Soundcraft EFX12

Soundcraft EFX12 High-Performance 12-Channel Lexicon Effect Mixer User Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

The Soundcraft EFX12 is a high-performance 12-channel mixer designed for professional audio applications. It combines the robust features of the popular Soundcraft EPM mixer series with a built-in 24-bit digital Lexicon effects processor, offering exceptional audio quality and versatility. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your EFX12 mixer.

The EFX12 features highly transparent GB30 microphone preamps, designed for superior audio performance with low noise and high headroom. It includes 12 mono input channels, 2 stereo input channels, and an effects send on each channel, making it suitable for a wide range of live sound and studio recording environments.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **12 Mono Input Channels:** Provides ample connectivity for microphones and line-level sources.
- **2 Stereo Input Channels:** For connecting stereo instruments or playback devices.

  Built-in 24-bit Lexicon Effects Processor: Offers 32 high-quality effects with tap tempo, 3 parameter controls, and user setting storage.
- **GB30 Microphone Preamps:** Ensures clear, low-noise audio capture.
- **3-Band EQ with Swept Mid (Mono Inputs):** Allows precise tonal shaping for individual channels.
- **3-Band EQ (Stereo Inputs):** For balanced control over stereo sources.
- **TRS Insert Sockets:** On all mono inputs for external processing.
- **Configurable Aux Send:** Provides flexibility for monitor mixes or external effects.
- **XLR and 1/4" Metal Jack Connector Sockets:** Durable and reliable connections.
- **RCA Phono Stereo Playback Inputs and Record Outputs:** For easy integration with consumer audio equipment.
- **Ten-Segment LED Output Metering:** For accurate visual monitoring of output levels.
- **Headphone Output:** For personal monitoring.

3. SETUP

3.1 Unpacking and Initial Inspection

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

3.2 Power Connection

Connect the supplied power cable to the mixer's power input and then to a suitable AC power outlet. Ensure the power switch is in the OFF position before connecting. The EFX12 operates on standard AC power.

3.3 Connecting Audio Sources

Use XLR cables for microphones and 1/4" TRS/TS cables for line-level instruments or devices. Connect these to the respective input channels on the mixer. For stereo playback, use RCA phono cables to the dedicated stereo playback inputs.

Figure 1: Top-down view of the Soundcraft EFX12 mixer, showing all input channels, controls, and the Lexicon effects section.

3.4 Connecting Output Devices

Connect your main speakers or power amplifier to the Main Output XLR connectors. For monitor mixes, use the configurable Aux Send outputs. A headphone output is also available for personal monitoring.

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Video 1: Soundcraft Basic Mix Theory. This video provides fundamental concepts for setting up and understanding audio mixing, applicable to the EFX12 mixer.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Channel Controls

Each mono input channel features a Gain control for adjusting input sensitivity, a 3-band EQ with a swept mid-frequency control for tonal adjustments, and an Aux Send control to route signal to external effects or monitors. The channel also includes a Pan control for stereo positioning, a Mute button, and a Level fader.

Figure 2: Close-up view of the Soundcraft EFX12 mixer's control surface, highlighting individual channel strips and master section.

4.2 Lexicon Effects Processor

The built-in Lexicon effects processor offers 32 high-quality effects. Use the SELECT knob to browse and choose effects. The 3 parameter controls allow for fine-tuning of selected effects, such as decay time for reverb or delay time for echoes. User settings can be stored for quick recall. An effects channel level clip LED and Mute function provide additional control.

4.3 Master Section

The master section includes controls for the main stereo output, headphone level, and overall effects return. The ten-segment LED meters provide visual feedback on the main output levels, helping to prevent clipping and ensure optimal signal strength.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Soundcraft EFX12 mixer, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the mixer. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Dust Protection:** Keep the mixer covered when not in use to prevent dust accumulation, which can affect faders and knobs.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure proper ventilation around the mixer to prevent overheating. Do not block ventilation openings.

- **Cable Management:** Organize cables neatly to prevent strain on connectors and accidental disconnections.
- **Storage:** Store the mixer in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your EFX12 mixer.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output	Power not connected; Master fader down; Mute engaged on channels/master; Cables faulty.	Check power, raise master fader, disengage mutes, check/replace cables.
Distorted audio	Input gain too high; Output level too high; Faulty cable/microphone.	Reduce input gain (check channel PEAK LED), lower output level, test/replace cables/microphone.
Effects not working	Effects send/return levels too low; Effect bypassed; Incorrect effect selected.	Increase Aux Send/Effects Return levels, ensure effect is active, select desired effect.
Hum or noise	Ground loop; Unbalanced cables; Nearby electrical interference.	Use balanced cables, check grounding, move mixer/cables away from power sources.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Item Weight:** 12.79 pounds (5.8 kg)
- **Product Dimensions:** 14.25 x 17 x 3.56 inches
- **Item Model Number:** EFX12
- **Number of Channels:** 14 (12 mono + 2 stereo)
- **Power Source:** Corded Electric
- **Connectivity Technology:** Auxiliary
- **Hardware Platform:** CONSUMER_ELECTRONICS

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Soundcraft website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.