

RME Fireface UC

RME Fireface UC USB Audio Interface User Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

The RME Fireface UC (USB Compact) is a high-performance USB 2.0 audio interface optimized for both Windows and Mac OS. It features a newly developed RME Hammerfall core and proprietary transmission technology, enabling ultra-low latency multi-channel audio and professional specifications.

Key Features:

- 18-channel 24-bit/192kHz High-Speed USB Audio Interface
- High performance and stable operation thanks to a proprietary USB core
- High-quality AD/DA converters: All inputs/outputs 24-bit/192kHz
- Two high-end quality digitally controlled microphone preamps
- Latency-free submixes and complete ASIO direct monitoring



Figure 1: Front view of the RME Fireface UC USB Audio Interface, showcasing its compact design and control knobs.

2. IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Please Note (Disclaimer): This product is an outlet item. Please understand this condition before making your purchase.

Always ensure the device is connected to a stable power source. Avoid exposing the unit to moisture, extreme temperatures, or direct sunlight. Do not attempt to open the casing or modify the device, as this may void your warranty and pose a safety risk. Use only approved accessories and cables.

3. SETUP

3.1 Connecting the Device

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the included power adapter to the Fireface UC and then to a suitable power outlet.
2. **USB Connection:** Connect the Fireface UC to your computer using a high-quality USB 2.0 cable.
3. **Audio Connections:** Connect your microphones, instruments, and monitoring speakers/headphones to the appropriate input and output jacks on the Fireface UC.

3.2 Driver Installation

Before connecting the Fireface UC to your computer, it is highly recommended to download and install the latest drivers from the official RME website. Follow the on-screen instructions provided by the installer. Restart your computer after installation if prompted.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the RME Fireface UC, showing various input and output ports for audio connections.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 TotalMix FX Software

The Fireface UC utilizes RME's powerful TotalMix FX software for comprehensive routing and mixing capabilities. This software allows you to create latency-free submixes, manage inputs and outputs, and apply effects. Familiarize yourself with TotalMix FX to optimize your audio workflow.

4.2 Volume Management

When using TotalMix FX, it is crucial to manage your volume settings carefully to prevent unexpected loud outputs. It is recommended to start with low volume levels on your playback software (e.g., iTunes) and your monitoring

speakers/headphones before adjusting levels within TotalMix FX. Incorrect initial settings can lead to extremely loud output, potentially damaging your equipment or hearing.

Explore the snapshot function in TotalMix FX to save and recall different routing and volume configurations. This can prevent unexpected loud outputs when switching between various setups or projects.

Adjusting the output level reference (e.g., -10dBV, +4dBu, Hi Gain) in the Fireface USB Settings can significantly impact perceived volume and sound quality. Experiment with these settings to match your monitoring equipment and avoid ear fatigue from insufficient volume or excessive air pressure. The optimal setting depends on your specific setup.

5. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Environment:** Keep the device in a clean, dry environment, away from dust, moisture, and extreme temperatures.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, disconnect the power and USB cables.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

6.1 Common Issues

- **Unexpected Loud Output:** Refer to the "Volume Management" section (4.2) for detailed instructions on how to properly set up and manage volume levels within TotalMix FX and your playback software. Always start with low volumes.
- **Noise Issues:** Ensure all cables are securely connected and that your system has proper grounding. Some users have reported significant noise reduction after switching to the Fireface UC, indicating its robust design. If noise persists, check for interference from other electronic devices.
- **Driver Installation Problems:** If you encounter issues during driver installation, ensure you have downloaded the correct and latest drivers for your operating system from the official RME website. Temporarily disable antivirus software if it interferes with the installation process.
- **No Sound/Input:** Verify that the Fireface UC is selected as the audio input/output device in your computer's sound settings and within your Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) or playback software. Check routing in TotalMix FX.

7. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	RME
Model Number	Fireface UC
Product Type	Audio Interface
Connectivity Technology	USB, Interface
Number of Channels	18
Maximum Sampling Rate	192 KHz
Compatible Devices	Tablet, Laptop, PC

Feature	Detail
Compatible Software	Tablet, Desktop PC, Laptop
Item Weight	3.31 Pounds
GTIN (UPC)	720189180057



Figure 3: The RME Fireface UC connected to various audio equipment, demonstrating its versatility.



Figure 4: The RME Fireface UC shown with its power adapter and USB cable, representing the standard package contents.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information, technical support, and service inquiries, please refer to the official RME website (www.rme-audio.de) or contact your local authorized RME distributor. It is advisable to keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question