

CAD Audio MXU2

CAD Audio MXU2 2-Channel USB Mixer Instruction Manual

INTRODUCTION

The CAD Audio MXU2 is a versatile 2-channel (2 mic/line) analog mixer featuring a built-in USB interface. Designed for compact and efficient audio processing, it includes +48V phantom power and 16-bit/48 kHz audio resolution, making it suitable for live performance, broadcasting, podcasting, and home recording applications. Its bus-powered design simplifies setup by eliminating the need for an external power supply when connected to a computer.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Key Features

- 2 XLR combo inputs for microphone or instrument signals.
- Ideal compact option for live performance, broadcasting, podcasting, or home recording.
- USB output connects to a computer for easy recording or podcasting (16-bit/48kHz).
- Bus powered – no external power supply needed when using with a computer.
- +48V phantom power for use with condenser microphones.

Controls and Connectors

The CAD Audio MXU2 features a straightforward layout for easy operation. Familiarize yourself with the following components:



Figure 1: Top-down view of the CAD Audio MXU2 mixer, showing all controls and inputs/outputs.

- **INPUT 1 / INPUT 2 (MIC/LINE):** Combo jacks for connecting XLR microphones or 1/4-inch line/instrument cables.
- **+48V PHANTOM (CH1-2):** Red button to activate +48V phantom power for condenser microphones on both channels. An indicator LED illuminates when active.
- **HI-Z:** Switch for input 2 to optimize impedance for high-impedance instruments like electric guitars.
- **LEVEL 1 / LEVEL 2:** Rotary knobs to adjust the input gain for Channel 1 and Channel 2, respectively.
- **ST PAN / 2R:** Switch for Channel 2. In ST PAN mode, Channel 2 is panned to the right. In 2R mode, Channel 2 is routed to the right output.
- **REC (MIC / MIC+PC):** Switch to select the recording source for the USB output. MIC records only the mixer inputs. MIC+PC records mixer inputs mixed with audio from the computer.

- **MAIN:** Rotary knob to control the overall output level to the MAIN OUTPUTS.
- **PHONES:** Rotary knob to control the volume of the headphone output.
- **MAIN OUTPUTS (1/L, 2/R):** 1/4-inch TRS jacks for connecting to studio monitors or other amplification systems.
- **USB Port (Rear):** Connects the mixer to a computer for audio interface functionality and bus power.
- **POWER Switch (Rear):** Selects between PC (USB bus power) and DC (external power, adapter not included).



Figure 2: The MXU2 mixer with its USB cable connected, illustrating the compact design and connectivity.

SETUP

1. Connecting to a Computer

1. Ensure the MXU2's rear POWER switch is set to **PC**.
2. Connect the provided USB cable from the MXU2's USB port to an available USB port on your computer.
3. The mixer is typically plug-and-play, requiring no special drivers for most operating systems (Windows, macOS). Your computer should automatically recognize it as an audio device.
4. Select the MXU2 as your input/output audio device in your computer's sound settings and your Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) or recording software.

2. Connecting Microphones and Instruments

1. **Microphones:** Connect XLR microphones to the INPUT 1 or INPUT 2 combo jacks using XLR cables. For condenser microphones, press the **+48V PHANTOM** button. The red LED will illuminate. *Caution: Do not activate phantom power for dynamic microphones or ribbon microphones unless specified by the manufacturer, as it may cause damage.*
2. **Instruments/Line-Level Devices:** Connect instruments (e.g., guitar, bass) or line-level devices (e.g., keyboard, drum machine) to the INPUT 1 or INPUT 2 combo jacks using 1/4-inch TRS or TS cables. For high-impedance instruments like electric guitars, engage the **HI-Z** switch for Input 2.

3. Connecting Output Devices

1. **Studio Monitors/Speakers:** Connect your studio monitors or powered speakers to the **MAIN OUTPUTS (1/L, 2/R)** using 1/4-inch TRS cables.
2. **Headphones:** Plug your headphones into the 1/4-inch PHONES jack.

OPERATING

1. Input Level Adjustment

1. Before playing or speaking, turn the **LEVEL 1** and **LEVEL 2** knobs fully counter-clockwise.
2. Begin playing your instrument or speaking into the microphone. Slowly turn the corresponding LEVEL knob clockwise until the SIG (signal) LED illuminates consistently.
3. Adjust the level so that the PEAK LED only flashes occasionally during the loudest parts of your performance. If the PEAK LED stays lit, the signal is clipping, and you should reduce the input level.

2. Main Output and Monitoring

1. Adjust the **MAIN** knob to control the overall volume sent to your studio monitors or speakers.
2. Use the **PHONES** knob to set a comfortable listening volume for your headphones.

3. Recording Modes (REC Switch)

- **MIC:** In this mode, only the audio from the mixer's inputs (microphones/instruments) is sent to your computer via USB. This is ideal for recording new tracks.
- **MIC+PC:** This mode mixes the audio from the mixer's inputs with the audio playback from your computer. This is useful for monitoring your performance along with backing tracks or previously recorded material.

4. Stereo Panning (ST PAN / 2R Switch)

- The **ST PAN / 2R** switch affects how Input 2 is routed. In ST PAN mode, Input 2 is panned to the right channel of the stereo output. In 2R mode, Input 2 is routed directly to the right output, bypassing the pan

control.



Figure 3: A user's hand adjusting a level knob on the MXU2 mixer, demonstrating typical operation.

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning

- Disconnect the mixer from all power sources and devices before cleaning.
- Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the exterior of the unit.
- For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by a dry cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals, solvents, or abrasive cleaners.
- Do not allow liquids to enter the unit.

Storage

- Store the mixer in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- Protect the unit from dust and moisture when not in use.

General Care

- Avoid dropping or subjecting the mixer to strong impacts.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the unit, as this will void the warranty.
- Ensure proper ventilation around the unit during operation.

TROUBLESHOOTING

No Power / Device Not Recognized

- **Check USB Connection:** Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the mixer and the computer. Try a different USB port on your computer.
- **Power Switch Setting:** Verify the rear POWER switch is set to **PC** for bus power. If using an external DC adapter (not included), ensure the switch is set to **DC** and the adapter is functioning.
- **Cable Integrity:** Try a different USB cable to rule out a faulty cable.
- **Computer Recognition:** Check your computer's Device Manager (Windows) or System Information (macOS) to see if the MXU2 is listed as an audio device. Restart your computer if necessary.

No Sound Output

- **Level Knobs:** Ensure **LEVEL 1**, **LEVEL 2**, **MAIN**, and **PHONES** knobs are turned up sufficiently.
- **Output Connections:** Verify that your studio monitors/speakers are properly connected to the **MAIN OUTPUTS** and are powered on. Check headphone connection.
- **Computer Audio Settings:** Confirm that the MXU2 is selected as the output device in your computer's sound settings and your recording software.
- **REC Switch:** If you expect to hear computer audio, ensure the **REC** switch is set to **MIC+PC**.

Distorted Sound / Clipping

- **Input Levels:** Reduce the **LEVEL 1** or **LEVEL 2** knobs if the PEAK LED is constantly lit.
- **Output Levels:** Ensure the **MAIN** and **PHONES** levels are not set too high, causing distortion in connected speakers or headphones.
- **Cable Quality:** Use high-quality, shielded cables to minimize interference.

Phantom Power Issues

- **Activation:** Ensure the **+48V PHANTOM** button is pressed and its LED is illuminated when using condenser microphones.
- **Microphone Compatibility:** Confirm your microphone requires phantom power.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	CAD Audio
Model	MXU2
Number of Channels	2
Connectivity Technology	USB
Audio Input	XLR Combo (Mic/Line)
Output Connector Type	TRS (1/4-inch)
Phantom Power	+48V (switchable)
Sampling Rate	48 kHz
Bit Depth	16-bit
Power Source	USB Bus-Powered (PC mode) / Corded Electric (DC mode, adapter not included)
Item Weight	0.31 Kilograms
UPC	631922109399

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty Information

The CAD Audio MXU2 2-Channel USB Mixer is covered by a **2-year manufacturer's warranty**. This warranty typically covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Customer Support

For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, or warranty service, please contact CAD Audio customer support directly. You can usually find contact information, FAQs, and additional resources on the official CAD Audio website. When contacting support, please have your product model (MXU2) and proof of purchase available.