

## Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX Creative Audio Software

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**CAUTION:** This device is intended to be connected by the user to a CSA/TUV/UL certified/listed IBM AT or compatible personal computer in the manufacturer's defined operator access area. Check the equipment operating/installation manual and/or with the equipment manufacturer to verify/confirm if your equipment is suitable for devices.

**ATTENTION:** Ce périphérique est destiné à être connecté par l'utilisateur à un ordinateur IBM AT certifié ou listé CSA/TUV/UL ou compatible, à l'intérieur de la zone d'accès définie par le fabricant. Consulter le mode d'emploi/guide d'installation et/ou le fabricant de l'appareil pour vérifier ou confirmer qu'il est possible de connecter d'autres périphériques à votre système.

### **Notice for the USA**

FCC Part 15: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio

communications. However, this notice is not a guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician.

**CAUTION:** To comply with the limits for the Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules, this device must be installed in computer equipment certified to comply with the Class B limits.

All cables used to connect the computer and peripherals must be shielded and grounded. Operation with non-certified computers or non-shielded cables may result in interference to radio or television reception.

### **Modifications**

Any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer of this device could void the user's authority to operate the device.

### **Notice for Canada**

This apparatus complies with the Class "B" limits for radio interference as specified in the Canadian Department of Communications Radio Interference Regulations.

Cet appareil est conforme aux normes de CLASSE

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This product conforms to the following Council Directive:

- Directive 89/336/EEC, 92/31/EEC (EMC), 73/23/EEC (LVD), (73/23/EEC), as amended by directive 93/68/EEC.

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This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules.  
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# Introduction



## Introduction

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### Welcome to high-definition digital audio entertainment

Thank you for purchasing Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX, which consists of the Sound Blaster Audigy card, Audigy Extension card, the external Audigy Drive and the IR remote control. It is the most complete high-definition digital audio entertainment solution available.

With the onboard 24-bit Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC) and Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC), Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX delivers high-definition sound of astounding quality with 96 kHz SPDIF support. The Sound Blaster Audigy card, with its Audigy processor, is four times as powerful as its nearest competitor. This enables awesome EAX ADVANCED HD™ technologies for your games and music listening experience.

The external Audigy Drive is designed for your convenience. You can place it away from the computer and nearer to your work area. On its front panel, you can plug in your microphone and headphones, and adjust the gain/volume. The external Audigy Drive also provides Creative SB1394, MIDI, and digital connectors for your audio/video recording and content authoring purposes. The SB1394 port provides easy high-speed connectivity to portable digital audio players, external CD-RW drives and other IEEE 1394 compatible devices like DV Camcorders, printers, scanners and digital still cameras.

In addition, the external Audigy Drive can be used with an IR remote control. The infrared receiver on the external Audigy Drive lets you control your computer and perform tasks (such as playing audio CDs and video CDs) up to a distance of four metres.

Combine Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX with a rich software bundle and you get endless hours of fun.



## What is EAX ADVANCED HD™?



EAX ADVANCED HD™ technology delivers advanced audio functionality and performance, adding sophisticated audio processing capabilities, interactive and high-definition sound to digital entertainment. EAX ADVANCED HD™ technologies are implemented across a range of audio hardware solutions, system software, application software, and application programming interfaces (APIs) from Creative.

With EAX ADVANCED HD™ technology-enabled products, you can shape and customize your audio experience. EAX ADVANCED HD™ technology also offers advanced audio capabilities for music composition and sound design. EAX ADVANCED HD™ technology is redefining the audio experience.

Driven by a new and improved Digital Signal Processing engine, Sound Blaster Audigy offers twice the effects processing power of Sound Blaster Live!, giving you even more realism in gaming, music, and movies. Sound Blaster Audigy delivers superior audio fidelity and sophisticated reverb effects for an unsurpassed digital entertainment experience. Additionally, advanced new algorithms offer powerful 3D localization effects for all speaker configurations.

In games, experience multiple audio effects, each positioned in 3D. Enjoy Dolby Digital 5.1 audio with your movies. Record and enjoy your favorite MP3 songs with a “concert hall”, “jazz club” or other environment effect. Jam with your guitar, adding EAX ADVANCED HD™ effects like overdrive and distortion to your sound...or plug in a microphone and morph your voice into something wild! You’ll be amazed at the difference EAX ADVANCED HD™ makes.

EAX ADVANCED HD™ technologies add interactive, high-definition, high-fidelity audio to Sound Blaster Audigy. With double the EAX ADVANCED HD™ audio processing power, 3D positional audio technology, audio environment effects, 5.1 analog and digital sound, and SoundFont digital instrument libraries, sonic superiority in gaming, music, and movies is assured.

## CreativeWare

CreativeWare is a post-purchase programme that adds new features, enhancements and additional functionality to Creative's upgradeable products. With CreativeWare, you can always be sure of having the best digital entertainment experience because:

- You can easily upgrade your Sound Blaster Audigy card with the latest features, device drivers, and applications.
- You can personalize the functions on your Sound Blaster Audigy card.

## In Your Package



The items listed here may differ for certain countries.

The following items are included in your package:

- Sound Blaster Audigy card
- Audigy Extension card
- External Sound Blaster Audigy Drive and IR remote control
- Internal SB1394 cable
- Audigy Extension cable
- AUD\_EXT/Joystick cable
- Digital CD audio cable
- Power splitter cable
- Mini-DIN-to-standard-DIN adapter
- 4 rubber feet
- 2 non-alkaline AAA batteries (twin pack) for the IR remote control
- Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD
- Applications CDs
- Quick Start leaflet
- SB1394 cable for connecting your digital video camera



## System Requirements

### Sound Blaster Audigy card and external Audigy Drive

- Genuine Intel® Pentium® 266 MHz, AMD® K6 300 MHz or faster processor
- Intel, AMD or 100% compatible motherboard chipset
- Windows 98 Second Edition (SE), Windows Millennium Edition (Me), Windows 2000 or Windows XP
- 64 MB RAM (128 MB highly recommended)
- 600 MB of free hard disk space
- Available PCI 2.1 compliant slot for the Sound Blaster Audigy card
- Available adjacent slot for the Audigy Extension card
- Headphones or amplified speakers (available separately)
- CD-ROM drive installed

### SB1394 applications, games and DVD viewing

- Genuine Intel Pentium II 350 MHz, MMX or AMD 450 MHz processor/3DNow! for SB1394 applications or games
- SB1394 (works only on Windows 98 SE, Windows Me, Windows 2000 or Windows XP)
- 128 MB RAM for digital video (DV) capture and editing recommended, Ultra DMA hard disk with 1 GB workspace (ATA-100, 7,200 rpm type and 6 GB recommended) for DV applications
- Games: 128 MB RAM recommended, 3D graphics accelerator with at least 8 MB of texture RAM, available 300–500 MB of free hard disk space
- DVD: At least second generation DVD-ROM drive with these recommended soft-DVD players: InterVideo's WinDVD 2000 or CyberLink's PowerDVD 3.0 and above
- Internet Radio: Requires at least a 56 kbps modem and an active Internet connection to run the application.

Other applications may have higher system requirements or may require a microphone. Refer to the individual application's online Help for details.

## Getting More Information

Refer to the **Sound Blaster Audigy Online Quick Start** and the various online Help files for detailed information on Creative applications. The **Sound Blaster Audigy Experience**, an online demo, gives you an interactive introduction to Sound Blaster Audigy and demonstrates the card's capabilities.

## More Help

View the contents of the Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD for additional demonstrations, libraries and other software. Visit the **www.europe.creative.com** site for the latest Sound Blaster news and products. The site also includes information on making purchases, technical help, and CreativeWare updates.

## Technical Support

Visit **www.europe.creative.com/support/kb** for general help.

## Document Conventions

The following typographical conventions are used throughout this manual:



The notepad icon indicates information that is of particular importance and should be considered before continuing.



The alarm clock designates a caution or warning that can help you avoid situations involving risk.



The warning sign indicates that failure to adhere to directions may result in bodily harm or life-threatening situations.

Sound  
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# 1 About the Sound Blaster Audigy Card and external Audigy Drive

This chapter gets you ready to install the Sound Blaster Audigy hardware Audigy card and the connectivity of the card.

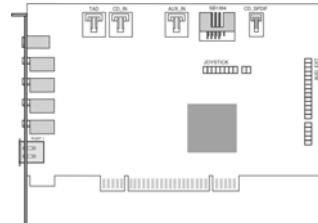
# About the Sound Blaster Audigy Card and external Audigy Drive

## What You Need

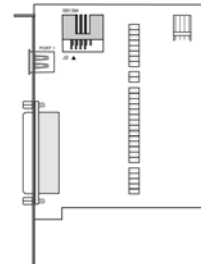


In addition, you will also need an available PCI slot and another adjacent available slot on your computer.

Before you begin installation, be sure that you have these:



Sound Blaster Audigy card



Audigy Extension card



External Audigy Drive



SB1394 Digital Video cable



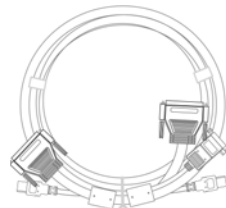
AUD\_EXT/Joystick cable



Power supply splitter cable



Digital CD audio cable



Audigy Extension cable



Internal SB1394 cable



Rubber feet



Phillips-head screwdriver (not included)

# Your Sound Blaster Audigy Card



A jack is a one-hole connecting interface whilst a connector consists of many pins.



In Analog mode, Line Out and Rear Out jacks can be used simultaneously for 4.1 channel speaker systems. The Analog/Digital Out jack can be used for the Center and Subwoofer (LFE) channels for 5.1 speaker systems.

Your audio card has these jacks and connectors that allow you to attach a wide variety of other devices:

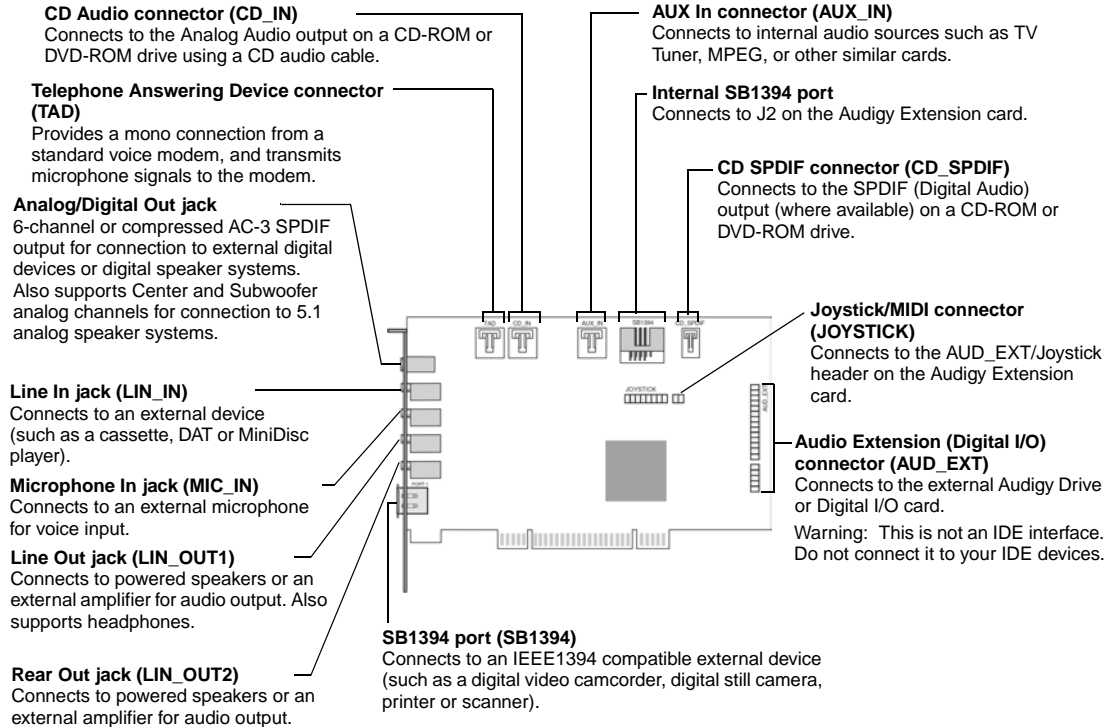


Figure 1-1: Jacks, connectors and ports on the Sound Blaster Audigy card.

# Your Audigy Extension Card

Your Audigy Extension card has these ports and connectors that allow you to attach other devices:

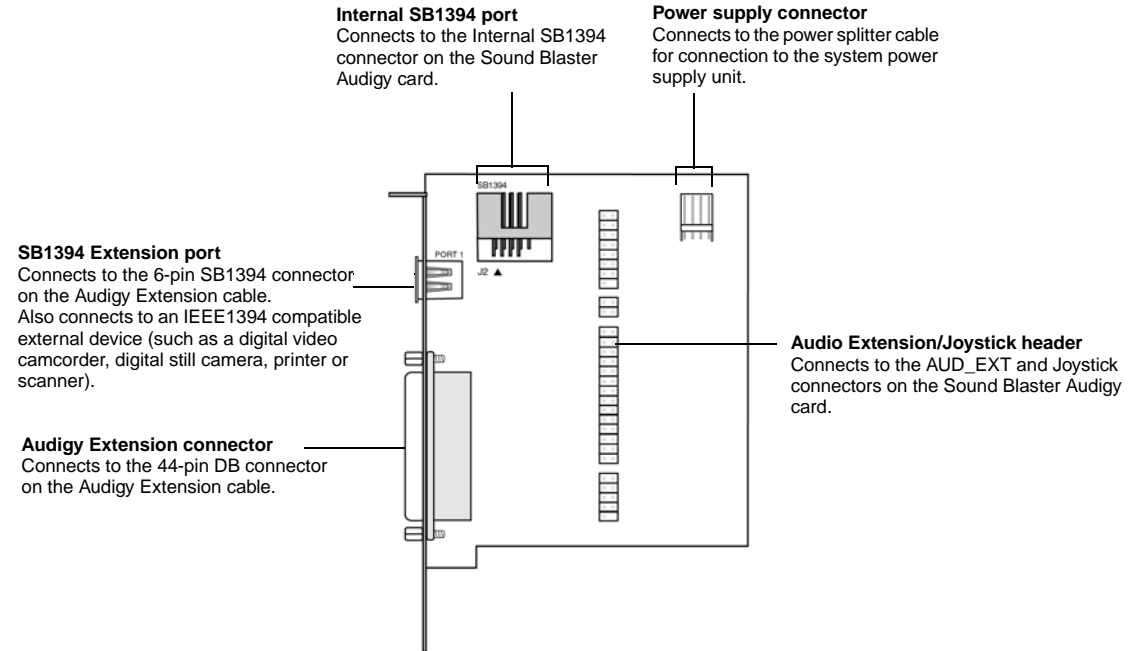


Figure 1-2: Connectors and ports on the Audigy Extension card.

# Your External Audigy Drive



- To connect your existing computer headphones and microphone to the external Audigy Drive, use a 3.5 mm minijack to 1/4" jack adapter.
- Set the gain level of the Mic In 2 jack to the minimum before connecting or turning on a microphone, especially if you are using headphones.

The front panel of your external Audigy Drive has these jacks, connectors and controls:

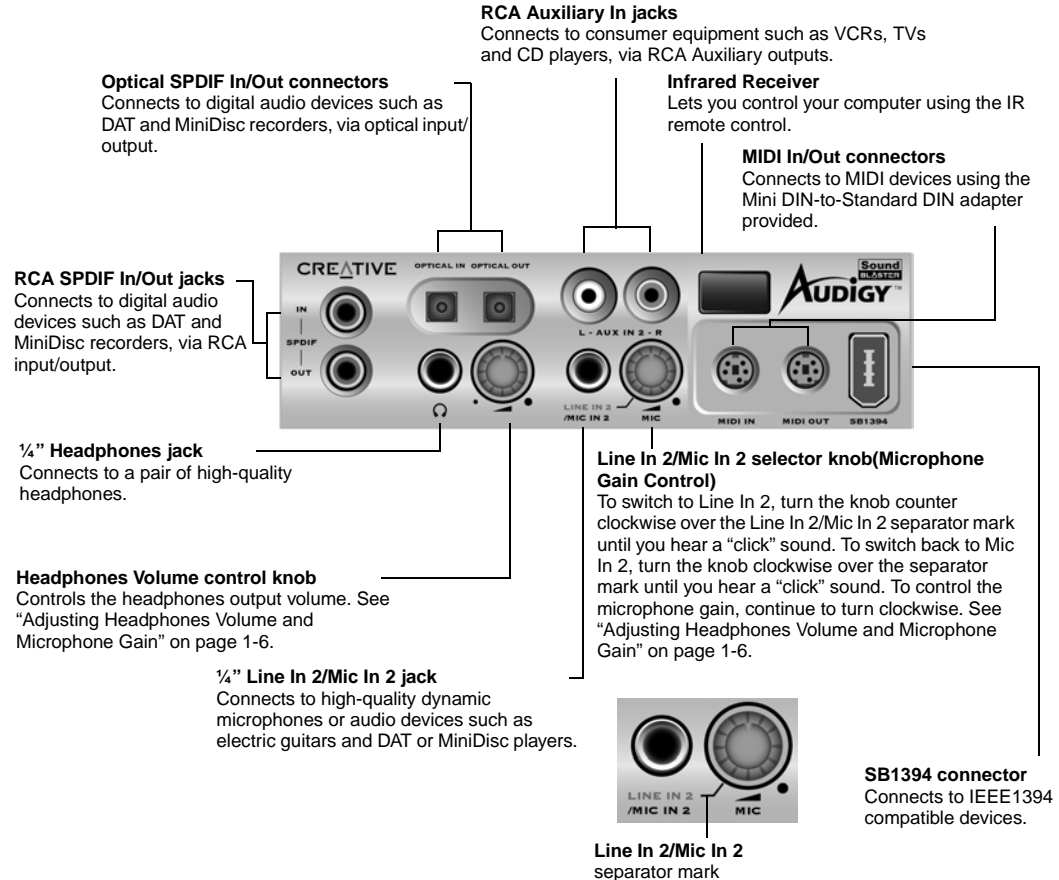


Figure 1-3: Jacks, connectors and controls on the external Audigy Drive.

## Adjusting Headphones Volume and Microphone Gain

You can adjust the headphones volume and microphone gain in two ways.

### Using the Audigy Drive control knobs

On the front panel of the external Audigy Drive, turn the respective control knob:

- Counterclockwise** to **decrease** the headphones volume or microphone gain.
- Clockwise** to **increase** the headphones volume or microphone gain.

## Using Creative Surround Mixer



To install Surround Mixer and other applications, see “Installing Drivers and Applications” on page 3-2.



- For best effects, set the headphones volume and microphone gain levels to 75% in Surround Mixer, and then use the external Audigy Drive’s control knobs to make further adjustments.
- If you set the headphones volume or microphone gain levels to 0%, or mute them in Surround Mixer, you will hear no sound if the external Audigy Drive’s control knobs are set to the maximum.

## Using a Remote Control with Your Computer

To adjust headphones volume:

1. Click **Start -> Programs -> Creative -> Sound Blaster Audigy -> Surround Mixer**.
2. On the lower half of Surround Mixer, make sure that the **Mute** check box under the **Volume** slider is clear. Otherwise, click the check box.
3. Drag the **Volume** slider left or right to adjust the headphones volume.

To adjust microphone gain:

1. Click **Start -> Programs -> Creative -> Sound Blaster Audigy -> Surround Mixer**.
2. On the lower half of Surround Mixer, click an audio input source button with a down arrow, and then select **Line In 2/Microphone 2**.
3. Make sure the check box below the **Line in 2/Microphone 2** slider is cleared. If not, click it to clear the check box. This will unmute the audio input source.
4. Drag the **volume** slider up or down to adjust the microphone gain.

The external Audigy Drive has an infrared receiver for the remote control. This remote control lets you operate your computer from the comfort of your sofa or bed up to a distance of 4 metres. For details, refer to the RemoteCenter **Online Help**.

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## 2 Installing Hardware

This chapter tells you how to install the Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX hardware.

# Installing Hardware

## Installation Steps

### Step 1: Prepare the external Audigy Drive



Turn off the main power supply and disconnect your computer's power cord. Systems using an ATX power supply unit with soft power off may still be powering the PCI slot. This can damage your audio card when it is inserted into the slot.



The rubber feet may differ in some countries.

1. Stick the four rubber feet to the underside in each corner of the external Audigy Drive as shown in Figure 2-1.
2. Place the external Audigy Drive near your computer.

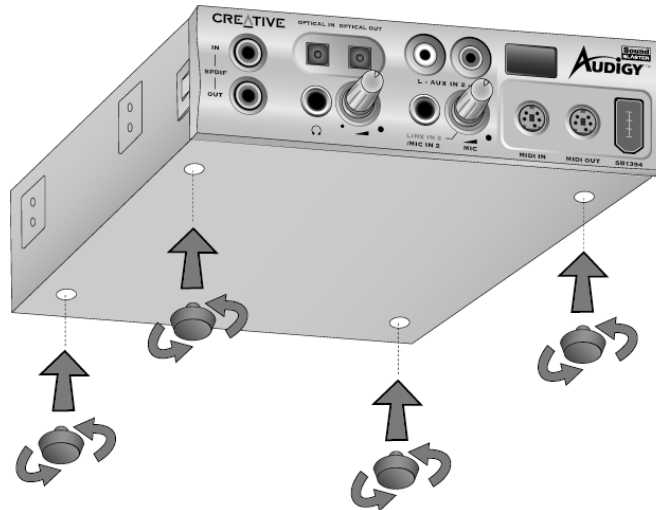


Figure 2-1: Sticking rubber feet

## Step 2: Prepare your computer



Remove any existing audio card or disable the onboard audio. For more information, see “Problems with Multiple Audio Devices” on page B-9.

1. Turn off your computer and all peripheral devices.
2. Touch a metal plate on your computer to ground yourself and to discharge any static electricity, and then unplug the power cord from the wall outlet.
3. Remove the computer cover.
4. Remove the metal brackets from two adjacent unused PCI slots as shown in Figure 2-2. Put the screws aside for use later.

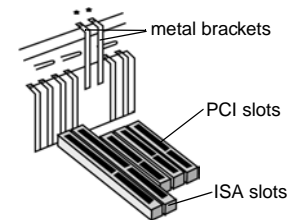


Figure 2-2: Removing metal plates

## Step 3: Connect the Sound Blaster Audigy and Audigy Extension cards

1. Using the AUD\_EXT/Joystick cable and internal SB1394 cable, connect the cards as shown in Figure 2-3.

2. Connect the power splitter cable to the Audigy Extension card.

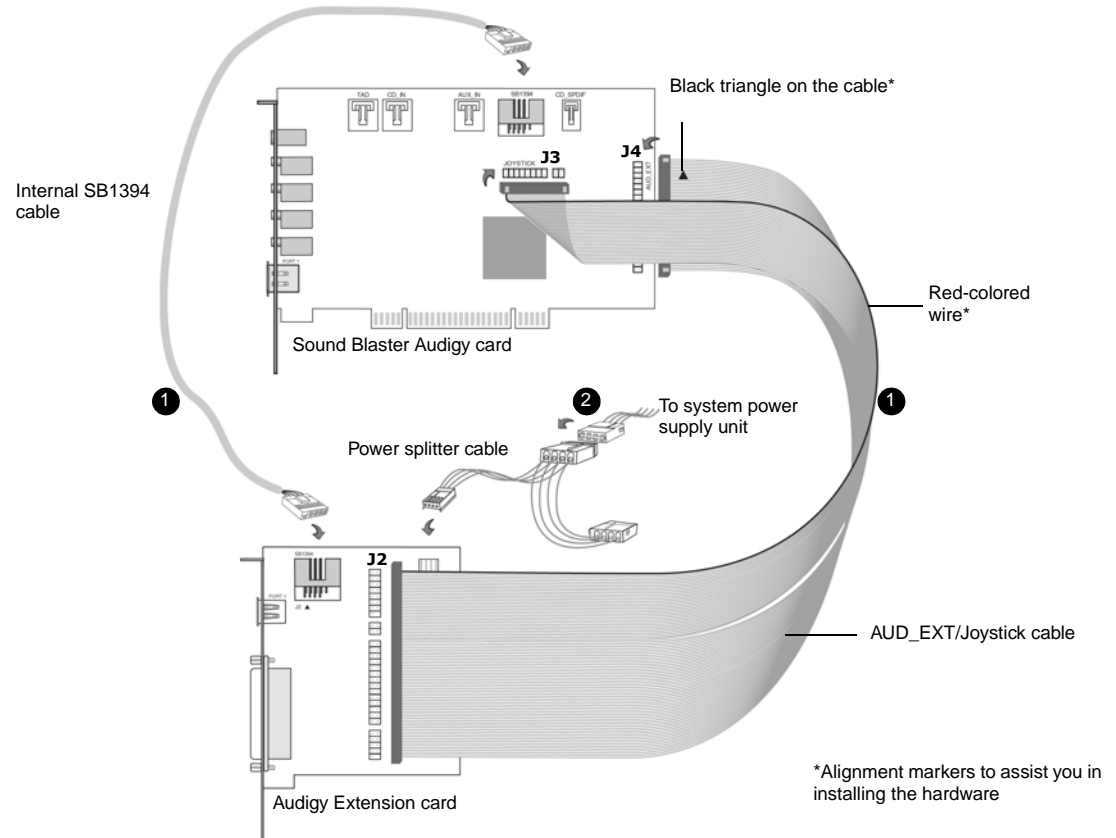


Figure 2-3: Connecting the Sound Blaster Audigy and Audigy Extension cards.



## Step 4: Install the Sound Blaster Audigy and Audigy Extension cards



Do not force the audio card into the slot. Make sure that the gold finger PCI connector on the Sound Blaster Audigy card is aligned with the PCI bus connector on the motherboard before you insert the card into the PCI expansion slot.

If it does not fit properly, gently remove it and try again.

1. Align the Sound Blaster Audigy card with the PCI slot and press the card gently but firmly into the slot as shown in Figure 2-4.
2. Align the Audigy Extension card with an adjacent free slot.

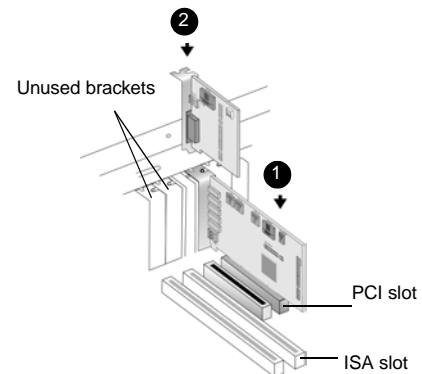


Figure 2-4: Aligning the cards against the slots.

3. Secure the Audigy Extension card with one of the screws you had placed aside earlier as shown in Figure 2-5.
4. Secure the Sound Blaster Audigy card with the other screw.
5. Connect the power splitter cable from the Audigy Extension card to the system power supply unit.

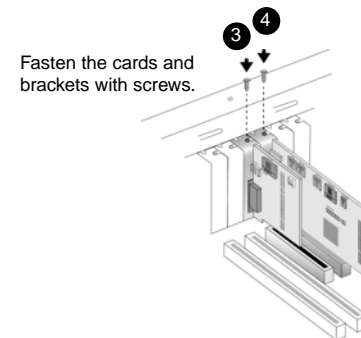


Figure 2-5: Securing the cards to the slots.



## Step 5: Install the external Audigy Drive

1. Attach the SB1394 connector on the Audigy Extension cable to the SB1394 Extension ports on the Audigy Extension card and external Audigy Drive as shown in Figure 2-6.
2. Attach the 44-pin DB connector on the Audigy Extension cable to the Audigy Extension connectors on the Audigy Extension card and External Audigy Drive.
3. If you are installing a joystick or a MIDI device, connect the Joystick/MIDI connector on the Audigy Extension cable to the device.

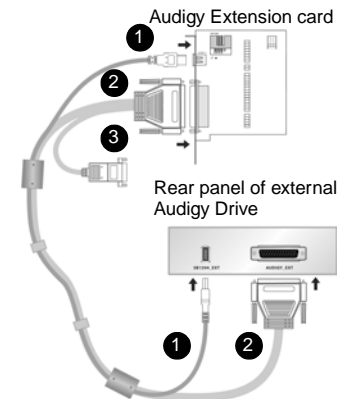


Figure 2-6: Connecting the cables to the external Audigy Drive.

## Step 6: Connect the CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive



If the Sound Blaster Audigy card is connected to both the CD SPDIF and CD Audio connectors on a CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive, do not enable the CD Audio and CD Digital options at the same time in Surround Mixer.

For analog CD audio output:

- ▶ connect the Analog CD audio cable (not included) from the Analog Audio connector on your CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive to the CD\_IN connector on the Sound Blaster Audigy card as shown in Figure 2-7.

For digital CD audio output:

- ▶ connect the Digital CD audio cable from the Digital Audio connector on your CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive to the CD\_SPDIF connector on the Sound Blaster Audigy card.

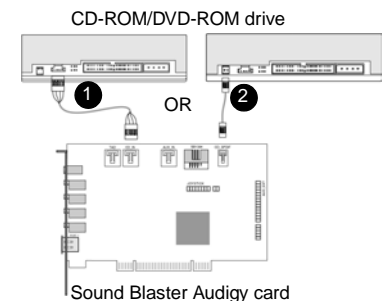


Figure 2-7: Connecting CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drives.

## Step 7: Connect to power supply



If the Audigy Extension cable is too long, coil it.

1. Replace the computer cover.
2. Plug the power cord back into the wall outlet, and turn on the computer.

To connect your Sound Blaster Audigy and Audigy Extension cards to other devices, see “Connecting Related Peripherals” on page 2-8.

To install drivers and software, refer to “Installing Drivers and Applications” on page 3-2.

# Connecting Related Peripherals

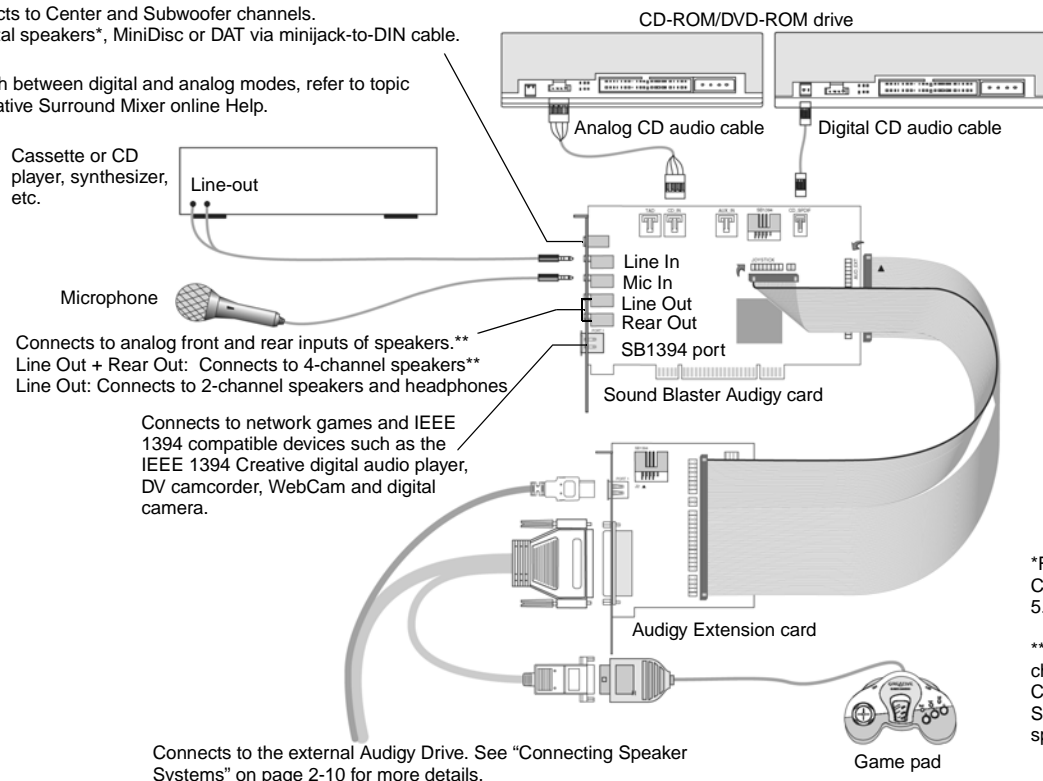
Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX will give you endless hours of listening pleasure. Figure 2-8 shows you how to connect related peripherals to your Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX to optimize your enjoyment.

## Analog/Digital Out jack

**Analog Mode** (default): Connects to Center and Subwoofer channels.

**Digital Mode:** Connects to digital speakers\*, MiniDisc or DAT via minijack-to-DIN cable.

For instructions on how to switch between digital and analog modes, refer to topic "Digital Output Only" of the Creative Surround Mixer online Help.



\*For example, Creative Inspire™ 5.1 Digital Speakers.

\*\*For example, 4-channel Creative or Cambridge SoundWorks analog speaker systems

Figure 2-8: Connecting Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX to other devices.

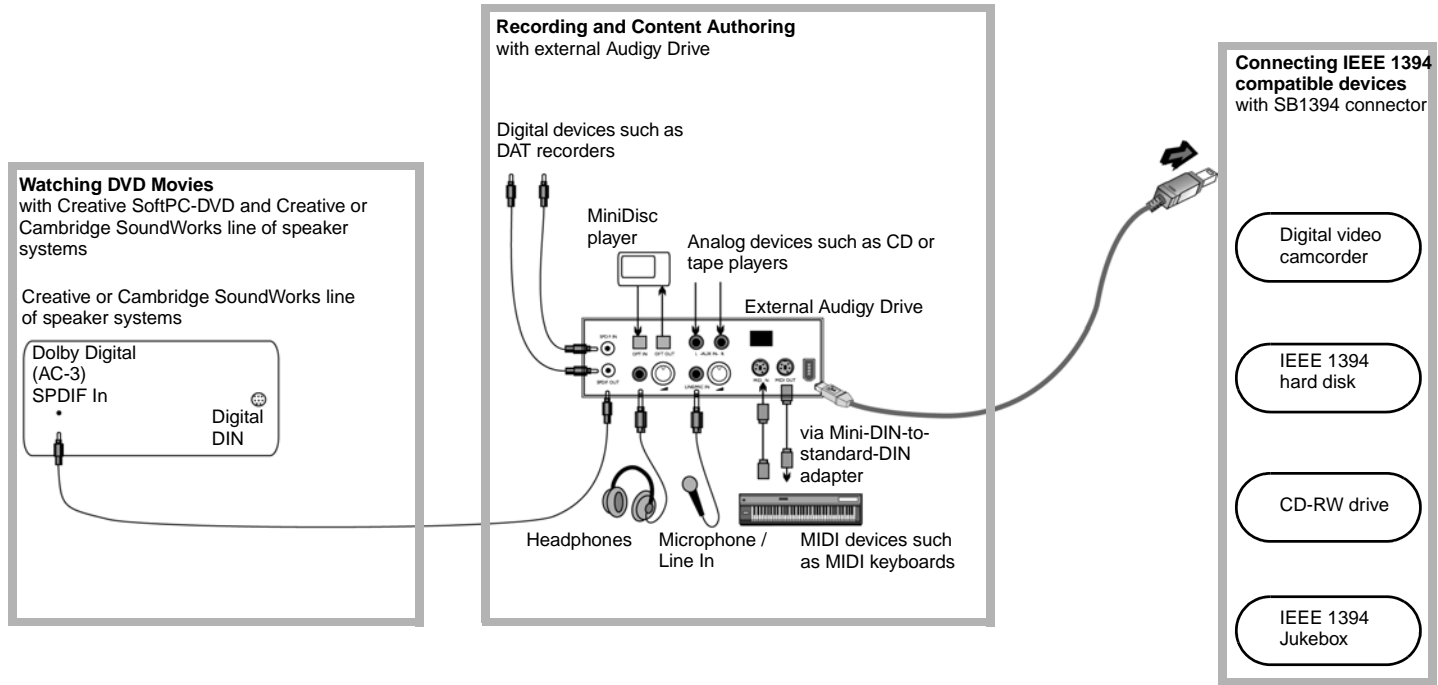


Figure 2-9: Connecting peripherals to the external Audigy Drive.

# Connecting Speaker Systems



If you are playing games in Windows 98 SE MS-DOS mode (pure DOS mode), you must:

- Make sure the CD Audio connector on the Sound Blaster Audigy card and the Analog Audio connector on the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive are connected.
- In addition, if you get distorted sound, do not connect the CD SPDIF connector on the Sound Blaster Audigy card to the Digital Audio connector on the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive.

For instructions on how to switch between digital and analog modes, refer to topic “Digital Output Only” of the Creative Surround Mixer **Online Help**.

If you have a 5.1 channel speaker system, you can upmix your stereo sources (such as CD Audio, MP3, WMA, MIDI and Wave) to 5.1 channels by using the Creative Multi Speaker Surround (CMSS) technology. To upmix, you need to enable CMSS feature in PlayCenter. Refer to the PlayCenter **Online Help**.

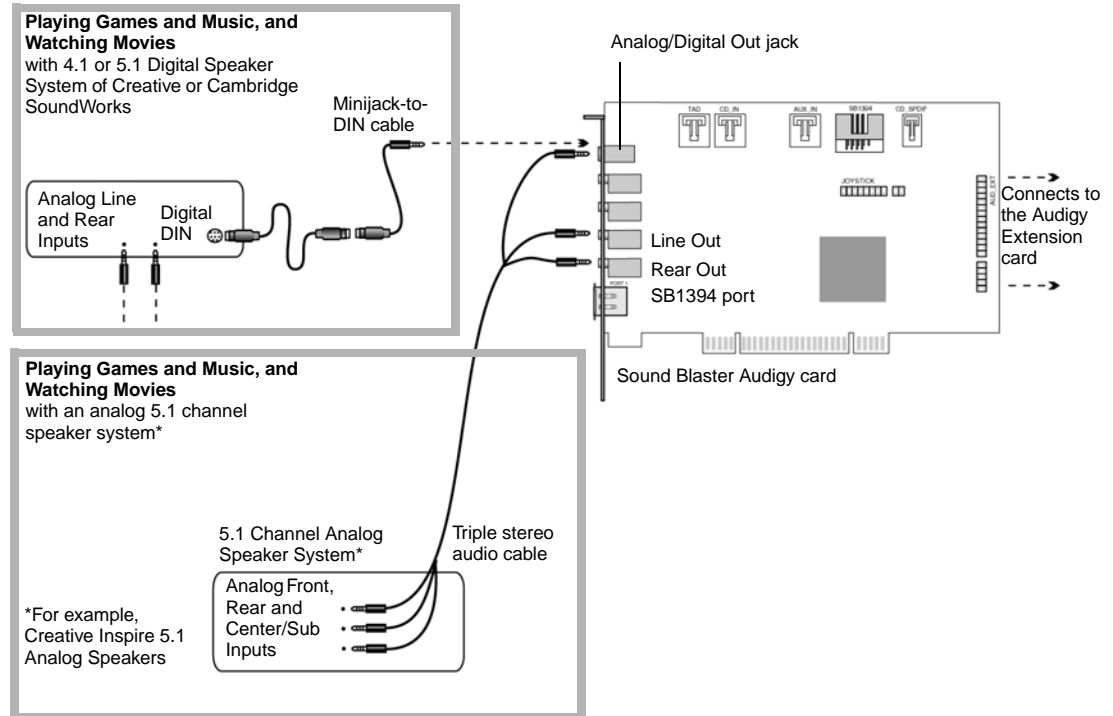


Figure 2-10: Connecting speaker systems to the Sound Blaster Audigy card.

# Connecting External Consumer Devices

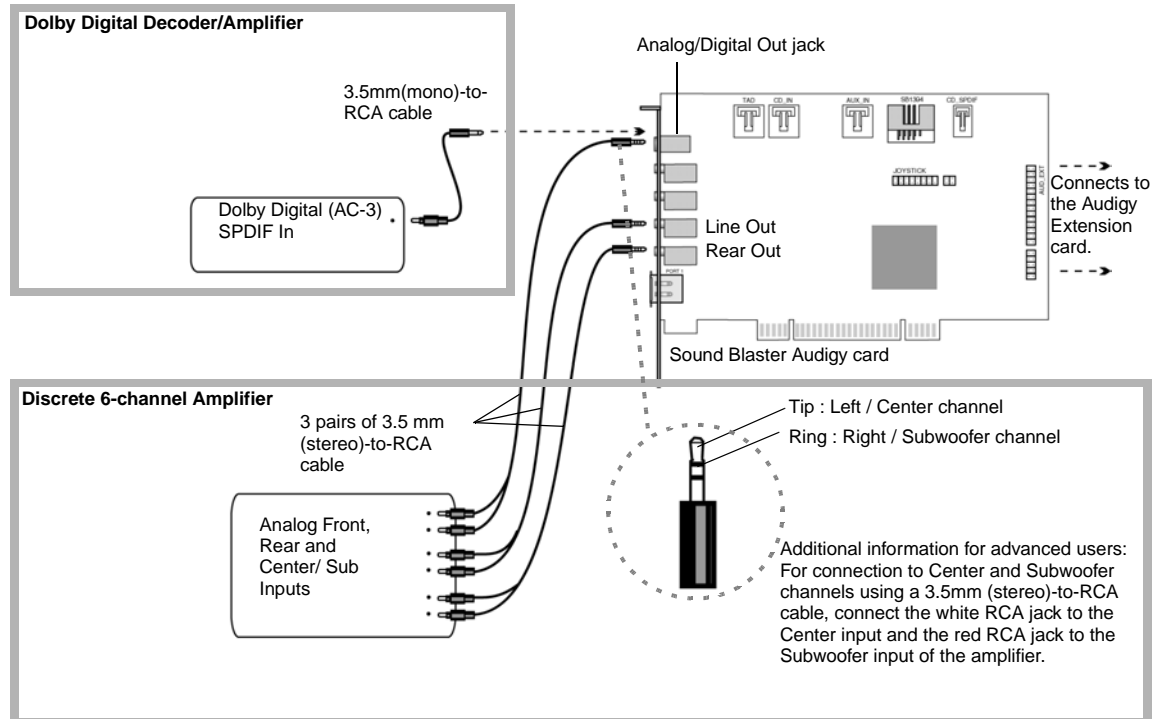


Figure 2-11: Connecting external consumer electronic devices to the Sound Blaster Audigy card.

## Positioning Your Speakers

If you are using four speakers, place them so that they form the corners of a square with you exactly in the center (Figure 2-12) and that they are angled toward you. Be sure that the computer monitor is not blocking the path of your front speakers. You may want to adjust the relative positions of the speakers until you get the audio experience you like best. If you have a subwoofer, place the unit in a corner of the room for the best bass experience.

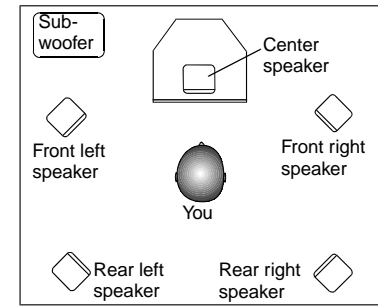


Figure 2-12: Recommended speaker positions.

Sound  
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# 3 Installing Software

This chapter tells you how to install the Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX software.

## Installing Software

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### Installing Drivers and Applications



During the installation process, Windows 98 SE users may be prompted to insert the Windows 98 SE installation CD into the CD-ROM drive. Insert the installation CD into the CD-ROM drive and then click the **OK** button.

You need to install device drivers and applications to use Sound Blaster Audigy Platinum eX. To install these drivers and the bundled applications, use the following instructions. The instructions are applicable to all supported Windows operating systems.

1. After you have installed the Sound Blaster Audigy card, Audigy Extension card, and external Audigy Drive, turn on your computer. Windows automatically detects the audio card and device drivers.
2. When prompted for the audio drivers, click the **Cancel** button.
3. Insert the Sound Blaster Audigy installation CD into your CD-ROM drive. The disc supports Windows AutoPlay mode and starts running automatically. If not, you need to enable your CD-ROM drive's auto-insert notification feature. For more details, see "Problems Installing Software" on page B-2.
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.
5. When prompted, restart your system.

### Installing Ulead VideoStudio Application

Refer to the section which applies to your Windows operating system.



## Windows 98 Second Edition



In Windows 98 SE, Windows Me and Windows 2000, to verify that the driver was installed successfully, click **Start -> Settings -> Control Panel**. Double-click the **System** icon. Click the **Device Manager** tab and double-click **Sound, video and game controllers**. You should see a list of Creative devices.

1. Connect your digital video (DV) camcorder to the Sound Blaster Audigy card and turn it on.
2. If prompted, insert the Windows 98 SE CD into the CD-ROM drive and click the **OK** button.
3. If a **Version Conflict** message appears, click the **Yes** button to continue the installation.
4. Insert the Ulead VideoStudio installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.
5. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.
6. If prompted, click the **Yes** button to let the setup program detect the MS DV drivers.
7. If prompted to install the **Windows 98/98 Second Edition Qxxxxxx Update**, click the **Yes** button.
8. When prompted, restart your system.

## Windows Me

1. Connect your digital video (DV) camcorder to the Sound Blaster Audigy card and turn it on.
2. If prompted, insert the Windows Me CD into the CD-ROM drive and click the **OK** button.
3. Insert the Ulead VideoStudio installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.
5. If prompted, click the **Yes** button to let the setup program detect the MS DV drivers.
6. When prompted, restart your system.

## Windows 2000

1. Connect your digital video (DV) camcorder to the Sound Blaster Audigy card and turn it on.
2. Insert the Ulead VideoStudio installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.
3. If prompted, click the **Yes** button to let the setup program detect the MS DV drivers.
4. When prompted, restart the system.



## Uninstalling Applications

You may at times need to uninstall and then reinstall the applications to correct problems, change configurations, or make version upgrades. The following instructions tell you how to uninstall the applications in all Windows operating systems.

1. Insert the Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.  
The disc supports Windows AutoPlay mode and starts running automatically. If not, see “Problems Installing Software” on page B-2.
2. Close all audio card applications. Applications that are still running during the uninstallation will not be removed.
3. Click **Start -> Settings -> Control Panel**.
4. Double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon.
5. Click the **Install/Uninstall** tab and select Sound Blaster Audigy.  
Click the **Add/Remove** button.
6. When the **InstallShield Wizard** dialog box appears, click the check boxes of the items that you want to uninstall to clear them.  
The selected applications will be uninstalled.
7. Click the **Next** button.
8. If prompted, restart your computer.

## Reinstalling Applications

You may want to reinstall the applications in the event of driver corruption.

1. Insert the Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.  
The disc supports Windows AutoPlay mode and starts running automatically. If not, see “Problems Installing Software” on page B-2.
2. Click **Start -> Settings -> Control Panel**.
3. Double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon.
4. Click the **Install/Uninstall** tab and select **Sound Blaster Audigy**.  
Click the **Add/Remove** button.
5. When the **InstallShield Wizard** dialog box appears, click the **Repair** option to select it.  
This option reinstalls all the applications installed previously.



6. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation of the applications.

## Updating Windows 2000 (Service Pack 2)

Windows 2000 now provides better support for AC-3 SPDIF output (non-PCM through waveOut) for software DVD viewing. Click the website address below to go to Microsoft's Windows 2000 web site to download the Windows 2000 Service Pack 2 to enjoy this support and to fix other issues in the Windows 2000 OS.

**<http://microsoft.com/windows2000/default.asp>**

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# 4

## Sound Blaster Audigy Applications

This chapter tells you how to get the most out of your Sound Blaster Audigy.

# Sound Blaster Audigy Applications

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## Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Applications



The applications included with Sound Blaster Audigy may differ from the ones described here. Sound Blaster Audigy also comes with third party applications.

Sound Blaster Audigy is supported by a full range of applications to help you get the most from your audio card. The following software is most important to the operation of your audio card:

- Creative Taskbar
- Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Online Quick Start (English only)
- Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Experience (English only)
- EAX ADVANCED HD™ Gold Mine Experience (English only)
- Creative Diagnostics
- Creative Surround Mixer
- Creative AudioHQ
- Creative WaveStudio
- Creative PlayCenter
- Creative Recorder
- Vienna SoundFont Studio
- Creative MiniDisc Center
- Creative RemoteCenter
- Creative Restore Defaults

## Creative Taskbar

Creative Taskbar is an application that allows you to perform tasks with your audio card easily and quickly. Just select a task and everything is done for you — the necessary applications are started and your mixer and effects settings are configured automatically.

Creative Taskbar also comes with Creative TaskGuide, which provides tips and useful links related to the selected task.

For more information and usage details on Creative Taskbar, refer to its **Online Help**.



## Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Online Quick Start (English only)

This is a good starting point from which you can learn about Sound Blaster Audigy. The online Quick Start consists of several interactive and informative demos that feature different aspects of Sound Blaster Audigy, like experiencing digital music and digital gaming, watching movies, connecting speakers and performing tasks.

## Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Experience (English only)

Use the Creative Sound Blaster Audigy Experience to *feel* Sound Blaster Audigy's awesome gaming, music listening and home studio capabilities. You will experience the advantage of multi-environment audio processing, dynamic EAX ADVANCED HD™ effects, high-quality surround output and EAX ADVANCED HD™-enhanced home theatre quality audio.

## EAX ADVANCED HD™ Gold Mine Experience (English only)

Run this demonstration, which is set in a gold mine, and experience EAX ADVANCED HD™ technologies such as Environment Panning, Environment Reflection and Environment Morphing. Compare the scenes with and without EAX ADVANCED HD™, and understand why more game developers are using EAX ADVANCED HD™ technologies for the best gaming experience.

## Creative Diagnostics

Use Creative Diagnostics to quickly test your audio card's Wave, MIDI or CD Audio playback capability, and speaker outputs. For more information and usage details on Creative Diagnostics, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative Surround Mixer



To restore Surround Mixer to its original settings, click **Start -> Programs-> Creative -> Sound Blaster Audigy -> Creative Restore Defaults.**

Creative Surround Mixer is the main application to use for the following tasks:

- Testing speakers
- Applying EAX ADVANCED HD™-enabled audio effects
- Mixing sounds from various audio input sources
- Setting audio effects

Surround Mixer has two modes. Click the **Basic Mode** or **Advanced Mode** button to switch between the two modes:

In basic mode, the Mixer panel is displayed. You can:

- mix sounds from various audio input sources when playing or recording
- control volume, bass, treble, balance and fade

In advanced mode, the Surround Mixer and Mixer panels are displayed. In Surround Mixer, you can:

- select audio effects
- specify the speaker output
- perform a speaker test

For more information and usage details on Creative Surround Mixer, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative AudioHQ

AudioHQ is Creative's audio software control center.

The AudioHQ interface has the standard look and feel of the Windows Control Panel. It contains several control applets that allow you to view, audition or set up the audio properties of one or more audio devices on your computer.

As in Control Panel, you can view AudioHQ's control applets in the main window as large icons, small icons, list items or detailed list items. You can also select all or invert the selection when you are in the Applet view. The number of items in the main window, however, varies with the control applet or device selected. The By Audio Device view shows only the control applets supported by the selected device. The Applet view shows only the audio devices that support the selected applet.

For more information and usage details on Creative AudioHQ, refer to its **Online Help**.



## SoundFont Control

SoundFont Control allows you to configure MIDI banks with SoundFont, DLS, Wave and instrument files, as well as set the caching algorithm and space.

For more information and usage details on SoundFont Control, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Device Controls

Device Controls lets you configure various features of your audio devices. Device controls also allows you to select the sampling rate of your SPDIF output and enable the SPDIF Bypass feature for your digital inputs and outputs.

For more information and usage details on Device Controls, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative Keyboard

Creative Keyboard is a virtual keyboard that allows you to audition or play musical notes produced through MIDI devices. To edit the sound, use Vienna SoundFont Studio or another sound editor.

## MIDI Input

You can use external MIDI input devices to audition your MIDI banks and instruments. First, connect a MIDI input device to your audio card and then select that device in Creative Keyboard.

## EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control

EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control allows you to configure the Sound Blaster Audigy processor's effects engine.

It allows you to specify in detail the components that make up an audio effect.

It promises to deliver sounds that are so life-like, you can almost see them! It is the computer industry's first system to recreate and deliver real-world, interactive audio experiences in games, music, and other audio applications. These audio effects take your computer beyond home-theatre quality, immersing you in sound so vivid your imagination can almost "see it". The effects go beyond today's surround-sound and 3D positional audio and actually model an environment by taking into account room size, acoustic properties, reverb, echo and many other effects that create a real-world experience.

For more information and usage details on EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative WaveStudio

Creative WaveStudio allows you to perform the following sound editing functions easily:

- Play, edit, and record 8-bit (tape quality) and 16-bit (CD quality) wave data
- Enhance wave data or create unique sounds with various special effects and editing operations such as reverse, echo, mute, pan, cut, copy, and paste
- Open and edit several audio files at the same time
- Open Raw (.RAW) and MP3 (.MP3) data files
- For more information and usage details on Creative WaveStudio, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative PlayCenter

Creative PlayCenter is a revolutionary audio CD and digital audio (such as WAV, MP3 or WMA) player. Besides managing your favorite digital audio files on your computer, it is also an integrated MP3/WMA encoder for ripping audio CD tracks into compressed digital audio files. It can encode tracks many times faster than normal play speed and up to 320 kbps (for MP3).

For more information and usage details on Creative PlayCenter, refer to its **Online Help**.

**Note:** Audio files that are secured through Microsoft's Digital Rights Management (DRM) technology can only be played back on an MS DRM supported audio player such as Creative PlayCenter. For security against unauthorized duplication, Microsoft has advised the disabling of any digital or SPDIF output from the audio card. During playback of the protected files, Sound Blaster Audigy will disable its digital output including the SPDIF output from the Audigy Drive.

## Creative Recorder

Recorder allows you to record sounds or music from various input sources like the microphone or Audio CD, and save them as Wave (.WAV) files. For more information and usage details on Creative Recorder, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Vienna SoundFont Studio

If you are new to desktop music, Vienna SoundFont Studio is just what you need to produce your first masterpiece. This is a professional sampler that allows you to create sounds (saved as SoundFont banks), and edit them in any way you wish! If you are already familiar with Vienna SoundFont Studio, you will be glad to know that this latest version (Version 2.3) makes creating SoundFont banks easier than ever. Now, you can

- Double-click a sample and the assigned Wave editor will automatically be started.

- ❑ Assign up to four MIDI controller bars to send real time controller messages to your MIDI synthesizer.

If you are a beginner, start by plugging a microphone into your Sound Blaster Audigy card, and sampling your voice. With Vienna SoundFont Studio you can create an instrument and place the sample to allow you to pitch-shift your voice up and down the keyboard. Next, you can try to apply an articulation effect like Filter, to change your voice. Once you discover the power of SoundFont technology, you will be amazed at the sound design possibilities available.

For more information and usage details on Vienna SoundFont Studio, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative MiniDisc Center

Creative MiniDisc Center allows you to play back known audio format or compact discs for recording to digital recorders such as DAT players, especially for MiniDisc (MD) recorders.

With MiniDisc Center, you can:

- ❑ create an album of your favorite songs, each of which may be in a different audio format
- ❑ insert a preset period of silence automatically between each track
- ❑ play back your personal album and record it to your MD recorder
- ❑ For more information and usage details on Creative MiniDisc Center, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative RemoteCenter

Creative RemoteCenter converts your computer into an entertainment system, which you can control from the comfort of your bed or sofa. With the remote control and RemoteCenter Player, a simple but powerful multimedia player, you can play audio and video CDs on your computer from a distance. You no longer need to be directly in front of your computer to select or change tracks because the remote center system comes with On-Screen Display (OSD), which makes the commands or functions available, viewable from a distance of 4 metres. RemoteCenter also allows you to start and control your favorite Windows applications.

For more information on Creative RemoteCenter, refer to its **Online Help**.

## Creative Restore Defaults

Creative Restore Defaults allows you to restore all your audio settings to the default settings.

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# 5 Using Applications

This chapter tells you which applications to use for content creation, gaming and entertainment purposes.

## Using Applications

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Sound Blaster Audigy offers you high-quality multimedia playback, digital entertainment, content creation capability, Internet entertainment and gaming. The following pages tell you which applications would best suit your needs.

### Multimedia Playback

#### Watching DVDs



Some software DVD decoders/players cannot decode up to 5.1 channels, but can support SPDIF output. In such cases, enable the SPDIF output function to allow Sound Blaster Audigy to decode the Dolby Digital signal.

You may enjoy 5.1 Dolby Digital sound output from DVD movies encoded with Dolby Digital sound in one of two ways with Sound Blaster Audigy.

1. Output the encoded Dolby Digital signal to an external Dolby Digital (AC-3) decoder; such as the Creative Inspire 5700 speaker system, Cambridge SoundWorks DTT2500, PlayWorks DTT2500, or DTT3500 Digital speaker systems, or an AV receiver with a Dolby Digital decoder.
2. Dolby Digital (AC-3) sound can also be decoded by Sound Blaster Audigy and sent out as analog audio through Line Out 1, Line Out 2, and Digital/Analog jacks of the sound card.

In both cases you will need a second generation DVD-ROM drive, and a software DVD player (such as InterVideo's WinDVD2000 or Cyberlink's PowerDVD 3.0). S/PDIF Output must be enabled in the audio properties of the software DVD player so that the Dolby Digital signal can be sent to Sound Blaster Audigy.

If the Dolby Digital signal is to be decoded by an external decoder, AC-3 decoding must be disabled in the Speaker - Settings section of Surround Mixer. For more information, refer to the Creative Surround Mixer online Help.



## Playing MP3 or WMA files

Creative PlayCenter supports and plays MP3 and WMA files.

## Playing back Wave and CD Audio files

Use Creative PlayCenter to play back both Wave and CD Audio files. WAV is the format for digital audio files on the Windows operating platform. CD Audio refers to audio compact discs that can be played on your CD-ROM drive.

## Playing MIDI files

MIDI (\*.MID) is a music format that uses a synthesizer for playback. Use Creative PlayCenter or the MIDI sequencer in the Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD for playing MIDI files. To achieve the best quality, load the 8MB GM bank in the SoundFont applet found in the AudioHQ group.

## Creating non-General-MIDI-compliant files

Many musicians have created music files that use exotic or non-regular instrument (non General MIDI compliant) using Vienna Soundfont Studio. These instruments are stored in SoundFont banks. Such MIDI files can be played back using Creative PlayCenter. The Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD contains many MIDI demos that use high quality SoundFont banks.

## Digital Entertainment

### Watching surround movies

If you want to enjoy high quality movie entertainment, ensure you have good speakers. If you have a 4- or 5-speaker system connected to your Sound Blaster Audigy, configure your speaker setup in Creative Surround Mixer. For DVD movies, it is recommended that you purchase Creative PC-DVD Encore, or a software DVD application as well as Creative Inspire 5.1 Digital Speakers.

### Compiling personal albums

You can compile albums containing CD Audio, WAV or MIDI files using Creative PlayCenter.



## Content Creation

### Organizing SoundFont banks

Sound Blaster Audigy bundles many SoundFont banks that contain instrument sounds you can use. Use Vienna SoundFont Studio to organize and customize the instruments.

### Applying voice effects

When singing and recording your own songs, you can enhance your voice, or even add special effects. You can do this with EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control, which can be accessed from Creative Surround Mixer.

### Recording sound and effects

Creative Recorder is an easy way of recording any audio source without worrying about mixer settings. You can also record any audio effects.

### Capturing and editing videos

Ulead VideoStudio is the fastest way to create great videos. Ulead VideoStudio allows you to capture and edit your videos, then output them to popular formats like AVI, QT, MOV or MPEG.

## Advanced Content Creation

### Recording multi- tracks with ASIO

You can create a home music studio using Cubasis VST. It lets you put together your own productions consisting of multiple music tracks from a MIDI Synthesizer (internal or external), your guitar or external musical instrument (Line-In), a digital device (SPDIF), or a microphone. ASIO support allows you to create all these with amazingly low latency (solving multi-track sync issues).

### Creating music

You can create desktop music on your Sound Blaster Audigy using Cubasis VST. Hook up a MIDI controller keyboard to the MIDI/Joystick port and you can access the high quality Audigy synthesizer. The sequencing software provided also lets you compose your own music compositions and arrangements.

### Recording and transcribing music

Using Cubasis VST, you can record your own music and do musical notation transcriptions. You can even print your own music score.

### Recording and editing musical instruments

You can record any sound effects or sample loops and then use them as a MIDI instrument — all using Vienna SoundFont Studio. You can also edit existing SoundFont banks.

### Recording digital audio

You can do digital recording and editing (16-bit, 48 kHz) on your computer with Sound Blaster Audigy using Creative Wave Studio and WaveLab Lite. Connect any SPDIF compatible device such as a DAT deck and select Digital In Creative Surround Mixer.



## Creating multiple effects

Sound Blaster Audigy comes with a variety of effects that are programmable. You can literally create thousands of reverb and other special effects in EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control, which can be accessed from Creative Surround Mixer.

## Creating and playing back SoundFonts

With Creative's SoundFont technology, you have limitless sound creation possibilities for use with your own music. Create your own SoundFont banks in Vienna SF Studio or use ReCycle Lite to convert drum loops to Soundfont banks, and then use them in your bundled MIDI sequencer.

## Internet Entertainment

### Encoding CD songs to MP3 format

With Creative PlayCenter, you can encode and record all your favorite CD songs into your computer's hard drive, so that you have a database of customized song lists.

### Downloading and playing MP3 songs

With Creative PlayCenter, you can add current songs to your database by downloading them from various sites on the Internet.

### Playing MP3 songs with EAX ADVANCED HD™

Use Creative PlayCenter to create MP3 renditions with multi-dimensional and multi-textured realism by adding environments such as "concert hall" or "bathroom"! You can share these enhanced MP3 songs, even with someone who does not own a Sound Blaster Audigy card.

### Mixing MP3 songs

Download MP3 songs and then use MixMeister to create party mixes like a DJ. MixMeister takes care of the details while you dance all night, and allows you to fine-tune your mixes whenever you want.



## Gaming Reference

### Enjoying EAX ADVANCED HD™ support

Enjoy the many EAX ADVANCED HD™ titles designed by top game developers, which immerse you in realistic environments. Visit [www.eax.creative.com](http://www.eax.creative.com) for a full list of compatible titles.

### Enjoying DirectSound3D support

DirectSound3D (DS3D) games are supported on your Sound Blaster Audigy. You can hear sounds positioned in 3D space that enhance your game experience.

### Enjoying A3D 1.0 support

Your card translates A3D calls into DirectSound3D, meaning that you can enjoy A3D games.

### Enjoying DOS games

Your card provides you with exceptional Sound Blaster compatibility so that you can continue to play the thousands of popular DOS games already in the market.

For more information and usage details, see “Troubleshooting & FAQ’s” on page B-2.

### Enjoying audio presets in games

You can enjoy audio effects even if your game does not have EAX ADVANCED HD™ support. Your card is bundled with a good selection of presets for use with games. These can be accessed through Creative Taskbar.



## Customizing environments for non-3D games

You can create customized environments for your non-EAX ADVANCED HD™ games using the EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control panel, which can be accessed from Creative Surround Mixer.

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**A**

## General Specifications

This section displays the specifications of your Sound Blaster Audigy card, Audigy Extension card and external Audigy Drive.



## General Specifications

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This section lists the specifications of your Sound Blaster Audigy card, Audigy extension card and external Audigy Drive.

### Features

#### PCI Bus Mastering

- PCI Specification Version 2.1 compliant
- Bus mastering reduces latency and speeds up system performance

#### Audigy Processor

- Advanced hardware accelerated digital effects processing
- 32-bit digital processing, which maintains a 192 dB dynamic range
- Patented 8-point interpolation that reduces distortion to inaudible levels
- 64-voice hardware wavetable synthesizer
- Professional quality digital mixing and equalization
- Unlimited size of SoundFont bank can be mapped to host memory (limited by available system memory)

#### High Quality Audio Path

- Mixes analog sources such as CD Audio, Line in, Auxiliary, TAD and PC speaker, Microphone in via AC'97 Codec with internal digital sources
- 32-bit mixing of all digital sources within Audigy's Digital Mixer
- Playback of 64 audio channels, each at an arbitrary sample rate
- 24-bit Analog-to-Digital conversion of analog inputs at 48 kHz sample rate
- 24-bit Digital-to-Analog conversion of digital sources at 48 kHz to analog 5.1 speaker output
- 16-bit recording sampling rates: 8, 11.025, 12, 16, 22.05, 24, 32, 44.1 and 48 kHz



## Professional Digital Audio Processing

- Supports Sony/Philips Digital Interface (SPDIF) format input signal of up to 24-bit/96 kHz quality
- SPDIF output up to 24-bit resolution at selectable sampling rate of 44.1, 48 or 96 kHz
  - Note:** SPDIF output not available during playback of protected digital audio contents authored with Microsoft DRM (Digital Rights Management) technology
- Selectable 6-channel SPDIF output to external amplifier/digital speaker systems
- Software switching of SPDIF Input-to-Output (bypass) to minimize cable connection hassle
- Low latency multitrack recording with ASIO support

## Flexible Mixer Control

- Software playback control of CD Audio, Line In, Auxiliary, TAD, PC speaker, Microphone In, Wave/DirectSound device, MIDI device, CD Digital (CD SPDIF), Line In 2, Microphone In 2, Auxiliary 2 and SPDIF In
- Software recording control of Analog Mix (sum of CD Audio, Line In, Auxiliary, TAD, PC speaker) Microphone In, Wave/DirectSound device, MIDI device, CD Digital (CD SPDIF), Line In 2, Microphone In 2, Auxiliary 2 and SPDIF In
- Selectable input source or mixing of various audio sources for recording
- Adjustable master volume control
- Separate bass and treble control
- Front and rear balance control
- Muting and panning control for mixer sources

## Dolby Digital (AC-3) Decoding

- Decodes Dolby Digital (AC-3) to 5.1 channels or pass-through compressed Dolby Digital (AC-3) PCM SPDIF stream to external decoder
- Bass redirection: enhances bass output to subwoofer for small satellite speaker systems
- Crossover bass frequency (10-200 Hz): adjustable to standalone subwoofer units for desired bass level
- Adjustable Center and LFE level control



## Creative Multi Speaker Surround™ (CMSS™)

- ❑ Multispeaker technology
- ❑ Upmixes mono or stereo sources to 5.1 channels
- ❑ Professional-quality panning and mixing algorithm

## SBI394™ Compatibility

- ❑ Compliant to IEEE 1394a specification
- ❑ Supports data rates of 100, 200, and 400 Mbps
- ❑ Supports up to 63 IEEE 1394 compatible devices in a daisy-chain configuration

# Connectivity

## Sound Blaster Audigy card

### Audio Inputs

- ❑ One line-level analog Line input via stereo jack on rear bracket
- ❑ One mono Microphone analog input via stereo jack on rear bracket
- ❑ CD\_IN line-level analog input via 4-pin Molex connector on card
- ❑ AUX\_IN line-level analog input via 4-pin Molex connector on card
- ❑ TAD line-level analog input via 4-pin Molex connector on card
- ❑ CD\_SPDIF digital input via 2-pin Molex connector on card

### Audio Outputs

- ❑ ANALOG/DIGITAL OUT via 4-pole 3.5 mm minijack on rear bracket
  - ANALOG OUT: Center and Subwoofer channels
  - DIGITAL OUT: Front, Rear, Center and Subwoofer SPDIF digital outputs
- ❑ Two line-level analog outputs via stereo jacks on rear bracket, Front and Rear Line-Outs 1 and 2
- ❑ Stereo headphone (32-ohm load) support on Front Line-Out

## SB1394 Interfaces



The 6-pin SB1394 connector/port has a 2 watt maximum power output. Connect only one high power usage device such as an IEEE 1394 hard disk and CD-RW drive to this port unless it is self-powered.

- One 2 x 5 pin Internal SB1394 connector on card for connection to the Audigy Extension card
- One 6-pin SB1394 connector/port on rear bracket

## Interfaces

- VOL\_CTRL 1 x 4 pin header
- PC\_SPK (PC speaker) 1 x 2 pin header
- AUD\_EXT 2 x 20 pin header for connection to the Audigy Extension card
- JOYSTICK 2 x 8 pin header for connection to the Audigy Extension card

## Audigy Extension card

- AUD\_EXT/Joystick 2 x 32 pin header for connection to the Sound Blaster Audigy card
- One 2 x 5 pin Internal SB1394 connector for connection to the Sound Blaster Audigy card
- One 6-pin SB1394 connector/port on rear bracket for connection to the external Audigy Drive
- One 44-pin DB connector for connection to the external Audigy Drive
- One 15-pin DB Joystick/MIDI connector attached to the Audigy Extension cable

## External Audigy Drive

## Inputs and outputs on front panel

- Two RCA jacks for coaxial SPDIF input and output
- One headphone output with auto detection via ¼" stereo jack with volume control



- One shared line-level analog Line/Microphone input (Line-In 2/Mic-In 2) via ¼” stereo jack. Shared input selectable via knob. Gain/level control for microphone
  - Two RCA jacks with left and right channel stereo Auxiliary input
  - Two optical connectors for optical SPDIF input and output
  - Two mini MIDI DIN (female) connectors for separate MIDI input and output
  - One SB1394 connector for 1394 input and output
  - One infrared receiver for receiving information from the remote control (transmission range within 4 metres with 15° deviation from the center axes)
- Inputs and outputs on rear panel
- One 6-pin SB1394 connector/port (SB1394\_EXT) for connection to the Audigy Extension cable
  - One 44-pin DB connector for connection to the Audigy Extension cable

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## **B** Troubleshooting & FAQ's

This section provides solutions to problems you may encounter during installation or normal use.



## Troubleshooting & FAQ's

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### Problems Installing Software

This appendix provides solutions to problems you may encounter during installation or normal use.

If you have a technical problem with this product, you may wish to consult our self-help tool “Knowledgebase” for on-line troubleshooting and solutions. ([www.europe.creative.com/support](http://www.europe.creative.com/support)).

**The installation does not start automatically after the Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD is inserted.**

The AutoPlay feature in your Windows system may not be enabled.

*To start the installation program through the My Computer shortcut menu:*

1. Double-click the **My Computer** icon on your Windows desktop.
2. In the **My Computer** window, right-click the CD-ROM drive icon.
3. On the shortcut menu, click **AutoPlay** and follow the instructions on the screen.

*To enable AutoPlay through Auto Insert Notification:*

1. Click **Start -> Settings -> Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** window, double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab and select your CD-ROM drive.
4. Click the **Properties** button.
5. In the **Properties** dialog box, click the **Settings** tab and select **Auto Insert Notification**.
6. Click the **OK** button to exit from the dialog box.



## Problems with Sound

### **There is unexpected excessive environmental sound or effects when an audio file is played.**

The last selected preset is an inappropriate environment for the current audio file.

*To switch to an appropriate environment:*

1. Double-click the **EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control Panel** icon in AudioHQ.
2. In the **Environment** box, click the down arrow to select **(No effects)** or an appropriate environment.

### **No sound from the headphones.**

*Check the following:*

- The headphones are connected to the Headphones jack.
- In the **Speakers** tabbed page of the Main panel of Surround Mixer, the **Headphones** option is selected in the **Speaker** box.
- In the Mixer panel of Surround Mixer, the recording source selected is **“What U Hear”**.

### **Individual analog recording sources are not displayed in Surround Mixer.**

The following analog recording sources are combined in one recording control called **Analog Mix (Line/CD/TAD/Aux/PC)**, which is found in the one-column record panel:

- Line-In
- CD Audio
- Auxiliary
- TAD-In
- PC Speaker

### **Individual analog recording sources cannot be selected in Surround Mixer.**

Five analog recording sources are combined under the selection **Analog Mix (Line/CD/TAD/Aux/PC)**. For more information, see “Individual analog recording sources are not displayed in Surround Mixer.” on page B-3.



*To record an individual analog source:*

- In the one-column record panel of Surround Mixer, make sure the recording source selected is **Analog Mix (Line/CD/TAD/Aux/PC)**.
- In the six-column panel, mute the analog sources that you do not want to record by clicking the **Mute** check box to select it.

### **No sound from the speakers.**

*Check the following:*

- You have connected your speakers to your card's output.
- You have selected the correct source in the Mixer panel.
- If both the above conditions have been met and you still do not get any sound, click the **red plus sign** above the **VOL** control and check whether the **Digital Output Only** check box is selected. If it is, you are in the Digital Output Only mode and so must connect to digital speakers to hear the sound from your audio card. See the section on Digital Output Only in Surround Mixer's **Online Help** for more information.

### **No audio output when playing digital files such as .WAV, MIDI files or AVI clips.**

*Check the following:*

- The speakers' volume control knob, if any, is set at mid-range. Use Creative Mixer to adjust the volume, if necessary.
- The powered speakers or external amplifier are connected to the card's Line Out or Rear Out jack.
- There is no hardware conflict between the card and a peripheral device. See "Resolving I/O Conflicts" on page B-11.
- The Speaker selection in the Main panel of Surround Mixer corresponds to your speaker or headphone configuration.
- The **Original Sound** sliders in either or both the **Master** and **Source** tabbed pages of the **EAX ADVANCED HD™ Control Panel** application are set to 100%.



**No audio output when playing audio CDs or DOS games that require a CD-ROM.**

*To solve this problem:*

- Make sure the Audio connector on the CD-ROM drive and the CD In connector on the audio card are connected.
- Enable digital CD playback:

For Windows 98 SE

1. Click **Start -> Settings -> Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** dialog box, double-click the **Multimedia** icon.
3. In the **Multimedia Properties** dialog box, click the **CD Music** tab.
4. Click the **Enable digital CD audio for this CD-ROM device** check box to select it.
5. Click the **OK** button.

For Windows Me

1. Click **Start -> Settings -> Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** dialog box, double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab.
4. Double-click the **DVD/CD-ROM drives** icon.  
Your computer drives will appear.
5. Right-click the **disk drive** icon.  
A menu will appear.
6. Click **Properties**.
7. In the **Digital CD Playback** box of the next dialog box, click the **Enable digital CD audio for this CD-ROM device** check box to select it.
8. Click the **OK** button.



For Windows 2000 and Windows XP

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** dialog box, double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Hardware** tab.
4. Click the **Device Manager** button.
5. Double-click the **DVD/CD-ROM drives** icon.  
Your computer drives will appear.
6. Right-click the **disk drive** icon.  
A menu will appear.
7. Click **Properties**.
8. In the **Digital CD Playback** box of the next dialog box, click the **Enable digital CD audio for this CD-ROM device** check box to select it.

#### **Panning a source sometimes turns off its sound.**

This occurs when you are in the Digital Output Only mode and the source's left-right balance in a software mixer application other than Surround Mixer (for example, the Windows Volume Control application) is at the opposite end compared to the position to which you have panned the source in the Main panel of Surround Mixer. For example, the CD Audio balance in Windows Volume Control is on the left but in Surround Mixer you have panned the CD Audio to the right.

*To solve this problem:*

Open that other mixer, and center the balances for all the audio input sources.

This ensures that your analog sources will not turn silent when you pan them in Surround Mixer.

## Problems with File Transfers on Some VIA Chipset Motherboards

After you install the Audigy card on a VIA chipset motherboard, you may have the slight chance of seeing one of the following:

**When transferring large amounts of data, the computer stops responding (‘hangs’) or restarts itself, OR Files transferred from another drive are incomplete or corrupted.**

These problems appear in a small number of computers, which contain the VIA VT82C686B controller chipset on their motherboards.

*To verify if your motherboard has the VT82C686B chipset:*

- Refer to your computer or motherboard manual, or
- In Windows:
  - i. Click Start -> Settings -> Control Panel.
  - ii. Double-click the System icon.
  - iii. Click the Device Manager or Hardware tab.
  - iv. Click the Systems devices icon.
  - v. In the list that appears, see if the items highlighted in Figure B-1 appear.
  - vi. If the items appear, remove your computer cover and locate the VIA chipset on your motherboard. (Take note of the safety precautions on page 2-3.)
  - vii. The VT82C686B chipset has its model number inscribed on the chip.

*If you have the VT82C686B chipset:*

- Creative recommends that you first contact your computer vendor or motherboard manufacturer for the latest solution.
- Some users have solved the above problems by doing one or both of the following:
  - downloading the latest VIA 4in1 drivers from <http://www.viatech.com>\*,

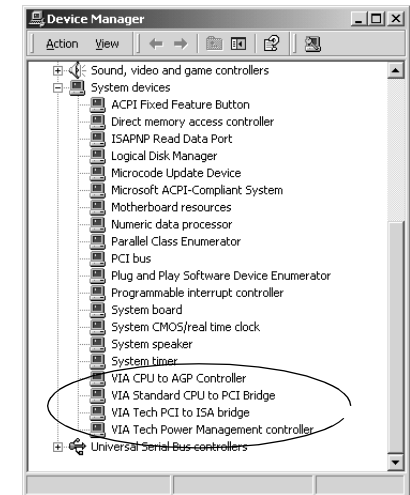


Figure B-1: Device Manager tab

- obtaining the most current BIOS for your motherboard from the manufacturer's web site\*.

\*Content in these web sites is controlled by other companies. Creative bears no responsibility for information or downloads obtained from them. This information is provided only as a convenience to you.

## Insufficient SoundFont Cache



The trade-off of a smaller SoundFont file is its lower sound quality.

### **There is insufficient memory to load SoundFonts.**

This may occur when a SoundFont-compatible MIDI file is loaded or played while insufficient memory has been allocated to SoundFonts.

*To allocate more SoundFont cache:*

On the **Options** tabbed page of the SoundFont Control applet, move the SoundFont Cache slider to the right.

The amount of SoundFont cache you can allocate depends on the system RAM available. Your computer may slow down if the amount of cache used is too high.

*If there is still insufficient system RAM available:*

Do one of the following:

- On the **Configure Banks** tabbed page of the SoundFont Control applet, select a smaller SoundFont bank from the **Select Bank** box.
- Increase the system RAM on your computer.

### **The joystick port is not working.**

The audio card's joystick port may be conflicting with the system's joystick port.

*To solve this problem:*

Disable the audio card's joystick port and use the system port instead. Do the following:

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** window, double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab.

## Problems With Joysticks

4. Double-click **Sound, Video And Game Controllers**, and then select **Creative Audigy Gameport** (**Creative Game Port** for Windows 2000).
5. Click the **Properties** button.
6. In the Properties dialog box:
  - If you have an **Original Configuration (Current)** check box:
    - Clear the check box to disable it.
  - If you have a **Disable In This Hardware Profile** check box:
    - Make sure that the check box is selected to disable it.
7. Click **OK** to restart Windows and for the change to take effect.

When the Gameport Joystick interface is disabled, the entry in Device Manager has a red cross.

#### **The joystick is not working properly in some programs.**

The program may use the system processor timing to calculate the joystick position. When the processor is fast, the program may determine the position of the joystick incorrectly, assuming that the position is out of range.

*To solve this problem:*

Increase your system's 8 bit I/O recovery time of the BIOS setting, usually under the Chipset Feature Settings section. Or, if available, you may adjust the AT Bus speed to a slower clock. If the problem persists, try a different joystick.

#### **The other installed audio card is not working well.**

You may have an existing audio device installed in your computer. The audio device may be an audio card or an onboard audio chipset. Before you install your Sound Blaster Audigy card, you are advised to completely uninstall and remove your existing audio device. Operating multiple audio devices in your computer may introduce usability issues.



Do not attempt to make changes to the BIOS unless you have experience with system software.

## Problems with Multiple Audio Devices



*Alternatively, during the installation of your Sound Blaster Audigy card, do the following:*

- ❑ If your computer detects an installed Sound Blaster Live! Series or Sound Blaster PCI512 audio card, a message box recommending that you completely uninstall and remove the older audio device will appear. Click the **Yes** button and follow the instructions on the screen to complete the removal of the old audio device. Remove the old audio card from your computer.
- ❑ If your computer detects any other installed audio card, a message box recommending that you completely uninstall and remove the older audio device will appear. Click the **Yes** button to continue with the installation of the Sound Blaster Audigy card.  
After the installation of the Sound Blaster Audigy card, completely uninstall the existing card and remove the audio card from your computer.

**The onboard audio chipset is not working well.**

To disable an onboard audio chipset, do the following:

1. Restart your system.
2. During the memory check, press <F2> or <Delete>, depending on your motherboard.  
The BIOS setup menu appears.
3. Select **Chipset Features Setup** and press <Enter>.
4. Select **Onboard Legacy Audio** and press <Enter> to disable your onboard audio chipset.
5. Press <Esc> to return to the BIOS setup menu.
6. Select **Save & Exit Setup**, and then press <Enter>.
7. Press <Y> and then press <Enter>



## Problems with Sound Blaster Live! Series or Sound Blaster PCI512 card

**Sound Blaster Live! or Sound Blaster PCI512 applications are not working.**

Other than normal playback and recording function, older audio devices may not work well when Sound Blaster Audigy is installed.

*To solve this problem:*

Uninstall and remove the older card from the computer. Otherwise, you can choose to disable the Sound Blaster Live! or Sound Blaster PCI512 card:

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** window, double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab.
4. Double-click **Sound, Video And Game Controllers**, and then select **Creative Sound Blaster Live! Series** or **Creative Sound Blaster PCI512**.
5. Click the **Properties** button.
6. In the Properties dialog box:
  - If you have an **Original Configuration (Current)** check box:
    - Clear the check box to disable it.
  - If you have a **Disable In This Hardware Profile** check box:
    - Make sure that the check box is selected to disable it.
7. Click **OK** to restart Windows and for the change to take effect.

When the Sound Blaster Live! series is disabled, the entry in Device Manager has a red cross.

## Resolving I/O Conflicts

Conflicts between your audio card and another peripheral device may occur if your card and the other device are set to use the same I/O address.

To resolve I/O conflicts, change the resource settings of your audio card or the conflicting peripheral device in your system using Device Manager in Windows 98 SE.



You can also refer to the Troubleshooting section in the online Help of Windows 98 SE/Me.

## Problems with Encore DVD Player (not included)

If you still do not know which card is causing the conflict, remove all cards except the audio card and other essential cards (for example, disk controller and graphics cards). Add each card back until Device Manager indicates that a conflict has occurred.

*To resolve hardware conflicts in Windows 98 SE:*

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
2. In the **Control Panel** window, double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab.
4. Under the Sound, Video And Game Controllers entry, select the conflicting audio card driver—indicated by an exclamation mark (!)—and click the **Properties** button.
5. In the Properties dialog box, click the **Resources** tab.
6. Make sure that the **Use automatic settings** check box is selected, and click the **OK** button.
7. Restart your system to allow Windows 98 SE/Me to reassign resources to your audio card and/or the conflicting device.

**The Encore DVD Player is not launched when a DVD disc is inserted into the drive.**

*To solve this problem:*

1. In the Windows system tray, right-click the Disc Detector icon, and then click **Properties**.
2. On the **General** tabbed page of the **Creative Disc Detector** dialog box, make sure that **Enable Disc Detector** check box is selected.
3. Click the **Players** tab.
4. Select the DVD Disc entry and then click the **Select Player** button.
5. In the **Players Properties** dialog box, click the **Browse** button.
6. Browse to C:\Program Files\Creative\PC- DVD Encore and double-click the entry **ctdvdply**  
The Name box now displays the entry *ctdvdply*.
7. Click the **OK** button twice.

Now when you double-click the Disc Detector icon, the Encore DVD Player is launched.

## Problems with Software DVD Player (not included)

## Problems with DV driver for Windows 98 SE/2000/Me/XP



The 1394 MSDV driver does not run on Windows XP

**Changing audio configuration (for example, switching from 6-channel mode to SPDIF Output mode or vice versa) while watching a DVD movie does not seem to work, even though all settings in the software DVD player and in Surround Mixer are correct.**

*To solve this problem:*

Close and restart the software DVD player.

### **The DV camcorder is not working properly.**

The MSDV camcorder driver may not be the latest version (v4.10.2226).

*To solve this problem:*

1. Visit the **Microsoft Web Site** and download the Digital Video update for DirectX 8.0 file (dx80bda.exe).
2. Install the above file into your computer.

**Note:** You need to install DirectX 8.0 or 8.0a run time first.

If the problem still persists, the MSDV camcorder driver may not be fully optimized for your DV camcorder.

*To solve this problem:*

1. Turn on your DV camcorder.
2. Insert the Sound Blaster Audigy Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive.  
Exit from the welcome screen.
3. Using Windows Explorer, locate the **1394** folder in the CD-ROM, and run the DVConnect 240.exe file.  
Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the setup.  
If you are in Windows 98 SE, you may be prompted to insert the Windows 98 SE CD-ROM first.  
Follow the instructions on the screen to complete this setup.
4. Click the **Finish** button.
5. Turn off and then turn on your DV camcorder.

## Problems with installing non-Creative applications

**A Hardware Installation error message appears on a Windows XP operating system when non-Creative applications are being installed.**

At the time of this product's release, Microsoft strongly encouraged companies to submit their hardware solutions for certification. If a hardware device driver is not submitted, or does not qualify, for Microsoft certification, a warning message similar to the one below appears.



You may see the message when you install hardware drivers from companies other than Creative. If you do, you may choose to click the Continue Anyway button. Device drivers not signed by Microsoft may be used in Windows XP, and need not impair or destabilize your computer.

Should you need more XP-related information or help, you can contact the company that developed the driver, at the company's web site or helpline.

## Problems with Digital Devices

**Intermittent hissing or no sound is heard from my digital speakers.**

Make sure you select the sampling rate of the PCM SPDIF output of your Digital Out connector to match the requirements of the receiving device. You may need to select a lower digital output sampling rate. The choices available are 44.1 kHz, 48 kHz and 96 kHz.



*To solve this problem:*

1. Click Start -> Settings -> Control Panel.
2. In the Control Panel window, double-click the AudioHQ icon.
3. In the AudioHQ window, double-click the Device Controls icon.
4. Click the Sampling Rate tab.
5. Click the required sampling rate from the Digital Output Sampling Rate list.

# Technical Support

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We are committed to giving you the best products as well as the best service by providing you with a comprehensive suite of eService options complemented by telephone support.

With Creative's eService strategy, we deliver the best possible customer experience using our multilingual Customer support portal, interactive chat, email support and our self-service knowledgebase.

The European support area on our website at **[www.europe.creative.com](http://www.europe.creative.com)** contains the following options:

## Knowledgebase

**<http://>**



Creative's Self-service knowledgebase empowers you to quickly resolve your queries by using natural language support and stepping you through targeted questions to help pinpoint the best solution to your particular problem. Should you need additional help, you can escalate your query online through live chat or email ensuring that you receive the best possible service in the manner that is most comfortable to you.

## Webchat\*



Creative's interactive TextChat enables you to contact our Technical Support team through a real-time chat facility. Additional features, such as web page pushing, collaborative browsing and file and brochure exchange, transform your chat session into a fully interactive support experience.

## eMail†



Should you not obtain a solution to your query using our Knowledgebase system, you can click the “Not Solved” button located at the bottom of any suggested solution document to escalate your query via eMail. If you do not have access to our website then you can mail us directly at [support@europe.creative.com](mailto:support@europe.creative.com).

## Telephone\*†



You have the option to contact our service support team via telephone. Telephone numbers can be found in the “**Creative European Contact Centre**” section below.

## Download Drivers#



The Creative website offers a range of updates and drivers for our products in a variety of operating systems.

## Download Manuals



Browse Creative's extensive library of product installation and user guides to find documentation for your Creative product.



## If You Have a Problem



Please retain all contents including packaging and proof of purchase until you are fully satisfied with your product.

If you have a problem installing or using your Creative product, please use the Creative eServices and/or telephone support for assistance. Should you contact Technical Support, you may be asked for information regarding the following:

- The model of your Creative product
- Error information on the screen and how it came about
- Information on the adapter cards which may be causing a conflict<sup>#</sup>
- Hardware configuration information such as the base I/O address, IRQ line, DMA channels used<sup>#</sup>
- Motherboard information: BIOS manufacturer/version and chipset manufacturer
- Type and version of your operating system, e.g., Windows 95/98 or Windows NT, Windows 2000 or Windows Me

If, after using the Creative support services, you believe your Creative product to be defective, you should verify the purchase date and then take the appropriate action as detailed below:

### **Less than 30 days since date of purchase**

Should your store receipt indicate that the product is less than 30 days old, you have the option of returning the full product to the Dealer/Retailer for a replacement or credit. The 30-day time period may not apply in all instances, so please check the Dealer/Retailer replacement/credit terms.

### **More than 30 days since date of purchase**

Contact European Technical Support to clarify the nature of the problem and to obtain details of our repair/replacement procedure.

<sup>#</sup> Not applicable for all products



## Returning a product for repair

- Creative Labs requires that all returns for repair/replacement must first be issued with an authorisation number, therefore you need to contact Technical Support to receive this number.
- Technical Support will communicate how to return the product in question for repair/replacement.
- You should only return the hardware item in question and return it to the address provided by Technical Support. Please retain all software, accessories and the original packaging.
- Please quote the authorisation number clearly on the outside of the packaging in which you return the hardware item.
- After receiving the hardware, Creative will process the return.

Creative may replace or repair the product with new or re-conditioned parts, and the faulty parts will become the property of Creative. The warranty period for your repaired/replacement item is 90 days from the date of shipment from Creative, or what is left on the original item's warranty, whichever is longer.

To avoid tariffs when shipping a product to Creative Labs from outside the E.U. or from zones with special tax status, you must complete the relevant customs documentation before shipping the product.

## Operating Hours



<b>Knowledgebase</b>	Available on-line 24 hours a day
<b>Webchat*</b>	10:00-18:30 CET Monday - Friday
<b>Telephone*</b>	10:30-19:00 CET Monday - Friday

\* Closed Sat-Sun & Public Holidays



## Limited Warranty

Creative Labs (Ireland) Limited (“Creative”) warrants to you, the original buyer and holder of this warranty, as it stands in the accompanying warranty card, that the hardware product will be free of defects in materials and workmanship for a period of two (2) years after the date of purchase, or such other period as may be expressly specified by Creative or required by applicable law (“Warranty Period”).

Creative's entire liability and your remedy will be, at Creative’s sole discretion, the repair or replacement (with the same or similar model) of any hardware or accompanying item(s) not meeting the “Limited Warranty” explained above that is returned to Creative's authorised distributor or dealer during the Warranty Period with a copy of your receipt.

### What this warranty does not cover



This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may have other rights which vary from country to country. Certain limitations in this warranty are not permitted by the jurisdiction of some countries, so some limitations here may not apply to you.

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, Creative disclaims all other warranties and conditions, expressed or implied, including the conditions of quality, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose with respect to the use of this product. Creative also disclaims any obligation to support products for all operating environments - for example, by ensuring interoperability with future versions of software or hardware. In no event shall Creative or its licensors be liable for any indirect, incidental, special or consequential loss or for any lost profits, savings or data arising from or relating to the use of this product, even if Creative or its licensors have been advised of the possibility of such loss.

Specifically, this warranty does not cover failures of the product which result from accident, abuse, misuse, alterations (by persons other than Creative or its authorized repair agents), moisture, corrosive environments, shipping, high voltage surges, or abnormal working conditions. This warranty does not cover normal wear and tear. You are specifically advised to take a backup copy of any software provided with the Creative product for security purposes.

# Creative European Contact Centre

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**Please note that international call rates will apply. Please contact your telecoms company to verify the exact rate you will be charged.**

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