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## Mackie PROFX8

# Mackie PROFX8 8-Channel Mixer User Manual

Model: PROFX8

## INTRODUCTION

The Mackie PROFX8 is a professional 8-channel compact mixer designed for a wide range of audio applications, from solo performers to small venues. It integrates essential features such as onboard effects and USB I/O, providing a comprehensive solution for sound reinforcement and recording.

This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your PROFX8 mixer, ensuring optimal performance and longevity.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW



Figure 1: Top view of the Mackie PROFX8 mixer, highlighting the input channels, EQ sections, FX processor, and main output controls.

The PROFX8 features a robust design with a steel chassis and durable ABS side cheeks. Key components include:

- **Mic Preamps:** Four low-noise, high-headroom Mackie mic preamps with easy LED metering.
- **Effects Processor:** 32-bit RMFX™ processor offering 16 "Gig-Ready" reverbs, choruses, and delays.
- **Graphic EQ:** Precision 7-band graphic EQ for tuning Main or Monitor outputs.
- **USB I/O:** For recording shows and music playback via Mac or PC.
- **Channels:** 3 full stereo channels plus an extra stereo return for keyboards, external effects, or stereo playback devices.
- **Faders:** 60mm faders for input channels, returns, and Main/Monitor masters.

- **EQ on Channels:** 3-band active EQ (80Hz, 2.5kHz, and 12kHz) on all channels.
- **Hi-Z Input:** Dedicated input for direct connection of guitar, bass, and other instruments.
- **Phantom Power:** 48V phantom power available on all mic channels.
- **Outputs:** Balanced XLR and balanced/unbalanced 1/4-inch Main outputs.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the Mackie PROFX8, detailing power input, main balanced XLR outputs, and the USB connection port.

## SETUP

### 1. Unpacking and Inspection

Carefully remove the mixer from its packaging. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage that may have occurred during shipping. Retain the original packaging for future transport or storage.

### 2. Power Connection

1. Ensure the mixer's power switch is in the OFF position.
2. Connect the supplied AC power cord to the mixer's power inlet on the rear panel.
3. Plug the other end of the power cord into a suitable AC outlet. The "Planet Earth" switching power supply allows for worldwide use (100-240V).

### 3. Connecting Audio Devices

The PROFX8 offers various input and output options:

- **Microphones:** Connect microphones to the XLR inputs (channels 1-4). If using condenser microphones, activate 48V phantom power via the dedicated switch.
- **Line-Level Devices:** Connect instruments, keyboards, or other line-level devices to the 1/4-inch TRS/TS inputs. Channels 1-4 also accept line-level signals. Channels 5/6 and 7/8 are stereo line inputs.
- **Hi-Z Instruments:** Use the dedicated Hi-Z input for direct mixer connection of guitars or basses without an external DI box.
- **Main Outputs:** Connect your main speakers or power amplifier to the balanced XLR or 1/4-inch Main outputs.
- **Monitors:** Use the Monitor Send output to connect to stage monitors or a separate monitor amplifier.
- **Headphones:** Plug headphones into the 1/4-inch headphone jack for monitoring.
- **USB Connection:** Connect the mixer to your computer (Mac or PC) using a USB cable for recording and playback.



Figure 3: Angled view of the Mackie PROFX8, illustrating the ergonomic layout of controls for easy access during operation.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. Basic Operation

1. **Power On:** After all connections are made, turn on the PROFX8 mixer.
2. **Gain Staging:** Adjust the GAIN knob for each input channel to achieve an optimal signal level. The "LEVEL SET" LED helps in setting the correct gain; aim for occasional flashes.
3. **Channel EQ:** Use the 3-band active EQ (HIGH, MID, LOW) on each channel to shape the tone of your audio source.
4. **Channel Faders:** Adjust the 60mm channel faders to control the volume of each input in the main mix.
5. **Main Mix:** Use the MAIN faders to control the overall output volume. Monitor the main output level using the LED meters.

### 2. Using Onboard Effects (RMFX™ Processor)

The PROFX8 includes a 32-bit RMFX™ processor with 16 effects:

- **Selecting Effects:** Use the "FX PRESETS" knob to select one of the 16 built-in effects (reverbs, choruses, delays).
- **Applying Effects:** Turn up the FX knob on individual channels to send that channel's signal to the effects processor.
- **FX Return:** Adjust the FX RETURN fader to control the overall volume of the effects in the main mix.
- **FX Mute:** Use the FX MUTE button or an optional footswitch to quickly mute/unmute the effects.

### 3. USB Audio Interface

The integrated USB I/O allows for seamless integration with your computer:

- **Recording:** Connect the mixer to your computer via USB. The main mix (or a specific sub-mix, depending on routing) can be sent to your recording software (e.g., included Traction 3).
- **Playback:** Audio from your computer can be routed back into the mixer via USB for playback through your main outputs. Adjust the USB INPUT LEVEL knob.

## 4. Graphic EQ

The 7-band graphic EQ can be assigned to either the Main Mix or the Monitor Mix:

- **Assignment:** Use the "EQ TO MAIN / MON" switch to select whether the graphic EQ affects the Main outputs or the Monitor output.
- **Adjustment:** Adjust the sliders for each frequency band (125Hz, 250Hz, 500Hz, 1kHz, 2kHz, 4kHz, 8kHz) to fine-tune the overall sound.

## MAINTENANCE

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Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Mackie PROFX8 mixer.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the mixer. Avoid abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes. Do not spray liquids directly onto the mixer.
- **Dust Protection:** When not in use, cover the mixer with a dust cover to prevent dust and debris from entering the faders and knobs.
- **Storage:** Store the mixer in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Cable Management:** Ensure all cables are properly routed and not under strain to prevent damage to connectors and ports.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main faders are down</li> <li>• Speakers/amplifier off or disconnected</li> <li>• Incorrect input gain</li> <li>• Channel mute engaged</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise MAIN faders.</li> <li>• Check power and connections to speakers/amplifier.</li> <li>• Adjust channel GAIN knobs.</li> <li>• Disengage channel MUTE button.</li> </ul>
Hum or buzz in audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground loop</li> <li>• Unbalanced cables over long distances</li> <li>• Faulty cables</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all equipment is on the same electrical circuit or use a ground lift.</li> <li>• Use balanced cables (XLR or TRS) where possible.</li> <li>• Test and replace suspect cables.</li> </ul>
Microphone not working (condenser)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 48V phantom power not engaged</li> <li>• Faulty microphone or cable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activate 48V phantom power switch.</li> <li>• Test with a known working microphone and cable.</li> </ul>
USB recording issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorrect driver installation</li> <li>• Software settings</li> <li>• USB cable issue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure correct USB drivers are installed for your operating system.</li> <li>• Verify input/output settings in your recording software.</li> <li>• Try a different USB cable or port.</li> </ul>

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Brand	Mackie
Model	PROFX8
Channels	8
Mic Preamps	4 (low-noise, high-headroom)
Effects Processor	32-bit RMFX™ (16 effects)
Graphic EQ	7-band (assignable to Main/Monitor)
USB I/O	Yes (for recording and playback)
Channel EQ	3-band active (80Hz, 2.5kHz, 12kHz) on all channels
Phantom Power	+48V (on mic channels)
Main Outputs	Balanced XLR, Balanced/Unbalanced 1/4-inch
Item Weight	7.1 pounds (3.22 kg)
Product Dimensions	14 x 3.6 x 12 inches (35.6 x 9.1 x 30.5 cm)
Power Source	Corded Electric (100-240V "Planet Earth" switching power supply)
Connectivity Technology	USB

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Mackie products are designed for reliability and performance. For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Mackie website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance beyond this manual, or service inquiries, please contact Mackie customer support through their official channels. Online resources, including FAQs and software downloads, may also be available on the Mackie website.

**Note:** Unauthorized service or modification may void your warranty.