Polar Bear

pgh

Polar Bear

snares

snare tension

head

(cv)

trigger

out

pgh

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## There is nothing soft or weak about this sound. The Polar Bear is a huge analog snare drum.

The Pittsburgh Modular Polar Bear is an attempt at reproducing the sound of a physical snare drum using analog circuitry. This module is not based on the sound of a famous drum machine. It is a unique attempt at a synthesized snare drum with a design guided by the concept of analog physical modelling. The result is something that sounds not completely unlike a snare drum, but with a sonic flexibility that swings far beyond the limits of a tangible instrument.

We think this one also sounds very nice.
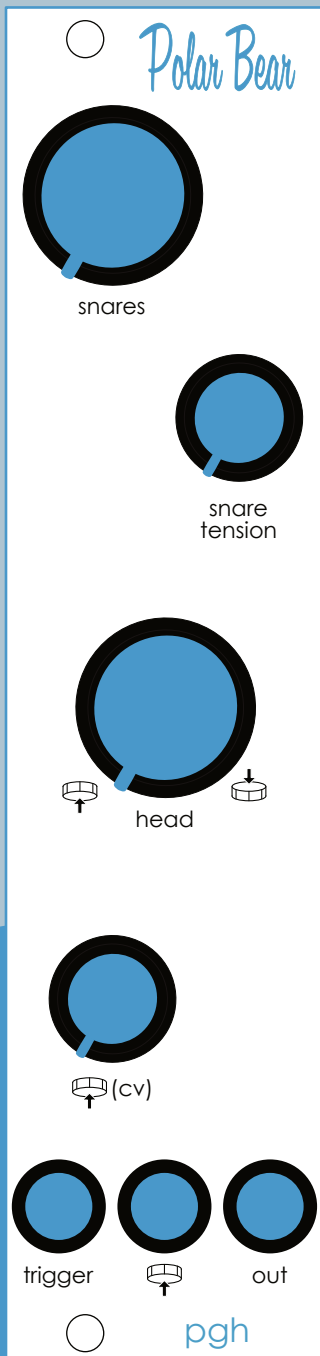
The controls on the Polar Bear were named to describe the function they aim to emulate on a physical drum. It may have made more sense to label them based on their actual electronic purpose, but what is the fun in that? The descriptions below will hopefully clear up any unintended obfuscation.
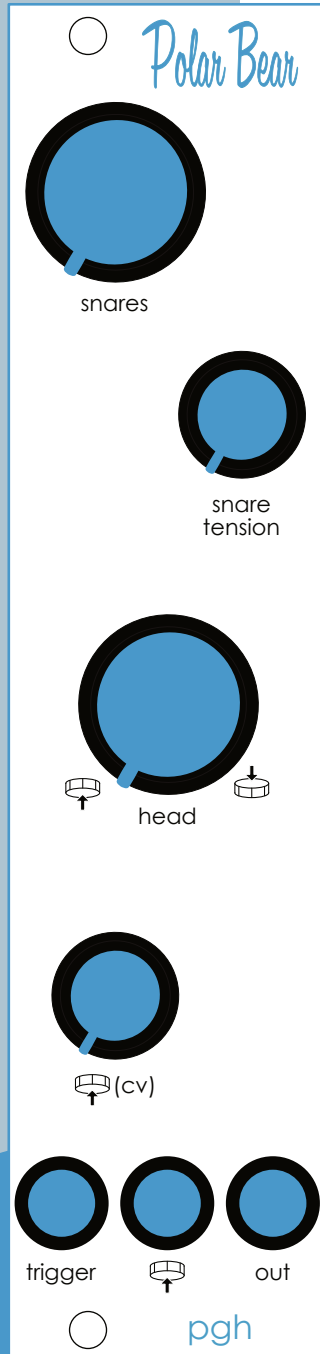
Knobs, and Jacks

Snares Knob Noise volume control. The noise circuit is tuned to emulate the sound of snares.

Snare Tension Knob Adjusts the decay of the noise circuit.

Head Knob Drum head balance control. Full left if all bottom head, full right is all top head. In the middle is a mix of both.

Bottom Head CV Attenuator Meant to be a momentary pitch bend of the bottom head with sent CV. A gate or trigger signal will trigger the bottom head independent of the top or snares. This is a great way to get a drum or rim shot sound.

Trigger Jack Gate or trigger input triggers the snare drum sound.

Bottom Head CV In Jack Gate, trigger, or CV input used to trigger or modulate the pitch of the bottom head.

Output Jack Snare drum sound output.

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Specs
Size 6hp
Depth 24mm
Power +12v 22 mA / -12v 20 mA