

Quick And Simple Guide To Fixing Focusrite Static Noise

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Static noise is usually due to a grounding issue. Your audio cables pick up background noise from the noise floor, typically originating from your power cables. You can minimize this by making your cables parallel and not crossing each other. Also, giving them a little space will help.

Audio Interfaces And Static Noises

Static noise in audio interfaces is a problem we have all faced, but it can often get the best of us.

It can seem daunting without knowledge of signal theory and different cable types.

Luckily, we have condensed the information you need into this article.

We will explain what causes static noises and hum, how to fix this, and also look into the causes and solutions to popping and crackling.

Focusrite Scarlett Static Noise Causes

One cause of static noise can be related directly to the gear. If dust gets into the input or output ports, it can cause unwanted noise.

Try and locate the exact source of the static noise by turning the input gain knobs and output volume knobs.

From here, you may be able to get the dust out of the knob or port.

Grounding issues can also cause static noise.

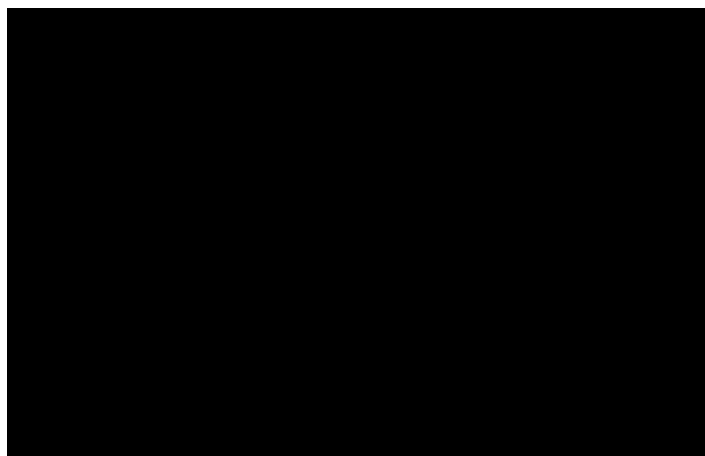
This is either that there is no path to the ground or multiple paths to different grounds, creating a ground loop.

An unlikely scenario is that the USB cable you're connecting your audio interface through is damaged. This is not common but worth a check as it's a cheap fix.

You can also check whether it's that specific USB port on your computer.

How To Get Rid Of Focusrite Static Noise

The best way to eliminate static noise in an audio interface is to unplug everything and start again.



It's annoying, I know, but the background noise picked up is most likely from your power cables.

Try and keep cables parallel and with a bit of distance.

Also, having balanced cables where possible will help with this.

If this still needs to be fixed, consider moving your setup to a different place with different sockets.

It could be the sockets you're using generating so much unwanted noise.

Why Is There White Noise When You Turn Up The Gain On An Interface?

The higher the gain on an interface's input, the more delicate audio is picked up. The white noise is background noise from your recording space, even the static sounds of the air.

If this is especially the case, you should consider a microphone with a dynamic pickup pattern to help isolate itself from background noise.

Why Is There Unwanted Hum From Your Monitors?

Unwanted noise from monitors is typically caused by grounding issues. Most commonly, the grounding issues are caused by cables being too close to each other.

With monitors, the cable type that you want to use is a balanced cable. This is different from an unbalanced cable as it carries a copy of the audio signal and has a ground wire.

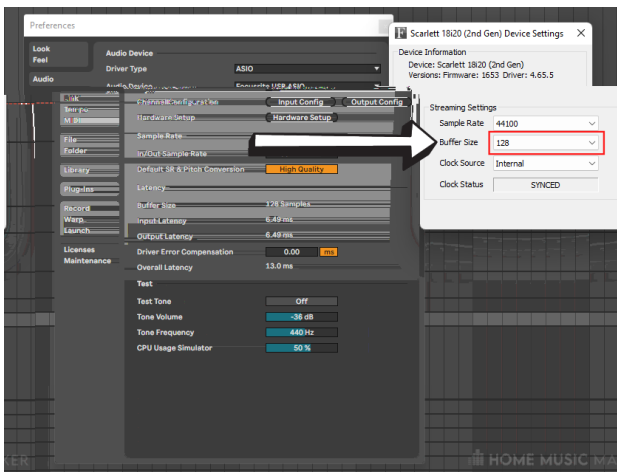
These audio signals cancel each other out. Any audio interference picked up along the cable from the noise floor is canceled out when the signals switch polarities at the end.

This process is called common-mode rejection, where the noise is the common signal.

Also, because there are two in-phase signals, the balanced signal is louder than its unbalanced counterpart.

An example of an unbalanced cable is an RCA cable, and an example of a balanced cable is an XLR cable.

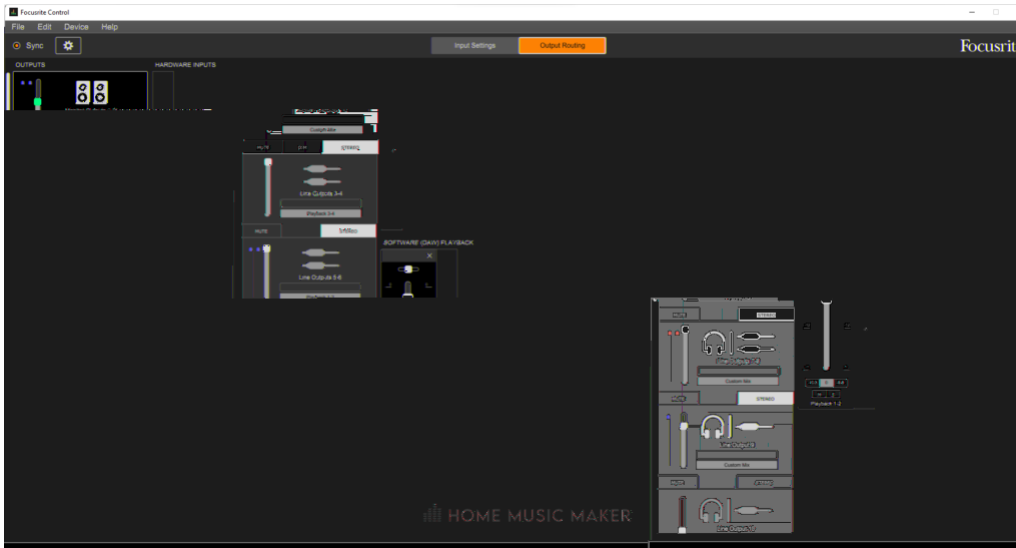
Why Does Your Focusrite Scarlett Interface Unplug Itself?



If you're playing back, you can increase the buffer size (try 1024) to ease the load on the CPU and reduce the unwanted noise without removing the effects.

You can change the buffer size in the latency section of your digital audio workstation's sound settings, such as Logic Pro and Ableton, which will allow you to adjust your driver's settings.

You can also change this in the software for your audio device; in this case, it's Focusrite Control.



Focusrite Control Dashboard

What Is A Noise Floor In Audio?

The noise floor is the sum of all the noise sources and unwanted signals, where noise is any audio signal not being measured. An example of this is when recording, the audio signal of the instrument is the one being measured. Anything else is unwanted.

How Much Gain Does The 2i2 Have?

The maximum gain of the Focusrite Scarlett is only 46dB, making it a low-gain microphone preamp.

Focusrite Scarlett Series Review Are They Really Worth It?

Absolutely. For their price range, these are excellent devices. They have great microphone preamps, are robust, most of them are super portable, and they have a device for most needs.

If you're in the market for an audio interface and your budget is the same as the Scarlett series, then I highly recommend them.

For more Focusrite tips & tricks, check out the following article on how to turn off a Focusrite Scarlett 2i2.

Eliminate static crackling noise when scrolling Scarlett 2i2 interface

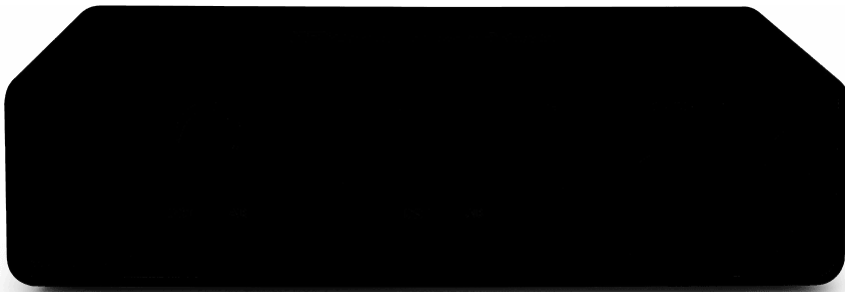
This issue has been driving me crazy for years now to the point where I was using only single monitor for the last half year. There is a crackling noise at idle and a much more pronounced noise when scrolling or doing certain other graphical tasks such as gaming.

I have KRK Rokit 6 G1 and G3 monitors along with Focusrite Scarlett 2i2 USB interface. The KRK Gen 1 doesn't have this issue but G3 does, I even replaced the G3 and it still has this issue so it's not the monitor alone that is causing the issue. I did try swapping the balanced 6.35mm cables and power cables between G1 and G3 with no change so it's not the cabling either. The issue persisted with both older and newer model of the 2i2 interface. Using different power socket may improve the issue somewhat but it's still there. Using different USB ports on the PC makes no difference either. House is relatively new, built in the last 15 years so I would expect wiring to be ok.

If I plug the 2i2 USB port into an unplugged laptop issue is gone. What I do not understand is why isn't the audio interface eliminating noise? I mean the whole point of a DAC is to take audio processing outside of a noisy PC environment. What is the point of a DAC if it fails like this? I just don't get how noise could travel via USB port which is digital and survive ADC process. Is this just bad design of the 2i2 interface? What is causing the issue and what can I do to eliminate it? It really seems like the USB DAC is what should be eliminating the issue not causing it.

Scarlett 2i2 | Focusrite

For the artist.



For the artist.

The record maker. 2i2 has brought studio sound to more artists than any other interface. Ever. Hook up a couple of mics, guitars or keys and record however you want.

Mic Pres: 2

Instrument Inputs: 2

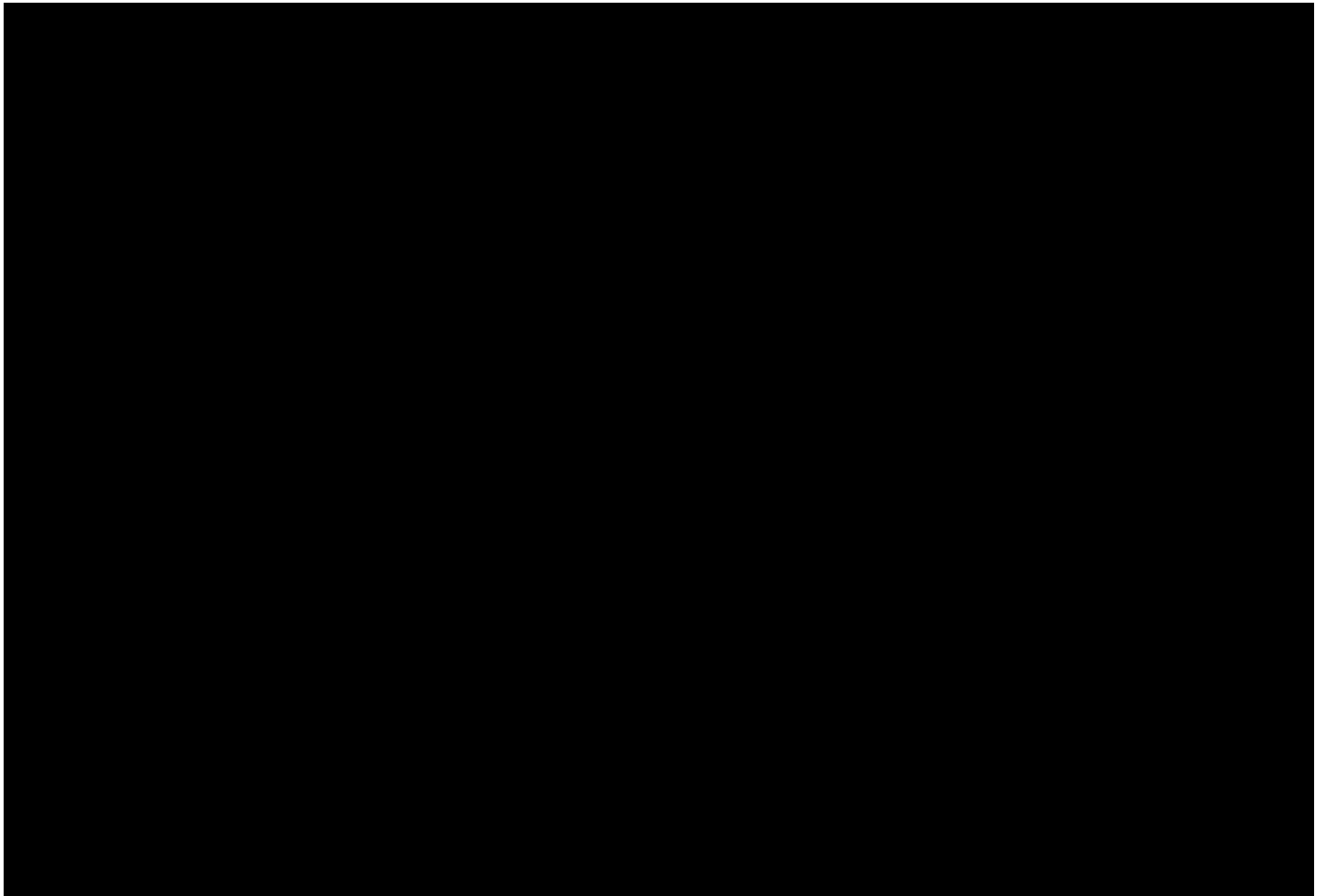
Line Ins: 2

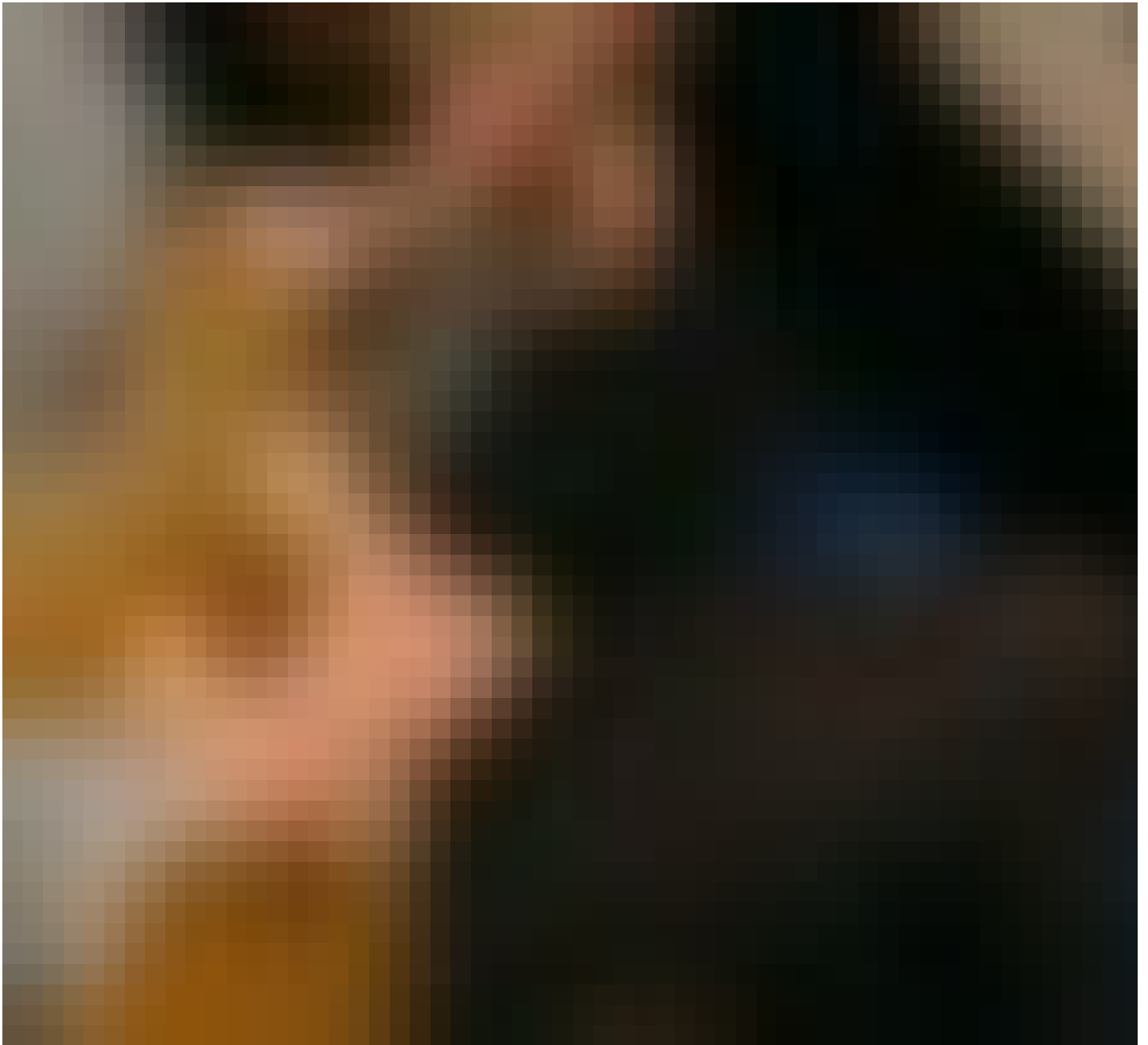
Line Outs: 2

Headphone Outs: 1

Air

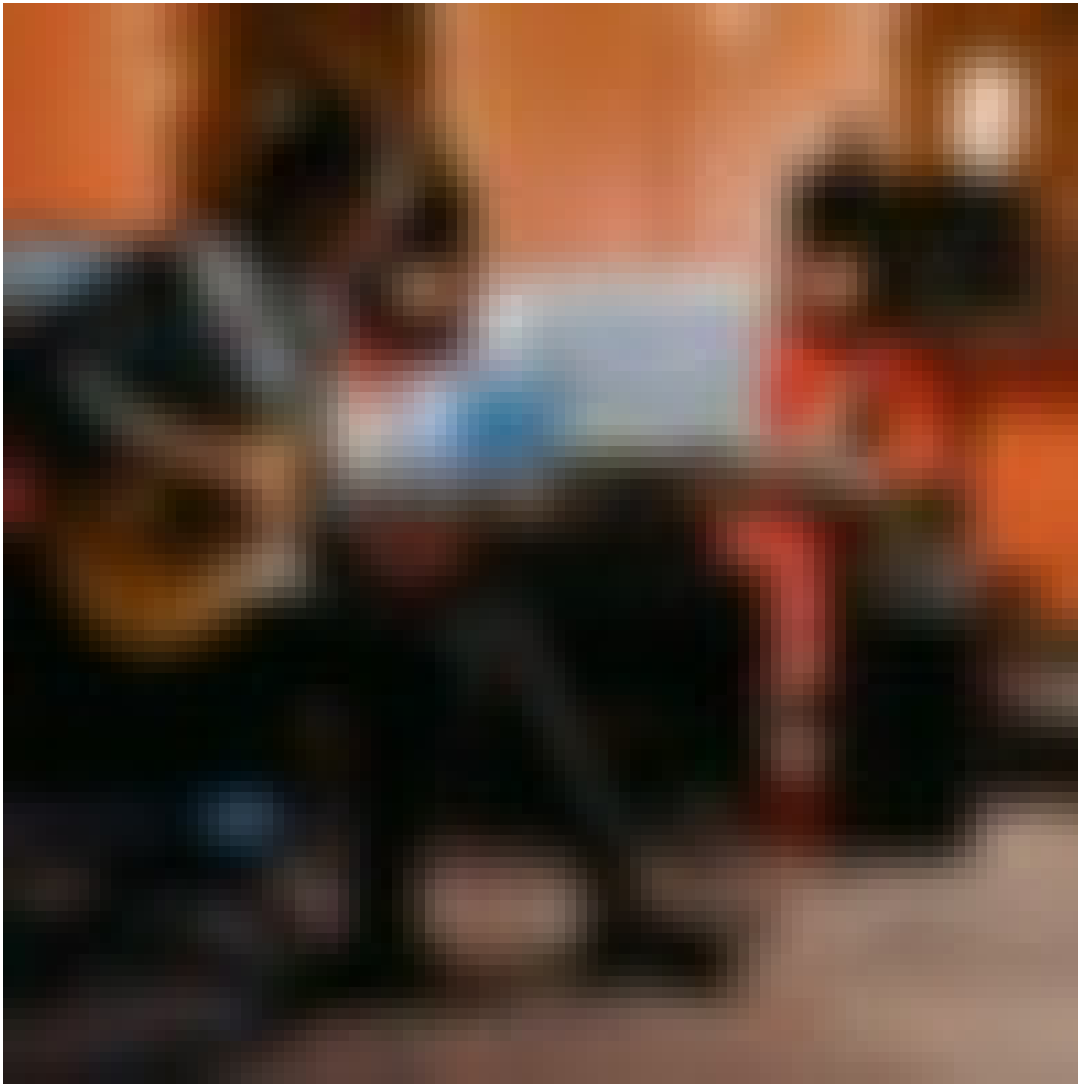
Bus Power*





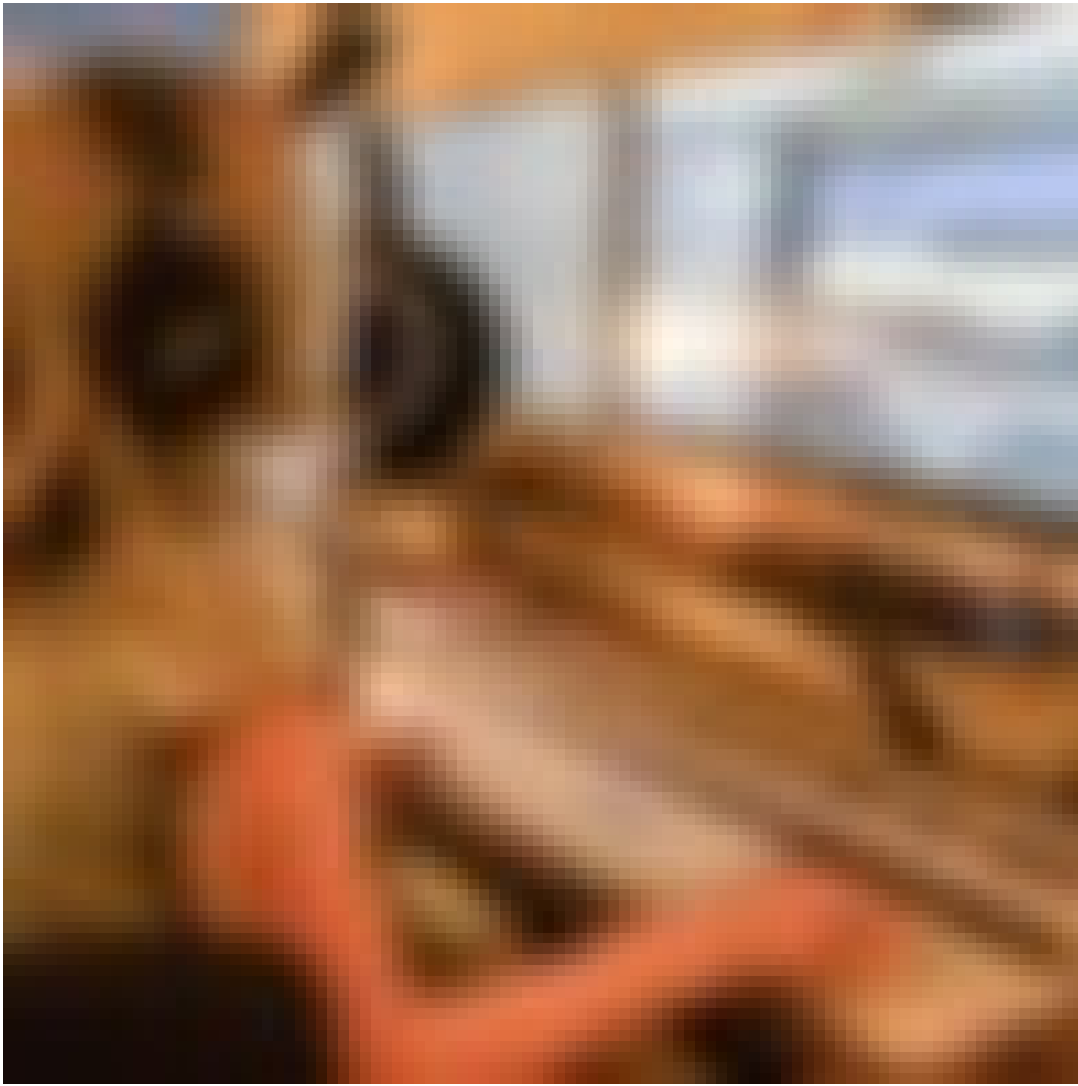
You've never sounded so good

The two latest generation mic pres are the best Scarlett has ever heard. Scarlett brings Focusrite's professional sound quality to your home. No other interface sounds quite like Scarlett.



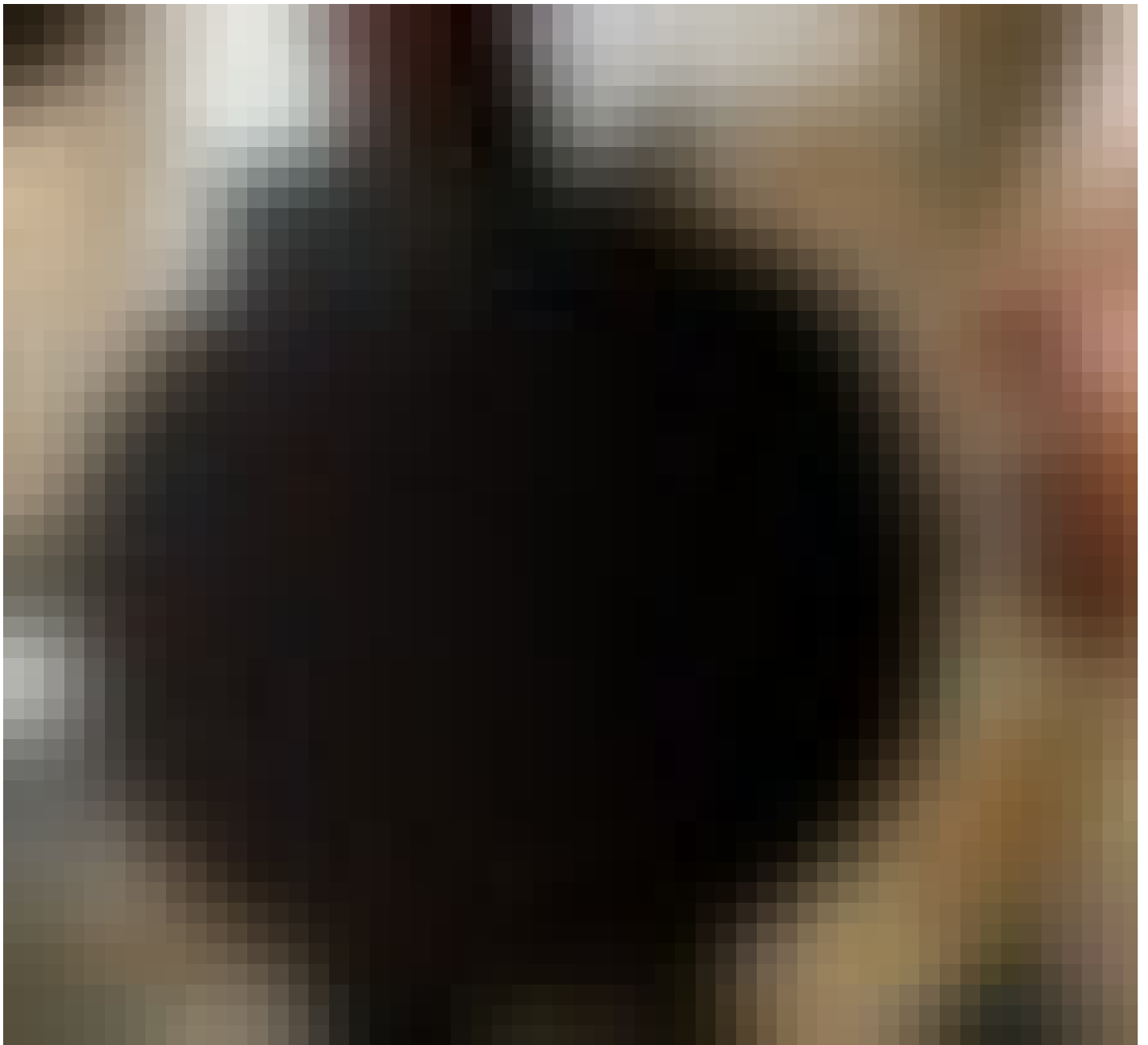
Loud and clear

Hi-res 24-bit/192kHz converters give recordings stunning clarity. At home, in the studio or on the road, Scarlett sounds just like you.



Work faster, not harder

Mac, PC or iPadOS. Super-low latency means better takes. Better takes mean better recordings. Scarlett keeps you on track.



Feel it in the Air

Air has been breathing life into records for over thirty years. Add high-end detail to vocals and acoustic instruments. Get the sound of the iconic Focusrite Studio Console. Anywhere.

“Better quality, improved specs and not much of a shift in price. It’s difficult to see Focusrite losing that ‘best selling interface’ label any time soon.”

MusicTech

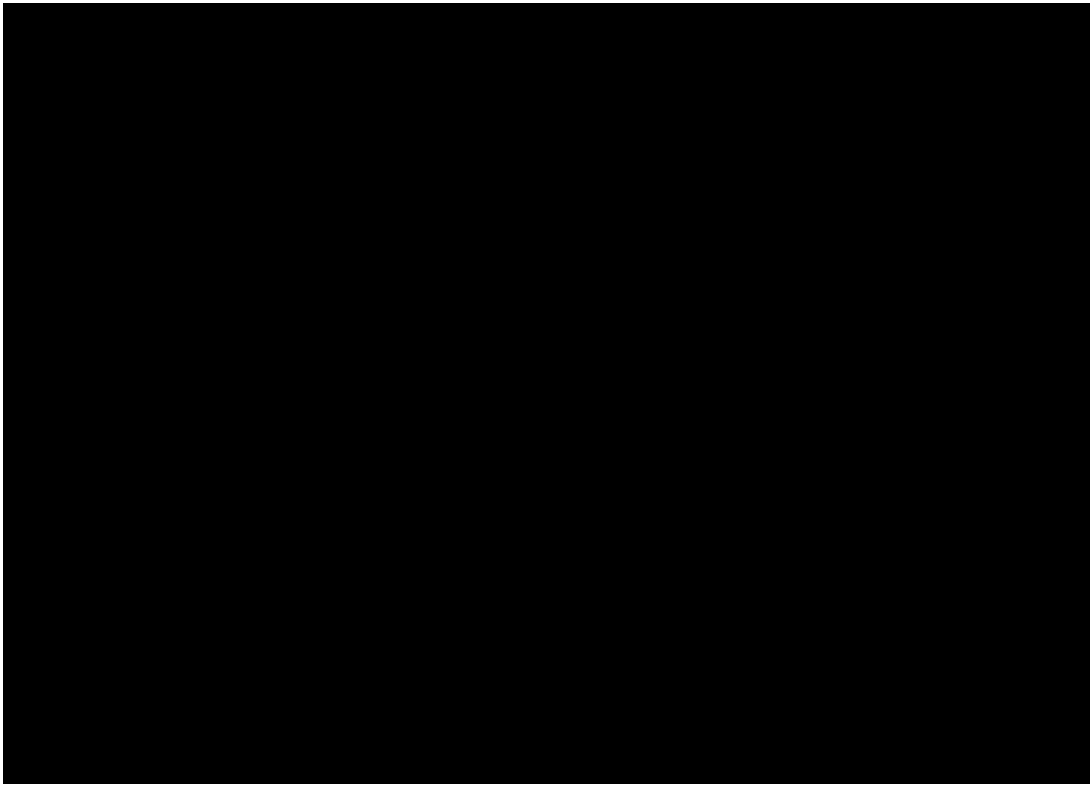
"Unreal sound, zero latency, super-cool software and an elegant look... No matter how complete your home studio or live rig is, it probably has a place for this."

GuitarPlayer

Image of an artist recording guitar with a 212

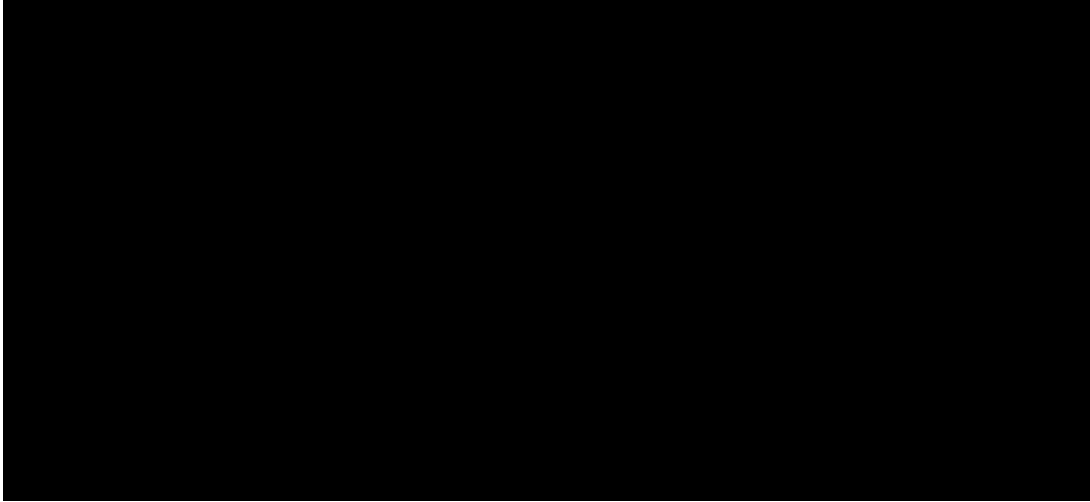
Level up

Gain halos make setting levels simple. Find the sweet spot instantly and get great sound every time. No studio engineer required.



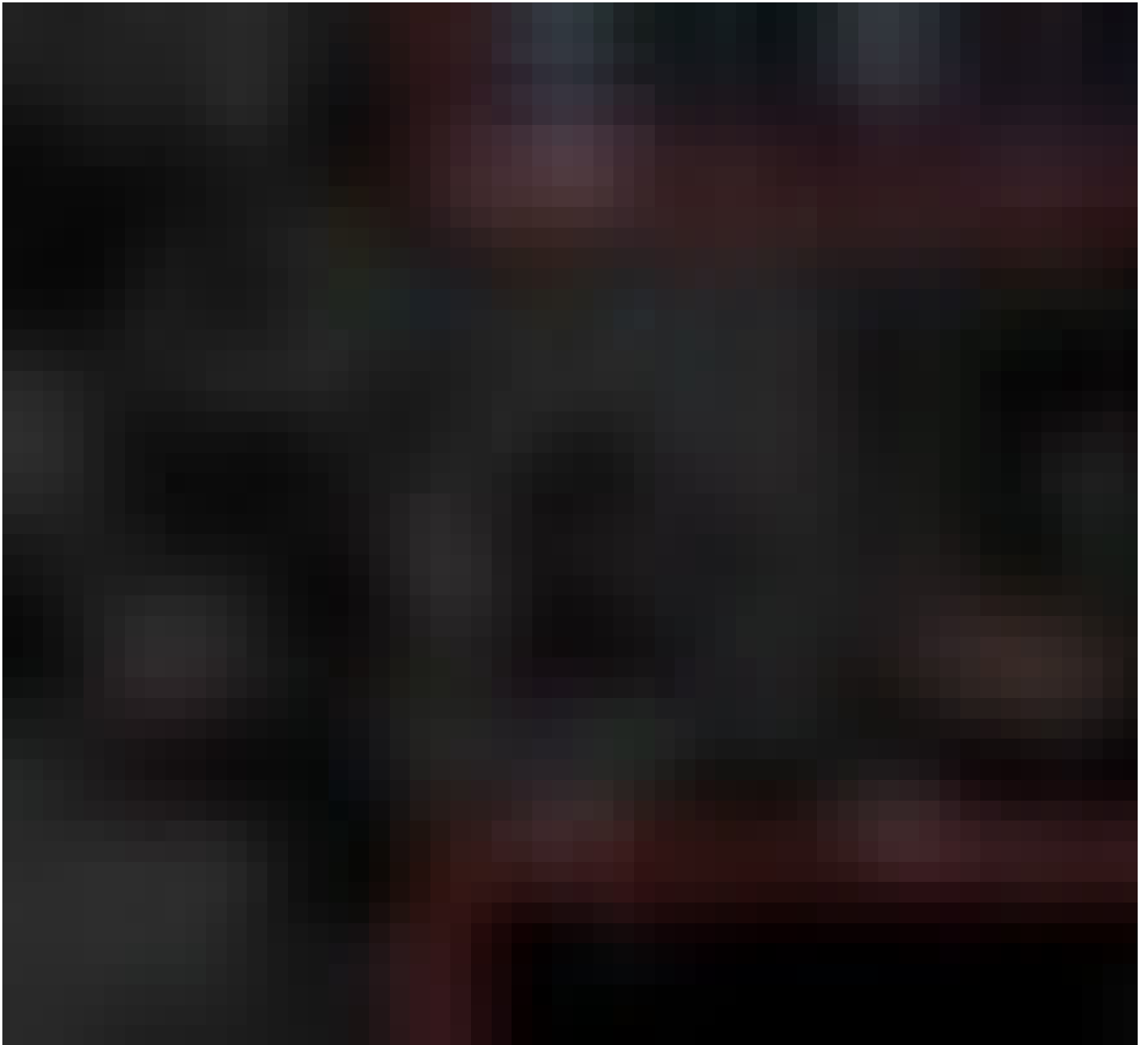
Easily the best

Easy Start gets you set up in minutes. All the software you need is in the box. There's no faster way to make studio quality recordings than Scarlett.



Ready When You Are

Scarlett won't let you down. Our premium build quality, rock-solid drivers and our award-winning support team make sure of it.



You've heard it a million times

More people use Scarlett than any other interface in the world. We're a four million strong community including some of the biggest names in music history. We've officially gone platinum.

HITMAKER EXPANSION

Create studio quality vocals, powerful guitars, luscious keys and huge drums, then mix and master with iconic Focusrite studio hardware – all in the box. Every new Scarlett 3rd Gen, Clarett and Red interface comes with an unbeatable range of tried-and-tested studio tools from some of the biggest names in the business.

Hitmaker Expansion – available with every Scarlett 3rd Gen, Clarett+, Clarett USB and Red interface purchased and registered on or after October 1st 2022 – is built to get you creating records immediately. These are all the plug-ins you need to write, produce, mix and master your music in studio quality.

Hitmaker Expansion features exclusive content from legendary Auto-Tune® creators Antares®, along with Brainworx®, Softube®, Landr, XLN Audio®, Relab and more.

DISCOVER HITMAKER EXPANSION

ALL THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO START RECORDING RIGHT, NOW

There's no better way to step into studio recording – your Scarlett interface comes with some of the best loved tools in the business, including:

Hitmaker Expansion: features exclusive content from legendary Auto-Tune® creators Antares®, along with Brainworx®, Softube®, Landr, XLN Audio®, Relab and more.

Three-month's Avid® Pro Tools Artist subscription and Avid Complete Plugin Bundle: Record and release tracks with the industry-standard DAW and plugin collection. After three-months get an annual subscription with 25% off Pro Tools Artist or 33% off Pro Tools Studio.

Ableton® Live Lite™: the iconic DAW gives you everything you need to get started including instruments, effects and Live's trademark clip and scene launching for taking ideas further or performance.

Three Month Splice Sounds Subscription: spark inspiration instantly with Splice's huge Sounds library. With 100 credits per month added to your account, you can grab samples of thousands of artists and millions of sounds.

SUPPORT

I NEED HELP WITH MY SCARLETT 212

Specifications in detail

We always quote 'real world' performance figures (measured to the AES17 standard). Some companies choose to quote chipset performance, which is misleading, and here's why.

To check supported operating systems please click [here](#).

Supported Sample Rates

44.1kHz, 48kHz, 88.2kHz, 96kHz, 176.4kHz, 192kHz

Microphone Inputs

Frequency Response 20Hz - 20kHz \pm 0.1dB Dynamic Range 111dB (A-weighted) THD+N <0.0012% Noise EIN -128dBu (A-weighted) Maximum Input Level 9dBu (at minimum gain) Gain Range 56dB Impedance 3k Ω

Line Inputs

Frequency Response 20Hz - 20kHz \pm 0.1dB Dynamic Range 110.5dB (A-weighted) THD+N <0.002% Maximum Input Level 22dBu (at minimum gain) Gain Range 56dB Impedance 60k Ω

Instrument Inputs

Frequency Response 20Hz - 20kHz \pm 0.1dB Dynamic Range 110dB (A-weighted) THD+N <0.03% Maximum Input Level 12.5dBu (at minimum gain) Gain Range 56dB Impedance 1.5M Ω

Line/Monitor Outputs

Dynamic Range (Line Outputs) 108dB THD+N <0.002% Maximum Output Level (0 dBFS) 15.5dBu Impedance 430 Ω

Headphone Outputs

Dynamic Range 104dB (A-weighted) THD+N <0.002% Maximum Output Level 7dBu Impedance <1 Ω

Connectivity



DISCOVER SCARLETT

Thanks to all the millions of people who have made Scarlett what it is today, the Scarlett range has taken the world by storm— and helped more musicians share their music in studio quality than any other interface in history.

[Explore the Scarlett Range](#)