

MDREliminator



MDREliminator is a PC Windows based program that communicates with an Electone via USB Midi.

Essentially the program replicates the functionality of a Music Disk Recorder (MDR) plus many other Midi functions. Midi communications is via a USB to midi cable.

Files with an ".evt" extension are files used on the HX-1 and many other Electones. They contain the music data (scores) and were saved on a 3.5" floppy disk drive (FDD, DOS format) on a Music Disk Recorder. (I have read many times that an .evt file is not a Midi file – of course it is).

Files with a ".b00" extension are also files used on the HX-1 and many other Electones. They contain RAM (Random Access Memory) data containing the voices (sounds) sequences and rhythm pattern data (commonly known as Registrations or Regos). These could be saved on either the MDR FDD or on a separate RAM pack.

Normally to play a music file (.evt) the regos (.b00) file is download first to 'setup' the Electone with the pre required sounds.

The MDREliminator updates the obsolete MDRs and allows you to;

- copy your existing FFDs (.evt and .b00 files) directly to your computer
- Record music directly to your PC
- Record regos directly to your PC
- Playback music directly from your PC
- Playback Regos directly from your PC
- Playback Regos followed by the music from your PC.
- Record music from your MDR
- Rename your files with 'understandable' names
- Play .evt music to the PC internal midi wave device (will sound spectacularly 'ordinary').

Also (available on request);

- Convert .mid files to .evt.
- Transpose Midi channels.
- Percussion mapping of .mid files to HX percussion map.
- Midi channel 'push' function (maximum of four).

Requirements.

- 1 A PC or lap top running Windows (WinXp, Win7 32bit or Win7 64bit)
- 2 A USB to MIDI cable (approx \$20 on EBay).
- 3 An Electone equipped with Midi.

Other Formats.

MDREliminator is essentially a midi sequencer and like all other sequences the output is "raw midi". This means the output can be recorded by any midi capable recorder and converted to a different format (e.g. *.mid). It can also receive any "raw midi" data from other sequences (e.g. the MDR or PC midi player). Accordingly you can convert a .mid file to play on the Electone. However, the HX and similar Electones are limited to four (upper keyboard, lower keyboard, pedal and percussion) midi channels (there is also a control channel). - more on this latter.

Operating the MDREliminator.

Button Naming.

The outside (boarder aqua) buttons are named from the left hand side (LHS) or right hand side (RHS) starting from the top of the panel. i.e. the top LHS button is L1 (view through) and the RHS bottom button is R4 (Identity request).

Initial Set Up.

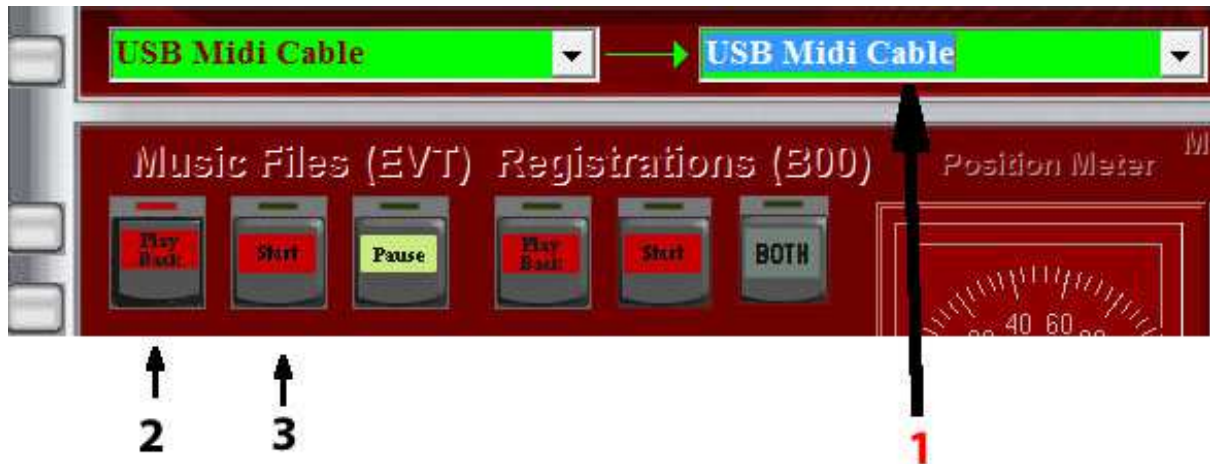
1. Start your PC and stop all none essential PC programs (e.g. internet, screen saver, FaceBook).
2. Connect the USB Midi cable to a USB port on your PC (Some Midi USB cables require manufacturer drivers to be installed before use).
3. Connect the midi plugs to the midi in and midi out plugs on the Electone (the plugs normally have an arrow showing Midi data direction).
4. Start the MDREliminator program.
5. You should see your USB midi cable in the [Midi In Select] and [Midi Out Select] edit windows. Select the USB device [Midi Out Select] [Midi Out Select] for playing to the Electone.
6. Select the required [Midi In Select] device for recording.
7. Select your Electone Model button next to the [Music Selected].{defaults to HX-1} [*1]
8. Turn on the Electone and speakers.

If connected correctly you should see the MDREliminator [display counter] counting the timing (F8s) data from the Electone. A simple test is to turn the Electone volume up and down to ensure you are receiving midi data and you have connected the the Midi cables to the Electone correctly.

Playing EVT Files.

Plays EVT files from the PC to the destination (normally an Electone).

1. Select the [Midi Out Select] device required. [*2]
2. Click on the [Play Back] button and select the .evt file to play from your files.
3. Click on the [Start] button when ready to commence playing the selected file.



Playing evt Files



[*1] Not all Models have been 'initialised' you will need to contact me to initialise your model.

[*2] You can play .evt files to the PC midi wave table without a USB cable by clicking on the [Tx Led] after starting the program.

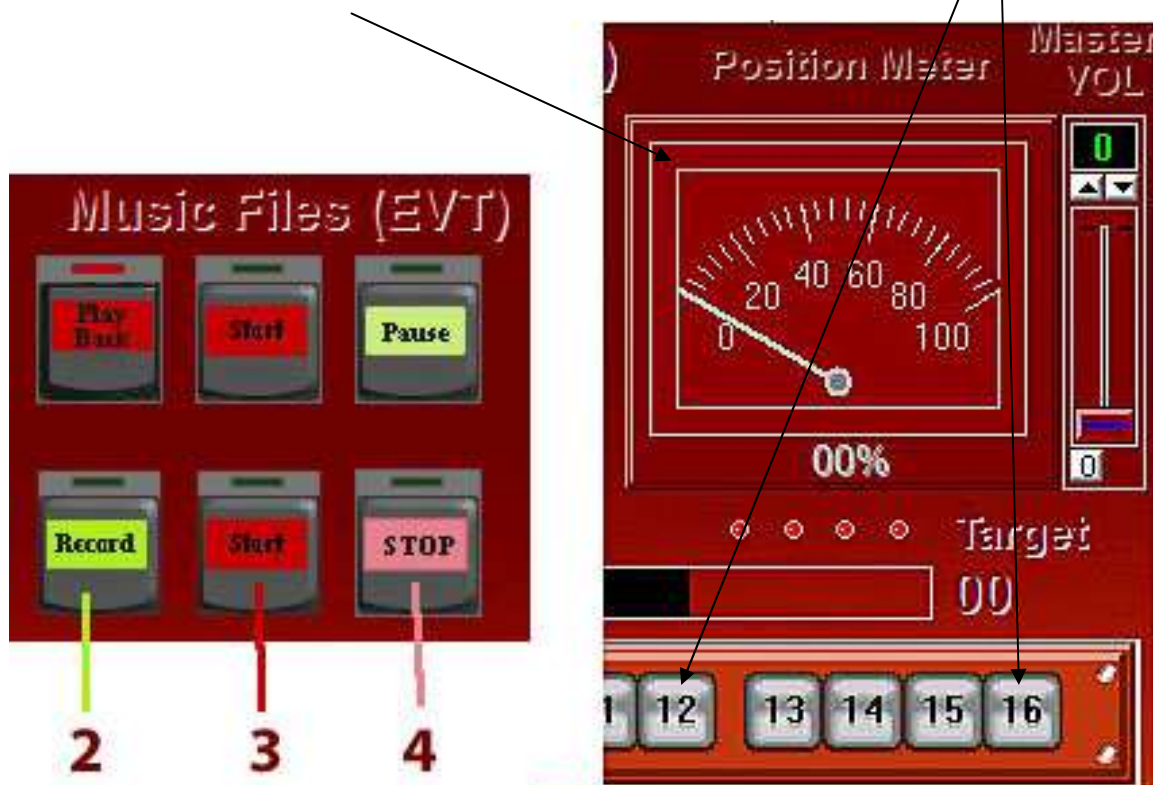
Recording Music

Records Music from Source (normally Electone) to PC.

1. Initial Set Up (particularly turn off none essential programs as timing can be interrupted).
2. Click on [Record] to select the file name (be careful not to over write other recordings).
3. When ready to start click [Start] - next to Record.
4. When finished recording click [Stop]

If you click the rego buttons 1 – 16 they will NOT be added to the recording but the Electone Rego will change.

The meter indicates the percentage of (program allocated) memory available for recording.



Registrations

Each registration (rego) is unique to an Electone model albeit all are saved as *.b00 files. Each model has a unique identifier which means sending a rego file belonging to (say) an HS8 to an ELX1 won't change anything. The ELX1 will ignore the data as 'not belonging to me'.

It is this unique identifier for your model that is needed for me to incorporate (initialisation) to get your regos working (be accepted by your model).

Play Back Regos. (All RAM)

Dumps computer .b00 files to the Source Electone.

1. Initial Set Up (both midi input and output devices need to be selected for Electone access).
2. Click on [Play Back] to select the .b00 file to 'dump'.
3. Click [Start] to commence the rego dump.



If Rego Playback is successful a label should appear on the top panel "**Bulk Data Acknowledged**".

If not your model probably hasn't been initialised or the file is corrupt.

R4 [Identity Request] challenges the Electone for its identity; the number I need for initialising Rego Transfers and recordings. (The number is displayed in the very top panel).

Recording Regos.

Records the current Regos on the Electone to PC.

1. Initial Set Up (both midi input and output devices need to be selected for Electone access).
2. Click on [Record] (under the Registrations (B00) label) and name the .b00 file as desired.
3. Click [Start] to commence the rego dump.

If successful an Information (success) panel below should appear.



(If not your model probably hasn't been initialised). R4 [Identity Request] challenges the Electone for its identity, the number I need for initialising).

Play Back Both

Dumps Regos followed by the Music.

1. Click on the [Both] button.
2. Select the .b00 rego file to send.

The program will select both files automatically dump the regos and start playing.

NB. The program will search for the **matching .evt file** in the same directory as the selected .b00 file. If a match is not found the process will fail.

Other Controls.

Play Back

1. [Pause] button to pause playback.
2. L2 button to restart the playback from the beginning.
3. L4 button to “mark” a restart point during play back.
4. L3 button to restart the music from the “marked” restart point marked at 3.
5. The [Master Vol] control turns the volume up or down on the Electone.
6. The [Warning] vol sliders adjust the PC volume (will cause an error if playing to an external device).

Panels Gages and Things.

- The music name is displayed on the [Music Selected] panel.
- The [display counter] turns green when playing and counts the bytes transmitted.
- The [display counter] turns red when playing and counts the bytes transmitted.
- The Rego Buttons 1- 16 indicates what the current rego number playing is (you can click to change rego during playback).
- The [Position Meter] reads the percentage of song played.
- The Bar Graph indicates the song position relative to the target size.
- The Rx Led flashes when receiving during record.
- The Tx Led flashes when transmitting during play.

Internal Sync.

MDREliminator is always the Master ie playback timing data is sent to slave midi devices.
(The slave function has been disabled to prevent confusion).

Reset.

This function sends a midi reset FF according to the midi specification – haven’t found this useful or functional.

All Notes Off.

All notes off sends a note off for every note on every channel (1-16) to eliminate notes that continuously play. All notes off is also sent on each Stop and Play Back pause to prevent ‘note over-run’.

Percussion Transpose.

The percussion instruments in .mid music are assigned to CH10 which sound ok if you are playing it on a PC or similar. However the Electone percussion instruments are assigned to CH15. Therefore if you record .mid music to the MDREliminator and want to play it back to an Electone the channels need to be reassigned (swapped).

Just to make it difficult the Electone percussion mapping is different to a standard .mid map file. The **percussion transpose** function transposes the percussion instruments to CH15 and maps them to the HX percussion instruments. (I'm not sure if this mapping is the same on other Electones?).

R1 Resets the counter.

R2 Opens a panel to view the midi data.



R3 Turns off timing (F8s) to unclutter the midi data being viewed.

R4 Sends a request for identity to the Electone. The Electone should send back its identity which is displayed on the top panel.

Connect Arrow.

The connect arrow will route the incoming midi device selected to the output midi device selected. Sometimes this is beneficial i.e. recording from another device such as the MDR or recording a .mid score and you want to hear it on your PC.

During 'normal operation' the connect arrow is controlled by software to avoid unwanted loops. (EG if you are recording from an Electone you could sent the data back to the Electone which will send it back to your recording whichetc).

Connect Arrow



Select Model

PC Volume Controls (for pc only).

LHS button adjust to easy listening volume and the RHS button adjusts the RHS (balance) slider to the LHS slider.

I will do my best to answer your questions at the following email address.

MacDonell1@bigpond.com

How to Convert .Mid music to .Evt

(Available on request - for the enthusiastic only).

To play a .mid file you need a .mid player like your PC , Notation Player etc.

Play from the .mid player to the MDREliminator via USB. I do this by having two USB to Midi cables joined at the Midi plug ends. (Midi in on one cable goes to midi out on the other etc).

MDREliminator will not play a*.mid file but will record it as an .evt file from the source .mid player 'converted' and ready to playback to your Electone.

Open The Second (bottom) MDREliminator panel.

Follow the separate instructions.

