

MIXPAD

MXP124/MXP124FX STEREO MIXERS



OWNER'S MANUAL

SAMSON®

Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of the Samson MixPad MXP124 or MXP124FX mixer! The MXP124 and MXP124FX are 12-channel mixers, with four mic/line channels with low-noise, microphone preamps, as well as four stacked-stereo line input channels. The four mic/line inputs feature a 3-band equalizer, gain controls, and high-pass filters on the microphone inputs. The first two channels have compression controls to increase the level of the inputs which is helpful to control clipping or overload.

To add depth to mix, the MXP124FX has 100 24-bit digital studio quality effects, which include Delays, Chorus, Flanging, and lush Reverbs. It's easy to dial up your favorite effects preset with the large seven-segment LED display. The MXP124FX also feature an on-board USB digital interface allowing you to record and playback digital audio from a computer running most recording software. The flexible routing option lets you assign the USB return signal to the main stereo mix, or to the headphones and mix 2 bus.

Clean, clear sound reproduction with accurate equalization and flexible signal routing in a rugged enclosure, ensure reliable high quality sound from performance to performance. Optimized for recording, live sound reinforcement and commercial installations, the MXP124 and MXP124FX are ideal mixer solutions, offering big sound in a compact package.

In these pages, you'll find a detailed description of the features of the MixPad mixers, as well as a description of its front and rear panels, step-by-step instructions for its setup and use, and full specifications. If you purchased the mixer in the United States, you will find a warranty card enclosed, please fill it out and mail it in so that you can receive online technical support and so we can send you updated information about these and other Samson products in the future.

We recommend you record your serial number in the space provided below for future reference.

Serial number: _____

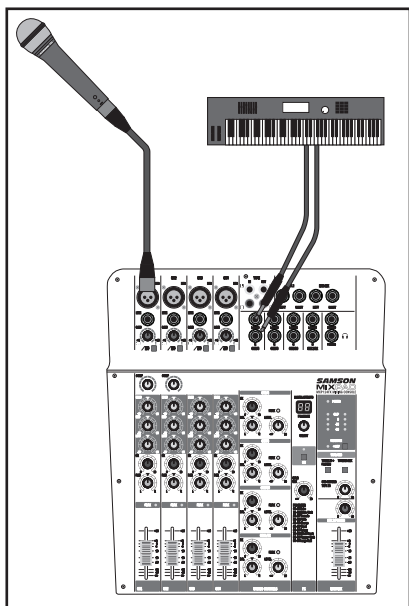
Date of purchase: _____

With proper care and maintenance, your MixPad mixer will operate trouble-free for many years. Should your speaker ever require servicing, a Return Authorization (RA) number must be obtained before shipping your unit to Samson. Without this number, the unit will not be accepted. Please call Samson at 1-800-3SAMSON (1-800-372-6766) for an RA number prior to shipping your unit. Please retain the original packing materials and, if possible, return the unit in its original carton. If your mixer was purchased outside of the United States, contact your local distributor for warranty details and service information.

Basic Operation

The following section explains the basic setup and operation of the MixPad MXP124 and MXP124FX.

1. Before connecting any microphones or instruments, make sure that the power of all your systems components including the MixPad mixer is turned off. Make sure that the MAIN MIX and MIX 2/PHONES controls are turned all the way down.
2. Connect the cables from your microphones and instruments to the mixer. Microphones should be connected to the XLR inputs of channels 1-4. Line level devices can be plugged into the mono 1/4" input channels (1-4) or the stacked-stereo input channels (5-12). Acoustic instruments and electric guitars and basses need to be connected to a direct box or preamp before plugging into the mixer.

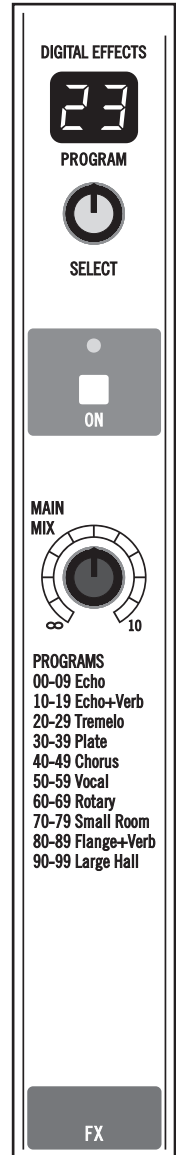


3. Switch on the power of any peripheral devices, and then power up the MixPad mixer.
NOTE: It is important to remember the Golden Rule of audio... "LAST ON, FIRST OFF." Translated, this means that when turning on your system, you should always turn your power amplifiers or powered monitors on LAST, and when turning your system off, turn your power amps off FIRST. This helps avoid any loud pops caused by rush current at power up, or down, which can sometimes damage loudspeakers.
4. Turn on your power amp or powered monitors and raise the level control to the manufacturers recommended operating level.
5. Set the input gain of each input channel so that the PEAK indicators only light occasionally during the loudest input each channel will see.
6. Set the MAIN MIX fader to the "0" position.
7. While speaking into the microphones (at performance level) or playing an instrument, slowly raise the input channel volume faders until the desired level is reached.
8. If you wish to adjust the tone of each channel, adjust the equalizer controls as desired. You may have to re-adjust the channel volume.

Adding Digital Effects (MXP124FX Only)

The MXP124FX features built-in, high quality, 24-bit Multi Effect Processors, offering 100 studio grade effects presets. The DIGITAL EFFECTS section features clean Delays, lush Reverbs and multi-effects like Delay + Reverb. The following details the operation of the internal DSP effects in the DIGITAL EFFECTS section.

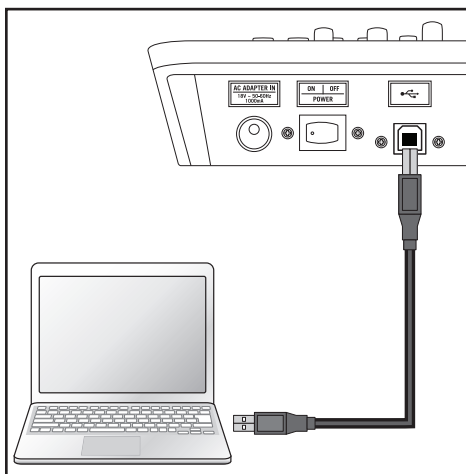
1. Connect a mic or instrument to the desired channel, adjust the level and equalizer to your liking and make sure the MAIN MIX fader level is set so you can hear it in your speakers.
2. Press the effects ON button to activate the digital effects channel strip.
3. Select the desired effects program using the SELECT control knob located in the middle of the channel strip. Rotate the SELECT switch to one of the 100 effects and press to confirm the selection.
4. Set the effects to MAIN MIX control to the 12 o'clock position.
5. Use the FX control on the input channel to adjust the level of signal to sent to the effects. If the Peak indicator flashes red, the signal is overloading the DSP, lower the channel FX controls until the indicator no longer lights red.
Note: The signal feeding the FX control is sent after the channel Fader, so the channel Fader has an effect on that level, meaning the FX level tracks up and down with the channel Fader.



USB Connectivity (MXP124FX Only)

The MXP124FX has a built-in stereo USB audio interface allowing you to record and playback from a computer using virtually any digital recording software. Setting up your mixer with a computer is a simple procedure that takes just a few minutes. The following section describes how to connect and setup the MXP124FX with a computer.

1. Connect the MXP124FX to the computer using a standard USB cable (not included).
2. In your audio software, set the input and output device to the MXP124FX.
3. The audio sent from the MXP124FX to the computer follows the Main Mix bus.
4. For playback, you can return the USB stereo signal directly into the main left and right mix bus so that the playback from the PC sums with the playback from the MAIN mix on the console. To hear the USB playback in the MAIN MIX press the TAPE/USB TO MAIN MIX switch.
5. The TAPE/USB TO MIX 2 + PHONES switch is used to assign the USB return to the Mix 2 and headphones bus. This allows you to mix the playback in studio monitors or isolate the playback to a mix zone.



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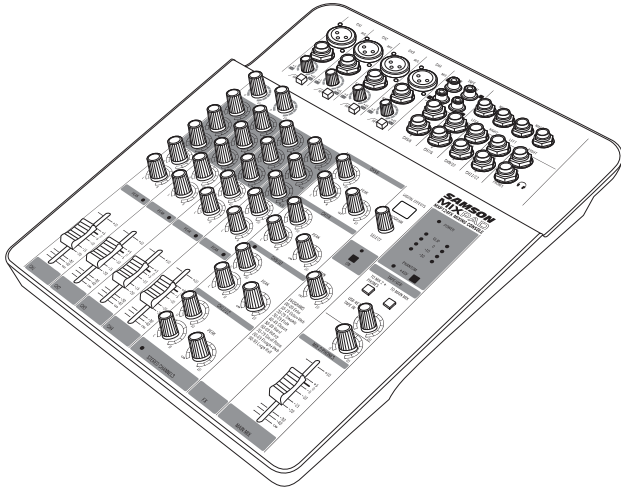
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Features



The Samson MixPad mixers are comprehensive, all-in-one solution for live sound, recording, fixed installation and post production applications. Here are some of their main features:

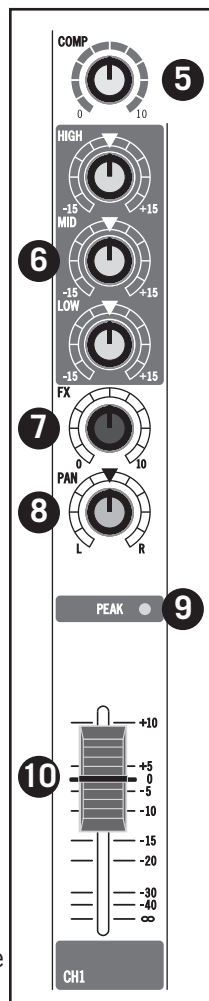
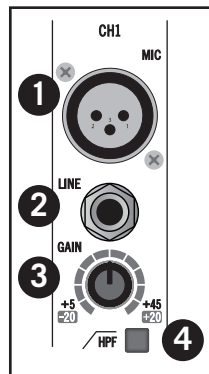
- Ultra-low noise, high headroom analog mixer
- Four Class A MDR (Maximum Dynamic Range) mic preamps with 3-band EQ
- Four Stacked-Stereo channels
- High-quality, precision faders
- 100 24-bit, low-noise digital effects (MXP124FX Only)
- High-integrity, bi-directional USB interface (MXP124FX Only)
- Two single-knob, studio-quality compressors
- One auxiliary send per channel
- All mic channels equipped with input Gain and high pass filters
- 48-volt Phantom Power for condenser microphones
- Multiple outputs: Main Mix, Mix 2, Phones and Tape
- USB (MXP124FX) and Tape inputs assignable to Main Mix or Mix 2/Phones outputs
- Optional mic stand mount available

Top Panel Controls

Mono Input Channel Section

The following section details four mono input channels.

- MIC Inputs** - Use these balanced XLR inputs to connect low Impedance microphones and low level signals from direct boxes. The MIC inputs feature +48V phantom power, allowing you to use condenser microphones. XLR Connector pin-out - Pin 1: Ground, Pin 2: Hot (+), Pin 3: Cold (-)
- Line Level Input** - Use these balanced TRS ¼" inputs to connect synthesizers, drum machines, effects processors or any line-level signal. You can connect balanced and unbalanced devices to these inputs. TRS phone jacks Connector pin-out - Sleeve: Ground, Tip: Hot (+), Ring: Cold (-)
- GAIN Control** - Variable GAIN control with a range of +5 to +45dB on the MIC input and -20 to +20dB on the LINE input.
- HPF Switch** - The high pass filter rolls off the low frequencies from the XLR MIC inputs from 80Hz and below at the rate of 12dB per octave. The high pass filter allows you to remove the lower frequencies that you don't want the microphone to pick up. In live sound applications, the high pass filter is useful for removing stage rumble.
- COMP Control (CH1 & CH2)** - The COMP knob adjusts the level of compression applied to the channel. As the COMP knob is turned clockwise, the compression ratio is raised and the output gain is adjusted accordingly. The dynamic range of the channel is narrowed, where softer signals will be magnified and loud signals will be subdued to sit better in the mix. Too much compression can create a pumping effect, eliminate all dynamic range, and lead to feedback.
- Equalizer (HIGH, MID, and LOW)** - This three-band equalizer allows you to contour a channel's high, mid, and low frequency bands. When the control is set to the 12 o'clock (detent) position, there is no effect on the signal. Turning the controls fully clockwise will raise the level of the frequency band +15 dB, while turning the controls fully counterclockwise will lower the level of the frequency band -15 dB.



Top Panel Controls

- 7. FX Auxiliary Control (MXP124FX)** - The channel's FX knob controls the amount of signal that is sent to the effects bus. The signal of the FX bus in the MXP124FX is routed to the Digital Effects section for on-board signal processing. The FX signal can also be sent to an external effect device connected to the FX SEND jack located on the front panel jack field.

MON Auxiliary Control (MXP124) - Controls the amount of that channel's signal that is sent to the MON Output. The signal feeding MON is sent before, or pre, the channel fader, so the channel fader has no effect on the MON level. The MON is usually used to create a separate mix for a floor monitor system.

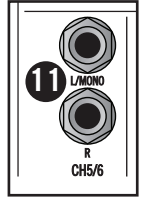
- 8. PAN Control** - The PAN control is used to place or position the mono signal into the stereo main left and right mix bus. You can create a stereo image by panning some input signals to the left and others to the right.
- 9. PEAK Indicator** - This LED indicator will flash red when the channel input signal peaks. To reduce distortion, turn the GAIN control counterclockwise until the clip indicator does not light during normal use.
- 10. Volume Fader** - The VOLUME Fader control adjusts the level of each mono input channel.

Top Panel Controls

Stereo Input Channel Section

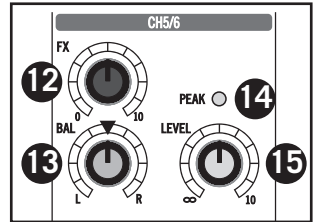
The following section details four stacked stereo input channels.

- 11. **Stereo ¼" Input Jacks** - Use the ¼" jacks for connecting stereo line level sources. For stereo inputs use the LINE L to connect the left channel and the LINE R to connect the right channel. Use the LEFT input when connecting a mono input signal to the Stereo Input channels. You can connect outputs from high impedance microphones, synthesizers and drum machines to these inputs. The LINE inputs have a nominal operating level of -40dBV through - 10dBV.



TRS phone jacks Connector pin-out - Sleeve: Ground, Tip: Hot (+), Ring: Cold (-)

- 12. **FX Auxiliary Control (MXP124FX)** - FX Auxiliary Control - The channel's FX knob controls the amount of signal that is sent to the effects bus. The signal of the FX bus in the MXP124FX is routed to the Digital Effects section for on-board signal processing. The FX signal can also be sent to an external effect device connected to the FX SEND jack located on the front panel jack field.



MON Auxiliary Control (MXP124) - Controls the amount of that channel's signal that is sent to the MON Output. The signal feeding MON is sent before, or pre, the channel fader, so the channel fader has no effect on the MON level. The MON is usually used to create a separate mix for a floor monitor system.

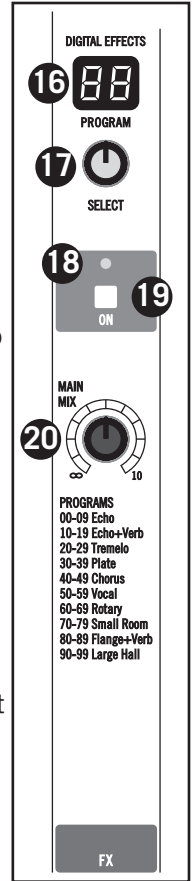
- 13. **BAL Control** - This control is used to place, or position, the stereo signal into the main left and right stereo mix field. You can create a stereo image by panning some input signals to the left and others to the right.
- 14. **PEAK Indicator** - This LED indicator will flash RED when the channel input signal peaks. To reduce distortion, turn the LEVEL control counterclockwise or lower the volume of the input device until the clip indicator does not light during normal use.
- 15. **LEVEL Control** - This knob controls the volume of channel inputs and is used to continuously adjust the loudness of the various signals being blended together at the Main Outputs.

Top Panel Controls

Digital Effects Section (MXP124FX only)

The following section describes the features control of the on-board 24-bit digital Multi-effects section.

- 16. **PROGRAM Effects Display** - The mixer's multi-effects processors feature a dual digit, seven-segment numerical display for showing the effects PROGRAM number from 00 - 99.
- 17. **SELECT Control Knob** - The SELECT control knob is a continuously variable encoder to call up one of the 100 built-in digital effects presets. Rotate the SELECT knob to scroll through the preset programs and press to load the selected effect.
- 18. **On/Peak Indicator** - This LED indicator lights green when the Digital Effects is turned on. The indicator lights red when the input signal to the internal Digital Effects is overloaded.
- 19. **Effects ON Switch** - The effects ON switch is used to turn the internal digital effect on and off. The effects are bypassed when the switch is in the out position.
- 20. **MAIN MIX Control** - The MAIN MIX control is used to adjust the level of the effects from the built-in digital effect that is sent to the MAIN MIX bus. This allows you to hear the DSP effects in your main speakers.

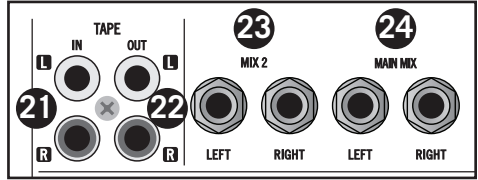


Top Panel Controls

Master Section

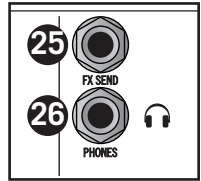
This following section details the master section of the mixer.

- 21. **TAPE IN (RCA jacks)** - Stereo line level input, on RCA connectors, for connecting the output of devices such as MP3, CD, computer sound-card, or any other line level device.

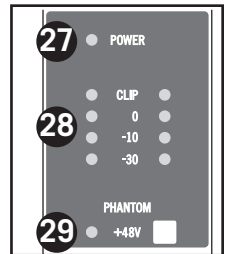


- 22. **TAPE OUT (RCA jacks)** - The signal present at this connector is the MAIN bus signal before it has passed through the MASTER level control and graphic equalizer. The nominal output level is -10dBV and the impedance is 100 Ohms.
- 23. **MIX 2** - These line level MIX 2 outputs can be used to drive a second speaker system or connect to a stereo device such as computer sound card, MP3, or recorder. The signal at the MIX 2 jacks follows the MIX 2 level control knob allowing you to set a different level at the outputs.
- 24. **MAIN MIX** - The MAIN MIX 1/4" jacks can be connected to a power amplifier, powered speaker system, or inputs of a digital recorder. The signal at the MAIN OUT jacks follows the MAIN volume fader.
- 25. **FX SEND (MXP124FX)** - The signal present at the FX SEND output is sent from the FX bus, which is fed from the FX send on the input channels.

MON SEND (MXP124) - The signal present at the MON SEND output is sent from the MON bus, which is fed from the MON send on the input channels.



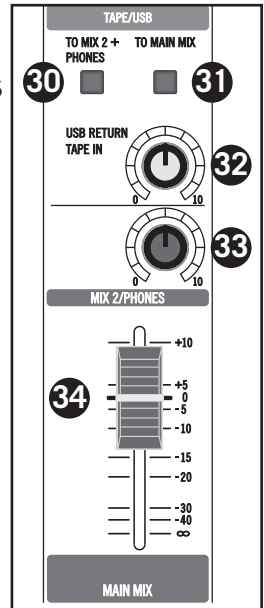
- 26. **PHONES Output** - Connect standard 1/4" TRS stereo headphones, 60 to 600 Ohms. The PHONES output level is controlled by the MIX 2/PHONES control.
- 27. **POWER Indicator** - The POWER LED lights up to indicate that the main POWER switch (located on the rear panel) is on.
- 28. **Output Level Meter** - The output level meter allows you to monitor the level of the signal, which is being sent to the MAIN MIX jacks.



NOTE: To avoid distortion, adjust the MAIN MIX level control so that the 0 indicator LED lights occasionally.

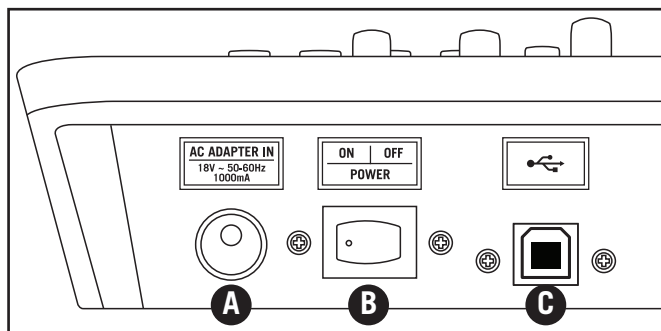
Top Panel Controls

- 29. PHANTOM Power Switch and Indicator** - The mixer features an on-board, 48-Volt Phantom power supply to operate condenser microphones. When the switch is engaged, the LED will illuminate indicating that phantom power is now available at the microphone preamps.
IMPORTANT NOTE: To avoid a loud pop, be sure to turn down the master level controls before plugging and unplugging the mic cables when the phantom power is active. Be sure the MAIN level fader is turned all the way down before activating the Phantom Power to prevent pops from entering any external device connected to the mixer. Also, be sure the Phantom Power is OFF when connecting or disconnecting microphones.
- 30. TAPE & USB (MXP124FX only) TO MIX 2 + PHONES** - This switch is used to assign the TAPE and USB (MXP124FX only) inputs to the MIX 2 and PHONES outputs.
- 31. TAPE & USB (MXP124FX only) TO MAIN MIX** - This switch is used to assign the TAPE and USB (MXP124FX only) inputs to the MAIN MIX output.
- 32. USB RETURN (MXP124FX only) and TAPE IN Control** - This level control is used to adjust the volume of the signal returning from a computer via the USB input (MXP124FX only) and audio connected to the TAPE IN RCA jacks.
- 33. MIX2/PHONES Control** - The mixer has a second set of output connectors carrying a duplicate of the MAIN MIX signal for the purpose of feeding another speaker zone or recorder. The MIX 2/PHONES control knob is used to set the volume of the MIX 2 output and the overall level of the Headphone output.
- 34. MAIN MIX Fader** - The MAIN MIX Level fader adjusts the level of main left and right stereo mix sent to the MAIN MIX outputs.



Rear Panel Connections

This following section details the rear panel connections.

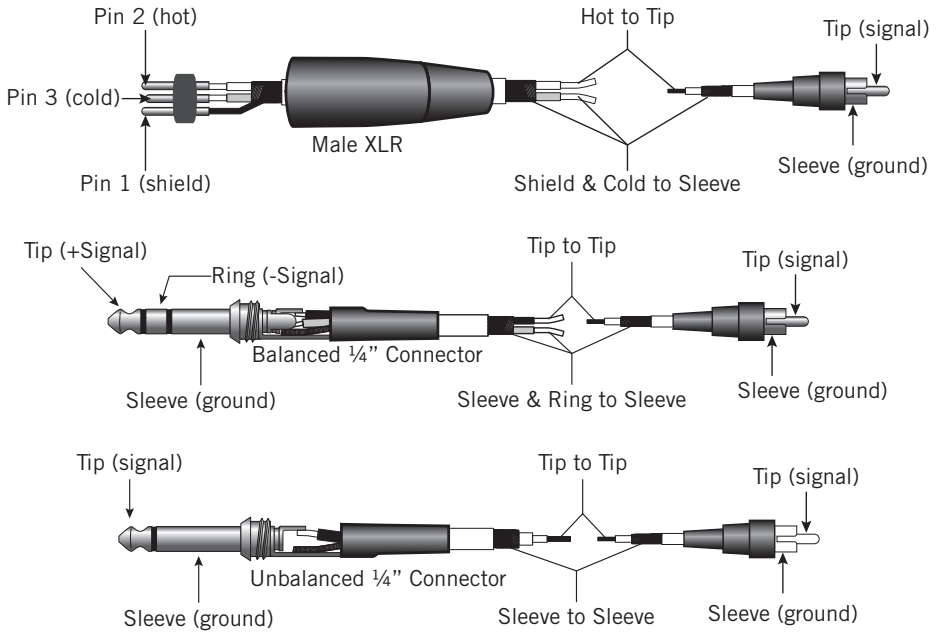


- A. **AC ADAPTER INLET** - Connect the supplied external AC power supply here.
- B. **POWER** - Switches on the MXP124 and MXP124FX main power.
- C. **USB Port (MXP124FX Only)** - Connect the MixPad mixer to a computer using standard USB cable here.

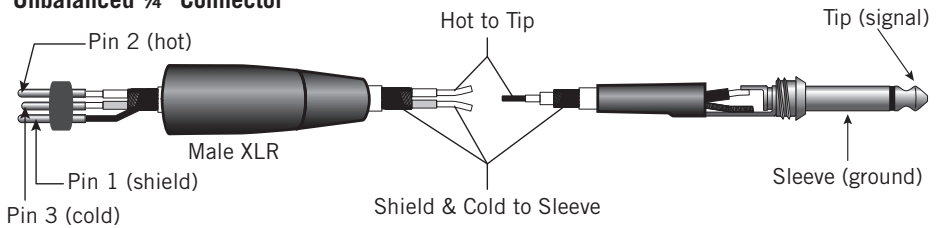
Wiring Guide

There are several ways to interface the MXP mixer to support a variety of applications. Follow the cable diagrams below for connecting your mixer.

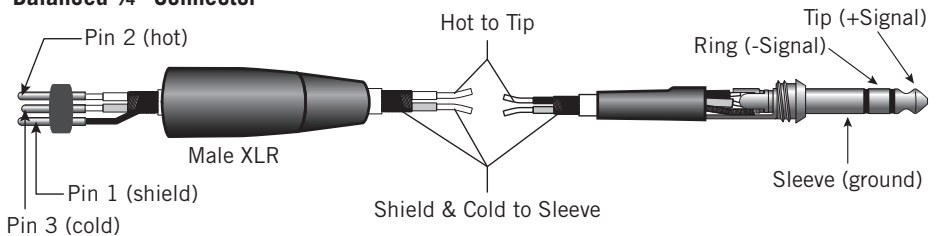
RCA



Unbalanced 1/4" Connector



Balanced 1/4" Connector



Specifications

Frequency Response (Trim @ Min, unity gain ± 3 dB)

Mic to Main	20Hz~30KHz
Line to Main	20Hz~30KHz
Aux Return to Main	20Hz~30KHz
Line to Aux Send	20Hz~30KHz

T.H.D. (Trim @ Min, +4dBu output, unity gain, 1 kHz w/30 kHz LPF)

Mic/Line to Main (Mono Ch)	<0.03%
Line to Main (Stereo Ch)	<0.03%
Line to Aux Send	<0.03%

Equivalent Input Noise ("A" filter on, input shorted)

Mic (Trim @ Min, Fader set "0")	< -90dB 20HZ~30KHZ A-weighted
Line (Trim @ Min, Fader set "0")	< -90dB 20HZ~30KHZ A-weighted

Maximum Voltage Gain

Mic to Main	63dB
Line to Main (Mono Ch)	39dB
Line/Tape to Main (Stereo Ch)	26dB
Mic to Aux Send	63dB
Line to Aux Send (Stereo Ch)	29dB

Residual Noise (30 kHz LPF, all control Min)

Main (All fader min)	-105dBu A-weighted
Aux Send (All fader min)	-94dBu A-weighted

Crosstalk (@ 1 kHz w/ 30 kHz LPF)

Ch vs. Ch (Trim @ min, Fader set 0)	>75dB A-weighted
Input vs. Output	>60dB A-weighted

PEAK Indicators

Mic (Mono Ch)	+16dBu
Line (Stereo Ch)	+16dBu
Headphone output (600 ohm load)	+20dBu

Maximum Input Level (1 kHz, ± 3 dB)

Mic Input (Mono Ch)	+16dBu
Line Input (Mono Ch)	+40dBu

Input Channel Equalizer (± 3 dB)

High	± 15 dBu
Mid	± 15 dBu
Low	± 15 dBu

Specifications

Phantom Power	48V±3V
Power Requirement	AC18V 1000mA
Power Consumption	<18W
Dimensions (W x D x H)	12.9" x 11.7" x 3" 327 mm x 298 mm x 75 mm
Weight	5.0lb / 2.3kg
USB Bus Power	USB2.0 +5V DC 0.5A max USB A-TYPE FEMALE
Internal DSP Effects	100 presets

Digital Effects Program List (MXP124FX Only)

Number	Effect	Parameter
00-09	Echo	Delay Time: 145~205ms
10-19	Echo + Verb	Delay Time: 208~650ms Decay Time: 1.7~2.1s
20-29	Tremelo	Rate: 0.6~5Hz
30-39	Plate	Decay Time: 0.9~3.6s
40-49	Chorus	Rate: 0.92~1.72Hz
50-59	Vocal	Reverb Decay Time: 0.8~0.9s Pre-Delay: 0~45ms
60-69	Rotary	Modulation Depth: 20~80%
70-79	Small Room	Decay Time: 0.7~2.1s Pre-Delay: 20~45ms
80-89	Flanger + Verb	Decay Time: 1.5~2.9s Rate: 0.8~2.52Hz
90-99	Large Hall	Pre-Delay: 23~55ms

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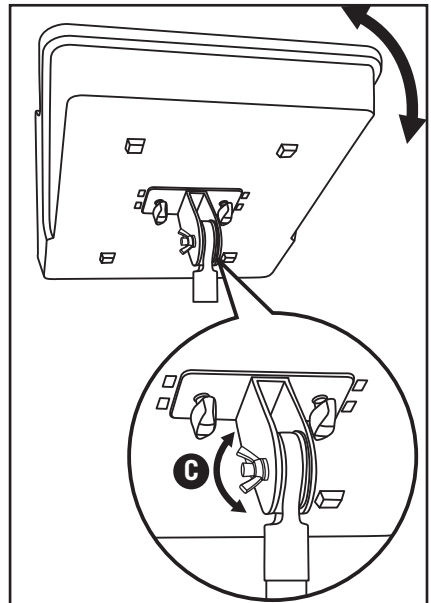
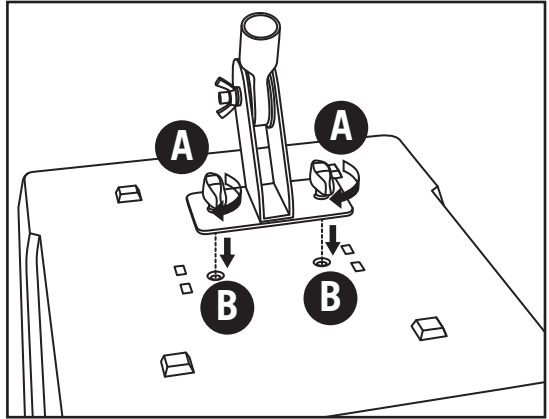
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Microphone Stand Mounting Accessory (Sold Separately)

The MixPad MXP124 and MXP124FX can be mounted to a microphone stand using the optional Mic Stand Mount accessory kit. The following steps describe how to mount the MixPad mixer to a microphone stand.

1. Turn the mixer upside down.
2. Align the Mic Stand Mount screws (**A**) with the MixPad threaded inserts (**B**).
3. Screw the Mic Stand Mount to the MixPad mixer, ensuring that the two screws are securely tightened.
4. Turn the mixer over and affix the mount onto a microphone stand.
5. To adjust the angle of the mixer, loosen the wing-nut (**C**), rotate the mixer to the desired angle then re-tighten the wing-nut.



Note: Take care when placing the mixer on a stand, to ensure that it is on a level, steady surface and will not tip over. Arrange the cables parallel to the microphone stand with enough slack so the cables are not pulling the mixer.

Block Diagram

