

JBL ACTIVE-1

JBL Professional ACTIVE-1 Precision Monitor Control with USB Audio I/O User Manual

1. OVERVIEW

1.1 Product Description

The JBL Professional ACTIVE-1 provides seamless A/B switching of input sources and speaker systems. It includes USB I/O for direct digital audio recording and playback when connected to a computer audio system. The ACTIVE-1 allows monitoring of four stereo input sources via four stereo outputs and delivers a full complement of audio monitoring functions, including precision volume control, mono summing, mute, and dim. A footswitch-activated talk-back function, complete with on-board condenser microphone and selectable routing, makes the ACTIVE-1 an ideal solution for a broad range of studio production applications.

1.2 Key Features

- 4 inputs and 4 outputs for versatile connectivity.
- USB Input and Output for direct digital audio integration with computers.
- Two independent headphone amplifiers for monitoring.
- Footswitch-Controlled Talkback for convenient communication.
- Built-in Talkback Microphone for immediate use.



Figure 1: Front panel view of the JBL ACTIVE-1, highlighting the main controls and indicators.

2. SETUP

2.1 Physical Connections

Before powering on the unit, ensure all audio and power connections are securely made. Connect the supplied 9V DC power supply to the unit's power input. Connect your computer via the USB port for digital audio I/O. Use appropriate balanced or unbalanced cables to connect your audio sources to the 'SOURCES' inputs and your studio monitors to the 'OUTPUTS'.

TALKBACK SWITCHES AND VOLUME



Figure 2: Rear panel connections of the JBL ACTIVE-1, showing power, USB, and various audio inputs and outputs.

2.2 System Requirements

The JBL ACTIVE-1 is compatible with personal computers, smartphones, and tablets. It supports legacy type and ASIO drivers, as well as all current USB Audio systems, ensuring broad compatibility with most modern operating systems and digital audio workstations.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Input Source Selection

The ACTIVE-1 features four stereo input sources (A, B, C, D). Use the corresponding buttons on the front panel to select which input source is routed to the monitor outputs and headphone amplifiers.

3.2 Monitor Output Selection

Two pairs of stereo monitor outputs (A and B) are available. Use the 'MONITOR SELECT' buttons to switch between these outputs, allowing for A/B comparison of your mixes on different speaker systems.

3.3 Main Volume Control

The large central knob controls the overall output volume to the selected monitor speakers. Adjust this knob to achieve the desired listening level.

3.4 Headphone Monitoring

The unit includes two independent headphone amplifiers. Connect your headphones to the 1/4-inch jacks on the front panel. Adjust the 'HEADPHONE LEVEL' knobs (1 and 2) to set individual volume levels for each headphone output.



**TWO INDEPENDENT
HEADPHONE AMPLIFIERS**

MONITOR SELECT SWITCHES

Figure 3: Close-up of the JBL ACTIVE-1 front panel, showing the two independent headphone level controls.

3.5 Talkback Function

The ACTIVE-1 features a built-in talkback microphone and a footswitch input for activation. Press the 'TALKBACK' button or use a connected footswitch to engage the talkback function, allowing communication with artists in a separate room or booth. The 'TALKBACK SELECT' buttons route the talkback signal to specific outputs (e.g., to 2T Out or to Phones).

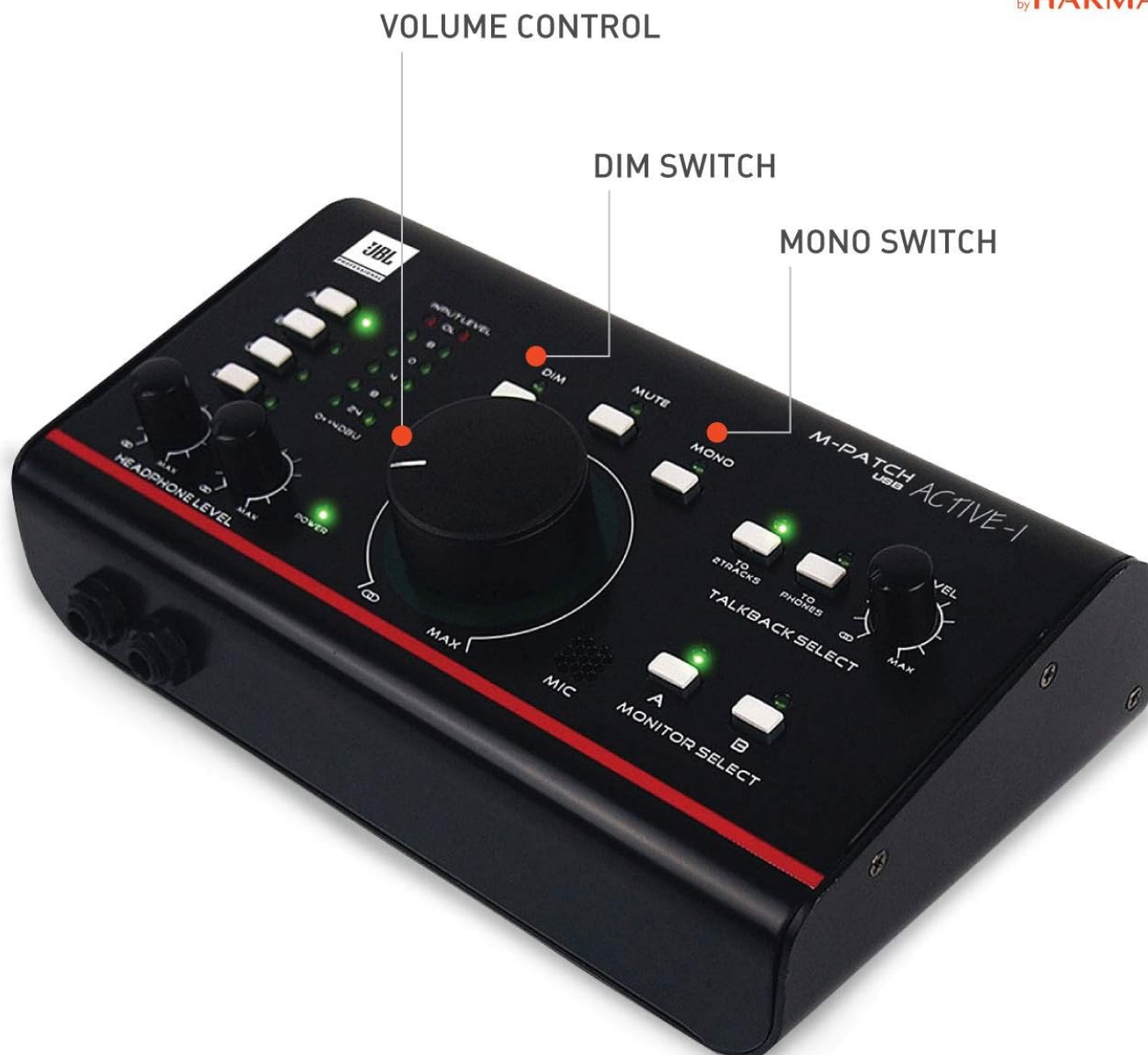


Figure 4: Front panel detail of the JBL ACTIVE-1, illustrating the talkback microphone and associated controls.

3.6 Mono, Mute, and Dim Functions

- **Mono:** Sums the stereo signal to mono, useful for checking phase compatibility and how your mix translates to mono playback systems.
- **Mute:** Silences all audio output to the selected monitors.
- **Dim:** Reduces the output volume by a preset amount, allowing for temporary conversation without completely muting the audio.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 Cleaning

To clean the unit, use a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes, as these can damage the finish

and internal components. Ensure the unit is powered off and disconnected from all power sources before cleaning.

4.2 Storage

When not in use for extended periods, store the JBL ACTIVE-1 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. It is recommended to keep the original packaging for safe storage and transport.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

5.1 Common Issues and Solutions

- **No Audio Output:**
 - Verify all audio cables are securely connected.
 - Check that the correct input source and monitor output are selected.
 - Ensure the main volume knob is turned up and the Mute or Dim functions are not active.
 - Confirm the unit is powered on and receiving power.
- **Distorted or Unclear Audio:**
 - Check input levels from your audio sources to prevent clipping.
 - Inspect audio cables for damage or improper connection.
 - Ensure the correct gain staging throughout your signal chain.
- **Talkback Not Functioning:**
 - Confirm the talkback button is engaged or the footswitch is properly connected and activated.
 - Check that the talkback signal is routed to the desired output (e.g., headphones).
- **USB Audio Issues:**
 - Ensure the USB cable is connected correctly to both the ACTIVE-1 and your computer.
 - Verify that the ACTIVE-1 is selected as the audio input/output device in your computer's sound settings and DAW.
 - Install or update necessary drivers if prompted by your operating system.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Product Dimensions	8 x 10 x 7.35 inches (203 x 254 x 187 mm)
Item Weight	3.24 pounds (1.47 kg)
Manufacturer	JBL Professional
Item Model Number	ACTIVE-1
Date First Available	June 14, 2017
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer, Smartphone, Tablet
Supported Software	Legacy type and ASIO drivers, All current USB Audio systems

Connectivity Technology	USB
Number of Channels	8

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

7.1 Warranty Information

JBL Professional products are manufactured to high standards and are backed by a limited warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official JBL Professional website for detailed warranty terms and conditions specific to your region.

7.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, product registration, or further information, please visit the official JBL Professional support website or contact their customer service department. Contact details can typically be found on the JBL Professional website or in the product packaging.

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

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Email

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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