



MACKIE®

Frequently Asked Questions

Onyx Blackbird

Question:

My computer doesn't have Firewire, can I use USB?

Answer:

Unfortunately it is not possible to connect a fire wire device through USB. There are some adapters out there claiming to make it work, but they do not.

Can I have separate mixes for each of the headphone outputs?

Yes you can! Within the Blackbird Control application, you can choose what computer outputs are heard by each headphone out on the Blackbird. This also applies to the Main/Alt/Mon outputs.

What is Direct Monitoring?

Direct monitoring gives you the ability to hear channels 1 and 2 right from the preamp. This is helpful for accurate latency free listening of the input signal. Direct monitoring is only for hearing the unprocessed audio that is coming into Blackbird.

What operating systems will the Blackbird work with?

The Blackbird will work with both MAC and PC. For system compatibility requirements please check out this link: <http://www.mackie.com/products/onyxblackbird/>

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Question:

Is an insert jack an input or an output?

Answer:

It's both! The entire signal from the corresponding channel, subgroup, or mix bus is sent through this jack.

The tip of this jack is an output, which is commonly used to send signal out to a serial processor (compressor, equalizer, sonic maximizer, etc.)

The ring is an input which allows signal to return from the processor and the sleeve is a ground connection.

Because the insert jack is an input and an output, it creates a loop, which is formed when a signal processor is inserted between the output (tip) and the input (ring). The insert jack can also be used as two different types of direct outs.

If a tip-sleeve 1/4" cable is plugged all the way in to the second click, the signal is sent out from the tip (output) of the insert jack and does not return to the ring (input), which breaks the loop and does not allow signal to flow through the rest of the channel. This is referred to as a direct out with signal interruption.

If a tip-sleeve 1/4" cable is plugged in only to the first click, the signal is sent out the cable and continues through the channel, since the insert loop has not been broken. This is referred to as a direct without signal interruption.