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- › [Universal Audio](#) /
- › [Universal Audio 4-710d 4-Channel Microphone Preamp and Compressor User Manual](#)

## Universal Audio 4-710d

# Universal Audio 4-710d 4-Channel Microphone Preamp and Compressor

Model: 4-710d | Brand: Universal Audio

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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The Universal Audio 4-710d is a versatile 4-channel microphone preamp and DI unit, featuring Universal Audio's innovative Twinfinity™ tone-blending technology. This unit combines four high-quality mic preamps with 8-channel 24-bit/192kHz A/D conversion, making it an essential tool for professional recording studios and home setups alike. Each channel offers a unique blend of tube and solid-state tones, along with an 1176-style compression circuit, providing exceptional sonic flexibility.



**Figure 1:** Front panel of the Universal Audio 4-710d, showing the four preamp channels, each with tone blending, compression controls, and VU meters. The digital output and power indicators are also visible on the right.

## 2. SETUP AND CONNECTIONS

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### 2.1 Power Connection

Connect the supplied AC power cable to the rear panel of the 4-710d and then to a suitable AC power outlet. Ensure the power switch is in the OFF position before connecting.

### 2.2 Audio Inputs

- **Microphone Inputs:** Each of the four channels features an XLR microphone input on the rear panel. These inputs support +48V phantom power, which can be individually engaged for condenser microphones.
- **Line Inputs:** Balanced 1/4-inch TRS line inputs are available on the rear panel for connecting line-level sources.
- **Hi-Z Inputs:** Four 1/4-inch Hi-Z inputs are located on the front panel, allowing direct connection of instruments such as guitars and basses. Engaging a Hi-Z input bypasses the rear panel mic/line input for that channel.

## 2.3 Audio Outputs

- **Line Outputs:** Each channel provides a balanced 1/4-inch TRS line output on the rear panel for connecting to an audio interface, mixer, or other outboard gear.
- **Digital Outputs (ADAT/AES/EBU):** The 4-710d includes 8-channel ADAT optical outputs and AES/EBU outputs for digital connectivity to your audio interface. This allows for direct digital transfer of the preamplified and converted audio signals, minimizing signal degradation.

## 2.4 Word Clock Synchronization

For optimal performance and to prevent digital artifacts, synchronize the 4-710d with your audio interface using the Word Clock BNC connectors on the rear panel. The 4-710d can act as a master clock or slave to an external clock source.



**Figure 2:** Rear panel of the Universal Audio 4-710d, illustrating the XLR and TRS inputs/outputs, ADAT and AES/EBU digital outputs, and Word Clock connectors. Cables are shown connected to various ports.

## 3. OPERATING THE PREAMP

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### 3.1 Gain and Level Controls

- **Gain Knob:** Adjusts the input gain for the microphone or line input.
- **Level Knob:** Controls the output level of the preamp. Driving the gain hard and then reducing the output level can introduce harmonic coloration.

### 3.2 Tone Blending (Twinfinity™)

The 4-710d features Twinfinity™ technology, allowing you to blend between a **Tube** (valve) and **Transistor** (solid-state) preamp circuit for each channel. The dedicated **BLEND** knob allows for continuous adjustment between 100% tube, 100% solid-state, or any combination in between. This provides a wide range of tonal options, from warm and rich tube saturation to clean and transparent solid-state amplification.

### 3.3 1176-Style Compression

Each channel includes a built-in 1176-style compressor. This compressor offers simplified controls for quick and effective dynamics processing:

- **INSERT Switch:** Engages or bypasses the compressor circuit.
- **SLOW/FAST Switch:** Selects between a slower or faster attack/release time characteristic, similar to the classic 1176 compressor's fixed settings.

### 3.4 Additional Controls

- **+48V Phantom Power:** Engages phantom power for condenser microphones.
- **15dB PAD:** Attenuates the input signal by 15dB, useful for high-output microphones or loud sources to prevent clipping.
- **LOW CUT:** Activates a low-cut filter to remove unwanted low-frequency rumble.
- **MTR OUT:** Selects whether the VU meter displays input or output level.
- **DIGITAL OUT:** Controls the bit depth (16-bit or 24-bit) and sample rate (44.1kHz, 48kHz, 88.2kHz, 96kHz, 176.4kHz, 192kHz) for the ADAT and AES/EBU outputs.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

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To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Universal Audio 4-710d, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, as they may damage the finish.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit to prevent overheating. Do not block ventilation openings.
- **Tube Replacement:** The vacuum tubes within the Twinfinity circuits have a finite lifespan. If you notice a degradation in sound quality or unusual noise, consult a qualified technician for tube inspection and replacement.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the unit in a cool, dry environment, protected from dust and extreme temperatures.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your 4-710d, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Power:** Ensure the power cable is securely connected and the power switch is ON. Verify the power outlet is functional.

- **No Audio Output:** Check all audio cable connections (inputs and outputs). Verify that the correct input source is selected (Mic, Line, or Hi-Z). Ensure the gain and level knobs are set appropriately and not at minimum. Check digital output settings if using ADAT/AES/EBU.
- **Distorted Audio:** Reduce input gain or engage the 15dB PAD. Check for proper impedance matching with your input source. Ensure cables are not damaged.
- **No Phantom Power:** Verify the +48V switch is engaged for the specific channel. Ensure your microphone requires phantom power.
- **Digital Sync Issues:** Confirm Word Clock connections are correct and that the 4-710d and your audio interface are synchronized (one acting as master, the other as slave). Check sample rate settings on both devices.

For further assistance, contact Universal Audio customer support.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

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- **Brand:** Universal Audio
- **Model:** 4-710d
- **Number of Channels:** 4 (preamp), 8 (A/D conversion)
- **Preamp Type:** Tube/FET (Twinfinity™ blendable)
- **A/D Conversion:** 24-bit/192kHz
- **Compressor:** 1176-style per channel
- **Inputs:** 4 x XLR Mic, 4 x 1/4" TRS Line, 4 x 1/4" Hi-Z (front panel)
- **Outputs:** 4 x 1/4" TRS Line, 8-channel ADAT Optical, AES/EBU
- **Synchronization:** Word Clock I/O
- **Item Weight:** 11.46 Pounds
- **Manufacturer:** Universal Audio
- **UPC:** 819937000621
- **ASIN:** B007NHK120

## 7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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The Universal Audio 4-710d comes with a **2-year warranty**. For warranty claims, technical support, or service inquiries, please visit the official Universal Audio website or contact their customer service department. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty validation.

## 8. OFFICIAL PRODUCT VIDEOS

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No official seller-created product videos were found for direct embedding. Please visit the Universal Audio website or their official Amazon store page for any available product demonstrations or tutorials.