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MOTU M2

MOTU M2 2x2 USB-C Audio Interface

Model: M2

INTRODUCTION

The MOTU M2 is a 2x2 USB-C Audio Interface designed for high-quality audio capture and monitoring. It features ESS Sabre32 Ultra DAC Technology for superb analog sound, delivering an impressive 120 dB dynamic range on its main outputs. The ultra-clean preamp circuits produce a measured -129 dBu EIN on the mic inputs, ensuring pristine clarity. With class-leading, ultra-low 2.5 ms Round Trip Latency, the M2 provides best-in-class speed for monitoring live inputs. Its full-color LCD with detailed level meters for all inputs and outputs allows for precise level setting.



Image: The MOTU M2 2x2 USB-C Audio Interface shown with the included XLR-XLR cable.

WHAT'S IN THE Box

- MOTU M2 2x2 USB-C Audio Interface
- MOTU Performer Lite and Ableton Live Lite software
- 100+ instruments
- 6 GB of free loops and sample packs
- XLR-XLR Cable



Image: A black XLR-XLR cable, included with the MOTU M2 interface.

SETUP

1. Driver Installation

Before connecting the MOTU M2 to your computer, it is recommended to download and install the latest drivers from the official MOTU website. This ensures optimal performance and compatibility with your operating system.

2. Connecting to Your Computer

The MOTU M2 is bus-powered via USB-C. Use the included USB-C cable to connect the interface to an available USB-C port on your computer. For computers with only USB-A ports, an appropriate adapter or USB-A to USB-C cable (not included) will be required. The device will draw power directly from your computer.

3. Powering On/Off

The power switch is located on the rear panel of the device. Press the switch to turn the unit ON or OFF. The LCD display on the front panel will illuminate upon successful power-up.



Image: The rear panel of the MOTU M2, highlighting the USB-C port for computer connection and the power switch.

OPERATING

Front Panel Controls



Image: The front panel of the MOTU M2, displaying all input controls, LCD meters, and output knobs.

- **Input Combo Jacks (IN 1L, IN 2R):** Connect microphones (XLR) or line/guitar instruments (1/4" TRS/TS).
- **Gain Knobs:** Adjust the input level for each channel. The LCD meters provide visual feedback for optimal gain staging.
- **48V Phantom Power Buttons:** Activate +48V phantom power for condenser microphones. Each input has an independent button.
- **MON Buttons:** Engage direct monitoring for each input, allowing you to hear your input signal with near-zero latency.
- **LCD Display:** Full-color screen showing detailed level meters for both inputs and outputs, aiding in precise level setting.
- **Monitor Knob:** Controls the overall output volume to your studio monitors connected to the rear panel.
- **Headphone Outputs (A & B):** Two independent 1/4" headphone jacks with dedicated volume knobs for separate monitoring mixes.
- **Mix Knob:** Balances the blend between your live input signal and the playback from your computer (USB).

Rear Panel Connections



Image: The rear panel of the MOTU M2, showing the USB-C, MIDI, and monitor output connections.

- **USB-C Port:** Connects the interface to your computer for data and power.
- **MIDI In/Out:** Standard 5-pin DIN connectors for connecting MIDI devices like keyboards, synthesizers, or drum machines.
- **Monitor Outputs (1/L, 2/R):** Connect your studio monitors using 1/4" TRS cables for balanced output.
- **RCA Outputs (1/L, 2/R):** Additional RCA outputs for connecting to consumer audio equipment.
- **Power Switch:** Toggles the power for the interface.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your MOTU M2 audio interface, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the exterior of the device. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or harsh chemicals, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- **Storage:** Store the interface in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity.
- **Cable Management:** Avoid excessive bending or kinking of cables, especially the USB-C cable, to prevent damage.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure the device has adequate ventilation and is not placed in an enclosed space that could lead to overheating.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your MOTU M2, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Hum Noise:** If you experience a hum noise, it may be related to your PC or tablet's power supply. Try changing the power supply or ensuring proper grounding.
- **Pops and Crackles:** These can occur if you set a low sample rate and your computer lacks sufficient processing power, especially when running multiple applications. Try increasing the sample rate (e.g., to 192 kHz or higher) or reducing the load on your computer.
- **Driver Issues:** Ensure you have the latest MOTU USB drivers installed. Outdated or corrupted drivers can cause connectivity or performance problems. Reinstalling drivers may resolve the issue.
- **Weak Signal:** If your input signal is too low, adjust the gain knob for the respective channel. For microphones requiring phantom power, ensure the +48V button is activated.
- **No Sound:** Check all cable connections (USB, inputs, outputs, headphones). Verify that the monitor and headphone volume knobs are turned up. Ensure the correct audio device is selected in your computer's sound settings and your DAW.

SPECIFICATIONS

Item Weight	3.21 pounds
Package Dimensions	10.2 x 7.32 x 3.5 inches
Item Model Number	3120
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer
Hardware Interface	USB
Supported Software	Ableton Live Lite, MOTU Performer Lite
Operating System	Windows
Connectivity Technology	USB
Number of Channels	2

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The MOTU M2 2x2 USB-C Audio Interface is covered by the manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included in your product packaging or visit the official MOTU website for detailed warranty terms and conditions. For

technical support, driver downloads, and additional resources, please visit the MOTU support page.