

- [MusicRadar.com](#)
- [Guitarist](#)
- [Guitar Techniques](#)
- [Total Guitar](#)
- [Computer Music](#)
- [Future Music](#)
- [Rhythm](#)
- [Join](#)
- [Login](#)

Search

- [News](#)
- [Reviews](#)
- [Tuition](#)
- [Forum](#)
- [Guitar Tab](#)
- [Samples](#)
- [iPad/iPhone Apps](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Live & Unsigned](#)
- [HD Tuition](#)
- [StoreFinder](#)
- [Magazines](#)
- [Newsletter](#)

Presonus StudioLive 16.0.2 £1249

We soundcheck this digital mixing and audio interface combo.
FutureMusic, Thu 6 Oct 2011, 2:27 pm BST



The Presonus 16.0.2 offers solid build and great features for the price.

The PreSonus StudioLive series of mixers has been delivering serious high quality digital audio features at a great price for a few years now. Now these live mixer/DSP/soundcard combos have an entry-level baby brother.

It may have a few less knobs on the channels, less I/O, and no subgroups, but does have the addition of MIDI control and I/O, unlike its larger siblings, meaning that its power, quality, and features are hard to ignore.

A digital mixer with iPad wireless control, a built-in 16 in and out audio interface, and enough effects and processing to look after the needs of many a gig or studio session is seriously cool. To do it at this price is seriously impressive. Let's get stuck in.

Heavy set

"All the features sounded and felt exactly as we'd have hoped, perhaps exceeding our fairly high expectations of them."

Out of the box, its small footprint of less than two square feet feels fairly heavy. Everything feels very solid - the faders do have a tiny amount of lateral play, but are better than most of this size.

Booting up has to be quick, which it is. In reality, digital mixers crash sometimes and need resetting, even ones costing house prices.

The 16.0.2's six seconds is great. You'll increase reliability by using an uninterruptible power supply, which we highly recommend with any digital device that you expect to rely on, especially at a gig.

Testing the drivers on Windows 7 was painless. The drivers currently have a public beta 1.5.1 version available, which does not yet support Windows XP - the final one will.

Despite the efforts of PreSonus Tech support, we were unable to get it to work with a trusty old XP laptop using the 1.5.0 driver. In all fairness to PreSonus, Microsoft have done a terrible job with FireWire drivers in XP, and this has simply proved that it's time to give up on XP and switch to Win 7.

Fat of the channels

The Fat Channel functions are what give this little piece of kit a big-console feel - and sound. It's exciting to find so much control in something with such a small footprint.

The variable high-pass filter has great range, and to have it on a board of this size makes it feel much bigger than it is!

We were also very impressed at the sound of the EQ. The highs are crisp and also delicate, the lows deep and defined, without massive amounts of audible phase-shift, like many analogue mixers this size.

We tried sweeping the mid frequency very quickly. Not only did it feel very fast and responsive, but we heard no sign of jitters or aliasing.

All the features sounded and felt exactly as we'd have hoped, perhaps exceeding our fairly high expectations of them.

The features and controls are very easy to look at and use, with LED bar graphs giving clear visual feedback as to what is happening. The copy and paste of Fat Channel settings from one channel to another is really quick and simple.

The only downside we could find is a lack of gain reduction metering, at the same time as adjusting the threshold and other features of the compressor.

With the metering set to Gain Reduction, as soon as you finish moving any pots, the meters do instantly show the reduction. A minor point, but we missed it.

« Previous |Page:12| Next »

You Might Like:



• [news »](#)

[Musikmesse 2011: PreSonus launches StudioLive 16.0.2](#)



• [news »](#)

[PreSonus StudioLive 24 mixer to make its UK debut](#)



• [news »](#)

[PreSonus Studio One v2 on the way, v1 half price](#)

[MusicRadar on Facebook](#)



MusicRadar on Facebook

Like

24,676 people like MusicRadar.



Chris Kenneth Christopher Rick Diane Brad Amanda Marsha

Facebook social plugin

Pros

Packs the feel and sound of a much bigger console into its small footprint.

Cons

No gain reduction metering or input gain recall.

Review Policy

All MusicRadar's reviews are by independent product specialists, who are not aligned to any gear manufacturer or retailer. Our experts also write for renowned magazines such as Guitarist, Total Guitar, Computer Music, Future Music and Rhythm. All are part of Future PLC, the biggest publisher of music making magazines in the world.

Specification Show

StudioLive 16.0.2

Price:

£1249

Audio Inputs:

Dual XLR/TRS analogue ins

Audio Outputs:

TRS Jack Outputs, XLR

Aux Sends:

6

Country of Origin:

USA

EQ Details:

Stereo Graphic EQ

Weight (kg):

7

Hide



musicradar.com
The No.1 website for musicians

**SAVE UP TO
40% ON
THESE TOP
HI-TECH MUSIC
MAGAZINES**



SUBSCRIBE FROM
JUST **£7.49**

CLICK HERE



News

- All news
- Guitar news
- Tech news
- Drum news
- MusicRadar podcasts

Gear & Reviews

- All reviews
- Guitar reviews
- Tech reviews
- Drum reviews

Fender Channel

- Fender G-DEC 3 and Mustang video demos
-
-

Tuition

- All tuition
- Guitar tuition
- Paul Gilbert lessons
- Albert Lee guest lessons
- Play blues guitar like...

- Guitar basics lessons
- Guitar basics FX lessons
- Tech tuition
- Drum tuition

Forums

- All forums
- Classifieds forum
- Guitar forum
- Tech forum
- Drums & percussion forum

MusicRadar

- About us
- Terms of use
- Privacy policy
- Accessibility
- Advertising
- Jobs

Future Publishing Copyright 2006 - 2010 Future Publishing Limited,
Beauford Court 30 Monmouth Street Bath, UK BA1 2BW
England and Wales company registration number 2008885

- T3
- TechRadar
- GamesRadar
- Cycling News
- BikeRadar
- Digital Future
- TotalFilm
- Guitar World

**SHRED
NECK**

WWW.SHREDNECK.COM



mr on

- @ThomasDolby on his new album, recording in a lifeboat, synths and wild wigs <http://t.co/d95KvY92> about an hour ago