

USB product information: Tested MP3 players, USB devices and mobile phones. New vehicles.



Overview

With the "USB audio interface" (option code 6FL) for BMW and the "Bluetooth mobile preparation with USB Audio Interface" (option code 6NE) or "Bluetooth hands free kit with USB Audio Interface" (option code 6ND) for MINI, suitable MP3 players such as the Apple iPod can be connected to the vehicle via a USB interface and operated by means of the vehicle's input elements. The "Extended connection of the MP3 player in the mobile phone" (option code 6NF) can be used for selected mobile phones with a suitable USB snap-in adapter to access the music data stored there.

Along with MP3 players, USB sticks can also be connected to the USB audio interface to enable playback of the audio files stored on the USB stick. As regards connection of a mobile phone with USB interface to the USB audio interface, it is important to bear in mind that some mobile phones exclude simultaneous Bluetooth operation of the phone, in other words there is no assurance that calls can be received or initiated.

More special features of using mobile phones as an audio player can be found on page 3.

It is possible to access the audio files directly via a playlist, but it is also possible to search by musical genre, artist, album or track. The audio files are sorted and displayed correctly in the vehicle if the file information on the MP3 player (e.g. ID3 tags) only contains Latin characters and if all the spaces are filled. Only audio files can be played back. Access to other files (e.g. videos) is not possible.

Due to the variety of MP3 players and USB sticks available on the market and the multiplicity of specifics that can vary from device to device, flawless operation with the USB audio interface cannot be ensured for all devices. The devices tested for compatibility by the BMW Group are therefore communicated on a regular basis. The information on compatibility in this product information refers exclusively to new vehicles (as of date of manufacture [March 2009♦](#) and later).

General conditions

The following device classes are supported by the USB audio interface; see the information and tables below for details:

- Apple iPod and Apple iPhone
- MP3 players and USB sticks (USB mass memory as per "USB Mass Storage Class" specification)
- MP3 players with Media Transfer Protocol (MTP)
- Mobile phones with USB mass storage (in accordance with specification "USB Mass Storage Class") or Media Transfer Protocol (MTP)

An "Incompatible device" message displayed in the car indicates that an attempt has been made to connect a device belonging to a class that is not suitable for use with the interface.

Apple iPods are connected to the vehicle with the "adapter cable for Apple iPod/iPhone" (Y-adapter 30-pin plug to USB and AUX-IN) available as an accessory from the BMW Group.

For the transfer of audio files to MP3 players or mobile phones with MTP capability, BMW recommends using the Windows Media Player, version 11 or higher.

Please bear in mind that DRM-protected music tracks cannot be played via the USB audio interface.

Other MP3 players or USB sticks can be connected to the vehicle with the aid of a USB cable. The external device also receives its charging supply via this cable (max. 500 mA); it is advisable not to connect the external device to the vehicle's 12V power socket at the same time. It is not possible to access copy-protected audio files.

The USB audio interface supports the mainstream compression formats MP3 (mp3), AAC (aac, m4a, m4b), WAV/PCM (wav) and WMA (wma, asf) and playlists in M3U format.

Persons considering leaving MP3 players or USB sticks in the car must comply with the applicable instructions for use. It is advisable not to leave MP3 players or USB sticks in the car for a prolonged period, because extreme ambient conditions can occur in the closed interior of the vehicle (temperature, relative humidity).

Please observe the notes on the following pages.

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Apple iPod/iPhone

Apple iPods are generally supported from the 4th generation onward. This includes iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod Touch and iPhone. The Click Wheel is the identifying feature of 4G devices and later generations. Older models have a scroll wheel or touch wheel and are not supported.

Apple iPods have to be connected by means of the "adapter cable for Apple iPod/iPhone" (Y-adapter, 30-pin plug to USB and AUX-IN) available as an accessory from the BMW Group. The adapter cable is necessary to play copy-protected music files and to show playlists, and also for quick access to the contents of the iPod. Use of the USB cable supplied with the Apple iPod is not supported.

For iPhone and iPhone 3G, the relevant USB snap-in adapter can be used alternatively in combination with option code 6NF.

Skip forward/back in a podcast takes the iPod to the start of the next/current podcast, respectively. It is not possible to skip to chapter markers.

Only the soundtrack of videos is played back.

iPod shuffle can be used only as a USB device with FAT file system. For more details visit:
<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=61131>

If the iPod freezes, one way of remedying the situation is to reset the device. For details visit:
<http://support.apple.com/kb/HT1320>

Select "About" from the main menu to view details of the software version installed on the iPod. More information is posted on the Apple websites. Please note that iTunes can update the iPod's software automatically, which could compromise the interplay of the iPod with the USB audio interface.

To check the software version:
<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=60984>

To identify the iPod model:
<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=61688>

An iPod can be disconnected from the vehicle at any time.

MP3 players and USB sticks

MP3 players with Media Transfer Protocol (MTP) are supported. Some MTP devices can be switched to Mass Storage Class mode. See the instructions for use issued with the MP3 player for details.

MP3 players compliant with the USB Mass Storage Class specification are supported, as are USB sticks. These devices have to be formatted with the FAT file system. Only the files in the first partition are shown. With some MP3 players it is necessary to start by switching on the USB connection and activating the mass-storage mode (USB Mass Storage Class). See the instructions for use issued with the MP3 player for instructions.

Once the MP player or USB stick has been connected to the vehicle for the first time, information about the music content is uploaded to the vehicle. This enables convenient selection by musical genre, artist, album, track and playlist. If devices containing very large volumes of data are connected, the device's directory structure initially provides the only way of accessing the music. A device with 8 GB flash memory will take about 10 minutes to synchronise. The time it takes for synchronisation to complete and the speed of response to inputs depend on the storage capacity and the technology of the device and on the number and type of music tracks stored.

USB hard discs and USB hubs or card readers with multiple slots cannot be used.

The use of USB memory sticks with integrated hard disc is not recommended. Tests have shown that adequate audio quality cannot be ensured for these devices.

MP3 players and USB sticks can be disconnected from the vehicle at any time.

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Mobile phones

After connecting the mobile phones to vehicle via USB cable or with the corresponding USB snap-in adapter, observe the display on your mobile phone. On most mobile phones, a certain USB mode must be selected or set in advance. The mode recommended by BMW can be found in the last two table columns on page 6. As a general principle, the mobile phone should be linked to the USB audio interface as a Bluetooth device before connection.

Some mobile phones only support one storage medium in combination with the USB audio interface, i.e. the audio files must be stored either in the mobile phone memory or on the smart card.

More information regarding the compatibility of mobile phones can be found at

<http://www.bmw.com/bluetooth>

Support

If your MP3 player, mobile phone or USB stick does not work correctly with the USB audio interface, the problem might be due to defective or specially coded audio files (e.g., bit rate higher than 256 kbit/s). Always consult the instructions for the device being used.

When an MP3 player is synchronised on a PC, it sometimes happens that the software of the MP3 player is updated automatically and under certain circumstances this can have a negative effect on the MP3 player's compatibility with the USB audio interface.

Given the multiplicity of MP3 players, mobile phones and USB sticks available on the market and the differences in technology, perfect in-car operation cannot be ensured. The devices that have been tested by the BMW Group are listed in the tables below.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to consult your BMW/MINI Service Partner.

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Manufacturer / brand	Model	Tested firmware release	Storage capacity	Notes
Apple	iPod Touch	2.1.1	8GB	a1
	iPod Classic	2.0	160GB	a2
	iPod with Click Wheel (4th generation)	3.1.1.1	20GB, 40GB	
	iPod with colour display (including iPod Photo)	1.2.1	20-60GB	
	iPOD Video (5th generation)	1.2.3	30GB, 60GB	
	iPOD Nano (1st generation)	1.3	1-4GB	
	iPOD Nano (2nd generation)	1.1.3	2-8GB	
	iPOD Nano (3rd generation)	1.1.2	4GB, 8GB	
	iPOD Mini (1st generation)	1.4.1	4GB	a3
	iPOD Mini (2nd generation)	1.4.1	4GB, 6GB	
Cowon	D2	2.46	2GB	b3
	iAudio G3	1.20e	512MB	
	iAudio U3	1.29	1GB, 2GB	b1
	iAudio 6	1.27	4GB	b3
	iAudio 7	1.13	4GB	b3
	iAudio S9♦	2.09♦	8GB♦	b3♦
Creative	MuVo V100	1.04.03e	2GB	
	Zen nano Plus	1.11.01e	1GB	
	Zen stone Plus	1.03.01	2GB	
	Zen Vision:M	1.62.02		
	Zen Mosaik♦	1.04.06♦	4GB♦	
	Zen X-Fi♦	1.04.08♦	16GB♦	
iRiver	X20♦	1.04♦	2GB♦	b3♦
	Clix	2.00AU_HK	4GB	
	E100♦	1.15 G_M♦	4GB♦	
	Spinn♦	1.21M♦	8GB♦	b2♦
Maxfield	G-Flash	3.292	1GB	
	Max-Sin Touch	20.110.124	1GB	
	Ivy	004.301.025	8GB	
Meizu	Mini Player	S 1.010	2GB	b2

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Manufacturer / brand	Model	Tested firmware release	Storage capacity	Notes
Odys	MPX10	RY J6.4.37	1GB	b1
	MP3-Z11 Image	ACTS16D_16 3.2.16	1GB	
Philips	GoGear option code 1100	2.610.110	512MB	
	GoGear option code 177	PY-A-M-N-7_5	512MB	
	GoGear option code 2115	3.05	2GB	
	GoGear option code 3115	3.75	1GB	b1
Samsung	YP-55x	6.104	512MB	
	YP-K3	3.09 WA JN	4GB	b1
	YP-K5	1.03 WA JN	1GB	b2, b1
	YP-P2	1.15	4GB	
	YP-T7J	YP-T7J	512MB	
	YP-T7x	5.07.04EU	512MB	
	YP-T10	1.20	4GB	
	YP-Q1♦	1.23 EU	16GB♦	
SanDisk	Sansa Clip	01.01.18F	2GB	b3
	Sansa Fuze♦	1.2.09F♦	2GB♦	
	Sansa View♦	1.2.09F♦	8GB♦	
	Sansa C150	1.0.004E♦	2GB♦	b1
	Sansa m230	3.2.8E	512MB	b1
	Sansa e260	01.01.11E	4GB	b1
	Sansa e280	01.02.15E	8GB	b1
Sony	NWZ-A815	V1.00	2GB	
	NWZ-A826♦	V1.00♦	4GB♦	
	NWZ-A828♦	V1.00♦	8GB♦	
	NWZ-A829♦	V1.00♦	16GB♦	
	NWZ-E438F♦	V1.02♦	8GB♦	
	NWZ-S515	V1.00	2GB	
	NWZ-S615F	V1.00	2GB	
	NWZ-S639F♦	V 1.10♦	14GB♦	

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Manufacturer / brand	Model	Tested firmware release	Storage capacity	Notes
Trekstor	i.Beat blaxx	030.210.720	4GB	
	i.Beat cebrax	2.611.128	1GB	
	i.Beat censo	2.620.571	2GB	
	iBeat drive	V2.600.505	512MB	
	iBeat motion	01.07.0032	2GB	
	iBeat move S♦	01.03.0109♦	8GB♦	
	i.Beat organix	5150.0507R	1GB	
	i.Beat vision	U3.15	2GB	
	i.Beat xtension FM	2.09.92.08	2GB	

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Manufacturer / brand	Model	Tested firmware release	USB mode to be used	Automatic mode detection
Apple	iPhone	2.1	-	Yes
	iPhone 3G	2.1	-	Yes
Motorola	RAZR 2 V9	A0.02.03R3	Memory card	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
Nokia	3109c / 3110c	V5.5	Print and media	Must be selected every time on connection
	5800 XM♦	200.21.118♦	Mass storage (memory card) ♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting; Bluetooth coupling to be carried out beforehand♦
	6151	V4.10	Data memory	Must be selected every time on connection
	6233	V5.60	Data memory (memory card)	Must be selected every time on connection
	6300	V5.20	Print and media	Preset and confirm prompt every time on connection
	6300i♦	V5.20♦	Data and media♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting♦
	6500c	V9.45	Print and media	Yes
	6500s	V6.6	Print and media	Yes
	E63♦	100.21.110♦	Mass storage (memory card) ♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting♦
	E66	102.07.81	Mass storage (internal)	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
	E71	100.07.76 RM346	Mass storage (memory card)	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
	N78	12.046	Mass storage (memory card)	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
	N79♦	11.049♦	Mass storage (memory card) ♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting; Bluetooth coupling to be carried out beforehand♦
	N85	11.047	Mass storage (memory card)	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
N96	12.043	Mass storage (internal)	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting	
Sony Ericsson	C702♦	R3EA031♦	Media transfer♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting♦
	C902	R3EA031	Media transfer	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
	C905♦	R1DA034 ♦	Media transfer (internal) ♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting♦
	K850i	R1EA037	Media transfer	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
	W705♦	R1DA034 ♦	Media transfer♦	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting♦
	W890i	R1EA037	Media transfer	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
	W902	R3EA031	Media transfer	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting
W910i	R1EA037	Media transfer	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting	
LG	KB770	V10a	Music synchronisation	Yes, after one-off permanent presetting

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Apple iPod and iPhone		MP3 players and USB sticks	
a1	The "Repeat track" function is not supported.	b1	When the vehicle restarts, playback might not resume at the point where it was interrupted.
a2	The podcasts might not be sorted in the vehicle in the same order as on the iPod.	b2	Device has to be switched on manually when connected to the USB audio interface.
a3	When the iPod mini is disconnected from the vehicle, the iPod settings (random/repeat functions) changed in the vehicle are not reset. These temporary changes are adopted as permanent by the iPod mini. The parameters in question have to be reset manually at the iPod mini as necessary.	b3	The MTP device can be switched to USB Mass Storage mode.