Akai Professional APCKEY25MK2

Akai Professional APC Key 25 MK2 USB MIDI Keyboard Controller User Manual

Model: APCKEY25MK2

1. INTRODUCTION

The Akai Professional APC Key 25 MK2 is a compact USB MIDI keyboard controller designed for seamless integration with Ableton Live. It combines a 25-note synthesizer keyboard with a 5x8 RGB pad matrix and 8 assignable rotary knobs, offering comprehensive control for music production and live performance.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

- APC Key 25 MK2 Unit
- Quickstart Guide
- USB Cable
- Safety and Warranty Manual
- Software Download Card (for Ableton Live Lite and virtual instruments)

3. SETUP

3.1 Connecting the Controller

Connect the APC Key 25 MK2 to your computer (Mac or PC) using the provided USB cable. The device is USB-powered and supports plug-and-play connectivity, requiring no external power adapter or batteries.

Image: The Akai Professional APC Key 25 MK2 connected to a laptop, demonstrating its plug-and-play USB connectivity.

3.2 Software Installation

The APC Key 25 MK2 includes a software download card for Ableton Live Lite and a comprehensive virtual instrument pack. Follow the instructions on the card to download and install the software on your computer. The controller is pre-mapped for 1-to-1 integration with Ableton Live 11.2.7 onwards.
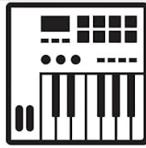
25 RESPONSIVE MINI KEYS

PLAY AND PERFORM ORIGINAL MELODIES
WITH THE VELOCITY-SENSITIVE KEYBED

Image: The Akai Professional APC Key 25 MK2 shown alongside a laptop displaying Ableton Live Lite and various software plugins, highlighting the included software bundle.

3.3 Official Product Video

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Video: An official overview of the Akai Professional APC Key 25 MK2, demonstrating its features and integration with music production software.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 5x8 RGB Pad Matrix

The 40 RGB pads are designed for launching clips in Ableton Live. They provide visual color feedback, allowing you to trigger loops, vocals, and melodic samples for real-time creation and remixing.

40 BRILLIANT RGB PADS

EASILY DISTINGUISH AND LAUNCH CLIPS
WITH PRECISE REPRESENTATION
OF YOUR ABLETON LIVE SESSION CLIPS

Image: A hand interacting with the illuminated 5x8 RGB pad matrix of the APC Key 25 MK2, illustrating clip launching functionality.

4.2 25 Responsive Mini-Keys

The 25 velocity-sensitive keys allow for expressive melodic performance and studio composition. Use the dedicated Octave Up/Down buttons to expand the note range. The Sustain button provides continuous note hold.

PRECISE PERFORMANCE CONTROL
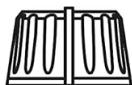
**8 ASSIGNABLE
ROTARY KNOBS**

DEVICE MODE

**4 DIRECTIONAL
ARROW BUTTONS**

Image: A user playing melodies on the 25 velocity-sensitive mini-keys of the APC Key 25 MK2.

4.3 8 Assignable Rotary Knobs

The 8 assignable 360-degree rotary knobs allow for precise control over effects, parameters, and automation within Ableton Live. Utilize Device mode for direct control of your Ableton macros.

Image: A hand adjusting a rotary knob on the APC Key 25 MK2, demonstrating control over parameters.

4.4 Transport Controls and Navigation

Dedicated transport controls allow for easy Record and Playback functionality. The 4 directional arrow buttons enable efficient navigation through large sessions, scrolling through tracks or scenes to access your loops and samples instantly.
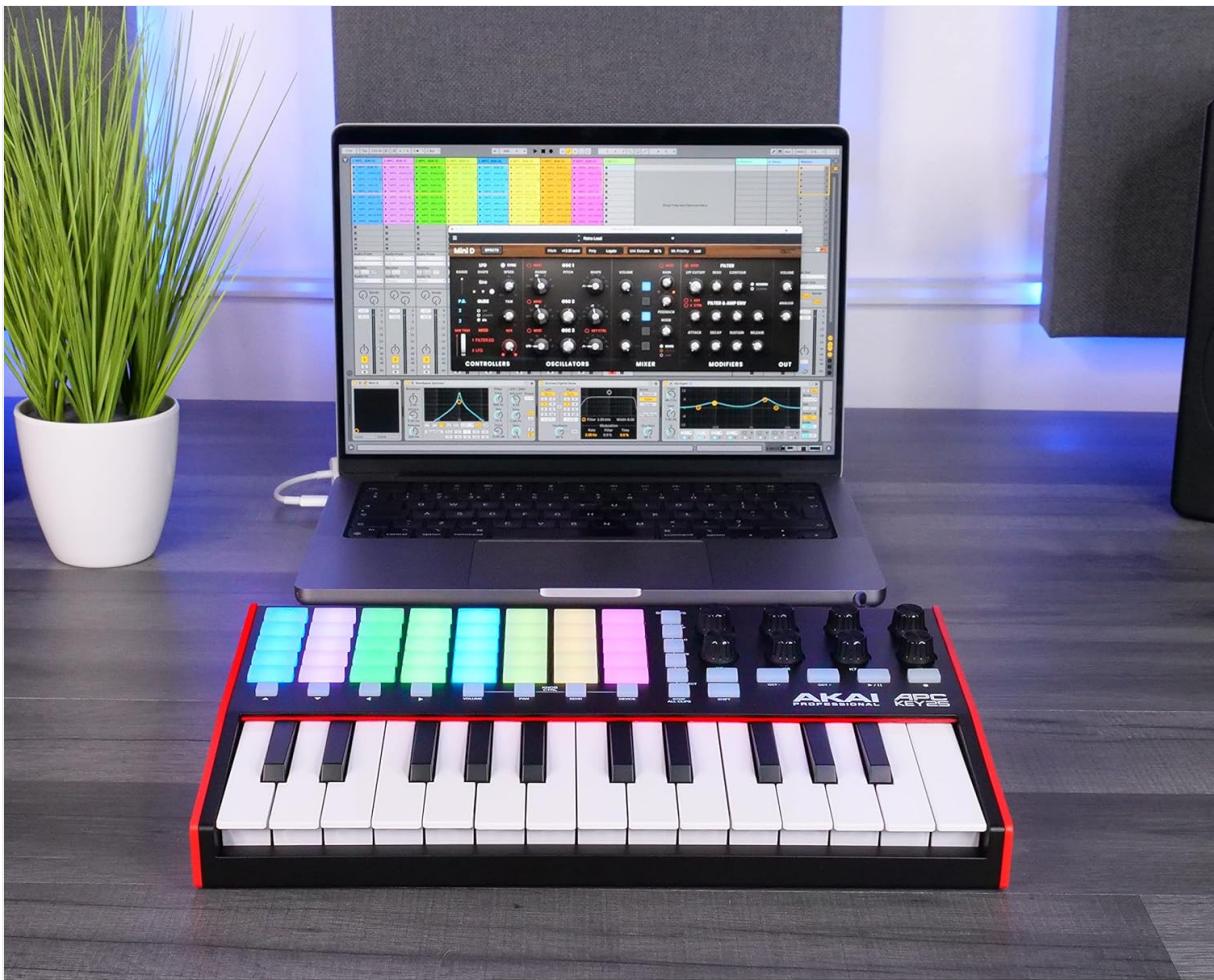
Image: A close-up view of the transport controls and directional arrow buttons on the APC Key 25 MK2, used for session navigation and recording.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning

To clean the APC Key 25 MK2, use a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or strong detergents, as these may damage the surface or internal components. Ensure the device is disconnected from power before cleaning.

5.2 Storage

Store the controller in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. When not in use, it is recommended to cover the device to protect it from dust.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

6.1 Device Not Recognized

- Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the APC Key 25 MK2 and your computer.
- Try connecting to a different USB port on your computer.
- Test with a different USB cable to rule out cable malfunction.
- Restart your computer and the Ableton Live software.
- Verify that the necessary drivers (if any, though typically plug-and-play) are installed and up to date.

6.2 Pads or Keys Not Responding

- Check the MIDI settings within Ableton Live to ensure the APC Key 25 MK2 is correctly selected as a control surface and MIDI input device.
- Ensure the device is powered on (indicated by illuminated pads).
- If specific pads or keys are unresponsive, ensure no debris is lodged beneath them.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Model Name	APCKEY25MK2
Item Weight	1.98 pounds
Product Dimensions	7.56 x 12.36 x 1.8 inches
Number of Keyboard Keys	25
Mixer Channel Quantity	8
Connectivity Technology	USB
Compatible Devices	Laptop (PC/Mac)
Supported Software	Ableton Live
Special Features	Backlit Drum Pad, Compact, Lightweight, Portable, Programmable

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Akai Professional products are covered by a limited warranty. Please refer to the included Safety and Warranty Manual for detailed information regarding warranty terms, conditions, and registration procedures. For technical support or customer service inquiries, please visit the official Akai Professional website or contact your local distributor.

Online resources and FAQs may also be available on the Akai Professional support page: www.akaipro.com/support