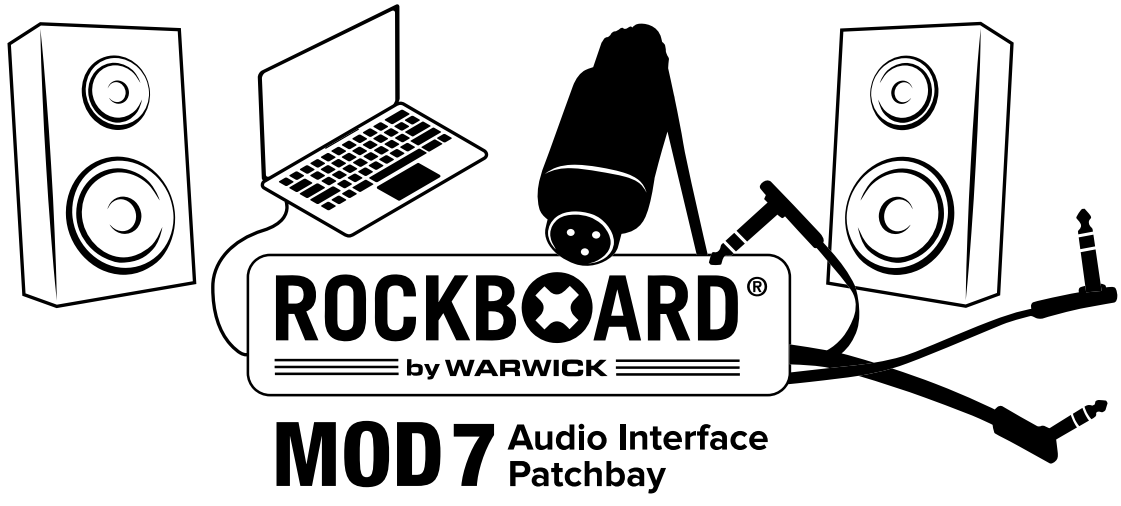
Manual for RockBoard® MOD 7 Audio Interface Patchbay



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Introduction

Thank you for purchasing a RockBoard® MOD 7 - the new gateway from your effects rig to your DAW!

The RockBoard® MOD 7 Audio Interface Patchbay offers an easy to use audio interface without special driver or software requirements. It also acts as an active DI box and offers a simple solution to organize all of the connections to and from your effects setup. Whether you are using a RockBoard® or any other brand of pedalboard - the MOD 7 will open your rig to the digital realm of sound processing and recording.

The audio interface lets you connect your effects rig to a PC or MAC to process your signal using digital audio software plug-ins and to record your playing. On top of that, you can send your processed signal back through the MOD 7's balanced DI output for going direct into the FOH mixer, the two unbalanced outputs can be used for monitoring or to send signal to an amp.

If you don't have your DAW with you that's no problem either - just put the MOD 7 in bypass mode and use Output 1 to drive your amp without using the interface part of MOD 7.

The patchbay part is designed to route connections from underneath your pedalboard to the front, in order to give you a central access point to your setup and organize your connections.

Precautions

Power Supply

This device is powered via USB. Please connect the unit to a suitable device's USB port using the included USB connection cable. Unplug the unit when not in use or during electrical storms.

Connections

Always turn off the power to all other equipment before connecting or disconnecting. This will help to prevent malfunction and damage to any of the devices used.

Interference with other electrical devices

Radios and televisions placed nearby may experience reception interference. Operate this unit at a suitable distance from radios and televisions.

Cleaning

Clean only with a soft, dry cloth.

Handling

Do not apply excessive force to the switches or controls. Do not let paper, metal, dirt or other objects come into contact with the device or its connections. Take care not to drop the device or subject it to shock or excessive pressure. To avoid deformation, discoloration, or other serious damage, do not expose this unit to any of the followingconditions:

- Direct sunlight
- Strong magnetic fields
- Excessively dusty or dirty environments
- Strong vibration or shock
- Heat sources
- Extreme temperature
- High humidity or moisture

FCC certification

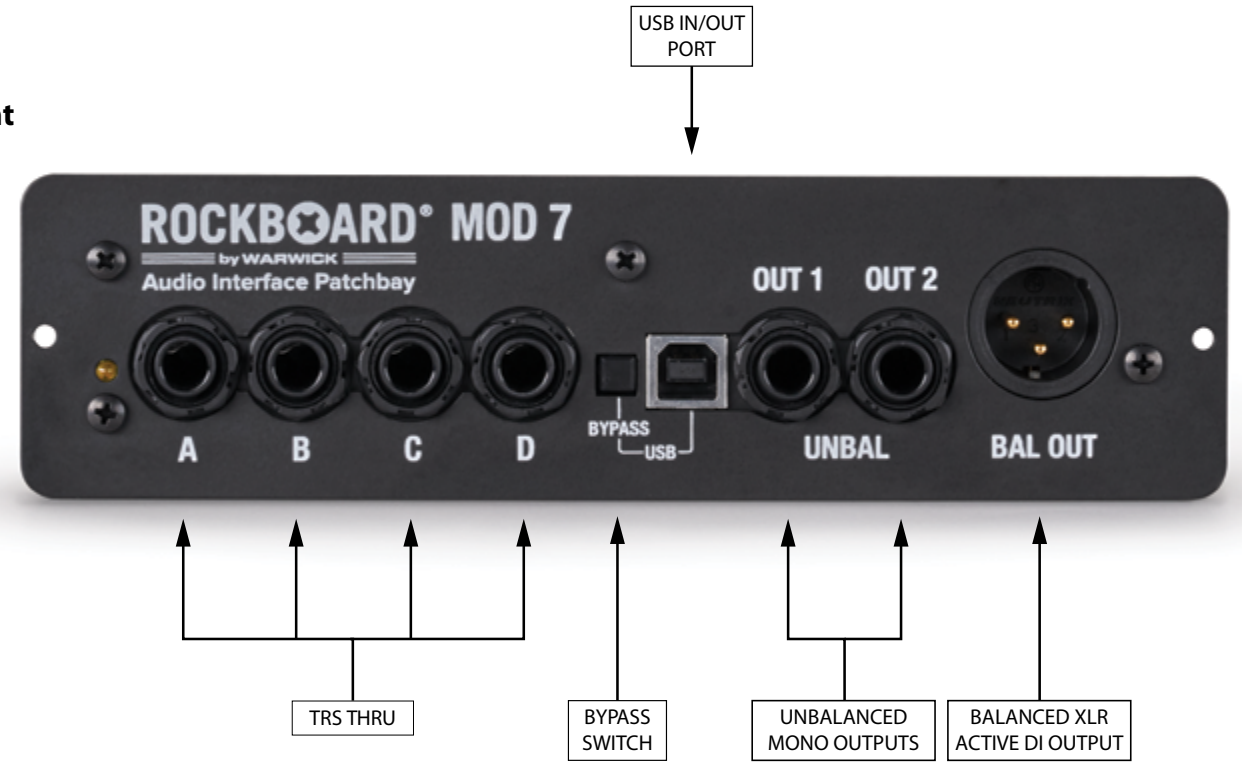
This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- This device may not cause harmful interference.
- This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

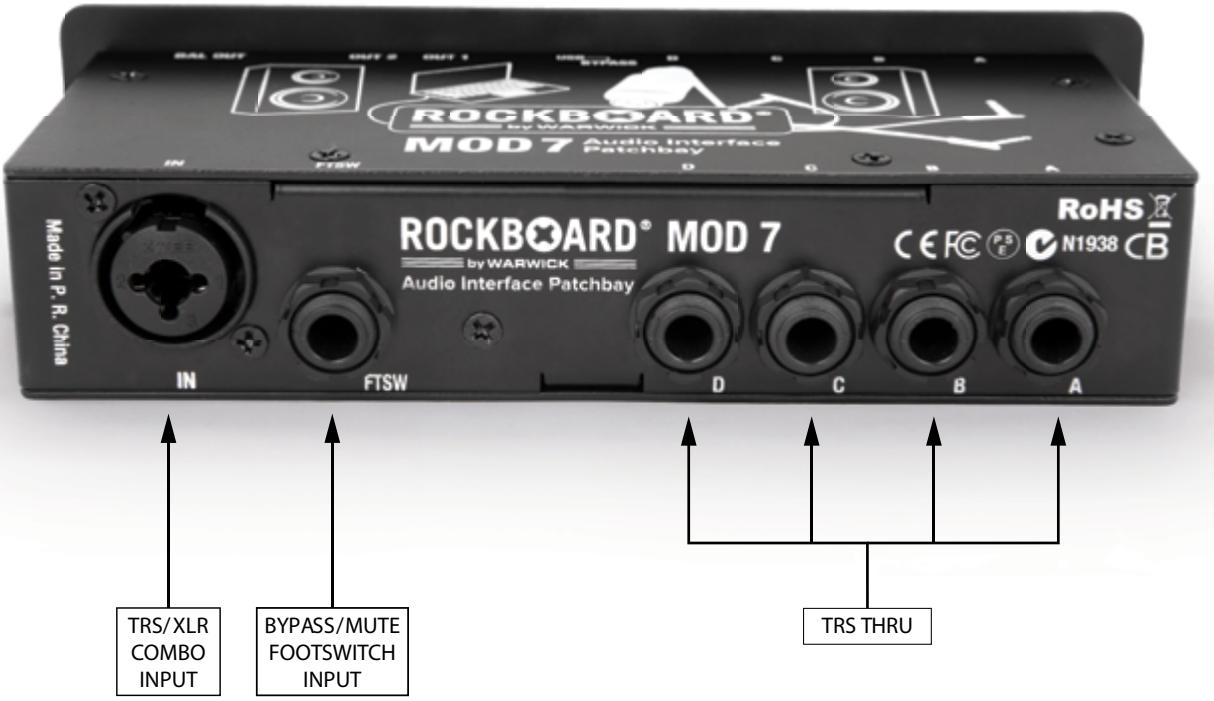
Main Features

- USB audio interface
- Recording and digital signal processing via DAW plugins
- No special drivers or software requirements
- Output via USB Type A, 2 x unbalanced 6.3 mm / ¼" TS jack, balanced XLR
- Integrated active DI Box
- Bypass function for use without USB connection
- Footswitchable mute function (footswitch not included)

Front



Back



Mounting

There are multiple options for mounting your new MOD 7 onto a RockBoard® pedalboard. You can either mount it in its MOD slot (available on all RockBoard® pedalboards except DUO 2.0 and 2.1) or detach the MOD's front plate and mount it on top or underneath your pedalboard.

Mounting on a RockBoard® Pedalboard

Please follow the below steps to mount your MOD 7 in the MOD slot of your RockBoard® pedalboard.

STEP 1

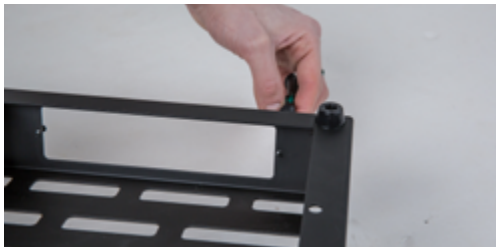
Remove the rubber frame of your RockBoard®'s MOD slot.

STEP 2

Turn the RockBoards® pedalboard upside down.

STEP 3

The MOD mounting screws are self-tapping, they will cut their own threads into the pre-drilled mounting holes in the RockBoard®'s front. Use a TX10 screwdriver to screw the mounting screws in and cut the threads. If you do not own a TX10 screwdriver, a wrench is also included with the MOD. The first couple rotations of the screws will require extra effort, as they have to cut the threads into the surrounding material. Please be careful not to screw them in at an angle.



STEP 4

Once the tips of the screws are sticking out on the other side of the holes and they become easier to turn, the threads have been cut properly. Now remove the screws again.

STEP 5

Next, load your chosen MOD from the front into the slot and screw in the mounting screws until the MOD's front plate sits flush with the face of the board.

STEP 6

For added security, screw the counter nut on the back.

Now the MOD is ready to be connected with your setup!

Detaching the MOD 7's front plate

When mounting the MOD 7 All-in-One Patchbays on top or underneath your pedalboard, you will have to detach the front plate, so it will fit flush onto/under the board surface.

Using a PH2 Phillips head screw driver, remove the screws as indicated below to release the front plate from your MOD 7. Do not remove the mounting nuts from the jack sockets.

Mounting on a non-RockBoard® pedalboard

There are multiple ways of mounting your MOD 7 on a non-RockBoard® pedalboard. You can either mount it directly to the board surface using hook & loop tape or another reclosable fastener.

Additionally RockBoard® offers the MOD Rack for mounting your MOD 7 in various ways onto, into, or underneath pedalboards of other manufacturers.

For mounting your MOD 7 using the RockBoard® MOD Rack, please refer to the MOD RACK manual. Please follow the below steps to mount your MOD 7 on your non-RockBoard® pedalboard.

STEP 1

Release the MOD's front plate by removing the screws indicated above.

STEP 2

Apply self-adhesive hook tape or another reclosable fastener to the underside of the MOD housing.

STEP 3

Apply self-adhesive loop tape or another reclosable fastener to the position on top or underneath your pedalboard where you want to place your MOD.

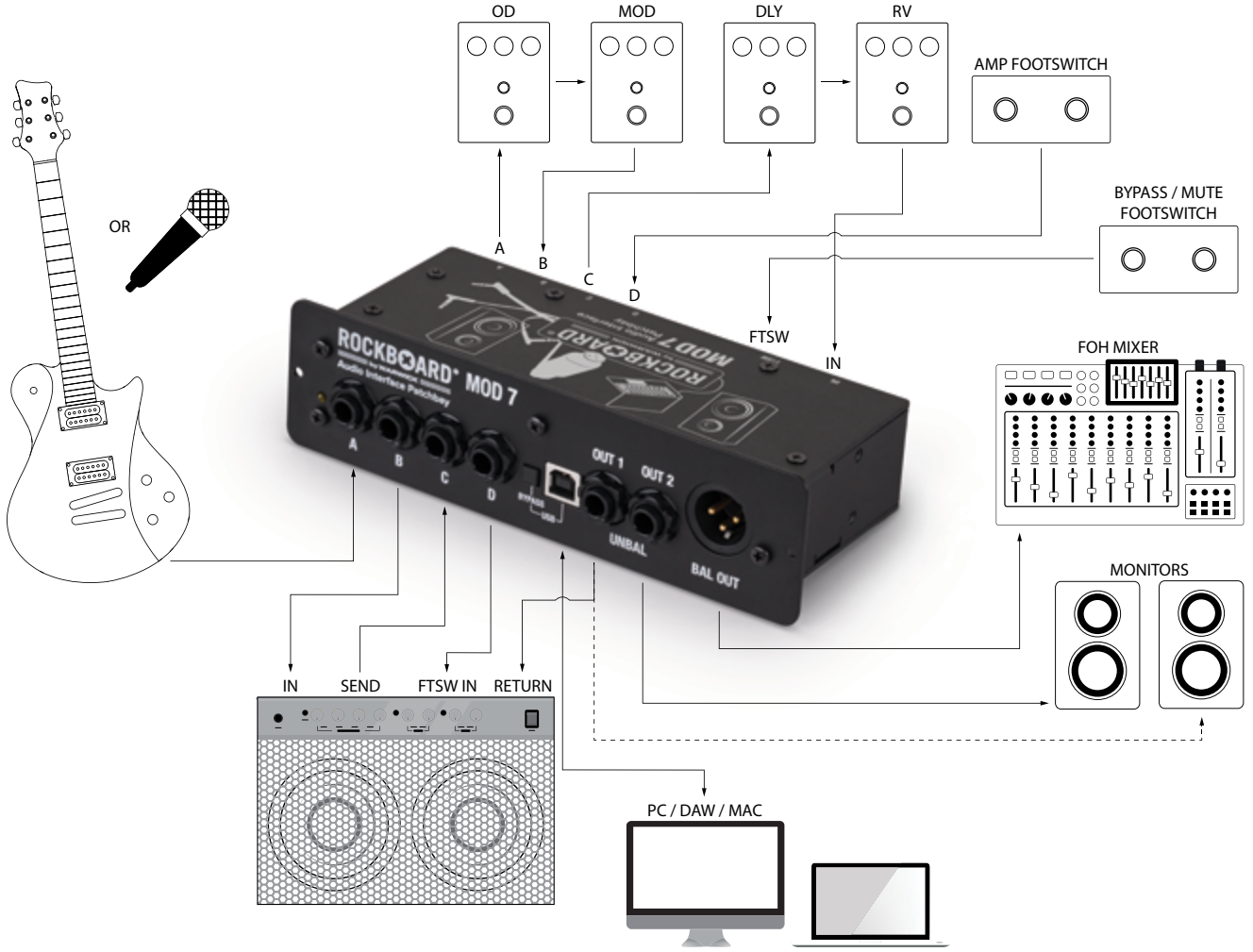
STEP 4

Bring both sides of the hook & loop tape or other reclosable fastener together to attach your MOD to the pedalboard.

Now the MOD is ready to be connected with your setup!

Setup & Operation

Setup example



Thru-Connections

The RockBoard® MOD 7 Audio Interface Patchbay is designed to act as central access point to your effects setup. The A, B, C, and D TRS sockets are wiring thru-connections from the front of MOD 7 to the corresponding sockets on the back. This allows you to setup your effects rig so that you only have to connect cables to and from the front of the board, instead of having to route underneath it when setting it up for a gig.

All four thru-connections can be used in either direction and for control as well as mono or stereo audio signals. There are many different setup possibilities for the A, B, C, and D sockets. See an example of the 4-cable setup under the section Setup example.

Many uses of the A, B, C and D sockets are possible, depending on your effects rig. Feel free to experiment, in accordance with the specifications and intended use of other equipment you use with the MOD 7.

Balanced XLR / active DI output

The MOD 7 audio interface section also includes a balanced XLR / active DI output, which is powered by the USB connection.

- Connect the MOD 7's USB port to the USB port of your PC/MAC to power the unit.
- Connect your instrument or last effects pedal in your signal chain to the IN socket on the back of MOD 7
- Connect the BAL OUT to the FOH mixing board or other suitable PA equipment.
  Please make sure to deactivate Phantom Power on the channel the MOD 7 is connected! MOD 7 will not work via phantom power.
  PLEASE NOTE: The BAL OUT active DI output only works when the unit is supplied with power through the USB port. When not powered or in bypass the BAL OUT as well as OUT 2 will not output any signal.

Unbalanced outputs 1 & 2
The MOD 7's unbalanced outputs can be used for sending signal to either monitors or other powered speakers as well as amplifiers.

Please note, UNBAL OUT 1 will also work without power or in bypass. UNBAL OUT 2 (as well as the active XLR BAL OUT) however, will be deactivated when the connection to power is lost or the unit is in bypass mode. This is due to an active signal buffer that allows for the input signal to be split to different outputs without signal loss. UNBAL OUT 1 can still be used when putting the unit in bypass mode.

Bypass function
If the MOD 7 is not being powered via USB or the connection is lost, the active signal buffer that boosts the signal for splitting UNBALL OUT 1, UNBAL OUT 2 and BAL OUT, will not work. Hence, neither output will work without power.

You can use the MOD 7 even though it is not connected to power. It features a passive bypass function that is activated by either the bypass switch on the front panel or by using an optional latching footswitch.

Bypass / Mute footswitch
For quick and easy access to the bypass as well as an optional mute function, the MOD 7 requires a dual latching footswitch with TRS connection. Tip is connected to the MUTE function, Ring is connected to the bypass function. Ring is also connected to ground.

When a footswitch is connected, the bypass switch on the front panel is overridden by the footswitch. Depressing the bypass footswitch on the remote switch will put the MOD 7 into bypass mode and disconnect UNBAL OUT 2 and BAL OUT. In bypass mode UNBAL OUT 1 will send the input signal from the TRS/XLR IN combo socket without sending it to the USB Output.

The Mute function is designed to mute the HID output from the USB connection, effectively sending no outbound signal to the connected DAW for processing or recording. Hence, the output is also being muted.

Specifications

- Thru 4 x 6.3 mm / ¼" TRS audio jack
- Input
  - 6.3 mm / ¼" stereo jack (impedance 10 kOhms)
  - XLR jack (impedance 100 kOhms)
- Outputs
  - balanced XLR female (impedance 50 Ohms)
  - unbalanced 6.3 mm / ¼" mono audio jacks (Impedance 50 Ohms; impedance balanced)
- A/D converter dynamic range 89 dB
- D/A converter dynamic range 93 dB
- Supported sampling rates 44.1 kHz and 48 kHz
- Total harmonic distortion (THD) < 0.01% (measured at min Gain)
- Signal to noise ratio 89 dB
- Frequency range 50 Hz - 20 kHz +/- 0.05 dB
- Power requirements 5V DC via USB
- Current draw 200 mA
- Dimensions
  175 x 73 x 47 mm / 6 7/8" x 2 7/8" x 3 15/16" (with front plate)
  160 x 73 x 33 mm / 6 5/16" x 2 7/8" x 1 5/16" (without front plate)
- Weight 470 g / 1.1 lb
- Accessories include Quick Start Guide, USB connection cable, mounting screws, nuts & wrench

NOTE: Any change or update to these specifications may not be amended in this manual.

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