

# VoluMIDI

*Prolapsoft*

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# Introduction

Welcome to **VoluMIDI!**

VoluMIDI allows you to control MIDI devices using ordinary volume controllers.

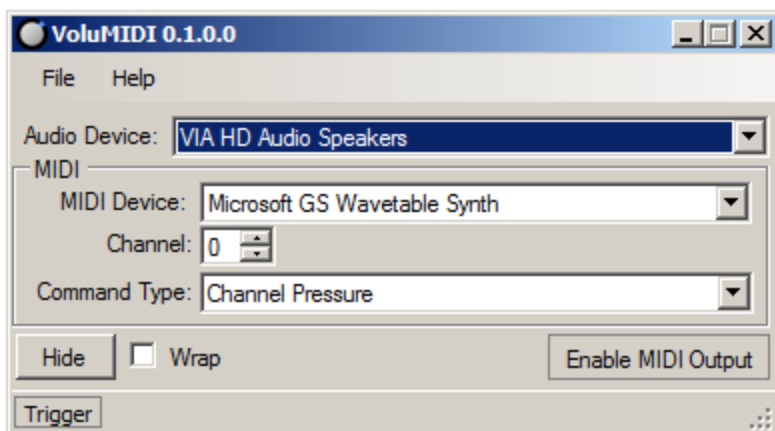
If you have a software volume knob on your keyboard, you can turn it into a pitch bend wheel, for use with or without a MIDI piano keyboard. You can also turn it into a virtual turntable for expressive scratching.

VoluMIDI is a very small program that doesn't do much on its own. To make use of it, you'll probably want to link it into a digital audio workstation (DAW) or outboard MIDI device. We'll show you how to do that further down.


VoluMIDI runs on Windows Vista or later -- Windows XP does not support WASAPI which is needed to read the sound device's master volume.

# User Guide

When you boot up VoluMIDI, you will get a window that looks something like this:



Each elements works as follows:

- The **Audio Device** box allows you to select which sound card you wish to read the volume information from. Your volume controller probably controls the same sound card you listen to sound through.
  - Whichever device you select here will have its volume set and fixed to 50%.
- The **MIDI Device** selector allows you to choose which MIDI device you want to control with your volume control. If you want to control a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) such as Pro Tools or FL Studio, you'll want to set up a loopback driver and select it here.
- The **Channel** selector allows you to choose which MIDI channel the output comes out on. If in doubt, zero (0) is usually fine.
- The **Command Type** box allows you to choose which *kind* of MIDI signal is generated:
  - Channel Pressure can be used to manipulate FL Studio's Scratcher plugin
  - Pitch Wheel can be used to "bend" musical notes as they're played
  - There are other uses for these two selections, but they depend on which DAW or MIDI device you're using.
- The **Wrap** option, when enabled, causes the maximum value to "wrap around" back to the minimum value.
- **Enable MIDI Output** allows you to turn the program's output on or off.
- **Hide** relegates the program to the system tray, but continues working. You can find it there by looking next to the time in the corner of your screen - it'll appear as an icon(  ). Double click it to reopen the program.

## Setting up Loopback

If you want to use the MIDI commands VoluMIDI generates with a DAW, you'll need a way of **looping back** the signals. VoluMIDI sends MIDI commands into an **output**, but your DAW will expect to receive those commands from an **input**.

If you have a physical MIDI adapter, you can literally plug a MIDI cable from an input into an output. VoluMIDI sends signals out of the output and the DAW then receives them through the input.

If not, you are going to need to use a **software MIDI loopback driver**. This is simply a program which does exactly the same thing, but in software - appearing as a "virtual" MIDI device that just spits out whatever gets sent to it.

I use and recommend LoopBe1 - you can get it here: <http://www.nerds.de/>

(Prolapsoft and VoluMIDI have no affiliation with nerds.de or LoopBe - we just think their software is handy!)

Once you have the loopback sorted, setting up is extremely simple. Just launch VoluMIDI, point its MIDI output to your loopback device, and boot up your DAW of choice.

Unfortunately because there are a multitude of DAWs around, I can't offer instructions for setting up their MIDI input. However, the procedure is largely the same as setting up any ordinary MIDI device - just select the loopback device as a controller.

# Version History

## v0.1.0

- Initial Release

## Legal

- VoluMIDI is **closed freeware**. Distribute it as you see fit.
- Please do not sell or reverse engineer it.
- Use at your own risk - any damage to hardware or person is your own problem.
- Comes with no guarantees or warranties, not even implied guarantees of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.