

## Universal Audio APX8P

# Universal Audio Apollo X8P Thunderbolt 3 Audio Interface User Manual

Model: APX8P

## INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Universal Audio Apollo X8P Thunderbolt 3 Audio Interface. The Apollo X8P is a professional 16 x 22 Thunderbolt 3 audio interface designed for music engineers, producers, and project studios, featuring elite-class A/D and D/A conversion, eight Unison-enabled mic preamps, and HEXA Core UAD plug-in processing.

It integrates seamlessly with the LUNA Recording System (Mac) and offers robust performance for both Mac and PC environments.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

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Upon opening the package, ensure all components are present and undamaged. The standard package for the Universal Audio Apollo X8P typically includes:

- Universal Audio Apollo X8P Audio Interface
- External Power Supply Unit
- Documentation (Quick Start Guide, Registration Card)
- Thunderbolt 3 Cable (may be sold separately, check product packaging)



Figure 1: The Apollo X8P audio interface as it appears when unboxed, securely nestled within its protective packaging.

## SETUP

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### System Requirements

- Computer with available Thunderbolt 3 port.
- Compatible Operating System: macOS (for LUNA Recording System) or Windows.
- Internet connection for software download and product registration.
- Sufficient hard drive space for software installation and audio projects.

### Hardware Connections

Before connecting the Apollo X8P, ensure your computer and all audio equipment are powered off.

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the included external power supply to the Apollo X8P's power input and then to an appropriate AC power outlet.
2. **Thunderbolt Connection:** Use a certified Thunderbolt 3 cable to connect the Apollo X8P to a Thunderbolt 3 port on your computer. The Apollo X8P is backwards compatible with Thunderbolt 1 and 2 on Mac systems using appropriate adapters (sold separately).
3. **Audio Input/Output:**
  - Connect microphones or line-level instruments to the 8 Unison-enabled mic/line preamps on the front and rear panels using XLR or 1/4-inch TRS cables.
  - Connect studio monitors to the main monitor outputs.

- Utilize the additional analog I/O via DB-25 connectors for expanded connectivity.
- Digital I/O (ADAT, S/PDIF) can be used for additional channels.



Figure 2: Front panel of the Apollo X8P, showing the 8 Unison-enabled mic/line preamps, input controls, metering, and monitor section.



Figure 3: Rear panel of the Apollo X8P, illustrating the power input, Thunderbolt 3 ports, digital I/O, and analog line inputs/outputs.

## Software Installation

After hardware connection, install the necessary Universal Audio software and drivers.

1. **Download Software:** Visit the Universal Audio website and download the latest UAD Software for your operating system.
2. **Install Software:** Run the installer and follow the on-screen prompts. This will install the UAD drivers, Console application, and UAD Powered Plug-Ins.
3. **Register Product:** Launch the UAD Meter & Control Panel application (or Console) and follow the instructions to register your Apollo X8P and authorize your UAD plug-ins. An internet connection is required for this step.
4. **LUNA Recording System (Mac Only):** If using a Mac, you can download and install the LUNA Recording System for deep Apollo integration.

## OPERATING THE APOLLO X8P

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### Front Panel Controls

- **Preamp Section:** Controls for input gain, phantom power (+48V), pad, and polarity for each of the 8 Unison-enabled mic/line preamps.
- **Input Metering:** Visual display of input levels for all channels.
- **Monitor Section:** Large knob for main monitor output level, along with buttons for Alt Speakers, Dim, and Mono.
- **Headphone Outputs:** Two independent headphone outputs with dedicated level controls.
- **Talkback Mic:** Built-in microphone for communication with performers.

### Key Features and Functionality

- **Unison Technology:** Allows for authentic emulations of classic mic preamps (Neve, API, Manley, SSL, etc.) by precisely matching the impedance, gain stage "sweet spots," and component-level circuit behaviors of the emulated hardware.
- **HEXA Core Processing:** Provides significant DSP power for running UAD Powered Plug-Ins in real time with near-zero latency, even during tracking.
- **Elite-Class A/D and D/A Conversion:** Ensures pristine audio quality throughout the recording and playback process.
- **LUNA Recording System Integration (Mac):** Offers a deeply integrated recording environment that combines hardware and software for a seamless workflow, including analog console modeling.
- **Surround Monitor Controller:** Supports up to 7.1 surround sound monitoring.
- **+24 dBu Operation:** Selectable operating level for compatibility with professional mixing consoles and tape machines.
- **Multi-Unit Cascading:** Link up to four Apollo interfaces for expanded I/O (up to 156 channels).

### Using with Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)

The Apollo X8P functions as a high-performance audio interface with major DAWs such as Pro Tools, Logic Pro, Cubase, and Ableton Live. Configure your DAW's audio settings to use the Apollo X8P as the primary input and output device.

## MAINTENANCE

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- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure proper ventilation around the unit to prevent overheating. Do not block ventilation openings.
- **Software Updates:** Regularly check the Universal Audio website for the latest UAD software and firmware updates to ensure optimal performance and compatibility.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the unit in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and

extreme temperatures.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

### Common Issues and Solutions

- No Power:**

Ensure the power supply is securely connected to both the Apollo X8P and a working AC outlet. Verify the power switch on the unit is in the 'On' position.
- No Audio Input/Output:**

Check all audio cable connections. Verify that the Apollo X8P is selected as the audio input/output device in your computer's sound settings and your DAW. Ensure input gain levels are appropriately set on the Apollo X8P and in the Console application.
- UAD Plug-ins Not Loading/Authorized:**

Ensure your Apollo X8P is registered and authorized with your Universal Audio account. Check your internet connection for authorization issues. Re-run the UAD Meter & Control Panel and check the System Info tab for device and plug-in status.
- Connectivity Issues (Thunderbolt):**

Ensure you are using a certified Thunderbolt 3 cable. Try a different Thunderbolt port on your computer. Verify that your computer's Thunderbolt drivers are up to date. Restart both the Apollo X8P and your computer.

For more detailed troubleshooting, refer to the comprehensive Universal Audio Apollo X8P manual available on the official Universal Audio website or contact Universal Audio support.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model	APX8P
Connectivity	Thunderbolt 3 (backwards compatible with T1/T2 on Mac via adapter)
A/D & D/A Conversion	Elite-Class 24-bit/192 kHz
Mic Preamps	8 x Unison-enabled mic/line preamps
Analog I/O	16 inputs x 22 outputs (including DB-25 connectors)
Digital I/O	ADAT, S/PDIF
DSP Processing	HEXA Core UAD Processing
Supported Software	LUNA Recording System (Mac), Pro Tools, Logic Pro, Cubase, Ableton Live, and other major DAWs
Operating System	macOS, Windows
Dimensions (L x W x H)	19 x 13.5 x 1.8 inches

Feature	Detail
Weight	16.2 pounds
Power Supply	External DC power supply (included)

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Universal Audio products typically come with a manufacturer's warranty. For specific warranty terms, duration, and conditions applicable to your Apollo X8P, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Universal Audio website. Warranty details can vary by region and purchase date.




For technical support, product registration, software downloads, and additional resources, please visit the Universal Audio support page:

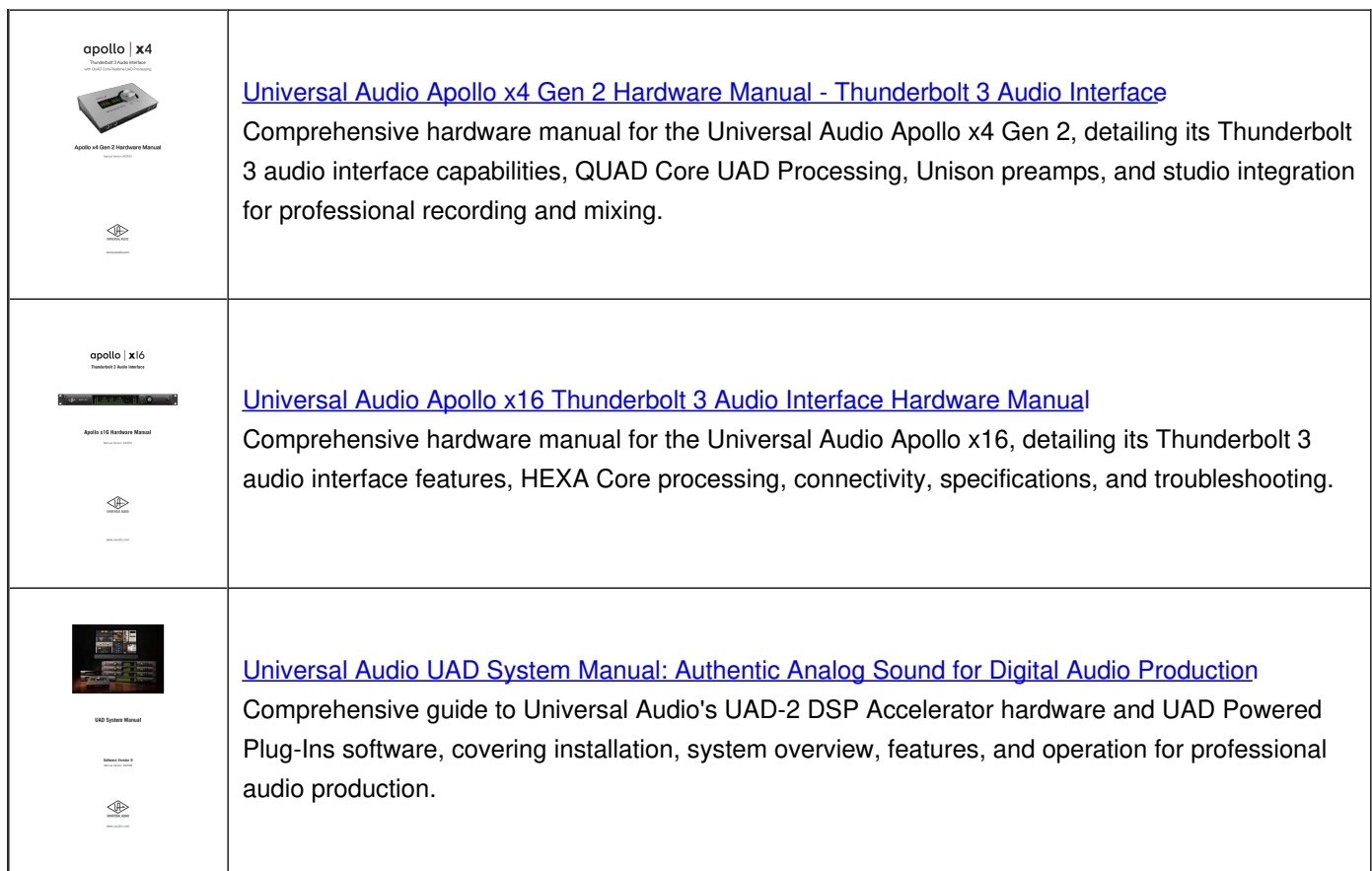
[Universal Audio Support Website](#)



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## Related Documents - APX8P

	<p><a href="#">Universal Audio Apollo Twin X Gen 2 Hardware Manual: Thunderbolt 3 Audio Interface Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive hardware manual for the Universal Audio Apollo Twin X Gen 2, detailing its features, setup, controls, specifications, and troubleshooting for this Thunderbolt 3 audio interface with Realtime UAD Processing.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Universal Audio Apollo Twin X Hardware Manual - Professional Audio Interface Guide</a></p> <p>Explore the features, setup, and capabilities of the Universal Audio Apollo Twin X, a premium Thunderbolt 3 audio interface for professional music production, featuring Unison preamps and UAD processing.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Universal Audio Apollo x16 Hardware Manual: Thunderbolt 3 Audio Interface</a></p> <p>Comprehensive hardware manual for the Universal Audio Apollo x16, a 16-channel Thunderbolt 3 audio interface featuring HEXA Core processing, elite-class A/D and D/A conversion, and surround sound monitoring for professional studios.</p>



## Documents - Universal Audio – APX8P

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[Universal Audio Product Catalog and Pricelist - June 1, 2023](#)

Official product catalog and pricelist from Universal Audio, featuring analog hardware, UAFX pedals, Apollo audio interfaces, UAD2 processors, and microphones. Prices effective June 1, 2023. Includes MSRP and MAP.

lang:en score:24 filesize: 99.01 K page count: 2 document date: 2023-05-23

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Universal Audio Full Dealer Pricelist May 24 2022.xls Jeremy Berger pl universal audio full dealer june  
yorkville pricelist |||

Universal Audio - [www.uaudio.com](http://www.uaudio.com) B Analog Hardware Item Code UA-LA2A UA-1176LN UA-1176SA UA-6176 U ... Audio Interface Desktop/MAC/Win UA-APX8/HE Apollo x8 Heritage Edition Desktop/MAC/Win/TB3 UA-**APX8P** Apollo x8P Thunderbolt 3 Audio Interface Desktop/MAC/Win UA-**APX8P**/HE Apollo x8P Heritage ...

lang:en score:24 filesize: 97.91 K page count: 1 document date: 2022-05-24



