
OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/07/24 17:02

Hi!

Im learning the OT but havent completely understood the procedure of saving a project including arrangements, banks, patterns and parts. I think it is sometimes difficult to remember what changes I have made, and therefore what exactly I should save. Therefore I tend to save both project, parts and arrangement separately if I want to go to another project - which seems to be a lot of saving, so:

1. When saving a project does this also save all changes in parts and arrangements? If not, why not? If so, why is it possible to save just parts or arrangements? Wouldnt it be enough to just save the project and thereby saving all included? Giving a name to an arrangement and parts could in this way just be called "Naming"...

2. Is saving a backup point (project) the same as saving the project? If so, why is it called a backup point and not just "Save project" (not "Save as new")? And if the project havent been saved earlier, the respond could be (as normally in software): "Save as".

Thanks a lot.

Moogens.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by juliflash - 2011/07/25 18:06

Hello,

I cannot help you a lot... I complitely agree with you that the saving procedure is a bit messy... it would be nice to have a save as entry wich saves everything.

At the momment when I edit parts, arrangements etc, I saved them everytime... when I feel like I did a lot and dont want to risk the information, what I do is save a new version of the project as a back up... then I make a backup point and before I swich off the machine , sync to card... it seems to work fine...

Hoping to have this implemented a bit better in future releases...

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by phading - 2011/07/26 21:50

I don't know about arrangements, I still never used them. Also, I'm not sure about any of this since I also think the saving procedure is a bit confusing. But here is how I think it works:

Parts: In theory you never need to save a part, the last changes you made are always there linked to their bank and project. You just save it so you can tweak/change it and then be able to come back to where it was (by using "reload part").

The project also does not exactly need to be saved (once again, in theory) because it is always there like you left it, even after turning the machine OFF; the thing is: I think it is in RAM memory, so "sync to card" is getting the project from the RAM to the Card so if your machine freezes (like it's happening a lot in this new OS) and you do a Reset (cleaning your RAM) you will loose everything you made since your last sync (I learned this the hard way).

Saving a backup is like saving a part: you don't really need to do it, but it's useful if you have your set ready/perfect and then you tweak the hell out of it in your jam-session and then you want to go back to where it was (restore to previous backup :))

I think this is why they don't have a "save project" like normal software, because everything is always there like you left it in your machine's RAM.

TL;DR: You just sync it so you don't loose anything in dramatic situations or when you change your CFcard; so you actually should sync often. The restore is just so you can mess up with your project and then go back to where it was :)

I hope this was not too confusing :) and not too far from the truth :p

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/07/27 01:35

Thanks for your efforts!

Yes I do think it is a bit confusing. Also because projects are saved as backup points, but parts and arrangements are saved as normal software (?),

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Daim - 2011/07/27 01:55

I think often (if not usually) when you want to sync to card you also want to save the current part because you want to revert to that part quickly if you fuck sth up after you saved.

So imho there should at least be a way to save the current part together with syncing to card.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by nocturne - 2011/07/27 02:01

Gotta disagree a little bit with phading about parts...

Always save your parts if you want them to be retained when changing banks. If you are working in bank A and do not save your parts and switch to bank B, your part edits in bank A will not be there when you switch back. Phading is correct though that when working within the same bank, your part edits are retained.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by phading - 2011/07/27 03:05

nocturne wrote:

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Thanks a lot man, I did not know that and that is actually very useful to know :)

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/07/27 06:27

So are the following correct?:

1. Saving a project "As new", "Backup point" and "Sync to card" all do not save arrangements and parts, but they do save banks and patterns.Â

2. Altered arrangements and parts always have to be saved separately when going to another bank or project.Â

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by maass - 2011/07/28 19:04

SO, the OT is here for a week and iÂ´m totally lost ;-)

Is it possible to save Pattern/ A01, A02, A03 all with different Machines and Sounds assigned, like on MD/MnM?

IÂ´m on pattern A01 do my Beats and Synths, save all. Switch to the next one and there are the same machines and samples assigned, if i change one of them, it changed in the first pattern too....silly:

Help!

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by TrondC - 2011/07/28 19:35

maass wrote:

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Help!

this! I'm running between work and other duties, and am guilty of not reading the manual enough times, but this simple thing I can't seem to work either. In fact I often wish the OT used the simple patterns/kits like the MD, just to lessen the load of trying to concretisize (is that a word?) the abstract of the OT structure ;)

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by dataline - 2011/07/28 20:00

^^ Think the Parts like Kits.

Each bank has 4 parts (kits) A part hosts 8 different tracks with their own sample, effects and other parameter settings. So I use the first 4 patterns with Part 1, second 4 patterns with Part 2. It totally makes sense to me working this way.

Dont forget that you can change your samples with each trigs :) Also make use of the parameter locks to maximize the usage of 4 parts :)

About the original topic, SYNC TO CARD will save all your DATA into the card (the project you are working on) :S

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by maass - 2011/07/28 20:46

ah, slowly i get it...so, i need more parts (16)

THX!

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by bauer - 2011/07/28 20:50

dataline wrote:

About the original topic, SYNC TO CARD will save all your DATA into the card (the project you are working on) :S

this is true. i seem to remember reading in the manual that the OT also automatically SYNC TO CARD when you change projects, too?

after initial learning-curve type issues, the only thing i have any trouble with now is getting sample slot errors when returning to projects, or when i save a project via SAVE AS NEW. i think this is down to not having saved my parts. i've started always saving them after making any changes now, which seems to have helped.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by dataline - 2011/07/28 21:00

maass wrote:

ah, slowly i get it...so, i need more parts (16)

THX!

hehe, trust me 4 parts is enough :) It is obvious they have taken so much care designing this instrument! :ohmy:

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/07/28 21:31

dataline wrote:

About the original topic, SYNC TO CARD will save all your DATA into the card (the project you are working on) :S

Aha! I think then I will mostly sync to card in the future. The rest is to confusing for stupid me :-(

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by dataline - 2011/07/28 21:33

Once you have something nice going on, defo use the SYNC CARD feature.

Give it some time and it will make so much sense!

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/08/09 04:41

Don't get me wrong... I DO LOVE OT.

But now I just experienced following:

Made a great pattern/part/bank yesterday that I saved - for sure - by "Sync Card". I had stored a backup point earlier, but

I thought the project was safe with the "Sync Card" function. Not.

Today I was jamming with the song, and then wanted to record a sample of tweaking the knobs. During the recording of a track, the machine suddenly changed all 8 Flex and Static machines to Static, and playing the same file (a sample not used in the project - and I have purged all unused samples yesterday).

So I restarted the machine, opened the project. OT had lost all my yesterdays work!

In another bank in the project made earlier, everything was ok. So apparently the project has "gone back" to the backup point. Tried reset memory now also. Nope.

I could have saved Parts when I Synced to card. But the trigs and tweaks are also lost in the banks patterns, so I guess they are connected. Therefore I will also SAVE AS NEW for safety's sake...

I think the OT has a loosing the memory problem. Not good. Very important.

(Now: 1. Save Part + 2 Store Backup + 3. Sync Card + 4. Save As New) :blink:

(...+ 5. Save arrangement, if...)

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by electrolegs - 2011/08/09 08:17

I have not experienced this myself. I sense this was a user error although if others report the same issue I may be wrong here

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/08/09 08:37

I may have done something wrong when the OT crashed, but I am certain I did the Sync Card operation yesterday.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by N_Rain - 2011/08/09 09:01

just because I never know when I am going to do something to mess up what I am working on and the OT autosaves everything I do, I store backup every time I make any significant changes that I want to keep. Not had any problems reloading projects yet..

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by phading - 2011/08/09 19:42

No saving problems here either,

only when my OT crashed :S But that was bad luck and because I did not sync my project enough

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by heckadecimal - 2011/08/11 11:05

Another thing worth noting is that if you're using the track recorders, you must remember to save them as a new sample.

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Bathrobe - 2011/08/11 17:11

heckadecimal wrote:

Another thing worth noting is that if you're using the track recorders, you must remember to save them as a new sample.
+1 :bonus:

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by PLOVA - 2011/08/11 19:45

I find the saving procedure extremely straightforward.

Once I have something new worth saving, I just choose 'Save As new Project', name it, and execute. All aspects of the project are saved to the CF card, except any new recorder machine samples which have to be saved manually as they exist in the flash memory, which is volatile. Samples already in the audio pool for that set are not duplicated.

If I have an existing project that I have returned to work on, I choose 'Store backup' to ensure I don't lose any new changes.

If I make a change to any previously saved project, then turn the machine off without saving, the next time I reboot the OT will load the project in it's last working state, unless I load the project manually - in which case it will load the saved version of project .

All the above procedures will save all of my work without creating unnecessary duplicate files as far as I'm aware.

Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/08/11 22:14

PLOVA wrote:

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All the above procedures will save all of my work without creating unnecessary duplicate files as far as I'm aware.

Ok. I have three questions for you please:

1. If you have made changes to a project you want to save, how do you save if you want to work on another project?
2. So you dont agree with the people who recommend using SYNC TO CARD - the procedure that I THINK made me loose all I did the evening before, after the machine crashed?
3. What is SYNC TO CARD good for. Store Backup also saves the project to the CF-card...

It seems to me, that the save backup procedure is more safe than SYNC TO CARD. I just did some testing of the saving procedure:

A. STORE BACKUP, change all (parts, trigs...), reset, change set, reopen project. RESTORE BACKUP. Backup point restored.
Fine.

B. SYNC TO CARD, change all (parts, trigs...), change set and project, reset, reopen set and project. Everything is as synced. Fine.

C. STORE BACKUP, change all (parts, trigs...), SYNC TO CARD, reset and reopen project.
The project is as when I Sync'd the Card. RESTORE BACKUP. The project is as when I Saved backup point. Changed set, and changed back. The project is as when I Saved backup point. So Synced project is lost.

D. SYNC TO CARD, change all (parts, trigs...), STORE BACKUP.
reset, reopen project. The project is as when I Saved backup point. So Synced project is lost.
And shows that BACKUP "overrules" SYNC TO CARD.

All tests had the parts correct all way (without saving theese) with an asterisk showing that parts arent saved. So Parts saving isnt so important - unless you want to go back to a "backup up point" of the Parts I guess.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by PLOVA - 2011/08/11 22:28

1. If you have made changes to a project you want to save, how do you save if you want to work on another project?

I don't really understand that question - If I want to save my current project, I....er....just save it as mentioned.....then I load another project or create a new one.

2. So you dont agree with the people who recommend using SYNC TO CARD - the procedure that I THINK made me loose all I did the evening before, after the machine crashed?

I don't disagree with anyone's stated methods (to be honest I didn't read them all), but I generally don't use the Sync option. I have used it in the past, but personally it makes more sense to me to just save projects as I would if I were using a computer.

3. What is SYNC TO CARD good for. Store Backup also saves the project to the CF-card...

As said before, I have only used this feature a few times, but don't anymore.

The Otrack manual states -

SYNC TO CARD is a recommended operation before ejecting the Compact Flash card as it will save the changes made to the active project to the card. Removing the card without first card syncing the project might result in data losses.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/08/11 23:09

Sorry for my english. What I mean is:

1. When you have been working on a project that has been saved (as new) and then want to work on another - maybe new - project. Do you then just save the first project as backup point? I guess so! Just to be sure!

2. About the SYNC TO CARD. I did read the manual. But for me it seems the STORE BACKUP procedure also saves to the card. I mean it seems to do the same as SYNC TO CARD and according to my test STORE BACKUP saving is more substantial than SYNC TO CARD. It also takes much longer time for the OT to save by Backup than Sync, so I guess its

more thorough.

Thanks a lot. I do not find the saving procedure straightforward, but I am getting there :-)

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by PLOVA - 2011/08/11 23:33

Sorry Moogens, I edited your last post by accident instead of clicking 'reply'!

Just getting used to my new Administrator options :)

To answer your question -

I recommend you follow these simple procedures based on each of your working situations -

When working on a new project, save by using SAVE TO NEW.

When re-loading an existing project, save by using STORE BACKUP, just to be sure.

When working on a previously saved project that you wish to discard any new changes to, simply load the last saved version again.

If you aren't comfortable with SYNC TO CARD, then just avoid it. As long as you save projects you should be fine.

Hope this helps.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/08/12 00:31

PLOVA wrote:

Sorry Moogens, I edited your last post by accident instead of clicking 'reply'!

No problem, I pasted my question back in ;-))

I think your reply put it very simple. Thank you.

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Re:OT: Saving procedure

Posted by Moogens - 2011/08/12 17:10

A final remark... :blink:

Maybe some of you think I am nitpicking, but I do still think Elektron have figured out a strange way of saving.

My original question was why it isn't enough simply to save the project in a traditional way (SAVE PROJECT + SAVE PROJECT AS) and thereby saving all included?

The STORE BACKUP apparently saves to the card anyway, so why have a SYNC TO CARD option?

Giving a name to arrangements and parts (if at all necessary) could be called "Naming" - instead of having separate saving procedures for parts and arrangements (part adjustments seem to be saved anyway, with the STORE BACKUP option). And actually I think I also would prefer to give titles to the banks instead, since a bank (with or without arrangement) comes closest to a song in a project (= concert/show).

The autosave feature is VERY clever, but in my opinion the OT way of manual saving is not straightforward because of inconsistency with saving procedures in other it-products. Software companies have long time ago discovered an intuitive way of saving information in various documents/projects. So why go for an alternative procedure?

I guess working too much with computers for too long, have made me into a traditionalist :dry:

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