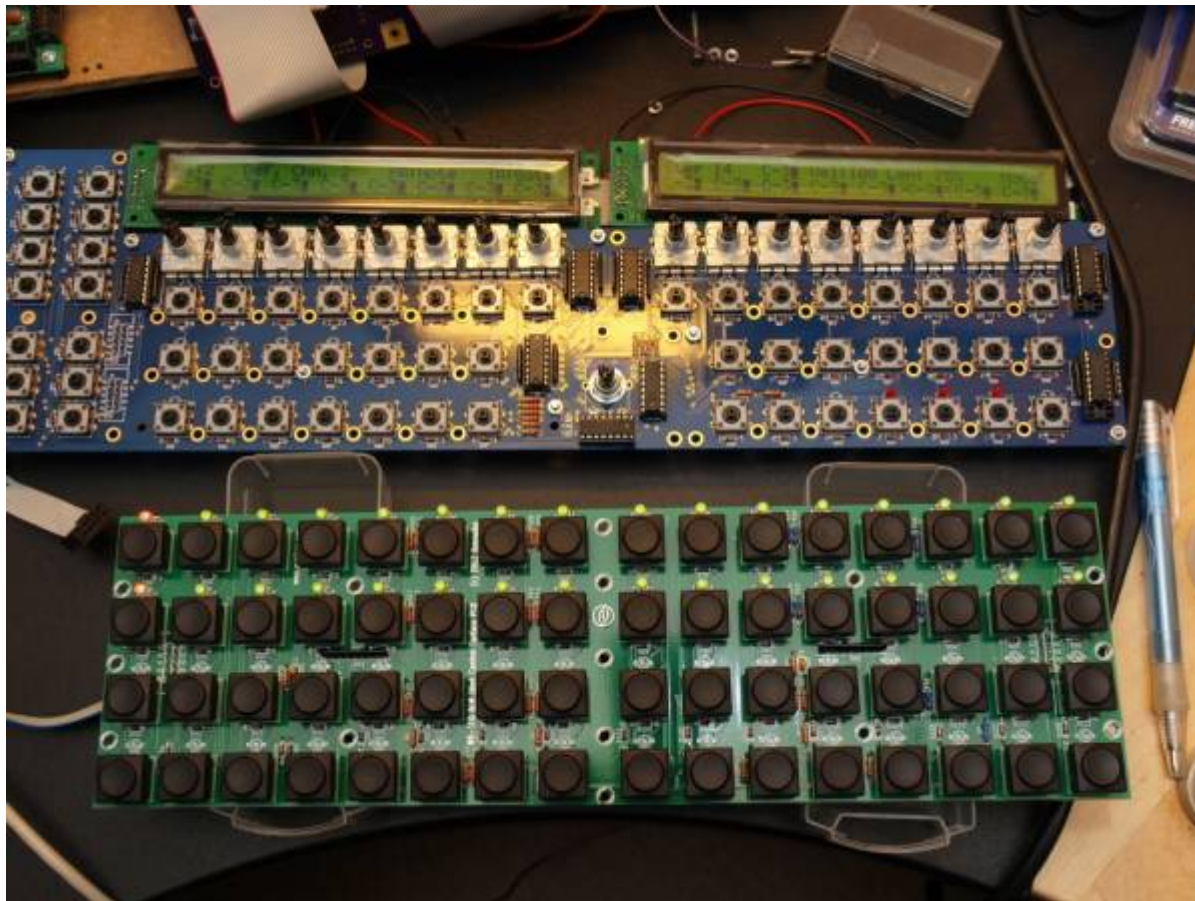


MIDIbox SEQ BLM 16x4 Control Surface PCB

In order to enhance my MB SEQv4 with an internal 16x4 BLM (**B**utton **L**ED **M**atrix) I have created the printed circuit board shown in the lower half of the picture below. It has been verified to work and you can find all the information necessary to build one yourself on this page.



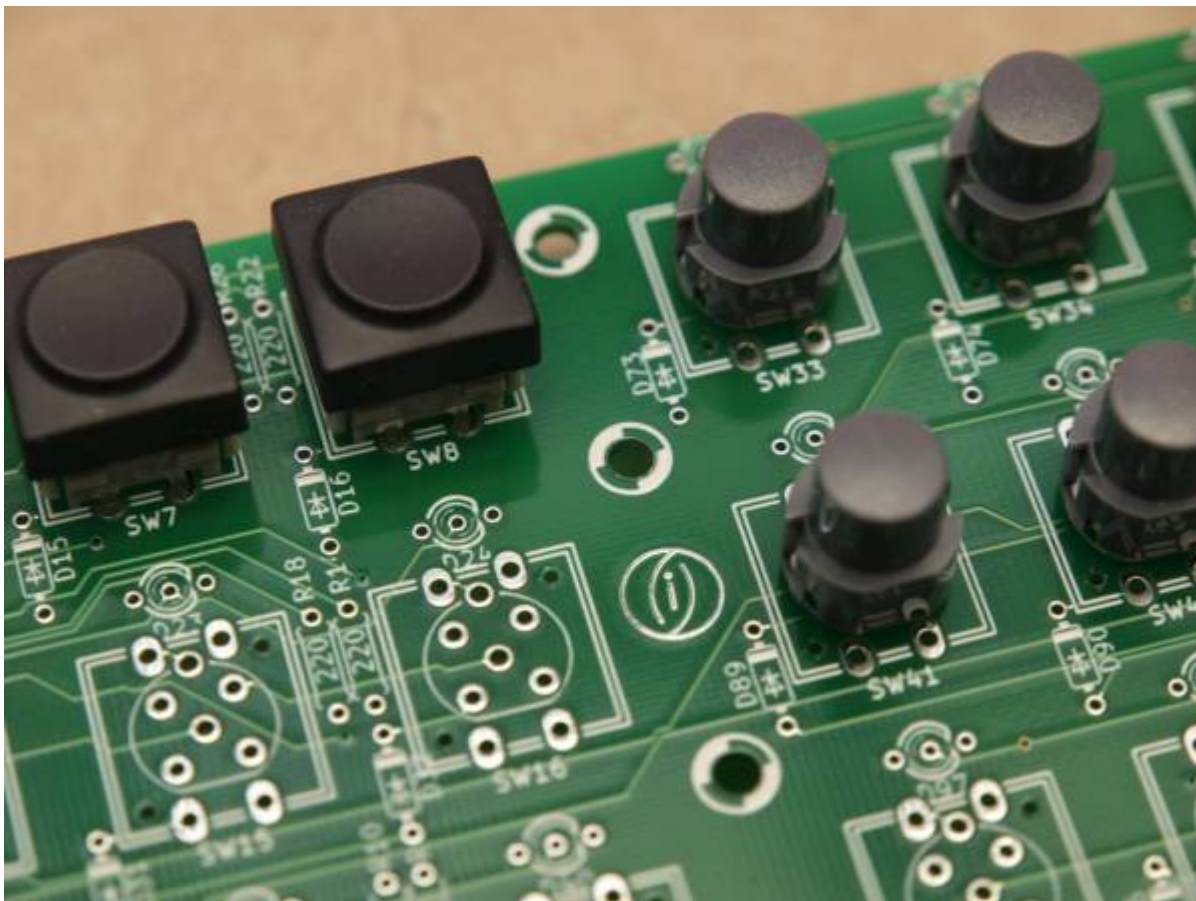
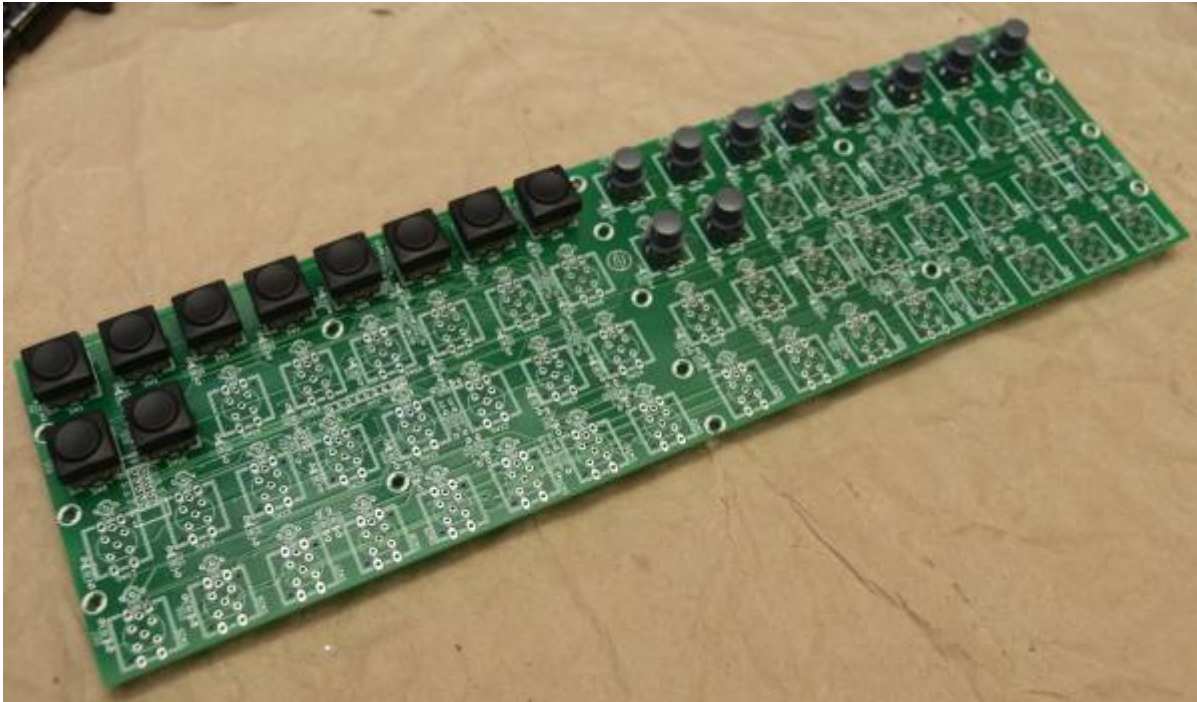
Overview

The board holds all necessary components including surface mount shift registers (DOUT and DIN) on the backside and connects via a single 10pin cable to J2 on Wilba's control surface board. Additional modules (BPM and TPD displays) can be connected to a second 10pin connector that loops through all serial I/O signals from J8/J9 of the Core32/LPC17 board. The board features duo LEDs and the very nice [Marquardt 6425](#) series of buttons with the [16mm square caps](#).

The buttons do not align with Wilba's MB-SEQ frontpanel design. The reason for this is simple: In my front panel there is a [TPD](#) (Track Position Display), a step display, and a [BPM display](#) to the left of the button / Duo-LED matrix. A second reason is that the protoboard manufacturer I used ([Gold Phoenix PCB](#)) has a size limit that I had to respect.

Schematic

The schematic for the 16x4 BLM is based on the official one as proposed by TK over [here](#). However, I



Where to buy?

If you are interested in building this, send a personal message (PM) to user *ilmenator* over at the [MIDIbox forum](https://www.midibox.org/forum) (you have to register to be able to send PM). As of September 2025, I have PCBs available for 25€ each. I can also provide you with complete kits with Marquardt or D6 switches in black.

BOM

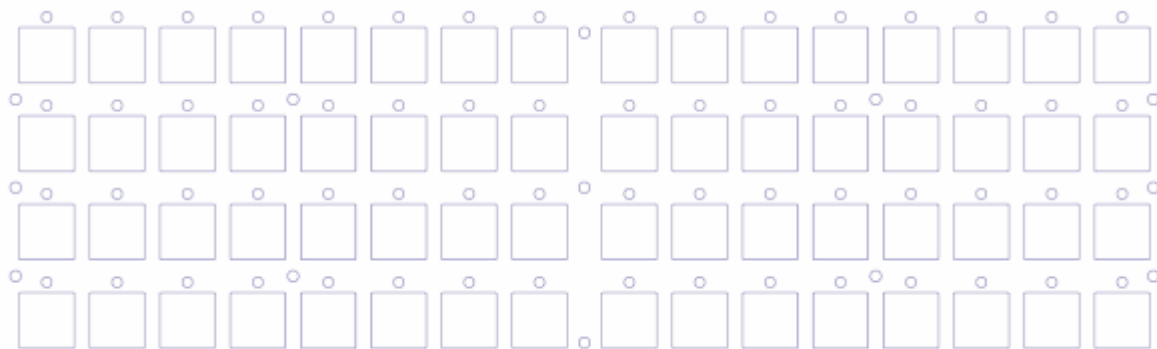
Reference	Description	Package	Value	Quantity	Mouser	Reichelt	soselectronic
C1, C8	capacitor	2.54mm pitch	100n	2		KERKO 100N	
C2-C7	capacitor	SMD 1206	100n	6		X7R-G1206 100N	
D1-D8, D17-D24, D33-D40, D49-D56, D65-D72, D81-D88, D97-D104, D113-D120	3-legged duo LED	3mm	common cathode	64	859-LTL1BEKVJNN		
D9-D16, D25-D32, D41-D48, D57-D64, D73-D80, D98-D96, D105-D112, D121-D128	1N4148	DO-35		64		1N 4148	
RR1, RR2	1 + 8 Resistor network	SIL9	10k	2		SIL 9-8 10K	
R1-R32	1/4W resistor		220	32		1/4W 220	
R33, R34	1/4W resistor		10k	2		1/4W 10K	
SW1-SW64	push switch	Marquardt 6425.0101*		64	979-6425.0101	TASTE 6425.0101	1325
	key cap	Marquardt 826.000.011	16x16mm	64		TASTE S 826 (red!)	1489
U1-U6	74HC595	SO16		6	863-MC74HC595ADG	SMD HC 595	
U7, U8	74HC165	SO16		2	863-MC74HC165ADR2G		
J1, J2	connector 2x5			2		WSL 10G	

* Button caps usually have to be ordered separately - these should be the 16x16mm types, not the 19x19mm!

Capacitors C2-C7, ICs U1-U8, and connectors J1-J2 are placed on the backside of the PCB. All other components are sitting on the front!

Frontpanel

I have had my frontpanel laser cut at [Formulor](#), the German branch of [Ponoko](#). Here is the template:



I used Adobe Illustrator to create the design. It can be downloaded in .ai, .dxf and .dwg format [here](#). The latter two have been exported from Illustrator, I don't know if they are scaled properly, so be warned!

And finally, this is how it looks like with the PCB mounted to the frontpanel using 8.5mm long M3 spacers (8mm spacer and a 0.5mm thick washer). The front panel is made from 3mm thick acrylic and the buttons are sitting flush inside the frontpanel. This way it is easy to slide across the panel to activate neighboring buttons.



Note that I am using the 15.5mm button caps - apparently, Marquardt also has some in 18.3mm. Make sure you don't accidentally buy the wrong ones!

Config

You are most probably going to use this board together with the [MB-SEQ V3/V4](#) PCB designed by

Wilba. To make it easy for you, [here](#) is the updated config file that holds all the shift register definitions necessary for the board to work properly. Then, J2 on this PCB has to be connected to J2 on Wilba's PCB.

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Last update: **2025/09/21 10:36**

