



# Asus XONAR ESSENCE - Sound Card - 192 kHz User Manual

User manual



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(80 pages)

## Summary of Contents for Asus XONAR ESSENCE - Sound Card - 192 kHz

[Page 1](#) Xonar Essence STX Audio card User manual...

[Page 2](#) Product warranty or service will not be extended if: (1) the product is repaired, modified or altered, unless such repair, modification or alteration is authorized in writing by ASUS; or (2) the serial number of the product is defaced or missing.

## [Page 3: Table Of Contents](#)

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## [Page 4: Notices](#)

Notices 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, and • This device must accept any interference received including interference that may cause undesired operation.

## [Page 5: Safety Information](#)

Trademarks Xonar and ASUS logo are trademarks of ASUSTek Computer Inc. “Dolby” and “Dolby Digital Live”, “Dolby Pro Logic IIx”, “Dolby Virtual Speaker”, “Dolby Headphone” are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories. EAX and A3D are trademarks of Creative Technology Ltd.

## [Page 6: Introduction](#)

Introduction Package contents • ASUS Xonar Essence STX PCI Express audio card • 3.5mm-to-RCA cable x1 • 3.5mm-to-6.3mm adapter x1 • S/PDIF TOSLINK optical adapter x1 • Support CD • Audio Precision Test Report System requirements • One PCI Express 1.0 (or higher) compatible slot for the audio card •...

## [Page 7: Specifications Summary](#)

Audio Performance -Compatible with X1, X4, X8, X16 PCI Express slots 124dB for Front-out Output Signal-to-Noise Ratio (A-Weighted): 110dB for Headphone-out ASUS AV100 High-Definition Sound Processor (Max. Input Signal-to-Noise Ratio (A-Weighted): 118dB 192KHz/24bit) Texas Instruments PCM1792A\*1 for Front-Out (127dB Output Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise at 1kHz 0.0003% (-110dB) for Front-out...

[Page 8](#) DirectSound3D GX 2.5 & 1.0, EAX 2.0&1.0, 3D Gaming Sound Engines/APIs DirectSound HW, DirectSound SW, OpenAL generic modes, 128 3D sounds processing capability Supports 44.1K/48K/96K/192KHz @16/24bit with very ASIO 2.0 Driver Support: low latency \*Specifications are subject to change without notice. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 9: Xonar Essence Stx Card Layout](#)

Xonar Essence STX Audio Center to match your headphone impedance. Microphone In port Connect your external PC microphone to this port for voice input. Built-in high-quality Microphone pre-amplifier. (continued on the next page) ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 10](#) Connects to a graphics card with HDMI output. NOTE: When using Dolby Digital Live on S/PDIF output, make sure the connected graphics card is capable of decoding DDL; otherwise, there will be no audio output from the graphics card’s HDMI port. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 11: Installing The Hardware](#)

Remove the metal bracket from an available PCI Express x1 slot for the Xonar Essence STX audio card. Carefully insert the audio card into the PCI Express x1 slot. Ensure the audio card sits properly in place. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 12: Installing The Xonar Essence Stx Card](#)

Plug the power cord to the computer and to a power outlet. Power ON the computer. The PCI Express high-quality audio card requires additional power from your computer. If the power cable is not connected properly, the audio card will not work at all. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 13: Connecting To A Tv Tuner Card](#)

Using this setup, you can even turn on sound effects such as Pro-Logic IIx to expand the stereo TV audio to 5.1 or 7.1 channel surround sound. TV audio on your PC will become even better than on your TV set. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 14: Installing Software](#)

“END USER LICENCE AGREEMENT” in the process and make sure you understand and accept it before you continue the installation. When the installation finishes, you may be prompted to restart your computer. You can choose to restart the computer later if desired. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 15: Connecting Speakers And Peripherals](#)

You can also use a coaxial cable for a S/PDIF connection. Just plug the coaxial RCA male connector to the S/PDIF-Out combo jack and connect the other end into the coaxial S/PDIF input on your decoder. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 16: Connecting Stereo Headphones](#)

Connecting stereo headphones Headphone Out The Headphone Out port has a built-in high-quality amplifier to drive headphones. Connect your stereo headphones to the Headphone Out port on the Xonar Essence STX card. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 17: Connecting 2/2.1 Channel Speakers](#)

The Left/Right Front Out ports have a built-in high-quality amplifier to drive headphones. Connect the 2/2.1 speaker set's 3.5mm plug to the bundled RCA-to-3.5mm Y cable, and then connect the Left/Right ends to the Front Left/Right Out ports on the Xonar Essence STX card. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 18: Connecting Microphone](#)

Y cable, and then connect the Left/Right ends to the Front Left/Right Out ports on the Xonar Essence STX card. Microphone Input port Connect your external PC microphone to this port by using the bundled 6.3mm-to-3.5mm adapter for voice communication, recording, or karaoke. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 19: Connecting Line-In Audio Sources](#)

Connect the CD/MP3 Player or any other Line level analog audio sources to this Line-In port by using the bundled 6.3mm-to-3.5mm adapter for sound recording or real-time Dolby sound processing through the Monitoring path (See the Mixer section of the driver guide). ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 20: Xonar Audio Center](#)

Xonar Audio Center utility. If the icon could not be found in the system tray, launch the Xonar Audio Center from the Windows desktop by clicking Start > All Programs > ASUS Xonar Essence STX Audio > Xonar Essence STX Audio Center.

[Page 21](#) Item Description Support link Clicking this button will lead you to the ASUS official website. Display Area This display area shows the 10-band signal meter, volume level, and the status of the Dolby/DTS technologies, EQ, and DSP modes. Note: this area just displays information, but is not used to alter settings.

## [Page 22: Main Setting](#)

The Xonar Essence STX card supports sample rates up to 192KHz (44.1K, 48K, 96K, 192KHz). Typical values: -Audio CD, MP3, WMA, Wave files are 44.1KHz; -The audio of DVD-Video is 48KHz; -DVD-Audio or other HD media may contain 96KHz or 192KHz high-definition audio content. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 23](#) Click the “play” button to test each speaker one by one or click each speaker manually to test. HP Advanced Setting Clicking this button allows you to select the gain tuning according to your headphone impedance. The setting is also available for FP Headphone. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 24: Spdif Out/Ddl](#)

-Dolby Digital Live real-time 5.1ch encoding Dolby Digital Live This advanced setting will automatically upmix stereo (2ch) advanced upmixing content to 5.1 channel surround with Dolby Pro-Logic II when option using Dolby Digital Live output. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...



[Page 25](#) -MP3, WMA, AAC, CD, VCD, 2D games => 2 channels -DVD-Video with Dolby Digital or DTS 5.1 => 6 channels -DVD-Video with Dolby Digital EX or DTS ES => 8 channels -3D games => 8 channels ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 26](#) Make all speakers (except Subwoofer) rotate clockwise Manual Rotation Manually drag and rotate all speakers (except Subwoofer) Manual Drag Mode This is the default mode that allows you to manually drag each speaker or the listener with your mouse. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 27](#) Drag to the right side to widen the vocal sound range. Reset Reset all settings to the defaults. Dimension The dimension parameter fades sounds to the front or rear of the listener. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 28](#) They differ in the sense of the "spatial dimension" they impart. DH1—Reference Room: Small, acoustically damped room. DH2—Livelier Room: More acoustically live than DH1 DH3—Larger Room: Larger room than DH1; more distant and diffused effect. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 29](#) Dolby Virtual Speaker provides two modes of virtualization: The first is Reference mode, which virtualizes the missing speakers as in the following picture. Wide Mode Wide mode virtualizes the necessary speakers and enhances the surround experience as in the following picture. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

### [Page 30: Mixer/Volume](#)

- CD: CD-ROM digital playback (CD-DA) volume control - LEFT, RIGHT...: the volume control for each speaker/ channel NOTE: Windows Vista does not support WAVE, Synthesizer ® and CD-In volume controls. Reset Reset all volume controls to the default settings ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 31](#) If you connect your microphone to the front panel audio module, enable "Front Panel Microphone". For typical low-cost PC microphone, it's recommended to enable this function. (continued on the next page) ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 32](#) Line-In: recording from Line-in jack for external audio devices WAVE: recording from digital wave audio you are playing on PC (Note: Windows Vista doesn't support WAVE recording.) Reset Click to reset all volume controls to the default settings. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

### [Page 33: Effects](#)

Clicking this button will apply the environment effect that you select from the pull-down menu on the right side. There are another 23 options in this menu. Environment size There are three size settings for each environment: Large, Medium, and Small. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 34](#) Key in a name for your own "User Defined" equalizer setting Add / save Click this "+" button to save the parameters into User Defined list Delete Click this "-" button to delete the parameters from User Defined list ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

### [Page 35: Karaoke](#)

0 to +100. +100 will eliminate most original vocals (default value is 50). Mic Echo Select the Mic Echo function and adjust the gain for echo signals (30~16KHz) Reset Reset all settings to the default. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

### [Page 36: Flexbass](#)

Large speakers because the subwoofer can redirect the bass signals inside the two channels to the subwoofer speaker automatically. Picture for Small/ Colors for small/large speakers are different. Large speaker Orange: large speakers Green: small speakers ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 37](#) Xonar Essence STX will filter out the bass signals below the crossover frequency from small speaker channels and forward them to the subwoofer. The higher the crossover frequency, the more bass signals will be subtracted. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 38: Smart Volume Normalization](#)

(for example, 10dB below full scale) after you turn on SVN. Please note that for lower volume music 2, it will become louder when you turn on SVN; and for higher volume music 1, it will become quieter. 0dB (Full-scale) Music 1 -10 dB Music 2 SVN On SVN Off ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 39](#) It will be lit red if the volume is muted. SVN display When SVN is enabled, "Smart Volume" will be lit up at the bottom of the volume meter and the volume meter will show the level. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 40: Ds3D Gx And Dsp Modes](#)

Use the DSP mode button as the quick setup if you don't wish to know the details of the effect setup. (Note: no sound effects will be applied to high-definition 96KHz/192KHz content.) ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 41](#) Music Mode This mode is set for Music playback. Movie Mode This mode is set for DVD Movie playback. Game Mode This mode is set for Games. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 42: Vocalfx](#)

It emulates different background environment effects when you chat online. Magic Voice Changes your voice pitch to different types for disguising your real voice or just for fun in online chatting. App List You can add VOIP application into VOIP application List. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 43](#) For VOIP Press App List If you don't see the VOIP application of yours in the list, press Add. (Make sure the Skype and MSN Messenger are the latest version) Look for the application's location and Open it. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 44](#) GX function is enabled. Click "OK" to accept it, or "Cancel" if you want to enable it later. Check "Don't remind me again" if you don't want to see this message pop up next time. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 45: Troubleshooting And Faqs](#)

Center will remind you a warning message and will not allow your operation when you double-click Xonar Essence STX Audio Center icon in the system tray. Ensure that you have connected speakers properly and have powered on your speakers. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 46](#) If you are using a TV tuner card which has digital audio output instead of analog, check that the sound is not muted and whether other applications can play sound out. If you still have problem, read the TV tuner card's software user guide. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

## [Page 47: \[Faq\]](#)

Ultra High Fidelity SNR at 192K/24bit, which is the high quality consumer audio card in the world. Therefore, it's also the best card to deliver the high quality audio through an analog connection to your home theater system or high-end multi-channel speakers. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 48](#) S/PDIF output port. For attaining 5.1 channel surround sounds, you can select Dolby Digital Live encoding output from the S/PDIF out menu, which will allow the Xonar Essence STX to deliver 5.1 surround sound for DVD movies, and even stereo music. ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

[Page 49](#) ASUS Xonar Essence STX...

This manual is also suitable for:

Xonar essence stx