



Dirac Audio Processor software manual

Placed below is the serial number of your product. Please make sure keep this information in a safe place for future reference.



Getting Started With the Dirac Audio Processor

On a Windows PC

1. Make sure that you are connected to the Internet throughout this guide.
2. Use an internet browser and navigate to <http://www.xtzsound.eu/support/dirac-hd-sound> and follow the on-screen instructions to create an account and download the latest software version.

The product serial number needed to create a personal user name (your e-mail address) and password is printed on the back of this manual.

3. Download the Windows PC version of the Dirac Audio Processor
4. Close your internet browser and open the folder where you downloaded the Dirac Audio Processor software. Double click the installer file to extract it and run the installation guide. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation. At the end of the guide, please select “Start automatically at login” to make sure the Dirac Audio Processor is always active when listening through the XTZ Earphones / headphones.

(A warning message may appear stating the software has not passed Windows Logo testing. Please click “Continue Anyway” to complete the installation.)

5. When the software installation has been completed, connect your hardware by following the manual provided in the box.
6. After your hardware setup is complete and the hardware is connected, run the software by clicking the Dirac Audio Processor Controller in the Start > All Programs > Dirac > Dirac Audio Processor-menu.
7. Enter the username and password created earlier in this guide to activate the software and download the XTZ filters. (Make sure to keep these details for your record as they are needed when re-installing the software.)
8. The first time you start the Dirac Audio Processor software you will need to select your output sound card (under “Device settings/Output Device” in the Dirac Audio Processor). Filters will also be downloaded from the Dirac server.
9. In Windows Vista and Windows 7 doing so will prompt you to select the Dirac Processor Device as default device. Click “OK” to open the Sound Control Panel, and there select the Dirac Processor and click “Set Default”, then “OK”. In Windows XP this will be done automatically.
10. Click each empty slot to load the filters which best correspond to how your speakers are set up or what music you are playing. Up to four different filters can be loaded and then quickly selected by clicking the slots. The trash can icon unloads a filter from the slot when you want to exchange it.
11. Play music through your favorite program such as iTunes or Spotify.
12. Turn the Dirac processing on and off with the “Filter”-switch to hear the difference!

On a Mac with OS X

1. Make sure that you are connected to the Internet throughout this guide.
2. Use an internet browser and navigate to <http://www.xtzsound.eu/support/dirac-hd-souand> follow the on screen instructions to create an account and download the latest software version.

The product serial number needed to create a personal user name (your e-mail adress) and password is printed on the back of this manual.

3. Download the Apple Mac version of the Dirac Audio Processor.
4. Close your internet browser and open the folder where you downloaded the Dirac Audio Processor software. Double click the OS X-version installer. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation guide. At the end of the guide, please select “Start automatically at login” to make sure the Dirac Audio Processor is always active when listening through XTZ Earphones / headphones.
5. When the software installation has been completed, connect your hardware by following the manual provided in the box.
6. When your hardware setup is complete, run the software by double clicking the Dirac Audio Processor icon in the Applications > Dirac-folder.
7. When prompted, enter the username and password created earlier in this guide to activate the software and download the XTZ filters. (Make sure to keep these details for your records as they are needed when re-installing the software.)
8. The first time you start the Dirac Audio Processor software you will need to select your output sound card (under “Device settings/Output Device” in the Dirac Audio Processor).
9. Click each empty slot to load the filters which best correspond to how your speakers are setup or what music you will be playing. Up to four different filters can be loaded and then quickly selected by clicking the slots. The trash can icon unloads a filter from the slot when you want to exchange it.
10. Play music through your favorite program such as iTunes or Spotify.
11. Turn the Dirac processing on and off with the “Filter”-switch to hear the difference!

Using the Dirac Audio Processor

Frist Launch

When the Dirac Audio Processor (DAP) is launched for the first time the software needs to be authenticated.

Make sure you are connected to the internet when you launch the software.

To authenticate the software and download the filters associated with your product, enter the user name and password created when downloading the installation files.

When this is done the DAP will download the filters and launch the application.

Main panel

When the DAP is first launched the filter sets which are associated with your account will be downloaded.

The filters can then be loaded into the four filter slots on the DAP Main panel (shown here to the right) by selecting a filter in the dropdown menu which appears when clicking a slot.

XTZ may make future additions or changes to the included filters. These will be immediately available from within the DAP and can be downloaded by selecting the “Sync with web account...” option at the bottom of the dropdown menu for loading filters.

The DAP also checks for filter updates on every launch and indicates if there are new filters available for download.

At the bottom of the Main panel the Device settings area can be expanded and contracted by clicking the arrow beside the “Device settings” text. Here the output device, sample rate, number of playback channels and bit depth can also be selected.

At first launch the correct output device must also be selected. If an XTZ Earphone/ headphone is connected, please select earphone/headphone in the “Output device” dropdown menu.

Once the filters are loaded it is easy to switch between them by clicking them in turn and listening for the differences in sound character. To unload a filter simply click the trash can icon in the bottom right corner of the slot.

Signal controls

At the top of the Main panel two LED indicators and a switch are located.

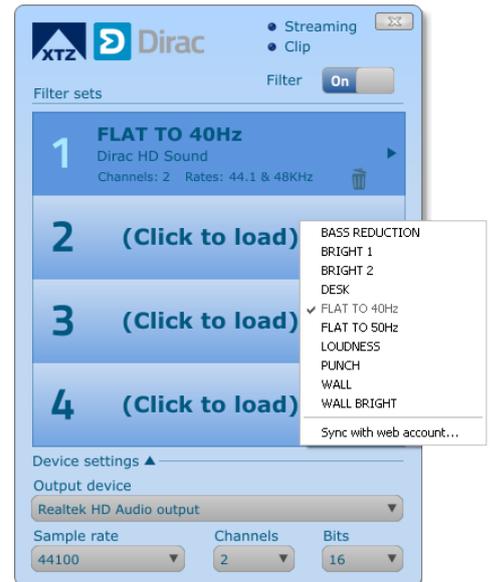
The Streaming LED indicates whether the DAP is receiving an audio signal with a blue light and should be lit when audio is played back.

The Clip LED indicates signal overload with a red light. If this occurs audible distortion is likely to result.

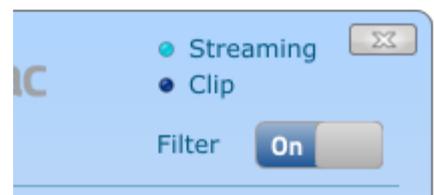
If the volume of your digital media player program is set too high, the Dirac Audio Processor may for some pieces of music boost the digital sound to an extent that causes audible distortion. This is normally indicated by the Clip LED turning on with a red light.



The validation window is displayed only the first time the Dirac Audio Processor is launched.



The filters panel is used to load and quickly select up to four filters. (The Windows version is shown)



The top of the Main panel contains a Streaming and a Clip LED above the Filter switch. (The windows version is shown)

This is resolved by lowering the playback volume of your media player software until the Clip LED stays turned off or until no distortion is heard. If louder volume is required, adjust the level on your amplifier or speaker system.

Below the indicating LEDs is a “Filter” switch which turns the audio processing on and off. This needs to be in the ON position in order for the loaded filters to have effect on the played back audio signal.

Gain & Delay panel

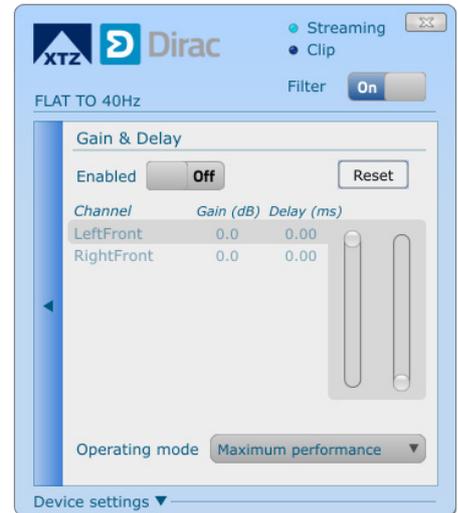
By clicking the right arrow on any of the filter slots the Gain & Delay panel is displayed, allowing for further adjustment possibilities of the loaded filter.

By clicking the Enable switch the Gain & Delay section is activated and each channel’s gain and delay can be individually controlled.

This is particularly useful if your speakers are not exactly symmetrically set up or the room affects the spatial performance and balance of your sound system.

When the controls are enabled the gain of a channel can be reduced by pulling down on the left slider, while the delay is increased by pulling up on the right slider.

A push of the Reset button resets all values to zero.



The Gain & Delay panel allows for individual adjustment of the channels. (The windows version is shown)

The operating mode has two settings: “Maximum performance” and “Low latency” where the first setting allows for maximum processing power and the latter minimizes the delay of the played back sound.

This is useful when watching movies or film clips where the picture and sound need to be played back with a minimum of time difference.

Tray icon (Windows)

The Dirac logo tray icon displays a popup menu when right clicked:

Settings > Start automatically at login - Starts the application on every Windows login

Hide/show controller - Opens and closes the DAP window

Open Control Panel (Sound) - Opens the Windows sound settings

About... - Displays the Audio Processor program version

Exit Controller - Shuts down the Audio Processor entirely

When the DAP processor window is closed by clicking the X in the top of the program window, the program stays active in the background allowing for unobtrusive and continuous operation.

To shut down the DAP completely, use the “Exit Controller” function in the tray icon popup down menu.



Right-clicking the tray icon displays a popup menu