M-AUDIO®

M-TRACKPLUS

USER GUIDE
ENGLISH (3 – 6)

GUÍA DEL USUARIO
ESPAÑOL (7 – 10)

GUIDE D'UTILISATION
FRANÇAIS (11 – 14)

GUIDA PER L'USO
ITALIANO (15 – 18)

BENUTZERHANDBUCH
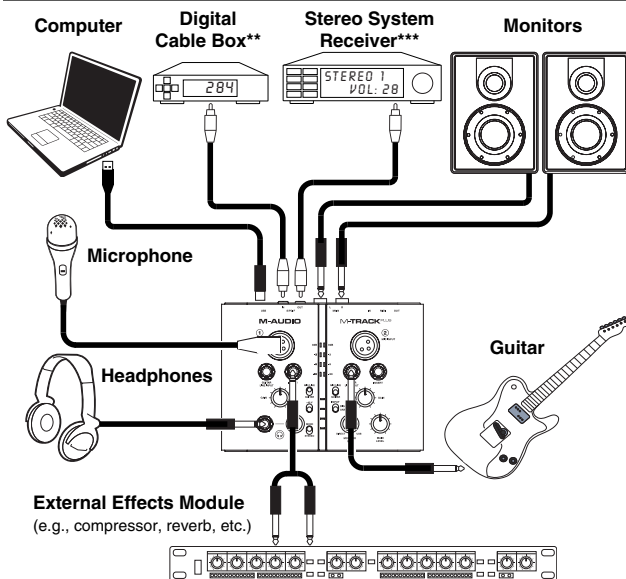DEUTSCH (19 – 22)

USER GUIDE (ENGLISH)

Box Contents

- M-Track Plus
- Software DVD
- iLok 2
- USB Cable
- User Guide
- Safety Instructions & Warranty Information booklet

Support

For complete system requirements, compatibility information, and product registration, visit the support section of the M-Audio website: **www.m-audio.com/support**.

Quick Start

Setup Scenario*

Computer *Digital Cable Box*** *Stereo System Receiver**** *Monitors*

Microphone

Headphones

Guitar

External Effects Module
(e.g., compressor, reverb, etc.)

** Items not listed in **Box Contents** are not included.*

** Monitor audio sources connected to M-Track Plus's S/PDIF IN by setting the INPUT SELECTOR to "DIGITAL." To monitor audio sources connected to the MIC INPUTS or GUITAR / LINE INPUTS, switch it back to "ANALOG." This way, you can leave your mics or instruments connected to M-Track Plus while listening to your TV's audio over your connected monitors—or leave M-Track Plus connected to your media setup even while you record your music.

*** If you do not have monitors, you can connect M-Track Plus's S/PDIF OUT to a stereo system receiver to hear the audio through your home speaker system.

Notes:
- When recording a guitar or bass with an active pickup, set the M-Track Plus's MIC/LINE / GUITAR SWITCH to "MIC/LINE." If your instrument uses a passive pickup, set the switch to "GUITAR."
- Do not use the MIC INPUT and GUITAR/LINE INPUT at the same time on one channel. This may overload the channel and cause distortion.
- Plug the M-Track Plus directly into your computer, and avoid using a USB hub. Hubs can interfere with the M-Track Plus's audio and MIDI timing signals.

Recommended Installations

We highly recommend installing the following software applications:

Pro Tools Express: We've included Pro Tools Express with your M-Track Plus so you can get started making music with a professional DAW right out of the box:

1. Insert the DVD into your computer's DVD drive. Double-click the DVD to view its contents. Locate, open, and follow the installation instructions.
2. After activating Pro Tools Express and receiving the license, connect the included iLok 2 to a USB port on your computer and transfer the license to it.
   Connect the iLok 2 to your computer whenever you want to use Pro Tools Express. The software will launch once it verifies the license on the iLok 2. (Visit **www.avid.com** to check for any available software updates.)

Ignite (www.airmusictech.com/getignite): We recommend downloading Ignite, a music creation tool designed by AIR Music Technology to be easiest way to capture, build, and share musical ideas. Ignite works well on its own or as a writing companion to the production capabilities of your software.

M-AUDIO®

Audio Setup

The M-Track Plus is a class-compliant device that can be used with any digital audio workstation (DAW) or recording software that supports USB audio. To enable your M-Track Plus to send and receive audio to and from your computer, follow the instructions below for your computer's operating system.

> *Be sure your audio software program is set up to receive audio via the M-Track Plus. This can usually be done in your software's "Preferences" or "Device Setup." Please consult your software manual for more information.*

If you want even lower latency, read the text in the gray box at the bottom of the page, which discusses ASIO4ALL.

Windows

Windows 7:
1. Use the included cable to connect the M-Track Plus to your computer.
2. Go to **Start Menu ▶ Control Panel ▶ Hardware and Sound ▶ Sound**.
3. Click the **Playback** tab and select **M-Track Plus** as the default device.
4. Click the **Recording** tab and select **M-Track Plus** as the default device.
5. Click **Properties** in the lower right-hand corner.
6. In the new window, click the **Advanced** tab and select **2-channel, 16-bit, 44100 Hz (CD Quality)** as the default format.
7. Uncheck both boxes under **Exclusive Mode**.
8. Click the **Levels** tab and set the slider to "4."
9. Click **OK** to close the **Properties** window.
10. Click **OK** to close the **Sound** control panel.

*Note: If you are using the ASIO4ALL driver (see below), before you open the ASIO4ALL control panel, use the steps above to make sure M-Track Plus is **not** selected as the default device. If you want to play your computer's audio through M-Track Plus after you close your DAW, you may need to repeat the steps above to reselect it as the default device.*

Windows Vista:
1. Use the included cable to connect the M-Track Plus to your computer.
2. Go to **Start Menu ▶ Control Panel ▶ Sound**. (If you don't see **Sound**, select **Switch to Classic View**, and the **Sound Control Panel** should become available.)
3. Click the **Playback** tab and select **M-Track Plus** as the default device.
4. Click the **Recording** tab and select **M-Track Plus** as the default device.
5. Click **Properties** in the lower right-hand corner.
6. In the new window, click the **Advanced** tab and select **2-channel, 16-bit, 44100 Hz (CD Quality)** as the default format.
7. Uncheck both boxes under **Exclusive Mode**.
8. Click **OK** to close the **Properties** window.
9. Click **OK** to close the **Sound** control panel.

*Note: If you are using the ASIO4ALL driver (see below), before you open the ASIO4ALL control panel, use the steps above to make sure M-Track Plus is **not** selected as the default device. If you want to play your computer's audio through M-Track Plus after you close your DAW, you may need to repeat the steps above to reselect it as the default device.*

Windows XP:
1. Use the included cable to connect the M-Track Plus to your computer.
2. Go to **Start Menu ▶ Control Panel ▶ Sounds and Audio Devices**.
3. Click the **Audio** tab.
4. Under **Sound Playback** and **Sound Recording**, select **USB Audio Codec** as the default device. (If you have other USB audio devices connected to your computer, which may have identical names, you may need to try selecting each one until the M-Track Plus is recognized.)
5. Click **OK**.

*Note: If you are using the ASIO4ALL driver (see below), before you open the ASIO4ALL control panel, use the steps above to make sure M-Track Plus is **not** selected as the default device. If you want to play your computer's audio through M-Track Plus after you close your DAW, you may need to repeat the steps above to reselect it as the default device.*

IMPORTANT: If you experience too much latency after adjusting your software latency settings, we recommend the free ASIO4ALL (Audio Stream Input/Output) driver for Windows at **www.asio4all.com.** ASIO drivers generally perform better and with lower latency since they create a more efficient communication between audio devices and software.

To download and install ASIO4ALL:
1. Go to **www.asio4all.com** and download the latest release for your region.
2. Double-click the downloaded ASIO4ALL **.exe** file.
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to install ASIO4ALL.

To set up ASIO4ALL with your DAW:
1. With M-Track Plus connected to your computer, open your DAW.
2. Click the arrow icon in the Windows System Tray, which will open the ASIO4ALL control panel.
3. Click the wrench icon in the lower right corner of the control panel.
4. Under the **WDM Device List**, click the **+** box next to **M-Track Plus** to expand it. (In Windows XP, this will appear as **USB Audio Codec**.)
5. Make sure both boxes next to the **Out** and **In** under **M-Track Plus** (or **USB Audio Codec** in Windows XP) are checked/lit. If they are not, click them.
6. Make sure all other boxes are unchecked/unlit. If they are checked/lit, click them.
7. Close the control panel.

*Note: You can select M-Track Plus as your default device in the ASIO4ALL control panel only if it is **not** selected as your Windows default device.*

Mac

1. Use the included USB cable to connect the M-Track Plus to your computer.
2. Go to **System Preferences ▶ Sound**.
3. Under the **Output** tab, select **M-Track Plus** as your default device.
4. Under the **Input** tab, select **M-Track Plus** as your default device.
5. Close the window.

Features
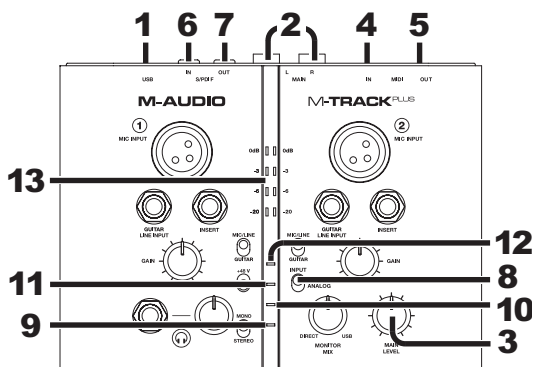
1. **USB PORT –** Use the included cable to connect the M-Track Plus to a computer. M-Track Plus requires a USB 1.1 (or higher) connection.

2. **MAIN OUT –** Use standard 1/4" cables to connect this output to a pair of powered speakers. The level of this output is controlled by the MAIN LEVEL knob.

3. **MAIN LEVEL –** Adjusts the output volume of the MAIN OUT so you can control the listening level of your connected powered monitors.

4. **MIDI IN –** Use a standard five-pin MIDI cable to connect this input to the MIDI OUT of an external MIDI device.

5. **MIDI OUT –** Use a standard five-pin MIDI cable to connect this output to the MIDI IN of an external MIDI device.

6. **S/PDIF IN –** Connect the digital output of another device (e.g., a keyboard, digital cable box, media streaming device, etc.) to this input using a 75 Ω coaxial (RCA) cable. Note that the GAIN knobs, MAIN LEVEL knob, and HEADPHONE VOLUME knob do not affect the signal level; the signal will be sent straight to your DAW without any adjustments.

7. **S/PDIF OUT –** Connect the digital input of another device (e.g., a stereo system receiver, solid-state flash recorder, etc.) to this output using a 75 Ω coaxial (RCA) cable. The signal sent from this output is identical to that of the MAIN OUT.

8. **INPUT SELECTOR –** Selects M-Track Plus's input source. For normal operation (using the MIC INPUTS and GUITAR/LINE INPUTS), set this switch to "ANALOG." When using the S/PDIF IN, set this switch to "DIGITAL"; M-Track Plus will ignore the GUITAR/LINE INPUTS and INSERTS.

9. **PHANTOM POWER LED –** Lights up when phantom power is engaged.

10. **MIDI OUT LED –** Flashes when MIDI data is sent from your software to M-Track Plus's MIDI OUT.

11. **MIDI IN LED –** Flashes whenever MIDI data is received from an external MIDI controller.

12. **USB LED –** Illuminates when a valid USB connection has been established between your computer and M-Track Plus. Use this light to verify that M-Track Plus is receiving power and is ready to use.

13. **LED METERS –** Indicates the audio level of the MAIN OUT.

M-AUDIO®
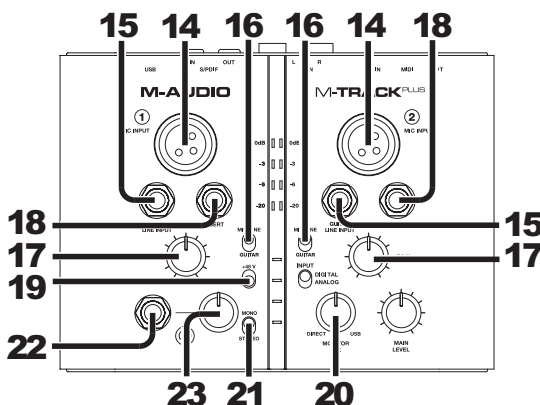
14. **MIC INPUT –** Connect a microphone to this input with an XLR cable.

15. **GUITAR / LINE INPUT –** Connect a line-level device or guitar to this input with a 1/4" cable. This input can accept a balanced or unbalanced signal.

> **NOTE:** Do not use the MIC INPUT and GUITAR/LINE INPUT at the same time on one channel. This may overload the channel and cause distortion.

16. **MIC/LINE / GUITAR SWITCH –** When this switch is in the "GUITAR" position, the channel will serve as a high-impedance input for connecting guitar or bass instruments. When the switch is in the "MIC/LINE" position, the channel will accept mic or line-level signals.

17. **GAIN –** Adjusts the channel's input gain level. For your signal's gain to be at an optimally high level, make sure that its loudest output causes the amber lights on the LED METERS to illuminate. (Higher levels can result in "clipping" or distortion of the signal, and signals recorded at lower levels may not be heard in the mix.) After that, do the same in your software using its meters.

18. **INSERT –** The insert jack allows you to insert a compressor, EQ, or any other signal processor in between the M-Track Plus's preamplifier and A/D converter. Any processing done by a connected insert processor will be recorded into your software.

19. **PHANTOM POWER SWITCH –** This switch activates and deactivates phantom power. When activated, phantom power supplies +48V to both XLR mic inputs. Please note that most dynamic microphones do not require phantom power, while most condenser microphones do. Do **not** use phantom power with any ribbon microphones as it will damage them. Consult your microphone's documentation to find out whether it needs phantom power.

20. **MONITOR MIX –** Blend in any amount of zero-latency signal (direct monitoring) from your inputs with the output from your DAW. When fully in the "USB" position, you will hear only sound from your DAW. When fully in the "DIRECT" position, you will hear only your source through M-Track Plus's inputs.

    This knob is useful during recording when dealing with the "buffer size" and "latency." The computer takes a short amount of time to process the incoming audio before sending it back out; this time is determined by the buffer size setting. Latency is the resulting delay between the incoming sound (playing your instrument, singing, etc.) and outgoing sound (when you hear it in the DAW). Higher buffer sizes result in higher latency.

    If your computer is powerful enough, you may be able to set your buffer size low enough such that you may never need direct monitoring. In this case, set the knob all the way to the "USB" position to monitor only the audio output of your DAW.

    In other cases, though, low buffer sizes can consume a lot of your computer's CPU and cause audio glitches, so you may need to use a higher buffer setting, resulting in latency. In this case, use a higher buffer size and turn the knob more towards the "DIRECT" position to monitor your incoming signal without latency. When listening to the playback, turn it all the way to the "USB" position.

21. **MONO / STEREO –** Switches the headphones and MAIN OUT mixes between mono or stereo operation. Use the stereo setting to direct-monitor the input signal when recording a stereo source, if you want to hear each channel in their respective left and right sides. Use the mono setting to direct-monitor the input signal when recording only one source or if you want to hear both channels equally on each side. This switch does not affect the DAW playback or how your sound is recorded into your DAW; it affects only how you hear the input signal in the headphones and MAIN OUT.

22. **HEADPHONES –** Connect your 1/4" headphones to this output.

23. **HEADPHONE VOLUME –** Adjusts the volume level of the headphone output.

Technical Specifications

Interface: 24-bit audio / MIDI interface

Features: Stereo, 24-bit inputs/outputs
Sample-rate adjustable up to 48 kHz
Separate gain knob and mic/line / guitar switch for each input
All balanced inputs and outputs
Stereo 1/4" headphone jack
MIDI I/O
S/PDIF I/O

Audio I/O: Mic inputs:
SNR: 97 dB
THD+N: 0.005%
Frequency Response: ±0.35 dB

1/4" guitar/line inputs:
SNR: 96 dB
THD+N: 0.034%
Frequency Response: ±1.2 dB

Analog outputs:
SNR: 97 dB
THD+N: 0.005%
Frequency Response: ±0.35 dB

Power: USB bus power

Dimensions: 6.5" x 4.7" x 2.25"
(W x L x H)   165 mm x 119 mm x 57 mm

Weight: 1.5 lbs.
0.68 kg

* Specifications are subject to change without notice.

m-audio.com