

Alpha USB[®] Driver for Windows PC Computers

Installation Instructions v1.1.3

NOTE: PC's using Microsoft Windows 10 release 1703 and above do not require installation of the Alpha USB Windows driver and the driver provided with Windows should be used. Only Microsoft Windows PC's using Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 8.1 and earlier versions of 10 require the Alpha USB Windows driver. Windows 7, 8 and 10 function well as an audio server and are preferred over XP. Vista is not recommended.

To install the Windows driver, open the **AlphaUSB_Windows_Driver_1v26b** folder and run **setup.exe**.

If the **AlphaUSB_Windows_Driver_1v26b** folder was downloaded in a zipped folder it must be extracted first before installing the Windows driver.

NOTE: For Windows 8, 8.1 and older versions of 10, the 1v26b version of the Alpha USB Windows driver will install and operate without issues but Windows 7 compatibility mode must be used for the installation.

Using Windows 7 compatibility installation mode:

Right click on the driver **setup.exe** icon, select **Properties** from the contextual menu then click on the **Compatibility** tab. In the Compatibility section, select the **Run this program in compatibility mode for:** check box and select **Windows 7** from the drop-down list. Click on the **OK** button and then run **setup.exe**.

Follow the onscreen instructions, which include connecting the Alpha USB to a USB port, and, usually, exiting any Microsoft Wizard that tries to do things automatically. During the installation two dialog boxes may appear warning that Microsoft has not blessed the software. Click on the **Install Anyway** button in both cases.

Windows compatible music players such as JRiver Media Center should be used to provide bit-perfect output. Windows Media Player is not recommended.

For Windows XP, ASIO must be used to connect the music player to the USB output to get bit perfect data. The Alpha USB ASIO driver identifies itself as "TUSBaudio ASIO driver" in the music player's output select setup dialog. A "Kernel Streaming" output may also appear. Do not select it. Kernel streaming is an experimental protocol that is only loosely specified, and it does not work with the Alpha USB. JRiver Media Center, Media Monkey and Foobar all support ASIO for Windows XP.

For Windows 7, 8 and 10 the preferred connection is WASAPI. It provides low-overhead, bit-perfect data output with automatic sample rate switching, and works very well. Media Monkey 3 does not support WASAPI so JRiver Media Center should be used with Windows 7, 8 and 10. When using JRiver Media Center 15 or later, WASAPI - Event Style output mode should be used.

For further information on the Alpha USB, please contact Berkeley Audio Design, LLC at: info@berkeleyaudiodesign.com or call 1-510-277-0512.