MERIDIAN EXPLORER²

User Guide

Important safety instructions

- Read these instructions.
- Keep these instructions.
- Heed all warnings.
- Follow all instructions.
- Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with a dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- 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.

WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

Safety warnings

- Do not expose the unit to dripping or splashing.
- Do not place any object filled with liquid, such as a vase, on the unit.
- Do not place naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, on the unit.
- To avoid overheating leave at least 10cm around the equipment to ensure sufficient ventilation.
- Do not position the unit in direct sunlight, near heat sources such as a radiator, or directly on top of heat producing equipment, such as a power amplifier.
- To avoid interference do not position the unit near strong electrical or magnetic radiation, such as near a power amplifier.

Radio interference

FCC Warning: This equipment generates and can radiate radio frequency energy and if not installed and used correctly in accordance with our instructions may cause interference to radio communications or radio and television reception. It has been type-tested and complies with the limits set out in Subpart J, Part 15 of FCC rules for a Class B computing device. These limits are intended to provide reasonable protection against such interference in home installations.

EEC: This product has been designed and type-tested to comply with the limits set out in EN55013 and EN55020.

Use with USB 1.1, 2, 3 only
Power rating: 5V 2.5W max.

Requirements

Mac OS X: Requires Mac OS X 10.6.4 (Snow Leopard) or later. No drivers are needed.

Windows: Requires Windows XP SP3, Windows 7 SP1 or Windows 8. Drivers are required and can be downloaded from the Explorer² page (meridian-audio.com).

Getting started

Connect the audio output to an analogue preamplifier using a mini jack lead.

Connect the headphones socket to a pair of headphones with a mini jack plug.

The Explorer² page on the Meridian web site (meridian-audio.com) has advice on getting the best sound quality from your Explorer², and also describes how you can optionally configure the Explorer² to suit your own requirements.
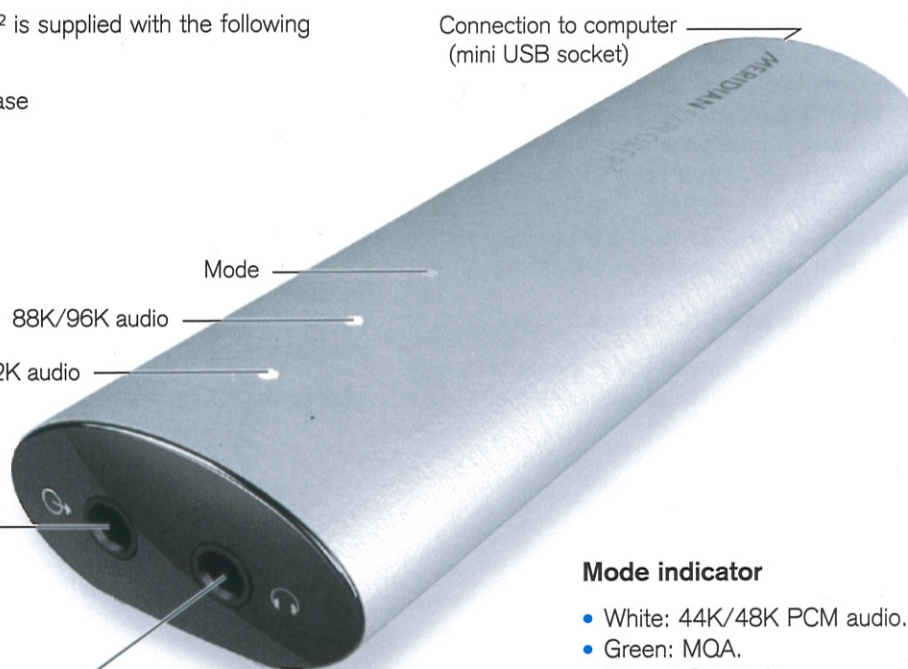
Contents

The Explorer² is supplied with the following accessories:

- Carrying case
- USB lead
- This guide

Connection to computer (mini USB socket)

Mode

88K/96K audio

176K/192K audio

Line output analogue (mini jack)
WARNING: 2V RMS
Do not plug headphones into this output

Headphones (mini jack)

Mode indicator

- White: 44K/48K PCM audio.
- Green: MQA.
- Blue: MQA studio.

Setting up for Mac OS X

Configure the Explorer²

- Connect the Explorer² via USB.
- Open **System Preferences**.
- Click **Sound**.
- Select the **Output** panel.
- Select **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC Out** from the list.

Optionally for best sound quality

- Select the **Sound Effects** panel.
- Set **Play sound effects through** to **Internal Speakers**.
- Open the **Audio Midi Setup** utility (found in the **Applications**/**Utilities** folder).
- Select **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC Out** and select the desired required bit/sample rate.

Audio Devices).

- Select **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC Output** from the default device list in the **Sound playback** box.
- Click the **Sounds** tab.
- Select **No Sounds** from the **Sound Scheme** drop-down list and click **Apply**.

Setting up for Windows 7 and 8

Install the USB2 driver

- Download and save the driver .zip file to a suitable location such as the Desktop.
- Connect the Explorer² to the computer via USB ignoring any Windows driver installation notifications.
- Double click the .zip file and open the enclosed folder.
- Run the driver installer by double clicking the setup application.
- On the next window, allow the installer to make changes to the computer.

Warranty

The Explorer² is covered by warranty to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for two years from the date of purchase; subject to the limitations and conditions outlined below. This warranty covers the cost of labour and materials for any repair deemed necessary by the Meridian Service Team. Proof of purchase or a copy of the sales receipt will be required for any claim made against the warranty.

Limitations and Conditions

The Explorer² is covered under the warranty only if the following conditions have been met:

Setting up for Windows XP

NOTE: DO NOT connect the Explorer² before running the driver install application.

Install the USB2 driver

- Download and save the driver .zip file to a suitable location such as the Desktop.
- Double click the .zip file and open the enclosed folder.
- Run the driver installer by double-clicking setup.exe and follow the installer instructions, connecting the Explorer² when requested.
- Click **Continue Anyway** if Windows warns about the Explorer² not passing Windows Logo testing.
- Click **Finish** when done.

Windows will then show a **Found New Hardware Wizard**.

- Select **No, not this time**, then **Next**.
- Select **Install the software automatically**, then **Next**.

- Click **Install** to start the driver instillation and follow the installer instructions.
- Click **Finish** when done.
- Restart the computer.

Configure the Explorer²

- Connect the Explorer².
- Open the **Sound** control panel (**Start** → **Control Panel** → **Hardware and Sound** → **Sound**)
- Click the **Playback** tab.
- Find **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC audio** in the list, right click and select **Set as Default Device**.
- Click **Apply**.

Optionally for best sound quality

- Connect the Explorer².
- Open the **Sound** control panel (**Start** → **Control Panel** → **Hardware and Sound** → **Sound**).

- It has been used in accordance with the instructions given in the section *Important safety instructions* elsewhere in this document.
- It has not been altered or modified in any way.
- It has not been purchased from an unauthorised dealer.
- It has not been subjected to an unauthorised repair or service.

In order to make a claim against the warranty, the approved process for returning a faulty unit for repair or replacement must be followed. Details of this process can be found on the Meridian web site:

meridian-audio.com/support

- Click **Continue Anyway** if Windows warns about not passing Windows Logo testing.
- Click **Finish** when done.
- Restart the computer.

Configure the Explorer²

- Connect the Explorer².
- Open the **Sounds and Audio Devices** control panel (**Start** → **Control Panel** → **Hardware and Sound** → **Sounds and Audio Devices**).
- Click the **Audio** tab.
- Select **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC Output** from the default device list in the **Sound playback** box.
- Click **Apply**.

Optionally for best sound quality

- Connect the Explorer².
- Open the **Sounds and Audio Devices** control panel (**Start** → **Control Panel** → **Hardware and Sound** → **Sounds and**

- Click **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC audio** in the list.
- Click the **Sounds** tab.
- Select **No Sounds** from the **Sound Scheme** drop-down list and click **Apply**.
- Click the **Playback** tab.
- Double click **Meridian Explorer² USB DAC audio** in the list.
- Click the **Enhancements** tab.
- Set **Disable all enhancements** and click **Apply**.
- Click the **Advanced** tab.
- If not already set, set both options in the **Exclusive Mode** box.
- Select the desired bit/sample rate in the **Default Format** drop-down list box and click **Apply**.

Support

For more detailed support please visit:

meridian-audio.com/support

Product Registration

Register your Explorer² product at:

meridian-audio.com/support

and receive Exclusive Meridian News and discover more about the Meridian Collection.

You will need the serial number to register, which is located on the base of the Explorer².