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## Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro

# Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro 24-Channel Mixer User Manual

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro 24-Channel Mixer. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the mixer to ensure optimal performance and longevity of the unit.



Figure 1: Top-down view of the Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro 24-Channel Mixer, showcasing its array of faders, knobs, and input/output sections.

## 2. KEY FEATURES

The Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro mixer is designed for professional audio applications, offering robust performance and a comprehensive feature set:

- **XDR Microphone Preamps:** Equipped with high-quality XDR (Extended Dynamic Range) microphone preamps for excellent signal integrity and low noise.
- **VLZ Circuitry:** Features VLZ (Very Low Impedance) circuitry, contributing to the mixer's high headroom and low noise floor.
- **24 Channels:** Provides 24 input channels, suitable for a wide range of live sound and studio recording scenarios.
- **High Headroom Design:** Main and submix amplifiers utilize Mackie's negative gain mix architecture, offering double the mix headroom compared to conventional designs.
- **Robust Construction:** Built for durability and reliability in demanding environments.

## 3. SETUP GUIDE

Proper setup is crucial for optimal performance. Follow these steps to connect your mixer:

1. **Unpacking and Placement:** Carefully remove the mixer from its packaging. Place it on a stable, flat surface, ensuring adequate ventilation around the unit. Avoid placing it near heat sources or in direct sunlight.
2. **Power Connection:** Ensure the mixer's power switch is in the OFF position. Connect the supplied AC power cord to the mixer's power inlet and then to a grounded AC power outlet.

### 3. Input Connections:

- Connect microphones to the XLR inputs (MIC IN) on each channel using balanced XLR cables.
- Connect line-level sources (e.g., keyboards, drum machines) to the 1/4-inch TRS/TS LINE IN jacks.
- For stereo sources, use two adjacent channels or dedicated stereo input channels if available.

### 4. Output Connections:

- Connect the MAIN OUT (XLR or 1/4-inch) to your power amplifier or powered speakers.
- Connect AUX SEND outputs to external effects processors or monitor amplifiers.
- Connect CONTROL ROOM OUT to studio monitors for critical listening.
- Connect headphones to the PHONES jack.

5. **Initial Power On:** Before powering on, ensure all channel faders are down, and the main mix fader is at its lowest setting. Power on any connected devices (amplifiers, powered speakers) last. Then, switch on the mixer.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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This section outlines the basic operation of the Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro mixer.

### 4.1 Channel Strip Overview

Each input channel features controls for gain, equalization, auxiliary sends, pan, mute, solo, and level fader.

- **GAIN Knob:** Adjusts the input sensitivity for the microphone or line input. Set this to achieve a healthy signal level without clipping (indicated by the PEAK LED).
- **EQ Section:** Typically includes High, Mid (with sweepable frequency), and Low frequency controls to shape the tone of the input signal.
- **AUX SEND Knobs:** Control the amount of signal sent from the channel to the auxiliary outputs, used for monitors or effects.
- **PAN Knob:** Positions the channel's signal within the stereo field (left to right).
- **MUTE Button:** Silences the channel's output to the main mix and subgroups.
- **SOLO Button:** Isolates the channel's signal for monitoring through headphones or control room outputs without affecting the main mix.
- **Channel Fader:** Adjusts the overall level of the channel's signal sent to the main mix and subgroups.

### 4.2 Main Mix and Subgroups

The main mix combines all active channels into a stereo output. Subgroups allow for routing multiple channels to a single fader for easier control.

- **MAIN MIX Fader:** Controls the overall output level of the stereo main mix.
- **SUBGROUP Faders:** Control the output level of grouped channels. Channels are assigned to subgroups using routing buttons on each channel strip.
- **METERS:** Provide visual feedback of signal levels for the main mix and subgroups. Aim for levels that are strong but do not consistently peak into the red.

### 4.3 Monitoring

Use the Control Room and Headphone outputs for monitoring your mix.

- **CONTROL ROOM Level:** Adjusts the volume for your studio monitors.
- **PHONES Level:** Adjusts the volume for headphones. Note that on some models, this may share a control with

the Control Room output.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable operation of your mixer.

- **Cleaning:** Disconnect power before cleaning. Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to wipe down the exterior. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth with mild soap can be used, followed by a dry cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Dust Protection:** Keep the mixer covered when not in use to prevent dust accumulation, which can affect faders and potentiometers.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Operate and store the mixer in a cool, dry environment, away from extreme temperatures, humidity, and direct sunlight.
- **Cable Management:** Ensure cables are neatly organized and not under strain to prevent damage to connectors and inputs/outputs.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your mixer, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Power not connected or switched on.</li><li>◦ Main mix fader or channel faders are down.</li><li>◦ Mute button engaged on channels or main mix.</li><li>◦ Cables incorrectly connected or faulty.</li><li>◦ Amplifier/powered speakers off or muted.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Check power connections and switch.</li><li>◦ Raise faders to appropriate levels.</li><li>◦ Disengage mute buttons.</li><li>◦ Verify all cable connections and test cables.</li><li>◦ Check amplifier/speaker power and volume.</li></ul>
Hum or buzzing noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Ground loop.</li><li>◦ Unbalanced cables used for long runs.</li><li>◦ Interference from other electronic devices.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Ensure all equipment is on the same electrical circuit or use a ground lift (with caution).</li><li>◦ Use balanced cables (XLR or TRS) where possible.</li><li>◦ Move mixer away from power supplies, computers, or fluorescent lights.</li></ul>
Distorted sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Input gain too high.</li><li>◦ Output level too high.</li><li>◦ Faulty cable or component.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Reduce input GAIN until PEAK LED no longer illuminates.</li><li>◦ Lower main mix or channel faders.</li><li>◦ Test with different cables and isolate the faulty component.</li></ul>

If the problem persists after attempting these solutions, please contact Mackie customer support.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the Mackie SR24.4 VLZ Pro 24-Channel Mixer:

- **Brand:** Mackie

- **Model:** SR24.4 VLZ Pro
- **Number of Channels:** 24
- **Audio Input:** XLR (for microphone inputs)
- **Item Weight:** 40.1 pounds (approximately 18.19 kg)
- **ASIN:** B0002E50TA
- **Date First Available:** August 7, 2005

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For detailed warranty information, product registration, or technical assistance, please visit the official Mackie website or contact their customer support directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

**Mackie Official Website:** [www.mackie.com](http://www.mackie.com)