

# Asus Xonar Xense User Manual

Premium gaming audio set

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# Xonar Xense Premium Caning Audio Set User Manual

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## Summary of Contents for Asus Xonar Xense

Page 1 Xonar Xense Premium Gaming Audio Set User Manual...

<u>Page 2</u> No part of this manual, including the products and software described in it, may be reproduced, transmitted, transcribed, stored in a retrieval system, or translated into any language in any form or by any means, except documentation kept by the purchaser for backup purposes, without the express written permission of ASUSTEK COMPUTER INC.

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#### Page 5: Notices

ASUS REACH website at http://green.asus.com/ english/REACH.htm. Federal Communications Commission Statement This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: • This device may not cause harmful interference.

<u>Page 6</u> Testing for radio test suites according to EN 300 328- 2 has been conducted. These are considered relevant and sufficient. CE Mark Warning This is a Class B product, in a domestic environment, this product may cause radio interference, in which case the user may be required to take adequate measures.

#### Page 7: Safety Information

• If the device is broken, do not try to fix it by yourself. Contact a qualified service technician or your retailer. • Before using the product, make sure all cables are correctly connected. If you detect any damage, contact your dealer immediately.

#### Page 8: About This Guide

This chapter tells how to install the audio card and its driver. • Chapter 3: Connecting speakers and peripherals This chapter tells how to connect the speakers and peripherals to the audio card. Chapter 4: Xonar Xense Audio Center •...

#### Page 9: Package Contents

S/PDIF TOSLINK optical adapter x 1 • Quick Start Guide x 1 If any of the above items is damaged or missing, contact your retailer. System requirements • One PCI Express 1.0 (or higher) compatible slot for the audio card •...

#### Page 10: Specifications Summary

PCI Express Rev.1.0a specification compatible Maximum full 2.5Gbps bandwidth per direction PCI Express and optimized latency for high-definition audio processing Compatible with X1, X4, X8, X16 PCI Express slots Sample Rate and Resolution Analog Playback Sample Rate and 44.1K/48K/96K/192KHz @ 16/24bit Resolution Analog Recording Sample Rate 44.1K/48K/96K/192KHz @ 16/24bit...

Page 11 Operating System Windows Vista/Win 7(32/64bit) / XP(32/64bit) / MCE2005 Dolby® Digital Live Dolby Digital Live encodes any audio signal on PC in real-time to Dolby Digital (AC3) 5.1 surround sounds to your home theater environment through one single S/PDIF connection.

Page 12 Dolby Pro-Logic IIx is the well-known technology to ® process any native stereo or 5.1-channel audio into a 6.1- or 7.1- channel output, creating a seamless, natural surround soundfield. DirectSound3D Game Extensions GX 2.5 supports EAX gaming sound effects and 2.0 &...

#### Page 13: Xonar Xense Card Layout

Xonar Xense card layout Microphone In port Connect your headset's microphone cable to this port for voice input. It has a built- in high-quality Microphone pre-amplifier. Line In port Through an Ultra-high fidelity 118dB SNR A-D converter, connect analog devices like MP3 players, CD players, music synthesizers, and other line-level sound sources to this 6.3mm port for audio recording or processing.

#### Page 14: Gaming Headset

Front panel audio header Connect one end of the front panel audio cable to the front panel audio header on the audio card, with the other end to the chassis-mounted front panel audio I/O module. Aux Input Header This 4-pin header usually connects to the Analog Audio output of TV tuner card or other sound source inside your computer.

#### Page 15: Chapter 2: Getting Started

Unplug the computer's power cord from the power outlet. • To avoid static electricity, use a grounded wrist strap or touch a safely grounded object such as the metal part or the rear panel of your computer. Installing the audio card To install the audio card: Remove the chassis cover of your computer.

Page 16 Secure the audio card with the screw you removed from the PCI Express slot's metal bracket. Connect the power cable of your power supply unit (PSU) to the power connector of the audio card. Ensure that the power cable is connected properly. Otherwise, the audio card will not work.

#### Page 17: Connecting To A Tv Tuner Card

Connecting to a TV tuner card If you have a traditional PCI/PCI Expresss TV tuner card on your computer, you may need to connect it to the audio card to send the tuner card's sound to your PC speakers. To connect to a TV tuner card: Secure the PCI/PCI Express TV tuner card into the rear panel with a screw.

#### Page 18: Installing The Audio Card Driver

When prompted for the drivers, click Cancel. Insert the support CD into the optical drive. If Autorun is enabled in your system, the setup starts automatically. If not, run setup.exe from the support Follow the onscreen instructions to complete the installation.

#### Page 19: Chapter 3: Connecting Speakers And Peripherals

Connecting speakers and peripherals Connecting analog speaker systems Surround Sound (Black) Front Speaker Out (Lime) Audio Splitter Cable (included) Side Speakers Out (Grey) Center/Subwoofer (Orange) Connecting the gaming headset Mic In/ Line In port Headphone Out port ASUS Xonar Xense...

#### Page 20: Connecting Line-In Audio Sources

Connecting Line-in audio sources Mic In/ Line-In port CD Player MP3 Player ASUS Xonar Xense...

#### Page 21: Chapter 4: Xonar Xense Audio Center

Chapter 4 Xonar Xense Audio Center Xonar Xense Audio Center The Xonar Xense Audio Center, the graphic user interface (GUI) of Xonar Xense, allows you to control the functions and features of Xonar Xense. To launch the Xonar Xense Audio Center, double-click the Xonar Audio Center icon on the taskbar.

<u>Page 22</u> Click this button to enable the "Smart Volume Normalization" feature for constant volume from all playback sources. It displays a blue light when enabled. Mute Button Click this button to mute audio playback. It displays a red light when playback is muted. DSP Mode These five buttons give access to quick sound effects combinations for Movie, GX, Hifi, Racing and FPS modes.

#### Page 23: Main Setting

The Sample rate determines the number of audio samples per second that the Digital-to-Analog Converters (DAC) and S/PDIF digital interface will output. The Xonar Xense audio card can support sample rates up to 192KHz (44.1K, 48K, 96K, 192KHz). Usually audio CDs and MP3 files are 44.1KHz; DVD-Video uses 48KHz;...

<u>Page 24</u> 3D/Dolby sound processing accordingly. Select the correct speaker type for your connected speakers. Speaker Test Click this button to show the speaker test window in the right pane. Click Play to test each speaker or click each speaker manually to test. Headphone Advanced Setting Click this button to select the appropriate headphone impedance.

<u>Page 25</u> S/PDIF Out/DDL Xonar Xense is capable of outputting Dolby Digital Live, which is a real-time encoder that transcodes any audio, including games and music, into industry-standard Dolby Digital bit-streams on-the-fly. This is ideal for playback through a home theater system, creating an immersive and impressive cinema surround sound experience.

<u>Page 26</u> Hence, you need to set this in accordance with your audio content before you play it. This setting is synchronized with Windows Vista/7's system speaker configuration and changing this setting...

<u>Page 27</u> Shifter enable/disable Tick this checkbox to enable the 7.1 Virtual Speaker Shifter. Click the textbar to switch the right window to the Speaker Shifter page for manual adjustments. The setting will not change when a different Analog Output is selected.

<u>Page 28</u> Pro-Logic IIx page for manual adjustments. Center Width This parameter is used to set the spread of the center, mainly for the vocal signals of songs/music. Drag the scroll bar to the left to centralize the vocal signal. Drag to the right side to widen the vocal sound range.

<u>Page 29</u> 7.1 Virtual Speaker Shifter and Dolby Pro-Logic IIx can be selected only when Dolby Headphone is enabled. Dolby Headphone (DH) provides three room filters that may be used with any type of audio. They differ in the sense of the "spatial dimension" they impart.

Page 30 5.1-channel surround listening experience from any high-quality stereo source. Dolby Virtual Speaker enable/disable Tick this checkbox to enable Dolby Virtual Speaker. Click the text bar to switch the right window to a Dolby Virtual Speaker page for manual adjusting. Reference Mode Dolby Virtual Speaker provides two modes of virtualization: Reference Mode and Wide Mode.

#### Page 31: Mixer/Volume

Only available in Windows ® Volume slider Drag this slider down to decrease the volume. Drag it up to increase the volume. The tool-tip reveals the percentage number from 1 to 100 in terms of the full scale level. Mute/unmute button Click this button to mute/unmute the audio channel.

Page 32 Click this button to select the path/source you are going to record. The recording function on Windows is a one-path selector. Hence, you can select only one default recording source at a time. You may have to restart the recorder program if you switch to a different source.

Page 33 The audio is mixed into the streams you are playing out from your PC and all DSP effects is applied to the source, too. A typical benefit is to apply Dolby Pro-Logic IIx 7.1-ch spreading for your TV audio, CD, MP3, or stereo game console audio from Wii, Xbox, and

PS2/PS3/PSP.

#### Page 34: Effects

Effects Environment Effects Use environment effects to create realistic listening experiences that mimic different environments. There are a total of 27 environment options that can be applied to all 2D sound sources such as music. Default environments These four buttons activate Bathroom, Concert hall, Underwater, and Music Pub environments.

Page 35 10-Band Equalizer The equalizer modifies the audio output for different frequencies, and is used to compensate for deficiencies in your speakers/systems. There are 12 default patterns and you can also customize your own settings. Equalizer slider Adjust the gain for each band (30~16KHz) Default equalizer options Click an equalizer pattern from the 12 available equalizer patterns.

#### Page 36: Flexbass

Large: wide-band speakers that can produce low frequencies well. FlexBass comes with an adjustable crossover frequency for the boundary of the bass signals. It filters out the bass signals from small speaker channels and redirects them all to the subwoofer or Large speakers.

#### Page 37: Smart Volume Normalization

MP3, TV program, DVD video and even games with consistent sound level. The following graph shows how different signals 1 & 2 achieve the same level (for example, 10dB below full scale) after you turn on SVN. For lower volume music 2, it becomes louder when you turn on SVN.

<u>Page 38</u> When SVN is enabled, "Smart Volume" lights up to display the volume level. SVN blue light When SVN is enabled, the master volume knob is illuminated by a blue light. It is illuminated by a red light if the volume is muted.

#### Page 39: Gx And Dsp Modes

Supports latest GX 2.5 for gaming on Vista/Win 7 & XP GX 2.5 not only revives EAX and DirectSound HW effects, but also allows you to run EAX HD 5.0 games on both XP and Vista/Win 7. It provides the best compatibility with existing DirectX games.

<u>Page 40</u> Hardware extensions for many DirectX/DirectSound3D games on Windows ® XP/Vista/7. Hi-Fi Mode This mode is set for Hi-Fidelity playback, where all effects are cleared to keep the original digital data and analog output quality as high as possible. Racing Mode This mode is set for Racing Games.

#### Page 41: Troubleshooting

If no device is found, please try scanning for new hardware. • Try rebooting your computer. • Remove the card, plug it into another PCI Express slot, and try again. I cannot find the Xonar Xense Audio Center. • Ensure that you have installed the driver. •...

<u>Page 42</u> • Check if you are using a Dolby Digital Live encoder through the S/PDIF output. If this is the case, the analog output is muted to get rid of any interference between your digital speaker system and analog speakers or headphones.

#### Page 43: Frequently Asked Questions (Faqs)

(96K/192KHz) in hi-fidelity playback. This is also usually the behavior that professional audiophiles and musicians prefer. • If you still want to have the effects, you can use some editing software such as Ableton Live, Cakewalk, CoolEdit, or Soundforge to convert the sounds into 48KHz files.

Page 44 Hence, in most scenarios, we suggest that you keep it in "Speakers" to enjoy the full control functions of the Xonar sound card. You could actually still get LPCM audio data monitoring from S/PDIF-Out port as analog Front channel output in this situation.

#### Page 45: Asus Contact Information

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Online support support.asus.com \* EUR 0.14/minute from a German fixed landline; EUR 0.42/minute from a mobile phone. ASUS Xonar Xense...