

ION PATHFINDER GO Portable Bluetooth Speaker User Guide

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ION PATHFINDER GO Portable Bluetooth Speaker



Product Information

The ION Audio PathfinderTM Go is a portable speaker designed for outdoor use. It features a built-in battery that can be charged for wireless operation. The speaker has a front panel with various controls and a display for easy navigation. It also has a rear panel with additional ports for connectivity.

Product Usage Instructions

Setup

Before using the ION Audio PathfinderTM Go, follow these steps:

- Ensure the speaker is charged by connecting it to a power source. The lightning bolt icon on the display will indicate that it's charging.
- The battery icon will fill up to display the battery life percentage.
- Once charging is complete, the lightning bolt icon will disappear, and the battery icon will be completely filled.

Operation

To use the ION Audio PathfinderTM Go:

- If no audio is played through the speaker for 15 minutes, it will enter standby mode to conserve battery life.
- To wake the unit from standby mode, simply resume audio signal or press any button on the front panel.

General Usage Tips

Follow these recommendations to maximize the battery life:

- Fully charge the battery before using it.
- · Avoid using the speaker while it's charging.

Storage

If you plan to store the ION Audio PathfinderTM Go for an extended period:

- Store it with a 50% battery charge for optimal longevity.
- If the battery level is low and not charged for 6 months, it may permanently lose capacity.

For more information, including technical specifications and support, visit the IONAudio support website.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the PathfinderTM Go. At ION, your entertainment is as important to us as it is to you. That's why we design our products with one thing in mind—to make your life more fun and more convenient.

Note: Before you first use the product, please fully charge the batteries. Your unit was purposely shipped with a reduced battery charge to ensure safe transit. For optimal charging, power of the speaker while charging.

Use the included USB-A to USB-C® cable to connect the unit to a 5V, 2A power adapter (not included) connected to a power outlet and let it charge for up to 3 hours (depending on the specifications of your adapter). This helps ensure the longest life for your battery.

Box Contents

PathfinderTM Go USB-A to USB-C® Charging Cable (3.28 ft / 1 m) Quickstart Guide

Support

For the latest information about this product (documentation, technical specifications, system requirements, compatibility information, etc.) and product registration, visit <u>ionaudio.com</u>.

For additional product support, visit <u>ionaudio.com/support</u>.

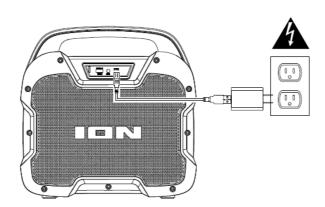
SETUP

Outdoor Use and Care

Though PathfinderTM Go is water-resistant and able to tolerate splashing water, please review the tips below to get the best performance from your PathfinderTM Go:

- Bring PathfinderTM Go indoors during extreme weather.
- Please do not place PathfinderTM Go in standing water.
- Please do not connect the power adapter to a PathfinderTM Go in a wet environment. Make sure the power input, power adapter, and power outlet are all completely dry before making any connections.
- **WARNING:** Keep any non-water-resistant devices (phones, music players, etc.) in a dry place where they will not be affected by water and cause a risk of electric shock.

Charging & Battery Information



For the quickest charging time, power off PathfinderTM Go and use the included USB-A to USB-C® cable to connect the USB-C® charging port on the rear panel of the speaker to a USB power adapter (DC 5V 2A, not included) connected to a power outlet, or your computer (powered on). A full charge can take up to 3 hours, depending on the specifications of your 5V, 2A adapter.

The lightning bolt icon on the display will light up when PathfinderTM Go is connected to a power source and charging. The battery icon will fill to display the battery life percentage. When charging is complete, the lightning

bolt icon will disappear, and the battery icon will be completely filled.



If no audio is played through the PathfinderTM Go speaker for 15 minutes, the unit will enter a standby mode to conserve battery life. This may mean the Bluetooth signal is paused, no audio is coming through a device connected to the aux port, or the volume is set to 0. To wake the unit, simply resume audio signal or press any button.

Here are some other recommendations for getting the longest life from the internal battery.

• General: Usage Fully charge the battery before using it.

Avoid full discharge of the battery if possible. Li-lon batteries are maintenance-free, and the battery will last longest when operating between 30–80% charged.

Do not use the product while charging the battery.

Do not charge the battery in exceedingly hot (greater than 90°F/32°C) or exceedingly cold (less than 32°F/0°C) temperatures.

• Storage: For best product longevity, do not store at exceedingly hot (greater than 90°F/32°C) or exceedingly cold (less than 32°F/0°C) temperatures.

For best product longevity, store with a 50% battery charge.

If you leave the battery level low and do not charge it for 6 months, it may permanently lose capacity.

- **Repair**: If the battery fails to charge, contact ION Audio at ionaudio.com.
- **Disposal**: Bring the unit to a recycling center or dispose of in accordance with local ordinances.

FEATURES

Front Panel

Click a control below to jump to that section.



1. Power Button

Press and hold this button to turn PathfinderTM Go on and off.

2. Boom ButtonTM

Press to simultaneously enhance the bass EQ and volume and activate a light show that pulses to the beat of the music.

3. Bluetooth® Button

Press this button to enter Bluetooth pairing mode. When connected to a Bluetooth device, double-press this button to disconnect a paired device and re-enter pairing mode, or single-press to disconnect a paired device and enter Aux mode. See Operation > Bluetooth Connecting with PathfinderTM Go to learn how to connect a Bluetooth device. Press and hold this button to enable or disable voice prompts.

4. Source Button

Press this button to cycle between FM, USB, and Aux modes.

5. Lights Button

Press this button to switch between Color Cycle, Beat Sync, and Solid Color light modes, or to turn the lights off.

6. Stereo-LinkTM / Repeat Button

See Operation > Stereo-LinkTM: Syncing Two Speakers to learn more.

In USB playback mode, press this button to cycle between repeat modes. See Operation > USB Playback Mode to learn more.

7. Previous / Next Buttons

In FM mode, press these buttons briefly to go to the previous or next station. Press and hold these buttons to seek the previous or next strong station.

In Bluetooth and USB modes, press the Previous or Next buttons to go to the beginning of the current track or skip to the following track, respectively. Press the Previous button again within one second to skip to the previous track.

8. Play/Pause / Presets Button

Press this button to play and pause Bluetooth or USB audio.

In FM mode, use this button to save and recall radio presets. See Operation > Using the Radio to learn more.

9. Volume Up/Down Buttons

Press these buttons to adjust the speaker's volume. The current volume level will be shown on the display. Press and hold both + and – buttons for 5 seconds to reset the speaker to factory settings.

Display



The PathfinderTM Go display shows information related to its current operation, including:

Battery Indicator

The battery icon displays the battery life percentage. When fully charged, the battery icon will be completely filled.

• Stereo-LinkTM Icon (®)

The Stereo-LinkTM icon will display when PathfinderTM Go is linked to another speaker. The Stereo-LinkTM icon will be off when a single speaker is used. See Operation > Stereo-LinkTM: Syncing Two Speakers below for instructions on how to link two speakers.

Bluetooth Icon (*)

The Bluetooth icon will display when a device is paired to PathfinderTM Go. See Operation > Bluetooth Connecting with PathfinderTM Go to learn how to connect a Bluetooth device.

• Source Icons (FM, AUX, USB)

These icons will indicate whether PathfinderTM Go is in FM, Aux, or USB playback modes.

• Lightning Bolt Icon (*)

The lightning bolt icon will display when PathfinderTM Go is connected to a power outlet.

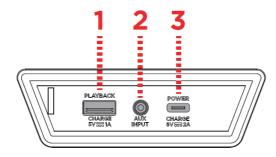
BOOM Icon

The BOOM icon will display when the Boom ButtonTM is pressed. The icon will be off when the function is deactivated.

Radio Station

The numerals on the right side indicate the current radio station that is selected. This area will also show the volume and the current repeat mode when either are changed.

Rear Panel



Note: Pull the tab on the protective rubber panel to release it and access the rear panel ports.

1. USB-A Playback / Device Charging Port

Connect a USB drive here for USB mode playback. See Operation > USB Playback Mode for more information. PathfinderTM Go includes a power bank function, which allows you to charge a compatible 5V, 1A smartphone, tablet, or other device using the unit's internal battery (Capacity: 2000mAh/11.1V 22.2Wh) by connecting a cable here. See Operation > Using the USB Charge Port for more information.

2. Aux Input

Connect an MP3 or other audio player to PathfinderTM Go here using a 1/8" (3.5 mm) auxiliary cable (not included). See Operation > Connecting an Audio Device Using the Aux Input for more information.

3. USB-C® Charging Port

Connect the USB-C® end of the included cable to PathfinderTM Go here, then connect the USB-A end to a 5V, 2A USB power adapter (sold separately) and plug it into a power outlet, or your computer (powered on).

OPERATION





- 1. Turn on PathfinderTM Go by holding down the Power button for 2 seconds. PathfinderTM Go will automatically enter Bluetooth pairing mode.
- 2. Navigate to your device's Bluetooth setup screen, find Pathfinder Go, and connect. The Bluetooth icon will appear in the display, and you will hear "Connected" (if voice prompts are enabled).

Note: Do not connect to iSP165_BLE; this is reserved exclusively for connecting to the ION Sound ControlTM app. If you experience trouble in connecting, select "Forget this Device" on your Bluetooth device and try to connect again.

- 3. Now you can use the buttons on the front panel to control audio playback:
 - Press the Play/Pause button to play or pause the current track.
 - Press and quickly release the + button to increase the volume.
 - Press and quickly release the button to decrease the volume.
 - Press the > button to skip to the next track.
 - Press the < button to revert to the beginning of the current track. Repeat this action within 1 second to skip to the previous track.

To disconnect a paired device, do any of the following:

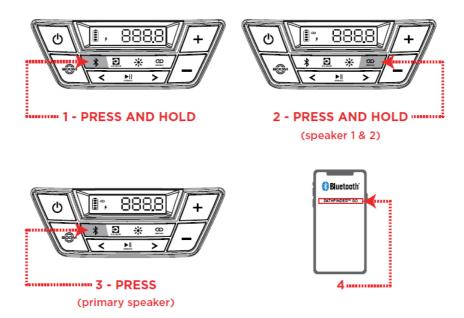
- Turn off Bluetooth from your device's Bluetooth settings. The speaker will enter Bluetooth pairing mode to make it available for another device.
- Double-press the Bluetooth button to disconnect and re-enter pairing mode.
- Briefly press the Bluetooth button to disconnect and enter Aux mode.

When you disconnect a Bluetooth device, you will hear "Bluetooth disconnected" if voice prompts are enabled.

Stereo-LinkTM: Syncing Two Speakers

If you would like to play music from a Bluetooth device, you can first "link" two PathfinderTM Go speakers together in order to listen to your music in stereo. One PathfinderTM Go will serve as the left speaker and the other will serve as the right speaker.

Note: PathfinderTM Go can also be linked with ION Audio PathfinderTM 320° speakers.



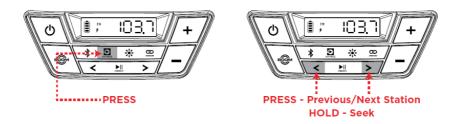
To link two PathfinderTM Go speakers together:

- **Note:** When you begin the Stereo-LinkTM process, any connected Bluetooth devices will be automatically disconnected. You can also disconnect your device prior to beginning by double-pressing the Bluetooth button.
- 1. Press and hold the Stereo-LinkTM / Repeat button on both speakers to enter Stereo-LinkTM mode. You will hear a tone and the Stereo-LinkTM and Bluetooth icons on each speaker's Display will begin flashing while they search for each other.
 - **Note:** The linking process can take up to 30 seconds to complete. The closer the two speakers are to each other, the guicker the link is established.
 - Once the speakers are linked, the Stereo-LinkTM icons on each speaker's Display will be lit solid.
- 2. Press and release the Bluetooth button on either speaker to select Bluetooth mode and begin the Bluetooth pairing process. The speaker you use for Bluetooth pairing will serve as the primary speaker. The Bluetooth icon on the primary speaker's Display will flash to indicate it is searching for a Bluetooth device to pair with.
- 3. Navigate to your Bluetooth device's setup screen, find PATHFINDER GO, and connect. When the connection is successful, you will hear "Bluetooth Connected" from the primary speaker (if voice prompts are enabled), and the Bluetooth icon on the Display will be lit solid. When audio playback begins, you should hear it through both speakers. The primary speaker will play the left channel while the secondary speaker plays the right channel. Playback controls are active on both speakers.

To disconnect two speakers or cancel linking between the two, double-press the Stereo-LinkTM / Repeat button on either speaker.

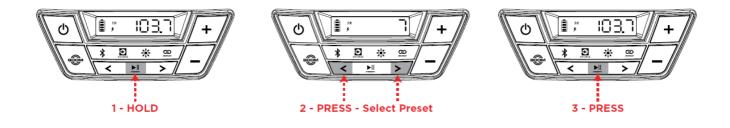
Note: Pressing and holding the Power button on the primary speaker while in Stereo-LinkTM mode will power of all connected speakers. PathfinderTM Go speakers powered off in Stereo-LinkTM mode will automatically enter Stereo-LinkTM mode the next time they are powered on and begin searching for secondary speakers to connect to.

Using the Radio



To use the radio, press the Source button so that FM is selected and shown on the display.

While in FM mode, briefly press the Previous and Next buttons (</>) to move to the previous or next station. Press and hold the </> buttons to seek for the next strongest station in that direction.

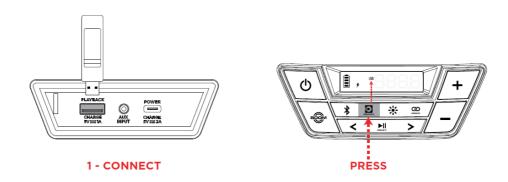


To save a radio station as a preset:

- 1. Press and hold the Play/Pause / Presets button.
- 2. Use the </> buttons to select a preset number, 1–12, shown on the display.
- 3. When you have selected the desired preset number, quickly press and release the Play/Pause / Presets button again to save it.

To recall a previously saved preset, briefly press the Play/Pause / Presets button to cycle between the 12 presets.

USB Playback Mode



When a USB drive with compatible files is inserted into the USB-A Playback / Device Charging Port, PathfinderTM Go will automatically switch to USB mode. If the USB drive has already been inserted and you are using another mode, press the Source button until USB mode is selected.

PathfinderTM Go will automatically play the first compatible MP3 file. Files are played in alphabetical order of what

is on the root level, then alphabetical by folder, and then alphabetical by track name. Media playback will stop when all media has been played on the USB drive.

Note: The USB drive must have playable MP3 files for it to appear on the media panel's display.



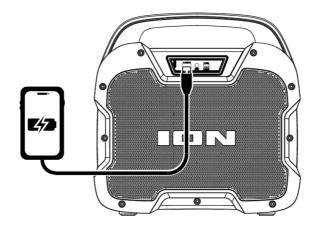
While in USB playback mode, you can use the following buttons on the front panel to control playback:

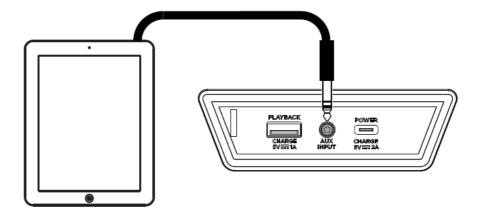
- Press the Play/Pause button to start or stop USB playback.
- Press the Previous and Next buttons (</>) to skip to the previous or next USB track. Press and hold these
 buttons to fast forward or rewind within the track.
- Press the Stereo-LinkTM / Repeat button to cycle through the repeat/shuffle options (abbreviations will show on the display):
 - Play the current USB track on repeat (OnE). This is the default mode when powered on.
 - Play the tracks in random order (rAn).
 - Play all the tracks on the USB drive on repeat (ALL).
 - Play the current folder's tracklist on repeat (FOLd). The folder used is based on what song is playing
 when it is activated. For instance, if a song playing is on the root level, selecting FOLd will repeat only
 songs at the root level. If a song is in folder "A", then only songs in folder "A" will be repeated.

Using the USB Charge Port

To use the USB charge port:

- 1. Connect a USB type-A cable to the USB Charge Port on the rear panel of your PathfinderTM Go speaker (see image).
- 2. Connect the other end of the cable to the charging input on your smartphone, tablet, or other compatible device.





- 1. Connect a 1/8" (3.5 mm) auxiliary cable to the input on the rear panel of PathfinderTM Go and connect the other end to an audio device such as an MP3 or CD player. The speaker will automatically switch the audio source to Aux mode but will maintain all Bluetooth connections.
- 2. Press play on your device's music player. Use the Volume Up/Down (+/-) buttons to adjust the Aux volume. **Note:** PathfinderTM Go speaker volume controls act independently from your connected device. Lower the volume on your device if signal distortion occurs.
- 3. Disconnect the Aux cable to exit Aux mode. PathfinderTM Go will revert to the audio mode it was in before the Aux connection, either Bluetooth or USB Playback mode.

App Control

IMPORTANT: To ensure the best possible experience with the app, use the most current Android OS or iOS on your device.

Follow these steps to download the free app on your device:

- 1. Open the Apple App Store or Google Play on your device. Then, search for the ION Sound ControlTM app.
- 2. Follow the on-screen instructions to download and install the app. Once downloaded, the ION Sound ControlTM app will appear on your device's home screen.
- 3. Connect your device to PathfinderTM Go via Bluetooth. See Operation > Bluetooth Connecting with PathfinderTM Go to learn how to do this.
- 4. Open the ION Sound ControlTM app. If prompted, allow the app to access your device's Bluetooth and Location Services.
- 5. Follow the steps on screen to find and connect to your PathfinderTM Go. Once connected, you can control various functions of the speaker, such as:
 - Source Selection: Select the source to use (Bluetooth, USB, FM, or Aux).
 - · Volume: Adjust the speaker's volume.
 - EQ: Adjust the speaker's equalization.
 - Voice Prompts: Enable or disable the voice prompts.
 - · Lights: Change the light modes.
 - · Battery Life: Check the speaker's battery life status.

 Support: Visit ionaudio.com, contact Technical Support, and view Warranty information and Frequently Asked Questions.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If the unit is not charging: Make sure the USB-A to USB-C® charging cable is properly connected to the power input, the power adapter, and the power outlet.

If the sound is distorted: Try lowering the volume control of your sound source.

I hear a hum when cables are connected:

- Disconnect cables from the input jacks to see if it's a faulty cable.
- Make sure the signal cables are not placed near power cables.
- Connect all audio equipment power cables to outlets which share a common ground.

If there is a high-pitched whistling noise when using microphones: This is probably feedback. Point the microphone away from the speaker.

If you can't hear the microphone over the music volume: Turn down the music volume from your source.

If there is too much bass: Try adjusting the tone or EQ control on your sound source to lower the bass level. This will allow you to play the music louder before clipping (distortion) occurs. You can also check to see if the BOOM function is enabled, and disable it by pressing the BOOM buttonTM to disable it.

If you cannot connect your audio device to PathfinderTM Go via Bluetooth:

- Have your audio device (e.g., smartphone or tablet) and PathfinderTM Go as close together as possible while
 trying to connect. Make sure both the audio device and PathfinderTM Go are unobstructed by walls, furniture,
 etc.
- Double-press the Bluetooth button to disconnect PathfinderTM Go from any other audio device and restart the search process. If this does not work right away, power off PathfinderTM Go and then power it back on. See
 Operation > Bluetooth Connecting with PathfinderTM Go for more information.
- Reset the Bluetooth connection on your audio device by turning Bluetooth off and back on. You can find this
 under the Bluetooth menu in the Settings for your phone or other audio device.
 - If this does not work, and you have connected to PathfinderTM Go before, find PathfinderTM Go in the list of available or previously connected devices in your audio device's Bluetooth menu, tap the "gear" or "i" icon located next to it and then select Unpair or Forget. Turn PathfinderTM Go off and back on and try pairing again once it reappears in your available devices list.

Note: If PathfinderTM Go has been paired to another audio device recently that is still within range, you may need to repeat this process with that audio device to fully disconnect.

If you experience audio dropouts while playing music from a Bluetooth device, this may be happening because your unit is trying to link to another speaker. This can occur if you power ff a speaker that was linked to your unit or if you have just turned on your unit and it is in Stereo-LinkTM mode. To stop the audio dropouts, exit Stereo-LinkTM mode by double-pressing the Bluetooth button. Alternatively, you can wait for your unit to link to another speaker if there is one within range.

APPENDIX

Technical Specifications

Output Power	65 W (peak)
Speakers	Low Frequency: 6.5" (165.1 mm) woofer High Frequency: (2) 2.5" (63.5 mm) tweeters
Frequency Response	65 Hz – 16 kHz (-3 dB)
Bluetooth *	Profile: A2DP, AVRCP
	Bluetooth Version: 5.0
	Range: Up to 100 ft. (30.5 m) *
	Stereo-LinkTM Range: Up to 100 ft. (30.5 m) between speakers
USB	Audio: Music playback from USB drive Supported File System: FAT32 Supported File Type: MP3 Maximum File Size: 4 GB Maximum USB Drive Size: 16 GB
Battery	Capacity: 2000mAh/11.1V, 22.2Wh Battery life: Up to 10 hours ** Charge Time: Up to 3 Hours
Power	Cable: USB-A to USB-C® Charging Cable Input Voltage: 5V DC, 2A
Dimensions (width x depth x height)	13.48" x 6.50" x 13.23" 343 mm x 165 mm x 336 mm
Weight	7.65 lbs. 3.47 kg

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

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Website: ionaudio.com

Documents / Resources

^{*} Bluetooth and wireless reception and range are affected by walls, obstructions, and movement. For optimal performance, place the product so it is unobstructed by walls or furniture and is raised off the ground.

^{**} Battery life may vary based on temperature, age, and volume usage of product.



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PATHFINDER GO Portable Bluetooth Speaker, PATHFINDER GO, Portable Bluetooth Speaker, Bluetooth Speaker, Speaker

References

- Sound Experiences | ION Audio
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Manuals+,