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› [iFi](#) /

› [iFi Audio Go Link Max Instruction Manual](#)

iFi Go Link Max

iFi Audio Go Link Max Instruction Manual

Brand: iFi

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The iFi Audio Go Link Max is a high-resolution balanced USB DAC (Digital-to-Analog Converter) and headphone amplifier designed for portable and desktop use. It features dual ESS Sabre DAC chips for a balanced circuit, delivering exceptional audio quality with dynamic range enhancement and THD compensation. With plug-and-play USB-C connectivity, it supports hi-res audio up to 32-bit/384kHz PCM and native DSD 256/11.3MHz. Its robust design includes silver-plated copper conductors, gold-plated USB-C connectors, and flexible cabling for durability and portability.



The iFi Audio Go Link Max, a compact and powerful audio dongle.

SETUP GUIDE

The Go Link Max is designed for simple plug-and-play operation. Connect the USB-C end of the device to your compatible smartphone, tablet, or computer. The device will draw power directly from your connected device.

Connecting to Various Devices

The Go Link Max features a USB-C input. For devices with different USB ports, the package includes a USB-A Male to USB-C Female Adapter. This allows for broader compatibility with various laptops and desktop computers.



The Go Link Max shown with its USB-C connector and included USB-A adapter for versatile connectivity.

Initial Power-Up

Upon successful connection, a green LED light will illuminate on the Go Link Max, indicating that the device is powered and ready for use. This LED also serves as an audio format indicator during operation.

Product Overview Video

An official product video showcasing the iFi Audio Go Link Max from various angles, highlighting its design and compact size.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Audio Outputs

The Go Link Max features two headphone outputs: a standard S-Balanced 3.5mm port and a Balanced 4.4mm port. The 4.4mm balanced output provides up to 241mW of power, suitable for driving a wide range of headphones, including those with higher impedance.



Close-up view of the 3.5mm and 4.4mm balanced audio outputs on the Go Link Max.

Audio Format LED Indicator

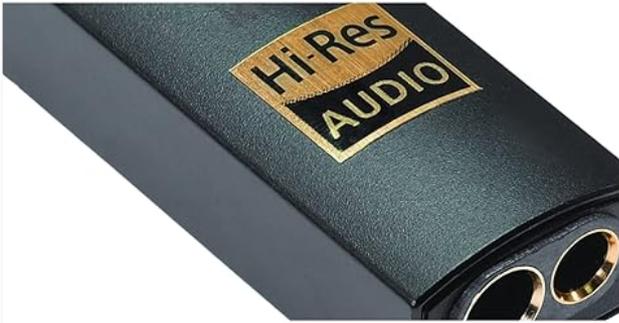
The LED on the Go Link Max changes color to indicate the current audio format being played:

- **Green:** PCM 44.1/48/88.2/96kHz
- **Yellow:** PCM 176.4/192/352.8/384kHz
- **Blue:** DSD 256
- **Cyan:** DSD 64/128

Enhanced Audio Performance

The Go Link Max incorporates advanced technologies to enhance your listening experience:

- **Balanced Circuitry:** Dual DACs and balanced circuitry ensure incredible separation between left and right headphone channels, providing concert-like realism and immersion.
- **Dynamic Range Enhancement (DRE):** Unlocked DAC chips provide +6dB additional range between the loudest and quietest moments, bringing music to life with exciting highs and deep lows.
- **THD Compensation:** Hidden technology minimizes total harmonic distortion (THD), ensuring cleaner, purer sound by reducing 2nd and 3rd harmonics.
- **Hardware-based Volume Control:** Unlike software-based volume adjustments that can reduce quality, the Go Link Max uses hardware-based control to maintain audio fidelity.



The Cheat Code for Clarity

We've unlocked hidden technology that minimises total harmonic distortion (THD), ensuring cleaner, purer sound. By adjusting a correction factor inside the DAC chips, this rarely used feature reduces the 2nd and 3rd harmonics lowering distortion by 2.7X compared to the original Go link.

Balanced Bliss

The Go Link Max provides concert-like realism and immersion, with obvious positioning of instrumentals and vocals. Its dual DAC, balanced setup ensures incredible separation between the left and right headphone channels.

Visual representation of the Go Link Max's balanced circuitry and clarity features.

Accurate Adjustment

Unlike its competitors, the Go link Max uses hardware-based volume control, allowing you to adjust the volume without reducing quality. Adjusting volume by software reduces volume by decreasing data sent to the DAC. Stripping away all the details you've been searching for.

Do the twist

The Go Link Max features a silver-plated copper cable with individual polymer insulation in a twisted pair design. The set up reduces induction and capacitance and helps with noise reduction. Unlike typical audio cables the Go Link Max isn't affected by interference from nearby electrical sources.



Details on hardware-based volume control and the silver-plated copper braided cable.

Dramatically dynamic

The Go link Max bring music to life with exciting highs and deep lows, making every moment more intense and engaging. We've hacked the DAC chips to unlock dynamic range enhancements (DRE), giving +6dB additional range between the loudest and the quietest moments.



Supports DSD 256
PCM 384kHz



ESS® Sabre Chipsets with
Dynamic Range Enhancement



Fully Balanced
Circuitry

Information on Dynamic Range Enhancement and key audio technologies.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your iFi Audio Go Link Max, follow these simple maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the exterior of the device. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials, as they may damage the finish.
- **Connector Care:** The gold-plated USB-C connector and headphone sockets are designed for durability. Keep them free from dust and debris. Avoid excessive force when inserting or removing cables.
- **Cable Handling:** The flexible braided cable is designed to aid portability and reduce stress on USB sockets. While durable, avoid sharp bends or excessive pulling on the cable to prevent internal damage.

- **Storage:** When not in use, store the Go Link Max in a clean, dry place away from extreme temperatures and direct sunlight.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your iFi Audio Go Link Max, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Sound:**

- Ensure the Go Link Max is securely connected to both your source device (phone, tablet, PC) and your headphones.
- Check the volume levels on both your source device and any connected headphones.
- Verify that the LED indicator on the Go Link Max is illuminated, indicating it is receiving power.
- Confirm that your source device is configured to output audio through the USB-C port to an external DAC.

- **Poor Audio Quality:**

- Ensure you are using high-quality audio files (Hi-Res audio is recommended for optimal performance).
- Check the LED color to confirm the audio format being played matches your expectations.
- Try a different pair of headphones to rule out headphone issues.
- Ensure the cable connections are clean and free of debris.

- **Intermittent Connection:**

- Ensure the USB-C connection is firm and stable. Avoid putting strain on the cable or port.
- If using an adapter, ensure it is also securely connected.
- Try connecting to a different USB-C port on your source device if available.

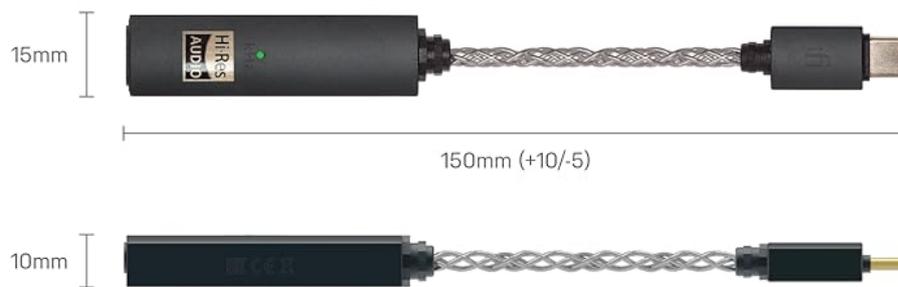
- **Device Not Recognized:**

- Restart your source device.
- Ensure your source device's operating system is up to date.
- For Windows PCs, you may need to check device manager for driver status, though it is generally plug-and-play.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	Go Link Max

Feature	Detail
DAC Setup	Dual ESS Sabre DAC chips (balanced circuit)
Hi-Res Audio Support	32-bit/384kHz PCM, Native DSD 256/11.3MHz
Outputs	Balanced 4.4mm, S-Balanced 3.5mm
Output Power (RMS)	241mW @ 32Ω (Balanced), 100mW @ 32Ω (S-Balanced)
Dynamic Range Enhancement	Yes, with THD compensation
Connectivity	Plug-and-play USB-C
Conductors	Silver-plated copper, twisted for high signal purity
Connectors	Gold-plated USB-C and headphone sockets
Dimensions	5.91 x 0.59 x 0.39 inches; 0.53 ounces
Included Accessories	USB-A Male to USB-C Female Adapter



Detailed dimensions of the iFi Audio Go Link Max.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Limited Warranty

The iFi Audio Go Link Max comes with a limited warranty of 12 months from the date of purchase. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Customer Support

For further assistance, technical support, or warranty inquiries, please visit the official iFi Audio store or support website. You can find more information and contact details at the [iFi Audio Store on Amazon](#).

