

REPLACING KORG KARMA MW FLOPPY DRIVE WITH USB EMULATOR DRIVE (Feb. 2011) – audiofreq@yahoo.com

Whoo-hoo! I just installed a flash reader replacement for the original floppy from the red KARMA workstation. I've imported a few floppies of KARMA and Triton LE PCG's for Karma-fied combi's and plain old MOSS programs and it's working perfectly

I took 32 photos of the whole process and wrote up a step-by-step. So, i'll figure out some place to post that - it's an 8.5MB zip file

in the meantime, here are some sources for the USB drives on ebay. They range from \$29-\$59 and seem to only come in putty, grey and black.

They have a limit of 100 (00-99) blocks of 1.44MB's, so an old conference giveaway 256MB flash thumb drive works well - anything more than that is wasted capacity.

Here are 4 ebay links to get you started. The mini-CD it comes with is an old version of the formatting utility - the latest version and a rewritten manual are available at www.floppytousb.net - funnily enough www.floppytousb.com has something similar that appears to be network enabled, but this is a proven replacement. If anyone tries the ".com" hardware please let me know

Thanks also to Werner Schönenberger for his write up on using an old digital sewing machine drive emulator for his PPG Wave synth (still waiting for Santa to bring me one of those - never needed one with my old MWXTII. <http://www.pdfgemi.com/book/waldorf-wave-pdf.html> -- <http://www.unofficial.waldorf-wave.de/USB-Drive2.pdf>

And also thanks to Rich Diemer at www.BustedGear.com for his write-up on accessing the Triton Pro floppy drive http://www.bustedgear.com/repair_Kor...ssembly_2.html

I've been pondering this possibility for 10 years... so very happy.

-Phil (2011) <http://www.karma-lab.com/forum/showthread.php?t=9039>

Ebay links:

http://cgi.ebay.com/3-5-USB-SSD-Flop...#ht_2926wt_912

http://cgi.ebay.com/Floppy-Drive-Emu...#ht_2378wt_907

http://cgi.ebay.com/Floppy-emulator-...#ht_1244wt_907

http://cgi.ebay.com/3-5-USB-SSD-Flop...#ht_1849wt_907

32 step instructions are immediately below, followed by corresponding photos for each step.

- Phil

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- 1 - Prop KARMA with something to avoid load on Mod-Pitch controller.JPG
 - 2 - KARMA still with original floppy drive.JPG
 - 3 - Open and detach MOSS panel (if present) - disconnect cable from KARMA not MOSS.JPG
 - 4 - KARMA with MOSS panel removed.JPG
 - 5 - Remove all the Black screws from the bottom panel - do not remove rubber feet - panel lifts up and slightly out to front of keyboard.JPG
 - 6 - Remove golden color screws from bottom of red plastic floppy drive faceplate - faceplate will not come out yet.JPG
 - 7 - disconnect blue ribbon cable from small board on the side of the floppy bracket.JPG
 - 8 - Blue cable slides out away from pins also disconnect orange power connection (right side).JPG
 - 9 - Black foam block needs to be sliced with small screwdriver or Xacto blade to separate the small board from the bracket - you will use double-side tape to reattach the foam later.JPG
 - 10 - remove 4 golden screws from base of floppy bracket - the bracket is now loose but will not come out yet.JPG
 - 11 - untuck the data ribbon cable and headphone audio cable from the strain relief crimp - remove 2 golden screws to allow main flange to light up slightly.JPG
 - 12 - disconnect floppy data (ribbon) cable from the drive and the green power cable from the KARMA power board as well as the headphone jack audio cable from the main audio board.JPG
 - 13 - lift main bracket up a little to allow the floppy bracket to lift up - slide floppy bracket up and out.JPG
 - 14 - Remove drive from bracket by removing 4 silver mini bolts.JPG
 - 15 - old floppy drive is out!.JPG
 - 16 - side by side with new (www.FLOPPYTOUSB-net) drive.JPG
 - 17 - USB drive is shorter and the holes may not quite line up with the bracket but the mini-bolts will sink into it fine - i bent the metal tabs slightly to the side to line up well.JPG
 - 18 - see the slight sideward bend to the tab under the silver mini-bolt.JPG
 - 19a - untuck the floppy data cable if you did not do that already - it needs some slack to reach the shorter USB drive connector.JPG
 - 19b - ribbon cable untucked to allow cable to reach new drive.JPG
 - 20 - flex main flange up to allow the floppy bracket to slide back in and align with holes at the base.JPG
 - 21 - connect old green floppy power cable to new drive - feed thru main flange towards main power board - it will just reach with no slack.JPG
 - 22 - raise drive backet slightly and slide red faceplate over headphone jack and.JPG
 - 23 - faceplate will drop into place with no force - lower drive into place and make sure faceplate is completely in place.JPG
 - 24 - screw in 4 base screws.JPG
 - 25 - reconnect power and data cables to small side board.JPG
 - 26 - drop side board into place - i crimped down the top tab to hold it in place instead of replacing double-sided foam tape.JPG
 - 27 - reconnect headphone audio cable to board and floppy power to power board as well as the brown power cable if you disconnected while adjusting strain relief - tighted main bracket screws.JPG
 - 28 - slide bottom cover plate into place and align with screw holes.JPG
 - 29 - prop up keys so you can screw in all the black screws - it probably dropped out of place slightly when they were taken out.JPG
 - 30 - reconnect MOSS cable to KARMA data board and slifht cover hinge tab into slot.JPG
 - 31 - USB emulator is now installed!.JPG
 - 32 - Check power on USB drive and KARMA - there shouldnt be any issues here - see USB instructions for formatting flash drive into 100 floppies.JPG

Photos and Instructions by Phil Hopkinson -
audiofreq@yahoo.com - Go KARMA!!





























