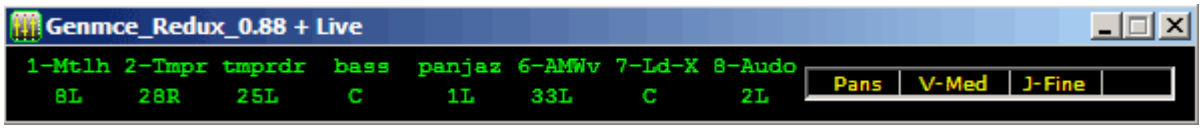
Convert - your controller

<insert image here>

into something like this!

With



GenMce Redux

by

Kip Chatterson

Manual version 0.7 (12.16.2010)

Table of Contents

Introduction –

GenMce is a stand alone program to make your controller act like a Mackie

GenMce - Redux

GenMce - Redux is a stand alone, generic midi controller translator. It will translate your midi controller's output to emulate (make your controller act like) a Mackie Control Universal.

*Some functions are also controllable by the computer keyboard and mouse wheel.

If you are trying to type and a letter does not work, pause will disable the computer keyboard controls.

GenMce - Redux - continues a series of pc based midi tools – by Kip Chatterson.
It grew out of the developer's experience creating GenMce, as well as several mackie emulation presets for the BCR/BCF2000, and the desire to combine functions of several similar programs developed 10+ years ago - Tobybear's Midi Control Center as well as Norsez Orankijanan's Relaykb, with mackie emulation. Work with Art Hunkins on vbs scripts for midiox in 2006 was pivotal in developer's fixation, obsession with mackie emulation. This program is the end of that obsession. I hope.

This program was designed to work in **Reaper, Cubase, Nuendo, Sonar, Adobe Audition** and **Ableton Live**. It appears to work in **samplitude** - and may work in other programs, as well. Your mileage may vary.
Developer offers no warranty on this product - it is provided "as is/use at your own risk". Developer holds no liability what-so ever for what happens due to use of this program. No official support is provided. That being said, email for help, if you need it.

What is new - GenMce - Redux v.0.88.2 - Features

As of Dec. 16, 2010

1. Combined Reaper with generic version.
2. Changed key for ch select to "`" + Fkey

3. Changed key for vpot select to “tab” + fkey.
4. LCD – mackie monitor emulation (Thanks to dorfl68)
5. Fader feedback works!
6. Fader scaling – match the input value to the output position on the software slider. Simlar to pick up.
7. Support for Sonar – connection, Adobe Audition – both *not* tested.
8. Multiple simultaneous vpots or faders!
9. Use of pc keyboard as triggers for some events.
10. Mouse Jog as well as midi jog wheel.
11. Multifunction Mutes – refined.
    - Midi note input working.
    - Multi – tap from assigned controller
        - Single press = mute / Double press = solo / triple press = arm
        - Can be keyboard F keys F1 – F8 and midi triggers

Beverageware –

GenMce - Redux is Trial **BEVERAGEWARE -** See GenMce - Redux_EULA.txt.

- Trial period is 10 days from date of download.
    - You are expected to donate beverages to the developer, if you use more than the 30 day trial.
    - The tray menu item **Beverageware** is a link to confirm you BEVERAGEWARE license by donating beverage(s) to the developer.
- As per GenMce - Redux_EULA.txt there are two levels of licensing for this Beverageware.
    - If you use it commercially – you are to donate a “Six - high quality beverages” ($15 donation) to the thirsty developer.
    - If you are not a commercial user – you are to buy the developer “1 high quality beverage” ($5 donation)

*Errors exist in this document – developer is held harmless. This document is a work in progress.

Description

Emulate --------a Mix your music from you laptop, without an external controller. It is designed for a laptop, however, it will work with a standard pc keyboard.
GenMce - Redux changes your PC computer keyboard into a midi controller, sending midi messages similar to the *Mackie Control Universal (tm mackie) to control 1- 48 tracks.*

Source – closed source – sorry.

System Requirements

- Windows XP, unsure about vista and Win7?
- Midiyoke or some other virtual midi port driver. Apparently midiyoke does not install on Win7. If you find an alternative for Win 7 please email GenMce - Reduxsupport@gmail.com
- **US English, qwerty, keyboard layout.** *Sorry - author has this layout, that is the way it is. (If you desire something for another country or language contact the developer, it may be possible)*

Installation

***Before you run this program -** you must have a virtual midi port driver installed. Midiyoke is good choice.*

GenMce - Redux *does not* include an installer program.
It *does not* write anything to the registry, or any other hidden stuff.

It *will not* ever access the internet nor need it at any time. (if it does you have a hacked version)... I have added a menu items to donate and to check website for current version.

Steps to install

- Open the archive (zip file).
- Copy folder GenMce - Redux to program files (or location of your choice).
- Run GenMce - Redux_xx.exe. When GenMce - Redux is run for the first time, the genmce.vXX.ini file will be created inside folder.
    - The first time this program is run, it will complain with an error message and prompt you to select your midi ports.
    - **The routing example will show automatically.*
        - *The hardest part of using GenMce - Redux is setting your midi ports correctly.*
        - *Settings will be different than in example – you will pick your hardware controller input for the Midi In port.*
        - *Select your midi ports.*

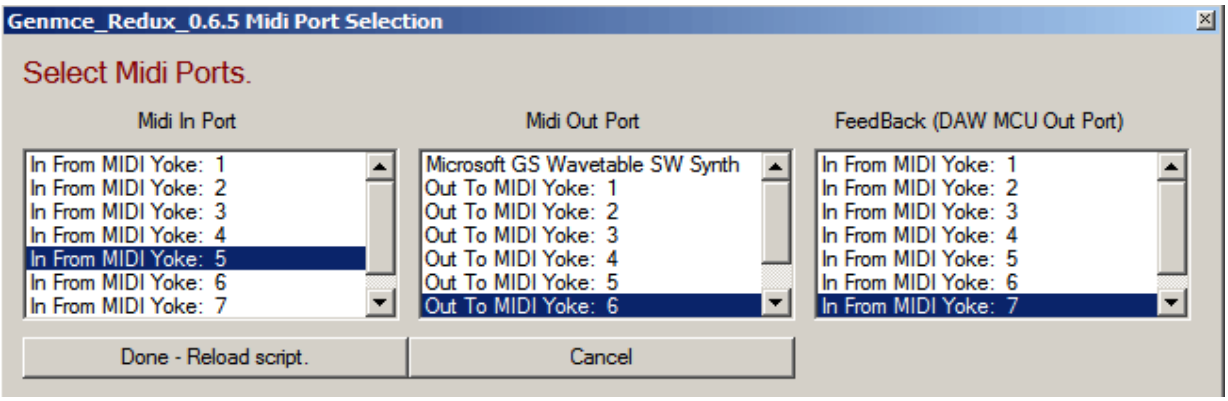


Illustration 1: MidiSet - Set your midi ports here.

- Above image is **not** what is suggested. Your midi In port will come from your hardware controller. You must decide.
- ***Midi Yoke out 1 and feedback midi yoke2 – suggested.***
- Once ports selected, settings will be saved (GenMce - Redux will create io.ini file in it's own folder) you will not be prompted again, unless there is an error. If you need to change ports in the future use the tray menu by right clicking on the tray icon.
- When finished selecting ports - click Done.
- Be aware – if you add/remove midi devices to your computer (ex: unplug a usb midi device) you *must* change your midi settings in GenMce - Redux.

Tray Menu

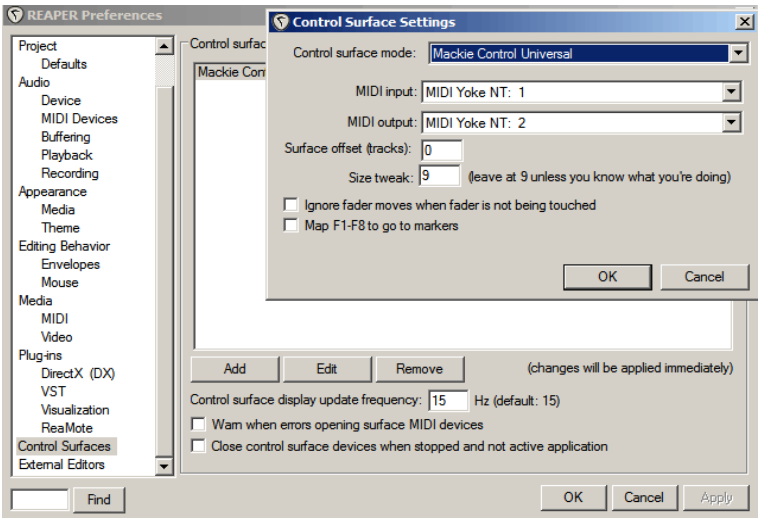
You can modify your setup, as needed using the tray menu icon by *right clicking* on the menu icon.

(These icons will probably change revise mentu items.)

- Quick_Set_Guide – image to to help setup.
- ShowKeys – shows keyboard layout.
- Troubleshoot – shows common problems.
- MidiSet – sets midi ports (see image above)
- Pause – pauses program
- Reload – will reload this program
- CenterLCD – will recenter the display to top center.
- ResetAll will delete ini file, all settings will be lost.
- About – just about version, etc...
- UserGuide – opens this pdf file.
- BeverageWare –
- Exit – exits program.

Reaper Setup

Options > Preferences > Control Surfaces (near the bottom)



Add

- Mackie Control Universal(see image)
- Select **Reaper MIDI input** (*GenMce - Redux output*)
- Select **Reaper MIDI output** (Feedback -daw MCU *GenMce - Redux input*). See illustration 1 above

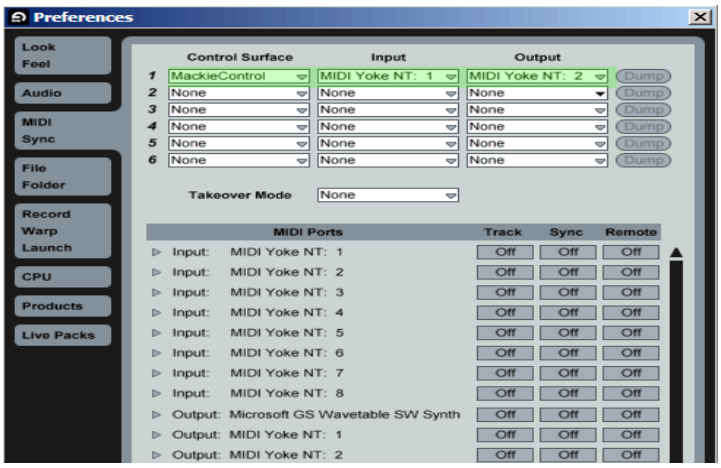
**If faders drop to inf dB when you try to control them, confirm your midi ports are configured properly by checking (right click on GenMce - Redux icon in taskbar). IF they still drop to zero or are erratic, reload your project in reaper.*

** Important note for Reaper – Klinke's plugin needed for advanced functions to work.*

Ableton Live Setup

On the menu select

Options>Preferences>MIDI Sync



- Set the control surface to "MackieControl"
- Set the Input port to the *same* Output port you have defined for GenMce - Redux.
- Set the Output port to the *same - feedback (mcu)* port you have selected for GenMce - Redux.

Start up order *is* important!

This program has *fader feedback* to avoid fader jumps when faders are moved. The only way for this to work is to follow this order.

1. Always, start GenMce - Redux first.
2. Then, start daw host.
3. Then open file/project in daw.

4. If your faders drop to inf db or are not tracking properly, reopen the *project file* and *check your midi ports - the midi input port in GenMce - Redux.*
5. You should see an "L" for Locked - on the main display – sync. See below.

Main display

Active tray icon

The main display shows status of several controls, use it for reference when working, as needed.

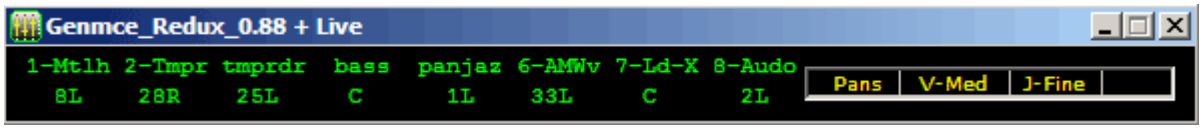


Illustration 2: GenMce display with Ableton Live - showing pan postions of first 8 tracks.

Use the "[" and "]" keys on your keyboard to bank up and down.

Pans This indicates the vpot mode. Single tap *f12* = pan, double tap *f12* = sends.

V-Med This indicates the speed of the vpots.

Use the "`left ctrl + f11." key combination to set vpot speeds.

J- Fine This indicates the current jog speed *"left alt + f11." key combination to set jog speed.*

Modi This indicates which modifier key is on; "Right Shift" = shft, "Right Alt" = Alt, "/" = Opt and "Right Ctrl" = Ctrl.

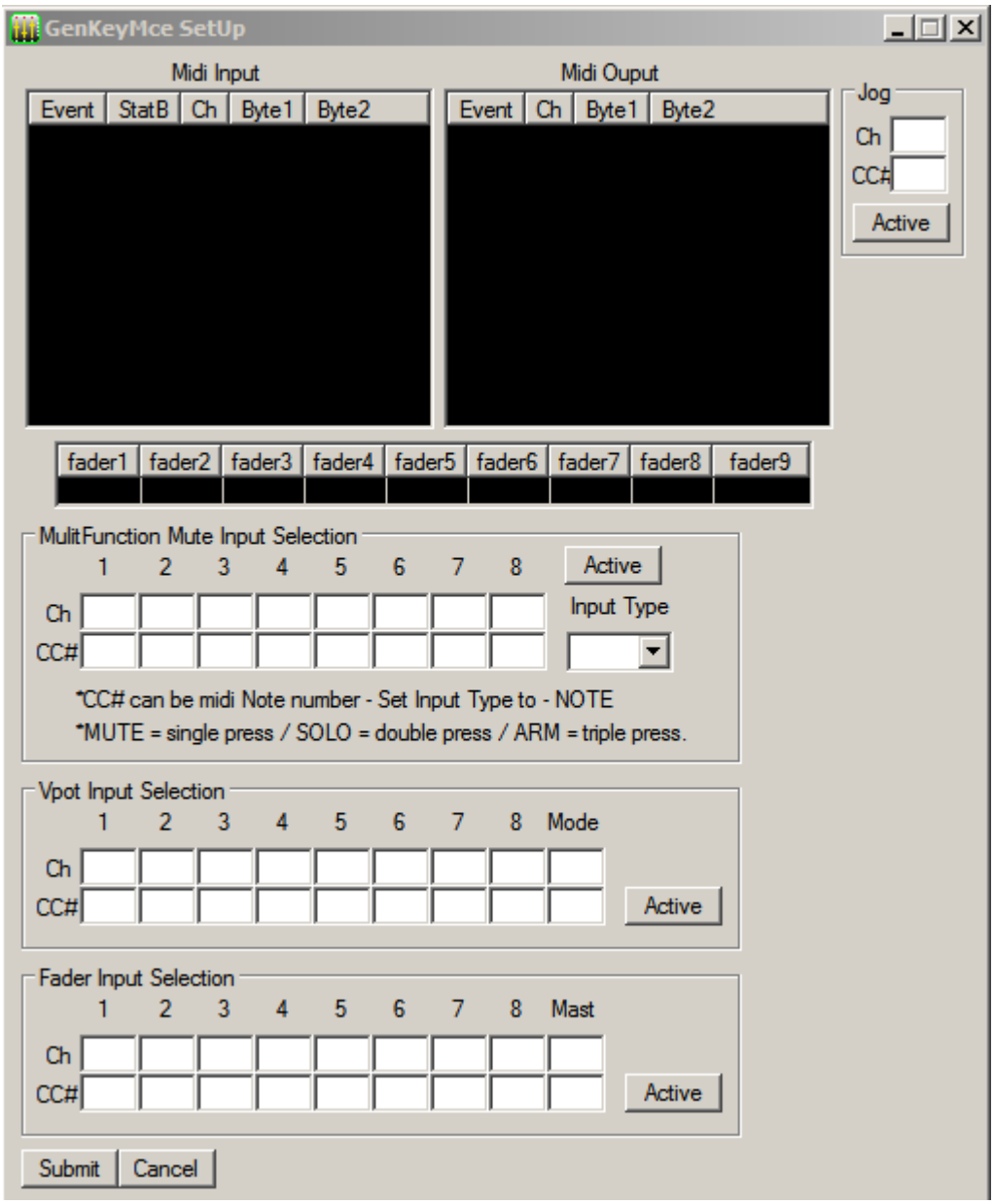


Illustration 3: Setup Screen (right click on tray icon for menu)

Main controls -

The main controls are multifunction mutes / vpots / faders
They are arranged in groups of 8 corresponding to 8 tracks.
Bank keys (see below) are provided to allow access to tracks 9-16, 17-24 etc.

Bank Left and Bank Right

- The "[" key banks back in groups of 8 tracks at a time.
- The "]" key banks out in groups of 8 tracks at a time.

- Banking groups: TR: 1 - 8 TR: 9 - 16 TR: 17 - 24 TR: 25 - 32 TR: 33 - 40
  TR: 41 – 48 – as many as you need.
- Bank is not currently - configured to work from a hardware midi control, yet...

Multi Function Keys (Mute, Solo, Arm)

Multifunction Mutes (mfms) – are keyboard keys AND/OR midi input triggers that control mute/solo/arm.
The pc keyboard keys are assigned as follows.

F1 thru F8

F1 = track 1.
F8 = track 8.

Single press = mute
Double press = solo
Triple press = arm

Input type = type of control input (see setup screenshot) – can be

- *Toggle* (button that switchs on, then off on the next push)
- *Push* (button push is on/let go is off)
- *Note* = a midi not from you keyboard.
- single/double/triple press applies to all types.

You may activate midi triggered mfms as well. Both keyboard and midi input will be active when the button for mfm's in setup = ”Active”. See below.
When button = “off” only the pc keys will trigger mfms.

Vpots -

Vpots – are controls that have multiple functions

- Pans
- Send levels
- Plugin (editable parameters for vst devices)
- ***Returns*** (depending on daw (this works only in Live))
- EQ's (depending on daw (does not work in Live does in Cubase))

*These should be assigned to 8 knobs/sliders next to each other if possible (for your convenience).

Vpot inputs can be either relative or absolute hardware midi controls, genmce will auto-detect and respond accordingly.

Vpot inputs may be Active or off. Active will translate you controller's input into mackie output. If off – no translation will occur.

**Off – may be desirable if your controller is already programmed to output vpots, they will pass thru. Example bcr2000 with a mackie preset.*

Vpot Mode - functions (stated above) are changed by the mode midi hardware control (see setup screenshot above)(not yet implemented nor tested) pc hotkey assigned to F12 changes the vpot

need to edit this after confirming the key.

Leave below for possible key triggered vpots, if necessary. (not implemented)

- Keys "1" - "8" move pans left
- Keys "Q" - "I" move pans right

Faders

Faders are *volume* controls for 8 tracks + 1 master fader.

Two exceptions –

- ***Returns*** *command is active – then the faders are the volume controls of the return tracks.(if you have any) This works only in Ableton Live (and it works great).“R” will be visible if this is active*
- ***Flip*** *command is active – then the faders and vpot inputs swapped. (Meaning when you move something you have assigned to fader 1 it will now be controlling vpot 1) “F” will be visible if this is active.*

Faders must be controlled by absolute midi controls (output of values 0-127) not relative midi controls. (If relative midi controls are used scaling will not work, nor wil feedback).

Faders have been rewritten – feedback now works from daw (fader_feedback.exe is running the background while genmce runs)

- Feedback works!
- Faders are scaled. Meaning – position of the the hardware control is compared to the position of the software fader.
- Sync – if faders are synced then “L” for Lock will show on the main display.

**If faders do not seem to be working properly,*

1. *Do you see track names or #'s?*
2. *Confirm midi ports set up properly.*
3. *Reload your project*
4. *Close and reopen daw.*

Faders can be turned off.

This is designed to let the individual use a hardware controller (like bcr2000 running a mackie preset) pass that fader thru GenMce to daw.
It is intended to allow more specific customization for the user.

Master Fader

The master fader only controls the master fader.

As above with faders – this must be an absolute midi control.

*A Hotkey is still possible for master fader – (not implemented yet)

- "Esc + arrow up" combo moves the master fader up.
- "Esc + arrow down" combo moves the master fader down.
- "Esc + arrow left" combo moves the master fader to inf dB.
- "Esc + arrow right" combo moves the master fader to 0dB.

Jog wheel

Moves the play position. Active button will disable/enable. A relative midi endless encoder is best.

Jog can be used with "*leftctrl + mouse"* wheel in addition to the midi control.

Jog has several functions, depending on daw – experiment.

Flip

- The "F10" key activates flip function.
- When flip is active pans and faders – well they flip function.
- *Display will show track volumes – instead of pan postion.*

Channel Select

- Channel Selects – as you expect will select channels.
- Press and hold "tab" and press "F1" to select track 1,

Vpot Select

Vpot selects – have different functions depending on vpot mode (and depends on daw).
" ` " + "F1 - F9" to activate vpot select

- Pan - ` + f1 will reset pan to Center.
- Sends – not certain.
- Plugin – In Live – use this to select the plugin that vpots will control.

Other commands

Some will become controllable by midi others are controlled by keyboard.

Loop = "l" that is the L key lower case.

Punch = "P" single press = punch in, double = punch out.

See key layout image (right click tray icon to see it)

Page Left = "page up", page right = "page down" - (?)

Pause

Tray Pause Icon

When you press the "pause " key on your keyboard – GenMce - Redux – **hotkeys *only*** are suspended and you can type. Press it again and hotkeys reactivate. (Pause also available on tray menu)

- "pause" key suspends GenMce - Redux's hotkey operation and allows all keys to

pass on to host. ***Hardware Midi controller will still be translated***.

- Useful when typing names of tracks
- Useful when using host defined hotkeys.Main display shows controls are suspended.
- * all midi translations continue – even when paused. (as stated above)

Next on the agenda – if I ever get to it...

Anyone want to help me?

Add XT *– pack both MCU and MCUXT together into one program – maybe.*

Cursor – *(not implemented yet)*

Cursor – is for movement of the cursor on your screen from your button or note press.

Setup - as above. All four must be the same type. Example these four control are all tog.

Live – works but... wants to drop down 1 after reaching the top. 1.6 (Live not tested in new version).

May work great in other daws.

Transports *– (not implimented yet)*

Transports are for midi control of ****Rewind*** *and* ***fast forward*** *added 1.63 each has own control type. Should be a momentary (push) or note type input.*

When you hold down the button rewind happens, when let go stops.stop, play arrange record.

Again, all 3 must be the same type of input, in this case push.

Commands *– (some implemented)*

Commands – specific to daw. You will have to type in the text of what this command does for your daw.

Setup as before.

These can be disabled by click on In column and set to off.

**All 10 must be the same type of input, these 10 are push*

Function Keys *– (not implemented)*

Functions keys work much like the command keys. No names are entered in the field. You must type in names of commands you choose to assign. The output midi number is fixed. However, you can (check your daw Mackie pdf) assign what function is carried out by this switch.

Tips in use.

You can move as many faders or vpots as your keyboard will allow at the same time, up or down, left pan or right...

- Play with it.
- In getting used to using GenMce - Redux, make sure to work in a project you are not worried about or that is backed up. As always use this program at your own risk.
- RTFM (you already did), nice work!
- Make sure you understand banking. Not the financial industry!

- Remember if Pans and Faders seem exchanged hit "F10" to flip back to normal function.

More information on development

This program was created with, Autohotkey, a free scripting program, from information posted at the autohotkey forum. Here are 2 threads pivotal in GenMce - Redux redevelopment – midi out and midi in.

GenMce - Redux is beverageware, meaning you are expected to donate a beverage if you use it. See genmce_redux_eula.txt

These programs are offered as my form of donation ware called beverage ware. They are not - given free for use –

If you use them you should buy me a beverage. If make money using them – you should buy me a six pack.

No liability for usage of these translators held by anyone but yourself.

Use at your own risk.

genmce@yahoo.com