

The first rhythm box on the Japanese market

Registration No.	Number 00291		
Registration Date	September 15, 2020	Registration Category	Category 1

Name (Model, etc.)	DONCAMATIC DA-20
Location	Hamamatsu-shi, Shizuoka
	Hamamatsu Museum of Musical Instruments
Owner (Custodian)	KORG INC.
Manufacturer (Company)	Keio Electronic Laboratories (now KORG INC.)
Year Manufactured	1963
Year first appeared	1963
Reason For Selection	The rhythm machine began as an electronic instrument allowing endless playback of various rhythm patterns in place of a drummer or percussionist. This machine was developed to play the rhythm parts for organ and accordion and was the first commercial model to be produced domestically. Offering 11 different percussion instruments and 25 pre-set rhythm patterns, the “Doncamatic” product name echoed the sounds of the built-in instruments. The Japanese term “donkama” is derived from this product name, referring to the click sound used to assist musicians in monitoring shared rhythm and tempo on stage and during recording. This machine is significant in that it was the starting point for rhythm machine development in Japan.
Registration Standard	2-C (Show an important event or phenomenon in the relationship between society and culture on the one hand and science and technology on the other.)

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