

*Amarra*TM MINI

COMPUTER MUSIC PLAYER

Version 1.2 User's Manual

vs.lrl 12/2009

Thank you!

Thank you for purchasing the Amarra MINI Computer Music Player. You are about to enjoy the ultrafidelity sound of Amarra MINI. Designed to work with your Apple™ Macintosh Computer and with iTunes, Amarra MINI provides a seamless integration for high resolution music playback.

The Amarra Team

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The Amarra MINI Computer Music Player User Guide, December 2009

I. Contents:

This document details the installation of Amarra MINI and its associated software:

1. Amarra MINI Package Contents.....	pg
2. Amarra MINI System Requirements.....	pg 2-3
3. Installing Amarra MINI Software.....	pg 3-5
4. Introduction to PACE iLok Smart Key and License Files.....	pg 6
5. Launching/Using Amarra MINI.....	pg 6-8
6. Using Amarra MINI and iTunes.....	pg 9-12
7. Registering Your Amarra MINI Software.....	pg 13
8. Troubleshooting Guide.....	pg 14-17
9. Support.....	pg 18

The Amarra MINI installer will install the following items on to your Macintosh Computer:

- Amarra MINI Computer Music Player
- Amarra iTunes Plugin
- Amarra Fonts
- PACE iLok extension
- Amarra MINI Documentation

Minimum System Requirements:

Computer:

- Intel based Mac with 10.5.x
- RAM: 3 GB RAM minimum
- Firewire port for use with Firewire Audio Interfaces
- USB port for iLOK security key.

Peripheral FireWire Adaptors supported:

- OHCI compliant PCCard, PCI card, ExpressCard or PCIe card

Software:

- Mac OS X 10.4.11 or 10.5.x and above recommended
- Amarra MINI
- iTunes

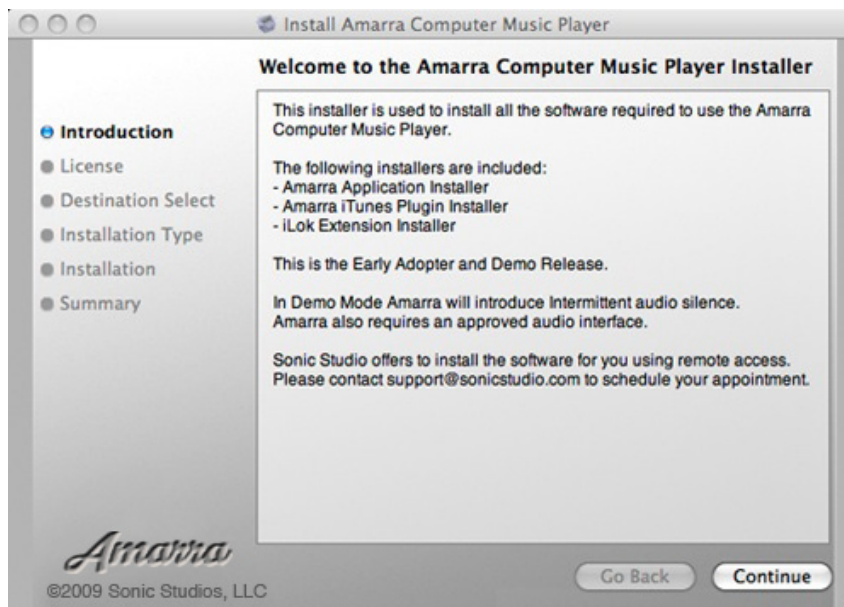
We highly recommend a fresh install of the operating system on a clean disc. This can prevent problems later on. We also highly recommend that your computer be used exclusively for music playback. Email, web browsers, screen sharing and other applications can all affect performance.

Note that USB hubs, audio or optical disc peripherals are generally not supported.

4. Installing Amarra MINI Software

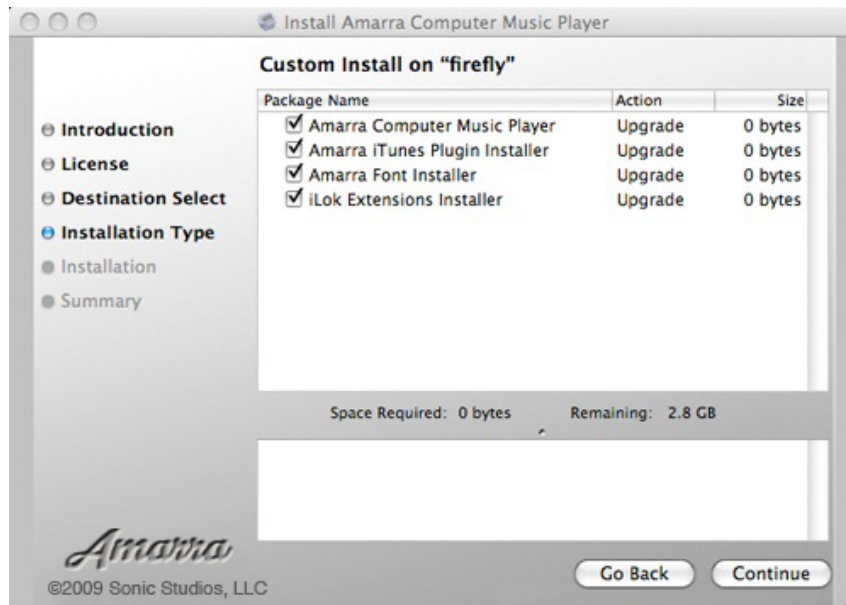
To install Amarra MINI, insert the install disk in your computer then click on the AMARRA MINI_Installer icon. Follow the on screen instructions to install your software.

Welcome screen for Amarra MINI Installer:



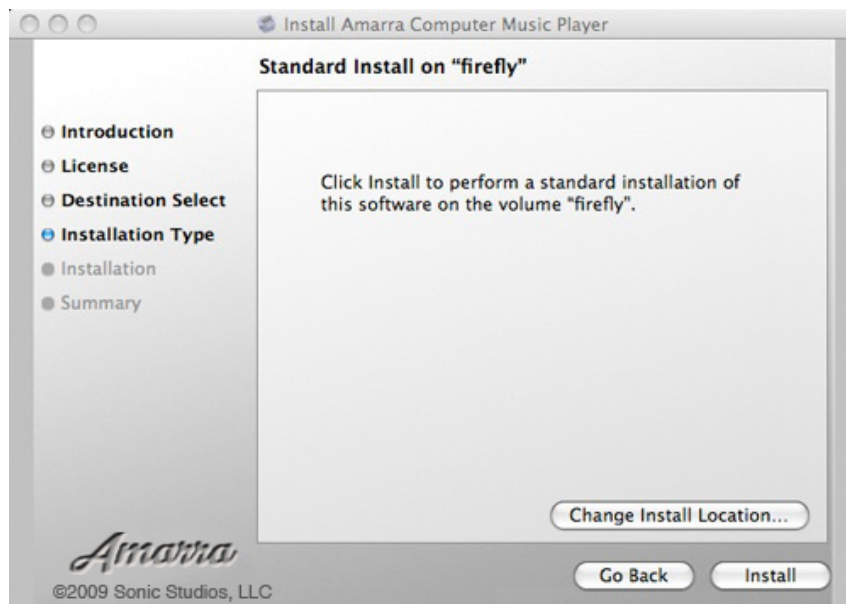
Select Continue.

Installer Table of Contents:

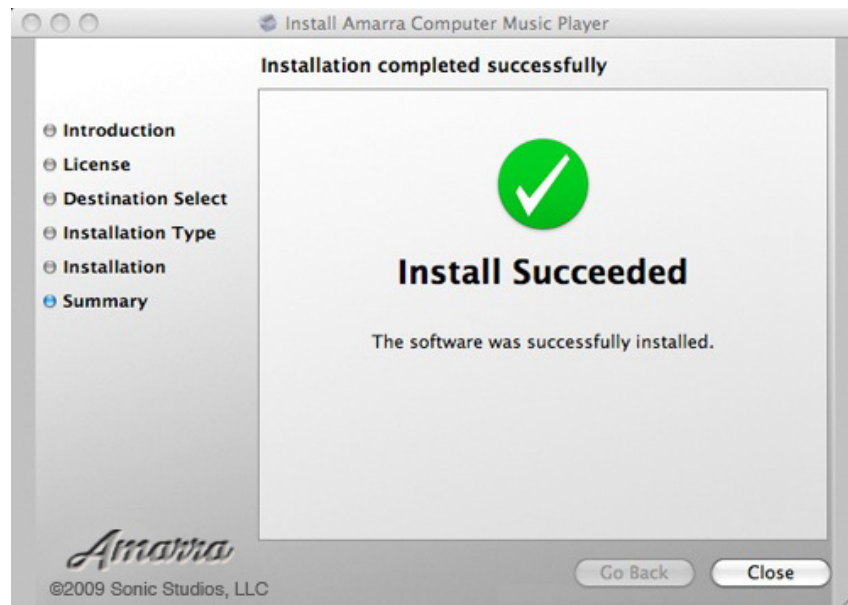


Select Continue.

- Amarra MINI Computer Music Player is installed into the Applications folder.
It is installed here: ~/Applications/Amarra MINI
- The Amarra iTunes Plugin facilitates the interaction between Amarra and iTunes.
It is installed here: ~/Library/iTunes/iTunes Plug-ins/
- The iLok Extensions are required to use the iLok USB Security key.
The iLok extension is installed on your boot volume.
- Amarra Fonts installs fonts specific to the Amarra User Interface.
They are installed here: ~/Library/Fonts/



Click Install.
(You will be prompted for your password and the software will be installed.)



Success!
Select the Close button to quit the AMARRA installer.

3. Introduction to PACE License Files and the iLok Smart Key

Amarra MINI is protected using PACE's Anti-Piracy InterLok copy protection. With Amarra MINI 1.2 licensing can be done using either:

- an iLok USB Smart Key.
- an Interlok Request License File (ILR)

3.1 Amarra MINI and an iLok USB Smart Key.

Your iLok should come ready to use and you should only need to install the iLOK extension on your computer. There may be occasions when you need to setup an iLOK for new options or for replacement. Please ask your dealer for more information.



PACE iLok (Yours may be a different color)

NOTE: Protect this device! This is really your Amarra MINI product and if lost or stolen, can not be replaced without purchasing another Amarra MINI license.

PACE offers a warranty for replacing lost or stolen iLoks called 'Zero Downtime'. The iLok.com Zero Downtime program enables iLok owners to immediately replace licenses in case an iLok is broken, lost or stolen. Benefits of covering an iLok include:

- Immediate replacement of licenses in the event of disaster
- Priority support during replacement event
- Peace of mind

Contact your dealer, Sonic Studio, or log in to your iLok account for more information on Zero Downtime.

Replacement / New iLOK

If your iLok is new and needs to be authorized. Please request authorization from Sonic Studio for your iLok USB Smart Key, visit:

<http://www.sonicstudio.com/register>

Completing the form will generate an authorization request. We will then place a license for Amarra MINI in your iLok account. Please fill out the form completely to avoid delay in authorization.

3.2 Authorizing Amarra MINI

To use Amarra MINI, you will first need to Authorize the software this can be done with an iLok smart key or an with an Interlok License File. The process begins with running Amarra MINI and generating an Interlok License Request file. This is send to Sonic Studio and an Interlok License File (ilf) is returned. The Interlok License File is then installed on your computer.

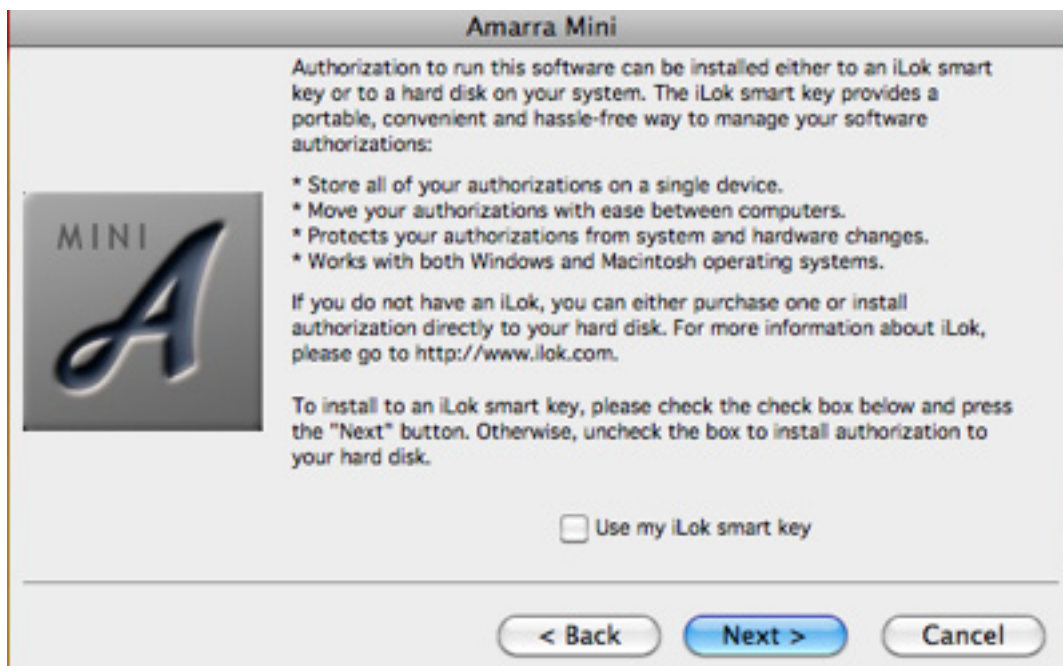
NOTE: Interlok License Files are Locked to a single computer. A License File can not be transferred. If you purchase a new Mac please contact Sonic Studio Support for information.

I. Run Amarra MINI

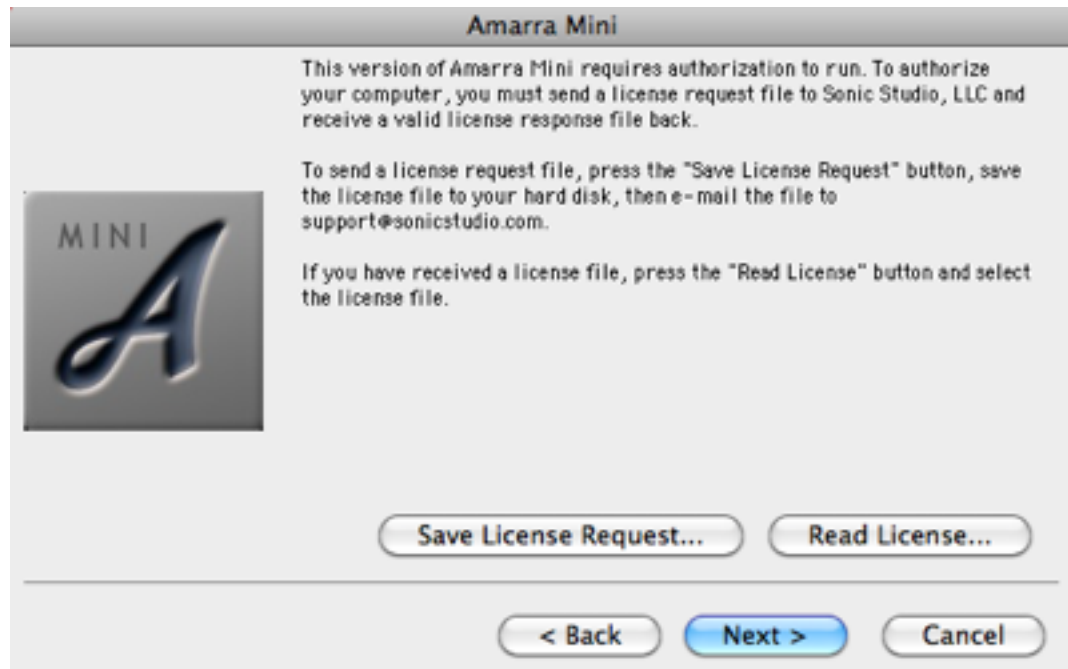


Select Authorize.

2. If you have an iLok you can license the software by selecting the check box.



- Generate and Save the License Request File.
- Choose the “Save License Request” button.s.
- Specify a folder and save the file.



After Saving the License Request File send it to support@sonicstudio.com. You will receive a reply from Sonic Studio with your Interlok License File - Please keep this Safe!!

- Install the License File
- When you receive your License File from Sonic Studio run Amarra MINI again.
- Choose “Read License” and select the Amarra_MINI_1.2_ilf file you receive and chose Next.



Success!

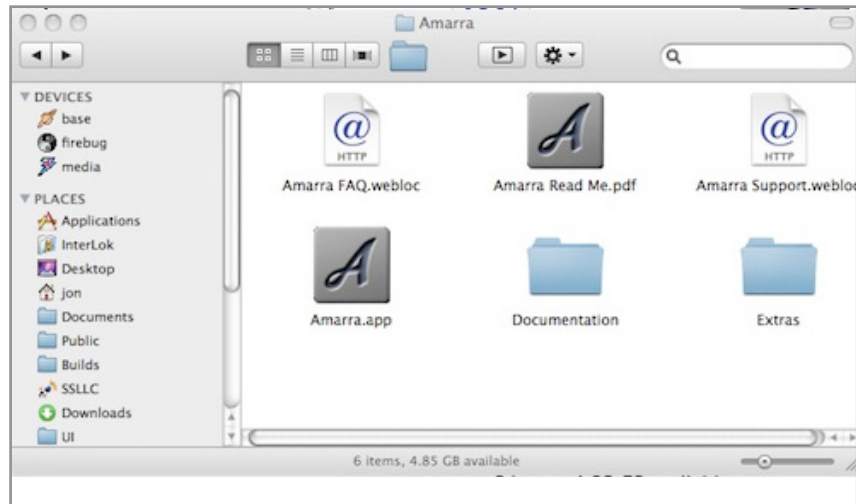
Select the Finish button to complete authorization.

5. Launching and Using Amarra MINI

Open the Applications folder on your Mac, locate the Amarra MINI folder:

This folder contains the Amarra MINI application as well as documentation and an Extras folder:

Click on the arrow to the left to open the folder:



Amarra MINI folder and the Amarra MINI application.



NOTE: Double clicking on the Amarra MINI icon launches Amarra MINI and iTunes.

Amarra MINI and the Dock. (For more information about the Dock, see the Help menu of your Mac.)

Using the Control Key to access the Contextual Menu allows control of different commands in Amarra MINI.



Tip : Install a shortcut on your Dock.

Run Amarra and using the Contextual Menu choose "Keep In Dock".

On/Off

This turns Amarra MINI On and Off. Blue indicates that Amarra is playing the track (Yellow indicates that iTunes is being used.)

Mute / Full Volume

These buttons are hot spots for 0, -144 dB.



PlayList

Loads selected tracks from iTunes into Amarra MINI for gapless playback.

Transport Controls

Here you will find the Previous Track, Play/Pause, and Next Track buttons. The same controls are in iTunes and can be used there too.

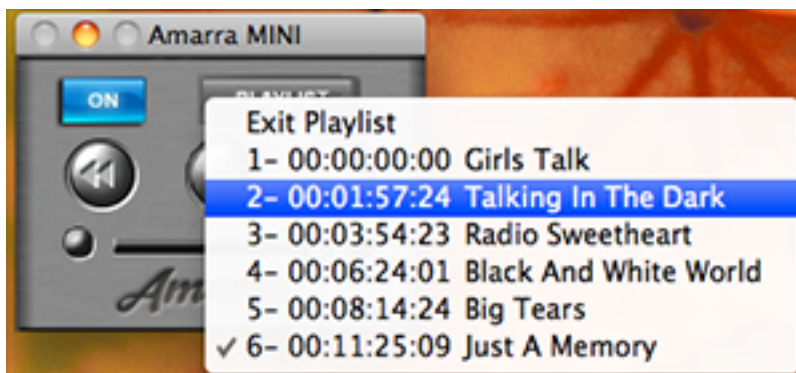
Volume Control

This control takes over for the iTunes volume control.

PLAYLIST:

Amarra MINI will load selected tracks from iTunes into a Playlist. All tracks of the same Sample Rate are loaded and will appear in the PlayList Menu along with the time in the PlayList.

NOTE: When a PlayList is loaded Amarra MINI will Stop iTunes and not use iTunes to control playback.



PLAYLIST:

The tracks loaded Amarra MINI will play without any gaps.

6.1. Using AMARRA and iTunes

AMARRA MINI runs alongside Apple's iTunes program. This allows you to manage and access all your music through the main iTunes Music Library or through custom iTunes Playlists.

As shown below, AMARRA MINI occupies the area to the left of your iTunes window:



AMARRA MINI and iTunes side by side.

You use iTunes like you always have, select the songs / playlists and play. AMARRA MINI follows what you do in iTunes and takes over playback whenever a full resolution uncompressed AIFF or WAV file ranging from 44.1-96 kHz sample rate (16-24 bits) is played. Amarra MINI seamlessly switches to iTunes for playing back low-resolution compressed files such as MP3 or AAC type, then back again once a high resolution file is detected.

To create custom playlists for high resolution music, follow the Help menu instructions in iTunes.



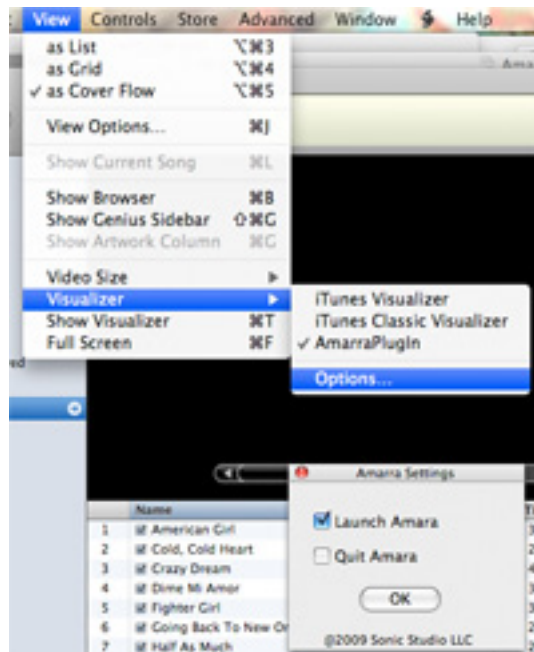
NOTE:

AMARRA MINI plays uncompressed PCM audio files (i.e AIFF,WAV) and Apple Lossless (ALAC). AMARRA MINI does not support FLAC or other compressed formats at this time.



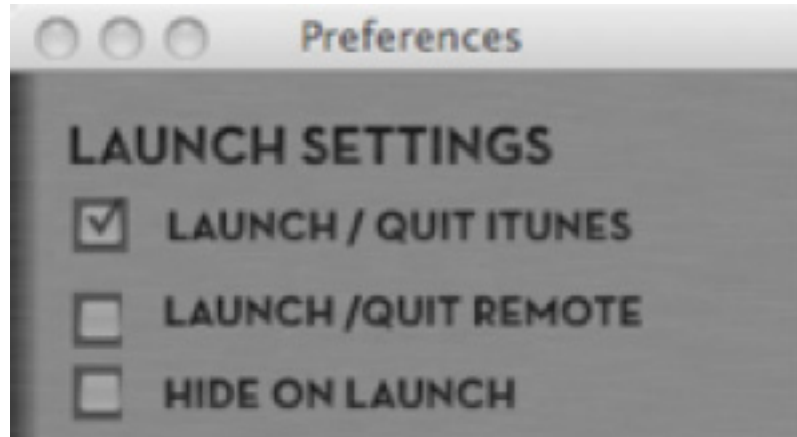
NOTE:

When you launch iTunes, Amarra will automatically launch. Likewise, when iTunes quits AMARRA will be shutdown. In iTunes under Visual Plugin there is an Options menu command which can be used to disable the auto launch / quit feature.



6.3. AMARRA MINI Preferences

This section presents an overview of the Amarra MINI Preferences.



The AMARRA MINI preference "**Launch iTunes**" will enable the automatic launch of iTunes on starting AMARRA MINI.

The AMARRA MINI preference "**Launch Remote**" will enable the launch the Amarra Remote application.

The AMARRA MINI preference "**Hide On Launch**" will hide AMARRA MINI after booting

6.4. AMARRA Remote

The AMARRA Remote Application is used to support the Apple Infrared Remote as well as the "rowmote" iPhone Application. The AMARRA Remote Application can be found in your Extras Folder. For more information please visit <http://www.rowmote.com/Rowmote/Rowmote.html>

You can also use your iTouch / iPhone iTunes Remote Application to control AMARRA MINI .

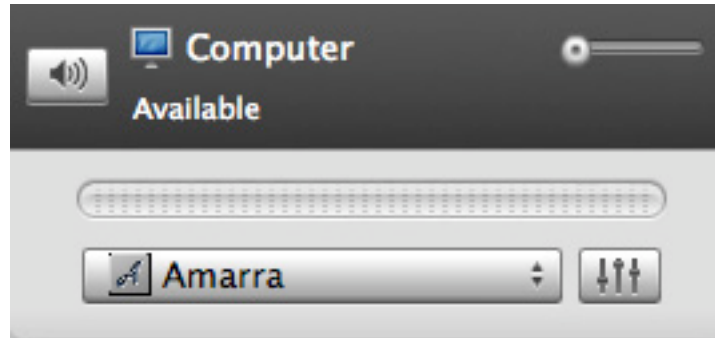
NOTE: You can not control the volume using the Apple iTunes Remote application.



You must use "rowmote" for remote volume control.

6.5 Using your Airport Express

Using the “Airfoil” application from Rogue Amoeba allows you to route the output of Amarra MINI to an Airport Express. For more information visit <http://www.rogueamoeba.com/airfoil/mac/> for more information.



7. Registering Your AMARRA MINI Software

In order to receive warranty service, you must register your product with Sonic Studio. This may be done at any time with proof-of-purchase.

We strongly recommend that you register with Sonic Studio as soon as you purchase your unit. This will ensure the best possible support for your purchase.

1. Your product will be registered with us.
Registration is used as proof of ownership if your product is ever lost or stolen.
2. Sonic Studio updates AMARRA MINI software on a regular basis.
This allows us to keep you informed of updates as they become available.

Please register your AMARRA MINI software using our automated registration Web page at:
<http://www.sonicstudio.com/register>

Alternatively, our mail address is:

Amarra Software registration
Sonic Studio, LLC
330 Sir Frances Drake Blvd
Suite A
San Anselmo, CA USA
94960-2552
Phone: +1-415-480-4601, +1-415-460-1201
Fax 1-775-330-8923

If you encounter issues using AMARRA MINI please refer to the information below for assistance. If none of these steps address your problem please contact your dealer or Sonic Studio support for more help.

8. Troubleshooting Guide

Basic Macintosh Setup Tips

iTunes:

- Disable the Crossfade Songs preference in iTunes
- Disable the Sound Enhancer preference in iTunes
- Disable the Sound Check preference in iTunes

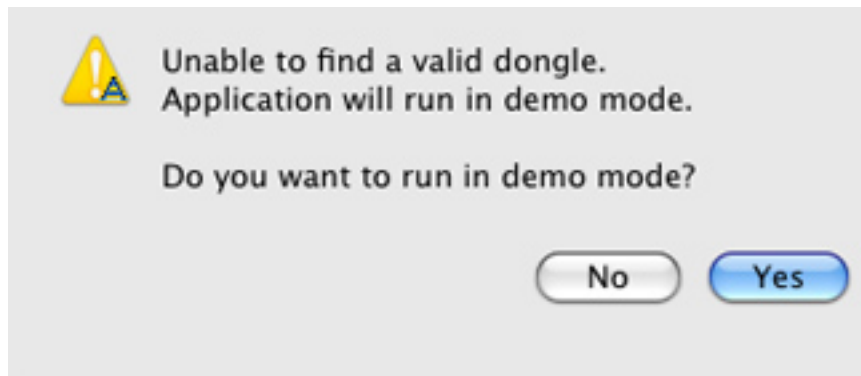
Energy Preferences - Disable Sleep and other Energy saving Preferences.

Spotlight - Disable Spotlight

TimeMachine - Disable TimeMachine on your media drives.

- We highly recommend a fresh install of the operating on a clean disc.
This can prevent problems later on.
- We also highly recommend that your computer be used exclusively for music playback.
Email, web browsers, screen sharing and other applications can effect performance.
- Do not use FAT 32 formatted volumes.

Issue: **AMARRA MINI can not find iLOK.**



AMARRA does not find an iLOK, or finds an iLOK without a valid AMARRA license.

Solution:

- Insert an iLOK with a valid AMARRA MINI license on it.
- Make sure the iLOK extension for AMARRA MINI is installed.
- Please refer the Amarra Startup Guide for more information.

Issue: **AMARRA MINI operates in demo mode.**

Solution:

- AMARRA MINI requires a Certified Audio Interface to operate in non-demo mode.

Please review the currently supported interfaces on our website at
<http://www.amarraaudio.com/amarra/faq.html>

Issue: How to set up a remote volume

AMARRA MINI does not support streaming of remote songs.

AMARRA MINI requires that all volumes be mounted on the computer as a shared volume.

Solution:

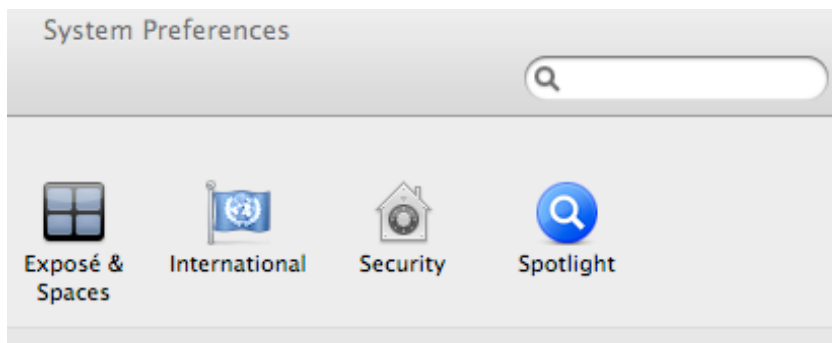
- Mount the remote volume with Read/Write Access on your local Macintosh
 - Use the Network (Cmd-K) to locate and mount the remote volume
- In iTunes used the Add to Library command to add the songs from the Mounted Volume
- Mount the remote volume with Read/Write Access on your local Macintosh

Issue: Audio Clicking or Ticking Sound.

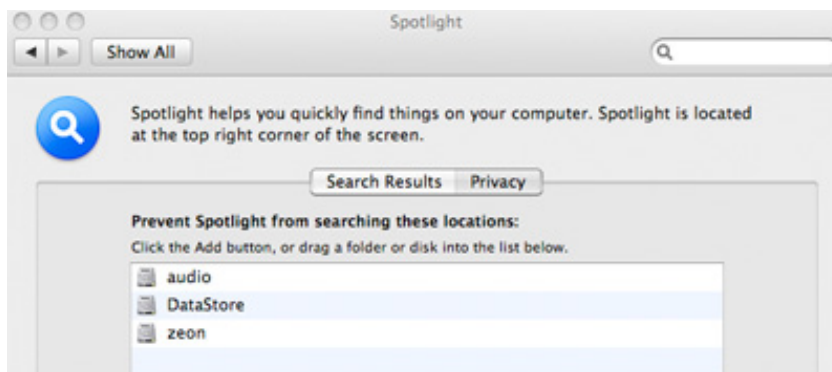
Solution:

- Disable Spotlight (add volumes to the Spotlight Privacy Preference)

1) Open System Preferences and locate the Spotlight Preference



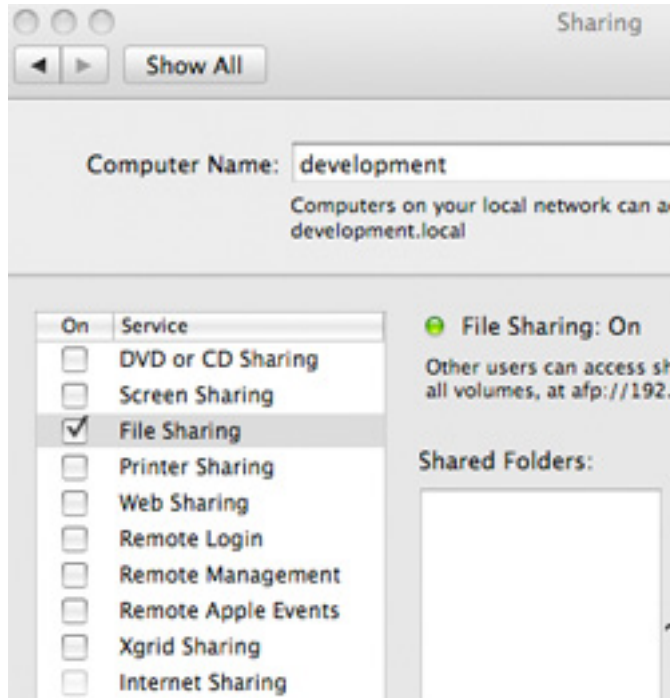
2) Select the Privacy Tab and add all your media drives



(cont.)

Solution:

- Disable Network Shared Access.
- 1) Open System Preferences and locate the Sharing Preference
 - 2) Disable Web Sharing, Remote Login and Remote Management.
Please note for support the Remote Management preference may be required.



Solution:

- Disconnect multiple FireWire devices and reduce daisy-chained connections.

Solution:

- Shut down other applications such as email and browsers.

Solution:

- Increase the amount of RAM in your computer.

Solution:

- Check that all drives are HFS formatted.
AMARRA MINI does not support FAT32 drives.

Solution:

- Change the Sample Rate manually using Audio Midi Setup to a different value.
Then switch the Sample Rate back.

Issue: Songs do not change or sound correctly.

Solution:

- Disable the Crossfade Songs preference in iTunes
- Disable the Sound Enhancer preference in iTunes
- Disable the Sound Check preference in iTunes
- Disable Sleep and other Energy Preferences.

Issue: Amarra does not play audio.

Solution:

- Quit AMARRA MINI and iTunes and restart AMARRA MINI.

NOTE: Sound files with names that contain “.” or other foreign characters may not play properly. Changing the name of the soundfile can fix this.

Issue: Amarra does not play audio.

AMARRA MINI requires an input clock under Audio Midi Setup. If your device does not have an input when shown under AMS then please following the instructions for creating an Aggregate Device.

Solution:

- Create an Aggregate Device under Audio Mini Setup.
- Please refer to the Aggregate Device Setup in the Documentation Folder.

Issue: Sample Rate Does Not Change With Soundfile.

Does your device support the sample rates for your music?
Amarra will only use the available rates on the device.
Otherwise, iTunes will be used (and sample rate conversion will occur).

9. Support

We are committed to your successful use of Amarra and offer support for AMARRA MINI through your local dealer or via phone and email through Sonic Studio. Please also ask your local dealer for assistance. They have a great deal of knowledge about AMARRA MINI and are an excellent resource.

For phone support, contact Sonic Studio at:
+1-415-480-4601 9 AM - 4 PM U.S. Pacific time

For email support, send email to: support@sonicstudio.com

You can always find the latest information and updates for AMARRA MINI at our website:
<http://www.amarraaudio.com>

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