



IMPACT LX MINI

Installation & setup

The LX Mini Cubase Integration is compatible with all versions of Cubase from v5 and higher and works with Nuendo as well.

These instructions assume that you have a compatible version of Cubase or Nuendo installed, running on Windows 7 or higher / MacOS 10.7 or higher. Throughout, we talk about Cubase but the same instructions apply to Nuendo.

Installation

- If you haven't yet updated the firmware in your LX Mini, complete this 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 'LX_Mini_Steinberg_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 Cubase and go to Studio/Studio Setup/MIDI Port Setup or Devices/Device Setup/MIDI Port Setup in older version
- Un-tick the second Impact LX Mini port in the "In 'All MIDI'" column. The second port is named "MIDIIN2 (IMPACT LX Mini)" (image 1) in Windows and "Impact LX Mini MIDI2" in MacOS.
- Next, check that Impact LX Mini appears in the Device Setup list and click it to select.
- With the Impact LX Mini remote device selected, set 'Smart Switch Delay' to off. This avoids any issues with interpretation of button presses.
- Click 'OK' and exit Device/Studio Setup.

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

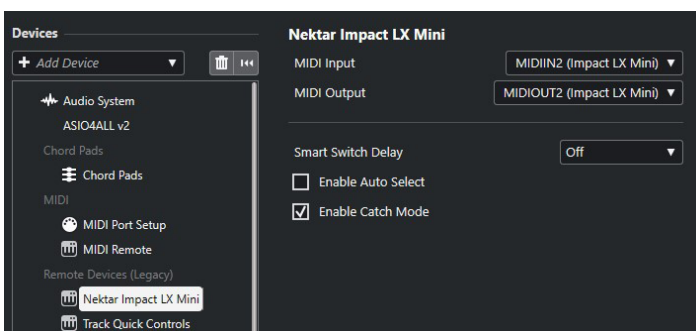
Windows MIDI Port Setup

Device	I/O	Port System Name	Show As	Visible	State	In 'All MIDI'
Windows MIDI	In	Impact LX Mini	Impact LX Mini	☒	Active	☒
Windows MIDI	In	MIDIIN2 (Impact LX Mini)	MIDIIN2 (Impact LX Mini)	☒	Active	☐
Windows MIDI	Out	Impact LX Mini	Impact LX Mini	☒	Active	
Windows MIDI	Out	MIDIOUT2 (Impact LX Mini)	MIDIOUT2 (Impact LX Mini)	☒	Active	

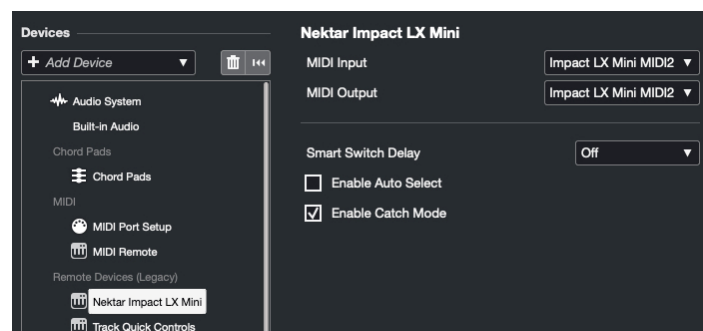
MacOS MIDI Port Setup

I/O	Port System Name	Show As	Visible	State	In 'All MIDI'
In	Impact LX Mini MIDI1	Impact LX Mini MIDI1	☒	Active	☒
In	Impact LX Mini MIDI2	Impact LX Mini MIDI2	☒	Active	☐
Out	Impact LX Mini MIDI1	Impact LX Mini MIDI1	☒	Active	
Out	Impact LX Mini MIDI2	Impact LX Mini MIDI2	☒	Active	

Device or Studio Setup Windows



Device or Studio Setup MacOS



Cubase and LX Mini working together

With the Cubase integration files installed and setup complete, LX Mini is ready to control Cubase'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 Cubase.

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), Cycle, 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 Cubase.

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/close Mixer	Shift + Click	Undo
⏮	Rewind, 1 bar. Press to scroll	S2	Open/close Instrument window	Shift + ⏮	Goto left locator
⏭	Forward, 1 bar. Press to scroll	S3	Open/close Channel Strip	Shift + ⏭	Goto right locator
↺↻	Cycle on/off	◀ Track	Select previous track	Shift + ↺↻	Set left locator
■	Stop.	Track ▶	Select next track	Shift + ■	Set right locator
▶	Play. Press again to pause	◀ Patch	Previous instrument patch*	Shift + ▶	-
●	Record	Patch ▶	Next instrument patch*	Shift + ●	Auto Quantize

* Patches=Cubase user presets. Make sure at least 2 presets are saved in Cubase's browser.

Open/close Cubase windows

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

The 3 buttons with S1, S2 and S3 printed in blue above, now toggle Cubase windows mixer, instrument plugin and channel strip open/closed. [S2] is possibly the most important of the 3 because it enables opening instrument plugins following a track change or closing the current instrument window to view recording activity.

Track change

To navigate Cubase 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.

Transport control

Changing patches

You can step through instrument patches from LX Mini if the hosted plugin is compatible with VST patch change. Many plugins are, including of course Steinberg's own instruments. If the current patch name appear in the Cubase instrument header and the list of patches appear when you click in the field, it's possible to change patches from LX Mini. Press the [Patch>] button to go to the next patch or [<Patch] to go to the previous patch.

Undo

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

Set and goto Cycle start/end

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

- Press [Shift]+[Rwd/Goto L] to move the Cubase playback to the left locator.
- Press [Shift]+[Fwd/Goto R] to move the Cubase playback to the right locator.

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

- Press [Shift]+[Cycle] to set the left locator as Cubase is playing.
- Press [Shift]+[Stop] to set the right locator at the point where you want it.

Next activate [Cycle] again and press [Shift]+[Rwd/Goto L]. Cubase now play between the locators as set.

Auto quantize

The auto quantize feature in Cubase will quantize all incoming MIDI data at point of recording. Press [Shift]+[Record] to toggle AQ on/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 Cubase 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 Cubase mixer's master volume. Press and hold the [Shift] button and move the pot.

Controlling instruments

When an instrument track is selected in Cubase, press [Instrument] to control the hosted plugin instrument. Impact LX Mini automatically map the hosted instrument plugin's parameters. If you select any other type of track, there are no parameters to control.

LX Mini is premapped for most of the popular instrument plugins available including of course the instruments that come with Cubase.

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 silk 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 Cubase 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 Cubase 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.

Syncronization and using LX Mini pads

Syncronize LX Mini repeat/arpeggiator to Cubase

If LX Mini receives MIDI clock on MIDI port 1, it will automatically switch to external syncronization. To send clock from Cubase, check the setup details on this page: <https://nektartech.com/midi-sync-and-your-nektar-controller/>

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. You can also contact our support staff [here](#)