4. CHORD HOLD - Holds chord until next chord is pressed
5. AUTO BASS CHORD/MANUAL CHORD - play chords (down), add walking bass (up)
6. SONICSTRINGS SUSTAIN - resonance or decay level
7. SONICSTRINGS VOLUME - level control
8. CHORD VOLUME - Individual organ volume level

### RHYTHM

9. DRUMS - Selection buttons for 10 different drum patterns
10. TEMPO - Drum & bass speed control
11. VOLUME - Individual drum volume level
12. CHORD BUTTONS - 36 softtouch chord buttons
13. SONICSTRINGS STRUMPLATE - 4 octave touch sensitive chord sequencer
14. SONICSTRINGS OCTAVE INDICATORS
15. INSTANT OFF - Touch anytime to stop all sound
16. OUTPUT - External sound system jack/headphone jack
17. DC12V - Optional A/C adapter jack
18. SPEAKER
19. TUNING ADJUSTMENT - Raise or lower Omnichord pitch to match accompanying instruments
20. SERIAL # PLATE
21. BATTERY DOOR

## CONTENTS

	Page
Control Position & Function	1
Precautions, Set-Up	2
<b>FUNCTIONS</b>	
Organ	3
Advanced Organ	4
Guitar (SonicStrings)	5
Guitar (Playing Techniques)	6
Combination Play	7
Bass	7
Drums	7
Demonstration Song	8
Accessories	9
Warranty Information	10

# PRECAUTIONS

## DOS AND DON'TS TO MAKE YOUR OMNICHORD LAST A LIFETIME!

Omnichord System One is a unique musical instrument that allows anyone to make music instantly. This is accomplished by the use of a microprocessor which translates your commands into the language of music. All solid state components have been used in the electronic section of your Omnichord which is protected by an unbreakable ABS plastic case. With a minimum of care, this product will provide years of dependable operation. Completely portable and always perfectly in tune, Omnichord goes anywhere the fun is. But no matter where you take Omnichord, always observe these important precautions:

### NO HEAT

Never leave your instrument near extreme heat or in the direct rays of the sunlight. Keep away from radiators, heaters or the back window ledge of your car.

### NO MOISTURE

Do not use your Omnichord near moisture or place liquids on top of, or near your instrument. If liquid is spilled inside the instrument, it will require extensive repairs.

### NO SOLVENTS

To clean the cabinet, buttons or touchplate, use a soft, damp cloth. Gently wipe the surface of fingerprints, dust or dirt. Do not use solvents such as benzine or any abrasive cleaners. They will permanently damage the finish.



## TURN YOUR OMNICHORD OFF

When not in use, turn your Omnichord off. This will not only prolong the battery life but reduce wear on all the electronic components.



## LONG STORAGE

When storing your Omnichord for long periods of time (30 days or more), it is advisable to remove the batteries entirely and store your Omnichord in a cool, dry place.

## USE ONLY SUZUKI POWER ADAPTERS

Your Omnichord is designed to operate with batteries (included) or use only the optional A/C or D/C adapters from Suzuki (models OCA-1 and OCD-12); see page 9. The use of any other power adapter can cause serious damage to the electronic components and void your warranty.



### DON'T OPEN YOUR OMNICHORD!

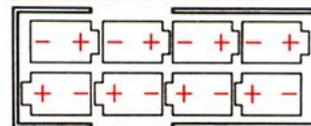
To avoid shock, never open the instrument. If service is needed, contact your Authorized Suzuki Musical Instrument Dealer for repair and parts. Opening the instrument will also void the warranty.

# SET-UP

After removing the instrument, batteries and instruction manual from the packing carton and shipping materials, store the box and shipping material for use at a later time. They make an ideal container if it becomes necessary to transport the instrument.

## BATTERY INSTALLATION

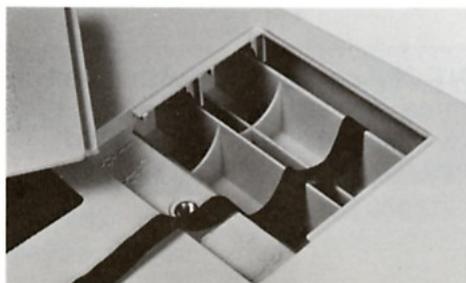
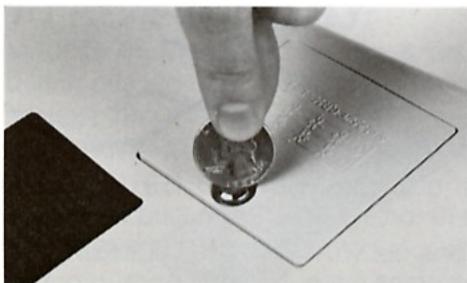
Your Omnichord comes complete with 8 batteries. (Size C, or SUM-2, or R-14) It is recommended that you use alkaline batteries, not zinc, to avoid battery leakage. Follow these simple instructions to correctly load the instrument with batteries:



**1** Turn the Omnichord over. Use a small screwdriver or coin to unscrew and remove the battery door:

**2** Next, to aid battery replacement, place strap across the battery compartment as shown:

**3** Insert the 8 included batteries using the diagram on the battery door and re-close the door. If there is no power, re-check to make sure you have correctly inserted the batteries, and replace the battery door.



Function:

# ORGAN ONE FINGER CHORD PLAY

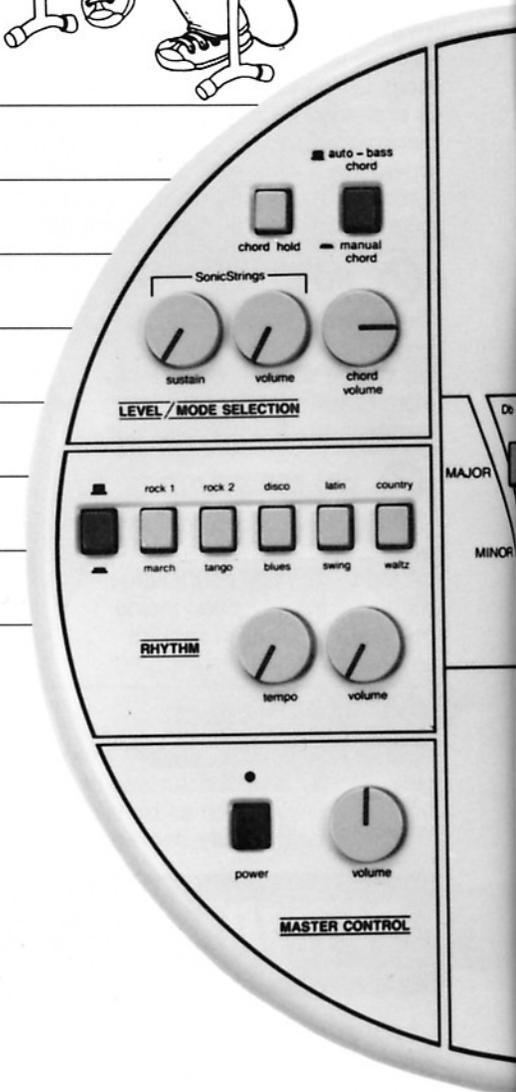
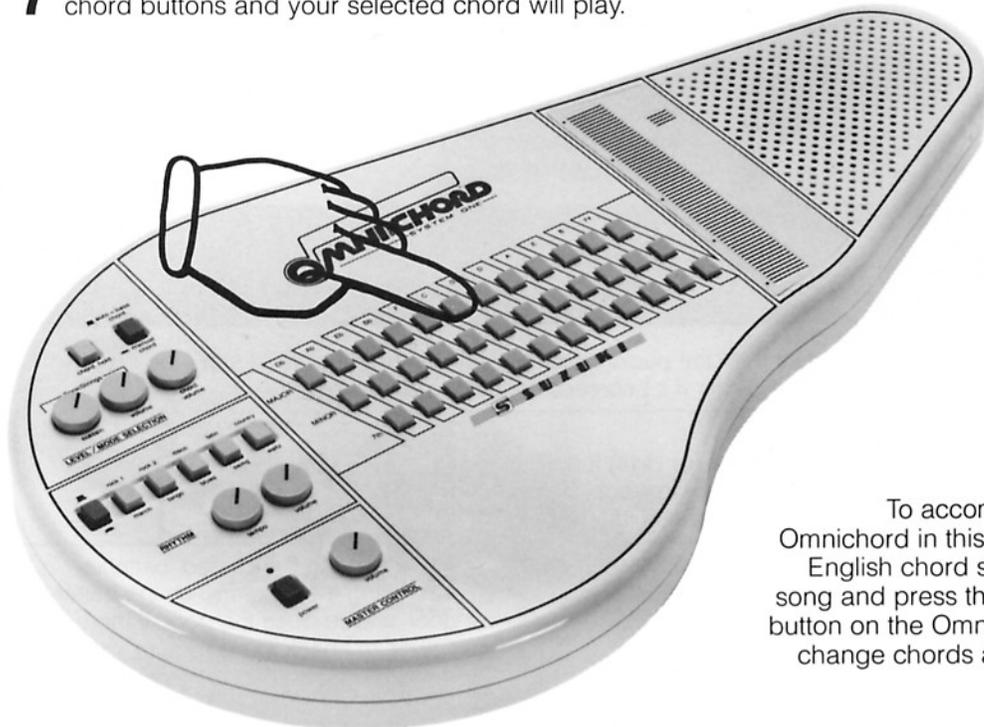


## MAJOR • MINOR • SEVENTH CHORDS

This section explains simple one finger chord play. By using only one finger, you can play major, minor or seventh chords in any key.

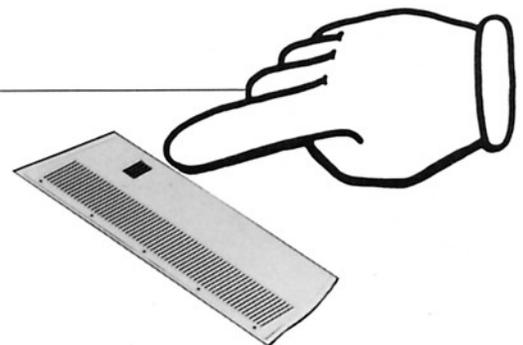
Begin by placing all the control buttons in the UP position. Now set-up the Omnichord by following these steps:

- 1 Depress the **POWER** button to turn on the instrument. The red indicator light will glow.
- 2 Depress **CHORD HOLD** button.
- 3 Depress **MANUAL CHORD/AUTO-BASS CHORD** button.
- 4 Set the **MASTER VOLUME** about 12 o'clock or as desired.
- 5 Set the **CHORD VOLUME** about 3 o'clock or as desired.
- 6 Set the **RHYTHM VOLUME** all the way to the left or off.
- 7 Using your left hand, depress any of the 36 softouch chord buttons and your selected chord will play.



To accompany yourself with the Omnichord in this mode, simply read the English chord symbols to your favorite song and press the corresponding chord button on the Omnichord. Sing along and change chords as the music continues.

- 8 Omnichord is equipped with an **INSTANT OFF** control. If you wish to stop the chord sound, touch the **INSTANT OFF** area. This feature becomes necessary during a pause or at the end of a song. It will immediately shut off the chord sound without having to turn off the instrument power. To reactivate the sound, simply push any chord button again.



# ORGAN ADVANCED MULTIPLE FINGER CHORD PLAY



## MAJOR SEVENTH • MINOR SEVENTH • AUGMENTED • DIMINISHED CHORDS

The chord section of the Omnichord System One is capable of playing more complex chord progressions, including Major 7th, Minor 7th, Augmented and Diminished chords. To play these chords, you will push two or three chord buttons simultaneously. The Omnichord controls are set up exactly the same as described on the previous page. Do not change the settings.

**1** To play a Major 7th chord, select a key. (Dd, Ab, Eb, Bb, F, C, G, D, A, E, B, or F#). Press the **MAJOR** and **7th** chord buttons together (top and bottom rows). This will produce a Major 7th chord. For example, if your music calls for a Bb Major 7th chord, you would press the chord buttons as shown here:

(Bb Maj 7)



**2** To play a Minor 7th chord, select a key. Press the **MINOR** and **7th** chord buttons together (middle and bottom rows). This will produce a Minor 7th chord. For example, if your music calls for an F# Minor 7th chord, you would press the chord buttons as shown here:

(F# Min 7)



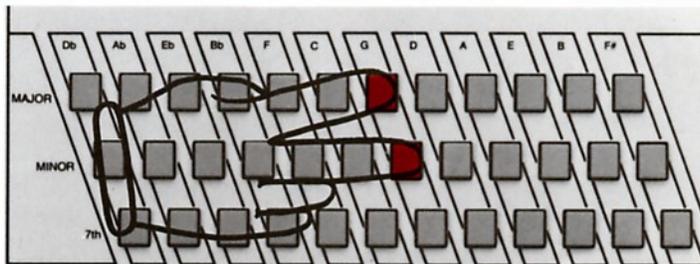
**3** To play an augmented chord, select a key. Press the **MAJOR**, **MINOR** and **7th** chord buttons together (top, middle and bottom rows). This will produce an augmented chord. For example, if your music calls for an A augmented chord, you would push the chord buttons as shown here:

(A aug)



**4** To play a diminished chord, select a key. Press the **MAJOR** and **MINOR** chord buttons together (top and middle rows). This will produce a diminished chord. For example, if your music calls for a G diminished chord, you would push the chord buttons as shown here:

(G dim)



### TO REVIEW BRIEFLY:

**MAJOR 7th CHORDS:** Any top & bottom row chord button pushed together in the same key.

**MINOR 7th CHORDS:** Any middle and bottom row chord button pushed together in the same key.

**AUGMENTED CHORDS:** Any top, middle and bottom row chord button pushed together in the same key.

**DIMINISHED CHORDS:** Any top and middle row chord button pushed together in the same key.

These chord combinations together with the one finger play chords will produce 84 different chord combinations so that you can accompany yourself to almost all of your favorite songs in the organ mode. Next, we will learn how to add the guitar, bass and drum patterns to your selected chords.

*Function:*

# GUITAR SONICSTRINGS STRUMPLATE

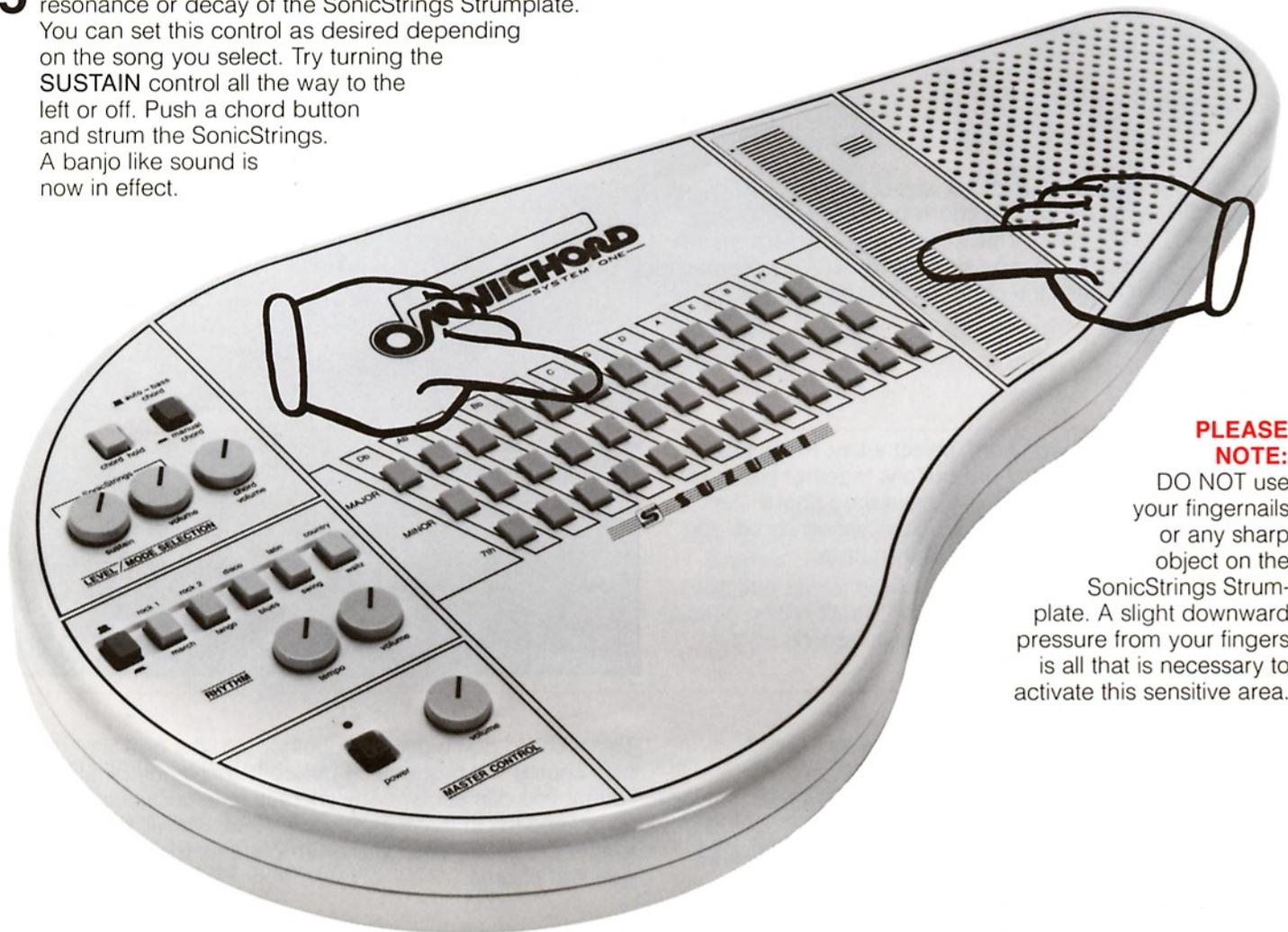


## SONICSTRINGS STRUMPLATE SET-UP AND PLAY

The Omnichord System One is equipped with a unique feature called a SonicStrings Strumplate. The SonicStrings are electronically charged and therefore respond instantly to the touch of your fingers. The SonicStrings let you actually strum four octaves of your pre-selected chord in perfect pitch without the use of any strings to tune or break! Now you can add depth and true musical expression to every song you play.

To play the Omnichord just like a guitar using the SonicStrings Strumplate, set all the controls as described in the Organ section. Now follow these simple steps:

- 1 Turn the **CHORD VOLUME** knob all the way to the left or off.
- 2 Set the **SONICSTRINGS VOLUME** to 3 o'clock or as desired.
- 3 Set the **SONICSTRINGS SUSTAIN** knob to about 3 o'clock or as desired.
- 4 Press any chord button with your left hand, then strum the SonicStrings Strumplate gently starting from bottom to top with your right finger or thumb.
- 5 The **SUSTAIN** control will produce various degrees of lasting resonance or decay of the SonicStrings Strumplate. You can set this control as desired depending on the song you select. Try turning the **SUSTAIN** control all the way to the left or off. Push a chord button and strum the SonicStrings. A banjo like sound is now in effect.



**PLEASE NOTE:**

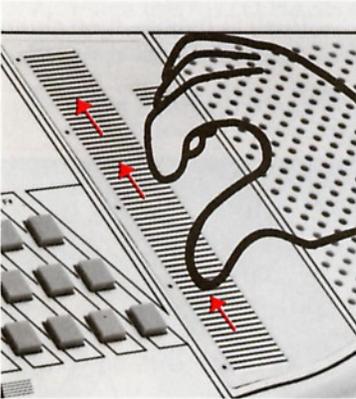
DO NOT use your fingernails or any sharp object on the SonicStrings Strumplate. A slight downward pressure from your fingers is all that is necessary to activate this sensitive area.



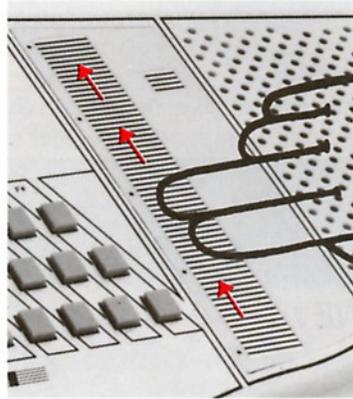
## PLAYING TECHNIQUES

The SonicStrings Strumplate is automatically set-up to play the correct chord progression of your pre-selected chord. But just like a guitar, there are many different ways to strum your chord. There is no correct way because you determine what method of play sounds best for each individual song. Here are some interesting effects to try:

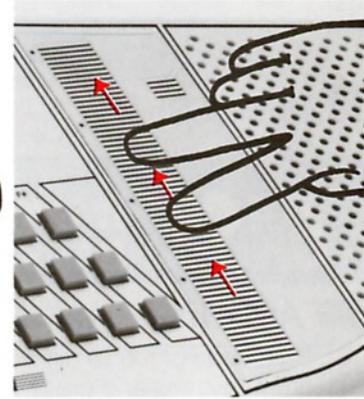
**1 SLIDE PLAY** – Set sustain to 3 o'clock and push a chord button. Then simply run your finger or thumb from the bottom of the strumplate all the way to the top. Now try the same slide but place two fingers on the strumplate at once. Now try three. The more surface area you cover with your fingers, the fuller the chord sound becomes. Of course, you can also strum from top to bottom.



THUMB STROKE

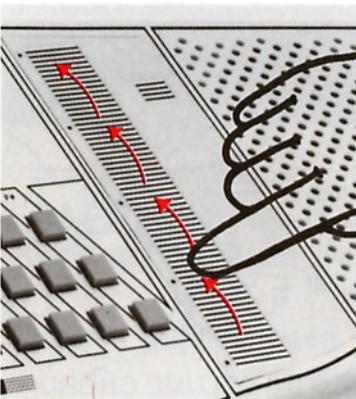


TWO FINGER SLIDE

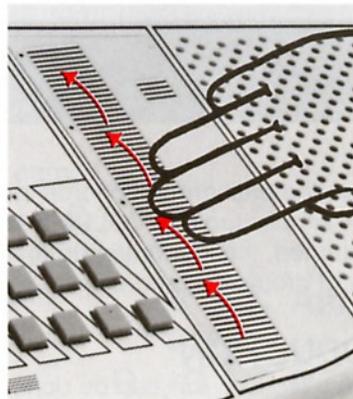


SPLIT FINGER SLIDE

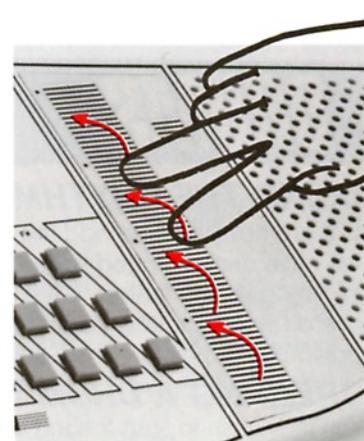
**2 TOUCH PLAY** – Using the ball of your finger, pat the strumplate in four to six places starting at the bottom. Now use two, three, even four fingers as shown here. Now you can hear each octave of the chord as you pat the strumplate.



TOUCH AT OCTAVE INDICATORS USING ONE FINGER ONLY



TOUCH AT OCTAVE INDICATORS USING THREE FINGERS



USING TWO FINGERS, DANCE UP THE STRUMPLATE

The SonicStrings Strumplate is one of the unique features that make your Omnichord System One so much fun to play. So experiment for yourself to find other playing possibilities. And most importantly, have a good time!

Function:

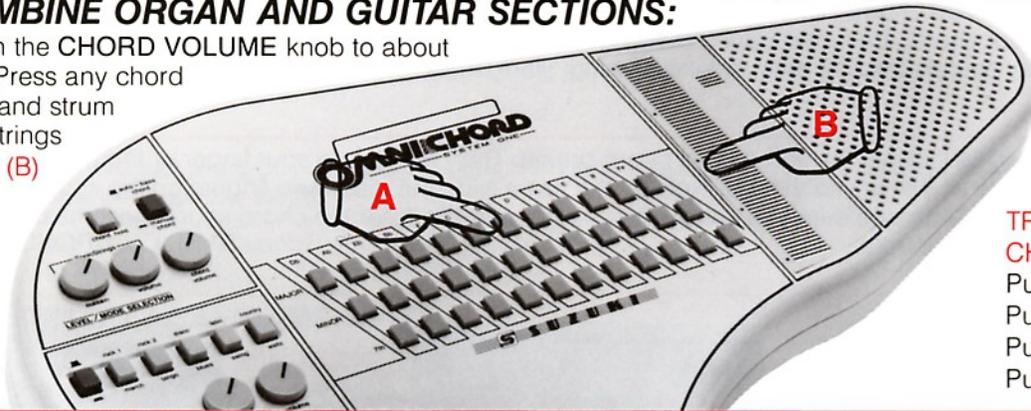
# COMBINATION PLAY

We have learned how to play the organ or chord section and the guitar section of the Omnichord individually. Now we'll combine the two for a rich, full background sound. Your settings should remain the same as described in the organ section.



## TO COMBINE ORGAN AND GUITAR SECTIONS:

Simply turn the **CHORD VOLUME** knob to about 3 o'clock. Press any chord button (A) and strum the SonicStrings Strumplate (B)



**TRY THIS CHORD PROGRESSION:**  
Push **C** Major – then strum  
Push **F** Major – then strum  
Push **G** major – then strum  
Push **C** major – then strum

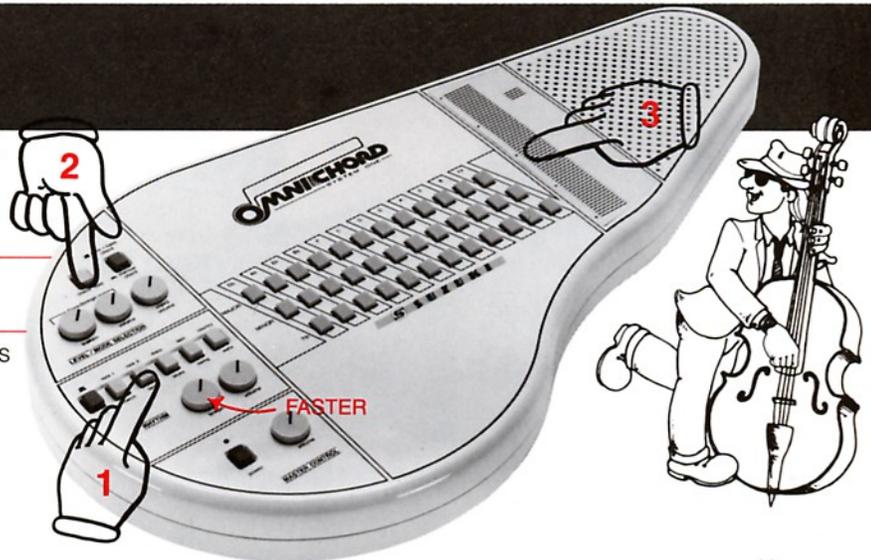
**REMEMBER:** Each section, organ and guitar has its own individual volume controls so you can emphasize either section as desired. Also, the SonicStrings has a sustain control. Try them all!

Function:

# BASS WALKING BASS LINE

## TO ADD THE WALKING BASS LINE:

- 1 Select one of the 10 different drum rhythms and press that button down.
- 2 Place the **AUTO-BASS CHORD** button in the up position.
- 3 Push a chord button and the walking bass line is automatically added to any chord you choose. Try all the different rhythms to alter the bass pattern. Turn the **TEMPO** knob to the right for a faster speed or to the left for a slower speed. Now strum the SonicStrings in time with the walking bass beat!



Function:

# DRUMS

## USING THE RHYTHM SECTION:

You are now ready to add the drums to complete the background chords, guitar and bass patterns we have demonstrated so far. To add the drums simply turn the **VOLUME** knob in the Rhythm section to the right. The farther to the right the knob is turned, the louder the drums will sound. Push any chord button and the completed chord, bass and drums accompaniment will play. Add the guitar portion by strumming the SonicStrings.



## CREATING A DRUM ONLY INTRODUCTION

You may wish to start a song with just a drum introduction. This can be done by simply turning off the **VOLUME CHORD** knob in the Level/Mode Selection area. Push any chord button, then turn this knob to the left. The SonicStrings Strumplate is still operational. When the song begins, turn the volume knob to the right to bring in the chords and walking bass sections.

## CREATING A CHORD AND DRUM INTRODUCTION

To start a song with only the chords and drums playing, simply put the auto bass chord button in the down position. Push any chord button. You will now hear only your selected chord and the drums. The SonicStrings Strumplate is operational. To bring in the walking bass line, simply depress the auto bass chord button.

# DEMONSTRATION SONG BEGINNING LEVEL

## A SONG COMBINING SIMPLE FUNCTIONS (USING 1 FINGER, MAJOR, MINOR AND SEVENTH CHORDS)

To play the following demonstration song, set up the Omnichord by following these simple steps:

1. Depress the **POWER** button in Master Control Section.
2. Set the **VOLUME** in the Master Control Section at 3 o'clock.
3. Set the **SONICSTRINGS VOLUME** at 12 o'clock.
4. Set the **SONICSTRINGS SUSTAIN** at 3 o'clock.
5. Set the **CHORD VOLUME** at 3 o'clock.
6. Depress the **BLUE** button and the **MARCH** button in the Rhythm section.
7. Place the **AUTO BASS CHORD** button in the **UP** position.
8. Depress **CHORD HOLD** button.
9. Set the **RHYTHM TEMPO** knob at about 3 o'clock. (Increase the speed as desired after you have played the song a few times.)
10. Set the **RHYTHM VOLUME** knob at 12 o'clock.

Now you are ready to begin the song. The first chord is "C". Push the C chord button in the major or top row. (The chord symbol for a major chord is not printed 'C MAJOR'. It is printed just 'C'. Anytime you see a chord without any further designation after it, you will play a Major chord.)

When you push the C chord button, all the background instruments will begin to play. Now sing the words to the song as you change chords and strum the SonicStrings Strumplate every time a new chord symbol is written. Every time you press another chord button, the bass pattern and SonicStrings will automatically be programmed to play your selected chord. When the song is over, push the **INSTANT OFF** area to stop all the sound.

### CLIMB EV'RY MOUNTAIN

(From "The SOUND OF MUSIC")  
Words by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II  
Music by RICHARD RODGERS

**C D7 G G Gm C7 F F**  
Climb ev'ry mountain, search high and low.

**Fm Fm C C Dm G7 C C**  
Follow ev'ry byway, ev'ry path you know.

**C D7 G G Gm C F F**  
Climb ev'ry mountain, ford ev're stream,

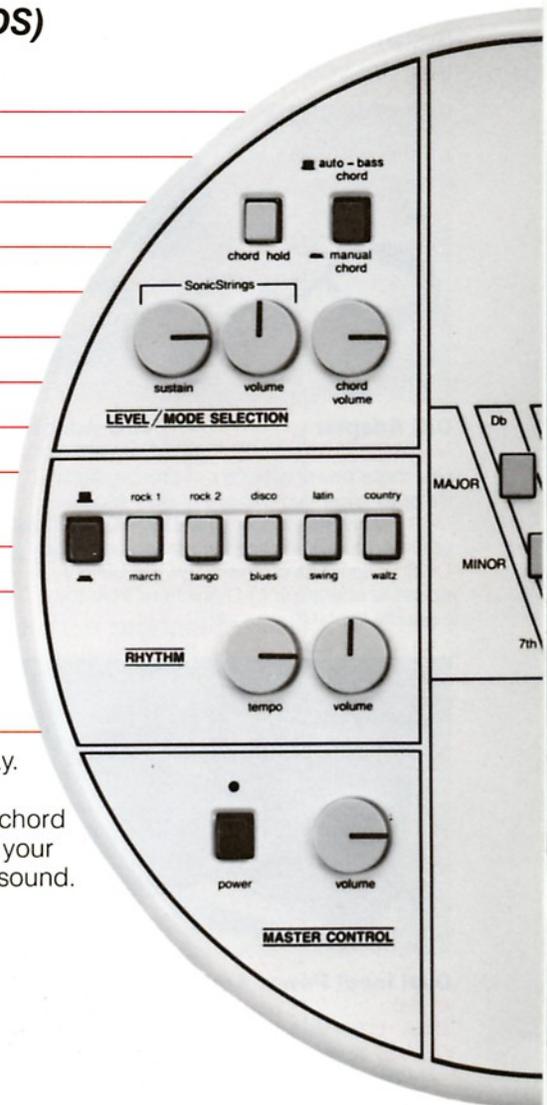
**Fm Fm C C Dm G7 C C7**  
Follow ev'ry rainbow, til you find your dream!

**F F Dm G7 C C Am D7**  
A dream that will need all the love you can give.

**G G Em A7 D D D7 D7**  
Ev'ry day of your life for as long as you live.

**C A7 D D Dm G7 C C**  
Climb ev'ry mountain, ford ev'ry stream.

**Am Am Dm DmC C F G7 C Dm C**  
Follow ev'ry rainbow till you find your dream!



# ACCESSORIES

## OPTIONAL PLAYING AND CONVENIENCE ACCESSORIES FOR YOUR OMNICHORD

The accessories listed below have been specially designed to enhance the enjoyment of your new Omnichord System One. Have you seen them yet? If not, your Authorized Suzuki Retailer will be happy to show and demonstrate them for you. Or Visa and Mastercard holders can order toll free. See below.



### D/C Adapter

Model: **OCD-12**

Use these power adapters to prolong battery life or for extended periods of play. Model **OCA-1** converts standard 110V home current to operate your Omnichord at home and Model **OCD-12** converts standard 12V car battery power to operate your Omnichord from the cigarette lighter in your car.

### A/C Adapter

Model: **OCA-1**



### Modular Carrying Case

Model: **OMC-2**

This beautiful carrying case is constructed of unbreakable plastic with enough storage for A/C adapter and batteries. Fully padded, it is the perfect transport or storage case.



### Vinyl Carrying Bag/Shoulder Strap

Model: **OVP-2**

For the musician on the go, this padded carrying bag is the ideal way to transport your Omnichord.



### Dual Input Power Amplifiers

Model:

**OMA-10** Ten Watt Amplifier/Speaker System

**OMA-20** Twenty Watt Amplifier/Speaker

System with Phase Effect

**OMM-2** Professional High Impedance Dynamic Microphone

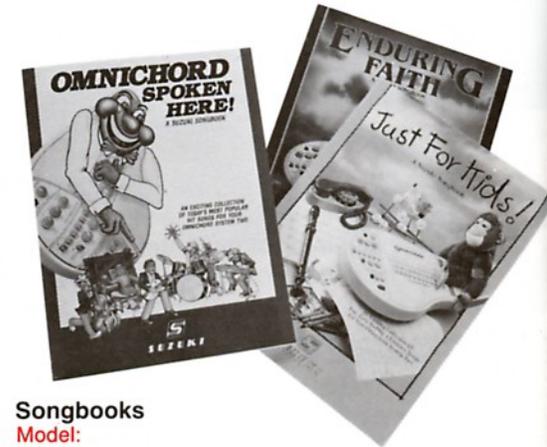
Turn your Omnichord into the center of attention at concert time. Both Omnichord amps produce rich and full sound quality. Plug two Omnichords and a microphone into either of these powerful amps for dual playing and singing performances.



### Headphones

Model: **SOP-20**

Practice or play in silence with these quality, stereo headphones. Just plug into Omnichord and all sound is transmitted through the headphones only.



### Songbooks

Model:

**JFK Just For Kids** (96 Pages)

A fun and exciting collection of childrens songs, this songbook contains complete chord notations, words and melody lines. Just For Kids is written for any playing level and it's a great way of introducing music to your children.

**EF Enduring Faith** (96 Pages)

A timeless assembly of inspirational, religious and gospel songs arranged and notated specifically for the Omnichord. Enduring Faith is written for any playing level and is a great addition to your Omnichord.

**OSH Omnichord Spoken Here** (200 Pages)

The ultimate Omnichord Songbook contains over 150 hit songs in every category! Includes words, chord notation and melody lines. A must for every aspiring Omnichord maestro! Written for any playing level—easy, intermediate & advanced.



### Concert Performance Stand

Model: **MPS-100**

Holds your Omnichord at just the right height and angle for practice or performance. Includes a music rack.

VISA & MASTERCARD HOLDERS

**ORDER TOLL FREE**  
**1-800-854-1594**

in California

**1-800-542-6252**

or write to

**Suzuki Corporation**

P.O. BOX 261030  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92126  
(619) 566-9710

# WARRANTY

## **THE SUZUKI LIMITED WARRANTY**

This product, except the exterior cosmetic parts, is warranted by the Suzuki Corporation to the original purchaser to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use, as follows:

1. For a period of 90 days from the date of purchase, the Suzuki Corporation will pay the labor charges to repair the defective product. After this 90 day period, you must pay all labor charges.
2. In addition, the Suzuki Corporation will supply, at no charge, new or rebuilt replacements for defective parts for a period of 1 year from the date of purchase.

In the event repairs are needed, the original purchaser will return the product to an Authorized Suzuki Retail Center **with proof of purchase**. The dealer will then repair the product or return to the Suzuki distribution center in San Diego, California for repairs. Upon completion of the repair, the unit will be returned to the dealer freight pre-paid. This warranty will not apply to this product if it has been misused, abused or altered. This warranty is void if the product is opened. Without limiting the foregoing, bending, dropping of unit, or visible cracks and/or scratches are presumed to be defects resulting from misuse or abuse.

Neither this warranty nor any other warranty expressed or implied, including implied warranties of merchantability, shall extend beyond the warranty period. No responsibility is assumed for any incidental or consequential damages.

**In the United States Contact:** Suzuki Corporation  
San Diego Distribution Center, P.O. Box 261030, San Diego, California 92126

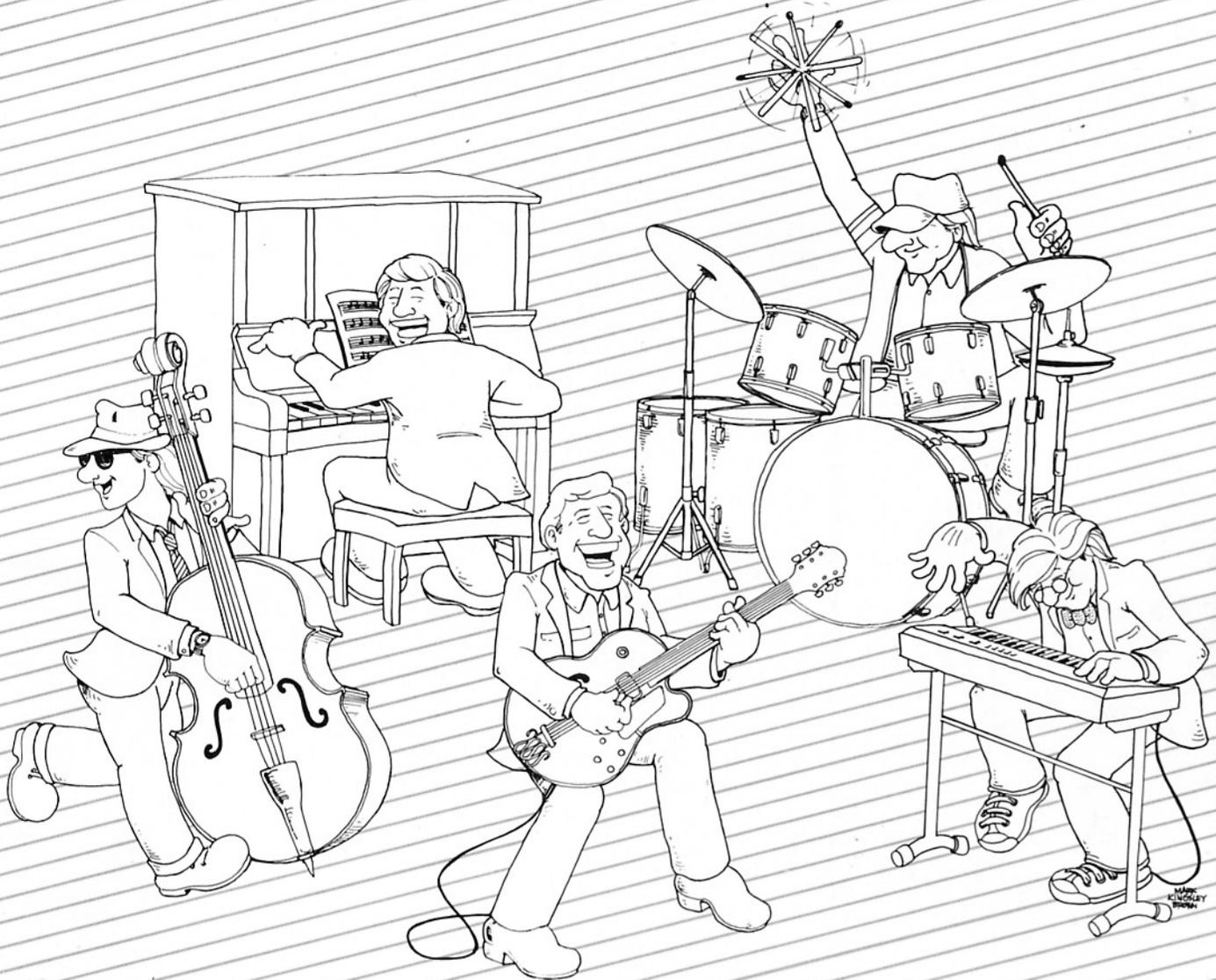
**All Other Countries Contact:** Original retailer where product was purchased for additional warranty details.



**SUZUKI**  
C O R P O R A T I O N

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CORPORATION

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