

MIDIPLUS

AK490 User's Manual



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Preface

Congratulations on your purchase of MIDIPLUS AK490 MIDI Controller. The AK490 includes pitch and mod wheels, octave +/- buttons and sustain pedal input. It's powered via a single USB cable and works instantly with computers running Mac OS X or Windows XP. The versatile and easy-to-use AK490 is a great controller in the studio and live on stage.

What's in the Box?

If any of the following items are missing from your package, please contact your retailer.

- AK490 MIDI Controller.
- Owner's Manual.
- One (1) Standard USB Cable.

AK490 Keyboard Overview :

Here is a rundown of some of the great features the AK490 keyboard has to offer:

- 49 velocity-sensitive piano-style keys.
- Pitch Wheel.
- Modulation Wheel.
- Sustain pedal socket (sustain pedal not included).
- A range of different acceleration curves for the encoders for realistic dial control
- AK490 can use the USB power supply or 6 C type batteries.

Chapter 1 : Quick Start

1.1 AK490 Overview

1.1.1 Front panel Overview



1.1.2 Rear panel overview



1.1.3 Controllers description

These controls are referred by name throughout this manual.

Front-panel	Rear-panel
1 : Octave Key (Up & Down)	5 : Sustain Pedal
2 : Pitch Wheel	6 : Keyboard MIDI OUT
3 : Modulation Wheel	7 : USB MIDI OUT
4 : Standard 49Key keyboard	8 : USB interface
	9 : Power select and selector switch

1.2 Minimum System Requirements

If you are using your AK490 with a computer, the following minimum system requirements apply:

Windows	Mac OS
Pentium 3 800MHz or higher	Macintosh G3*800/G4*733MHz or higher
(CPU requirement may be higher laptops)	(CPU requirement may be higher for laptops)
256 MB RAM	OS X 10.3.9 with 256 MB RAM
DirectX 9.0b or higher	OS X 10.4.2 or greater with 512 MB RAM
Windows XP(SP2) or higher	*G3/G4 accelerator cards are not supported.

(Attention : Window98/ME/2000 are not supported)

MIDIPLUS suggests you also check the minimum system requirements for your software, as they may be greater than the above.

USB hubs are not supported. MIDIPLUS suggests that you connect directly to one of your computer's built in USB ports.

1.3 Installation Instructions

AK490 do not need any driver to work with a computer.

The first time you connect AK490 to your computer, it will automatically install the necessary drivers. If you use a PC, a dialog box will appear telling you the "new hardware" is ready to use.

1.3.1 Using the AK490 in your Application Software

Generally with both the Mac and PC, most MIDI applications have a MIDI port configuration or settings dialog box, sometimes called “MIDI Devices” or “MIDI Setup.” It is within this dialog box that you will select or enable your MIDI input and output devices.

If the AK490 drivers are properly installed, then the port selection in this case will be the AK490 In-1 (or “Port 1” on the Mac) in the input column, and then AK490 Out-1 (or Port 1) in the output column. Input 1 (or Port 1), corresponds to the information that will be sent from the AK490 keyboard to your computer. Output 1 (or Port 1), corresponds to the MIDI information sent from your music application to the physical MIDI output on your AK490 that is marked “USB.” Make sure that those items are highlighted or checked. The output port that you select on a specific MIDI track within your sequence will output MIDI information to the keyboard or sound module or virtual instrument that is attached to that port.

1.4 MIDI Connection

MIDI connectors are standard 5-pin DIN connectors which used to be that connecting a MIDI device to a computer meant installing a "sound card" or "MIDI interface" in order to have a MIDI DIN connector on the computer.



If you need to transmit MIDI data from your keyboard to other professional MIDI instruments, purchase a standard MIDI cable and use it to connect the MIDI OUT jack of AK490 labeled “Keyboard” to the MIDI IN jack of the other instrument.

1.5 Power supply

Connect an USB cable from your computer to the AK490. The unit will be powered through the USB connection.

- Alternatively, if you do not wish to use a computer get power you can use 6 C type batteries.

Chapter 2 : The basic MIDI Control of AK490

Because AK490 does not contain built-in sounds, pressing a key will only send MIDI data to the computer, giving instructions on when and how a note should play. A virtual instrument loaded onto a track of your DAW software then creates the sound based on the instructions received from AK490. For more details on using virtual instruments, refer to the documentation for your DAW software.

2.1 Keyboard

AK490 KEYBOARD functions as a normal electronic piano keyboard during performance but can also be used to adjust MIDI settings and send MIDI messages.

2.1.1 Velocity

The presence of velocity can make your playing sound expressive. If you don't have velocity, the keyboard sends the same velocity value for every note, which can make even great playing uninspiring. This velocity-sensitive keyboard allows you to accurately express dynamics, while accessing different pitch ranges is done instantly through dedicated Octave Up and Down buttons.

2.1.2 Octave

The “Octave UP&DOWN” buttons can be used to transpose your keyboard. Some players like to play in a particular key like C or F, for example. Transpose lets you change the pitch you are controlling and continue to play in the key that is most comfortable for you.

2.2 MIDI OUT

If you need to transmit MIDI data from your keyboard to other professional MIDI instruments, purchase a standard MIDI cable and use it to connect the MIDI OUT jack of AK490 labeled “Keyboard” to the MIDI IN jack of the other instrument.