AIRSTEP BST Edition

User Manual

Manual Information

- **Manual Version:** v1.0
- **Applies to Firmware:** v1.0.0
- **Last Updated:** 2026-10-22

Note: Features and footswitch behavior may vary by firmware version. For the best experience, please update your device to the latest firmware.

Introduction

AIRSTEP BST Edition is a wireless foot controller designed specifically for Blackstar BEAM MINI and BEAM SOLO. It gives you hands-free access to all five onboard presets, individual effect switching, tap tempo, and the tuner.

Preset Mode and Effect Mode provide direct access to all five onboard presets and individual on/off control of Compressor, Drive, Modulation, Delay, and Reverb. Five footswitch LEDs display the selected preset or effect status and BPM in real time.

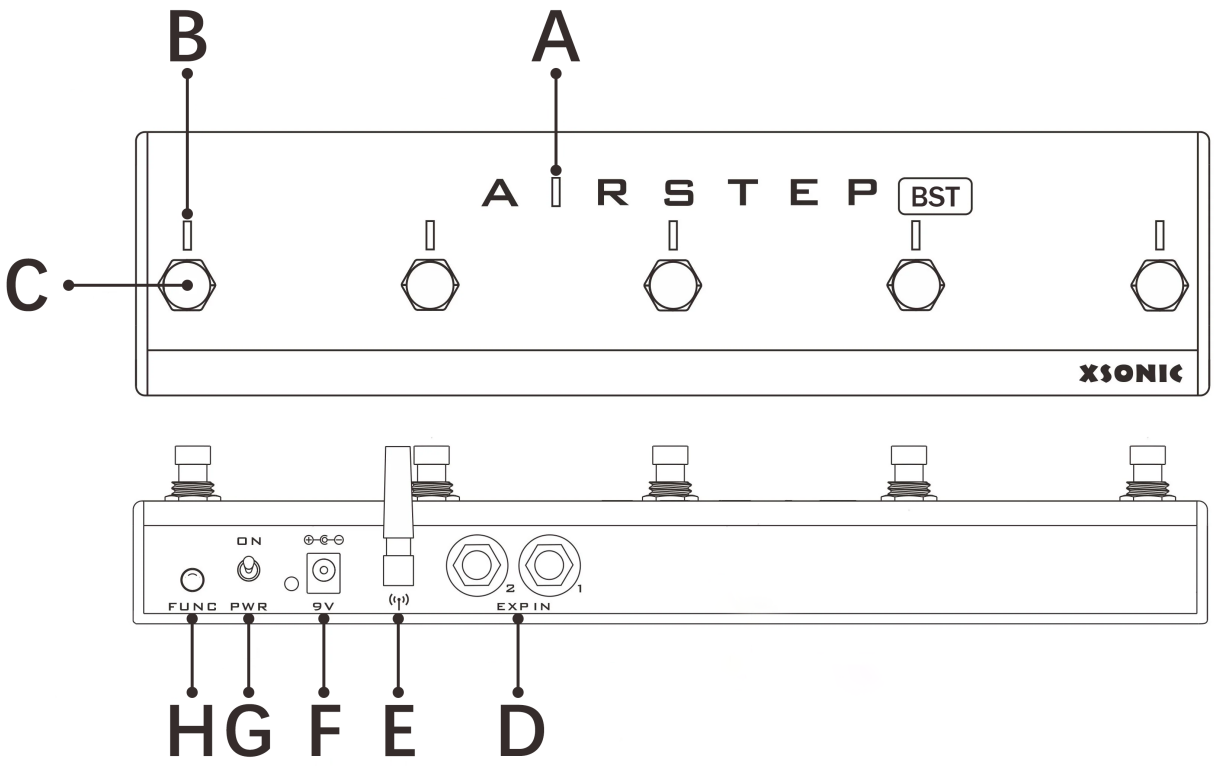
Two expression pedal inputs provide real-time control of AMP volume and gain. AIRSTEP BST Edition works independently of your phone and also lets you use the BEAM App while the controller remains connected, keeping foot control and app editing available together.

No MIDI programming required—just power on and connect. From everyday practice to live performance, AIRSTEP BST Edition puts your essential BEAM controls at your feet.

Features

- Compatible with Blackstar BEAM MINI and BEAM SOLO
- Hands-free control of presets, effects, tap tempo, and tuner
- Two expression pedal inputs for real-time control of AMP volume and gain
- Onboard LEDs provide real-time visual feedback for presets, effect status and BPM
- Truly plug and play — no MIDI knowledge required
- Updatable firmware for future improvements and compatibility updates
- Rugged extruded aluminum housing for maximum durability

Interface



A. Main LED Indicator

Indicates the connection status with the BEAM device. It stays solid when connected and slowly blinks when not connected. The LED is **blue** in Preset Mode and **green** in Effect Mode.

When the battery level is low, the main LED will flash rapidly as a warning.

B. Footswitch LED Indicators

Labeled **A, B, C, D, and E** from left to right, matching the five footswitches below. They indicate the selected preset in Preset Mode and effect on/off status in Effect Mode. LED D also indicates the tempo when assigned to Tap Tempo.

C. Footswitches

Provide hands-free control over all key functions.

D. Expression Pedal Inputs

Support two TRS expression pedals simultaneously.

E. Antenna

Provides wireless communication with the BEAM device and the BEAM App.

F. Charging Port

Supports charging via the included USB-A to DC cable or a standard 9V DC pedal power supply (**center-negative**).

G. Power Switch

Turns off the unit when not in use to conserve battery life.

H. Function Button

Reserved for future use. Currently inactive.

Instructions

Before Using

AIRSTEP BST Edition Firmware Update

Keep your AIRSTEP BST Edition firmware up to date for the latest improvements and compatibility updates.

How to update firmware

BEAM Device Firmware

Before using AIRSTEP BST Edition, update your BEAM MINI or BEAM SOLO through the BEAM App. Compatibility has been tested with BEAM firmware v1.2.5.

Connection

AIRSTEP BST Edition will automatically search for and connect to a nearby BEAM MINI or BEAM SOLO via Bluetooth. Once connected, the main LED will remain steadily lit.

After this connection is established, open the BEAM App to enable simultaneous control. AIRSTEP BST Edition will appear in the app as “AIRSTEP BEAM”.

NOTE:

- AIRSTEP BST Edition will not connect to the BEAM device if the BEAM device is already connected to the BEAM App.
- AIRSTEP BST Edition must connect to your BEAM device before it can connect to the BEAM App.
- AIRSTEP BST Edition can control your BEAM device without the BEAM App.

Footswitch Function

Short-press actions are triggered when you release the footswitch. Hold a footswitch for approximately one second to trigger its long-press function. Releasing it afterward will not trigger the short-press function.

To switch modes, press footswitches D and E together.

Preset Mode (Blue LEDs)

In **Preset Mode**, AIRSTEP BST Edition provides direct access to the five onboard presets stored in your BEAM device, indicated by the **blue LEDs**.

- **Short Press**:
  - Switch A–E: Recall **Preset 1–5**, respectively.
- **Long Press**:
  - Switch A: Toggle **Compressor**
  - Switch B: Toggle **Drive**
  - Switch C: Toggle **Modulation**
  - Switch D: Toggle **Delay**
  - Switch E: Toggle **Tuner**
- **Dual Press**:
  - Switch D + E: **Enter Effect Mode**

- The **blue LEDs** indicate the selected onboard preset from left to right: **Preset 1, 2, 3, 4, 5**.

Effect Mode (Green LEDs)

In **Effect Mode**, AIRSTEP BST Edition gives you direct control over individual effect blocks.

Switch D defaults to **Toggle Delay**. Its Tap Tempo / Toggle Delay assignment is retained after power-off. Footswitches A–C have no long-press function in Effect Mode.

- **Short Press**:
  - Switch A: Toggle **Compressor**
  - Switch B: Toggle **Drive**
  - Switch C: Toggle **Modulation**
  - Switch D: **Tap Tempo** or Toggle **Delay**
  - Switch E: Toggle **Reverb**
- **Long Press**:
  - Switch D: Switch between **Tap Tempo** and **Toggle Delay**
  - Switch E: Toggle **Tuner**
- **Dual Press**:
  - Switch D + E: **Return to Preset Mode**

● The **green LEDs** indicate effects on/off status from left to right: **Compressor, Drive, Modulation, Delay, Reverb**.

LED D flashes to indicate the tempo when Switch D is assigned to **Tap Tempo**, regardless of whether Delay is enabled.

In **Delay Toggle** mode, LED D indicates the Delay effect's on/off status.

Tap Tempo sets the BEAM device's BPM. To make a time-based effect follow this tempo, enable that effect's **SYNC** setting in the BEAM App.

NOTE: For visibility, LED D flashes at 10 BPM when the actual tempo is below 10 BPM. The actual tempo remains unchanged.

Expression Pedals

AIRSTEP BST Edition supports standard TRS expression pedals using the wiring configuration found on most brands. Pedals with **reverse polarity are not supported**.

Two expression pedals can be connected simultaneously for real-time control of the selected AMP model:

- **EXP1:** Controls the AMP's **Volume / Master**.
- **EXP2:** Controls the AMP's **Gain**.

For AMP models with only one of these controls, both expression pedals control the available parameter:

- **Acoustic Pre Amp:** Both EXP1 and EXP2 control **Gain**.
- **Ampton Twin:** Both EXP1 and EXP2 control **Volume**.

NOTE: These controls affect the selected AMP model, not the BEAM device's overall master volume or Bluetooth audio volume.

Battery and Charging

Use the included charging cable with a phone charger, or a **9V DC pedal power supply (center-negative)**. The charging indicator will turn red while charging and green when fully charged. Disconnect the charger when charging is complete.

When fully charged, AIRSTEP BST Edition can work for up to 300 hours.

Firmware Update

To update the firmware, download **AIRSTEP Updater** from the App Store or Google Play. Open the app and grant Bluetooth and location permissions when prompted.

To enter firmware update mode, make sure the AIRSTEP BST Edition is powered off. Then, press and hold footswitch D while powering it on. LED B will light up, indicating that the device has successfully entered firmware update mode.

Follow the on-screen instructions in AIRSTEP Updater to complete the firmware update.