

## M-AUDIO US41401

# M-Audio MobilePre USB Mobile Preamp and Audio Interface User Manual

Model: US41401

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The M-Audio MobilePre USB is a portable preamp and audio interface designed for recording audio on laptops and desktop computers. It offers a versatile solution for musicians, podcasters, and content creators needing high-quality audio input and output capabilities in a compact, USB-powered device. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your MobilePre USB interface.

## 2. KEY FEATURES

- **2x2 16-bit/48kHz Analog I/O with Preamps:** Provides two input and two output channels with high-quality preamplifiers.
- **2 Microphone Inputs (XLR Balanced) with 48V Phantom Power:** Connect professional condenser microphones requiring phantom power.
- **2 High-Impedance Instrument/Line Inputs (Balanced/Unbalanced 1/4" TRS):** Ideal for connecting guitars, basses, keyboards, or other line-level devices.
- **Zero-Latency Hardware Direct Monitoring (Mono/Stereo) with Software Level Control:** Allows monitoring of input signals directly through the hardware without delay, with adjustable levels via software.
- **USB-Powered for Total Mobility:** Draws power directly from your computer's USB port, eliminating the need for an external power supply.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Upon unpacking your M-Audio MobilePre USB, ensure all the following items are present:

- MobilePre USB audio interface

- High-quality USB cable
- M-Audio Driver CD (includes driver installation software)
- Additional software installation CDs (may include trial versions)
- Product Manual (this document)

## 4. SETUP GUIDE

### 4.1. Driver Installation

1. Before connecting the MobilePre USB to your computer, insert the M-Audio Driver CD into your computer's CD-ROM drive.
2. Follow the on-screen instructions to install the necessary drivers. It is crucial to install the drivers *before* connecting the device to ensure proper recognition and functionality.
3. After installation, restart your computer if prompted.
4. For the latest drivers and software updates, visit the official M-Audio support website.

### 4.2. Hardware Connection

1. Connect one end of the provided USB cable to the USB port on the back of the MobilePre USB.
2. Connect the other end of the USB cable to an available USB port on your computer. The device is USB-powered and will turn on automatically.
3. Your computer should now recognize the MobilePre USB as an audio device. You may need to select it as your default audio input/output device in your operating system's sound settings or your digital audio workstation (DAW) software.



Figure 1: Front panel of the M-Audio MobilePre USB, showing input jacks, gain controls, headphone output, and phantom power switch.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the M-Audio MobilePre USB, displaying USB port, stereo line output, 1/4" TRS outputs, stereo mic input, and XLR microphone inputs.

## 5. OPERATION

### 5.1. Connecting Microphones and Instruments

- **Microphones:** Connect XLR microphones to the "ch1 mic" and "ch2 mic" inputs on the rear panel (Figure 2). For condenser microphones, activate 48V phantom power using the switch on the front panel (Figure 1).
- **Instruments/Line-Level Devices:** Connect instruments like guitars or basses to the "ch1 inst/line" input on the front panel (Figure 1) or line-level devices to the "ch2 inst/line" input on the rear panel (Figure 2) using 1/4" TRS cables.

## 5.2. Adjusting Input Levels (Gain)

Each input channel has a dedicated "gain" knob on the front panel (Figure 1). Adjust these knobs to set the input level for your microphone or instrument. The "signal" LED will illuminate when an audio signal is present, and the "clip" LED will light up if the signal is too strong, indicating potential distortion. Aim for the "signal" LED to light consistently without the "clip" LED flashing frequently.

## 5.3. Monitoring Audio

- **Headphones:** Connect headphones to the 1/4" headphone jack on the front panel (Figure 1). Adjust the "level" knob next to the headphone jack to control the headphone volume.
- **Direct Monitoring:** The MobilePre USB features zero-latency direct monitoring. This allows you to hear your input signal directly through the hardware without any delay introduced by your computer or software. This feature is controlled via software.
- **Line Outputs:** Connect powered studio monitors or an amplifier to the "stereo line" (3.5mm) or "2/R" and "1/L" (1/4" TRS) outputs on the rear panel (Figure 2) for main audio output.

## 5.4. Software Integration

The MobilePre USB is compatible with most USB-connected Windows software, including popular audio and MIDI applications. Once drivers are installed, select the MobilePre USB as your audio input and output device within your chosen digital audio workstation (DAW) or recording software.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid liquid cleaners or solvents, as they may damage the finish or internal components.
- **Storage:** Store the MobilePre USB in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Cable Care:** Always handle cables by the connectors, not the wires, to prevent damage. Avoid sharp bends or kinks in cables.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

### No Sound from Inputs:

- Ensure the MobilePre USB is selected as the input device in your computer's sound settings and your recording software.
- Check all cable connections.
- Verify that the gain knobs for the active channels are turned up sufficiently.
- If using a condenser microphone, ensure 48V phantom power is enabled.

### No Sound from Outputs/Headphones:

- Confirm the MobilePre USB is selected as the output device in your computer's sound settings and

your recording software.

- Check the headphone "level" knob and the volume of your connected speakers/monitors.
- Ensure your monitoring path is correctly configured in your recording software.

#### **Crackling or Distortion:**

- Reduce the input gain if the "clip" LED is frequently lighting up.
- Try a different USB port on your computer.
- Ensure your computer meets the minimum system requirements for the device and your recording software.
- Update your M-Audio drivers to the latest version from the official website.

#### **Device Not Recognized:**

- Ensure drivers were installed *before* connecting the device. If not, uninstall drivers, disconnect the device, reinstall drivers, then reconnect.
- Try a different USB cable or USB port.
- Restart your computer.
- For Windows 7 users, some older versions of this device may have driver compatibility issues. Refer to the M-Audio support website for specific driver versions or compatibility information.

## **8. SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>Brand</b>	M-AUDIO
<b>Model Number</b>	US41401
<b>Connectivity Technology</b>	USB
<b>Number of Channels</b>	2
<b>Maximum Sample Rate</b>	48 KHz
<b>Frequency Response</b>	24 KHz
<b>Audio Input</b>	USB
<b>Compatible Devices</b>	Laptop
<b>Supported Software</b>	USB-connected Windows software, including popular audio and MIDI applications
<b>Operating System</b>	Windows (Note: Driver compatibility may vary with OS versions; check M-Audio support for latest information)

## **9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT**

For warranty information, technical support, and the latest driver downloads, please visit the official M-

Audio website. You can also find frequently asked questions (FAQs) and community forums that may assist with common issues.

**M-Audio Official Website:** [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com)

Please retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.