Akai Professional MPC X

AKAI Professional MPC X User Manual

Model: MPC X

1. Introduction

The AKAI Professional MPC X is a standalone drum machine and sampler, representing a significant evolution in music production. It offers a comprehensive suite of tools for creating and performing music, designed with an intuitive interface and powerful functionality. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your MPC X.



Figure 1: Front view of the AKAI Professional MPC X, showcasing its 10.1-inch multi-touch display and performance pads.

2. Setup

Before operating your MPC X, ensure all necessary connections are made and the device is properly configured.

2.1 Power and Audio Connections

- Connect the power adapter to the MPC X and a suitable power outlet.
- Connect your audio outputs (e.g., Main Out L/R) to your mixer or audio interface using appropriate cables.
- For recording, connect microphones or instruments to the XLR, 1/4-inch, or RCA inputs. Ensure phantom power (+48V) is enabled for condenser microphones if required.

2.2 MIDI and USB Connectivity

- Utilize the 2 MIDI inputs and 4 MIDI outputs to connect external MIDI devices such as keyboards or sound modules.
- Connect USB devices, including USB MIDI controllers or thumb drives, to the available USB 2.0 inputs.
- The 8 TRS CV/Gate outputs allow for integration with modular synthesizer systems.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the MPC X, illustrating the comprehensive array of audio, MIDI, and CV/Gate connections.

2.3 Storage Expansion

The MPC X includes 16GB of internal Micro SD storage. For expanded storage of samples and projects, a 2.5-inch SATA

drive connector is available for SSD or HDD hard drives. Additional sounds can be loaded via the built-in SD Card slot or USB thumb drives.

3. Operating the MPC X

The MPC X offers a dynamic workflow for music creation and performance.

3.1 User Interface and Controls

- **Pads:** The 16 velocity- and pressure-sensitive backlit RGB pads are central to the MPC workflow, providing expressive control for drumming and sampling.
- **Q-Links:** 16 touch-sensitive 360-degree Q-Links with OLED displays allow for seamless mapping and control of critical parameters.
- **Display:** The 10.1-inch high-definition, full-color multi-touch display is fully articulating with 8 lockable positions, offering intuitive gesture-based control.
- **Buttons:** 66 dedicated buttons provide direct hardware access to various functions, accommodating diverse workflow preferences.



Figure 3: A user engaging with the MPC X, demonstrating the ergonomic layout of its pads and Q-Link controls.

3.2 Audio and Clip Performance

The MPC X supports audio track recording, clip launching, and real-time time-stretching and pitch-shifting, enabling dynamic live performances and remixes.

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Video 1: This video demonstrates performing with audio tracks, drum samples, and clips on the MPC X, showcasing its real-time time-stretch algorithm and XY FX capabilities.

3.3 MPC Software 2

The included MPC Software 2 is a powerful production suite that enhances the MPC X's capabilities in both standalone and controller modes. Key features include 128-track sequencing, advanced MIDI editing, VST compatibility (in controller mode), advanced sampling, audio editing/recording, and seamless DAW integration.

3.4 Sound Content

The MPC X comes pre-installed with 10 gigabytes of world-class content from "The Vault 2.0," featuring samples and kits from leading sound design companies.

4. Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your AKAI Professional MPC X, regular maintenance is recommended.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior surfaces. For stubborn marks, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by immediate drying. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Dust Protection:** When not in use, cover the MPC X to protect it from dust accumulation, which can affect internal components and controls.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Operate and store the device in a stable environment, away from extreme temperatures, humidity, and direct sunlight.
- **Software Updates:** Periodically check the official Akai Professional website for firmware and software updates to ensure your device has the latest features and bug fixes.

5. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your MPC X.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Device does not power on.	Power cable not connected securely, power outlet issue, or internal power supply problem.	Ensure power cable is firmly connected. Test the power outlet with another device. If the issue persists, contact customer support.
No sound output.	Incorrect audio connections, low volume levels, or incorrect audio routing.	Verify all audio cables are correctly connected to outputs and monitoring system. Check volume levels on the MPC X and connected devices. Review audio routing settings within the MPC X software.
Pads are unresponsive or inconsistent.	Pad sensitivity settings, or potential hardware issue.	Adjust pad sensitivity settings in the MPC X menu. Ensure pads are clean and free of debris. If the problem continues, contact customer support.
Software updates fail or device is not recognized by computer.	USB connection issues, outdated drivers, or software conflicts.	Try a different USB port or cable. Ensure you have the latest drivers installed from the Akai Professional website. Restart both the MPC X and your computer.

For issues not covered here, please refer to the official Akai Professional support resources or contact their customer service.

6. Specifications

Model Name: MPC X

Item Model Number: MPC X

Item Weight: 12.48 pounds

Product Dimensions: 15.27 x 19.86 x 8.41 inches

Standing Screen Display Size: 10.1 inches

Connectivity Technology: USB, Bluetooth

Hardware Interface: USB

Musical Style: Electronic

Special Features: Backlit, Beat, Compact, Studio Recording

First Available: January 9, 2017

7. Warranty and Support

For detailed warranty information and technical support, please visit the official Akai Professional website or refer to the provided documentation.

- **User Guide (PDF):** Download User Guide
- **User Manual (PDF):** Download User Manual
- **Akai Professional Store:** Visit Store on Amazon

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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.

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