



IMPACT LX MINI

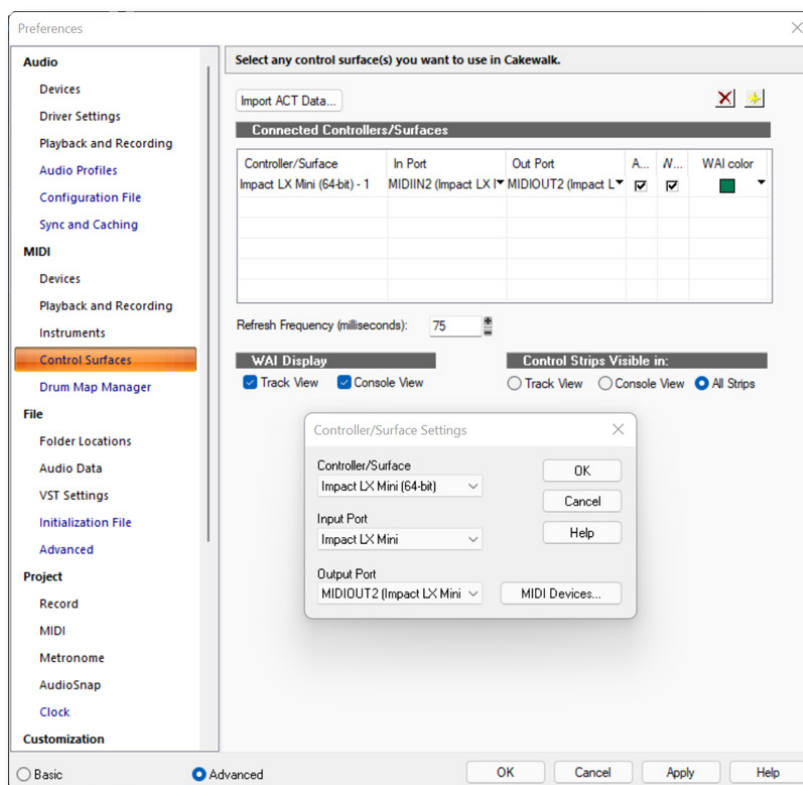
## Installation & setup

The LX Mini Cakewalk Integration is compatible the latest version of Cakewalk by Bandlab as well as earlier versions running on Windows 7 or higher. If you don't have the latest version of Cakewalk, you can download it [here](#).

### Installation

- If you haven't yet updated the firmware in your LX Mini complete that step first. The firmware update files are a separate download available from MY ACCOUNT on our website. With the firmware update complete, move on to the next steps.
- Locate the 'Impact\_LX\_Mini\_Cakewalk\_support' installer included with this package and run it.
- Plug-in your LX Mini and make sure it's switched on (if you didn't do so already).
- Launch Cakewalk and go to Edit/Preferences/MIDI/Devices.
- Make sure the following ports are ticked:  
**Inputs:** Impact LX Mini  
**Inputs:** MIDIIN2 (Impact LX Mini)  
**Outputs:** MIDIOUT2 (Impact LX Mini)
- Click 'Apply'.
- In Cakewalk Preferences, select MIDI/Control Surfaces (see image below).
- Click on the yellow start icon.
- The Controller/Surface Settings dialogue box now appears.  
Make the following selections as per image on the right:  
**Controller/Surface:** Impact LX Mini  
**Input Port:** MIDIIN2 (IMPACT LX Mini)  
**Output Port:** MIDIOUT2 (Impact LX Mini)
- Click "OK" to exit.

That's it, setup is now complete and you can move on to the fun part, learning how it all works



## Cakewalk and LX Mini working together

With the Cakewalk integration files installed and setup complete, LX Mini is ready to control Cakewalk's transport functions, track change, track/channel volume, open/close windows and of course instrument plugins. All of this works seamlessly alongside LX Mini's internal MIDI functions as detailed in the owner's manual. Start by checking that DAW integration is setup correctly and working, by pressing the play button on LX Mini to activate play in Cakewalk.

### Transport Control

The transport buttons are set up to activate or deactivate the following transport functions: Click on/off, Rewind (in 1 bar decrements), Forward (in 1 bar increments), Loop, Stop, Play and Record.

Press the [Shift] button to illuminate. When the button is blue, the transport buttons switch to their secondary assignments as indicated by the blue screen printing above the buttons.

The white screen printing also indicate additional functionality which can be accessed by pressing the transport buttons while holding [Shift]. For example, [Shift]+[Click] will activate Undo in Cakewalk.

The chart below shows you what each button or button combination control.

| BLUE LED BUTTON OFF |                                  | BLUE LED BUTTON ON |                                   | [SHIFT] FUNCTIONS |                        |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| BUTTON              | PARAMETER                        | BUTTON             | PARAMETER                         | BUTTON COMB.      | PARAMETER              |
| Click               | Metronome on/off.                | S1                 | Open Mixer. Press twice to close. | Shift + Click     | Undo.                  |
| ◀◀                  | Rewind, 1 bar. Press to scroll.  | S2                 | Open Instrument window.           | Shift + ◀◀        | Goto start loop point. |
| ▶▶                  | Forward, 1 bar. Press to scroll. | S3                 | -                                 | Shift + ▶▶        | Goto end loop point.   |
| ↺↻                  | Loop on/off.                     | ◀ Track            | Select previous track.            | Shift + ↺↻        | Set start loop point.  |
| ■                   | Stop.                            | Track ▶            | Select next track.                | Shift + ■         | Set end loop point.    |
| ▶                   | Play. Press again to pause.      | ◀ Patch            | Previous instrument in rack*.     | Shift + ▶         | -                      |
| ●                   | Record.                          | Patch ▶            | Next instrument in rack*.         | Shift + ●         | Track record arm.      |

\* To open and close the correct instrument window, you'll need to use the Patch buttons to navigate the instrument rack.

### Open/close Cakewalk windows

Make sure [Shift] is illuminated blue. If it's not, press the button.

The 2 buttons with S1 and S2 printed in blue above, now open Cakewalk windows mixer and instrument. To close the window again, press the button twice in quick succession.

### Track change

To navigate Cakewalk tracks from Impact LX Mini, make sure the [Shift] button is illuminated blue. Next press the button [<Track] to go to the previous track and [Track>] to go to the next track. This is the same as using the arrow up/down keys on your computer keyboard.

### Navigating the synth rack

To navigate Cakewalk's Synth Rack, from Impact LX Mini, make sure the [Shift] button is illuminated blue. Next press the button [<Patch] to go to the previous synth slot and [Patch>] to go to the next synth slot. This is the same as using the arrow up/down keys on your computer keyboard.

### Undo

Press [Shift]+[Click/Undo] to undo the last action in Cakewalk.

### Set and goto loop start/end

Adding a few button presses to your workflow can greatly help navigating a project without taking your hands off LX Mini.

- Press [Shift]+[Rwd/Goto L] to move the Cakewalk playback to Loop Start.
- Press [Shift]+[Fwd/Goto R] to move the Cakewalk playback to Loop End.

If loop is on in Cakewalk, press [Shift] to select the primary assignments and press [Loop] to switch off. Cakewalk will now play beyond the right locator.

- Press [Shift]+[Loop] to set Loop Start as Cakewalk is playing.
- Press [Shift]+[Stop] to set Loop End at the point where you want it.

Next activate [Loop] again and press [Shift]+[Rwd/Goto L]. Cakewalk now play the loop as set.

### Record arm

To record on a track in Cakewalk, you first need to enable record. You can do that from LX Mini by pressing [Shift]+[Record] to toggle the record-arm setting on or off.

### Volume control, soft take-over and LED indicators

The large pot by default control the currently selected track's volume. Move the pot all the way up and down. The Cakewalk mixer's volume parameter associated with the currently selected track, is now controlled.

You may have experienced that volume was not controlled immediately as you moved the pot. This is caused by soft take-over which helps avoid parameter jumping when using any of LX Mini's 9 pots. For example, if the large pot is not in sync with the current channel volume, moving the pot will not cause a change until its position matches the value of the parameter.

In addition, the two LEDs below the pot indicate which direction the pot should be turned to change volume. If for example the right LED is red, move the pot to the right. Once the pot's position matches the current tracks volume setting, the two LEDs will both illuminate green and the parameter is controlled.

When you change track, the LEDs update to indicate the current status of the selected track.

### Controlling master volume

You can also use the large pot to control the Cakewalk mixer's master volume. Press and hold the [Shift] button and move the pot.

### Controlling instruments

Instrument plugins are controlled via selection in the Synth Rack. With the [Shift] button active (blue) press [S3] to open/close the synth rack or press [Alt+9] on your computer keyboard.

With the synth rack in view, it's easier to select the correct slot using [<Patch] and [Patch>]. **Note:** it's not possible to control instruments if synth rack slots are selected using the mouse or your computer keyboards arrows. If control is not working immediately, press [<Patch] and then [Patch>] to reset control.

Next make sure to press [Instrument] to control the hosted plugin instrument. Impact LX Mini automatically map the hosted instrument plugin's parameters and is premapped for most of the popular instrument plugins available. That includes of course the instruments that come with Cakewalk.

On Impact LX Mini, press the [Page] button until the blue LED button labeled "Default" is illuminated. If the plugin is premapped, mapping now corresponds to the blue screen printing on your Impact LX Mini.

The 8 pots are assigned to oscillator and filter parameters as indicated by the blue silk screen printing.

As you control parameters the two LED's below the large pot update to provide current soft take-over status. Check the section "Volume control soft take-over and LED indicators" on the previous page for a recap.

Now press [Page] again so the LED labeled "User" is illuminated. The Nektar mapping for this page will typically augment the default mapping with oscillator 1 parameters mapped on the Default page and oscillator 2 parameters mapped for the same controls on the User page. The idea however is that you customize this page to your needs.

With Cakewalk you can however customize both Default and User control pages if you prefer a completely different setup. Read the next section to learn how that works.

### "Grab" plugin instrument mapping

The unique "Grab" function allows you to quickly assign controls to parameters on the device associated with the current track for the control page currently selected (User or Default).

- Press and hold [Shift] on LX Mini.
- Move the parameters you want to control, on the instrument associated with the current track,
- Release the [Shift] button
- Move each of the controls in the order you want the parameters you moved to be assigned to those controls

### Save plugin instrument mapping

"Grab" enables quick temporary assignments. The assignments are not stored but remain active for as long as Cakewalk is open. You can however save them to an Impact LX Mini map file. To save the current assignments, press [Shift] twice in quick succession. A saved map is recalled every time you create an instrument track with the corresponding plugin instrument.

### Drum instruments can be played from LX Mini's keyboard or pads

Operating a drum instrument works the same way as any other instrument and using the Pad maps 1+2 you are able to play many drum instruments straight away. However there is no exact standard for how drum sounds should be mapped so you may have instruments where the Impact LX Mini pads don't trigger the sounds you want.

Thankfully there is a learn function for that.

### 'Learning' a plugin instrument's drum sounds to the pads

It's easy to change a pad note assignment using the Pad Learn function. It works as follows:

- Press [Shift]+[Internal] to activate Setup mode. The Internal button's LED now blinks white.
- On the keyboard, press E1, labeled 'Pad Learn'.
- All pad LEDs are now off, except the currently select pad. Press any pad to select it.
- Press a key on the keyboard to learn its note to the selected pad. Use the octave buttons if necessary.
- Repeat steps 3 and 4 to select pads and assign notes.
- Press [Instrument], [Internal] or [Function] to exit when done.

The pad assignments are retained in memory until changed or a pad map is loaded. Make sure to store in one of the 4 pad maps if you want to be able to recall your assignments at any time.

### Support

If you are not getting the results described, please check your installation one more time as well as the Nektar support tab on our website [www.nektartech.com](http://www.nektartech.com). You can also contact our support staff [here](#)