Akai Professional LPD8 MK2

AKAI Professional LPD8 - USB MIDI Controller

Model: LPD8 MK2
Brand: Akai Professional

Introduction

The AKAI Professional LPD8 is a compact USB MIDI pad controller designed for music production. It features velocity-sensitive RGB-backlit MPC pads and assignable rotary knobs, providing tactile control over various music software parameters. Its portable design makes it suitable for use in various environments, from home studios to on-the-go production.

This device is engineered for seamless integration with digital audio workstations (DAWs) and virtual instruments, offering a plug-and-play experience with both Mac and PC systems without requiring additional drivers.

What's in the Box

- LPD8 MK2 Unit
- Quickstart Guide
- USB Cable
- Safety and Warranty Manual
- Software Download Card

Setup

The LPD8 MK2 is designed for effortless setup. It operates as a class-compliant USB device, meaning it does not require specific software drivers for basic functionality on most modern Mac and PC operating systems. Simply connect the LPD8 to your computer using the provided USB cable.

The unit is USB-powered, eliminating the need for an external power adapter. Once connected, your computer should recognize the device automatically, making it ready for use with your preferred music production software.



Image: The LPD8 MK2 connected via USB to a laptop, illustrating its plug-and-play capability with Mac or PC systems.

Operating the LPD8

The LPD8 MK2 offers intuitive controls for music production and performance. It features eight velocity-sensitive RGB-backlit MPC drum pads and eight assignable Q-Link knobs.

Pads

The 8 RGB-backlit pads are velocity-sensitive, allowing for dynamic performance. They can be used to trigger samples, loops, virtual instruments, and more. The RGB backlighting provides visual feedback, which can be customized for different groupings and arrangements within your software.

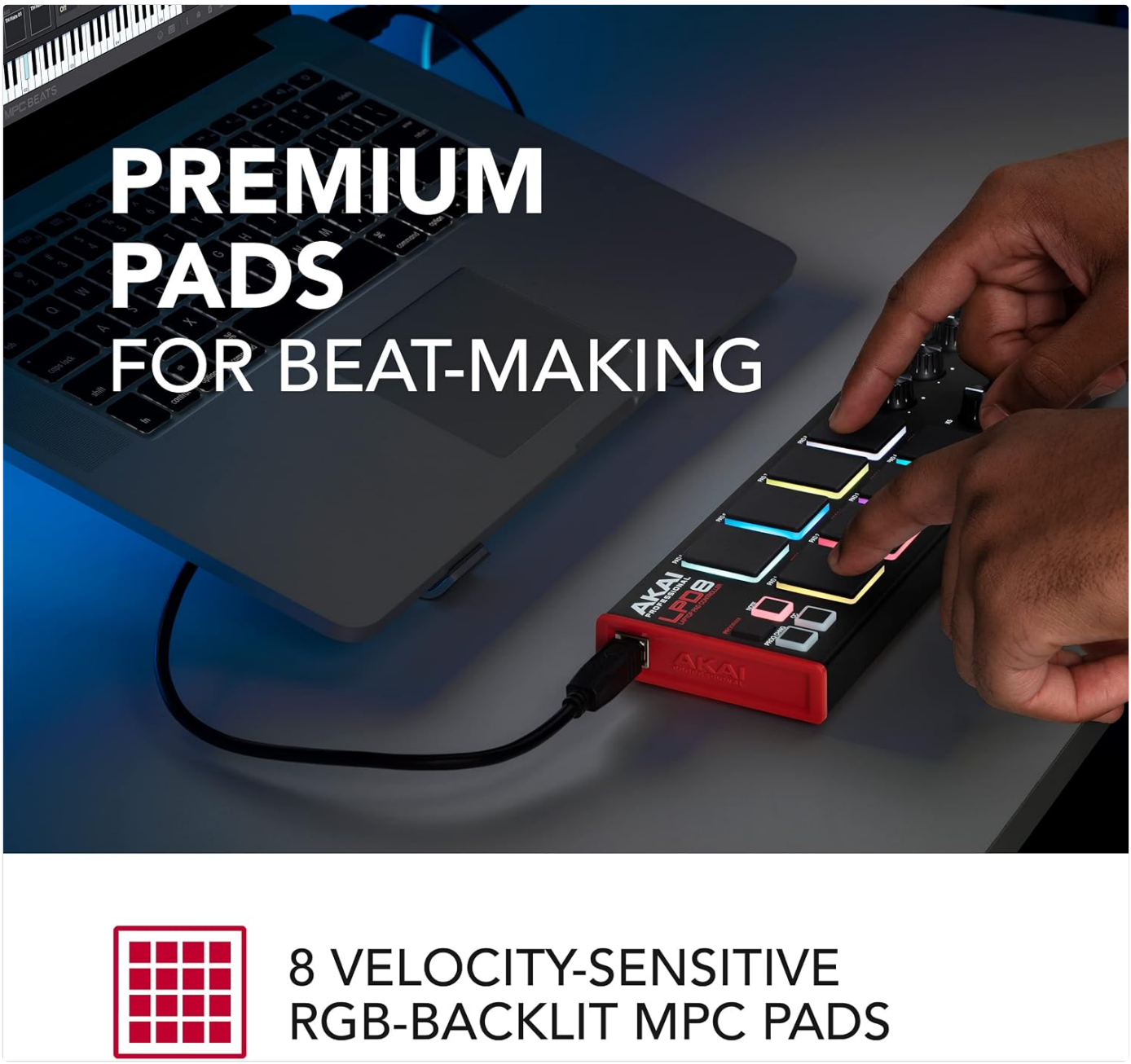


Image: A user's hands interacting with the responsive, RGB-backlit pads of the LPD8, highlighting their use for beat-making.

Q-Link Knobs

The 8 assignable Q-Link knobs provide tactile control over various parameters within your digital audio workstation (DAW), software instruments, and insert effect plugins. These knobs can be mapped to control volume, pan, filter cutoff, resonance, and other effects, offering precise mixing and sound design capabilities.



Image: A user's hand adjusting one of the eight assignable rotary knobs on the LPD8, illustrating precise control over DAW parameters.

Programmable Presets

The LPD8 features 4 programmable preset slots. These slots allow for instant recall of mappings for different DAWs, virtual instruments, or effects. You can create, edit, load, and manage all your presets using the dedicated computer editor software, streamlining your workflow for various production scenarios.



Image: The LPD8 highlighting its ability to save settings across 4 programmable memory banks for instant recall.

Software Compatibility

The LPD8 is universally compatible with popular music production applications, including but not limited to GarageBand, Logic Pro, Studio One, Cubase, Ableton Live, ProTools, Reason, FL Studio, and Adobe Audition. It also comes with MPC Beats, a comprehensive beat production application that includes sample editing, mixing tools, audio recording, FX, AU/VST plugin support, and virtual instruments.

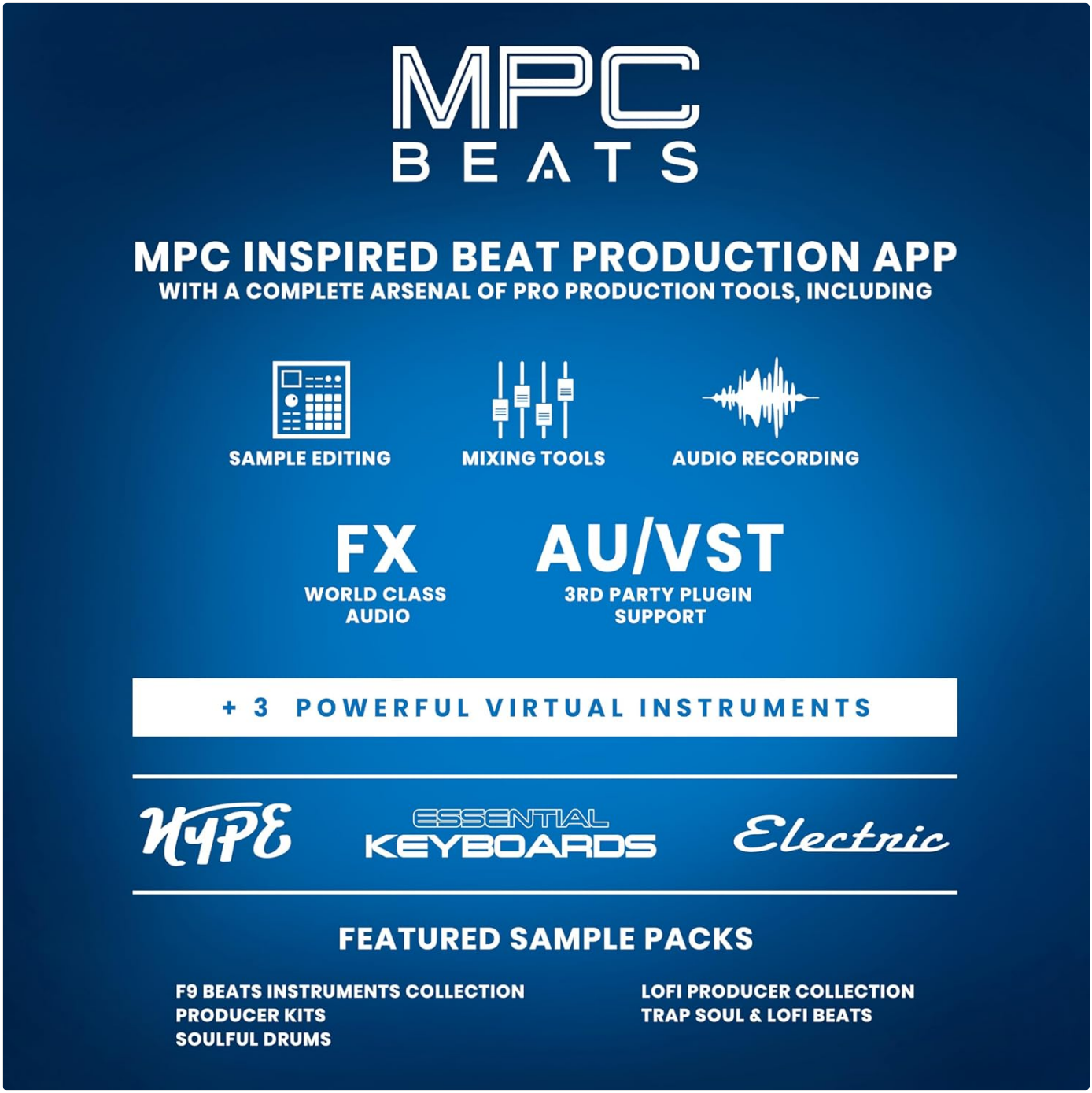


Image: A visual representation of the MPC Beats software, showcasing its features like sample editing, mixing tools, and plugin support.

Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your LPD8 MK2, follow these general maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents, as these can damage the finish and internal components.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the LPD8 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, excessive heat, or humidity. Protect it from dust by covering it or storing it in its original packaging or a suitable case.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping the unit or subjecting it to strong impacts. While designed to be robust, extreme physical shock can cause damage.
- **Connectivity:** Always handle the USB cable by the connector, not the cable itself, when plugging or unplugging to prevent damage to the cable or the unit's USB port.

Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your LPD8 MK2.

Device Not Recognized by Computer

- **Check USB Connection:** Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the LPD8 and your computer. Try a different USB port on your computer.
- **Try a Different USB Cable:** A faulty USB cable can prevent proper communication. Test with another known-good USB cable.
- **Restart Computer:** Sometimes a simple restart can resolve connectivity issues.
- **Check Device Manager (Windows) / System Information (Mac):** Verify if the LPD8 MK2 is listed under MIDI devices or sound, video, and game controllers.

Pads Not Responding or Inconsistent Velocity

- **Software Configuration:** Ensure the LPD8 is correctly selected as a MIDI input device in your DAW or music software. Check the MIDI input settings within your software to ensure it's enabled and receiving data from the LPD8.
- **LPD8 Editor Software:** Use the LPD8 MK2 Program Editor software to adjust pad sensitivity and velocity curves if available. This can help optimize pad response to your playing style.
- **Specific MPC Beats Setup:** If using MPC Beats, ensure that under Preferences > MIDI/Sync, the LPD8 MK2 has "Control" and "Track" selected under Input Ports. For custom pad assignments and colors, use the LPD8 MK2 Program Editor. In MPC Beats, use the MIDI Learn function (often found near the bottom left of the screen, next to the smiley face icon) to assign pads and knobs. Select "New MIDI Mapping" under the Global tab, then enable and learn buttons to map the LPD8's physical controls to the software's parameters.

Knobs Not Controlling Parameters

- **MIDI Mapping:** Ensure the Q-Link knobs are correctly MIDI-mapped to the desired parameters in your software. Most DAWs have a MIDI Learn function that allows you to easily assign physical controls to on-screen parameters.
- **LPD8 Editor Software:** Verify the MIDI CC (Control Change) messages assigned to each knob using the LPD8 MK2 Program Editor. Ensure these match the expected MIDI CC messages in your software.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Name	LPD8 MK2
Item Weight	13.8 ounces (approx. 391 grams)
Product Dimensions	3.11 x 12.13 x 1.26 inches (7.9 x 30.8 x 3.2 cm)
Pads	8 velocity-sensitive RGB-backlit MPC drum pads
Knobs	8 assignable Q-Link rotary knobs
Presets	4 programmable preset slots
Connectivity	USB (full-size, bus-powered)
Hardware Platform	PC/Mac
Color	Black
First Available Date	September 29, 2022



Image: A diagram illustrating the compact dimensions of the LPD8 MK2, emphasizing its slim design for portability.

Warranty Information

Akai Professional products typically come with a limited manufacturer's warranty. Specific warranty terms, conditions, and duration may vary by region and product. Please refer to the "Safety and Warranty Manual" included in your product packaging for detailed warranty information. You may also visit the official Akai Professional website for the most current warranty policies and registration procedures.

Customer Support

For technical assistance, product registration, software downloads, or additional support, please visit the official Akai Professional website:

www.akaipro.com

You can also find frequently asked questions (FAQs) and community forums on their support pages, which may provide

solutions to common inquiries.

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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.

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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