

MOTU UltraLite-mk5

MOTU UltraLite-mk5 Audio/MIDI Interface User Manual

Model: UltraLite-mk5

INTRODUCTION

The MOTU UltraLite-mk5 is a desktop 18x22 USB Type-C Audio/MIDI Interface designed for musicians, producers, podcasters, and content creators. It offers enhanced analog performance, flexible connectivity, and a comprehensive software package. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your UltraLite-mk5 interface.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Before proceeding, ensure all items are present in the package:

- MOTU UltraLite-mk5 Desktop 18x22 USB Type-C Audio/MIDI Interface
- USB Type-C to USB Type-C Cable (6.6ft)
- External Power Supply
- XLR-XLR Cable (20")
- Software Download Information (CueMix 5, MOTU Performer Lite, 6GB loops and sounds)

SETUP

1. Hardware Connections

Connect the UltraLite-mk5 to your computer and power source.

- **Power Connection:** Connect the included external power supply to the 15V DC input on the rear panel of the UltraLite-mk5. Plug the power supply into a suitable electrical outlet.
- **USB Connection:** Use the provided USB Type-C to USB Type-C cable to connect the UltraLite-mk5 to an available USB Type-C port on your computer. The interface supports USB 3.1 Gen 1 standards for data transfer and power delivery.
- **Audio Inputs:**
 - **Front Panel Combo Inputs (1-2):** These inputs accept XLR microphones (with +48V phantom power for condenser mics) or 1/4" line/instrument sources. Use the PAD button for high-level signals.
 - **Rear Panel Line Inputs (3-10):** Connect line-level audio sources using 1/4" TRS or TS cables.

- **Audio Outputs:**
 - **Main Outputs (L/R):** Connect your studio monitors or main playback system using 1/4" TRS cables.
 - **Line Outputs (1-8):** Connect to outboard gear, additional monitors, or other audio destinations.
 - **Headphone Output:** Connect headphones to the 1/4" stereo jack on the front panel.
- **MIDI I/O:** Connect MIDI devices (keyboards, controllers) to the MIDI In and Out ports on the rear panel.
- **Digital I/O:** The optical and S/PDIF ports on the rear panel allow for digital audio expansion.



Figure 1: Front panel of the UltraLite-mk5, showing combo inputs, headphone jack, and control knobs.



Figure 2: Rear panel of the UltraLite-mk5, displaying MIDI, optical, S/PDIF, line inputs, and line outputs.

2. Software Installation

Drivers and control software are required for full functionality.

- Visit the official MOTU website to download the latest drivers and the CueMix 5 control software for your operating system (Windows/macOS).
- Follow the on-screen instructions to install the software. Restart your computer if prompted.
- Download and install any bundled software like MOTU Performer Lite and the included sound libraries as per the provided instructions.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Front Panel Controls

- **MIC/LINE/INST Inputs (1-2):** Combo jacks for microphones, line-level, or instrument-level signals.
- **PAD Buttons:** Attenuates the input signal by a fixed amount (e.g., -20dB) for high-level sources to prevent clipping.
- **48V Buttons:** Activates +48V phantom power for condenser microphones connected to the respective input.
- **MIC GAIN Knobs (1-2):** Adjusts the input gain for microphones or instruments connected to inputs 1 and 2.
- **MAIN VOL Knob:** Controls the output level of the main stereo outputs.
- **PHONES Knob:** Adjusts the volume for the headphone output.
- **LED Meters:** Provide visual feedback for input and output signal levels. Monitor these to avoid clipping (red indicators).
- **STATUS Indicators:** Display sample rate (48k, INT), lock status, digital I/O activity (DIG), and MIDI activity (MIDI).

CueMix 5 Software

The CueMix 5 software provides comprehensive control over the UltraLite-mk5's internal mixer, routing, and effects. Launch CueMix 5 from your computer's applications folder.

- **Input/Output Routing:** Configure how inputs are routed to outputs and monitor mixes.
- **DSP Effects:** Apply built-in effects such as reverb, EQ, and compression to inputs without taxing your computer's CPU.
- **Loopback Function:** Route computer audio back into the interface for recording or streaming, useful for podcasts and live streams.
- **Standalone Operation:** The UltraLite-mk5 can operate without a computer once configured via CueMix 5, retaining its last settings.

MAINTENANCE

Proper care ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your UltraLite-mk5.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, ensuring no liquid enters the ports or vents.
- **Environment:** Operate the interface in a clean, dry environment away from direct sunlight, excessive heat, humidity, and dust. Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, disconnect the power supply and USB cable. Store the unit in a protective case or its original packaging to prevent damage.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues, refer to the following common solutions:

- **No Sound Output:**
 - Check all cable connections (USB, power, audio outputs).
 - Verify the MAIN VOL and PHONES knobs are turned up.
 - Ensure the UltraLite-mk5 is selected as the audio output device in your computer's sound settings and your Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).
 - Check routing in CueMix 5 to ensure signals are directed to the desired outputs.
- **No Input Signal:**
 - Confirm input cables are securely connected.
 - Adjust the MIC GAIN knob for the active input.
 - If using a condenser microphone, ensure +48V phantom power is enabled.

- Check the PAD button status; deactivate if the input signal is too low.
 - Verify the UltraLite-mk5 is selected as the audio input device in your computer's sound settings and DAW.
- **Latency Issues:**
 - Reduce the buffer size in your DAW's audio settings. Note that very low buffer sizes may strain your computer's CPU.
 - Ensure your computer meets the minimum system requirements for the UltraLite-mk5 and your DAW.
 - Close unnecessary applications running in the background.
 - **Driver Problems:**
 - Reinstall the latest drivers from the official MOTU website.
 - Ensure your operating system is up to date.

SPECIFICATIONS

Item Model Number	UltraLite-mk5
Brand	MOTU
Item Weight	6.52 pounds
Package Dimensions	14.96 x 11.57 x 7.09 inches
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer
Hardware Interface	USB
Number of Channels	18 inputs, 22 outputs (total)
Connectivity Technology	USB Type-C
Audio Input	USB, XLR/TRS Combo, 1/4" TRS Line, Optical, S/PDIF

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official MOTU website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Online Resources: [MOTU Support Website](#)

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page’s manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for

conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question