ASUS XONAR SE

ASUS XONAR SE 5.1 Channel PCIe Sound Card User Manual

Model: XONAR SE

1. Introduction

The ASUS Xonar SE is a 5.1-channel, 192kHz/24-bit Hi-Res audio PCIe sound card designed to enhance your computer's audio output. It features a 116dB signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and a built-in 300ohm headphone amplifier, providing clear and immersive sound. The card also incorporates exclusive Hyper Grounding technology to minimize audio distortion and interference, ensuring a high-quality listening experience.

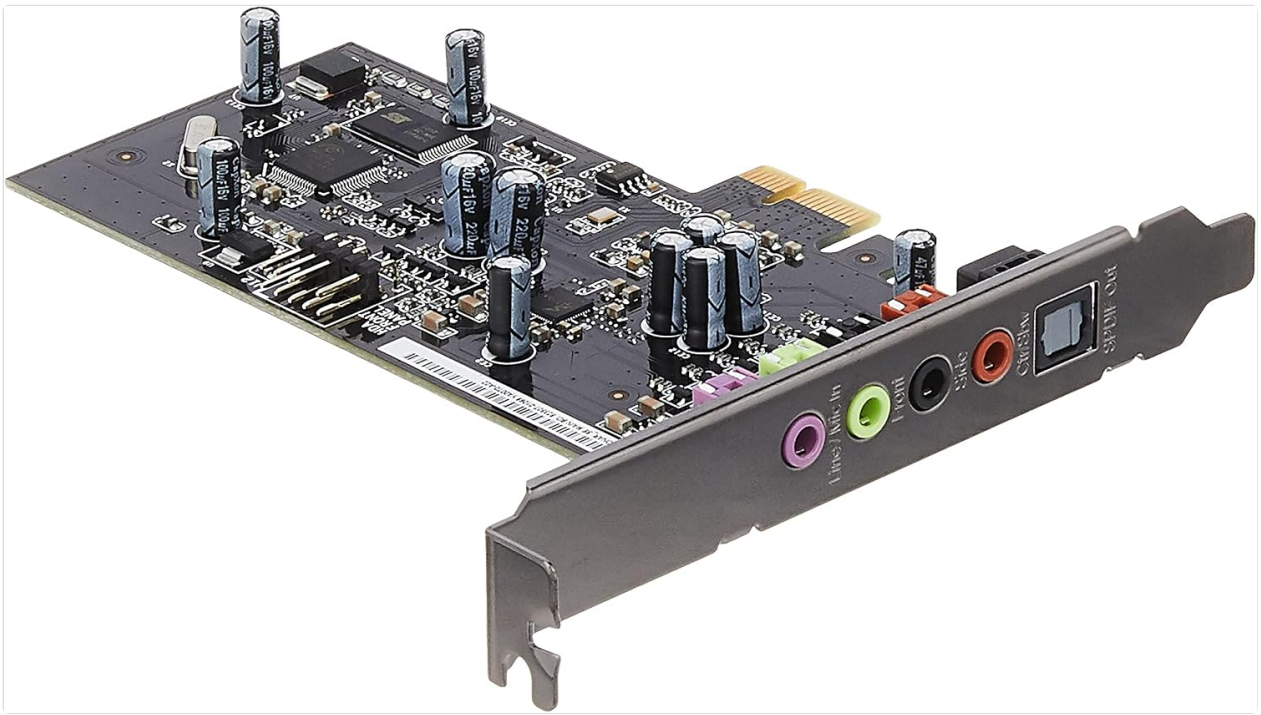


Image 1.1: The ASUS Xonar SE PCIe Sound Card, showcasing its circuit board and rear panel connectors.

2. Features

- **5.1 Channel Audio:** Supports 5.1-channel surround sound for an immersive audio experience.
- **High-Resolution Audio:** Delivers 192kHz/24-bit Hi-Res audio playback.
- **Integrated Headphone Amplifier:** Features a built-in 300ohm headphone amplifier for detailed sound with defined bass.
- **High Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR):** Achieves a crystal clear 116dB SNR with the Realtek ALC1220X codec.
- **Hyper Grounding Technology:** ASUS exclusive technology ensures minimal audio distortion and interference by providing effective signal insulation.
- **Xonar Audio Center:** Provides full audio control through an intuitive software interface.
- **Low Profile Bracket:** Includes a low-profile bracket for compatibility with various system form factors.

3. Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in your package:

- ASUS Xonar SE Sound Card
- Driver CD
- Quick Start Guide
- Low-profile bracket

4. Setup and Installation

4.1 Hardware Installation

1. **Power Off:** Ensure your computer is completely powered off and unplugged from the power outlet.
2. **Open Case:** Open your computer's chassis to access the motherboard.
3. **Locate PCIe Slot:** Identify an available PCI Express x1 slot on your motherboard.
4. **Insert Sound Card:** Carefully align the Xonar SE sound card with the PCIe slot and press down firmly until it is securely seated.
5. **Secure Bracket:** Secure the sound card's metal bracket to the computer case using a screw. If installing in a small form factor system, replace the standard bracket with the included low-profile bracket.
6. **Close Case:** Close your computer's chassis and reconnect the power cable.



Image 4.1: Rear panel connectors of the ASUS Xonar SE, including line-in, front, side, center/subwoofer, and S/PDIF out ports.

4.2 Driver Installation

After hardware installation, you need to install the necessary drivers for the sound card to function correctly.

1. **Boot System:** Power on your computer. Windows may automatically detect new hardware and attempt to install generic drivers.
2. **Install Drivers:** Insert the provided Driver CD into your optical drive and follow the on-screen instructions to install the ASUS Xonar SE drivers and the Xonar Audio Center software. Alternatively, download the latest drivers from the official ASUS support website for your specific operating system (e.g., Windows 10).
3. **Restart:** Restart your computer after the driver installation is complete.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1 Xonar Audio Center

The Xonar Audio Center software provides comprehensive control over your sound card's features and settings. Launch the application from your desktop or Start menu.

- **Audio Modes:** Select between various audio modes (e.g., 2-channel stereo, 5.1 surround) to match your speaker configuration.
- **Equalizer:** Adjust audio frequencies to customize your sound profile.
- **Headphone Amplifier:** Control settings for the built-in 300ohm headphone amplifier.
- **Input/Output Configuration:** Manage input (microphone, line-in) and output (speakers, headphones, S/PDIF) settings.

5.2 Connecting Audio Devices

Connect your speakers, headphones, or other audio devices to the appropriate ports on the sound card's rear panel.

- **Front Panel Audio:** Connect your PC case's front panel audio header to the dedicated header on the Xonar SE for convenient access to headphone and microphone jacks.
- **Digital Output:** Use the S/PDIF Out port for digital audio connections to compatible receivers or speaker systems.

6. Maintenance

To ensure optimal performance and longevity of your ASUS Xonar SE sound card, consider the following maintenance tips:

- **Keep Clean:** Periodically clean the interior of your computer case to prevent dust buildup on the sound card, which can affect performance and lead to overheating. Use compressed air for this purpose.
- **Driver Updates:** Regularly check the official ASUS support website for the latest driver updates. Updated drivers can improve performance, add new features, and resolve compatibility issues.
- **Secure Connections:** Ensure all audio cables and the sound card itself are securely seated to prevent intermittent audio issues.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your ASUS Xonar SE sound card, refer to the following troubleshooting steps:

- **No Sound Output:**
  - Verify that the sound card is correctly seated in its PCIe slot.

- Check all audio cable connections to your speakers or headphones.
- Ensure the correct playback device is selected in your operating system's sound settings.
- Confirm that the volume levels are not muted or set too low in both the operating system and the Xonar Audio Center.

- **Distorted or Poor Sound Quality:**
  - Ensure you have the latest drivers installed from the ASUS website.
  - Disable any onboard audio solutions in your motherboard's BIOS to prevent conflicts.
  - Check for electromagnetic interference by ensuring the sound card is not too close to other high-power components.
  - Test with different audio cables or devices to rule out faulty peripherals.

- **Driver Installation Issues:**
  - Uninstall any previous sound card drivers before installing the Xonar SE drivers.
  - Ensure your operating system (e.g., Windows 10) is fully updated.
  - Download drivers directly from the ASUS support website for the most compatible version.

8. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Model Name	Xonar SE
Hardware Interface	PCI Express x1
Audio Output Mode	Surround
Surround Sound Channel Configuration	5.1
Maximum Sample Rate	192 KHz
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)	116 dB
Headphone Amplifier Impedance	300 ohm
Compatible Devices	Desktop
Platform	Windows 10 (and later with updated drivers)
Item Weight	9.6 ounces

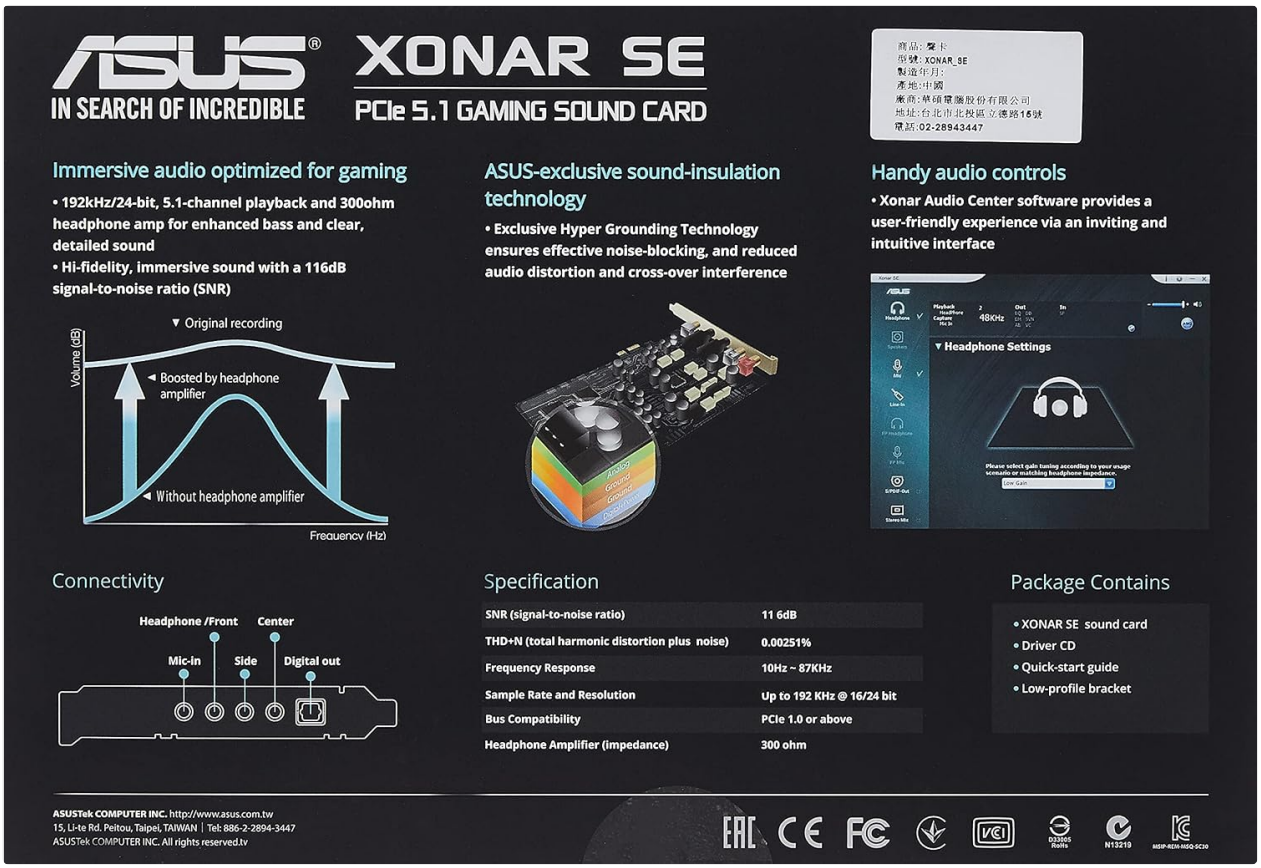


Image 8.1: A graphic illustrating key features and specifications of the ASUS Xonar SE.



Image 8.2: The ASUS Xonar SE sound card held in a hand, providing a visual reference for its compact size.

9. Warranty and Support

9.1 Warranty Information

The ASUS Xonar SE sound card comes with a**1 Year Warranty**. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. For detailed warranty terms and conditions, refer to the warranty card included in your package or visit the official ASUS support website.

9.2 Technical Support

For technical assistance, driver downloads, or further product information, please visit the official ASUS support website or contact ASUS customer service. You can find contact details and support resources on the ASUS website.

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