

HORIZON 8P

Quick Start Guide

AUDIENT

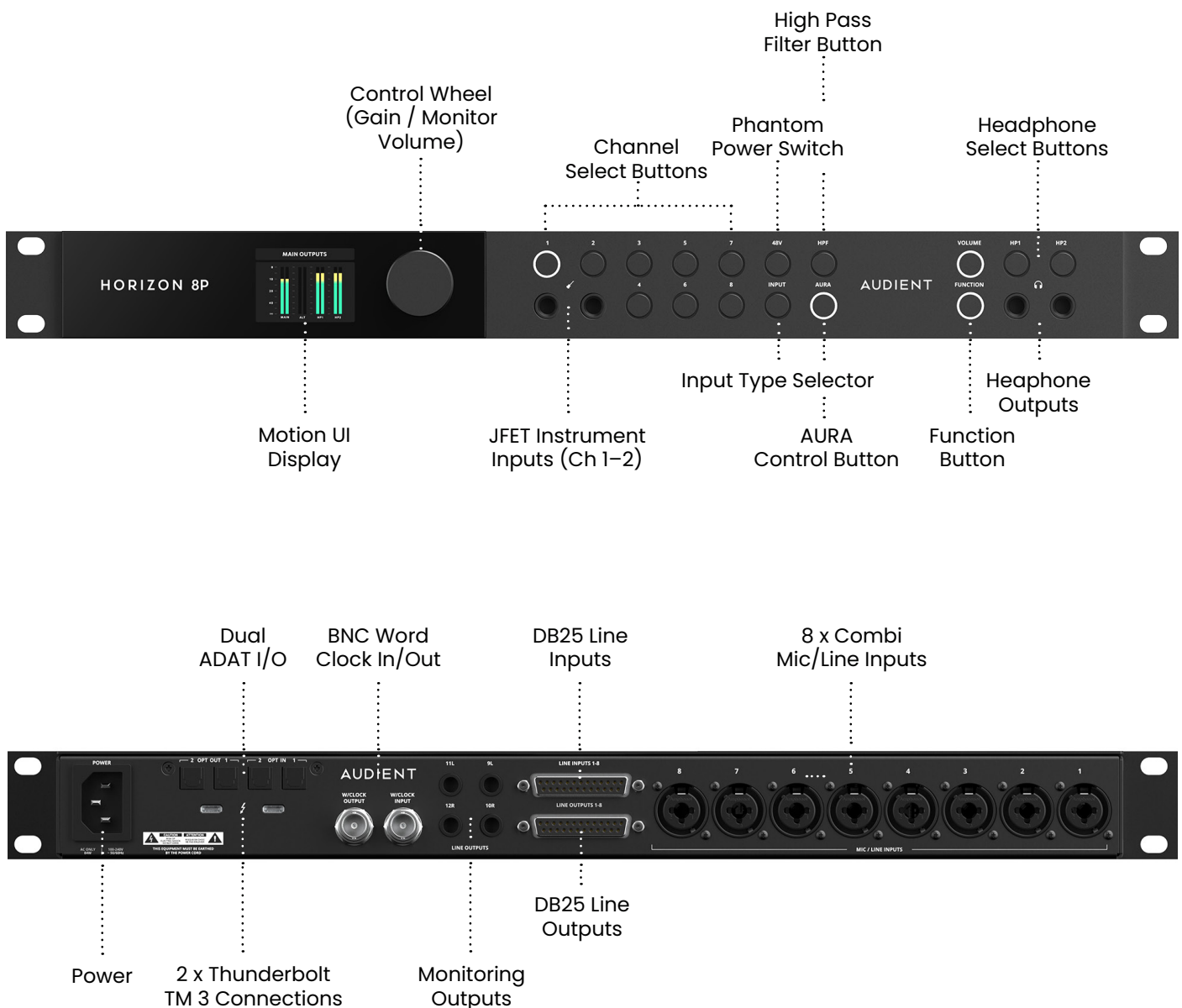
HORIZON 8P

Welcome to your new Audient Horizon 8P Audio Interface

Please read this quick guide to help get you started. For more information on operating your Horizon 8P, please download the full user manual from:

audient.com/horizon8p/downloads

You can also visit our Help Desk at <https://support.audient.com> for FAQ's and further guides on setting up your interface.



Thunderbolt Connection

What's in the box

Your Horizon 8P is supplied with an IEC power cable only. A Thunderbolt cable is not included as cable length and specification needs vary from user to user.

Choosing a Cable

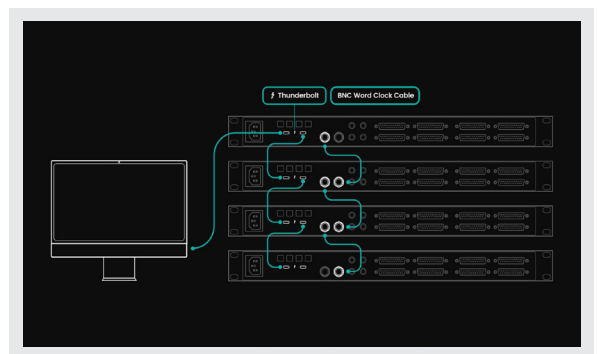
Horizon interfaces use the Thunderbolt 3 standard and cannot be used with a regular USB-C cable, look for the Thunderbolt logo on the cable to guarantee compatibility. Horizon is also compatible with Thunderbolt 4 and 5 cables, as these are backwards compatible.



Look for this logo on any cable before connecting it to Horizon.

Daisy-Chaining Multiple Units

1. Connect the Horizon device closest to your computer directly to one of the computer's Thunderbolt ports.
2. Connect the second Thunderbolt port on this first Horizon device to a Thunderbolt port on the second Horizon device.
3. Repeat this pattern in a daisy-chain up to a maximum of four Horizon devices. It doesn't matter which port is used on each unit, as long as every device is connected in the chain. Connecting Horizon units to separate Thunderbolt ports on the host computer is unsupported.
4. Starting from the Word Clock output of the primary device, chain 75Ohm BNC cables to the next device's Word Clock input. Repeat for all devices in the chain.
5. Power on each Horizon device at the mains. If a connection isn't detected, or a device becomes disconnected, the Motion UI display will show a screen indicating a Thunderbolt connection is needed.



It doesn't matter which Thunderbolt port is used on each unit, as long as every device is connected in the chain.

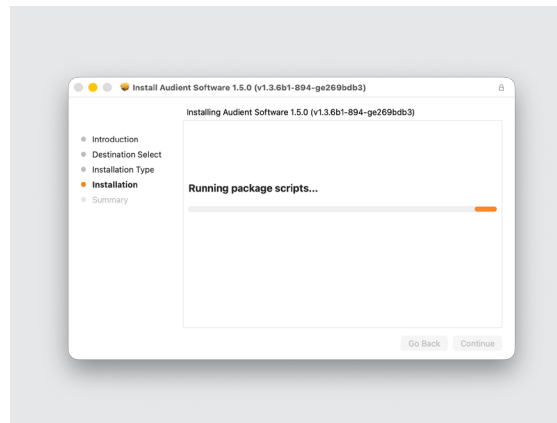
Driver Installation

MacOS

1. Horizon 8P is a MacOS-only product. Head to the Audient Resource Center (ARC) and register your device. This unlocks the latest software, drivers, tutorials and exclusive plugins, plus notifications when updates are released.
2. Once registered, download the latest Horizon Control software any time from the 'My Products' page.
3. Open the downloaded file and the Installer will start, now follow the on-screen steps which will guide you through the process.
4. To open the software, navigate to your Applications folder and open Horizon Control and the software window will appear.
5. Open System Preferences > Sound and select 'Audient Horizon' as your Input and Output device. By default, your Mac's audio will output on Virtual outputs 1 and 2, and inputs 1 and 2 will be selected for use with the operating system.

Firmware Update

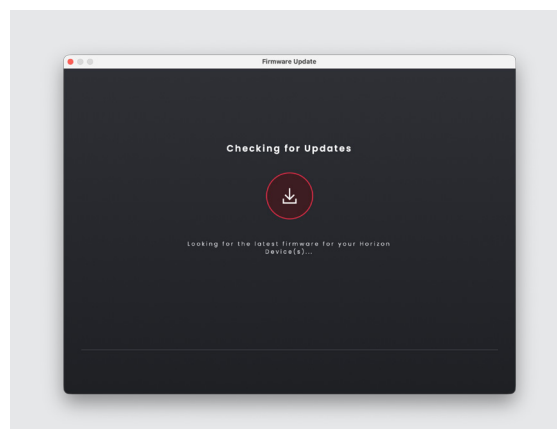
1. You may be asked to run a firmware update the first time you open Horizon Control.
2. Simply follow the on-screen instructions to complete the update before using Horizon, to ensure it's running the latest version.



Once installed open the Horizon Control and the software will appear. Click the Horizon icon in the menu bar to open the mixer and access settings.

System requirements:

- macOS 14 (Sonoma) or Later
- Intel CPU or Apple Silicon
- 8GB RAM Minimum



Your setup is now complete and Horizon 8P is ready to configure.

Setting Up Horizon 8P

Output Configuration

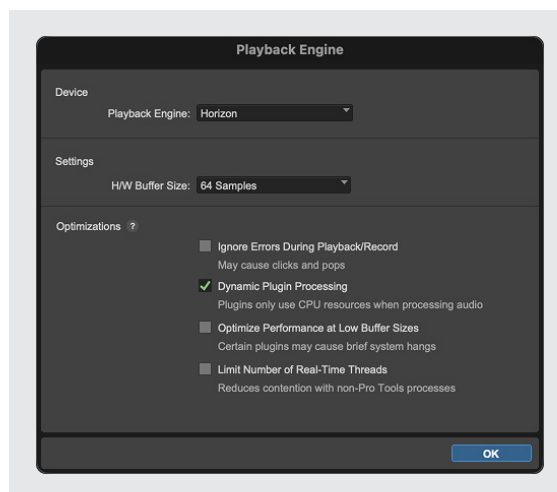
1. Plug in your speakers using one or both sets of outputs on the rear of the device, or connect headphones to one of the front-panel headphone outputs.
2. Adjust the Speaker Outputs by selecting the Volume button and using the Control Wheel. To adjust the Headphone Output, press the desired Headphone Select Button and again use the Control Wheel to adjust the volume. Or Control both from the Horizon Control Software.
3. With Horizon set as your sound device, play audio from your computer and confirm you see a signal on Horizon's meters and hear playback.
4. If you are unable to hear any sound, check the speaker routing in the Horizon Control software.



Match each cable to its labelled connection on the rear panel before powering on your monitors.

DAW Setup

When using a DAW, set the software's audio system to use Horizon via CoreAudio on macOS. Support videos for several popular DAWs are available on the Audient YouTube channel, otherwise consult your DAW's manual for setup instructions.



Your speakers or headphones may need configuring to use the Master Mix or Cue Mixes, depending on your chosen outputs.

Input Configuration

1. Use the combi-jack inputs on the rear for microphones or line-level gear such as keyboards. For guitar or bass, use one of the two front-panel Instrument Inputs, these arrive on Channel 1 or 2 and override the matching rear combi-jack input.

2. If your Microphone requires +48V phantom power, or you would like to use the variable High Pass Filter or Aura Control feature, select the channel first on the front panel, then press the relevant button.

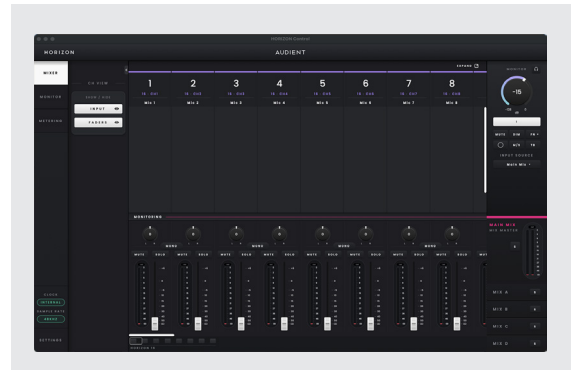
You can also activate any of these features, as well as the per-channel Pad, via the Input section for that channel at the top of the Mixer tab in the Horizon Control software.

3. Set input levels using the Channel Select Button on the front of Horizon, then adjust the main Control Wheel to set gain, or engage Smartgain in Horizon Control to set levels automatically.

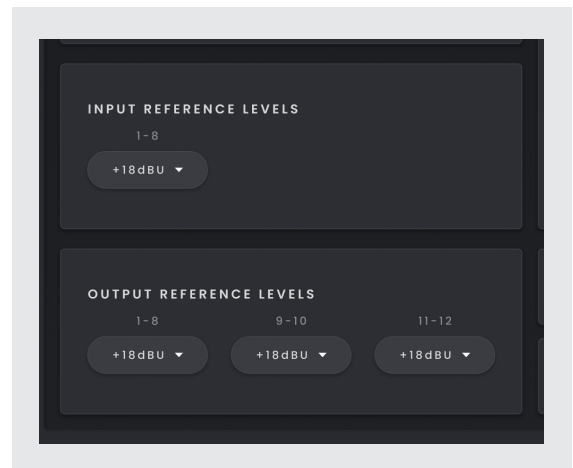
4. DSub line inputs have no gain control, as these are direct line inputs to ultra-clean conversion – set gain on your external preamps instead. Calibration level (+18dBu / +24dBu) is set in Horizon Control's settings menu, and this is set for each bank of 8 channels.

5. To check input levels, open Horizon Control and go to the Mixer tab. The top section shows preamp gain, input type, phantom power, pad, HPF, AURA, and reverb send level; the monitoring section below shows input levels. For mic inputs, aim for the loudest peak around -12dB – although this may vary by application.

Note: the monitoring section of the Horizon Mixer controls audio routing and monitoring only, and does not affect what's recorded in your DAW. The input section is what impacts the recorded signal.



Select the correct input on a new channel in your DAW, and you're ready to record.



The monitoring section is for routing and monitoring only – it never affects the levels actually recorded.

Horizon Monitoring

1. For ultra-low latency monitoring, turn up any input fader in the Horizon Control mixer to hear a direct copy of your inputs in your speakers or headphones. Your computer's audio appears on Virtual 1 and 2 by default, and can be reduced or muted the same way.

2. These faders control direct monitoring paths only; they don't affect mic preamp gain or the levels recorded in your DAW.

3. Many DAWs default to monitoring through their main mix output. If you're also monitoring the same channel in Horizon Control, you'll hear a doubling effect as the signal passes through two paths. Disable your DAW's input monitoring, or mute the channel in Horizon Control to fix this.



For more detail, see the [Horizon Control Software Overview video](#) and the [DAW-specific videos](#) on the [Audient YouTube channel](#).

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