

MIDI Setup Guide: AKAI MPK Mini with Logic Pro

Step 1. Connect Your AKAI MPK Mini

1. Use the included **USB cable** to connect your **AKAI MPK Mini** to your computer.
 2. Wait a few seconds — macOS should automatically recognize the device.
 3. The MPK Mini's **power indicator light** should turn on.
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Step 2. Launch Logic Pro and Confirm MIDI Detection

1. Open **Logic Pro**.
 2. Go to the **Logic Pro menu** → **Control Surfaces** → **Setup**
 3. If the MPK Mini is connected properly, Logic should automatically detect it as a **MIDI input device**.
 - You'll see a small yellow/orange light flash in the upper right corner when you press a key or pad — that's Logic receiving MIDI data.
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Step 3. Configure the MPK Mini Editor (Optional but Recommended)

1. Download and install the **AKAI MPK Mini Editor** from the AKAI Professional website.
 2. Open the editor to customize:
 - Pad assignments (notes, CC values)
 - Knob controls (for volume, filters, etc.)
 - Arpeggiator settings
 3. After editing, click **Send to Hardware** to load your custom preset onto the MPK Mini.
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Step 4. Create a Software Instrument Track in Logic

1. In Logic, go to **Track** → **New Software Instrument Track** (or use shortcut **Option + Command + S**).
2. Choose an instrument from the **Library** — e.g., *Piano* → *Steinway Grand Piano*, or a synth like *ES2* or *Alchemy*.
3. Press any key or pad on your MPK Mini to test — you should hear sound.
 - If not, check the **MIDI Input** light again and make sure your track is record-enabled.

Step 5. Adjust MIDI Controller Settings (Optional)

1. Open **Logic Pro** → **Settings** → **MIDI** → **Inputs**.
2. Make sure the box next to **AKAI MPK Mini** is checked.

3. You can also map the MPK Mini's **knobs** to control Logic parameters using **Logic's MIDI Learn**:
 - Go to **Logic → Controller Assignments (Command + L)**
 - Move a knob or pad on the MPK Mini to assign it.
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Step 6. Record and Play Back

1. Click **Record Enable (R)** on your instrument track.
 2. Press **Record (•)** or hit **R** on your keyboard to start recording MIDI performance.
 3. You can **quantize, edit, or change instruments** freely after recording since the data is MIDI, not audio.
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Step 7. Save Your Setup

1. Once you've confirmed everything works, go to **File → Save as Template**.
 2. Name it something like "AKAI MPK Mini Setup."
 3. This lets you quickly load the same MIDI routing and software instrument settings for future projects.
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Troubleshooting Tips

- If the MPK Mini doesn't appear in Logic:
 - Unplug and reconnect it, then restart Logic.
 - Check under **Audio MIDI Setup → Window → Show MIDI Studio** (in macOS Utilities) to ensure it's listed.
- If pads or knobs don't trigger expected sounds:
 - Open **MPK Mini Editor** to check pad/knob mappings.
 - Verify **MIDI Channel = 1** for all controls (Logic defaults to channel 1).