

USB RECORDER

USB Computer Audio Recording Interface



- ▶ **QUICKSTART MANUAL**
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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to U-RECORD – the quickest and easiest way to transfer your vinyl records to your computer. Once you record your vinyl, you can burn music CDs or even load your favorite records onto portable media players!

The U-RECORD system consists of the USB Recorder device and accompanying software for your computer. If you are a beginner user and are looking for the quickest way to record your vinyl, you may wish to use our EZ Vinyl Converter (PC) or EZ Audio Converter (Mac) software. These applications are extremely easy to use and we have included a handy manual (see the MixMeister Vinyl Converter Software Guide) to guide you through all the necessary steps.

Please read this manual for information about the USB Recorder and how to connect it to your record player and computer. Once you become familiar with the connection procedure and the features of the device, insert the included CD into your computer's CD-ROM drive and install the software application which best suits you. Refer to the software manuals included on the CD for information on software operation. We sincerely hope that you enjoy this great product!

BOX CONTENTS

Please make sure that the following items were included in the box. **Before using this product, read the Safety and Warranty Information.**

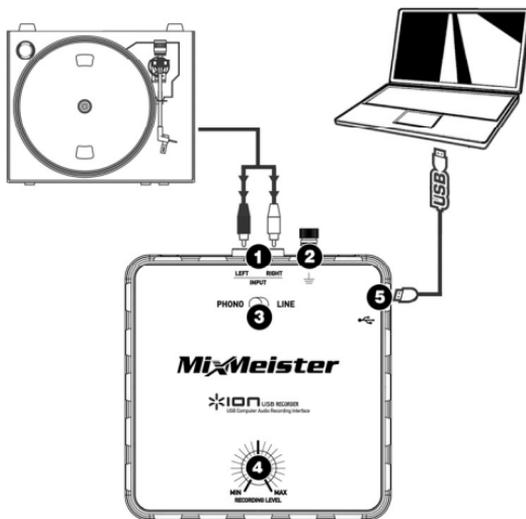
- USB Recorder
- USB Cable
- Software CD
- U-RECORD Quickstart Manual
- MixMeister Vinyl Converter Software Guide

CONNECTION DIAGRAM AND TOP PANEL FEATURES

Please refer to the following list of features:

- 1. STEREO RCA INPUT** – Connect your record player to this stereo RCA input.
- 2. GROUND CONNECTOR** – If your record player features a grounding wire, please connect it to this terminal by loosening the terminal, inserting your record player's grounding wire and then tightening to secure the grounding wire to the terminal. If your record player has a grounding wire but it is not connected to the grounding terminal when using this product, you may experience a “buzzing” or “humming” effect!

Tip: Most old record players will have a grounding wire which needs to be connected to the grounding terminal. Some new record players have the grounding wire built into the RCA connection and, therefore, nothing needs to be connected to the grounding terminal.



- 3. PHONO | LINE SWITCH** – This switch should be set depending on the audio signal being output from your record player. Most old record players output a weak audio signal, known as a Phono-level signal, which needs to be amplified in order to be heard. In this case, the switch should be set to 'PHONO'. Some modern record players have the ability to output a louder signal, also known as a Line-level signal. In this case, the switch should be set to 'LINE'.

Tip: If the audio level is very low when you play your vinyl, it is possible that you are using a Phono-level record player but have incorrectly set the switch to "LINE" – if this is the case, flip the switch to "PHONO". On the other hand, if the audio from your record player sounds extremely loud, distorted and unpleasant, it is possible that you are using a Line-level record player but have incorrectly set the switch to "PHONO" – if this is the case, flip the switch to "LINE".

- 4. RECORDING LEVEL KNOB** – This knob can be used to adjust the volume of the recording. As you record your vinyl, be careful about recording too loud or "hot" of a signal – this may result in unpleasant distortion in your recordings. Use this knob to adjust the volume so the audio level meters in the recording application never hit the red.

Tip: Many songs have quiet introductions which may often be misleading when trying to determine the optimal recording level. For example, you may have set the recording level so the level meters in the software never hit the red during the introduction of a song. However, when a loud part of the song begins playing, the meters start hitting the red and "clipping" the audio signal, resulting in distorted audio. We recommend that, before you begin the actual recording, you find a loud moment in the music and adjust the recording level so the meters never go into the red. This will ensure that your entire recording will sound crisp and clear, without distorting.

- 5. USB CONNECTION** – This is the connection to your computer. Use the included USB cable to connect this port to an available USB port on your computer. The square side of the cable should be connected to the USB Recorder, while the flat side of the cable should be connected to your computer. The USB Recorder is a plug-and-play device so there are no special drivers or software needed – it should be ready to use as soon as it is plugged into your computer.

TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
I am experiencing a hum or high-pitched tone when recording and listening to my vinyl on my laptop computer.	Certain models of laptop computers generate large amounts of ground noise. This noise can leak into your USB audio device and cause noise in the audio outputs.	Try an amplifier with an ungrounded plug.
		Try an amplifier with a "Ground Lift" switch, and engage that switch.
		Try a "Direct Box" (or "Direct Injection" box) with ground lift switches between your computer's audio output and the amp.
		Try plugging your laptop into a different power outlet.
		Run the laptop on batteries (not viable for long periods of time).
		Use a 3-to-2 prong adapter for your laptop's power supply so that the laptop ground is not connected to the mains outlet. Contact your computer manufacturer for any safety concerns before doing this.
		Plug your laptop into a power outlet which has a separate ground (like an Earth ground) from the other audio devices.
The audio from the record player is too loud and distorted.	The Phono Line switch is set incorrectly.	If using a Line-level record player, please ensure that the Phono Line switch is set to 'Line' to prevent the audio from distorting.
	The Recording Level is set too high.	Turn down the Recording Level knob.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
<p>The audio from the record player is barely audible.</p>	<p>The Phono Line switch is set incorrectly.</p>	<p>If using a Phono-level record player, please ensure that the Phono Line switch is set to 'Phono'.</p>
	<p>The Recording Level is set too low.</p>	<p>Turn up the Recording Level knob.</p>
<p>I do not hear any audio when I play music from my record player.</p>	<p>The USB Recorder is not connected to your computer.</p>	<p>Use the included USB cable to connect the USB Recorder to your computer's USB port.</p>
	<p>Bad USB computer port.</p>	<p>Try connecting the USB Recorder to an alternate USB port.</p>
	<p>Bad USB cable.</p>	<p>Try using a different USB cable.</p>
	<p>Problem is caused by use of a USB hub.</p>	<p>Some hubs do not provide sufficient power to properly power the Express DJ Audio Interface. If you experience problems when using a hub, unplug the hub and then connect the audio interface directly to your computer's USB port.</p>



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Refer to the following list of frequently asked questions for additional information.

Question: What operating systems is the USB Recorder compatible with?

Answer: The hardware USB Recorder is compatible with Windows XP, Vista, and Mac OS X. The EZ Vinyl Converter software is compatible with Windows XP and Vista. The EZ Audio Converter software is compatible with Mac OS X.

Question: Do I need to install any drivers or special software for the USB Recorder?

Answer: The USB Recorder is class-compliant and is ready to use as soon as it is plugged into your computer's USB port. However, you *do* need to install either of the supplied audio software applications to take advantage of audio recording.

Question: Do I need an adapter to power the USB Recorder?

Answer: No, the USB Recorder is powered through the USB connection.

Question: Can I record audio from other devices, such as tape, CD or media players?

Answer: Sure! You can record audio from virtually any source. Simply use the correct cable to connect your device to the RCA inputs of the USB Recorder. In most cases, you will need to set the Phono | Line switch to Line.

Question: Can I use other third-party software packages with the USB Recorder?

Answer: We highly recommend that you use the software included on the CD to record your music. However, you *can* use the USB Recorder with almost all applications which allow you to record audio from an external input. In most software applications, the USB Recorder will be labeled as "USB Audio Codec". For further information, please consult the software's documentation.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit the Ion Audio website (www.ion-audio.com) regularly for additional information, news and updates.

For additional technical support:

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www.ion-audio.com