

**Notice**

This manual provides general information, preparation for use, installation and operating instructions for the Black Lion Audio MIDI Eight.

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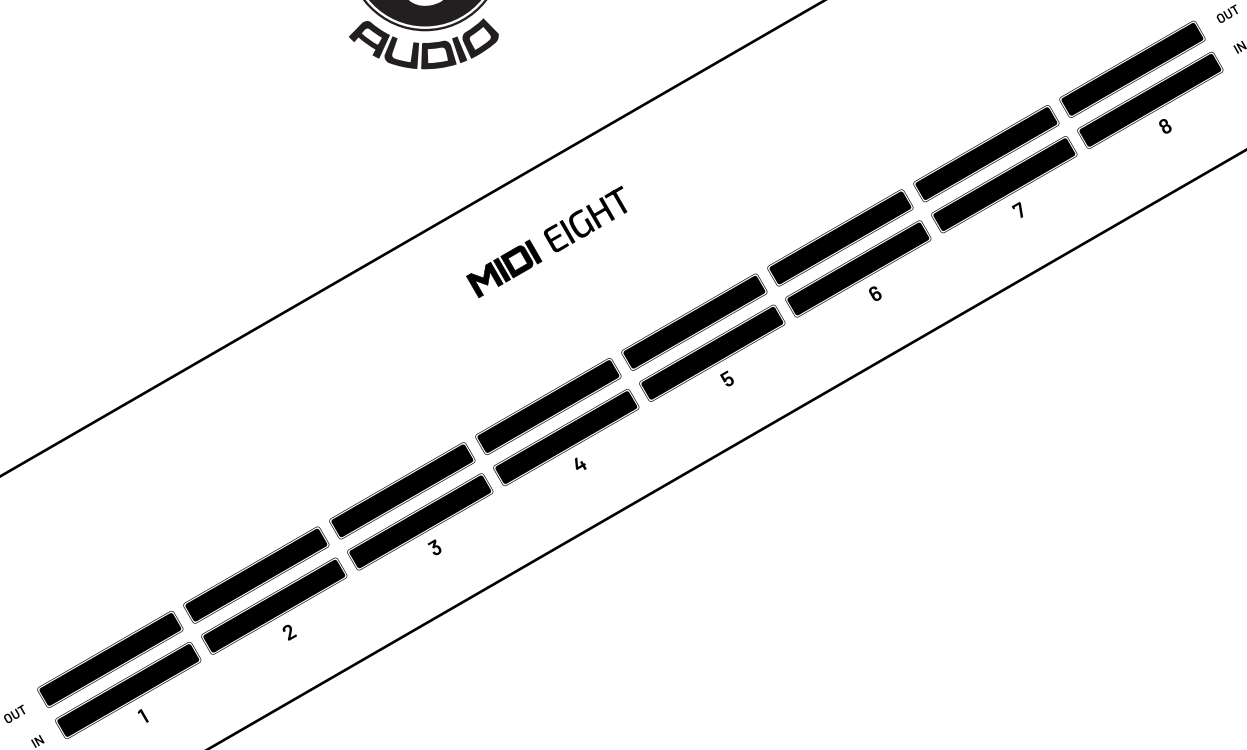
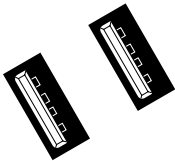
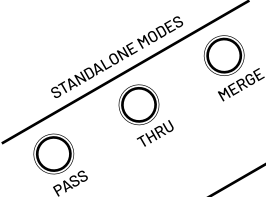
**RAD Distribution**  
180 Carpenter Ave.  
Middletown, NY 10940

Revised 08/20/25



# MIDI Eight

8-Channel  
MIDI Interface



Owner's Manual

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Read these instructions.
- 2. Keep these instructions
- 3. Heed all warnings.
- 4. Follow all instructions.
- 5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
- 6. Clean only with dry cloth.
- 7. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus that produce heat.
- 9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- 10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus. If the power cord becomes frayed, stop using immediately.
- 11. Use only attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer
- 12. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
- 13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- 14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
- 15. This apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing, and no object filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.
- 16. Note that this apparatus is not completely disconnected from the AC mains service when the power switch is in the OFF position.
- 17. The mains plug or power inlet on the product is used as the disconnect device, so the disconnected device shall remain readily operable when reconnected.
- 18. Any changes or modifications not expressly approved in this manual could void your authority to operate this apparatus.

IMPORTANT !

Be sure to use a three prong AC cable that properly fits the power source. Please use the correct fuse designated on the rear panel before plugging in the power cord. Improper selection can result in damage to the unit that will not be covered under the warranty.



The lightning flash with an arrow-head symbol within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the product.

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the product.



The Black Lion Audio MIDI Eight complies with all applicable RoHS/ WEEE European Union directives.

Do not attempt to service this unit yourself, as it will void your warranty. Please check your unit carefully upon receipt and return to place of purchase immediately if there are any problems with the product. After that, the standard Black Lion Audio 3 YEAR warranty will apply to defects in materials and workmanship.

INTERNATIONAL

For service or warranty assistance, please contact the Black Lion Audio distributor in your country through the dealer from whom you purchased this product.

LIMITED 3 YEAR WARRANTY

Black Lion Audio's MIDI Eight is warranted by Black Lion Audio to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for the period of THREE (3) YEARS to the original purchaser. In the event of such defects, the product will be repaired without charge or, at our option, replaced with a new one if delivered to Black Lion Audio prepaid, together with a copy of the sales slip or other proof of purchase date. The warranty excludes problems due to normal wear, abuse, shipping damage or failure to use the product in accordance with the specifications.

All parts and labor are covered under this Limited Warranty. However, if it is determined by Black Lion Audio that the device was damaged or made defective through abuse, we reserve the right to charge the customer for the cost of the repair.

Black Lion Audio shall not be liable for damages based upon inconvenience, loss of use of the product, loss of time, interrupted operation or commercial loss or any other damages, whether incidental, consequential or otherwise. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights, which will vary from state to state.

This warranty is not transferable.

A note on class-compliance

MIDI Eight is class-compliant for use on MacOS and Windows with no driver installation required.

If you have a hardware sequencer that supports MIDI host connectivity to expand its I/O (Some MPCs, Cirkon 2, Pyramid, Hapax, Deluge, etc.), check with the manufacturer to make sure the USB Host feature provides USB Hub support, as MIDI Eight connects to host devices as a hub. Not all sequencers with USB Host functionality support this.

USING MIDI EIGHT WITH A COMPUTER

MIDI Eight is class-compliant for use on MacOS and Windows with no driver install required. Plug and play. MIDI Eight is optionally bus-powered via the USB-C connection.

Setting up the appropriate MIDI port assignments in your DAW for use with MIDI Eight will vary depending on the DAW you use. Read the manual for your DAW of choice for instruction on this matter.

USB Hub

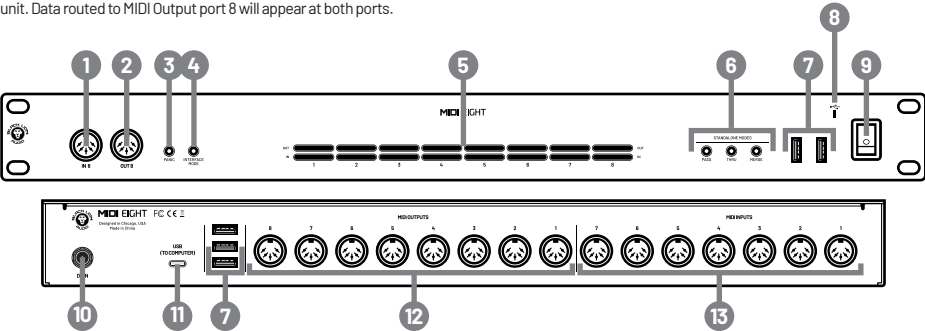
The MIDI Eight offers 5 USB 3.2 Gen 1 ports that allow you to connect USB devices like mice, keyboards, webcams, USB MIDI devices, or other peripherals - even more MIDI interfaces! The USB hub requires that you power MIDI Eight via the included external power adapter.

Note that you cannot route MIDI Inputs to USB hub outputs or vice-versa. The only USB connection on the MIDI Eight that can send information to and from the MIDI inputs and Outputs is the USB-C connection on the rear of the unit.

Panic

If you hear a note that seems to drone on forever, chances are a MIDI NOTE OFF message went un-received by one of your sound modules. Press PANIC once to send an "All Notes Off" message across all Output ports.

Note that MIDI Output 8 is mirrored on both the front and back of the unit. Data routed to MIDI Output port 8 will appear at both ports.



- 1. **MIDI IN 8:** Connect controller MIDI devices like keyboards and drum pads here.
- 2. **MIDI OUT 8:** Connect MIDI sound generators like synthesizers and drum machines here.
- 3. **Panic:** Press to send an "All Notes Off" message on all MIDI outputs if you encounter any stuck notes or MIDI feedback loops.
- 4. **Interface mode:** Press and hold for 3 seconds to use MIDI Eight with your computer via the USB connection.
- 5. **MIDI signal indicators:** These will light when MIDI Eight sends or receives MIDI messages in or out, per-port. Green=Out, Red=In.
- 6. **Standalone Modes:** Press and hold for 3 seconds to activate a standalone mode for use without a computer. Functionality is described in the previous "Standalone Modes" topic.
- 7. **USB-A 3.2 Gen 1 ports:** Great for charging your phone or adding USB peripherals. Requires the use of the external power adapter. See prior "USB Hub" topic for more information.
- 8. **USB Status:** Indicates secure USB-C connection to host.
- 9. **Power:** Turns the unit on or off.
- 10. **DC Power:** Attach the included power adapter here. This is optional when used with a computer, as MIDI Eight can also be bus-powered over the USB-C connection.

STANDALONE MODES

You can use MIDI Eight without a computer in one of three Standalone modes, ideal for DAWless jams. Press the button for the desired mode and hold for 3 seconds.

**PASS:** Inputs are passed to their corresponding outputs. Input 1 is routed to Output 1, Input 1 is routed to Output 12, etc. Recommended for if you have multiple controllers and multiple sound modules you want to use simultaneously.

**THRU:** MIDI data from any MIDI Input is passed to all Outputs. Useful for controlling a large collection of synthesizers from a single keyboard controller.

**MERGE:** MIDI data from any MIDI Input is passed to Output 1. Useful if you have multiple controllers and a single sound module; you could use a pad controller, sequencer, and multiple keyboards to control the same multitimbral synth.

In Standalone mode, MIDI Eight can be powered over USB-C bus power or the included power adapter. If no USB-C connection is made when using Standalone mode, you'll need to use the included power adapter.

- 11. **USB-C port:** Connect your computer here to send/receive MIDI data to/from your computer.
- 12. **MIDI Output Ports 1-8:** Connect these ports to the MIDI In ports of your sound modules.
- 13. **MIDI Input Ports 1-7:** Connect these ports to the MIDI Out ports of your MIDI controllers

SPECIFICATIONS

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Type:      | 8-in, 8-out MIDI Interface   |
| MIDI I/O:  | 8x In, 8 x Out   |
| USB:       | 1X USB-C For Host Connection<br>5x USB-A (Hub)                     |
| Power:     | USB bus or AC adapter (included)                                   |
| Dimensions | Width: 19" (483 mm)<br>Height: 1.7" (44 mm)<br>Depth: 6.1" (154mm) |
| Weight     | 5.8 lbs  |