

CHORD ELECTRONICS CHCHUG112B

Chord Hugo 2 Transportable DAC Headphone Amplifier

Model: CHCHUG112B

INTRODUCTION

The Chord Hugo 2 is a powerful, transportable DAC (Digital-to-Analog Converter) and headphone amplifier designed to deliver high-fidelity audio performance. This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your Hugo 2 device. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the product to ensure optimal performance and longevity.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Do not expose the device to water or excessive moisture.
- Avoid extreme temperatures. Operate the device within recommended environmental conditions.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the device. This will void the warranty and may cause damage.
- Use only the provided or approved power adapter for charging.
- Ensure proper ventilation around the device during operation.
- Prolonged listening at high volume levels can cause permanent hearing damage. Adjust volume to a comfortable level.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Please check that all items are present in your Hugo 2 package:

- Chord Hugo 2 DAC/Headphone Amplifier
- Power Adapter
- USB Cable
- Remote Control
- User Manual (this document)

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the various components and controls of your Hugo 2.



Figure 1: Angled view of the Chord Hugo 2, showcasing its compact design and some of its input/output ports on the side. The top features illuminated control spheres.



Figure 2: Top-down view of the Hugo 2's control interface. This image highlights the four main illuminated control spheres for various functions and the central viewing window.



Figure 3: Rear panel of the Hugo 2, displaying the analog RCA outputs (left and right), coaxial digital input, and optical digital input. Also visible are the 3.5mm and 6.35mm headphone jacks.



Figure 4: Front panel of the Hugo 2, featuring the USB data input, USB charging port, and the power button. Additional control buttons for filter, input, and crossfeed are also visible.

Controls and Indicators:

- **Power Button:** Turns the unit on/off.
- **Input Button:** Cycles through available digital inputs (USB, Optical, Coaxial, Bluetooth).
- **Filter Button:** Selects between different digital filter options, altering the sonic presentation.
- **X-PHD (Crossfeed) Button:** Engages or disengages the crossfeed function for headphone listening.
- **Volume Control:** Illuminated sphere that changes color to indicate volume level.
- **Sample Rate Indicator:** Illuminated sphere that changes color to indicate the incoming sample rate.

SETUP

1. **Charging:** Connect the provided power adapter to the Hugo 2's charging USB port and plug it into a wall outlet. The charging indicator will show the battery status. A full charge takes approximately 8 hours.
2. **Connecting to a Source:**
 - **USB:** Connect your computer or digital audio player to the Hugo 2's USB data input using a high-quality USB cable.
 - **Optical (TOSLINK):** Connect an optical cable from your source device to the Hugo 2's optical input.
 - **Coaxial (BNC):** Connect a coaxial cable from your source device to the Hugo 2's coaxial input.
 - **Bluetooth:** Power on the Hugo 2. Press and hold the Input button until the input indicator turns blue, indicating Bluetooth pairing mode. Search for 'Hugo 2' on your device and pair.
3. **Connecting Headphones/Amplifier:**
 - **Headphones:** Plug your headphones into either the 3.5mm or 6.35mm headphone jack on the rear panel.
 - **External Amplifier/Speakers:** Connect the Hugo 2's RCA analog outputs to the inputs of your external amplifier or powered speakers.
4. **Power On:** Press the Power button to turn on the Hugo 2. The volume and sample rate indicators will illuminate.

OPERATING

1. **Selecting Input:** Press the **Input** button repeatedly to cycle through the available digital inputs (USB, Optical, Coaxial, Bluetooth). The input indicator will change color to reflect the selected input.
2. **Adjusting Volume:** Use the volume control sphere on the top of the unit or the remote control to adjust the output volume. The color of the sphere indicates the current volume level. Start at a low volume and gradually increase to a comfortable listening level.
3. **Applying Filters:** Press the **Filter** button to cycle through the four digital filter options. Each filter offers a slightly different sonic characteristic, allowing you to tailor the sound to your preference.
4. **Using Crossfeed (X-PHD):** The X-PHD button activates a digital crossfeed function, which blends the left and right channels slightly to simulate a more natural speaker-like soundstage when listening with headphones. Press the button to toggle it on or off.
5. **Battery Status:** The power button's illumination color indicates the battery charge level. Refer to the product's full manual for specific color codes and their corresponding charge percentages.

MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to clean the exterior of the Hugo 2. Do not use abrasive cleaners, solvents, or chemical sprays.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the device in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Battery Care:** For optimal battery life, avoid fully discharging the battery frequently. If storing for a long time, ensure the battery has some charge (e.g., 50%) and recharge it periodically.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **No Sound:**
 - Ensure the Hugo 2 is powered on and fully charged.
 - Verify the correct input is selected on the Hugo 2.
 - Check all cable connections (source to Hugo 2, Hugo 2 to headphones/amplifier).
 - Increase the volume on the Hugo 2 and your source device.
 - Ensure your source device is playing audio.
- **Distorted Sound / Clicks / Popping:**
 - Check for loose cable connections.
 - Ensure the sample rate of your source matches what the Hugo 2 is receiving (indicated by the sample rate sphere).
 - Try a different digital filter setting.
 - If using USB, ensure proper drivers are installed on your computer (if required).
 - Reduce the volume level.
- **Device Not Turning On:**
 - Connect the charger and allow it to charge for at least 30 minutes before attempting to power on again.
 - Ensure the power adapter is working and the outlet has power.
- **Bluetooth Pairing Issues:**
 - Ensure the Hugo 2 is in Bluetooth pairing mode (input indicator blue).
 - Make sure your source device's Bluetooth is enabled and discoverable.
 - Move the devices closer to each other.
 - Forget the device on your source and try pairing again.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	Chord Hugo2 Transportable DAC/Headphone Amplifier
Connectivity Technology	Wired, Bluetooth
Headphones Jack	3.5 mm Jack, 6.35 Jack
Compatible Devices	Headphones, Audio Systems, and Components with RCA Inputs
Control Method	Remote
Battery Life	7 Hours
Item Weight	15.8 ounces
Product Dimensions	5.11 x 3.93 x 0.83 inches
Manufacturer	Chord Electronics
Color	Black
Material	Aluminum, Polycarbonate, Acrylic, Glass
Frequency Range	20 Hz - 20,000 Hz

Feature	Specification
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Chord Hugo 2 comes with a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included in your package or visit the official Chord Electronics website for detailed warranty terms and conditions.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or service inquiries, please contact Chord Electronics customer support through their official website or authorized distributors. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.