I'm not a robot

In this guide, we will show you how to use Focusrite Control with your Scarlett interface. That means you'll learn how to set up, route, and adjust settings in the app. Follow the sections below to get started. TIP: Hovering your mouse over any part of the software will show you a description of what the function does. Focusrite Control is the standalone software where you will make various changes with the Focusrite interfaces. This includes changing clock sources, routing, sample rate, and, depending on your device, pairing with your iOS device. When you launch Focusrite Control, there are three windows you'll be working with. The Output Routing, Input Settings, and Device Settings. The Input Settings window is straightforward. Unlike other interfaces that use physical controls, you can perform various functions in Focusrite Control. These functions include changing the input source between LINE and INSTRUMENT, turning the PAD (–10dB) on and off, and engaging the AIR preamp for each channel. Clicking the gear icon will pull up the Device Settings. Within Device Settings, you will change the sample rate and the clock source. You can even change your device's name and change the colors of the gain halos on the interface. If you own a Scarlett 6i6, 18i8, 18i20, Clarett, or Red model interface, you will also go to the Device Settings window to connect to the Focusrite iOS Control app. Focusrite Control input settings. Click to enlarge. If you launch Focusrite Control and receive an error that says No Hardware Connected, ensure that the USB cable is fully inserted and that the drivers are installed correctly. Check out our guides on resolving audio interface issues on PC and Mac if that doesn't work. The Output Routing window is where you assign your inputs and outputs to different sources. You can also adjust the panning and signal level of individual inputs and outputs. It's comprised of three separate sections — Hardware Inputs, Software (DAW) Playback, and Outputs. To get you started, let's explain each section of the app. All available outputs on your Scarlett/Clarett interface are located on the left side of the Focusrite Control window. You're able to give each output a custom name by typing in the box between the Output Source and Output Identifier (e.g., Nearfield Monitors). You have three output routing sources you can choose from. Playback (DAW), Analog, and Custom Mix. If Playback (DAW) or Analog is selected, you will see the routing for the selected output. Playback (DAW): Signal only from your DAW software/computer. Analog: Signal only from hardware inputs (direct monitoring).Custom: A combination of both Playback (DAW) and Analog. When the Output Source is set to Custom Mix, the Hardware Input section will allow you to assign any of the physical inputs to a specified output. You can add Mute/Solo, adjust panning and levels for each individual input, which is particularly useful when creating custom headphone mixes. Focusrite Control allows you to add additional outputs along with the Master Stereo output. Playback 1-2 is typically your computer's default Left and Right output. In most cases, this setup is fine. If for instance, you wanted click going to your headphone mix though, you could assign the metronome to Playback 3-4 in your DAW, then add it to the Custom Mix within the app. Return to top IMPORTANT: When using a sample rate of 176.4 or 192, you will see the message "Mixer is disabled at this sample rate." You will be unable to create a custom mix. However, you can still route the Hardware Inputs and Software Playback channels directly to the outputs. Now that you know how to navigate Focusrite Control, let's show you how to customize routing. Focusrite Control includes a couple of basic routing presets (Snapshots). However, you can always create a custom mix from scratch. Creating a custom mix is useful when using outboard gear or recording a band that wants individual headphone mixes. Let's create a basic custom mix with two inputs and a direct monitor headphone mix with vocals and a metronome track. In this example, we'll use a Scarlett 4i4 (3rd Generation) with a guitar connected to Ch. 1 and a microphone connected to Ch. 2. Go to File, navigate to Output Presets, then select Empty. The Hardware Inputs and Software (DAW) Outputs will be removed.Click Monitor Outputs 1-2 (Speakers icon) to select your Main Outs, then select Custom Mix as the source. Click the + in the Hardware Inputs area, then select 1 and 2 to create two mono inputs. Next, click above the channel and label them as Guitar and Microphone.Click the + in the Software (DAW) Outputs area, then select 1-2 to route your Main Outs.Click Line Outputs 3-4 (Headphone icon) to select your headphones and set the source to Custom Mix. Make sure that the Line Outputs 3-4 box is black; not grey.Mute Ch. 1 (Guitar) then adjust the levels of the vocal track. Adjusting the level of a Hardware Input channel within Focusrite Control will not affect the signal going into your DAW. Enable Outputs 3-4 within your DAW, then create a metronome track.Assign the metronome track to Outputs 3-4 inside your DAW.Go to Focusrite Control, then click Line Outputs 3-4 (Headphone icon) to select your headphones.Click the + in the Software (DAW) Outputs area, then select 3+4. Press play in your DAW and check the levels in Focusrite Control to make sure you're getting metering on both Software Playback tracks. Output routing in Focusrite Control. Click to enlarge. Return to top You can control Focusrite Control remotely if you own an iOS device. This is a handy tool in recording situations where you're in another room and need to make adjustments on the fly. Follow these steps to pair your iOS device. Download the latest version of Focusrite iOS Control on the App Store.Open Focusrite Control on your computer, and launch the iOS app.Follow the on-screen instructions to complete pairing. Select the computer listed on the iOS app, click Device Settings on the desktop app, then click Approve next to the iOS device listed under Remote Devices. If your Focusrite interface doesn't appear in the iOS app, it's more than likely an issue with your WiFi connection. For detailed troubleshooting steps, check out Focusrite's help guide. Return to top Related Articles Our knowledge base contains over 28,000 expertly written tech articles that will give you answers and help you get the most out of your gear. Our pro musicians and gear experts update content daily to keep you informed and on your way. Best of all, it's totally FREE, and it's just another reason that you get more at Sweetwater.com. In this guide, you will learn how to set up a Focusrite Scarlett audio interface. We will show you how to connect it to your computer and get audio in and out of the device. Follow each of the sections below to get started. Focusrite has made you an online setup guide to get started with your Scarlett interface. It walks you through the registration process and even has videos for setting up and getting started with the bundled DAW software. Click the image below to get started and enjoy using your new Scarlett! Return to this page at any time for more information and step by step instructions. Scarlett – Easy Start Tool // Focusrite Return to top Generation 3 Scarlett interfaces are bundled with Ableton Live Lite and three plug-in packages (Softube's Time and Tone Bundle, Focusrite Red Plug-In Suite, and access to the Focusrite Plug-in Collective). In order to get them, you'll need to create an account and register your Scarlett. Their online registration guide is fast, but manual registration works, too. Create a Focusrite account or log in to your current account.Once logged in, go to the product registration page.Use the drop-down list to select your Scarlett interface.Complete the form by entering your Scarlett's Serial Number and click Submit.Go to the My Software page in your account to access the bundled software. Return to top Focusrite Control is the driver software required by most Scarlett interfaces. In order to connect the Scarlett interface to your computer, its driver software must first be installed. Once installed, launch the Focusrite Control app to configure the Scarlett's settings and create custom monitor or headphone mixes. 2i2 and Solo interfaces are class compliant on Mac computers. That means they will work with the default Mac drivers and only need Focusrite Control for remote control or adjusting settings. Go to the Focusrite Downloads page.Select your Brand (Focusrite), Product Range (Scarlett), and Product Type (model).Find and click the latest software version compatible with your operating system to download it.Open your computer's Downloads folder.Complete the software installation: PC: Double-click the .exe file and follow the on-screen instructions. Mac: Double-click the .dmg file, and in the new window that appears, double-click the .pkg file and follow the on-screen instructions. Restart your computer. Click the image to download Focusrite Control Return to top After registration and installation, it's time to connect the Scarlett. Scarlett interfaces have a USB-C port for connecting directly to your computer and operate on the USB 2.0 protocol for maximum compatibility. Solo and 2i2 are bus powered, which means they receive power over the USB connection instead of a power adapter. Other Scarlett devices like require a power adapter/cable and additional driver software to work correctly. Reconnect the interface by unplugging and plugging it back in. If you have not done so yet, try reconfiguring the USB connections so that Scarlett is connected directly to your computer. Sometimes USB hubs are unable to provide enough power for bus-powered devices like 2i2 or Solo, and this is especially true for hubs that do not have their own power supply (aka passive hubs). If the problem persists, try a different USB port or cable. Visit our Windows and Mac guides for more tips on resolving audio device connectivity. Scarletts with 5-pin MIDI ports can connect with MIDI devices. While some MIDI devices require their USB connections for full functionality, the Scarlett's MIDI ports are useful if your device has MIDI ports, plus you'll save a USB port. For example, you can connect a MIDI keyboard to play virtual instruments, or even connect an external synthesizer and play/trigger it with a MIDI track inside your DAW. Learn more about setting up MIDI keyboards and DAW controllers. If the MIDI connections aren't working properly, be sure to check the routing in your DAW. If the routing is correct and it still it isn't working try a different MIDI cable. Also be sure to check out our MIDI troubleshooting guide for more information. Resolving MIDI Device Issues on PC and Mac Scarlett 8i6, 18i8 & 18i20 interfaces also have ADAT & S/PDIF connections (8i6 S/PDIF only). These digital connections are used to connect and route audio with other devices. S/PDIF connections are digital (not analog RCA) and pass stereo audio, while ADAT is often used to connect additional preamps or D/A converters, like the Scarlett Octopre. Visit our Scarlett connection instructions for ADAT and S/PDIF to learn more. Connecting to a Scarlett with ADAT Connecting to a Scarlett with S/PDIF Return to top When your computer plays audio, the sound is output through a selected audio device. To select your Scarlett as a Mac or PC's audio device, you'll need to update the Sound settings. These settings will apply to most apps and features, but most audio software has its own audio settings, too. That just means your DAW or other related audio software needs to know what the audio device is and which input and output streams are which. To test audio playback with your new Scarlett, update the computer's Sound settings and then play sound from a web browser, like a video from our YouTube channel. From the Menu Bar, click the Apple icon and select System Preferences.Click Sound.Under the Output tab, select your audio device. From your Windows taskbar, right-click the sound icon and select Playback devices.Select your audio interface and then click Set Default.Click OK to close the menu. Return to top Once your Scarlett set up and connected, you'll need to set up your routing within Focusrite Control 2. How to Use Focusrite Control 2Learn more about how to get up and running with the Focusrite Control 2 software. Our knowledge base contains over 28,000 expertly written tech articles that will give you answers and help you get the most out of your gear. Our pro musicians and gear experts update content daily to keep you informed and on your way. Best of all, it's totally FREE, and it's just another reason that you get more at Sweetwater.com. In this post, I'm going to walk you step-by-step through the process of setting up your audio interface for the very first time. I'll show you how to connect your interface to the DAW in your computer, I'll show you how to connect speakers to your interface, and I'll demonstrate how to record a microphone and a guitar. I'll use a Focusrite Scarlett 2i2 interface for this demonstration, but the steps in this video will apply to nearly every interface on the market. The first step is to unbox your audio interface, connect it to your computer, and install the latest drivers. When you open the Focusrite Scarlett 2i2, you find the interface itself and the USB cable for connecting it to your computer. The first step is to connect the interface to your computer using the included cable. You may need to download the most up-to-date driver for your interface. You can find this easily with a quick search. In this case, I'll search "Focusrite Scarlett 2i2 drivers". The first result is a link to the manufacturer's 'Downloads' page that lets me easily search for software related to my interface. The Focusrite Control app is the only download available for the Focusrite Scarlett 2i2. However, some interfaces will require the most up-to-date driver to work properly with your computer. If you're using a new interface or picking up an old interface for the first time in a long time, it's worth a quick search to see if there are any updates to the current driver on your computer. Now that the audio interface has been connected to your computer and your drivers are up-to-date, it's time to select the audio interface as the input and output device for your system so that audio will play out of the interface rather than your computer speakers. If you want all of the programs on your computer to play audio out through the interface, select the speaker symbol in the corner of your screen. For mac users, search "Sound" in System Preferences. This will allow you to control which speakers are used for audio from web browsers or music applications. Select your interface as the audio output device. You may need to additionally select the audio interface as the input and output device of the software on your computer called a digital audio workstation, or DAW. This process is very similar in most DAWs. I'm going to show you in Reaper, but it's probably a similar process no matter which software you're using. In Reaper, I choose 'Options' in the top menu bar and then 'Preferences'. In some software, 'Preferences' can be found in the 'Edit' drop down menu. You want to set the audio hardware for the DAW to the audio interface you're using. The next step is to create two tracks in your DAW. You can usually find this option under 'Track' or 'Add' in the menu bar. I'm adding two mono tracks so that the inputs to the audio interface will be recorded separately. On one of the mono tracks, I'll select Input 1 and on the other mono track, I'll select Input 2. If I configured it so that both physical inputs – Input 1 and 2 – on the audio interface recorded to a single stereo track, I would probably end up with one input on the left and one input on the right and I don't want that. That's why I'm choosing to select two mono tracks and configure it so that Input 1 is routed to Track 1 and Input 2 is routed to Track 2. Now that we've connected the audio interface to the computer, it's time to get audio in and out of the audio interface. The first thing I'll do is configure the output devices – my headphones and my speakers. If you just want to use headphones, simply plug them into the headphone jack on the front panel. This small knob controls the output level of the headphones. This larger 'Monitor' knob controls the output level of the quarter inch outputs on the back panel. I can use a quarter inch TRS cable to make a balanced connection to both of my speakers. At this stage, you can test the audio output by playing audio from the web browser or another program on your computer, such as a YouTube video. Now it's time to record. First, I want to make a basic recording of vocals and guitar. I'll use Input 1 to record a Shure SM58 as a vocal microphone and I'll connect a condenser microphone to Input 2 for recording acoustic guitar. If your interface has a 'Mic Level / Line Level' switch, switch it to "Mic Level". The condenser microphone needs phantom power, but the SM58 doesn't need phantom power. There is only one switch on the 2i2 that turns on phantom power to both inputs, but don't worry – phantom power won't damage a dynamic microphone like the SM58. Before recording a microphone, make sure to turn the 'Monitor' knob all the way down to prevent a feedback loop from forming between the microphone and your speakers. You'll want to use headphones for this step. Inside your DAW, you'll need to arm the tracks that you plan to record. This can be done by selecting the red circle next to the track. When you arm a track, you're telling the software which track (or tracks) you want to record to. You can record to a single track or multiple tracks. In some software (especially 'Lite' or 'Limited' versions), you won't have the option to record more than one track simultaneously. If you're looking for a good DAW on a budget, check out Audacity or Reaper. Both of these can be used for free and offer multitrack recording. Once both circles are illuminated, start to increase the preamp gain knob on each microphone while singing or playing the guitar. Turn it up until the meters on the screen peak at no higher than -12 dB Full Scale or dBFS. Aim for the signal level to average at about -18 dBFS. You may notice a significant delay when listening through the DAW. This can make playing impossible. The 2i2 has a cool feature called 'Direct Monitor', which routes the microphones directly to the headphones with very low latency. I'll switch this function on so that I can hear the microphones through the headphones. If you're using the direct monitor feature on your interface, mute the tracks within the DAW so that you don't hear an echo. Once you've set your levels and you see the signal on each channel meter in the DAW, it's time to press record. After you record, you should see waveforms like this. Rewind the track, turn off the record arm on each channel, and press play. If your audio device settings in the DAW are correct, you should hear the recording playing through your speakers. If you don't hear your recording playing through your speakers at this point, you should go back to Step 2 and make sure that the audio output device for your DAW is set properly. Okay, so I've got a basic guitar and vocal recording. Let's say I want to go back and overdub an electric guitar on top of these two tracks. First, I'll make a new track. Let's select the input of this track as Input 1 on the interface. I'll unplug the old microphones and turn off phantom power, plug in my electric guitar directly into Input 1 with a quarter inch TS instrument cable. I'll make sure to set the line instrument switch to "Instrument". The process is the same as recording a microphone from this point. This time, I'll only arm the track I'm recording, which is Track 3. I want to offer you a FREE Home Studio Checklist to make sure you've got everything you need to make professional-sounding recordings at home. You can find this checklist absolutely free at audiouniversityonline.com/free-home-studio-checklist/. The Scarlett 2i2 is compatible with almost every operating system including Windows, macOS, Android and iOS. Here are the basics of setting it up with PC and Android: To connect Scarlett 2i2 to Windows PC/Android1) Get a USB-C to USB-A cable2) Install the driver for the Scarlett 2i2 from the Focusrite website3) Connect the Scarlett 2i2 to the PC/Android with the USB cable4) Configure the PC/Android settings to the Scarlett 2i2 A USB to USB-C cable is the best cable to use for connecting an older computer to a newer Scarlett. There are also adapters you can get which we'll talk about in this article. To connect the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface to a PC/Android, you'll need the following; Due to its popularity, you can get this thing almost anywhere A home studio with a PC/Windows operating system. An Android device. A USB-C to USB cable A USB-C adapter A USB and Micro-USB adapter Setting up the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface with your Windows PC involves two kinds of connection. Firstly you need to sort out the hardware connection, things like USB cables and the other pieces I mentioned earlier. After the hardware has been properly sorted out according to what you're connecting, you can begin the software connection by installing the appropriate driver for the interface and configuring the Windows PC. The first step to connecting Scarlett 2i2 with your PC will require you to assemble all the needed equipment, ie, the Scarlett, USB-C cable, and USB-A to USB-C Adapter. Before connecting the cables to the audio interface and the Windows PC, you should install the driver to enable the audio interface to work properly with the PC. Here's how to do that. To install the driver, you will need to download the Focusrite driver from the official website. You can click on this link to access the driver's download page. The link above will lead you to the download page of the driver for the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface. You'll be required to choose the version of the Windows operating system you're using because the driver for Windows 10 and 11 is different from that of Windows 7 and 8. The Driver download page. After downloading the correct installation file for your Windows PC, you should go ahead to install the file. Make sure to select "Full Installation" to ensure the audio interface works properly in the end. Here is the Full Installation option I was referring to. After selecting full installation, you can now continue with the installation process. It's pretty straightforward like the installation of every other file on Windows. Once you're done with the successful installation of the driver on your PC, you'll get a prompt requiring you to restart your computer to be able to use the driver. Grant this permission and restart your PC. When the computer reboots, you should be able to locate the Focusrite control shortcut on your desktop. This indicates the successful installation of the driver. Now you can go ahead to connect your cables to both the Windows PC and the audio interface. Once you've successfully installed the driver for the audio interface, the next step is to connect the audio interface to the PC using the USB type-C cable. This is the back end of the Scarlett 2i2 3rd Gen. You will need to connect the smaller end of the cable to the Scarlett audio interface. The bigger end of the USB Type-C cable should be connected to the USB port of your Windows PC. Newer Windows PCs come with Type C ports that can also be used for this connection, but you'll need a Type C to Type C cable to use this port. Once you've connected the audio interface to your PC properly, the USB indicator on the audio interface will light up a green light, This indicates that the device is switched on and ready to be used. Here's how: To correctly configure your Windows PC to use the Scarlett audio interface, you'll need to go to the system settings by clicking on the Windows Icon and subsequently clicking on "Settings." This should take you to the system settings menu where you can access the sound settings and modify it accordingly. On the sound settings page, under Output click on "Choose output device" to select Focusrite USB audio from the dropdown. The same should be done for the Input, click on "Choose input device", then select Focusrite USB audio from the drop-down. After selecting the Focusrite USB Audio as your input and output device, you will need to confirm your choice to make sure the audio interface is properly selected for playback and recording. Left-click on "Sound Control Panel" under "Related Settings." A floating window will pop up as shown below, Left-click on the "Playback" option, and you'll find the list of audio devices currently or previously connected to the computer. From the list, select Focusrite USB Audio then left-click apply. After selecting the playback option, you will also need to left-click the "Recording" option, select the Focusrite USB Audio from the list of devices in the list then click Apply. Once these instructions are followed, the Windows PC sound input and output will be controlled and channelled via the Scarlett 2i2 interface. You can connect your headphones to the interface to listen to the output, You can also check the input by using the microphone connected to your interface. After setting up your audio interface as described above, you will need to open FL Studio to select and properly configure the interface with the DAW. Locate the FL Studio software on your Windows PC, Once the software opens up, you'll find a blank project page as shown below. To access the audio settings, left-click on "Options" at the top left corner of the page. Once this is done, you'll find a drop-down menu, In the menu left-click on "Audio Settings". These steps will open up the audio settings page where you can configure your audio interface with the FL studio. Alternatively, clicking on "F10" (fn + F10 for macOS) will open up audio settings directly. In audio settings, under Input/device, left-click on the device menu, and a drop-down menu listing all currently and previously connected audio interfaces will appear. From the list, you should select Focusrite USB Audio as your preferred device. This will allow the interface to control sound input and output from FL Studio. Alternatively, you can also select Focusrite USB ASIO. Either of these options works well. Latency is sometimes an issue when it comes to the recording process in most DAWs. This frustrating experience can be fixed by adjusting the buffer length to fit what you're doing. Direct monitoring is another way to do it. It might help to use a low buffer size by adjusting the buffer slider to the left. The lower the buffer size, the less likely it is for you to experience latency/delay during your recording processes. For playback, a low buffer size is less than ideal because the tracks won't play smoothly. The playback stops and starts intermittently. This is due to your Windows PC and the audio interface picking up the sound data of the recorded tracks in bits as it plays back. Therefore it is best to increase the buffer size considerably during playback by moving the slider to the right. This will work better for mixing, mastering, editing, etc. Before setting up your Scarlett 2i2 audio interface with your device, it's important to assemble the needed cables to facilitate the connection. It is also important to make sure the pieces of equipment are in perfect condition to avoid connection failure. These pieces of equipment are as follows: Android device (running Android 10 and above). Scarlett 2i2 audio interface. USB Type-C cable. USB Type-C Adapter cable. USB Type-A adapter cable. It should be noted that Android devices do have 2 types of ports. The older devices have a USB type-A port, and the recent/new generation devices have a USB type-C port. To do this, you'll be using the USB type-C cable and the USB type-C adapter cable. Firstly, connect the smaller end of the USB type-C cable to the USB type-C port on the Scarlet 2i2 audio interface, and then connect the bigger end of the USB type-C cable to the USB type-C adapter. Lastly, you will need to connect the smaller end of the USB type C adapter to the USB port/charging port of your Android device. For Andriod devices with USB type-A ports, the same step applies, the only difference is that a USB type-A adapter will be used instead of a USB type-C adapter. Once the hardware connection has been completed, the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface will switch on a green light. This indicates that the interface connection to the Android device is successful. It is important to note some other audio interfaces have separate ports for power and USB connection. The Scarlett 2i2 is buss-powered which means it relies on the device for power. I've talked about this at length in my other tutorial on the Scarlett for iOS. You can get around this with a multiport adapter that allows for a power bank or block charger to be added. This will drive the Scarlett 2i2 with the power it needs in case your phone isn't capable. Certain Android devices, particularly older ones, won't be able to drive the Scarlett 2i2 because they don't have enough power for it. This shouldn't be a problem if you're using a newer phone though. It lets you know everything was successful. There are various additional settings such as Adjustment of the Equalizer, Volume adjustments etc. These can add very good effects to your sound. Now that both software and hardware connections are successful, you can open up the sound recorder on your Android device to record vocals or anything else you choose using the microphones connected to the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface. You will also be able to listen to audio playback from your Android device with the headphones connected to the audio interface. You can also use the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface with FL Studio Mobile. This possibility erases the limitation on recording with Android devices. The quality of your recording or the mixing process will still be maintained due to the compatibility of some Android devices with the interface. To configure the Scarlet 2i2 audio interface with FL Studio Mobile, you can follow the below steps. On the empty track page that is found when you open FL Studio mobile, tap on the fruity logo at the top left of the screen, This takes you to the settings menu where you can configure the software. Firstly, tap on "Settings". Then, tap on "Midi driver." A drop-down menu will appear with two options; "Standard" & "Legacy." Lastly, select Legacy. After selecting "Legacy", a pop-up will appear asking you to allow FL Studio Mobile to access Scarlett 2i2, Click OK. You have successfully configured FL Studio mobile on your Android devices with Scarlett 2i2 audio interface. You can now record audio with the microphone connected to the interface and also listen to playback with headphones/monitors. This can be due to many factors. In most cases, it just has to do with the input/output selection. And usually, this is easily fixed just by re-configuring your input/output device for the second time. If that doesn't work, here are some other things you can do: Incorrect selection of the input/output device is a common cause of not hearing oneself while recording. To solve this, go to the DAWs audio settings (as described in the article) and make sure you select Focusrite USB audio as both the input and output device. Check the volume levels of the connected microphone or instrument on the audio interface. increasing the gain levels solves this problem It is important to regularly check the Focusrite website for the updated sound drivers for Scarlett 2i2. Outdated drivers can cause malfunctioning and other problems. Latency can be very disturbing due to its ability to negatively affect the recording process. It can be due to several factors: Using Bluetooth speakers or headsets is a common cause of latency/delayed playback. To avoid this, I'd recommend using speakers with a wired connection. This is the most common cause of latency during the recording process. As earlier stated in the article, when recording the buffer size should be reduced. This erases the latency experienced during recording. A high Buffer size is only suitable for playback or mixing. This is the reason why many music producers heavily invest in their computers. A computer with a very strong CPU, for example, a 32GB RAM, 10th gen computer will rarely experience latency issues. Compare that PC to a 4GB RAM, 3rd gen computer and it's like night and day. You should probably get a PC with a very strong CPU. It is important to invest in top-quality USB cables. Low-quality USB cables can cause serious latency issues due to their slow rate of transmitting data. Changing the cables to high-quality ones will eliminate latency issues. Some of the causes of this can be: For macOS, drivers aren't required to use the Scarlet 2i2 Interface. For Windows OS, however, you need to install the correct driver for your OS version. It should be noted that the drivers for Windows 7 and 8 are different from those for Windows 10 and 11. Download the correct sound driver from the Focusrite website. When multiple audio devices are connected, this could cause misconfiguration of the sound setting leading to the DAW not recognizing the audio device. To get around this, you should disconnect the other devices. When there is another software on your computer using the audio interface, your DAW might not recognize the audio interface. A quick solution to this is to close all other applications or restart the PC. This can be due to: Android devices running older Android versions will most likely not power the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface. This is usually because they don't have the required firmware support to connect to the audio interface. The solution to this is to get an Android device running the most recent Android versions. Android devices on power saving mode will not power the Scarlett 2i2 audio interface. Exiting power saving mode on such Android devices will solve the problem. In this guide, you will learn how to set up a Focusrite Scarlett audio interface. We will show you how to connect it to your computer and get audio in and out of the device. Follow each of the sections below to get started. Focusrite has made you an online setup guide to get started with your Scarlett interface. It walks you through the registration process and even has videos for setting up and getting started with the bundled DAW software. Click the image below to get started and enjoy using your new Scarlett! Return to this page at any time for more information and step by step instructions. Scarlett – Easy Start Tool // Focusrite Return to top Generation 3 Scarlett interfaces are bundled with Ableton Live Lite and three plug-in packages (Softube's Time and Tone Bundle, Focusrite Red Plug-In Suite, and access to the Focusrite Plug-in Collective). In order to get them, you'll need to create an account and register your Scarlett. Their online registration guide is fast, but manual registration works, too. Create a Focusrite account or log in to your current account.Once logged in, go to the product registration page.Use the drop-down list to select your Scarlett interface.Complete the form by entering your Scarlett's Serial Number and click Submit.Go to the My Software page in your account to access the bundled software. Return to top Focusrite Control is the driver software required by most Scarlett interfaces. In order to connect the Scarlett interface to your computer, its driver software must first be installed. Once installed, launch the Focusrite Control app to configure the Scarlett's settings and create custom monitor or headphone mixes. 2i2 and Solo interfaces are class compliant on Mac computers. That means they will work with the default Mac drivers and only need Focusrite Control for remote control or adjusting settings. Go to the Focusrite Downloads page.Select your Brand (Focusrite), Product Range (Scarlett), and Product Type (model).Find and click the latest software version compatible with your operating system to download it.Open your computer's Downloads folder.Complete the software installation: PC: Double-click the .exe file and follow the on-screen instructions. Mac: Double-click the .dmg file, and in the new window that appears, double-click the .pkg file and follow the on-screen instructions. Restart your computer. Click the image to download Focusrite Control Return to top After registration and installation, it's time to connect the Scarlett. Scarlett interfaces have a USB-C port for connecting directly to your computer and operate on the USB 2.0 protocol for maximum compatibility. Solo and 2i2 are bus powered, which means they receive power over the USB connection instead of a power adapter. Other Scarlett devices like require a power adapter/cable and additional driver software to work correctly. Reconnect the interface by unplugging and plugging it back in. If you have not done so yet, try reconfiguring the USB connections so that Scarlett is connected directly to your computer. Sometimes USB hubs are unable to provide enough power for bus-powered devices like 2i2 or Solo, and this is especially true for hubs that do not have their own power supply (aka passive hubs). If the problem persists, try a different USB port or cable. Visit our Windows and Mac guides for more tips on resolving audio device connectivity. Scarletts with 5-pin MIDI ports can connect with MIDI devices. While some MIDI devices require their USB connections for full functionality, the Scarlett's MIDI ports are useful if your device has MIDI ports, plus you'll save a USB port. For example, you can connect a MIDI keyboard to play virtual instruments, or even connect an external synthesizer and play/trigger it with a MIDI track inside your DAW. Learn more about setting up MIDI keyboards and DAW controllers. If the MIDI connections aren't working properly, be sure to check the routing in your DAW. If the routing is correct and it still it isn't working try a different MIDI cable. Also be sure to check out our MIDI troubleshooting guide for more information. Resolving MIDI Device Issues on PC and Mac Scarlett 8i6, 18i8 & 18i20 interfaces also have ADAT & S/PDIF connections (8i6 S/PDIF only). These digital connections are used to connect and route audio with other devices. S/PDIF connections are digital (not analog RCA) and pass stereo audio, while ADAT is often used to connect additional preamps or D/A converters, like the Scarlett Octopre. Visit our Scarlett connection instructions for ADAT and S/PDIF to learn more. Connecting to a Scarlett with ADAT Connecting to a Scarlett with S/PDIF Return to top When your computer plays audio, the sound is output through a selected audio device. To select your Scarlett as a Mac or PC's audio device, you'll need to update the Sound settings. These settings will apply to most apps and features, but most audio software has its own audio settings, too. That just means your DAW or other related audio software needs to know what the audio device is and which input and output streams are which. To test audio playback with your new Scarlett, update the computer's Sound settings and then play sound from a web browser, like a video from our YouTube channel. From the Menu Bar, click the Apple icon and select System Preferences.Click Sound.Under the Output tab, select your audio device. From your Windows taskbar, right-click the sound icon and select Playback devices.Select your audio interface and then click Set Default.Click OK to close the menu. Return to top Once your Scarlett set up and connected, you'll need to set up your routing within Focusrite Control 2. How to Use Focusrite Control 2Learn more about how to get up and running with the Focusrite Control 2 software. Our knowledge base contains over 28,000 expertly written tech articles that will give you answers and help you get the most out of your gear. Our pro musicians and gear experts update content daily to keep you informed and on your way. Best of all, it's totally FREE, and it's just another reason that you get more at Sweetwater.com. In this guide, you will learn how to set up a Focusrite Scarlett audio interface. We will show you how to connect it to your computer and get audio in and out of the device. Follow each of the sections below to get started. Focusrite has made you an online setup guide to get started with your Scarlett interface. It walks you through the registration process and even has videos for setting up and getting started with the bundled DAW software. Click the image below to get started and enjoy using your new Scarlett! Return to this page at any time for more information and step by step instructions. Scarlett – Easy Start Tool // Focusrite Return to top Generation 3 Scarlett interfaces are bundled with Ableton Live Lite and three plug-in packages (Softube's Time and Tone Bundle, Focusrite Red Plug-In Suite, and access to the Focusrite Plug-in Collective). In order to get them, you'll need to create an account and register your Scarlett. Their online registration guide is fast, but manual registration works, too. Create a Focusrite account or log in to your current account.Once logged in, go to the product registration page.Use the drop-down list to select your Scarlett interface.Complete the form by entering your Scarlett's Serial Number and click Submit.Go to the My Software page in your account to access the bundled software. Return to top Focusrite Control is the driver software required by most Scarlett interfaces. In order to connect the Scarlett interface to your computer, its driver software must first be installed. Once installed, launch the Focusrite Control app to configure the Scarlett's settings and create custom monitor or headphone mixes. 2i2 and Solo interfaces are class compliant on Mac computers. That means they will work with the default Mac drivers and only need Focusrite Control for remote control or adjusting settings. Go to the Focusrite Downloads page.Select your Brand (Focusrite), Product Range (Scarlett), and Product Type (model).Find and click the latest software version compatible with your operating system to download it.Open your computer's Downloads folder.Complete the software installation: PC: Double-click the .exe file and follow the on-screen instructions. Mac: Double-click the .dmg file, and in the new window that appears, double-click the .pkg file and follow the on-screen instructions. Restart your computer. Click the image to download Focusrite Control Return to top After registration and installation, it's time to connect the Scarlett. Scarlett interfaces have a USB-C port for connecting directly to your computer and operate on the USB 2.0 protocol for maximum compatibility. Solo and 2i2 are bus powered, which means they receive power over the USB connection instead of a power adapter. Other Scarlett devices like require a power adapter/cable and additional driver software to work correctly. Reconnect the interface by unplugging and plugging it back in. If you have not done so yet, try reconfiguring the USB connections so that Scarlett is connected directly to your computer. Sometimes USB hubs are unable to provide enough power for bus-powered devices like 2i2 or Solo, and this is especially true for hubs that do not have their own power supply (aka passive hubs). If the problem persists, try a different USB port or cable. Visit our Windows and Mac guides for more tips on resolving audio device connectivity. Scarletts with 5-pin MIDI ports can connect with MIDI devices. While some MIDI devices require their USB connections for full functionality, the Scarlett's MIDI ports are useful if your device has MIDI ports, plus you'll save a USB port. For example, you can connect a MIDI keyboard to play virtual instruments, or even connect an external synthesizer and play/trigger it with a MIDI track inside your DAW. Learn more about setting up MIDI keyboards and DAW controllers. If the MIDI connections aren't working properly, be sure to check the routing in your DAW. If the routing is correct and it still it isn't working try a different MIDI cable. Also be sure to check out our MIDI troubleshooting guide for more information. Resolving MIDI Device Issues on PC and Mac Scarlett 8i6, 18i8 & 18i20 interfaces also have ADAT & S/PDIF connections (8i6 S/PDIF only). These digital connections are used to connect and route audio with other devices. S/PDIF connections are digital (not analog RCA) and pass stereo audio, while ADAT is often used to connect additional preamps or D/A converters, like the Scarlett Octopre. Visit our Scarlett connection instructions for ADAT and S/PDIF to learn more. Connecting to a Scarlett with ADAT Connecting to a Scarlett with S/PDIF Return to top When your computer plays audio, the sound is output through a selected audio device. To select your Scarlett as a Mac or PC's audio device, you'll need to update the Sound settings. These settings will apply to most apps and features, but most audio software has its own audio settings, too. That just means your DAW or other related audio software needs to know what the audio device is and which input and output streams are which. To test audio playback with your new Scarlett, update the computer's Sound settings and then play sound from a web browser, like a video from our YouTube channel. From the Menu Bar, click the Apple icon and select System Preferences.Click Sound.Under the Output tab, select your audio device. From your Windows taskbar, right-click the sound icon and select Playback devices.Select your audio interface and then click Set Default.Click OK to close the menu. Return to top Once your Scarlett set up and connected, you'll need to set up your routing within Focusrite Control 2. How to Use Focusrite Control 2Learn more about how to get up and running with the Focusrite Control 2 software. Our knowledge base contains over 28,000 expertly written tech articles that will give you answers and help you get the most out of your gear. Our pro musicians and gear experts update content daily to keep you informed and on your way. Best of all, it's totally FREE, and it's just another reason that you get more at Sweetwater.com. Focusrite has made you an online setup guide to get started with your Scarlett interface. It walks you through the registration process and even has videos for setting up and getting started with the bundled DAW software. Click the image below to get started and enjoy using your new Scarlett! Return to this page at any time for more information and step by step instructions. Scarlett – Easy Start Tool // Focusrite Return to top Generation 3 Scarlett interfaces are bundled with Ableton Live Lite and three plug-in packages (Softube's Time and Tone Bundle, Focusrite Red Plug-In Suite, and access to the Focusrite Plug-in Collective). In order to get them, you'll need to create an account and register your Scarlett. Their online registration guide is fast, but manual registration works, too. Create a Focusrite account or log in to your current account.Once logged in, go to the product registration page.Use the drop-down list to select your Scarlett interface.Complete the form by entering your Scarlett's Serial Number and click Submit.Go to the My Software page in your account to access the bundled software. Return to top Focusrite Control is the driver software required by most Scarlett interfaces. In order to connect the Scarlett interface to your computer, its driver software must first be installed. Once installed, launch the Focusrite Control app to configure the Scarlett's settings and create custom monitor or headphone mixes. 2i2 and Solo interfaces are class compliant on Mac computers. That means they will work with the default Mac drivers and only need Focusrite Control for remote control or adjusting settings. Go to the Focusrite Downloads page.Select your Brand (Focusrite), Product Range (Scarlett), and Product Type (model).Find and click the latest software version compatible with your operating system to download it.Open your computer's Downloads folder.Complete the software installation: PC: Double-click the .exe file and follow the on-screen instructions. Mac: Double-click the .dmg file, and in the new window that appears, double-click the .pkg file and follow the on-screen instructions. Restart your computer. Click the image to download Focusrite Control Return to top After registration and installation, it's time to connect the Scarlett. Scarlett interfaces have a USB-C port for connecting directly to your computer and operate on the USB 2.0 protocol for maximum compatibility. Solo and 2i2 are bus powered, which means they receive power over the USB connection instead of a power adapter. Other Scarlett devices like require a power adapter/cable and additional driver software to work correctly. Reconnect the interface by unplugging and plugging it back in. If you have not done so yet, try reconfiguring the USB connections so that Scarlett is connected directly to your computer. Sometimes USB hubs are unable to provide enough power for bus-powered devices like 2i2 or Solo, and this is especially true for hubs that do not have their own power supply (aka passive hubs). If the problem persists, try a different USB port or cable. Visit our Windows and Mac guides for more tips on resolving audio device connectivity. Scarletts with 5-pin MIDI ports can connect with MIDI devices. While some MIDI devices require their USB connections for full functionality, the Scarlett's MIDI ports are useful if your device has MIDI ports, plus you'll save a USB port. For example, you can connect a MIDI keyboard to play virtual instruments, or even connect an external synthesizer and play/trigger it with a MIDI track inside your DAW. Learn more about setting up MIDI keyboards and DAW controllers. If the MIDI connections aren't working properly,