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## Saitek ST290

# Saitek ST290 Programmable Joystick with Throttle User Manual

Model: ST290

## INTRODUCTION

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The Saitek ST290 Programmable Joystick with Throttle is designed to provide precise control and an immersive gaming experience. Its radical design and styling are engineered for optimal performance. Key features include a 3-position handle adjustment to accommodate various hand sizes, an adjustable palm rest, and a central lever throttle, making it suitable for both left- and right-handed users.

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your ST290 joystick, along with troubleshooting tips and product specifications.

## PRODUCT FEATURES

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- Rapid-Fire Trigger: For quick and responsive action.
- 8-way 'Point-of-view' Hat Switch: Allows for quick camera angle changes or directional input.
- Single Spring Gimbal Mechanism: Provides smooth and consistent control.
- 3-position Handle Adjustment: Customizable grip for various hand sizes.
- Adjustable Palm Rest: Enhances comfort during extended use.
- Central Lever Throttle: Integrated throttle control for precise speed management, usable by both left and right hands.

## SETUP

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### Package Contents

Ensure all components are present:

- Saitek ST290 Programmable Joystick with integrated USB cable

### Connecting the Joystick

1. Locate an available USB port on your computer.

2. Insert the USB connector of the ST290 joystick firmly into the USB port.
3. Your operating system should automatically detect and install the necessary drivers. If prompted, follow the on-screen instructions.
4. For advanced customization and programming, visit the official Saitek website to download the latest drivers and software for the ST290 model.

## Adjusting the Handle and Palm Rest

The ST290 features a 3-position handle adjustment and an adjustable palm rest for ergonomic comfort. Experiment with different positions to find the most comfortable setup for your hand size and grip style.



Front view of the Saitek ST290 Programmable Joystick, showing the main stick, base, and integrated throttle.



Side view of the Saitek ST290 Joystick, highlighting the ergonomic design and button placement on the stick.



Top-down view of the Saitek ST290 Joystick, showing the base and the central lever throttle mechanism.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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### Basic Control

The ST290 joystick provides intuitive control for various PC games, especially flight simulators and action games.

- **Joystick Movement:** Move the main stick forward, backward, left, or right to control pitch and roll in flight simulations, or character movement in other games.
- **Twist Handle (Yaw Control):** The joystick handle can be twisted left or right to provide yaw control, essential for precise maneuvering in flight games.
- **Throttle Lever:** Use the central lever throttle to adjust speed, thrust, or other proportional controls within your game. Push forward to increase, pull back to decrease.

### Button Functions

The ST290 features multiple programmable buttons for various in-game actions:

- **Rapid-Fire Trigger:** Located on the front of the stick, typically used for primary weapon firing.
- **Hat Switch (Point-of-View):** The 8-way hat switch on top of the stick is commonly used for changing camera views, selecting targets, or quick menu navigation.
- **Programmable Buttons:** Additional buttons on the stick and base can be assigned to specific functions within your game's control settings or through the Saitek programming software.

### Software Programming

For advanced users, the Saitek programming software (downloadable from the official website) allows for custom button assignments, macro creation, and profile management for different games. Refer to the software's documentation for detailed instructions.

## MAINTENANCE

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Proper care will extend the life of your ST290 joystick.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the joystick and base. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth with mild soap can be used, ensuring no liquid enters the internal components. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the joystick in a clean, dry environment away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Cable Care:** Avoid sharp bends or kinks in the USB cable. Do not pull the cable to disconnect the joystick from the computer.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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### Joystick Not Detected

- Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the joystick and the computer.
- Try connecting the joystick to a different USB port on your computer.
- Restart your computer.
- Check Device Manager (Windows) or System Information (macOS) to see if the joystick is listed. If there's an error, try reinstalling the drivers from the Saitek website.

### Buttons or Axis Not Responding

- Calibrate the joystick through your operating system's game controller settings. (Windows: Control Panel > Devices and Printers > Right-click joystick > Game Controller Settings > Properties > Settings > Calibrate).
- Ensure the game you are playing supports joystick input and that the controls are correctly configured within the game's settings.
- Verify that the latest drivers are installed.

### Trigger Feels Loose or Breaks Off

Some users have reported issues with the trigger mechanism becoming loose or breaking over time due to plastic fatigue. While this is a known concern, it is not covered under standard maintenance. If this occurs, consider contacting Saitek support for potential repair options or replacement parts, if available.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Brand	Saitek
Model Name	ST290
Connectivity Technology	USB
Controller Type	Joystick

Feature	Detail
Compatible Devices	PC
Product Dimensions	10.16 x 9.29 x 10.12 inches
Item Weight	1 pounds
Manufacturer	Saitek
First Available Date	June 29, 2004

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For information regarding warranty coverage, technical support, or replacement parts for your Saitek ST290 Joystick, please refer to the official Saitek (now Logitech G) website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Online resources, including FAQs and driver downloads, are typically available on the manufacturer's support pages.