MOTU MIDI EXPRESS XT

MOTU MIDI Express XT 8x8 USB MIDI Interface User Manual

Model: MIDI EXPRESS XT

1. Introduction

The MOTU MIDI Express XT is an advanced 8-input, 8-output USB MIDI interface designed for professional music production environments. It provides comprehensive MIDI connectivity and features SMPTE timecode synchronization, making it suitable for complex studio setups. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your device.

This image displays the front panel of the MOTU MIDI Express XT, featuring its various MIDI input and output ports, status indicators, and control buttons.

2. Setup

2.1 System Requirements

- Personal Computer (Desktop or Laptop)
- Compatible Operating System (e.g., Windows, macOS)
- Available USB port
- Supported Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software

2.2 Connecting the Device

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the provided power adapter to the MIDI Express XT and then to a suitable power outlet.
2. **USB Connection:** Connect one end of a standard USB cable to the USB port on the MIDI Express XT and the other end to an available USB port on your computer.
3. **MIDI Connections:** Connect your MIDI devices (keyboards, synthesizers, drum machines, etc.) to the MIDI IN and MIDI

OUT ports on the MIDI Express XT using standard MIDI cables. Ensure that MIDI OUT from your device connects to MIDI IN on the Express XT, and MIDI IN on your device connects to MIDI OUT on the Express XT.

2.3 Driver Installation

Before using the MIDI Express XT, you must install the latest drivers from the official MOTU website. Visitmotu.com/download, locate your product, and download the appropriate drivers for your operating system. Follow the on-screen instructions for installation.

3. Operating

3.1 Basic MIDI Routing

The MIDI Express XT provides 8 independent MIDI inputs and 8 independent MIDI outputs. Each port can transmit and receive MIDI data simultaneously. Routing of MIDI signals between ports and to/from your computer is managed through the MOTU ClockWorks software (or similar control panel software provided by MOTU).

3.2 SMPTE Timecode Synchronization

The MIDI Express XT supports SMPTE timecode generation and synchronization. This allows you to lock your MIDI sequences to external video or audio sources, or to generate timecode for other devices. Configuration for SMPTE read/write functions is performed within the MOTU control panel software.

3.3 MIDI Merge Matrix

The device features a MIDI merge matrix, enabling you to combine MIDI data from multiple sources into a single stream. This is useful for complex setups where several controllers need to send data to one instrument or software application. The merge functionality is configured via the MOTU control panel software.

3.4 Software Control

All advanced settings, including MIDI routing, merging, filtering, and SMPTE options, are controlled through the dedicated MOTU software application installed on your computer. Refer to the software's help documentation for detailed instructions on specific configurations.

4. Maintenance

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid liquid cleaners or abrasive materials.
- **Environment:** Operate the device in a clean, dry environment, away from direct sunlight, excessive heat, and moisture. Ensure adequate ventilation.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the MOTU website for firmware updates. Keeping your device's firmware up-to-date can improve performance and add new features.

5. Troubleshooting

5.1 No MIDI Signal

- **Check Connections:** Ensure all MIDI cables are securely connected to the correct IN/OUT ports on both the MIDI Express XT and your MIDI devices.
- **Verify Power:** Confirm the MIDI Express XT is powered on and its status indicators are active.
- **Driver Status:** Check your computer's Device Manager (Windows) or Audio MIDI Setup (macOS) to ensure the MOTU drivers are installed correctly and the device is recognized.
- **Software Settings:** Within your DAW or MOTU control panel software, verify that the MIDI Express XT ports are enabled and correctly assigned for input and output.

5.2 Connection Problems

- **USB Cable:** Try a different USB cable.
- **USB Port:** Connect the MIDI Express XT to a different USB port on your computer. Avoid using unpowered USB hubs if possible.
- **Restart:** Restart your computer and the MIDI Express XT.

If issues persist, consult the MOTU support website or contact their technical support for further assistance.

6. Specifications

Brand	MOTU
Model Number	MIDI EXPRESS XT
Connectivity Technology	USB
Number of Channels	8-In/8-Out (128 MIDI channels)
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer
Supported Software	All compatible DAWs on Mac and Windows
Operating System	Windows (and macOS with appropriate drivers)
Audio Input	USB (for MIDI data)
Maximum Sample Rate	192 KHz (internal clock reference)
Item Weight	2.5 kg
UPC / GTIN	839128005129

7. Warranty and Support

7.1 Warranty Information

The MOTU MIDI Express XT comes with a **2-year warranty** from the date of purchase. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and malfunctions under normal use. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

7.2 Technical Support

For technical assistance, driver downloads, firmware updates, and additional product information, please visit the official MOTU support website:
https://motu.com/support
You may also find helpful resources and FAQs on their website.

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