Quick Connection Guide

MIDI Expressionist will be almost ready to operate, except for the MIDI port connections part. Your iOS device's operating system is equipped with all the functionality and capability to transmit MIDI information, but you need to know which MIDI ports to work with.

The most common scenario is that you use a Mac computer as an Audio workstation where there is a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) program like Logic Pro, Pro Tools, Cubase, Ableton Live, or any other.

There are 2 ways to connect your iOS device with your Mac for MIDI transmission:

■ USB Connection

■ Network
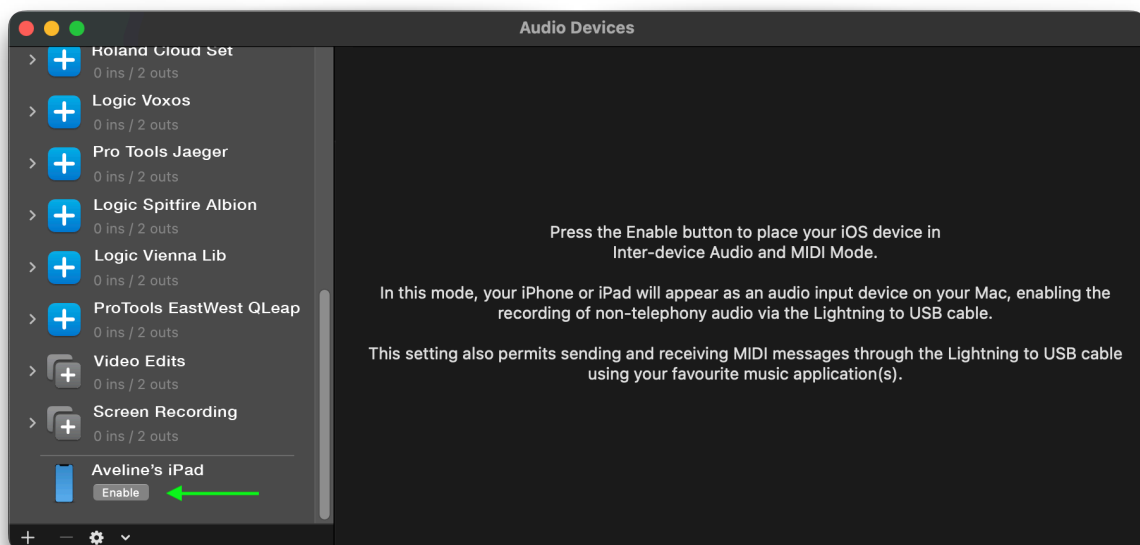
USB Connection

Step 1: Physical Connection

Connect your iOS device to Mac using the appropriate USB cable (Lightning or USB-C)
Ensure the cable supports data transmission (not charging-only cables)

Step 2: Audio MIDI Setup Configuration

Launch on your Mac "Audio MIDI Setup" from /Applications/Utilities/
If the Audio Devices window isn't visible, access it via Window > Show Audio Devices
Locate your iOS device in the right column of the window
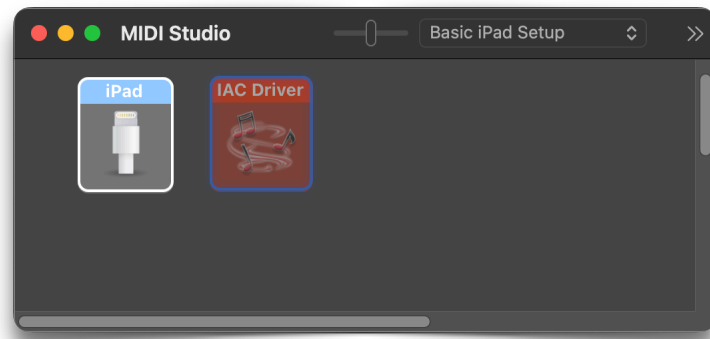

Step 3: Device Trust and Enablement

If prompted, authorize the connection on both Mac and iOS device
Click the "Enable" button next to your iOS device name:

This establishes the IDAM (Inter-Device Audio and MIDI) connection
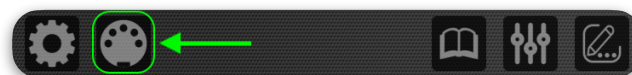
Step 4: MIDI Studio Verification

Access Window > Show MIDI Studio if the MIDI Studio window isn't visible
Confirm that your iOS device now appears as an available MIDI device
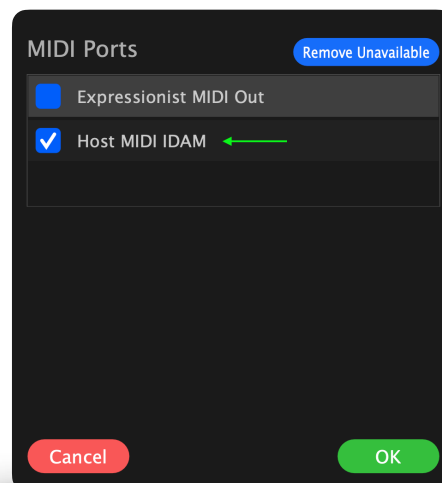The device should show as connected and ready for MIDI communication

Step 5: MIDI Expressionist Configuration

Launch MIDI Expressionist app on your iOS device
Tap the MIDI Ports button in the top bar:

Verify that "Host MIDI IDAM" appears in the available ports list and is selected:

This confirms that MIDI Expressionist is ready to transmit MIDI data to your Mac via USB.

Benefits of USB IDAM Connection

The IDAM protocol provides:

• Zero-latency MIDI transmission between devices

• Stable connection that doesn't depend on network conditions

- Automatic device recognition once properly configured
- Reliable data transmission for professional music production
- Device charging during use, ensuring uninterrupted sessions

This direct USB method is ideal for studio work where reliability and minimal latency are essential, and where the physical cable connection doesn't restrict your performance needs.
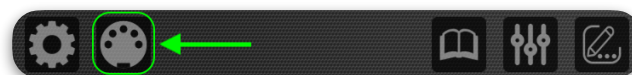
Network Connection

This method uses Wi-Fi connection to transmit MIDI data between your iOS device and Mac through the local network.

It is very important to emphasize that your Mac and iOS device must be on the same network in order to establish a connection.
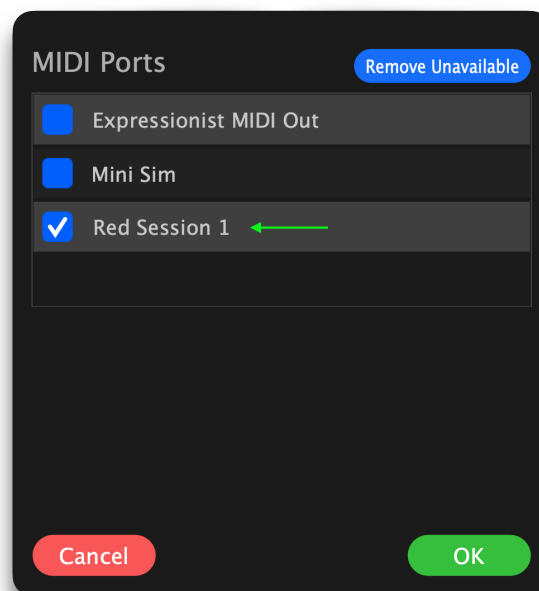
Steps for Network (Wi-Fi) Connection

Step 1: Launch MIDI Expressionist on your iOS device.
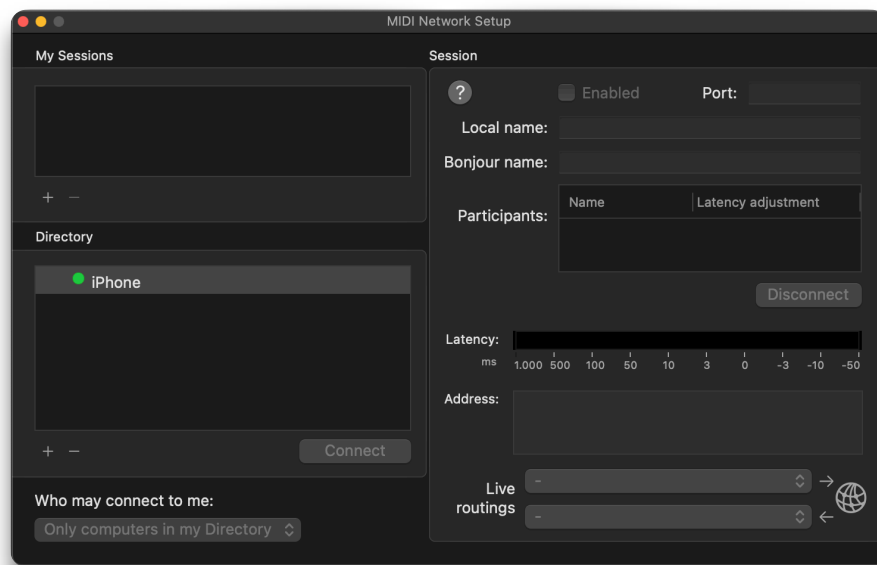
Step 2: Tap the MIDI Ports button:

Verify that "Red Session 1" is selected:

It may appear with a different number, but the typical default is "Red Session 1."

Step 3: On your Mac, open Audio MIDI Setup (located in /Applications/Utilities/).

Step 4: Use the Window menu to select Show MIDI Studio. A new menu, "MIDI Studio", will appear, which includes the option to Open MIDI Network Setup.
If this is your first time using network MIDI, you will see a window like this:

Step 5: The first step is to create a network session to establish the connection point.

In the upper right column, where sessions are listed, add a new session by clicking the "+" button. It will automatically be named "Session 1." Initially, it will not be enabled.
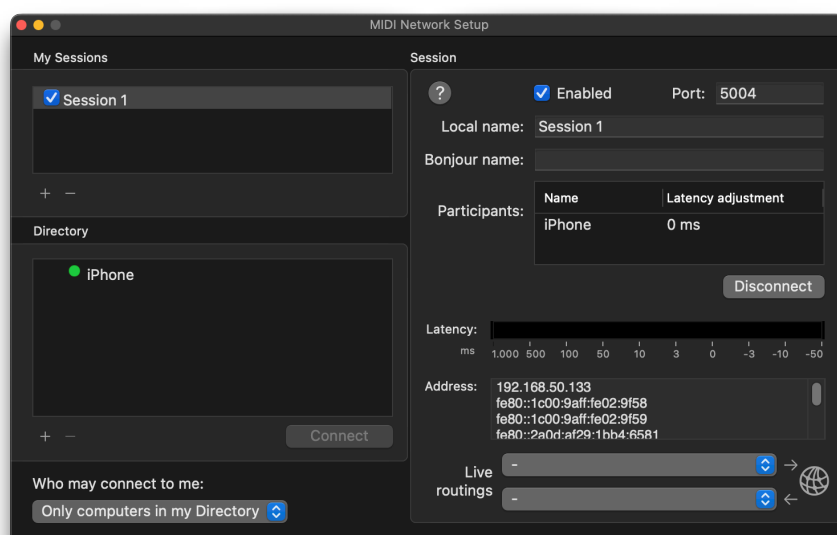Enable the session by clicking on its name.

Step 6: In the same column, further down, you will see a list of all available devices found on your local network.

Look for your iOS device (it should appear with a green dot if available).

Select your device and click the Connect button.

If the connection is successful, you should see your device listed in the Participants section on the right side of the window.
This is how it should look when everything is connected correctly:

With this setup, your iOS device running MIDI Expressionist and your Mac will transmit MIDI data over the local network, allowing you to use MIDI Expressionist as a wireless, networked MIDI controller with your DAW.

Advantages of Network connection:

- Freedom of movement - no cables required

- Flexible positioning of the iOS device

- Multiple devices can connect simultaneously

- Ideal for live performances where mobility is important