



SESSION



English

Quick Start Guide

M-AUDIO

1 Introduction

Welcome to the world of music production. This package consists of the Session music creation software and the M-Audio Micro audio interface. This powerful combination of hardware and software gives you everything you need to turn your computer into a complete music production center.

Session software was designed from scratch to give you access to professional features for recording, editing, and mixing your music while remaining simple and easy to use. It features an intuitive interface and massive library of sounds so you can start making music right away.

M-Audio Micro is a high-performance audio interface specifically designed for music production.

Its efficient driver architecture outperforms most gaming sound cards or built-in audio ports by providing ultra-low latency*.

M-Audio Micro also acts as an authorization key for Session—the program cannot run without Micro or another qualified M-Audio device attached to your computer.

This document will guide you through the installation process for Session and the M-Audio Micro hardware.

For more information and 12 in-depth tutorials on how to use Session, please refer to the program's built-in manual under Help > Manual.

* *Latency: M-Audio Micro utilizes ASIO™ driver technology. Previously only found in expensive professional audio interfaces, this technology allows for fast access to your audio hardware. Gaming soundcards or built-in audio ports usually do not have ASIO drivers and therefore require more time for audio processing. This causes a distracting delay known as "latency." This delay occurs between performing an action (e.g. singing or pressing a key on a keyboard) and hearing a sound through your speakers (or headphones). M-Audio's advanced drivers virtually eliminate this latency and help keep action and sound together. Make sure your microphone and speakers are plugged into Micro to take advantage of its superior performance.*

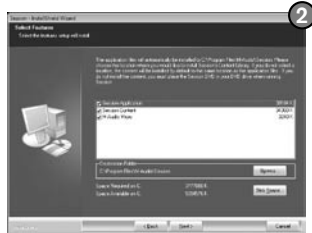
2 Installing the M-Audio Session Software

PLEASE NOTE: Do not connect your Micro audio interface to your computer until the Session software has been installed. Leave Micro disconnected until instructed to connect it.

1. Insert the M-Audio Session DVD-ROM into your computer's DVD-ROM drive.
2. The computer will automatically display the install screen **1**. If your computer does not launch the installer, manually start it by clicking on Start > My Computer* and then double-clicking Session.
3. Follow the software installer's on-screen direction prompts.
4. Session comes with a large library of loops and instrument samples for music creation, known as Session Content. This Content requires approximately 4 GB of disk space and may take as long as 30 minutes to install. This behavior is normal. During the installation process, you will be asked if you would like to install this content, as well as the Session Application, and the driver for the Micro audio interface **2**. The M-Audio Micro driver is required in order to use the Micro audio interface.

If you do not have 4 GB of disk space available, you may choose not to install the Session Content, but you will then have to place the Session DVD in your DVD-ROM drive whenever you run Session. Accessing Session's content via DVD-ROM results in slightly slower computer performance. If the required hard drive space is available, installing the Session Content on your computer's hard drive is recommended.

**If you are using Windows Vista, "My Computer" will be labeled "Computer" in this step.*



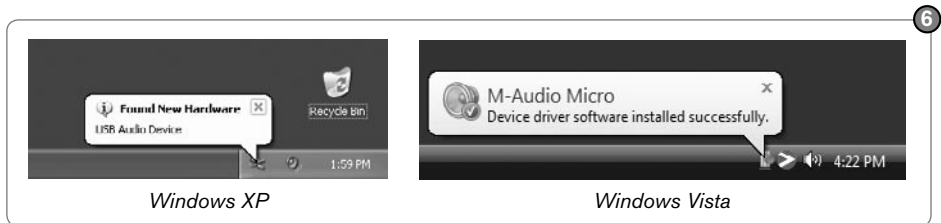
- Windows Vista users may encounter the following message while the Micro device driver is being installed: "An unidentified program wants access to your computer." ③ Click Allow to continue installation.
- At various points in this installation process, you may be notified that the driver being installed has not passed Windows Logo Testing (Windows XP), or asked whether the program you wish to run is a trusted application (Windows Vista). Click Continue Anyway ④ or Install ⑤ to proceed with installation.
- Click "Finish" once the installer has completed the installation.

IMPORTANT: The Micro audio interface serves as the copy protection key for Session and must be connected to your computer for Session to launch.




3 *Setting Up the Micro USB Audio Interface*

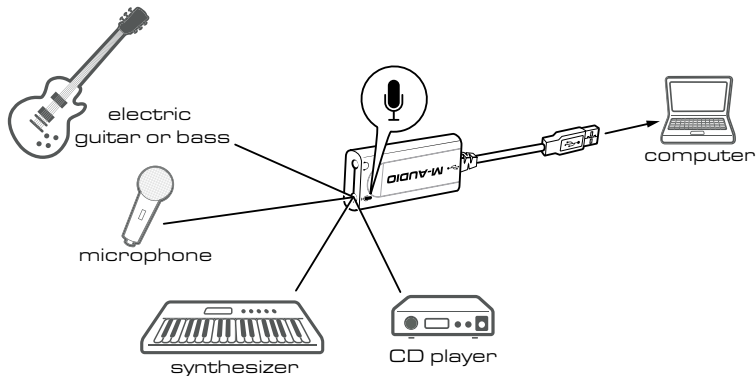
Once the Micro drivers have been installed via the Session software installation, connect the Micro USB audio interface to an available USB port on your computer. Your computer will recognize the new hardware and will briefly display a Found New Hardware message **6**. In Windows XP, you may be prompted with a Windows Logo testing message. Click Continue Anyway. **4**



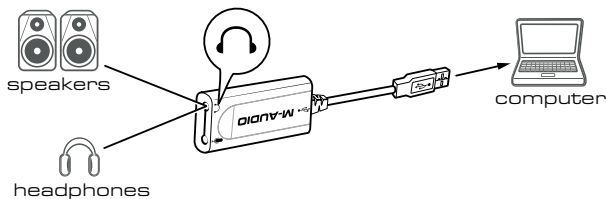
4 Audio Connections

Once the M-Audio drivers and Session are installed, you'll need to connect your equipment (microphones, instruments, speakers, headphones, etc.) to M-Audio Micro. The diagrams below demonstrate how everything should be connected:

1. Connect a microphone, instrument (electric guitar or bass), or line-level source (synthesizer, CD player, DJ mixer, etc.) to M-Audio Micro's 1/8" input. 



2. Connect your headphones or powered speakers to the 1/8" output. 

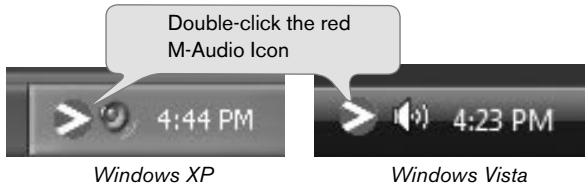


3. Use the Control Panel software to adjust input and output levels. See the following chapter for more information.

Note that it is possible to configure Session to use the existing audio inputs and outputs on your computer without plugging anything into M-Audio Micro. We do not recommend this because the only way to get the superior sound quality and accelerated audio performance of M-Audio Micro is to connect your equipment to Micro itself.

5 Control Panel

Double-click the red M-Audio icon in your computer's system tray to open the M-Audio Micro Control Panel.



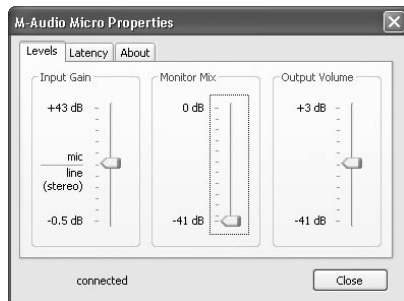
Note: You may need to restart your computer after the installation in order for this icon to become available.

Levels Tab:

- **Input Gain:** Use this slider to adjust the input level. Settings below the center line will work well with line-level devices such as electronic keyboards or CD players as well as with instruments like electric guitars or basses. Settings above this line will work for most handheld and PC desk microphones (dynamic and electret microphones).
- **Monitor Mix:** This slider allows you to listen to your input signal before any audio processing (and its resulting latency) takes place. What you hear is the exact signal as it sounds when entering M-Audio Micro before it is sent to your audio software. This method is also called “Hardware Monitoring” and becomes useful if your computer cannot facilitate latency settings that are low enough for real-time recording. Adjust this slider until you have achieved the desired balance between input and playback levels.

Note: The Session software features another, more sophisticated monitoring method that allows you to hear audio effects while recording. In order to minimize undesirable signal delays when monitoring through the Session software, it is necessary to set the latency slider in the M-Audio Micro Control Panel to a low value. Be aware that using a low latency setting can increase the demands placed on your computer's system resources. To use this feature in Session, enable the Input Monitor Button on the track you wish to record to. Check the manual found in Session under Help > Manual for more information on this feature.

- **Output Volume:** This slider sets M-Audio Micro's output level.



Latency Tab:

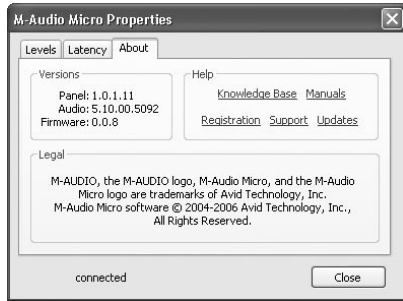
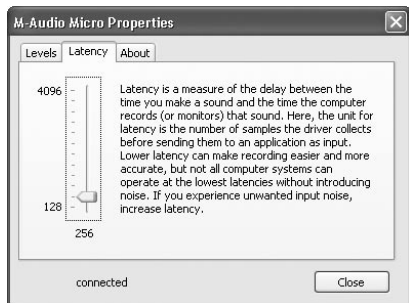
This slider allows you to adjust the driver latency.

The lower the number, the shorter the latency. However, as this number decreases, the processing demands placed on your computer increase. The default setting of “256” should work well for many computers, however, if you experience clicks and pops during recording or playback, you will need to increase this setting.

Note: This setting cannot be modified while Session (or another audio application) is running, unless the M-Audio Micro Control Panel is opened from within the Session software: Options > Audio Hardware > ASIO Settings.

About Tab:

The M-Audio Micro Control Panel's about tab provides links to driver updates, knowledge base articles, technical support contact information and other useful resources. You can also find version numbers of the M-Audio Micro's installed software components here. You may need this information if you ever have the need to contact Technical Support.



6 *Additional Information*

Updating Session:

If your computer has an Internet connection, you can easily update to the latest version of Session. To do this, simply click Help > Check for Updates in the Session software. This will open your web browser to a page on M-Audio's website containing the latest version of the software and information on how to update.

Upgrading your hardware:

If you enjoy using M-Audio Micro but need additional features such as microphone preamplifiers or additional inputs and outputs, consider upgrading the interface. M-Audio builds a full line of high performance professional audio products including Fast Track USB, Fast Track Pro, MobilePre USB or FireWire Solo. All of these products give you expanded functionality and are 100% compatible with Session.

7 *Warranty*

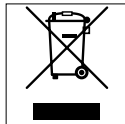
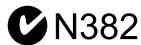
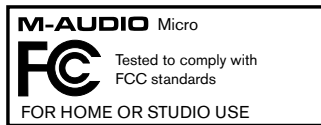
Warranty Terms

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

Immediately registering your new M-Audio product 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 M-Audio giveaways

© 2007 Avid Technology, Inc. All rights reserved. Product features, specifications, system requirements and availability are subject to change without notice. Avid, M-Audio, Session and M-Audio Micro are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Avid Technology, Inc. All other trademarks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.



WARNING: This product contains chemicals, including lead, known to the State of California to cause cancer, and birth defects or other reproductive harm. **Wash hands after handling.**