RME Fireface 802 FS

RME Fireface 802 FS USB Audio Interface User Manual

60 Channel 192kHz High-End USB Audio Interface

Sections: Introduction | Safety Instructions | Package Contents | Setup | Operating | Maintenance | Troubleshooting | Specifications | Warranty | Support

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your RME Fireface 802 FS USB Audio Interface. The Fireface 802 FS is a professional 30-input/30-output audio interface designed for high-quality audio recording, mixing, and mastering applications. It features reference-class AD/DA conversion, RME's SteadyClock FS jitter suppression, and extensive connectivity options.

Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the device to ensure proper usage and to maximize its performance and longevity.

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- **Power Supply:** Use only the power adapter supplied with the unit. Ensure the voltage matches your local power supply.

- **Ventilation:** Do not block ventilation openings. Ensure adequate airflow around the unit to prevent overheating.

- **Moisture:** Do not expose the unit to rain, moisture, or liquids. Avoid placing objects filled with liquids on the unit.

- **Cleaning:** Disconnect power before cleaning. Use a dry, soft cloth. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.

- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

- **Placement:** Place the unit on a stable, level surface. Avoid placing it near heat sources or in direct sunlight.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that your package contains the following items:

- RME Fireface 802 FS USB Audio Interface

- USB Cable
- Power Supply Unit
- Printed Quick Start Guide (refer to RME website for full manual)

If any items are missing or damaged, please contact your dealer or RME support immediately.

4. SETUP

4.1 Front Panel Overview

The front panel of the Fireface 802 FS provides access to four microphone/line preamps, headphone outputs, and status indicators. Understanding these controls is essential for proper operation.

Figure 1: Front panel of the RME Fireface 802 FS. It features four combination XLR/TRS inputs (Mic/Line 9-12) with individual gain controls, signal (SIG) and 48V/Instrument (48V/INST) indicators. On the right, there are two headphone/line monitor outputs (Ch. 9/10 and Ch. 11/12) with a shared volume knob. The blue section displays RME Fireface 802 FS branding, various state indicators for ADAT, MIDI, WC, AES, CC, USB, and a power switch.

4.2 Driver Installation

Before connecting the Fireface 802 FS to your computer, download and install the latest drivers from the

official RME website. Drivers are available for macOS, Windows, and Linux operating systems. Follow the on-screen instructions during installation.

- Visit the RME Downloads page.

- Select your operating system and the Fireface 802 FS model.

- Download and run the installer.

- Restart your computer if prompted.

4.3 Hardware Connections

1. **Power:** Connect the supplied power adapter to the "DC IN" port on the rear panel and plug it into a power outlet.

2. **USB:** Connect the Fireface 802 FS to your computer using the provided USB cable. Use a high-quality USB 2.0 port for optimal performance.

3. **Audio Inputs:**
   - **Mic/Line Inputs (Front Panel):** Connect microphones or line-level instruments to the combination XLR/TRS jacks (9-12).
   - **Analog Line Inputs (Rear Panel):** Connect line-level sources to the dedicated analog inputs.
   - **Digital Inputs:** Connect ADAT, S/PDIF, or AES/EBU devices to the respective digital input ports.

4. **Audio Outputs:**
   - **Headphone Outputs (Front Panel):** Connect headphones to the 1/4" jacks (Ch. 9/10, Ch. 11/12).
   - **Analog Line Outputs (Rear Panel):** Connect studio monitors or other line-level devices.
   - **Digital Outputs:** Connect ADAT, S/PDIF, or AES/EBU devices.

5. **MIDI:** Connect MIDI devices to the MIDI In/Out ports.

6. **Word Clock:** Connect external word clock devices to the Word Clock I/O for synchronization.

4.4 Software Setup (TotalMix FX)

The Fireface 802 FS integrates with RME's TotalMix FX software, which provides comprehensive routing, mixing, and DSP effects capabilities. After driver installation, TotalMix FX should launch automatically or can be found in your applications folder.

- Familiarize yourself with the TotalMix FX interface for routing inputs to outputs, creating submixes, and applying effects.

- Refer to the dedicated TotalMix FX manual for in-depth instructions on its features.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Powering On/Off

To power on the unit, press the "POWER" switch on the front panel. The status LEDs will illuminate. To power off, press the "POWER" switch again.

5.2 Input Gain Adjustment

For Mic/Line inputs 9-12 on the front panel, use the corresponding "GAIN" knobs to adjust the input level. The "SIG" LED indicates signal presence, while the "48V/INST" LED indicates phantom power or instrument mode activation.

- **Microphones:** For condenser microphones, activate 48V phantom power by pressing the "48V/INST" button. Adjust gain until the "SIG" LED flashes green during the loudest parts, avoiding red clipping.

- **Instruments:** For high-impedance instruments (e.g., guitar, bass), press the "48V/INST" button to engage instrument mode. Adjust gain similarly.

5.3 Monitoring

The front panel features two headphone/line monitor outputs (Ch. 9/10 and Ch. 11/12). Use the "VOL" knob to adjust the output level for these channels. Routing to these outputs is configured within TotalMix FX.

5.4 DSP Effects

The Fireface 802 FS includes built-in DSP effects accessible via TotalMix FX. These effects operate independently of your computer's CPU, providing low-latency processing. Consult the TotalMix FX manual for details on using EQ, Dynamics, Reverb, and Echo.

5.5 Class-Compliant Mode

The Fireface 802 FS supports class-compliant operation, allowing direct connection to iOS devices (iPad) without requiring specific drivers. This mode enables basic audio I/O functionality. Refer to the RME website for instructions on activating and using class-compliant mode.

5.6 TotalMix Remote

Control your Fireface 802 FS remotely using TotalMix Remote on an iPad or another computer. This requires a network connection and the TotalMix Remote application. Detailed setup instructions are available on the RME website.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Keep the unit clean by wiping it with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure that the ventilation slots are free from dust and obstructions.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the unit in a dry, dust-free environment.
- **Firmware Updates:** Regularly check the RME website for firmware updates to ensure optimal performance and access to new features.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power	Power cable disconnected; power switch off; faulty power supply.	Check power cable connections; ensure power switch is on; test with another power outlet.
No sound output	Incorrect routing in TotalMix FX; volume knobs turned down; incorrect driver selection in DAW.	Verify routing in TotalMix FX; check all volume controls; ensure Fireface 802 FS is selected as audio device in your DAW.
No input signal	Incorrect input selected; gain too low; phantom power not engaged for condenser mics; faulty cable.	Select correct input in TotalMix FX; increase gain; activate 48V phantom power if needed; test with a different cable.
High latency	Buffer size too high; computer performance issues.	Reduce buffer size in your DAW/driver settings; close unnecessary applications; ensure your computer meets system requirements.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
USB connection issues	Faulty USB cable; incorrect USB port; driver issues.	Try a different USB cable; use a different USB port (preferably a direct port on the motherboard); reinstall drivers.

For further troubleshooting, consult the comprehensive RME Fireface 802 FS manual available on the RME website or contact RME support.

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Number	Fireface 802 FS
Connectivity Technology	USB 2.0
Number of Channels	30-in / 30-out (60 channels total)
Max Sample Rate	192 kHz
Preamps	4 Mic/Line Preamps
Headphone Outputs	2
Digital I/O	ADAT, S/PDIF, AES/EBU
Other I/O	MIDI I/O, Word Clock I/O
DSP Effects	Yes (EQ, Dynamics, Reverb, Echo via TotalMix FX)
Operating System Support	macOS, Windows, Linux, iPad (Class Compliant)
Supported Software	TotalMix FX
Item Weight	10.76 pounds
Product Dimensions	22.24 x 12.4 x 4.61 inches
Material Type	Stainless Steel

9. Warranty Information

RME products are covered by a limited manufacturer's warranty. The specific terms and duration of the warranty may vary by region and product. Please retain your proof of purchase. For detailed warranty information, including coverage and how to make a claim, please visit the official RME website or contact your local RME distributor.
Note: Unauthorized repairs or modifications will void the product warranty.

10. Support

For technical assistance, driver updates, firmware updates, or additional documentation, please visit the official RME website:

www.rme-audio.de

You may also contact RME customer support directly through the contact information provided on their website.