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## Nektar Pacer

# Nektar Pacer MIDI DAW Foot Controller User Manual

Model: Pacer

## INTRODUCTION

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The Nektar Pacer is a powerful MIDI DAW Foot Controller designed to provide hands-free control over your Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) and other MIDI-compatible equipment. This manual provides comprehensive instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your Pacer.

With the Pacer, you can effortlessly select tracks, control transport functions, adjust parameters for soft or hardware MIDI instruments, and manage your analog amplifier settings, all with your feet. Its robust switching capabilities offer extensive control for both studio recording and live performances.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

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Please ensure all items listed below are present in your package:

- Nektar Pacer Foot Controller
- USB Cable
- User Guide (this manual)
- Bitwig Studio 8-Track License Card



Image: Top view of the Nektar Pacer Foot Controller, showing its 10 footswitches, display, and rotary knob.

## SETUP

### Connecting the Pacer

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the included USB cable from the Pacer's USB port to a free USB port on your computer. The Pacer is powered via USB.
2. **MIDI Connections (Optional):** If connecting to external MIDI hardware, use a standard MIDI cable to connect the Pacer's MIDI Out port to the MIDI In port of your MIDI device.
3. **Expression Pedal/Footswitch Connections (Optional):** The Pacer features two expression pedal inputs (EXP1, EXP2) and two footswitch inputs (FS1/2, R1/3). Connect compatible expression pedals or external footswitches to these inputs as needed for expanded control.



Image: Rear view of the Nektar Pacer, highlighting the USB, MIDI Out, EXP1, EXP2, FS1/2, and R1/3 ports.

### Software Setup

The Nektar Pacer is class-compliant and generally does not require specific drivers for basic functionality. However, for full integration with your DAW, it is recommended to configure it within your DAW's MIDI settings.

- **DAW Compatibility:** The Pacer is compatible with major DAWs including Bitwig, Cubase, Reaper, Logic Pro, Pro Tools, Studio One, and Cakewalk.
- **MIDI Configuration:** Refer to your DAW's user manual for specific instructions on setting up MIDI controllers. Ensure the Pacer is recognized as a MIDI input device.

- **Bitwig Studio 8-Track:** Use the provided license card to register and download Bitwig Studio 8-Track, which offers deep integration with Nektar products.

## OPERATING THE PACER

### Basic Operation

The Pacer features 10 programmable footswitches (labeled 1-6 and A-D) and a dedicated display. Each footswitch can be assigned to control various MIDI messages or DAW functions.

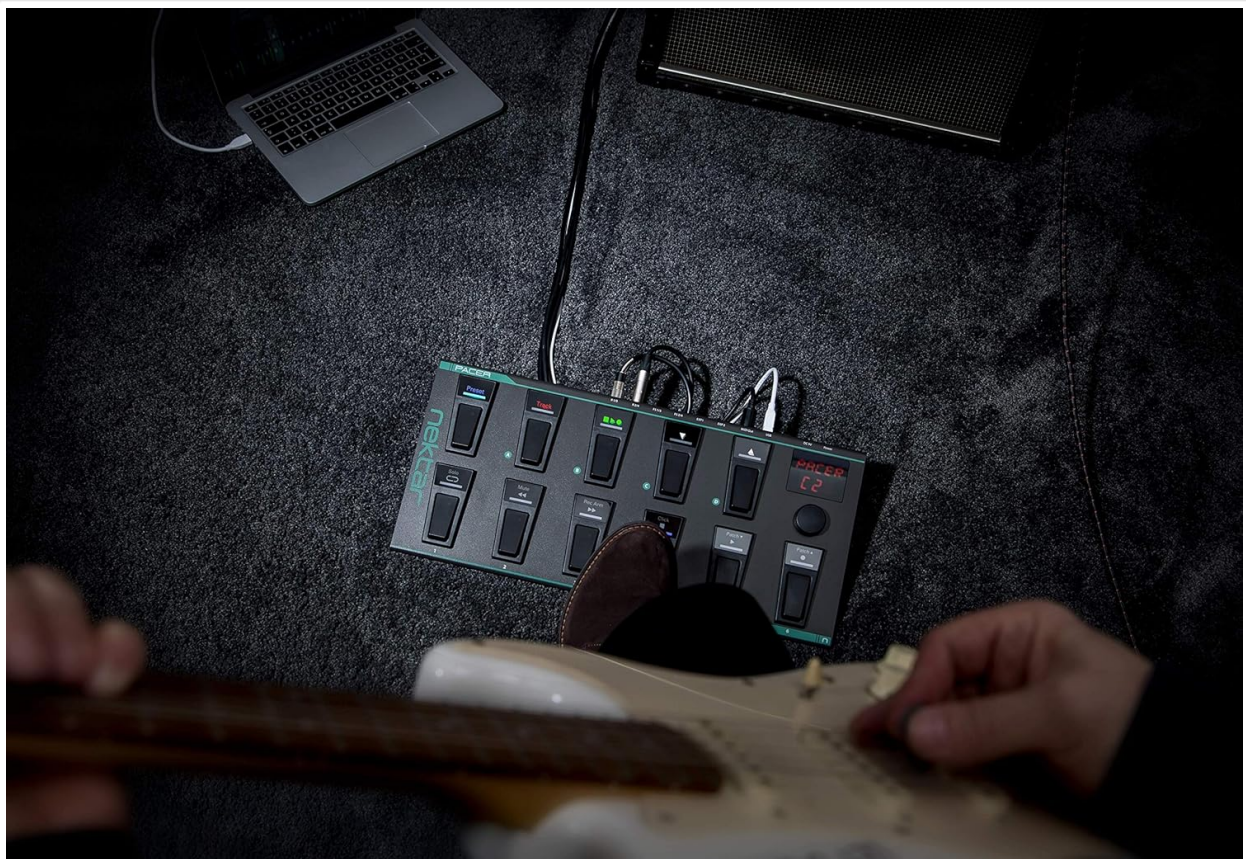


Image: The Nektar Pacer in a live setup, positioned on the floor for foot control while a musician plays a guitar.

### Modes and Presets

The Pacer operates in different modes, each optimized for specific control tasks (e.g., DAW control, MIDI program changes, relay switching). Presets allow you to store and recall different configurations of footswitch assignments and settings.

- **DAW Control:** Dedicated modes for controlling transport (Play, Stop, Record), track navigation, and other common DAW functions.
- **MIDI Control:** Assign footswitches to send MIDI Program Change, Control Change, or Note messages to external MIDI devices or software instruments.
- **Relay Switching:** Utilize the 4 relay switch outputs to control external devices like amplifier channel switching.

### Programming and Customization

The Pacer offers extensive programming capabilities. You can customize the function of each footswitch, LED color, and display feedback. Detailed programming instructions are available in the comprehensive online manual or via the Nektar website's support section.

While direct programming on the unit is possible, Nektar often provides web-based editors or software utilities for easier and more intuitive configuration. Check the official Nektar website for the latest tools and firmware updates.

## MAINTENANCE

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To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Nektar Pacer, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the Pacer in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Handling:** While built with a robust metal chassis, avoid dropping the unit or subjecting it to excessive force.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the Nektar website for firmware updates. Keeping your Pacer's firmware up-to-date can improve performance and add new features.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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### Common Issues and Solutions

**Pacer not powering on:**

Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the Pacer and your computer. Try a different USB port or cable. If using a USB hub, ensure it is powered.

**Pacer not recognized by DAW:**

Verify that the Pacer is selected as a MIDI input device in your DAW's preferences/settings. Restart your DAW and/or computer. Check for any conflicting drivers or software.

**Footswitches not responding:**

Check the Pacer's display to ensure it is in the correct mode for the intended function. Verify footswitch assignments within the Pacer's programming or editor software.

**MIDI messages not being sent/received:**

Confirm MIDI cable connections are correct (Out to In). Check MIDI channel settings on both the Pacer and the receiving device/software. Ensure MIDI Thru is enabled if necessary.

For more detailed troubleshooting or specific technical support, please visit the official Nektar support website or consult their online forums.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Model Name	Pacer
Model Number	da0a8828-9973-4dc9-b82d-68aa60520e79
Dimensions (L x W x H)	50.17 x 23.01 x 5.59 cm (19.75 x 9.06 x 2.2 inches)
Weight	3.5 kg (7.7 lbs)
Color	Dark Gray
Material	Metal
Connectivity	USB, MIDI DIN (Out), Expression Pedal Inputs (2), Footswitch Inputs (2), Relay Switch Outputs (4)
Compatibility	MIDI compatible devices, USB compatible devices, DAWs (Bitwig, Cubase, Reaper, Logic Pro, Pro Tools, Studio One, Cakewalk)

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Nektar products are designed for reliability and performance. For information regarding warranty coverage, product registration, and technical support, please visit the official Nektar Technology website:

[www.nektartech.com/support](http://www.nektartech.com/support)

You can find FAQs, driver downloads, firmware updates, and contact information for customer service on their support page.