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› Acer Predator Aethon 303 Wired Gaming Keyboard User Manual

acer NKW201

Acer Predator Aethon 303 Wired Gaming Keyboard User Manual

Model: NKW201

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1. Introduction

The Acer Predator Aethon 303 is a high-performance wired mechanical gaming keyboard designed for durability and precision. It features Kailh Blue mechanical switches, customizable RGB illumination, and advanced anti-ghosting technology to ensure responsive and accurate input during intense gaming sessions. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your keyboard.



Figure 1: Acer Predator Aethon 303 Wired Gaming Keyboard. This image displays the full layout of the keyboard with its RGB lighting active.

2. Setup

Follow these steps to connect and prepare your Acer Predator Aethon 303 keyboard for use:

1. **Unpack the Keyboard:** Carefully remove the keyboard and any accessories (such as the Quick Start Guide and Warranty Booklet) from the packaging.
2. **Connect to Computer:** Plug the USB-A connector of the keyboard's braided cable into an available USB port on your computer. The keyboard is plug-and-play, and your operating system (Windows 7, 8, 8.1, 10, or 11) should automatically detect and install the necessary drivers.
3. **Initial Power-On:** Upon successful connection, the keyboard's RGB lighting will illuminate, indicating it is powered on and ready for use.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: Overview of the Acer Predator Aethon 303 keyboard's features, including its RGB lighting effects and overall performance.

3. Operation

The Predator Aethon 303 keyboard offers various features to enhance your gaming and typing experience.

3.1. Kailh Blue Mechanical Switches

The keyboard is equipped with Kailh Blue mechanical switches, known for their tactile bump and audible click, providing distinct feedback with each keystroke. These switches are designed for a lifespan of over 50 million actuations, ensuring

long-term reliability.



SUPREME RELIABILITY

KAILH BLUE



50M KEYSTROKE LIFESPAN

Figure 2: Close-up view of the Kailh Blue mechanical switches, emphasizing their design and durability.

3.2. RGB Illumination and Effects

The keyboard features RGB illuminated keys and three sidelight effects. You can customize the lighting with 12 different backlight effects, 5 pre-set gaming lighting modes, and 7 levels of backlit brightness and move speed.

- **Changing Backlight Effects:** Use the **Fn** key in combination with specific function keys (e.g., **Fn + F9** to **Fn + F12** or dedicated lighting keys) to cycle through different lighting modes. Refer to the Quick Start Guide for exact key combinations.
- **Adjusting Brightness/Speed:** Use **Fn** + arrow keys (up/down for brightness, left/right for speed) to adjust the lighting intensity and animation speed.

PER KEY RGB + LIGHTBAR



**12 EFFECTS
5 PRESETS**



Figure 3: The keyboard showcasing its per-key RGB lighting and the integrated lightbar, illustrating the customizable illumination.

3.3. Anti-Ghosting and N-Key Rollover

The keyboard supports 100% anti-ghosting with N-Key Rollover (NKRO), meaning every key press is registered accurately, even when multiple keys are pressed simultaneously. This is crucial for fast-paced gaming where complex key combinations are common.



Figure 4: A user's hand on the keyboard, demonstrating the precision and responsiveness provided by 100% anti-ghosting.

3.4. Programmable Keys

The keyboard includes programmable keys (G-keys) that can be assigned custom macros or functions to streamline your workflow or enhance your gaming performance. Refer to the official Acer Predator software (if available for your region/model) for detailed programming instructions.

4. Maintenance

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your keyboard.

4.1. Cleaning the Keyboard

- **General Cleaning:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth slightly dampened with water or a mild cleaning solution to wipe down the keycaps and keyboard surface. Avoid excessive moisture.
- **Dust Removal:** Use compressed air to remove dust and debris from between the keycaps.
- **Deep Cleaning:** For thorough cleaning, keycaps can be carefully removed using a keycap puller (if included or purchased separately). Clean the switches and keycaps individually before reattaching.

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Video 2: Demonstration of keycap removal and replacement on a mechanical keyboard, useful for cleaning and customization.

4.2. Keycap Replacement

If you wish to replace specific keycaps (e.g., the blue WASD keys provided), use a keycap puller to gently remove the existing keycap. Align the new keycap with the switch stem and press down firmly until it clicks into place. Ensure the

keycap is properly seated to avoid damage.



Figure 5: Top-down view of the Acer Predator Aethon 303 keyboard, showing the standard keycap layout.

5. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your keyboard, try the following solutions:

- **Keyboard Not Responding:**
 - Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the keyboard and the computer.
 - Try plugging the keyboard into a different USB port.
 - Restart your computer.
 - Check if the keyboard is disabled in your operating system's device manager.
- **RGB Lighting Not Working/Incorrect:**
 - Verify that the keyboard is properly connected and receiving power.
 - Cycle through lighting effects using the **Fn** key combinations (refer to Section 3.2).
 - Ensure no conflicting software is running that might override the keyboard's lighting controls.
- **Keys Not Registering / Ghosting:**
 - Clean the affected keys and switches (refer to Section 4.1).
 - The keyboard features 100% anti-ghosting; if you experience issues, ensure your operating system and any gaming software are up to date.

6. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	acer
Model Number	NKW201 (GP.KBD11.048)
Switch Type	Kailh Blue Mechanical Switches
Keys	Standard 104 Keys including Media Keys
Backlighting	RGB Illuminated Keyboard (12 effects, 5 pre-set gaming modes, 3 sidelight effects)
Brightness Levels	7 levels of backlit brightness and move speed
Anti-Ghosting	100% Anti-Ghosting (N-Key Rollover)
Programmability	Yes, with Key Lock
Durability	Over 50M Actuations
Connectivity	Wired, USB-A (Black Braided Cable, 5.25 feet length)
Compatible OS	Windows 7, 8, 8.1, 10 & 11
Material	Plastic (with aluminum casing design)
Item Weight	1.94 Pounds

7. Warranty and Support

The Acer Predator Aethon 303 Wired Gaming Keyboard comes with a **1-year parts and labor limited warranty** from the date of purchase. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For technical support, warranty service, or additional product information, please visit the official Acer support website or contact their customer service. Contact details can typically be found in the Warranty Booklet included with your product or on the Acer website.

What's in the Box:

- Keyboard
- Warranty Booklet
- Quick Start Guide

