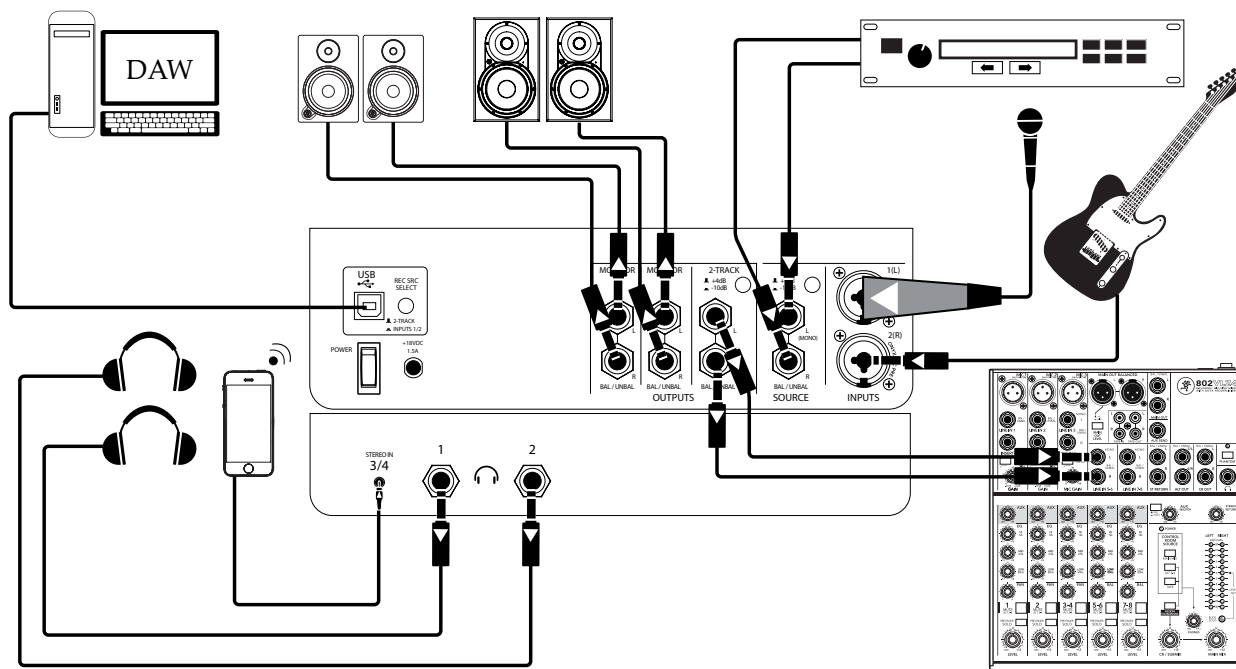


Big Knob Studio Hookup Diagram



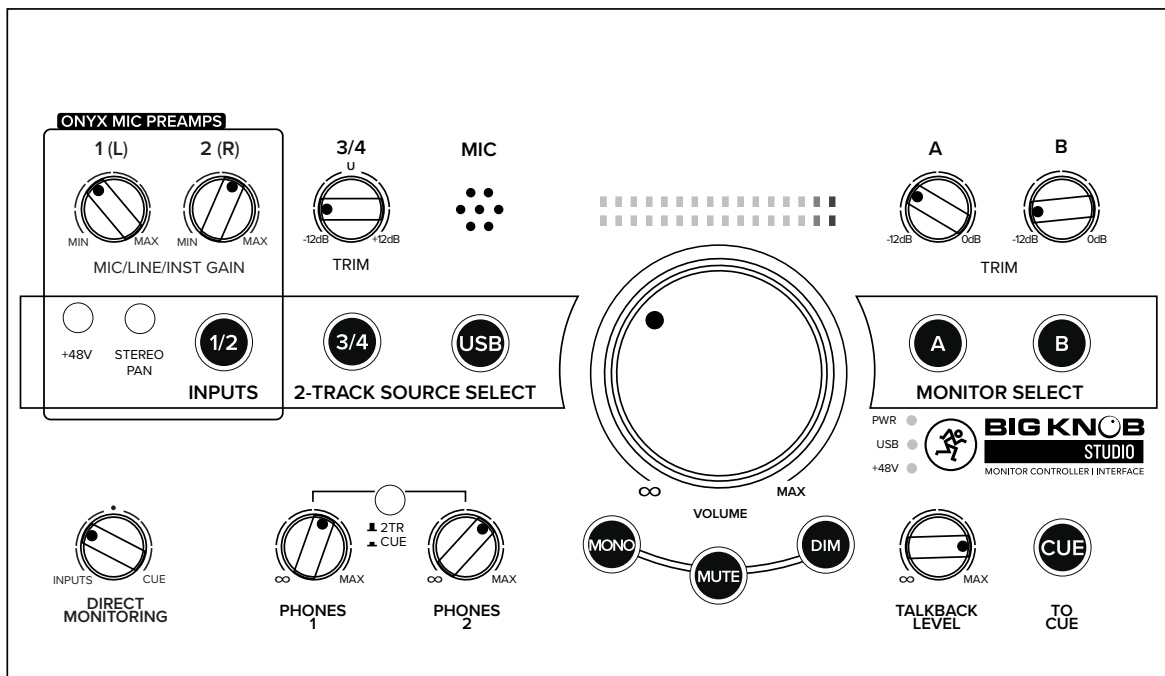
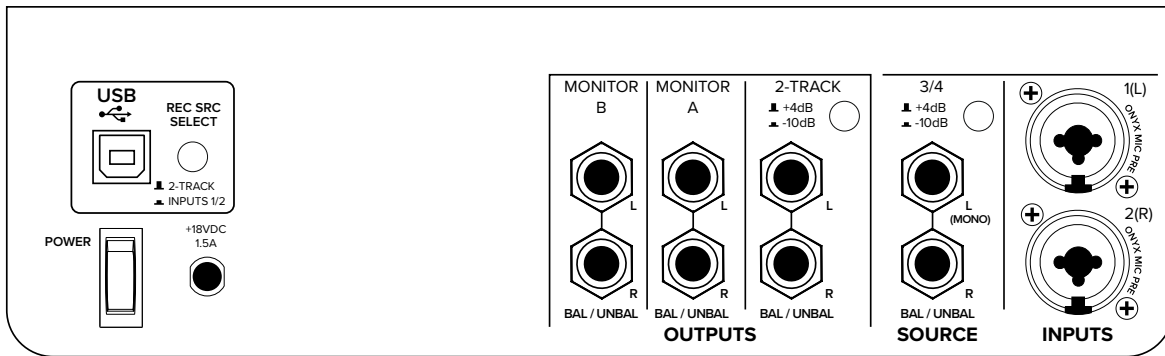
Don't be fooled...while the Big Knob Studio⁺ may have a few more bells and whistles, the Big Knob Studio is no slouch! It, too, is packed with a ton of great features as outlined on the previous page. After you've found a good home for the Big Knob Studio, it's time to make all the connections.

In this example, a microphone is connected to XLR input 1 (L) and a guitar to 1/4" input 2 (R). The Source Input 3/4 jacks may accept 1/4" inputs (on the rear panel) and an 1/8" stereo input (on the front panel). They may be connected simultaneously, but not used simultaneously. If both inputs have connections, the 1/8" stereo line input will take priority over the 1/4" inputs. Here we hooked up a 2-track player to the 1/4" inputs and a smartphone to the 1/8" stereo line input jack.

The output section is as straightforward as the input section. Here we connected a pair of XR Series studio monitors to the Mon Output A L/R jacks and a pair of MR Series studio monitors to the Mon Output B L/R jacks. Additionally, two sets of headphones are connected to the two phones outputs on the Big Knob Studio's front panel and the 2-Track L/R output jacks are connected to the mixer's 1/4" L/R line input jacks. Lastly, a computer installed with your favorite DAW is connected to the USB port on the rear panel.

Now that connections have been made, the fun begins! The top panel has a variety of switches, buttons and something else...what was it? Oh yeah, a BIG knob, dead center! These allow you to select between the inputs, outputs, set levels and more. Descriptions of the Big Knob Studio features starts on page 9.

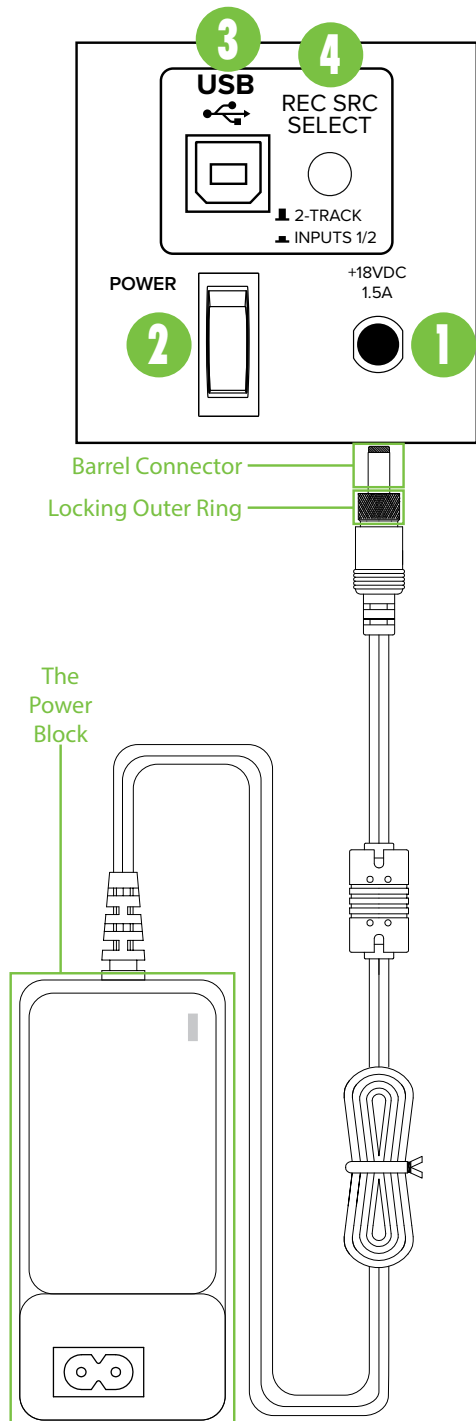
Typical Big Knob Studio Setup



Rear Panel Description

For the most part, the rear panel is where to connect various sources feeding IN to the Big Knob. These signals are then routed through the Big Knob and released through the OUTPUT jacks.

There are a few other bells and whistles, as well, and we'll take a look at all features, no matter how great or small. We should probably start with how to power the darn thing up first, though...!



1. Power Connector

The Big Knob Studio and Big Knob Studio+ have a universal external power supply that accepts any AC voltage ranging from 100 VAC to 240 VAC. No need for voltage select switches. It will work virtually anywhere in the world. That's why we call it a "Planet Earth" power supply! It is less susceptible to voltage sags or spikes compared to conventional power supplies, and provides greater electromagnetic isolation and better protection against AC line noise.

An external power supply [aka The Power Block] and a line cord are included with the Big Knob. A locking barrel connector resides at the end of the cord attached to The Power Block. Attach it to the power connector on the Big Knob and rotate the outer ring clockwise to lock. Do not over-tighten! Screw until there is resistance, then stop. Connect the female end of the line cord to The Power Block and plug the male end into a live grounded AC outlet. An LED on The Power Block will illuminate green to indicate success (whether the Big Knob is powered on or not).



Only use the factory-authorized power supply that came with your Big Knob.

2. Power Switch

Press the top of this rocker switch inwards to turn the Big Knob on and press the bottom of this rocker switch inwards to turn the Big Knob off.

3. USB Input / Output Jack

The built-in USB interface allows for some powerful and flexible routing by transferring digital audio to and from a computer. To use this feature with a PC, first download the PC ASIO driver from <http://mackie.com/products/big-knob-series>. If connecting to a Mac, it will show up as a 2x2 device [Big Knob Studio] or 2x4 device [Big Knob Studio+] with no driver required.

The USB routing of the Big Knob is a potent thing to behold. Input signals are always sent directly to the computer, yet also routable directly to the monitor and headphones outputs.

Similarly, stereo playback and/or the 2-track outputs are always routed back into the device for monitoring and overdubbing (unless you choose to mute them in software). Since the phones and monitor outputs have separate volume controls, users are free to monitor using either, neither or both. And because analog input signals may be blended in with playback signals for monitoring purposes, overdubs can occur in real-time without the burden of computer-induced latency.

4. USB Rec Src Select Switch

You want options, you've got options! The Big Knob Studio and Big Knob Studio+ grant you the opportunity to choose between recording paths for a multitude of applications, one of which is yours!

This two-position latching switch simply allows you to choose which USB source you would like to use for recording:

With the switch disengaged [2-track], the signal at the 2-track and monitor outputs is recorded. In other words, the signal seen at the USB inputs is a mirror image of the 2-track signal.

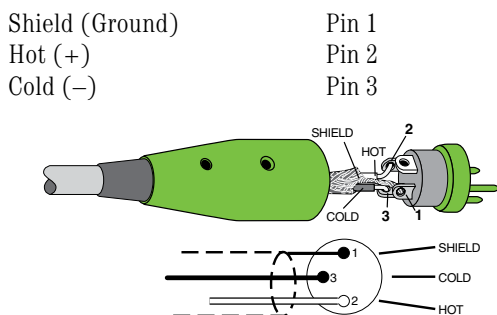
With the switch engaged [inputs 1/2], only the Onyx mic preamps – channels 1 and 2 – are delivered to the DAW via USB sends 1/2.

5. XLR and 1/4" Combo Inputs

These dual Onyx Wide-Z preamps accept both balanced microphone inputs from an XLR connector and balanced and unbalanced line-level inputs from a 1/4" TRS connector. The microphone preamps feature our Onyx design, with higher fidelity and headroom rivaling any standalone mic preamp on the market today.

They are wired as follows, according to standards specified by the AES (Audio Engineering Society).

Balanced XLR Wiring:



Phantom Power

Most modern professional condenser mics require 48V phantom power, which lets the interface send low-current DC voltage to the mic's electronics through the same wires that carry audio. (Semi-pro condenser mics often have batteries to accomplish the same thing.) "Phantom" owes its name to an ability to be "unseen" by dynamic mics (Shure SM57/SM58, for instance), which don't need external power and aren't affected by it anyway.

Phantom power may be selected by depressing the Big Knob's phantom power switch on the top panel.



Never plug single-ended (unbalanced) microphones, or ribbon mics into the mic input jacks if phantom power is on. Do not

plug instrument outputs into the mic XLR input jacks with phantom power on, unless you are certain it is safe to do so. Be sure the channel's gain control is turned down when connecting microphones to the mic inputs when phantom power is turned on, to prevent pops from getting through to the speakers.

The 1/4" jacks share circuitry (but not phantom power) with the mic preamps, and can be driven by balanced or unbalanced sources.

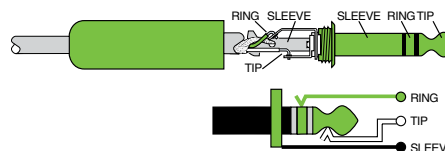
Additionally, both channels may accept Hi-Z sources (such as guitars) via the 1/4" input without the need for a separate DI box.

- Unbalanced TS (tip-sleeve) lines can be accommodated via the TRS jack. Make sure the cable terminates with a TS plug (like a guitar plug), or if it's a TRS plug (such as a headphone plug), make sure the ring is tied to the sleeve and that the plug is fully inserted into the jack. These inputs are mono-summing (to both busses), but stereo when the stereo pan switch (located on the top panel) is engaged. This way, L/R mono operation may be used for mics and instruments or stereo for everything else.

The connectors are wired as follows, according to standards specified by the AES (Audio Engineering Society).

Balanced 1/4" TRS

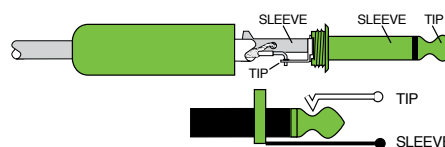
Hot (+)	Tip
Cold (-)	Ring
Shield (Ground)	Sleeve



Balanced 1/4" Connectors

Unbalanced 1/4" TS

Hot (+)	Tip
Shield (Ground)	Sleeve



Unbalanced 1/4" Connectors

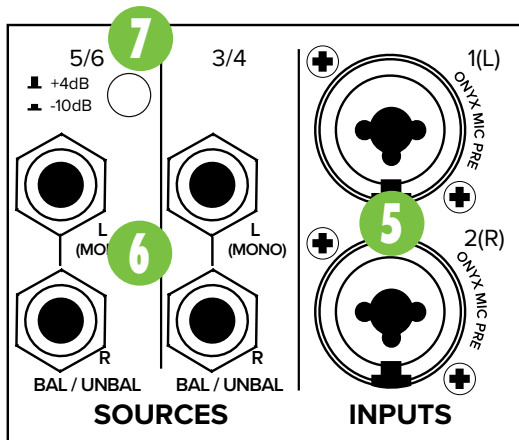


NEVER connect the output of an amplifier directly to a Big Knob's input jack. This could damage the input circuitry and we wouldn't want that now, would we?

6. 1/4" Source Inputs

Connect the L/R line-level signals from the source(s) to the 1/4" source input jack(s).

- The source input connectors accept balanced or unbalanced signals.
- Unbalanced TS (tip-sleeve) lines can be accommodated via the TRS jack. Make sure the cable terminates with a TS plug (like a guitar plug), or if it's a TRS plug (such as a headphone plug), make sure the ring is tied to the sleeve and that the plug is fully inserted into the jack. The left TRS inputs are mono-summing (to both busses), but stereo when cables are connected to the left and right inputs.



These 1/4" connectors are wired the same as the combo input connectors as seen on the previous page.



There is an 1/8" stereo line input on the front panel of both the Big Knob Studio and Big Knob Studio+. The 1/4" and 1/8" line-level connections may be connected simultaneously, but not used simultaneously. If they are connected simultaneously, the 1/8" stereo line input will take priority over the listed 1/4" connection [3/4 on the Big Knob Studio, 5/6 on the Big Knob Studio+].



The Big Knob Studio has one pair of 1/4" source input jacks while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional pair.

7. +4 dB / -10 dB Level Switch

This two-position switch sets the level of the source inputs to either +4 dB (balanced input, switch disengaged) or -10 dB (unbalanced input, switch engaged). Use the +4 dB setting for professional equipment operating at the +4 dBu standard and use the -10 dB setting for consumer equipment operating at the -10 dBV standard.



This switch sets the level for source inputs 3/4 on the Big Knob Studio and source inputs 5/6 on the Big Knob Studio+.

8. Aux Mix | Cue In 1/4" Inputs [Big Knob Studio+]

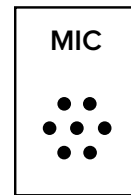
These 1/4" inputs are extremely powerful! Our favorite way to utilize them is by connecting the L/R outputs of an analog mixer to these L/R line-level input jacks. This way, multiple inputs (from the mixer) are all dialed into a stereo pair into the L/R aux mix | cue in jacks.

Another possibility is connecting the outputs of a soundcard to these inputs. Basically, any alternate mix in from an external source is possible! This provides the artist with a separate mix and may be thought of as USB channels 3/4.

- The aux mix | cue in input connectors accept balanced or unbalanced signals.
- Unbalanced TS (tip-sleeve) lines can be accommodated via the TRS jack. Make sure the cable terminates with a TS plug (like a guitar plug), or if it's a TRS plug (such as a headphone plug), make sure the ring is tied to the sleeve and that the plug is fully inserted into the jack. The left TRS inputs are mono-summing (to both busses), but stereo when cables are connected to the left and right inputs.

These 1/4" connectors are wired the same as the 1/4" and combo input connectors seen previously.

Internal Talkback Mic (on Top Panel)



The built-in talkback microphone is located on the Big Knob's top panel between the trim knobs and input meters. It is an omni-directional dynamic microphone, and will pick up your voice from anywhere in front of the Big Knob.

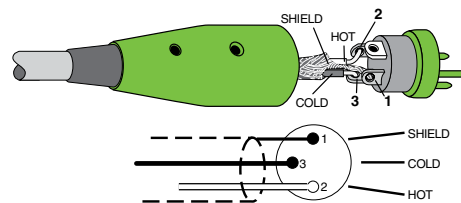
It's activated when a talkback assign button is pressed [To 2-Track, To Cue].

9. Talkback Mic XLR Input [Big Knob Studio+]

This XLR connector may accept a balanced external dynamic mic for talkback. It is wired as follows, according to standards specified by the AES (Audio Engineering Society).

Balanced XLR Wiring:

Shield (Ground)	Pin 1
Hot (+)	Pin 2
Cold (-)	Pin 3



The talkback level is controlled by the Talkback knob. Because the talkback knob is located on the top panel of the Big Knob Studio+, it will be described in more detail in that section.

10. Talkback Int / Ext Switch [Big Knob Studio+]

If you are in a noisy environment, the built-in talkback mic may not work as well because it picks up the ambient noise as well as your voice. You will probably have better results if you use an external microphone that you can talk directly into.

If you are using an external mic, you must push in the external mic switch. When the switch is out, the built-in talkback mic is used, regardless of whether or not you have an external mic plugged in. When the switch is pushed in, the built-in mic is disconnected and only the external mic is used.

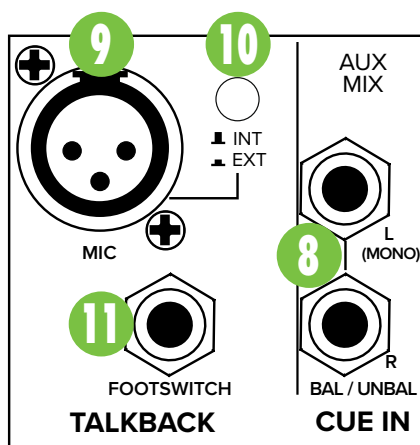
11. 1/4" Footswitch Jack [Big Knob Studio+]

This unbalanced 1/4" TRS connector is where to connect your favorite footswitch. This allows you to easily enable or disable talkback at will. Talkback will be routed to both the cue and 2-track outputs. Additional information about talkback routing may be found on page 17.

Any momentary one-button on / off footswitch will work. A momentary switch means that talkback is always on when the footswitch is engaged and held.



Make sure the talkback switch is disengaged so you can poke fun at the band without them hearing you.



Outputs Overview

All Big Knob outputs are 1/4" L/R connectors that may be distributed to a variety of inputs as outlined on the right.

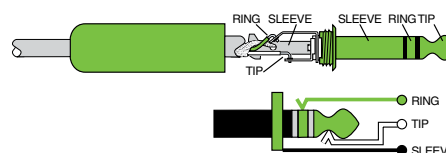
The studio / phones amp outputs have separate volume controls, but the 2-track and monitor outputs are fed by the "control room bus." This is the signal path fed from the input currently selected with the source select button and routed through the volume knob.

- All output connectors accept balanced or unbalanced signals.
- Unbalanced TS (tip-sleeve) lines can be accommodated via the TRS jack. Make sure the cable terminates with a TS plug (like a guitar plug), or if it's a TRS plug (such as a headphone plug), make sure the ring is tied to the sleeve and that the plug is fully inserted into the jack.

The connectors are wired as follows, according to standards specified by the AES (Audio Engineering Society).

Balanced 1/4" TRS

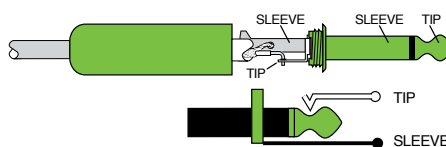
Hot (+)	Tip
Cold (-)	Ring
Shield (Ground)	Sleeve



Balanced 1/4" Connectors

Unbalanced 1/4" TS

Hot (+)	Tip
Shield (Ground)	Sleeve



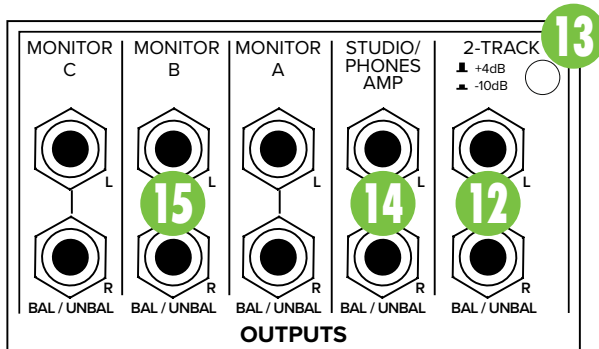
Unbalanced 1/4" Connectors

12. 1/4" 2-Track Outputs

Connect the L/R 2-track outputs to the inputs of a 2-track recorder. This could be a DAT deck, cassette deck, reel-to-reel recorder, etc.

13. +4 dB / -10 dB Level Switch

This two-position switch sets the level of the 2-track outputs to either +4 dB (balanced output, switch disengaged) or -10 dB (unbalanced output, switch engaged). Use the +4 dB setting for professional equipment operating at the +4 dBu standard and use the -10 dB setting for consumer equipment operating at the -10 dBV standard.



14. 1/4" Studio/Phones Amp Outputs [Big Knob Studio+]

Connect the L/R studio / phones amp outputs to EITHER...

...(1) the inputs of powered studio monitors (or to a power amplifier driving passive speakers) in the studio performance space. This allows the performers to hear playback without having to use headphones and allows the control room engineer to communicate to the performers through the talkback system. The studio outs level is controlled by the studio outs level control on the front panel...

...OR (2) the inputs of an external multi-headphone amplifier. This allows you to connect multiple sets of headphones for the talent. The phones amp output level is not affected by the volume knob or the headphone level controls on the top panel. The headphone amplifier should have its own individual volume controls for the headphones.

15. 1/4" Monitor Outputs

Connect the L/R monitor outputs to the inputs of powered studio monitors or to a power amplifier driving passive speakers. These outputs deliver the main balanced stereo signal (as determined by the engaged input selections).



The Big Knob Studio has two pairs of 1/4" monitor output jacks while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional pair.

Front Panel Description

The front panel may not have a ton of features – there are only two – but we're confident that the features provided will be used often for years to come. That said, we better take a look!

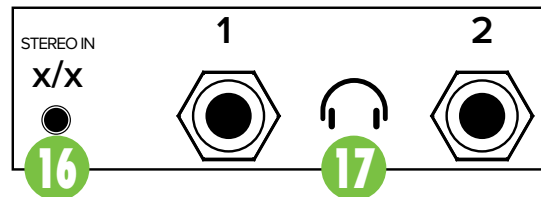
16. 1/8" Stereo Line Input

The stereo line input may accept an 1/8" line-level signal from a smartphone, MP3 player, or other signal source.



There are 1/4" inputs on the rear panel of both the Big Knob Studio and Big Knob Studio+. The 1/4" and 1/8" line-level connections may be connected

simultaneously, but not used simultaneously. If they are connected simultaneously, the 1/8" stereo line input will take priority over the listed 1/4" connection [3/4 on the Big Knob Studio, 5/6 on the Big Knob Studio+].

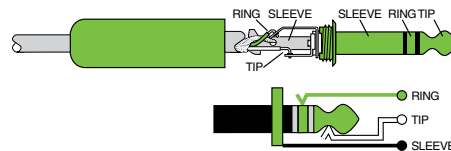


17. 1/4" Phones Jacks

These 1/4" TRS connectors supply the output to stereo headphones. The volume is controlled with the phones knobs located on the top panel. The signal sent to these jacks is dependent on the position of the 2TR / CUE switch as described on the following page.

The phones output follows standard conventions:

Left channel	Tip
Right channel	Ring
Ground	Sleeve



Balanced 1/4" Connectors

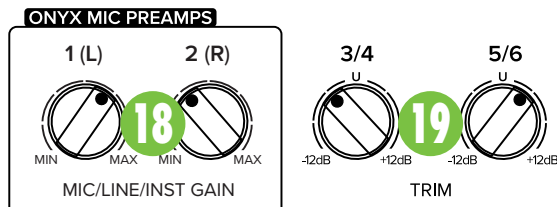


The headphone amp is loud and could cause permanent hearing damage. Even intermediate levels may be painfully loud with some headphones. BE CAREFUL!

Always turn the phones knob all the way down before connecting headphones or doing anything new that may affect the headphone volume. Then turn it up slowly as you listen carefully.

Top Panel Description

On to the top panel...and this is where the magic happens! Once all of the connections on the rear and front panels have been made, there are several knobs, switches, buttons and volume control that you may use, manipulate and set to heart's content. There are also some LEDs, but those can't be manipulated, only illuminated! Please read on...



18. Mic/Line/Inst Gain Knobs

The gain knobs adjust the input sensitivity of the mic and line inputs. This allows signals from the outside world to be adjusted to run through each input at optimal internal operating levels.

19. Trim Knobs

The trim knobs adjust the input sensitivity of the incoming 2-track source signal by ± 12 dB (unity at center detent). This allows for precise level matching between the various incoming 2-track sources, which often do not have output level controls of their own.



In addition to the aforementioned Onyx mic preamp gain knobs [1(L), 2(R)], the Big Knob Studio has one trim knob [3/4] while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional trim knob [3/4, 5/6].

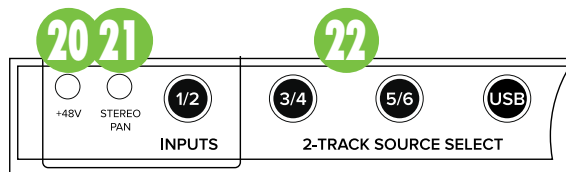
20. +48V Phantom Power Switch [Ch. 1 and 2 Only]

Most modern professional condenser mics require 48V phantom power, which lets the interface send low-current DC voltage to the mic's electronics through the same wires that carry audio. (Semi-pro condenser mics often have batteries to accomplish the same thing.) "Phantom" owes its name to an ability to be "unseen" by dynamic mics (Shure SM57/SM58, for instance), which don't need external power and aren't affected by it anyway.

Press this switch in if your microphone requires phantom power. (Always check the position of this switch before connecting microphones.) An LED located near the bottom right of the Big 'volume' Knob and left of the Big Knob logo will illuminate green to indicate that phantom power is active. This switch only affects channels 1-2.



Never plug single-ended (unbalanced) microphones, or ribbon mics into the mic input jacks if phantom power is on. Do not plug instrument outputs into the mic XLR input jacks with phantom power on, unless you know for certain it is safe to do so. Be sure the channel's gain control is turned down when connecting microphones to the mic inputs when phantom power is turned on, to prevent pops from getting through to the speakers.



21. Stereo Pan Switch [Ch. 1–2]

With this switch pressed in, channel 1 will play only in the left side of the main mix, and channel 2 will play in the right side. Conversely, with this switch out, each mono channel feeds both the left and right sides of the main mix equally. For example:

- Playing a mono source: If you talk into a microphone connected to input 1, your sweet tones will be heard in both the left and right monitors.
- Overdubbing a mono source: if you are monitoring directly through the headphones, you can hear the overdub signal in both ears while you are playing.

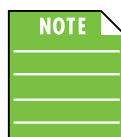
Record output, however, is not affected by the position of the switch. Channel 1 will always feed the recording USB / analog left output and channel 2 will always feed the recording USB / analog right output.

The stereo pan switch does not affect the other channels or USB.

22. Input / 2-Track Source Select Buttons

These buttons turn the input signals connected to Big Knob on and off. Engaged buttons route the associated inputs to the engaged monitor outputs. Any combination of inputs may be turned on simultaneously. Engaged buttons will illuminate green.

Engaged source select buttons route the associated inputs to the engaged monitor stereo outputs, the 2-track stereo output, to the studio stereo output (if the studio outs button is engaged) or phones amp stereo output (if the studio outs button is disengaged) and to the phones 1 and 2 outputs located on the front panel.



The Big Knob Studio has three source select buttons [1/2, 3/4, USB] while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional source select button [1/2, 3/4, 5/6, USB].



A Cautionary Note: When you have a 2-track recording device connected to both the inputs and the outputs on Big Knob, you run the risk of creating a feedback

loop. If the recording device is in record, record pause, or input monitor mode, the signal can go from the 2-track outputs through the recording device and back into the 2-track inputs, creating a circular loop that results in a terrible howl.

You must remember to turn off the appropriate 2-track input source select button when recording to your 2-track recorder!

23. Cue Source Knob [Big Knob Studio+]

The Big Knob Studio+ has a 3-position blend knob that allows you to select which input source(s) level is controlled via the direct monitoring knob (as described below).

Knob position (L, C, R):

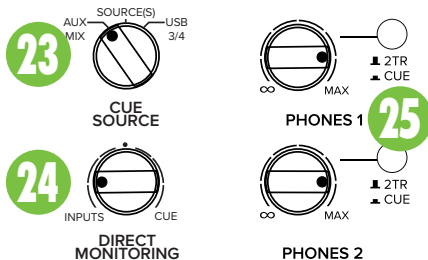
- Left – Only the aux mix inputs will be heard.
- Center – A masterful concoction of the aux mix inputs, USB and inputs 3/4 will be heard...also known as “a blend”. And you didn’t think we made blenders!
- Right – Only USB outputs 3/4 – the return from the DAW – will be heard.

24. Direct Monitoring Knob

The direct monitoring knob adjusts the level of inputs 1/2 [Big Knob Studio] and Cue Source selection [as described above, Big Knob Studio+] to be delivered to the phones and studio outputs. As an added bonus, this is all at zero-latency!

Knob position (L, C, R):

- Full Left – Input 1/2 = Full Volume
Cue Source = No Volume
- Center – Input 1/2 and Cue Source = Equal Volume
- Full Right – Input 1/2 = No Volume
Cue Source = Full Volume



25. Phones Knobs and 2-Track / Cue Switch(es)

The phones knobs are used to adjust the volume from the phones output jacks, from off (∞) to maximum gain (MAX).



The headphone amp is loud and could cause permanent hearing damage. Even intermediate levels may be painfully loud with some headphones. BE CAREFUL!

Always turn the phones knob all the way down before connecting headphones or doing anything new that may affect the headphone volume. Then turn it up slowly as you listen carefully.

The accompanying 2-track / cue switch(es) control the location of where the headphones is receiving its source path.

Switch disengaged [up] – Phones receives the source from the main output signal path, post-summing / pre-volume.

Switch engaged [down] – Phones receives the same signal as the studio outputs.



This feature allows you to choose between hearing what is selected on the input source section or what the musicians hear in the cue mix.



The Big Knob Studio has one 2-track / cue switch while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional switch, one for each phones knob.



26

26. Studio Outs On / Off Button [Big Knob Studio+]

STUDIO OUTS



27

LEVEL

This button turns the signal path on and off going to the studio outs jacks on the rear panel. The button will illuminate white when engaged (on).

27. Studio Outs Level Knob [Big Knob Studio+]

The studio outs level knob is used to adjust the volume from the studio output jacks on the rear panel, from off (∞) to maximum gain (MAX).

28. Input Meters

These meters show the signal level of the currently selected stereo source(es). They are made up of two columns of 16 LEDs with three colors to indicate different ranges of signal level, sideways traffic light style.

For best real-world results, try to keep your peaks bouncing between the green and yellow LEDs, the colors of our beloved hometown Seattle Supersonics [RIP].

The red LEDs indicate clipping. Clipping creates undesirable distortion and should be avoided at all costs. If the red LEDs illuminate frequently, turn the gain/trim knobs down.

Remember, audio meters are just tools to help assure you that your levels are “in the ballpark.” You don’t have to stare at them (unless you want to).

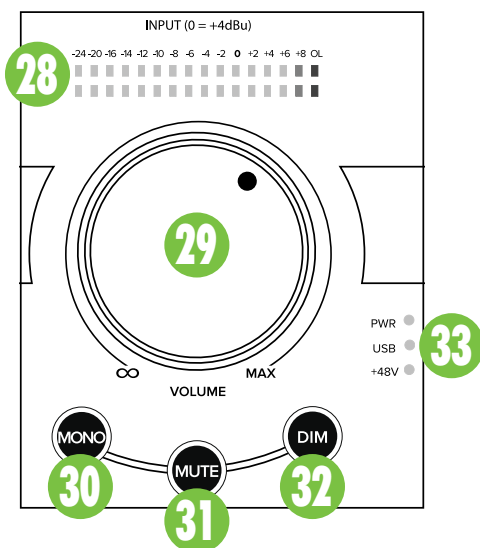
29. Volume Knob [aka Big Knob]

Here we are with the money maker! The volume knob – aka Big Knob – adjusts the volume of the selected input source’s signal going to the selected monitor outputs. The volume knob ranges from OFF (∞) to unity (MAX).



WARNING: Always turn the volume knob all the way down before making connections or trying something new.

Keep it down until all changes have been made, then turn it up slowly. This saves your speakers – and more importantly, your ears – from blowing.



30. Mono Button

Mono is short for mononucleosis. It is an infection that typically leads to a feeling of tiredness, although one could also get headaches, a sore throat, swollen glands and more. Thankfully, engaging the mono button here does not produce the infection. Rather, the mono here is short for monophonic.

Pressing the mono button combines the stereo signal into a monophonic signal at the monitor outputs. The left and right input signals are summed and the mono signal is output at both the left and right outputs. This allows you to check for phase problems in the stereo signal when played over a monophonic system. The button will illuminate white when engaged.

31. Mute Button

The mute button does just what it sounds like it does. It turns off the signal at the monitor outputs by “routing” it into oblivion. Engaging the mute button (almost) provides the same result as turning the volume knob all the way down. The button will illuminate white when engaged.

32. Dim Button

Pressing this button turns down the signal going to the monitor outputs by 20 dB. This allows you to essentially “turn down” the speakers to converse without affecting the speaker level. The button will illuminate white when engaged.

33. PWR / USB / +48V LEDs

The PWR LED will illuminate green when the power switch is turned on and the power cord is connected to an active AC Mains supply. If it does not turn on, make sure the power cord is correctly connected at both ends, the local AC mains supply is active, and the power switch is on.

The USB LED will illuminate green when the computer is powered on and connected successfully and securely (via USB) to the Big Knob. Different from the power LED, the USB light informs you that the device is “enumerated”, and in a functional and happy state.

The +48V LED will illuminate green when the phantom power switch is turned on. Phantom power only affects mic channels 1-2.

34. Monitor Select Buttons

These buttons turn the output signals connected to Big Knob on and off. Press these buttons to route the currently selected input source(s) to the currently selected monitor output jacks. Engaged buttons will illuminate green.

NOTE Any combination of outputs may be turned on simultaneously. For example, you could have one, two, or all three¹ monitor outputs turned on at the same time. This way, a pair of full-range speakers could be connected to the monitor A and B jacks and a subwoofer to the monitor C jacks. The monitor C button could then be used as a “subwoofer in / out” button to compare the sound with and without the subwoofer. More importantly, your friends will call you a genius...and that's what really counts, right?!

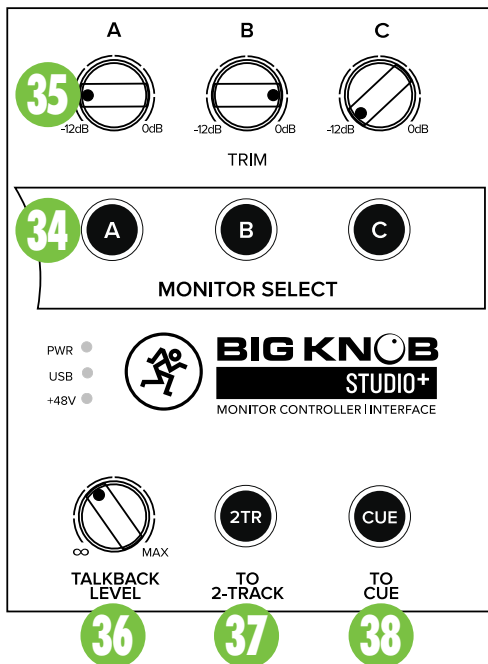
35. Trim Knobs

The trim knobs adjust the sensitivity of the monitor output signals. They may be adjusted to any setting between -12 dB and 0 dB [unity at 0 dB] to precisely match the levels among the monitor outputs.

The Big Knob Studio has two trim knobs while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional trim knob.

36. Talkback Level Knob

This knob controls the talkback level. The gain is off when fully counter-clockwise ($-\infty$) and is at maximum gain when fully clockwise (max).



37. To 2-Track Button [Big Knob Studio+]

When this momentary button is engaged and held, talkback is routed to the 2-track outputs and USB when the Rec Src Select switch is disengaged. Additionally, when engaged the button will illuminate white.

NOTE The To 2-Track and To Cue buttons may be engaged simultaneously. The footswitch, however, overrides both buttons.

38. To Cue Button

When this momentary button is engaged and held, talkback is routed to the studio outputs and phones outputs.

Additionally, when engaged, the signal is dimmed by 20 dB and the button will illuminate white.

NOTE The To 2-Track and To Cue buttons may be engaged simultaneously. The footswitch, however, overrides both buttons.

¹ The Big Knob Studio has two monitor select buttons, while the Big Knob Studio+ possesses an additional monitor select button.

Appendix A: Service Information

If you think your Big Knob has a problem, please check out the following troubleshooting tips and do your best to confirm the problem. Visit the Support section of our website (www.mackie.com/support) where you will find lots of useful information such as FAQs and documentation. You may find the answer to the problem without having to send your Big Knob away.

Troubleshooting

No Power

- Our favorite question. Is it plugged in? Make sure that the female end of the line cord is securely seated in the IEC socket of The Power Block and the male end plugged all the way into a live grounded AC outlet. Make sure the locking barrel connector at the end of the cord attached to The Power Block is attached to the power connector of the Big Knob and securely tightened. An LED on The Power Block will illuminate green to indicate success (whether Big Knob is powered on or not).
- Our second favorite question. Is the rear panel power switch in the ON position?
- Make sure the AC outlet is live (check with a tester or lamp).
- Is the power LED on the top panel illuminated? If not, make sure the AC outlet is live. If so, refer to “No Sound” below.
- Are all the lights out in your building? If so, contact your local power company to get power restored.
- If the power LED is not illuminated, and you are certain that the AC outlet is live, it will be necessary to have the Big Knob serviced. *There are no user serviceable parts inside.* Refer to “Repair” at the end of this section to find out how to proceed.

No Sound

- Is the power LED on the top panel illuminated? If not, refer to “No Power” above.
- Are the correct input source select button(s) selected? Make sure the input source select button is lit.
- Is the signal source turned up? Make sure the signal level from the selected input source is high enough to light up some of the input meter LEDs on Big Knob's top panel.
- Make sure the trim control and level switch for the selected input(s) are set correctly.
- If there is no sound in the phones or studio outputs:
 - Make sure the studio outs on/off button is on.
 - Make sure the phones and studio level controls are turned up.

- If there is no sound in the monitor outputs:
 - Make sure the correct monitor select button(s) are engaged and the trim control for the monitor output(s) are set correctly.
 - Make sure the cable connecting the monitor output to the active speaker or power amplifier isn't defective and the amplifier/speaker combination is working correctly.

Bad Sound

- Are the input and output connectors plugged completely into the jacks? Make sure they are plugged all the way in.
- Is it loud and distorted? Make sure the trim control and level switch for the selected input is set correctly. Reduce the signal level on the input source if possible.
- If possible, listen to the signal with headphones plugged into the input source device. If it sounds bad there, it's not Big Knob causing the problem.
- Make sure the trim control for the monitor output is set correctly and not overdriving the input stage of the active speaker or amplifier to which it is connected.

Noise/Hum/Buzz

- Check the signal cables between the source(s) and the Big Knob. Make sure all connections are secure. These problems usually produce crackling noises, hum, or buzz. Disconnect them one by one. When the noise goes away, you'll know which input source is causing the problem.
- Make sure the signal cable is not routed near AC cables, power transformers, or other EMI sources (including wall warts and line lumps!). These sources usually produce hum.
- Excessive hiss is an indication of an incorrect gain setting somewhere before the Big Knob.
- Sometimes it helps to plug all the audio equipment into the same AC circuit so they share a common ground.

Repair

For warranty service, please refer to the warranty information on page 24.

Non-warranty service is available at a factory-authorized service center. To locate the nearest service center, visit www.mackie.com, click “Support” and select “Locate a Service Center or Distributor”. Service for a Big Knob Passive living outside the United States may be obtained through local dealers or distributors.

If you do not have access to our website, please call our Tech Support department at 1-800-898-3211 (normal business hours, Pacific Time), to explain the problem. They will tell you where the nearest factory-authorized service center is located in your area.

Appendix B: Technical Information

Big Knob Specifications

Frequency Response

Unity gain, +4 dBu input	
All inputs:	±0.5 dB, 20 Hz – 20 kHz
All outputs:	±0.5 dB, 20 Hz – 20 kHz

Noise Characteristics

150 ohm terminated, 22 kHz bandwidth	
Mic inputs to outputs (EIN):	< -125 dBu RMS, A-weighted
Line inputs to outputs:	< -90 dBu RMS, un-weighted

Distortion (THD+N)

Unity gain, 1 kHz @ +4 dBu input, 80 kHz bandwidth	
All inputs to outputs:	<0.01%, un-weighted

Crosstalk (between left and right channels)

Unity gain, -1 dBFS input	
Mic inputs to outputs:	< -60 dB at 1 kHz
Line inputs to outputs:	< -60 dB at 1 kHz

Attenuation

Muted:	-60 dB
Dim:	-20 dB

Maximum Levels (before clipping)

All inputs:	+22 dBu
All outputs:	+22 dBu

Input Type

Input type:	
	Female XLR balanced/ unbalanced
	Female 1/4" balanced / unbalanced
	Female 1/8" unbalanced

Output Type

Output type:	Female 1/4" balanced / unbalanced
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USB

Format:	USB 2.0, 24-bit, 192 kHz
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Power Requirements

Universal Power Supply:	100 – 240 V~ 50/60 Hz 0.75A
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Physical Dimensions and Weight

Big Knob Studio

Height:	3.2 in / 81 mm
Width:	9.9 in / 251 mm
Depth:	6.4 in / 163 mm
Weight:	3.5 lb / 1.6 kg

Big Knob Studio+

Height:	3.2 in / 81 mm
Width:	11.9 in / 302 mm
Depth:	6.8 in / 173 mm
Weight:	4.6 lb / 2.1 kg

Disclaimer

LOUD Technologies is always striving to improve our products by incorporating new and improved materials, components and manufacturing methods. Therefore, we reserve the right to change these specifications at any time without notice.

Big Knob Studio Block Diagram

