

M-AUDIO

AUDIO BUDDY™

Dual Mic Preamp / Direct Box

Users Manual



Introduction

This product complies with European CE requirements.



Thank you for your purchase of the M-Audio AudioBuddy™, mic preamp and direct box. M-Audio has designed and manufactured several different audio mixers including MiniMixer, MicroMixer 18, MultiMixer 6, MultiMixer 10 and miXim 10. All of these mixers have two things in common: 1.) they are exceedingly quiet -- quieter than 99% of all mixers on the market and 2.) they are uniquely configured to meet the specific needs of the MIDI and multimedia musician.

The Audio Buddy, once again, fits these two criteria. First, it is a very quiet mic preamp. This is because the unit's simple and efficient design and ultra compact layout eliminates much of the noise. The unit also has a higher than usual voltage "rail" across its internal op-amps. This means that you get more "punch" and much more dynamic audio output.

Secondly, the Audio Buddy (when coupled with its ultra quiet performance) is the perfect audio "gateway" for recording the two most significant, non-line level instruments in the studio: microphones and electric guitars.

Features

The Audio Buddy features include:

- 2 independent XLR, fully balanced inputs.
- 2 alternate, independent 1/4" unbalanced, high impedance inputs. These alternate 1/4" inputs are impedance matched for ideal performance with typical electric guitars.
- Separate gain controls for each of the two preamplifiers.
- Individual signal and clipping LEDs for each of the preamplifiers.
- XLR phantom power can be switched on and off for both of the mic preamps.
- Phantom power on or off LED indicator.
- Dual purpose independent 1/4" outputs which accept either tip-ring-sleeve plugs for balanced signal or tip-sleeve plug for unbalanced signal.
- Super-small size: 5.5" x 3.3" x 1.7".
- Very-quiet S/N specification.
- Heavy-duty all metal construction.

Specifications

- Frequency Response: 5 Hz to 50 kHz, +0, -3 dB.
- Mic Gain: 60 dB max.
- Mic Input Impedance: 1 K ohm.
- Guitar Gain: 40 dB max.
- Guitar Input Impedance: 100 K ohms.
- Approximate weight: under 1/2 lb.
- Power supply: 9 VAC; 500 milliamps.

The Audio Buddy has two completely **independent** preamplifier sections. Each of these sections has: 1.) a balanced XLR input on the back of the unit, 2.) a high impedance 1/4" unbalanced input (TS) on the front of the unit, 3.) signal (present) and clipping LEDs, 4.) a gain control and 5.) a 1/4" dual purpose output on the back of the unit that provides either an unbalanced out (when a mono plug is used) or a balanced out (when a stereo plug is used).

IMPORTANT: Whenever one of the front panel high impedance inputs is used, the associated back panel XLR is disabled.

The Audio Buddy also has built in phantom power which can be switched on or off for both channels. When the rear panel phantom power switch is in, phantom power to both channels is turned on and the front Phan(tom) power LED will light.

IMPORTANT: Since the phantom power switch turns phantom power on or off for both channels, there is no way to turn phantom power on for one channel and off for the other channel. If you are using the high impedance inputs the phantom power switch has no effect.

Front and Rear Panels

When reading the following description of front and rear panel hardware features, it may be helpful to refer to the adjacent diagram.

Front

1. High Impedance Input 1: High impedance (100K) input for Preamp 1. This input is optimized for guitars or high impedance microphones where you don't want to load down the source. When this input is being used XLR input 1 is disabled. **IMPORTANT:** Because the high impedance input jack is switched, the XLR input cannot be used whenever something is plugged into the high impedance input.

2. Sig(nal) and Clip LED Preamp 1: Whenever a signal is applied to either the high impedance "In" or the XLR "In" of Preamp 1, these LEDs will show signal present and clipping levels. If a signal is applied in this manner and the clipping LED lights too much adjust the Preamp 1 gain control accordingly.

3. Gain Control for Preamp 1: Adjusts the Output 1 volume level for Preamp 1. If a signal is present at either the high impedance in or the XLR in of Preamp 1 and the Clipping LED stays lit, turn down this gain control and adjust accordingly.

4, 5 and 6. Same as 1, 2 and 3 for Preamp 2. Remember, Preamp 1 and Preamp 2 are completely independent.

7. Phantom Power Indicator LED: When the phantom power switch on the back of the unit is in, this LED will light indicating that phantom power has been turned on for **both** XLR in 1 and XLR 2. **IMPORTANT:** Phantom power is turned on for both preamps, i.e. there is no independent phantom power control for each of the channels.

8. Main Power Indicator LED: When power is properly applied to the Audio Buddy and when the front power switch is in, the main power LED will light indicating that the unit is turned on.

9. Power Switch: When power is properly applied to the Audio Buddy and this switch is pressed in, the Audio Buddy is turned on. When this is done the Main Power LED will light.

Rear

10. 9 VAC Power Jack. The rear panel power jack of the Audio Buddy accepts a 9-Volt AC, 500 milliamp power adapter. **IMPORTANT:** Audio Buddy will not function unless it receives power at this jack and the front panel power switch is pushed in.

11 / 12. Outputs 2 and 1: These are the main outputs for the dual Audio Buddy preamps. They provide unbalanced outputs if a tip-sleeve 1/4" plug is used. Or, they provide balanced outputs if a tip-ring-sleeve (stereo) 1/4" plug is used. The level of these outputs are independently controlled by the front panel gain controls. Remember, Preamp 1 and Preamp 2 are completely independent.

13. Phantom Power Switch: When in, phantom power is turned on for **both** XLR In 1 and In 2. When in, the front panel phantom power indicator LED will light showing that phantom power is on.

14., 15. XLR-In 1 & 2: (#15 is 1; #14 is 2) Balanced XLR inputs for preamps 1 and 2. When the rear phantom power switch is in, phantom power is turned on to both jacks.

IMPORTANT: If anything is plugged into either of the front-panel high-impedance input jacks, the corresponding XLR input will be disabled.



Warranty and Registration

Warranty Terms

M-Audio warrants products to be free from defects in materials and workmanship, under normal use and provided that the product is owned by the original, registered user. Visit www.m-audio.com/warranty for terms and limitations applying to your specific product.

Warranty Registration

Thank you for registering your new M-Audio product. Doing so immediately both entitles you to full warranty coverage and helps M-Audio develop and manufacture the finest quality products available. Register online at www.m-audio.com/register to receive FREE product updates and for the chance to win FREE M-Audio gear.

If, after reading the manual, you need additional tech support or have comments or suggestions, we invite you to contact us directly, using the following information:

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