DynaSample XpressO FAQ

• What are the differences between the XPression and the XpressO?

- There is no difference in sound quality or latency between the two units.

- The XPression can play up to 8 voices simultaneously while the XpressO can only play 2 voices.
  This obviously rules out most of the polyphonic qualities and layering options of the XPression.

- There is only one standard 5-pin MIDI In/Thru instead of two MIDI In/Out ports on the XPression.

- The XpressO comes with a single combined stereo out jack for both line out and headphones while the
  XPression comes with 3 stereo outputs plus a separate headphone jack.

- There is no line in for external sound sources on the XpressO as it is the case on the XPression.

- There are only 2 USB ports on the XpressO as opposed to 4 USB ports on the XPression.

- The joystick on the XPression remote has been replaced with a second data wheel on the left hand.

- The XpressO has an additional mini Display Port connector which is not present on the XPression.

- Both units ship with a digital SPDIF output and a microphone input for voice control.

• Does the XpressO ship with the same sound library as the XPression?

　Yes, the sound library (i.e. samples and patches) are identical.

• Does the XpressO have the same graphical patch editing possibilities as the XPression?

　Yes, there is a Full HD monitor output with a HDMI and mini Display Port connector. No extra computer needed!
　Use a small USB hub if you run out of USB ports for the mouse and optional QWERTY keyboard.

• Will I have any power supply issues given my country uses 110 or 240V?

　The power supply can handle 100 - 240V input power.
　You might have to get an adapter from the US / EU wall socket to the wall socket in your country, though.
　Alternatively you could find an external power supply with the same specs (output: 12V / 3A / 2 prong wall inlet)
　for your country with this symbol for "class2" ▢.

• Can the unit be USB powered from a wall plug (e.g. Mini USB) or a battery?

　Not a from a USB wall plug as the unit needs 12V / 3A (class2 - 2 prong wall plug) with this symbol: ▢)
　The power adapter is of course included.
　(A socket adapter is needed for countries with wall outlets different than the ones in Europe or the USA.)

　Battery power operation of the XpressO itself should be possible with a 12V / 3A battery but has not been tested
　as of now.

　It is also possible to power a class compliant USB controller (like e.g. the EWI-USB) from the XpressO.
　As to our knowledge this does not work with the AE-10, though as the Aerophone needs to be powered with
　batteries or its own power supply.

• My USB drive does not fit into the USB slots of the XpressO. What can I do?

　You can either use a drive with a form factor that fits (like e.g. the "SanDisk Ultra Flair") or use a USB2 / USB3
　extension cable.

Some USB hubs work also but some don't. You will have to try …

- **1-2 voices on the XpressO means that I can play 1 instrument with 1 voice harmony and/or two instruments layered with 1 voice each?**

As of now the XpressO can play only one single voice in the current release candidate state.
However, it is generally capable of playing 2 sampled voices at the same time. This still requires a software update of the sample voice and the multi setup. We are currently working on this update.

In case that the updated sample voice has not been finished by the date of the first release it will be coming with a software update shortly after. In any case this will be working later in the year 2019. It is actually working already but there are still some issues that need to be resolved.

- **Can I set up the XpressO for two different MIDI controllers (like e.g. the EWI4000s and the AE-10) at the same time without having to restore all global settings each time when swapping instruments?**

Yes, you can set up each MIDI input (5-pin MIDI or USB-MIDI) individually.
There is no standard preset for this particular combination but we can create a global setup for you that you can store in one of the 5 user global setup presets. You can also save these setups to a USB drive as a backup or for transferring data between different units.

Using two different controllers on the same input type (USB or MIDI) might require loading different global settings. This takes only a few seconds!

Many times it is possible to use one setup for two controllers. Contact us for details in your particular case!

- **With the "fast" fix for the AE-10 will there be any additional latency for wind instruments (I am not worried about velocity based sounds like mallets / keys etc.)**

No, the "fast" AE-10 setup does not introduce any additional latency but will be slightly inaccurate with the attack quality. For wind, string or synth patches this can typically be neglected.

- **Does the XpressO have the same high timing resolution as the XPression?**

Yes! The operation systems of both the XPression and XpressO are compiled to have the full timing resolution that MIDI offers (1ms per event). This is a much higher timing accuracy than you can get from other small devices that are running on iOS.

- **Can the unit receive MIDI wirelessly with system like the midiBeam or PUC+ or must the MIDI be hard wired?**

We have successfully tested the Panda Audio "midiBeam" both over MIDI or USB as well as the Yamaha "UD-BT01" Wireless Midi Adapter (Bluetooth) in combination with a CME "WIDI Bud" on the receiver end which outputs USB-MIDI. Both are working perfectly and are hot pluggable.

We have not tested the PUC+ but as long as the wireless receiver device outputs standard MIDI or "MIDI over USB" it will work.

Whether we will support direct Bluetooth MIDI with a standard Bluetooth 4.0 (or higher) dongle is not sure as of now. It will most likely not be supported on the first release and might need an operating system upgrade in case that we support it later.
For now we recommend using the midiBeam for its superior timing or the CME "WIDI Bud" receiver for Bluetooth.

There is no internal hardware for receiving Bluetooth or WIFI inside of the XpressO!

- **I already own an XPression. Can I transfer sound banks from the XpPression to the XpressO and vice versa?**

Yes! The sound preset banks are 100% compatible and can be transferred by using a USB thumb drive!

- **What are the dimensions of the XpressO?**

The dimensions are 161 x 140 x 79 mm (W x D x H) which is about 6 1/2 x 5 1/2 x 3 1/8 inches.

• **I cannot change sounds or banks. The XpressO always plays the same instrument.**

You have most likely set up a different Edit-Channel on the XpressO than the MIDI channel you are sending from your wind controller. So you are changing banks or patches on the wrong channel. Both units should be set to "MIDI channel / Edit-Channel 1".
On the XpressO you can see the settings on the main screen on the bottom right. "EC1" means Edit-Channel 1. The Edit-Channel can be set in [**Edit**]. The shortcut is briefly pressing button 2+4 simultaneously.

• **How can I do a total restore to the factory default state exactly like shipped?**

For restoring all settings and user preset banks you need two steps.

1) **Restoring the global settings**:

- Go to [**Utility**] and to the right to "internal Backup - all Settings and Maps".
- Select the 2nd parameter with the left wheel or by pressing button 3 or 4.
- select "restore6 - Akai EWI".
- Press [**OK**] and confirm once more with [**OK**].

Now all global settings are restored to the factory defaults.

2) **Restoring the user banks**:

- Go to [**Utility**] and then to the right until you see "internal Backup of all Preset & Chord-Mapper Banks".
- Select the 2nd parameter with the left wheel or by pressing button 3 or 4.
- select "restore6 - Factory → User Banks".
- Press [**OK**] and confirm once more with [**OK**].

Now all user preset banks are restored to the factory defaults (i.e. "editable" copies of the factory banks).

*Please note that **User Bank9** will not be overwritten! You can use this bank for presets that you want to keep.*

• **What are the integrated sounds (sample sets / presets) of the XpressO?**

Here is a list of the currently integrated sample sets / sampled instruments (The XpressO includes all of them):
https://dynasample.com/downloads/XPression-LE_Sound-Libraries.pdf

A patch listing can be found at the end of the operation manual (starting on page 39):
http://dynasample.com/downloads/XPression-Manual_1.3_Rev0.pdf

• **Is it possible to load and edit your own samples?**

Unfortunately no.

The sample engine is very demanding and requires extremely precisely sampled and edited samples or it will not work properly. The demands are different from traditional samplers or sample players since the samples are being used as waveforms for the synth engine and not as finished samples that are simply being played back.

For example:

- each sample of a multi sample set needs to have the exact same attack time of ~20 ms (+/- a few ms)
- absolutely no additional overtone must be heard during the attack phase of any sample
- there has to be a perfectly sustained sound over at least 2-3 seconds that has no difference in timbre to the surrounding samples over the full length and range of all samples within one instrument.
- plus further details …

If the samples have just a slightly different timbre / attack the difference from one note to the next will be multiplied to the point where they become unusable and neither articulations nor the timbre shifting will work correctly anymore.

Sampling takes about 2 hours per note (without editing) which adds up to a total of 70-80 hours per multi sample. At least the same time is needed for editing - that is if you already know exactly what you are doing during sampling and editing.

None of the samples from any of the known professional sample libraries would meet the requirements.

- **The XpressO has an inferior sound quality and sounds nothing like the demos on YouTube. My other sampled instruments sound much more realistic.**

The XpressO is a musical instrument that gives the musician the control for creating his own sound.
As opposed to other sampled instruments that give you a finished instrument sound that will always sound the same - no matter what you do - you need to create your own sound by using your musicianship and technique.

This obviously requires a perfectly calibrated instrument to start out with. It also requires you to know how to play the instrument correctly with the full dynamic and velocity range. This is absolutely necessary for gaining control over a wide range of articulations. Once these two components are there you will be more successful with the XpressO than with any other sampled instrument on the market.

Picture we will hand you a violin and without a teacher or any lesson you will be asked after two weeks if you were successful and already sound like a master violin player.

The fact that an instrument is electronic doesn't make it play by itself without having to practice like you would have to on an acoustic instrument!

We absolutely urge you to contact us via Skype for instructions if you have a feeling like the statement above! Don't consider returning the instrument until we have analyzed what is going wrong!