

Keychron Keychron Q1

Keychron Q1 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard Knob Version User Manual

Model: Keychron Q1

1. INTRODUCTION

The Keychron Q1 Knob Version is a fully customizable mechanical keyboard designed for an enhanced typing experience. Featuring a 75% layout and a solid full aluminum frame, it offers premium comfort and extensive customization possibilities. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your Keychron Q1 keyboard.



2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon unboxing your Keychron Q1 Knob Version keyboard, please ensure all the following components are present:

- 1x Fully Assembled Keyboard (including Aluminum Case, PCB, Steel Plate, Sound Absorbing Foam, Case Foam)
- 16x Gaskets (8 Installed and 8 in the Box)
- 4 sets x Stabilizers
- 1 set x Keycaps (Double-Shot OSA PBT)
- 1 set x Switches (Gateron G Pro Brown Switch)
- 1x Type-C to Type-C Cable
- 1x Type-A to Type-C Adapter
- 1x Switch Puller
- 1x Keycap Puller
- 1x Screwdriver
- 1x Hex Key

Note: All tools are typically placed on the bottom of the box.



An illustration detailing the various components included with your Keychron Q1 Knob Version keyboard.

3. SETUP

3.1 Connecting the Keyboard

To connect your Keychron Q1 keyboard to your computer:

1. Locate the USB-C port on the back of the keyboard.
2. Connect one end of the provided Type-C to Type-C cable to the keyboard.
3. Connect the other end of the cable to a compatible USB-C port on your computer. If your computer only has USB-A ports, use the included Type-A to Type-C adapter.
4. The keyboard is plug-and-play and should be recognized automatically by your operating system.

3.2 Operating System Switch

The Keychron Q1 features a physical switch on the back to toggle between Windows/Android and Mac/iOS modes. Ensure this switch is set to the correct operating system for optimal key mapping and functionality.



Close-up view of the USB-C port and the Windows/Mac operating system toggle switch on the Keychron Q1 keyboard.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Basic Key Functions

The Keychron Q1 features a standard 75% layout. Most keys function as labeled. Refer to the keycap legends for primary and secondary functions (accessed via the 'Fn' key).

4.2 Knob Functionality

The integrated knob on the top right of the keyboard is primarily used for multimedia control. By default, it controls volume:

- **Rotate Clockwise:** Increase Volume
- **Rotate Counter-clockwise:** Decrease Volume
- **Press Down:** Mute/Unmute Audio

The knob's function can be customized using the VIA software (see Section 5.1).

PROGRAMMABLE KNOB



A close-up of the programmable knob on the Keychron Q1, used for volume control and other customizable functions.

4.3 Backlight Control

The Keychron Q1 features south-facing RGB backlighting. You can cycle through various lighting effects and adjust brightness directly on the keyboard using key combinations. Specific key combinations for lighting control are typically found in the included quick start guide or on the Keychron website.



View of the Keychron Q1 showcasing its south-facing RGB backlighting, which illuminates the keyboard from the typist's perspective.

5. CUSTOMIZATION AND ADVANCED FEATURES

5.1 QMK/VIA Programmability

The Keychron Q1 supports QMK and VIA firmware, allowing for extensive customization of key assignments, macros, and lighting effects. VIA is a user-friendly graphical interface for configuring your keyboard without needing to flash firmware.

To use VIA:

1. Download the VIA software from the official Keychron website or use the web-based VIA configurator.
2. Connect your Keychron Q1 keyboard.
3. The software should automatically detect your keyboard. You can then remap keys, create macros, adjust lighting, and customize the knob's function across different layers.

DOUBLE-SHOT PBT KEYCAPS



Screenshot of the VIA software interface, demonstrating the customizable capabilities for each key and macro on the Keychron Q1 keyboard.

5.2 Hot-swappable Switches

The Keychron Q1 features hot-swappable sockets, allowing you to change mechanical switches without soldering. This provides flexibility to customize your typing feel with various 3-pin and 5-pin MX mechanical switches.

To replace switches:

1. Use the included keycap puller to carefully remove the keycap from the desired switch.
2. Use the included switch puller to gently grasp the top and bottom clips of the switch and pull it straight up.
3. Align the pins of the new switch with the holes on the PCB and press it firmly into place until it clicks.
Ensure the pins are not bent.
4. Re-attach the keycap.



Image demonstrating the hot-swappable nature of the Keychron Q1, with keycaps and switches removed to show the PCB sockets.



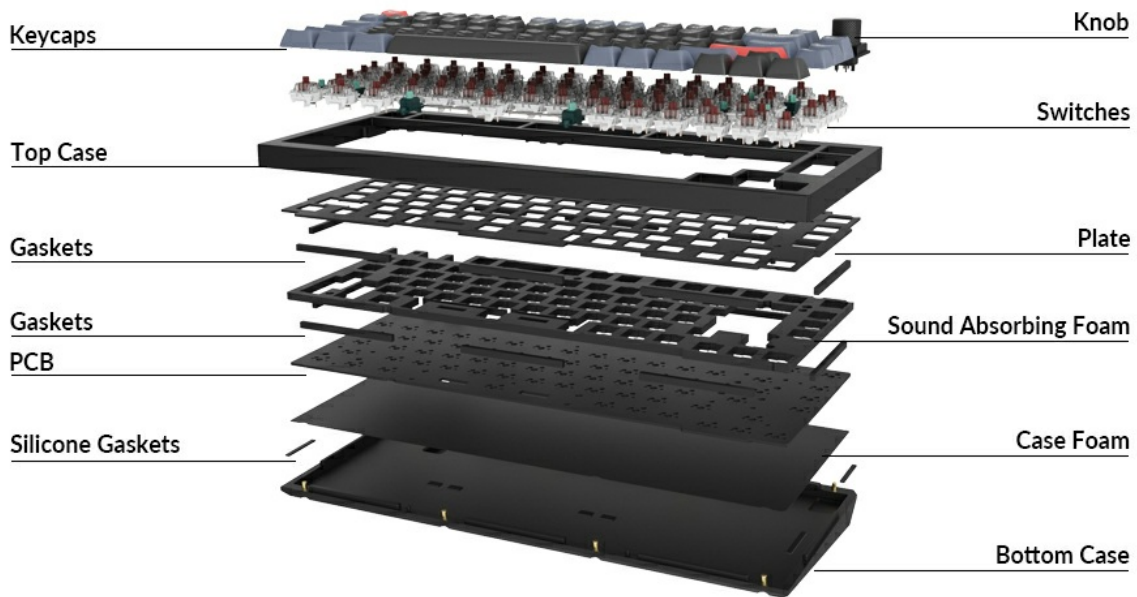
A close-up view of a Gateron G Pro Brown mechanical switch, which comes pre-installed in the Keychron Q1.

5.3 Double Gasket Design

The Keychron Q1 features an innovative double-gasket design. This structure incorporates silicone pads

between the top and bottom cases, in addition to the gaskets on the plate. This design enhances typing flexibility, improves the overall typing sound profile, and significantly reduces sound resonance and noise from metal-on-metal impact.

Disassembling and Assembling with Ease



An exploded diagram illustrating the components of the Keychron Q1, highlighting the double-gasket structure and sound-dampening layers.

5.4 Double-shot PBT Keycaps

The Q1 comes with durable double-shot PBT keycaps in Keychron's unique OSA profile. This profile is designed to provide a comfortable and subtle fingertip feel. PBT material offers excellent oil resistance, ensuring the keycaps maintain their texture and legends over long-term use.



Close-up view of the double-shot PBT keycaps on the Keychron Q1, highlighting their texture and legends.

6. MAINTENANCE

6.1 Cleaning

Regular cleaning helps maintain the performance and appearance of your keyboard:

- **General Cleaning:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth slightly dampened with water or a mild cleaning solution to wipe down the keycaps and frame. Avoid excessive moisture.
- **Dust Removal:** Use compressed air to blow away dust and debris from between the keycaps.
- **Deep Cleaning (Keycaps):** For thorough cleaning, remove the keycaps using the keycap puller and wash them with warm, soapy water. Ensure they are completely dry before re-attaching.

6.2 Switch and Stabilizer Maintenance

While Gateron G Pro switches are pre-lubed, over time, you may consider re-lubing switches or stabilizers for

optimal smoothness and sound. This is an advanced maintenance step and requires specific lubricants and tools.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Keychron Q1 keyboard, try the following troubleshooting steps:

- **Keyboard Not Responding:**
 - Ensure the USB-C cable is securely connected to both the keyboard and the computer.
 - Try a different USB port on your computer.
 - Test with a different USB-C cable.
 - Verify the OS switch on the back of the keyboard is set to the correct operating system (Windows/Mac).
- **Specific Keys Not Working:**
 - Carefully remove the keycap and then the switch using the provided tools.
 - Inspect the switch pins for any bends or damage. Straighten gently if bent.
 - Reinsert the switch firmly. If the issue persists, try swapping it with a known working switch from another less-used key.
- **Backlight Issues:**
 - Ensure the keyboard is properly powered.
 - Cycle through lighting modes and brightness levels using the keyboard's built-in shortcuts.
 - Check VIA software settings for lighting configurations.
- **VIA Software Not Detecting Keyboard:**
 - Ensure the latest version of VIA is installed or use the web-based configurator.
 - Verify the keyboard is connected and the OS switch is correctly set.
 - Sometimes, a specific JSON file for the keyboard model needs to be loaded into VIA. Refer to the Keychron support page for your Q1 model.

For further assistance, please visit the official Keychron support website or consult their community forums.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	12.93 x 5.71 x 1.41 inches
Item Weight	5.92 pounds
Manufacturer	Keychron

Item Model Number	Keychron Q1
Brand	Keychron
Compatible Devices	Laptop, PC, Mac
Connectivity Technology	USB-C
Keyboard Description	Gaming
Special Features	QMK/VIA, Fully Customizable, Full Aluminum, Hot-swappable
Color (Switch Type)	Hot-swap Gateron G Pro Brown Switch
Number of Keys	82
Keyboard Backlighting	RGB
Style	Modern

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT



Keychron products are typically covered by a limited warranty. For detailed information regarding warranty terms, conditions, and duration, please refer to the official Keychron website or the warranty card included with your product.



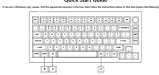

For technical support, frequently asked questions, and additional resources, please visit the official Keychron support page. You can also find the official user guide in PDF format [here](#).

Keychron also maintains an active online community where users can share tips, troubleshoot issues, and discuss product features.

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Related Documents - Keychron Q1

	<p>Keychron Q3 Knob Version Quick Start Guide</p> <p>A quick start guide for the Keychron Q3 Knob Version mechanical keyboard, covering system switching, VIA software usage, layers, backlighting, warranty, and factory reset.</p>
	<p>Keychron V2 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard - QMK/VIA Programmable 65% Layout</p> <p>Discover the Keychron V2 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard, a barebone 65% layout model with QMK/VIA programmability and hot-swappable support. Compatible with Mac, Windows, and Linux. Includes software downloads and configuration resources.</p>

	<p>Keychron Q5 Customizable Mechanical Keyboard User Manual - Knob Version</p> <p>User manual for the Keychron Q5 Customizable Mechanical Keyboard, Knob Version. Features include QMK/VIA programmability, hot-swappable switches, double gasket design, and RGB backlighting. This guide covers package contents, setup, layers, backlight control, specifications, troubleshooting, and warranty.</p>
	<p>Keychron Q3 Quick Start Guide and VIA Software Setup</p> <p>This guide provides instructions for setting up the Keychron Q3 mechanical keyboard, including system switching, using the VIA key remapping software, controlling backlighting, understanding warranty terms, and performing a factory reset. It also includes links to download necessary software and firmware.</p>
	<p>Keychron V1 Knob Mechanical Keyboard Quick Start Guide - Setup & Customization</p> <p>Get started with your Keychron V1 Knob mechanical keyboard. This quick start guide provides instructions on system switching, VIA software setup, key remapping, backlight control, and factory reset for Mac and Windows.</p>
	<p>Keychron K1 Pro Bluetooth Mechanical Keyboard User Manual and Guide</p> <p>Comprehensive guide for the Keychron K1 Pro Bluetooth Mechanical Keyboard, covering setup, features, VIA software, layers, backlight control, troubleshooting, and specifications. Learn how to connect, customize, and maintain your keyboard.</p>