

Universal Audio Apollo x8p

Universal Audio Apollo x8p Gen 2 Essentials Audio Interface User Manual

Model: Apollo x8p

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Universal Audio Apollo x8p Gen 2 Essentials audio interface. The Apollo x8p is designed for professional audio production, offering high-resolution audio conversion, eight Unison mic preamps, and HEXA Core DSP processing for UAD plug-ins. Please read this manual thoroughly to ensure proper use and to maximize the performance of your device.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Universal Audio Apollo x8p Gen 2 Essentials is a high-performance audio interface engineered for demanding studio environments. It features next-generation audio conversion with a wide dynamic range and low distortion. The device integrates seamlessly with the UAD plug-in ecosystem, allowing access to a vast library of DSP and Native plug-ins.

Key Features:

- Next-generation audio conversion with wide dynamic range and low distortion.
- Access to the full library of 200+ UAD DSP and Native plug-ins.
- Auto-Gain function for quick level setting across multiple inputs.
- Bass management for integrating a subwoofer into your monitor setup.



Figure 2.1: Front Panel of the Apollo x8p. This image displays the front panel of the Apollo x8p, highlighting the instrument inputs, preamp controls, and metering section.




Figure 2.2: Rear Panel of the Apollo x8p. This image illustrates the rear panel connections, including power, ADAT, Word Clock, Thunderbolt, Line Outputs, and Mic/Line Inputs.

3. SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your Apollo x8p audio interface.

3.1 Unpacking and Inspection

1. Carefully remove the Apollo x8p from its packaging.
2. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage during transit. Contact your dealer immediately if any damage is found.
3. Verify that all included accessories are present.

3.2 Hardware Connections

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the included power supply to the DC input on the rear panel and then to an appropriate power outlet.
2. **Thunderbolt Connection:** Connect the Apollo x8p to your computer using a Thunderbolt 3 cable. Ensure your computer has a compatible Thunderbolt port.
3. **Audio Inputs:** Connect microphones or line-level sources to the XLR/TRS combo jacks on the rear panel. For instrument-level signals, use the Hi-Z inputs on the front panel.
4. **Audio Outputs:** Connect your studio monitors to the Line Outputs on the rear panel. Additional outputs are available for other monitoring or routing needs.
5. **Digital Connections:** If using external digital devices, connect them via the ADAT or Word Clock ports as required.

3.3 Software Installation

1. Visit the Universal Audio website (www.uaudio.com/downloads) to download the latest UAD software for your operating system (Windows).
2. Follow the on-screen instructions to install the software. This includes drivers for the Apollo x8p and the UAD Powered Plug-Ins.
3. Register your Apollo x8p with your Universal Audio account to activate your included plug-ins and access additional features.




Figure 3.1: Typical Recording Setup. This image shows the Apollo x8p integrated into a recording setup with a laptop and microphone, demonstrating a common use case.

4. OPERATING

This section covers the basic operation of your Apollo x8p.

4.1 Powering On/Off

- To power on, ensure all connections are secure, then press the power button on the rear panel.

- To power off, save your work, shut down your computer, and then press the power button on the rear panel.

4.2 Console Application

The Universal Audio Console application is the primary software interface for controlling your Apollo x8p. It allows you to manage inputs, outputs, monitor levels, and insert UAD Powered Plug-Ins in real-time.

- **Input Gain:** Adjust the input gain for each channel using the dedicated knobs on the front panel or within the Console application.
- **Unison Preamps:** The Apollo x8p features Unison technology, allowing you to emulate classic mic preamps with incredible accuracy. Select a Unison plug-in in the Console application for your desired input channel.
- **Monitoring:** Use the Monitor knob on the front panel to control the main monitor output level. Adjust headphone levels independently.
- **Auto-Gain:** Utilize the Auto-Gain feature to quickly set optimal input levels across multiple channels.



Figure 4.1: Unison Preamps in Console. This image displays the Console application interface, highlighting the Unison technology for emulating classic preamps.



Figure 4.2: Bass Management Settings. This image shows the bass management section within the Console application, used for configuring subwoofer integration.

4.3 UAD Plug-Ins

The Apollo x8p leverages HEXA Core DSP for running UAD Powered Plug-Ins in real-time with near-zero latency. These plug-ins emulate classic analog hardware.



Figure 4.3: UAD Plug-Ins Collection. This image showcases a variety of UAD plug-ins, representing the extensive library available for the Apollo x8p.



Figure 4.4: UAD Essentials+ Bundle. This image displays the UAD Essentials+ plug-in bundle, which provides a core set of essential audio processing tools.



Figure 4.5: UAD Studio+ Bundle. This image shows the UAD Studio+ plug-in bundle, offering an expanded collection of premium audio processing tools.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Apollo x8p.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the unit. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure the unit has adequate ventilation to prevent overheating. Do not block the ventilation

slots.

- **Firmware Updates:** Regularly check the Universal Audio website for firmware updates. Keeping your device updated ensures compatibility and access to new features.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the unit in a cool, dry place, protected from dust and extreme temperatures.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Apollo x8p.

6.1 No Power

- Ensure the power cable is securely connected to both the Apollo x8p and a working power outlet.
- Verify that the power button on the rear panel is pressed.
- Test the power outlet with another device to confirm it is functional.

6.2 No Audio Input/Output

- Check all audio cables (microphones, instruments, monitors) for secure connections.
- Verify input gain levels are appropriately set on the Apollo x8p and within the Console application.
- Ensure the correct input and output devices are selected in your computer's sound settings and your Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).
- Confirm that monitor and headphone levels are turned up.

6.3 Software/Driver Issues

- Restart your computer and the Apollo x8p.
- Ensure you have the latest UAD software and drivers installed from the Universal Audio website.
- Check for any error messages in the Console application or your operating system.
- If using a Thunderbolt connection, ensure the cable is certified and the port is functioning correctly.



Figure 6.1: Professional Workflow. This image depicts a user engaged in audio mixing, demonstrating the Apollo x8p's role in a professional studio environment.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed technical specifications for the Universal Audio Apollo x8p Gen 2 Essentials.

Feature	Detail
Brand	Universal Audio
Model	Apollo x8p
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer

Feature	Detail
Supported Software	LUNA, Logic Pro, Pro Tools, Cubase, Ableton Live, UAD plug-ins (Essentials+ or Studio+ Editions)
Connectivity Technology	Ethernet (likely Thunderbolt, as Ethernet is unusual for audio interfaces, but listed in specs)
Number of Channels	8
Operating System	Windows (also macOS compatible, but Windows is listed)
Audio Input	XLR
Maximum Sample Rate	192 KHz
Item Weight	16.85 Pounds
UPC	819937004513
ASIN	B0DC13HNN3

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Universal Audio Apollo x8p Gen 2 Essentials comes with a **1-year limited warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. For specific terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or visit the Universal Audio website.

9. SUPPORT

For technical assistance, product registration, or further information, please contact Universal Audio support:

- **Online Support:** Visit the Universal Audio support page at help.uaudio.com for FAQs, knowledge base articles, and support tickets.
- **Product Registration:** Register your product at www.uaudio.com/register to ensure you receive all benefits, including warranty coverage and software updates.