



DJ CONSOLE MK2 Mac Edition

DJ MIX CONTROLLER WITH INTEGRATED AUDIO

Dual deck mixer for DJing on Mac

DESCRIPTION

Portable 2-deck DJ mixer with integrated audio to play, mix & create DJ music on a Mac.

TARGET

For DJs who want a versatile, cost-effective mixing solution.

KEY FEATURES

- 1 – All-in-one DJ controller with audio for complete computer DJ mixing**
 - Everything you need to host great parties or record DJing performances.
- 2 – Portable DJ mixer (235x200x65mm / 9.4"x 8"x 2.6" / 1150g)**
 - Ideal for mobile DJing: just plug it into your Mac laptop via the USB port.
- 3 – High-precision wheels and controls for DJ mixing**
 - Tactile controls for precision mixing with wheels, faders & potentiometers.
 - Onboard mini-stick and buttons: easier than using mouse and keyboard.
- 4 – Advanced audio features for DJing**
 - 2 line/phono inputs, to mix analog and digital formats.
 - Headphone monitoring to cue up the next track, or monitor the mix.
 - Microphone input with talk-over function.
- 5 – Most digital formats for Mac supported**
 - MP3, WAV, AIFF files, CD-Audio, iTunes® playlists and more.

6 – Included software: Traktor LE



Powerful 2-deck mixer with 2 waveforms display, real-time loops and pitch fading on each deck, to mix CD-audio or MP3, WAV, AIFF files on DJ Console MK2.

Minimum Requirements

- G4/G5 1.5GHz / Intel® Core™ Duo 1.66GHz and higher
- Mac OS® X 10.4
- 512MB RAM + 100 MB space on HDD
- CD/DVD-ROM drive
- Internet connection
- Stereo loudspeakers & headphones

References

Ref: 4780431
Int. barcode: 3 36293 473643 9
USA barcode: 663296411792
Box size: 365x250x110mm

Specifications

- DJ mixing console with audio
- 2 stereo outputs (4-channel)
 - 2 stereo inputs (4-channel)
 - Line level (for CD/ MP3 layers)
 - Phono level (for turntables)
 - 1 microphone input
 - 1 headphone out for monitoring
- Powered by USB (2.0 or 1.1)
Drivers: CoreAudio & CoreMidi

Powerful DJ Mixer



Mix MP3 + analog

- 2 stereo inputs
- Mix MP3 + analog sources

Control your mix

- 2 decks with jog wheels, volume & pitch control
- 1 cross fader
- 2 x 3 equalization knobs
- Buttons for effects, loops...

TRAKTOR 3 LE
INCLUDED

Supports external mixers

- 2 stereo outputs
- Mix with MK2 or externally

2 LINE/PHONO INPUT



2 LINE OUTPUTS
MONITORING

Multiple monitoring

- Deck A
- Deck B
- Mix

Hercules DJ Console MK2 features a 2-year warranty.

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is Hercules DJ Console MK2 Mac for Mac only or for Mac and PC?

The Hercules DJ Console MK2 Mac hardware is compatible with Mac OS 10.4, Windows XP and Windows Vista. The included drivers are for Mac OS 10.4 or for Windows XP, but you can download drivers for Vista 32-bit from the Hercules website.

2. What are the differences between Hercules DJ Console MK2 for Mac and DJ Console MK2 for PC?

The difference is the CD package, with different software packages included with the same hardware:

- Traktor 3 LE with Hercules DJ Console MK2 for Mac,
- VirtualDJ 3 DJC Edition with Hercules DJ Console MK2 for PC.

3. What are the differences between DJ Console MK2 Mac and DJ Control MP3?

DJ Control MP3 is a USB DJ controller:

- with no sound card (you play the sound on your computer's sound card)
- with no internal mixer (no audio in/out, no headphone output for previewing songs, no talk-over function)
- with no Mac software (the bundled software is VirtualDJ 3 DJC Edition, for Windows XP).

If you have a full version of Traktor 3 DJ Studio, you can control it with DJ Control MP3, but you cannot control Traktor 3 LE since Traktor 3 LE needs a DJ Console MK2 Mac.

4. Is there a specific requirement for the USB bus to support DJ Console MK2 Mac?

DJ Console MK2 Mac needs a full-powered bus, so:

- it works on a direct USB plug on the computer's central unit
- it doesn't work on the USB plug on Mac keyboards (not enough power).

If you lack electrical power in your USB bus, you can connect the DJ Console MK2 Mac to your computer via a USB hub which has its own separate power adapter.

5. Why is there an optional electric power supply?

You shouldn't need it on Mac as Mac computers deliver enough electrical power on their USB ports. This electric power supply is only for cases where the computer's USB port doesn't supply enough power. If you find yourself in this situation, however, please refer to the DJ Console MK2 PC FAQ.

6. Can DJ Console MK2 Mac also function as a sound card?

Yes, DJ Console MK2 Mac also includes an external sound card with high-level specifications:

- CoreAudio compatible
- 4 channel (2 stereo) inputs (4 RCA plugs) / 4 channel (2 stereo) outputs (4 RCA + 2 1/8" minijack plugs).
- 1/4 inch (6.35mm) stereo headphone output with preamplifier and volume control
- 1/4 inch (6.35mm) mono microphone input with preamplifier and volume control.

7. Can DJ Console MK2 Mac be used to mix with other software?

DJ Console MK2 Mac sends MIDI commands, so Mac software applications (DJing and music) that support MIDI commands can also support DJ Console MK2 Mac, including:

- Traktor 2.5 DJ Studio, Traktor 3 DJ Studio
http://www.nativeinstruments.de/index.php?id=traktor3_us TKS presets files can be downloaded from <http://ts.hercules.com/>
- MegaSeg <http://www.megaseg.com/controllers.html>
- UltraMixer 2 <http://www.ultramixer.com>
- FutureDecks Pro <http://www.xylio.com/site/index.php>

8. What does MK2 means?

MK2 stands for Make 2, which means second version.

9. Is the bundled Traktor 3 LE software the same as that included with the first DJ Console?

No, the Traktor 3 LE software included with the MK2 is a Light Edition based on Traktor 3 DJ Studio (instead of Traktor 2.5 DJC Edition with DJ Console MK1 Mac, based on Traktor 2.5 DJ Studio). Since it's based on Traktor 3 DJ Studio, Traktor 3 LE provides better response time on Intel-based Macs than Traktor 2.5 DJC Edition.

10. Is Traktor 3 LE a demo version of Traktor 3 DJ Studio?

No, Traktor 3 LE has no time limits, and is not a demo version of Traktor 3 DJ Studio. A comparison chart of Traktor 3 LE with Traktor 3 DJ Studio is available on the Native Instruments website:

http://www.native-instruments.de/index.php?id=tds3comparison_us

The main differences are:

- number of decks controlled: 2 decks in Traktor 3 LE, 4 decks in Traktor 3 DJ Studio,
- more effects, loop and cue options in Traktor 3 DJ Studio than in Traktor 3 LE,
- Traktor 3 DJ Studio includes a recording function to record a mix,
- Traktor 3 LE cannot function if DJ Console MK2 Mac is not connected.

11. As Traktor 3 DJ Studio has 4 decks, can I mix in this software with 2 DJ Console MK2s?

Remember that since this 4-deck option is not part of Traktor 3 LE, it requires upgrading to Traktor 3 DJ Studio.

Yes, as DJ Console MK2 Mac has 2 decks, you can control 4 decks in Traktor 3 DJ Studio with 2 DJ Console MK2 Mac (or PC) units and also with a combination of 1 DJ Console MK2 Mac + 1 DJ Control MP3.

12. Can I mix a CD-Audio track in Traktor 3 LE?

No, this is another difference between Traktor 3 LE and Traktor 3 DJ Studio:

- Traktor 3 LE cannot mix CD-Audio,
- Traktor 3 DJ Studio can mix CD-Audio.

To import your CD-Audio tracks in Traktor 3 LE, you must save your CD-Audio tracks as MP3 files, and then mix using these files in Traktor 3 LE. You can import your CD-Audio music into MP3 files with iTunes: launch iTunes, click the **iTunes** menu, select **Preferences, Advanced** and go to **Importing**.

You can now select the following options:

- **On CD insert: Ask to import CD**
- **Import using: MP3 encoder**
- **Setting: Higher quality 192 Kbps**

This will let you import your CD-Audio tracks into MP3 files via iTunes, thereby allowing you to mix the MP3 files in Traktor 3 LE.

Other import formats are also possible, although using the MP3 format avoids any DRM tagging and DRM incompatibility with DJ software, and MP3s are compatible with all DJ software, on both PC and Mac.

13. What is the price of Traktor 3 DJ Studio?

The full Traktor 3 DJ Studio price is €199, but DJ Console MK2 Mac owners can upgrade for €99 after registering their Traktor 3 LE bundle on the Native Instruments website:

http://www.native-instruments.com/index.php?prid=927&id=shopdetail_us&lcd=1

14. How can I set and use cue points in Traktor 3 LE with DJ Console MK2 Mac?

- **Set a cue point when an audio file is not being played:** navigate within the audio file (using the jog wheel) to the position where you want to insert a cue point, then press the DJ Console MK2 Mac Play/Pause button => you start playback and place a cue point at the same time.
- **Set a cue point when an audio file is being played:** press the DJ Console MK2 Mac button 2, and then, holding it down, press the Cue button at the spot you wish to insert a Cue point => you place a cue point (if you want to pause the music without setting a cue point, you can do it by pressing the DJ Console MK2 Mac button 3 and keeping it pressed down while paused).
- **Go to a cue point:** press the DJ Console MK2 Mac Cue button => you instantly go to the previously set Cue point, and start playback.

15. How can I use the effect functions?

Traktor 3 LE effect functions are limited to 1 master effect simultaneously played on both decks. The available effects are Filter T2, Delay, Flanger and Reverb.

- Select the effect by pressing the DJ Console MK2 Mac button 1, keeping it pressed down and pressing the DJ Console MK2 Mac Previous/Next track buttons,
- Switch the effect on/off: press the DJ Console MK2 Mac button 1, keep it pressed down and press the DJ Console triangle button just below button 1.
- Change the intensity of the effect: press the DJ Console MK2 Mac button 1, keep it pressed down and turn the deck A pitch knob, which changes the amount of the effect (to change the effect's other settings: keep button 1 pressed down and turn the deck B pitch knob, deck A jog wheel and deck B jog wheel).

16. How can I mix external analog audio sources with sound on DJ Console MK2 Mac?

There are 2 solutions available:

- either mix the sources outside of DJ Console MK2 Mac, using an analog mixer,
- or mix the audio sources inside DJ Console MK2 Mac.

a) External mixing: mix audio sources outside of DJ Console MK2 Mac

DJs mixing with 2 analog audio sources have an analog DJ mixer, so if you connect 2 analog audio sources, you can connect DJ Console MK2 Mac's 2 separate outputs to your DJ mixer inputs so that:

- You alternately mix computer audio on the DJ Console MK2 Mac and analog audio from your external sources,
- You export the audio mixing to your external DJ mixer instead of doing it in your software.

b) Internal mixing: mix audio source(s) inside DJ Console MK2 Mac

a) Connect your stereo external source 1 to DJ Console MK2 Mac input 1-2, and your stereo external source 2 to DJ Console MK2 Input 3-4, and set the phono line switch for each stereo source to the appropriate audio mode (**Phono** for a turntable whose audio output includes a ground cable (then attach the ground cable to the DJ Console MK2 Mac ground screw), **Line** for any other audio source).

b) Assign the audio sources in the software on Traktor 3 LE's virtual decks: click **Preferences**, go to **Audio Setup** and **Input Routing**:

- assign on Channel A left the input "1 Hercules DJ Console MK2 Aggregate In 1",
- assign on Channel A right the input "2 Hercules DJ Console MK2 Aggregate In 2",
- assign on Channel B left the input "3 Hercules DJ Console MK2 Aggregate In 3",
- assign on Channel B right the input "4 Hercules DJ Console MK2 Aggregate In 4".

c) During the mix, when you want to switch from computer source to analog input, change the option Set CH (= Set Channel) between Deck (= computer audio file) and External (= external audio source). When you use an external audio source, you can set a different gain than the MP3 channel gain for Channel A or B by pressing button 2 and, keeping button 2 pressed down, turning the pitch rotary encoder of the selected deck on your DJ Console MK2 Mac.

17. Can I mix any digital audio file, such as Apple iTunes files?

You can mix the main audio formats (MP3, AAC, CD-Audio), but you cannot mix iTunes files with DRM (Digital Rights Management = anti-copy protection) encoding. If you want to buy online music files, verify that they have no DRM: for example, audio files in MP3 format have no DRM.

18. Where can I buy online music adapted to DJing?

You can buy mixable music from Beatport (<http://www.beatport.com>), a website with music tailored for DJing, and you can also browse through Beatport from inside Traktor 3 LE.

19. Can I scratch with DJ Console MK2 Mac?

Yes, you can scratch with DJ Console MK2 Mac in Traktor 3 LE with both jog wheels.

20. What is the use of the mini-stick/mushroom on DJ Console MK2 Mac?

This mini-stick lets you navigate through software menus. For example, in Traktor 3 LE you can:

- navigate within the library with the mini-stick,
- press the left button below the mini-stick to load a file on deck A,
- press the right button below the mini-stick to load a file on deck B.

21. Can I save the DJ mixes I create with DJ Console MK2 Mac in an audio file?

To record your mixes in Traktor, you must upgrade your software to Traktor 3 DJ Studio.

You can record your mix outside of Traktor 3 LE, with your own recording software, if you connect one of the line outputs on DJ Console MK2 Mac (typically the jack 1-2 1/8" output) to the line input of your Mac computer, and record on this line input with another software application. This external audio loop process can also be used to broadcast your mix on the Internet.

22. How can I broadcast my mix on the Internet?

If you are connected to an Internet streaming service, the simplest solution to stream your mix is to:

- loop a DJ Console MK2 Mac output 1-2 to your computer's stereo line input
- and broadcast this line input on the Internet.

Your 2nd output 1-2 (dual RCA or 1/8" jack) lets you play the mix on the speakers simultaneously.

23. Which microphones and headphones are recommended?

DJ Console MK2 Mac has powerful preamplifiers, so even high impedance (up to 600 Ohms) microphones and headphones can work on DJ Console MK2 Mac; however, this consumes more

electricity than with low impedance microphones and headphones, so we recommend the use of low impedance headphones and microphones, such as 32 or 64 Ohms, for the lowest power consumption.

24. How can I use my headphones with Hercules DJ Console MK2 Mac?

You can use your headphones in 2 ways:

- Live monitoring: listen to the music played for the audience on the front speakers over your headphones. Set the headphone selector switch to **Mix**.
- Music previewing: use your headphones to listen to the track you are currently preparing, while playing another track for your audience. Set the headphone selector switch on the MK2's front face to **Deck A** or **Deck B**, depending on which track you want to monitor.

25. Can I connect any analog source to DJ Console MK2 Mac?

a) Phono in

The DJ Console MK2 Mac's phono inputs are designed for DJ turntables: as the level depends on the cartridge, you need DJ or club cartridges.

We recommend cartridges with a strong output level, such as the Shure M44-7 (output level is 9.5mV), Ortofon Concord Q.Bert (11 mV), Ortofon OM Q.Bert (11mV). Lower-level cartridges are useable, up to a 6mV output level.

Magnetic cartridges may also be used, but their level (4-5mV) is a bit low for the DJ Console MK2 Mac.

Moving Coil cartridges normally require a specific amplifier, and are generally not made for DJing.

b) Line in

The DJ Console MK2 Mac's line inputs are for consumer audio devices (-10dBu), so you can connect CD players and MP3 players, but you cannot connect devices with a professional output level (+4dBv). You must switch professional devices to the consumer level output.

If your audio source output signal is too strong and saturates the DJ Console MK2 Mac input, place an attenuator between the source and the DJ Console MK2 Mac input, such as:

- a multimedia hub (as <http://www.trust.com/products/product.aspx?artnr=12304>
<http://www.maplin.co.uk/Module.aspx?ModuleNo=34878&doy=26m2&C=SEO&U=strat15>)
- or a headphone volume knob (as NGS Vox 320, Koss VC20 or Shure EA-650
<http://www.ngs.eu/html/publicauk/detalleproducto.asp?id=27&ids=6>
<http://www.koss.com/koss/kossweb.nsf/p?openform&pc^ac^VC20>
http://www.shure.com/PersonalAudio/Products/Accessories/CasesAdapters/us_pa_pa235_level_a_tenuator)

Reducing the output level of the audio source with these kinds of attenuators will not reduce the volume you hear since, as saturation starts when volume stops increasing, reducing the output level up to the limit below saturation doesn't change the volume you hear.

c) Microphone

You need a microphone with a 6.35mm (1/4") jack plug, so any microphone with this kind plug is useable. For microphones with a 3.5mm (1/8" minijack) plug, an adapter to plug in the larger 6.35mm jack plug is included.

26. Which DJ turntables are compatible with DJ Console MK2 Mac?

Any DJ turntable is compatible, since the DJ Console MK2 Mac has 2 stereo inputs supporting both:

- Phono-level turntables (such as Technics 1200-MK2, Numark TT200, Gemini iTT...) and
- Line-level turntables.

We have successfully tested both kinds of turntables on the DJ Console MK2 Mac.

With phono-level turntables, you must:

- 1) Connect your turntable's ground output to the ground screw on the DJ Console MK2 Mac,
- 2) Switch the phono/line selector to phono on the back of the DJ Console MK2 Mac.

27. Why doesn't DJ Console MK2 Mac have a 1U rack format?

DJ Console MK2 Mac is designed with portability in mind, and the majority of our customers do not have a 1U chassis on which to attach a DJ Console MK2 Mac. DJ Console MK2 Mac is intended for mobile use (that is why it is USB powered), and its 23.5cm (9¼ inches) width is much more portable than the 1U format (48cm/19 inches) width.

28. Can I play timecoded vinyl records/CDs on the DJ Console MK2 Mac?

Yes, you can, but not with the Traktor software since Traktor Scratch (the only software based on Traktor using timecoded discs) requires the Traktor proprietary audio USB interface. You must use another application with timecoded vinyl to use the DJ Console MK2 Mac audio interface with timecoded discs.

29. How can I connect DJ Console MK2 Mac to an external mixer?

When you connect DJ Console MK2 Mac to an external mixer, we can assume that you will no longer be mixing with your MK2 Mac but rather on your external mixer. You will then want to use the DJ Console MK2 Mac to control your MP3 file playback (play/pause, scratch, pitch...), but you will no longer use the DJ Console MK2 Mac's cross fader, EQ and volume controls since you can perform these functions with your external mixer. In the same way, you will monitor via your external mixer instead of monitoring using your DJ Console MK2 Mac.

a) Connections

The simplest way is to connect:

- Outputs 1/2 on your DJ Console MK2 Mac to input 1 on your external mixer
- Outputs 3/4 on your DJ Console MK2 Mac to input 2 on your external mixer.

b) Settings in Traktor 3 LE

In Traktor 3 LE, click **Preferences**, go to **Audio Setup**, and in **Output Routing** set the **Mixer Mode** to **External**: you can then assign **Output Channel A** on DJ Console MK2 Mac outputs 1 for left and 2 for right, and assign **Output Channel B** on DJ Console MK2 Mac outputs 3 for left and 4 for right.

d) Settings on your mixer

- With a professional-quality external mixer, we recommend you set the mixer level to +4dB.
- If your external mixer is a model which does not support +4dB, adjust the gain to a reduced level on the mixer inputs to avoid saturation: don't reduce the output volume in the DJ Console MK2 Mac control panel, as this will only reduce the signal level without reducing potential background noise.

30. Can I connect a professional amplifier to the DJ Console MK2 Mac's audio outputs?

The DJ Console MK2 Mac has a +4dBu unbalanced output: you can connect its outputs to a professional amplifier (which requires a +4dBu source), or to speakers (designed for -10dBv sources).

31. What should I do if my amplifier saturates when playing from the DJ Console MK2 Mac?

The DJ Console MK2 Mac +4dBu output level is compatible with most DJ mixers, amplifiers and multimedia speakers, but some mixers and some hi-fi amplifiers saturate at this level when they are designed to support an input signal level of -10dBv.

The solution consists of:

- 1) setting the output level in the DJ Console MK2 Mac control panel to its maximum (it is a software level, so reducing this level would decrease the music without reducing the background noise)
- 2) if the receiving gear is a DJ mixer, set the line in gain on the mixer to between 25 and 30%
- 3) if the receiving gear is an amplifier, place an attenuator between the DJ Console MK2 Mac's output and the amplifier's input, such as:
 - a. a multimedia hub (as <http://www.trust.com/products/product.aspx?artnr=12304>
<http://www.maplin.co.uk/Module.aspx?ModuleNo=34878&doy=26m2&C=SEO&U=strat15>)
 - b. or a headphone volume knob (as NGS Vox 320, Koss VC20 or Shure EA-650
<http://www.ngs.eu/html/publicauk/detalleproducto.asp?id=27&ids=6>
<http://www.koss.com/koss/kossweb.nsf/p?openform&pc^ac^VC20>
http://www.shure.com/PersonalAudio/Products/Accessories/CasesAdapters/us_pa_pa235_level_attenuator)

Reducing the output level of the DJ Console MK2 Mac with these kinds of attenuators will not reduce the volume you hear since, as volume stops increasing as soon as saturation starts, reducing the level up to the limit below saturation doesn't change the volume you hear.

32. Where can I get more info?

By contacting Hercules tech support (online, or by phone):

<http://ts.hercules.com/eng/index.php>

On Forums:

Traktor 3 forum

http://www.native-instruments.com/forum_us/forumdisplay.php?f=122

100% DJ Console <http://www.100pcdjconsole.fr/>

Audiofanzine

http://fr.audiofanzine.com/produits/index_idproduit,73060,mao,hercules_dj_console_mk2.html