

PCH X1

Active DI Isolator

USER MANUAL

strymon®

WELCOME TO PCH X1

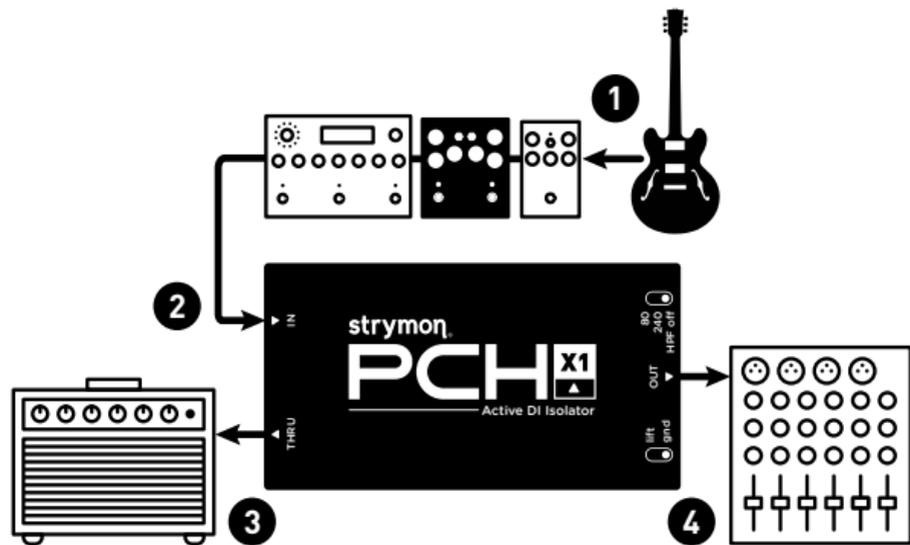
The Strymon® PCH X1 is a phantom powered, active isolated direct interface (DI). PCH X1 is designed to provide optimized impedance and noise-free signal routing of your instrument or other mono audio source to a mixing console, audio interface, amplifier, or other external equipment.

Live Setup: Using PCH X1 with an Instrument and Pedalboard

Minimize the volume on all devices before making your connections to PCH X1.

1. Connect your guitar into a pedalboard containing an amp + cab simulation pedal or modeling device (such as Strymon Iridium).
2. Connect the 1/4" output of your pedalboard to PCH X1's 1/4" IN.
3. Connect PCH X1's 1/4" THRU Out to the input of your guitar/bass amp for stage monitoring. Or, connect the THRU Out to other unbalanced input gear, such as effects, 1/4" FRFR amp inputs, etc.
4. PCH X1 requires 48V phantom power. Mute the input channel on the mixer before connecting PCH X1 to its XLR input. Once connected, enable the mixer's phantom power and then unmute the input channel.

Verify that PCH X1's power LED is lit, indicating it is receiving phantom power. Then, slowly increase the volume on your devices to your preferred levels.



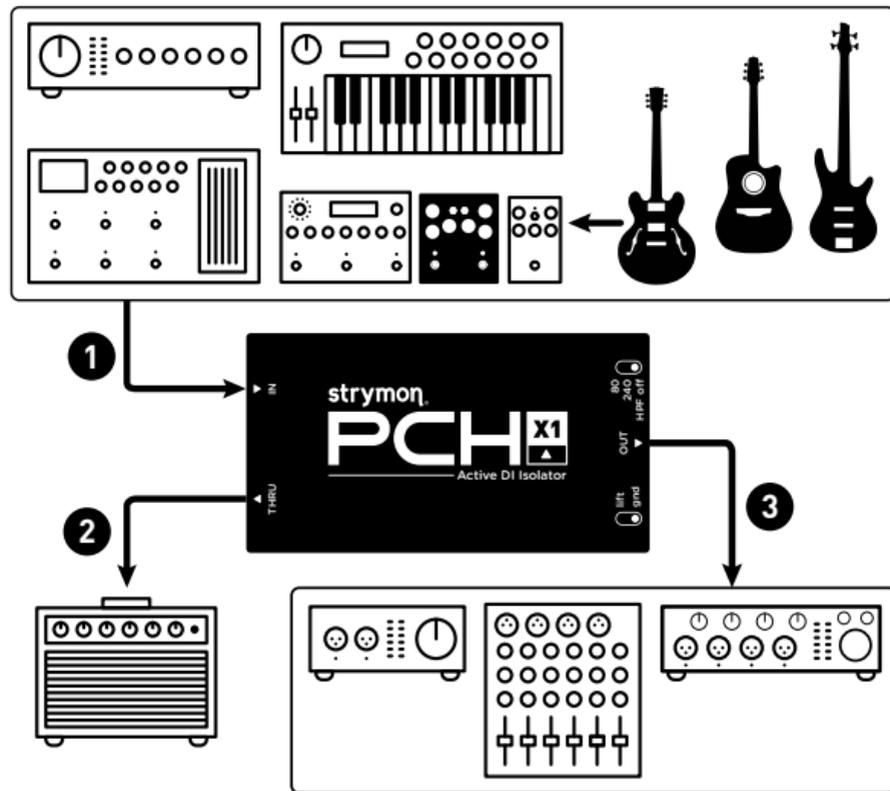
SETUP EXAMPLES

Live, Studio, and Home Setup

PCH X1 can be used for optimal connectivity with a wide variety of audio gear for performing, recording, and practicing.

Before making any connections, make sure all volume levels on your input and monitoring devices are muted.

1. Connect your instrument: a guitar, bass, piezo pickup/acoustic instrument, amp + cab pedal/modeling device, keyboard, audio player, etc., to PCH X1's 1/4" IN.
2. Connect PCH X1's 1/4" THRU Out to the input of your guitar or bass amplifier, 1/4" FRFR amp input, or other unbalanced input gear.
3. PCH X1 requires 48V phantom power. Mute the input channel on the mixer or interface before connecting PCH X1 to its XLR input. Once connected, enable the mixer or interface's phantom power and then unmute the input channel.
 - Slowly increase the volume on all devices.
 - Set PCH X1's HPF switch to 80 or 240 to reduce low-end rumble or muddiness as needed.
 - Set PCH X1's LIFT/GND switch to LIFT if experiencing ground hum.



ABOUT PCH X1

A direct interface (DI) device is an essential tool for connecting an unbalanced and/or high impedance instrument—such as a guitar, bass, piezo pickup-equipped instrument, pedalboard, or keyboard—to low impedance audio system, including a mixing desk, preamp, recording interface, or other balanced XLR input gear.

While many DI boxes are basic passive units that dutifully convert a 1/4" unbalanced input to a balanced, low impedance XLR output, the compact Strymon **PCH X1 Active DI Isolator** includes a high headroom, buffered 1/4" input for exceptional sound clarity and minimal distortion. Its audio transformer additionally isolates your signal, reducing interference and noise. PCH X1 accommodates both high and low impedance sources and outputs, making it a highly adaptable solution for a variety of stage, studio, and rehearsal configurations.

PCH X1's high impedance 1/4" input and buffered low impedance XLR output allow for long cable runs with retained clarity and minimal noise. The included high pass filter provides the ability to reduce low-end rumble and muddiness.

FEATURES

The THRU output splits the input signal, allowing it to be sent to an amplifier for personal monitoring and/or other unbalanced input gear for seamless integration into your rig.

PCH X1 is conveniently powered by +48V phantom power provided from external gear via its XLR connection, eliminating the need for a power supply or batteries. Its compact size and rugged construction make it ideal for your gig bag, ensuring you're always prepared for any setup.

1/4" IN

A buffered, unbalanced input for an instrument, pedalboard, modeler, or other mono audio source. Connect using a shielded instrument cable.

- High input impedance provides compatibility with both active and passive signal sources
- High headroom eliminates clipping

1/4" THRU

An unbalanced, passive output ideal for routing the input signal to an amp, additional effects, or other gear. Connect using a shielded instrument cable.

FEATURES

XLR OUT

An active, XLR balanced output for optimal signal clarity with low distortion, even with long cable runs to stage and studio gear.

Isolated for exceptional low-noise operation.

- Switchable High Pass Filter offers Off, 80Hz, or 240Hz settings for low end frequency reduction. (See the HPF - Frequency Response graph.)
- Ground lift allows ground disconnect on the XLR to reduce hum or unwanted noise

Phantom Power

PCH X1 utilizes standard +48V phantom power via its XLR OUT connection. Phantom power is commonly offered via a mixing desk, preamp, or interface's XLR input channel.

- Power LED indicates phantom power state
- No additional power adapter or batteries required

SPECIFICATIONS

INPUT

Input Impedance:	2 M Ω
Max. Input Level:	+20.5dBu

THRU

Gain, Relative to Input:	+0dB
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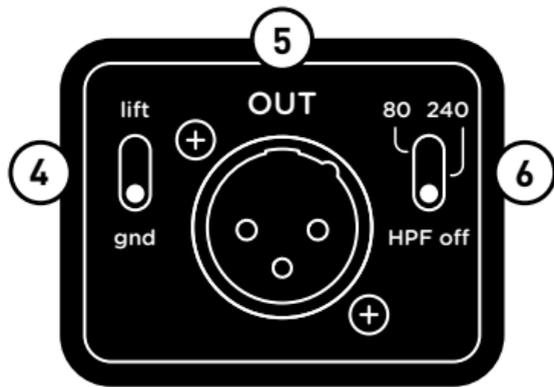
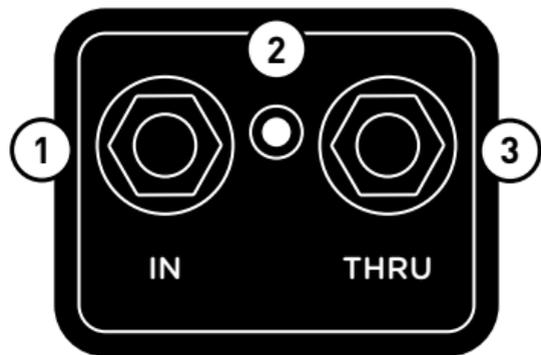
XLR OUTPUT

Gain, Relative to Input:	-20dB
Output Impedance:	100 Ω
Max. Output Level:	+0.5dBu
Frequency Response:	+/- 0.25dB, 20Hz - 30kHz (13.6K load, HPF off) +/- 0.5dB, 10Hz - 80kHz (13.6K load, HPF off) +/- 0.5dB, 20Hz - 20kHz (600 Ω load, HPF off)

POWER SUPPLY

Current Requirement:	5mA @ +48VDC
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CONTROLS AND CONNECTIONS



1. **IN** 1/4" unbalanced, high impedance, buffered input. Connect a mono source: guitar, bass, keyboard, amp+cab simulation pedal, or modeler.
2. **POWER LED** Lit brightly when PCH X1 is powered on via phantom power.
3. **THRU** 1/4" unbalanced, passive output. Pass your input source to an amplifier, effect, or other device.
4. **LIFT/GND** Set to lift (up position) the ground if experiencing hum on the XLR Out.

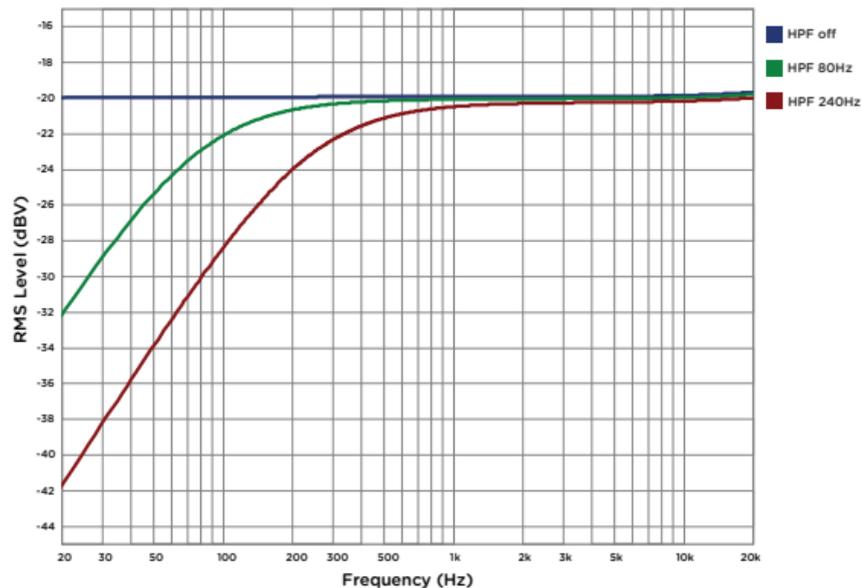
CONTROLS AND CONNECTIONS

5. **XLR OUT** Balanced, low impedance, active output. Connect to a mixing desk, preamp, or other low impedance gear for low noise/distortion routing of the source input.

PCH X1 requires 48V phantom power to this XLR connection. Mute the input channel of your mixing desk or other device before connecting to the PCH X1's XLR Out, then raise the volume slowly.

6. **HPF** Set for the desired High Pass Filter option (see HPF - Frequency Response graph):
- off (down position) to bypass the filter.
 - 240 (middle position) to reduce frequencies below 240Hz.
 - 80 (up position) to reduce frequencies below 80Hz.

HPF - Frequency Response



SUPPORT

Additional Product Information: strymon.net/support/PCHX1

Questions & Technical Support: support@strymon.net

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strymon.net



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