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PreSonus FADERPORT 16

PreSonus FaderPort 16 DAW Controller User Manual

INTRODUCTION

The PreSonus FaderPort 16 is a powerful production controller designed to enhance your digital audio workstation (DAW) workflow. Featuring 16 touch-sensitive, motorized faders and a comprehensive set of controls, it provides tactile command over your mix, automation, and session navigation. This manual will guide you through the setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your FaderPort 16, ensuring you get the most out of this versatile device.



Image: The PreSonus FaderPort 16 DAW Controller, a sleek black unit with 16 faders and numerous control buttons, designed for studio use.

SETUP

Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove your FaderPort 16 from its packaging. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage that may have occurred during shipping. Confirm all components listed in the packing materials are present. Keep the original packaging for future transport or storage.

Connecting the FaderPort 16

The FaderPort 16 connects to your computer via a standard USB 2.0 cable. Locate the USB port on the rear of the unit and connect it to an available USB port on your Mac or Windows computer. Ensure the power adapter is connected to the FaderPort 16 and a suitable power outlet.



Image: The rear panel of the FaderPort 16, displaying the power input, footswitch jack, and USB port for connectivity.

Software Installation and Driver Setup

Before using your FaderPort 16, you must install the necessary drivers and software. Visit the official PreSonus website to download the latest drivers for your operating system (Mac or Windows). If you plan to use Studio One Artist, ensure it is installed and updated. The FaderPort 16 offers seamless integration with Studio One and supports HUI and Mackie Control Universal modes for compatibility with other DAWs like Logic Pro X, Cubase, Ableton Live, and Pro Tools.



World-class recording software included

Studio One® Artist

Studio Magic Software Suite

STUDIO MAGIC

Image: A visual representation of the Studio One Artist software and the Studio Magic Software Suite, often bundled with PreSonus products.

OPERATING THE FADERPORT 16

Overview of Controls

The FaderPort 16 features 16 100mm touch-sensitive, motorized faders, 16 high-definition scribble strip displays, and 89 buttons covering 104 different functions. This layout provides intuitive control over your DAW.



Image: The FaderPort 16 integrated into a studio setup, positioned in front of a computer monitor displaying a digital audio workstation interface.

Fader Control

The 16 motorized faders allow for precise volume adjustments and real-time automation writing. Simply touch a fader to select its corresponding channel in your DAW, and the fader will snap to the current volume level. Moving the fader will then adjust the volume of that channel.

Scribble Strip Displays

Each channel features a high-definition scribble strip display, providing visual feedback on channel names, pan positions, and other parameters, allowing for quick identification and control.

Transport and Session Navigation

Dedicated transport controls (Play, Stop, Record, Fast Forward, Rewind) provide familiar functionality. The innovative Session Navigator offers quick access to track and timeline scrolling, zooming, and master fader control, streamlining your workflow.

Channel Controls and Automation

Buttons for Mute, Solo, Arm (for recording), Read (automation), Write (automation), Touch (automation), Latch (automation), Trim, and Bypass provide comprehensive control over individual channels and automation modes.

Alternative Fader Modes

The faders can be switched into alternative modes to control various parameters, including plugin settings, bus sends, and pan positions, offering deep integration with your DAW's mixing environment.

DAW Compatibility

The FaderPort 16 is compatible with most major DAWs through HUI and Mackie Control Universal emulation, with customized modes for Logic Pro X, Cubase, and Sonar. Native support for PreSonus Studio One provides enhanced functionality, including Control Link support and parameter follow.

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning

To maintain the FaderPort 16's appearance and functionality, regularly clean its surface with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by immediate drying. Avoid abrasive cleaners, solvents, or sprays that could damage the finish or internal components. Keep the faders free of dust and debris to ensure smooth operation.

Storage

When not in use for extended periods, store the FaderPort 16 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity. If possible, use the original packaging or a protective cover to prevent dust accumulation and physical damage.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Connection Issues

If your FaderPort 16 is not recognized by your computer or DAW, first check all USB and power connections. Ensure the USB cable is securely plugged into both the device and the computer. Try a different USB port or cable. Verify that the correct drivers are installed and up to date. Restart your computer and the FaderPort 16.

Fader Response

If a motorized fader is not moving or responding correctly, ensure no physical obstructions are present. Check your DAW's settings to confirm the FaderPort 16 is properly configured as a control surface and that automation modes are correctly engaged. A firmware update may also resolve fader-related issues.

Software Recognition

If your DAW does not recognize the FaderPort 16, confirm that the correct control surface protocol (e.g., HUI, Mackie Control, or native Studio One) is selected within your DAW's preferences. Refer to your DAW's documentation for specific instructions on adding and configuring control surfaces. Ensure the FaderPort 16's firmware is the latest version.

Firmware Updates

PreSonus regularly releases firmware updates to improve performance and add new features. Visit the PreSonus website's support section for instructions on how to check your current firmware version and perform updates. Keeping your firmware current is crucial for optimal operation.

SPECIFICATIONS

| Feature | Detail |
|------------------------|--|
| Item Weight | 8 pounds |
| Product Dimensions | 11.9 x 19.6 x 2.11 inches |
| Model Number | FADERPORT 16 |
| Compatible Devices | DAWs (Studio One, Ableton Live, Logic Pro X, Cubase, Pro Tools) on Windows and Mac via USB 2.0 |
| Connector Type | USB |
| Hardware Interface | USB 2.0 |
| Supported Software | Studio One |
| Material Type | Stainless Steel |
| Mixer Channel Quantity | 16 |
| Hardware Platform | PC/Mac |
| Voltage | 12 Volts |

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The PreSonus FaderPort 16 comes with a manufacturer's warranty. For detailed information regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official PreSonus website. For technical support, product registration, and access to additional resources, please visit the PreSonus support page at www.presonus.com/support. You can also find FAQs, driver downloads, and community forums there.