

Allen & Heath AH-ZED10FX

Allen & Heath ZED-10FX Audio Mixer Instruction Manual

Model: AH-ZED10FX

1. INTRODUCTION

The Allen & Heath ZED-10FX is a compact audio mixer designed for touring and studio applications, offering high-level audio quality and robust build. It features a versatile input configuration, onboard effects, and USB audio interface capabilities for recording and streaming.

This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your ZED-10FX mixer. Please read it thoroughly before use to ensure optimal performance and longevity of the device.

2. SETUP

Proper setup is crucial for the performance of your ZED-10FX mixer. Follow these steps to connect your equipment and prepare for operation.

2.1 Unpacking and Placement

Carefully unpack the mixer and ensure all components are present. Place the mixer on a stable, flat surface, away from direct sunlight, heat sources, and excessive moisture. Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit.

2.2 Power Connection

Connect the supplied power cable to the AC mains input on the rear panel of the mixer and then to a suitable power outlet. Ensure the power switch is in the OFF position before connecting.



Figure 2.1: Rear panel connections, including the AC mains input.

2.3 Input Connections

The ZED-10FX offers a variety of input options:

- **Microphone/Line Inputs (Channels 1-4):** Use XLR connectors for microphones and 1/4-inch jacks for line-level sources. Channels 3 and 4 feature HiZ inputs for direct connection of high-impedance instruments like guitars, eliminating the need for a separate DI box.
- **Stereo Line Inputs (ST1, ST2, ST3):** Use 1/4-inch jacks or RCA connectors for stereo line-level devices such as keyboards, media players, or effects returns.
- **USB Audio Input:** Connect a USB cable from the mixer to your computer for stereo audio playback.



Figure 2.2: Overview of the mixer's top panel with input and output sections.

2.4 Output Connections

- **Main Mix Output:** Connect to your main PA system or recording interface using XLR connectors.
- **Monitor Output:** Connect to stage monitors or studio monitors.
- **FX Output:** Send audio to external effects processors.
- **Record Out:** Dedicated RCA outputs for recording.
- **USB Audio Output:** Send the main mix, Aux, or FX sends to your computer for recording or streaming.
- **Headphone Output:** Connect headphones for monitoring.

2.5 Initial Level Setting

Before powering on, ensure all channel gain controls are at their minimum, and main mix faders are at the '0' position. Power on the mixer, then your amplifiers/powerd speakers. Gradually increase gain and fader levels as needed during operation.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

This section details the primary functions and controls of the ZED-10FX mixer.

3.1 Channel Controls

Each mono input channel (1-4) and stereo channel (ST1-ST3) features:

- **Gain Control:** Adjusts the input sensitivity for microphones or line-level signals.
- **EQ Section:** 3-band EQ (High, Mid, Low) for tone shaping. Channels 1-4 have a swept mid-band.
- **AUX Send:** Controls the level sent to the auxiliary output, often used for monitor mixes.
- **FX Send:** Controls the level sent to the internal effects processor.
- **Pan/Balance:** Positions the signal in the stereo field.
- **Level Control:** Adjusts the channel's contribution to the main mix.
- **Listen (PFL) Button:** Routes the channel's signal to the headphones for pre-fader listening without affecting the main mix.



Figure 3.1: Detailed view of individual channel controls.

3.2 Onboard FX Processor

The ZED-10FX includes a studio-quality multi-FX unit with 16 different effects types (reverbs, delays, modulation). Use the FX Send controls on each channel to send signal to the effects processor. The FX Return level controls the overall effect level in the main mix. Tap Tempo is available for time-based effects.

3.3 USB Audio Interface

The integrated USB audio interface allows for flexible routing of audio to and from a computer. It is class-compliant, requiring no special drivers for most operating systems. You can send the main mix, Aux, or FX sends to your computer for recording or live streaming. The USB input can also be used for stereo playback from your computer through the mixer.

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Video 3.1: A demonstration on how to use the ZED-10FX mixer with Amplitube X-GEAR, covering USB connection, direct guitar input, level setting, signal checking, Aux bus usage, main mix level, effects adjustment, and software integration.

3.4 Monitoring

Use the Monitor Level control and Phones output to listen to the main mix, Aux sends, or individual channels (via the Listen button). The LED meters provide visual feedback on signal levels.

4. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and reliable operation of your ZED-10FX mixer, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Regularly wipe the mixer's surface with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, use a slightly damp cloth and mild detergent, then dry thoroughly. 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 clean, dry environment with stable temperature and humidity. Avoid extreme conditions.
- **Cable Management:** Ensure all cables are neatly organized and not under strain to prevent damage to connectors and internal wiring.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your ZED-10FX mixer, try the following basic troubleshooting steps:

- **No Power:** Check the power cable connection, the power outlet, and the mixer's power switch.
- **No Sound Output:** Verify all input and output cables are correctly connected. Check channel gain and level controls, main mix level, and monitor/headphone levels. Ensure connected amplifiers or powered speakers are on and functioning.
- **Distorted Sound:** Reduce input gain levels to prevent clipping (indicated by red peak LEDs). Check output levels to connected devices.
- **No USB Audio:** Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the mixer and computer. Check your computer's audio settings to confirm the ZED-10FX (USB Audio CODEC) is selected as the input/output device.
- **Effects Not Working:** Check the FX send levels on channels and the main FX return level. Ensure the desired effect is selected and active.

For persistent issues, consult the full user manual available on the Allen & Heath website or contact customer support.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Item Weight	7.3 pounds
Product Dimensions	10.8 x 3.7 x 13.2 inches
Item Model Number	AH-ZED10FX
Hardware Interface	USB
Mixer Channel Quantity	10

Feature	Specification
Number of Channels	10
Power Source	Corded Electric
Connectivity Technology	USB

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Allen & Heath ZED-10FX mixer typically comes with a manufacturer's warranty. For detailed information regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the official documentation included with your product or visit the [Allen & Heath website](#).

Optional protection plans may be available for extended coverage. Please check with your retailer for details on purchasing additional protection.

For technical support, service, or spare parts, contact your authorized Allen & Heath dealer or distributor. You can also find support resources, FAQs, and contact information on the official Allen & Heath website.