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Keychron V5-A3

Keychron V5 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard User Manual

Model: V5-A3

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Keychron V5 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard. The Keychron V5 is a 96% layout mechanical keyboard designed for versatility and customization, compatible with macOS, Windows, and Linux operating systems.



Image: The Keychron V5 Wired Custom Mechanical Keyboard, showcasing its 96% layout with a knob, black keycaps, and a red ESC key.

2. SETUP

2.1 Unboxing and Package Contents

Upon opening your Keychron V5 package, verify that all components are present:

- 1x Fully Assembled Keyboard (Keychron V5 Knob Version)
- 1x PCB
- 1x Steel Plate
- 1x Sound Absorbing Foam
- 1x Case Silicone Pad
- 6 sets x Stabilizers
- 1 set x Keycaps (Double-Shot PBT)

- 1 set x Switches (Keychron K Pro Brown Switch)
- 1x Type-C to Type-C Cable
- 1x Type-C to Type-A Adapter
- 1x Switch Puller
- 1x Keycap Puller
- 1x Screwdriver
- 1x Hex Key

Image: An exploded diagram illustrating the various components of the Keychron V5 keyboard, including keycaps, switches, top case, sound absorbing foam, plate, PCB, silicone pad, and bottom case.

2.2 Connecting the Keyboard

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



Image: A close-up of the USB-C cable connected to the keyboard's port, indicating the wired connection.

2.3 System Toggle (macOS/Windows)

The Keychron V5 features a system toggle switch located on the back of the keyboard to switch between macOS and Windows layouts. Ensure the switch is set to your operating system for correct key functionality.

- **Mac Mode:** For macOS and iOS devices.
- **Win Mode:** For Windows and Android devices.

Additional keycaps for both Windows and macOS systems are included to match your preferred layout.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 QMK/VIA Programmability

The Keychron V5 supports QMK/VIA firmware, allowing for extensive customization of key assignments, macros, and lighting effects. VIA is a graphical user interface that simplifies the programming process.

- **Download VIA Software:** Visit the official Keychron website or the VIA configurator website to download the latest software compatible with your V5 keyboard.
- **Connect Keyboard:** Ensure your keyboard is connected via USB.
- **Load JSON (if required):** Some VIA versions may require loading a specific JSON file for the V5 model, available on the Keychron support page.
- **Remap Keys:** Drag and drop functions to desired keys. You can create multiple layers for different operating systems or specific applications.
- **Create Macros:** Record sequences of keystrokes to automate complex tasks.
- **Adjust Backlight:** Customize RGB lighting patterns, colors, and brightness.

Image: A screenshot of the VIA software interface, demonstrating how users can remap keys and configure macros for the Keychron V5 keyboard.

3.2 Programmable Knob

The rotary knob on the Keychron V5 is programmable via QMK/VIA. By default, it controls volume (turn left/right) and mute (press down). You can reassign these functions to other actions such as zoom, scroll, or custom macros.

Image: A close-up view of the textured, black rotary knob on the Keychron V5 keyboard, highlighting its integration into the layout.

3.3 Hot-swappable Switches

The Keychron V5 features hot-swappable switch sockets, allowing you to change switches without soldering. This supports most 3-pin and 5-pin MX mechanical switches (e.g., Cherry, Gateron, Kailh).

Image: A close-up showing different colored mechanical switches inserted into the keyboard's PCB, demonstrating the hot-swappable feature.

3.4 Double-shot PBT Keycaps and South-facing RGB

The keyboard comes with durable double-shot PBT keycaps in an OSA profile, offering resistance to oil and wear. The south-facing RGB LEDs are designed to provide better illumination from the typist's perspective and prevent interference with Cherry-profile keycaps.

Image: A detailed view of the double-shot PBT keycaps, highlighting their texture and legends.

Image: A close-up of several switches with vibrant RGB backlighting visible beneath the keycaps.

3.5 Ergonomic Angle Design

The Keychron V5 features adjustable feet to allow for an ergonomic typing angle, reducing strain during

extended use.

Image: A side profile of the Keychron V5 keyboard, illustrating the adjustable feet extended to provide an ergonomic typing angle.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 General Cleaning

- Disconnect the keyboard from your computer before cleaning.
- Use a soft, lint-free cloth slightly dampened with water or a mild cleaning solution to wipe the keycaps and case. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- Use a can of compressed air to remove dust and debris from between the keycaps.
- For deeper cleaning, use the provided keycap puller to remove keycaps and clean the switches and plate.

4.2 Switch Replacement

To replace a switch:

1. Using the provided keycap puller, gently remove the keycap from the switch you wish to replace.
2. Using the provided switch puller, carefully grip the top and bottom clips of the switch.
3. Pull the switch straight up to remove it from the PCB.
4. Align the pins of the new switch with the holes on the PCB. Ensure the pins are straight to avoid bending.
5. Gently press the new switch into place until it clicks securely.
6. Reattach the keycap.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

5.1 Keyboard Not Responding

- Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the keyboard and your computer.
- Try connecting the keyboard to a different USB port on your computer.
- Test with a different USB cable if available.
- Verify the system toggle switch (Mac/Win) on the back of the keyboard is set correctly for your operating system.
- Restart your computer.

5.2 Specific Keys Not Working

- Remove the keycap and then the switch using the provided tools.
- Inspect the switch pins for any bends or damage. Straighten bent pins carefully or replace the switch if damaged.
- Reinsert the switch and keycap firmly.

- If using VIA, check if the key has been accidentally remapped or disabled in a specific layer.

5.3 RGB Backlight Issues

- Ensure the keyboard is properly connected.
- Use the keyboard's built-in shortcuts (refer to the Keychron V5 quick start guide or VIA software) to adjust brightness or change lighting modes.
- Check VIA software for any custom lighting profiles that might be overriding default settings.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	V5-A3
Layout	96% (97 Keys)
Connectivity	Wired (USB Type-C)
Switches	Keychron K Pro Brown (Hot-swappable)
Keycaps	Double-shot PBT, OSA Profile
Backlight	South-facing RGB
Programmability	QMK/VIA Support
Compatibility	macOS, Windows, Linux
Dimensions	15.31 x 5.6 x 1.04 inches
Weight	3.59 pounds
Manufacturer	Keychron

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Keychron products typically come with a limited warranty. For specific warranty terms, duration, and to initiate a support request, please refer to the official Keychron website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For further assistance, visit the [Keychron Store on Amazon](#) or the official Keychron support page.

