

Setting Up AU Lab and AURoundTripAAC for Real-Time Audio Mastering

AU Lab, Apple's free digital audio mixing application, and AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit can be used to help with real-time audio mastering for iTunes. The Mastering for iTunes AU Lab document can be used to open AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit in AU Lab with preconfigured settings to take audio from the built-in input device to the built-in output device, passing the audio through the AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit using the iTunes Plus setting. This document provides information about using the Mastering for iTunes AU Lab document to set up AU Lab and AURoundTripAAC for real-time audio mastering, in addition to providing an example configuration and optional steps to automatically open AURoundTripAAC whenever AU Lab is opened.

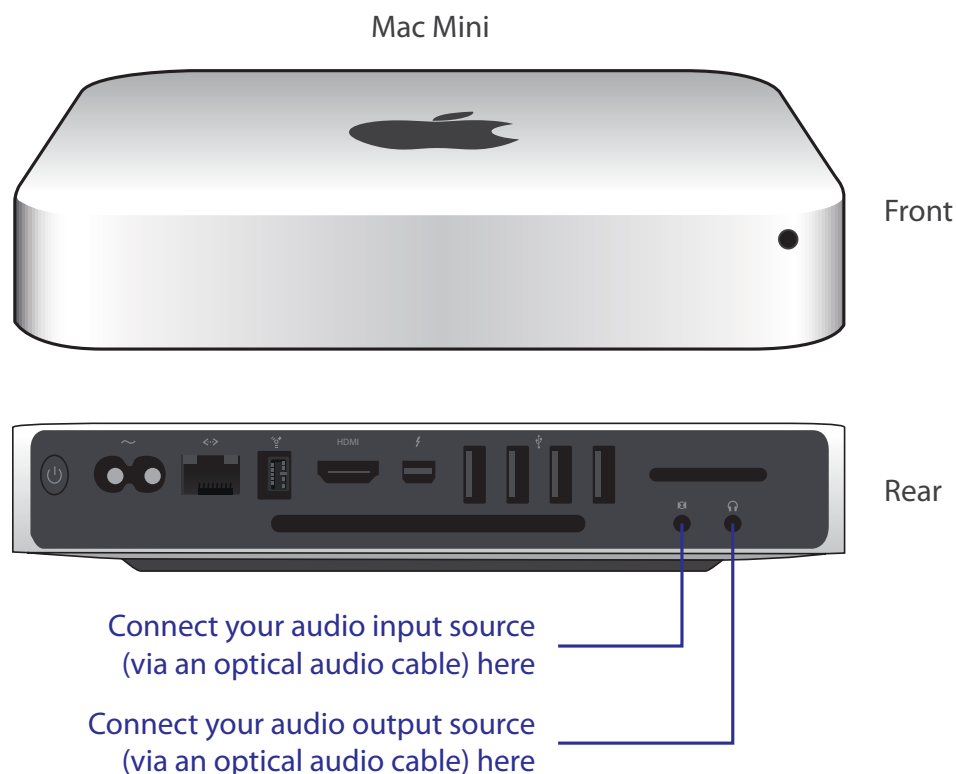
To use the steps in this document, you must be running AU Lab on OS X Snow Leopard or later. You must also have the AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit and the Mastering for iTunes AU Lab document. These tools are available for download at www.apple.com/itunes/mastered-for-itunes/.

When using AU Lab and AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit for real-time mastering, you should use a digital audio connection in and out of your Mac. Recent model Macs support this with built-in connectors. Alternatively, you can use an external USB or FireWire interface.

Using the Mastering for iTunes AU Lab Document

The following steps go over how to configure a Mac Mini using its built-in digital audio connections to host the AU Lab document. Another Mac can be used in place of the Mac Mini in these instructions.

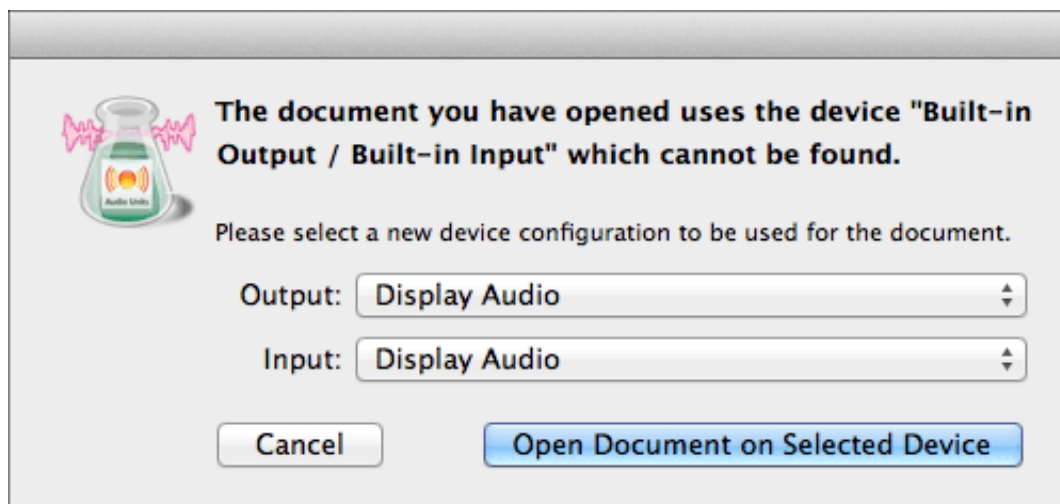
1. Configure your system so that the audio source that you are mastering is connected to the digital audio input at the rear panel of your Mac Mini.
2. Configure your system so that the audio device you are using for monitoring is connected to the digital audio output at the rear panel of your Mac Mini.



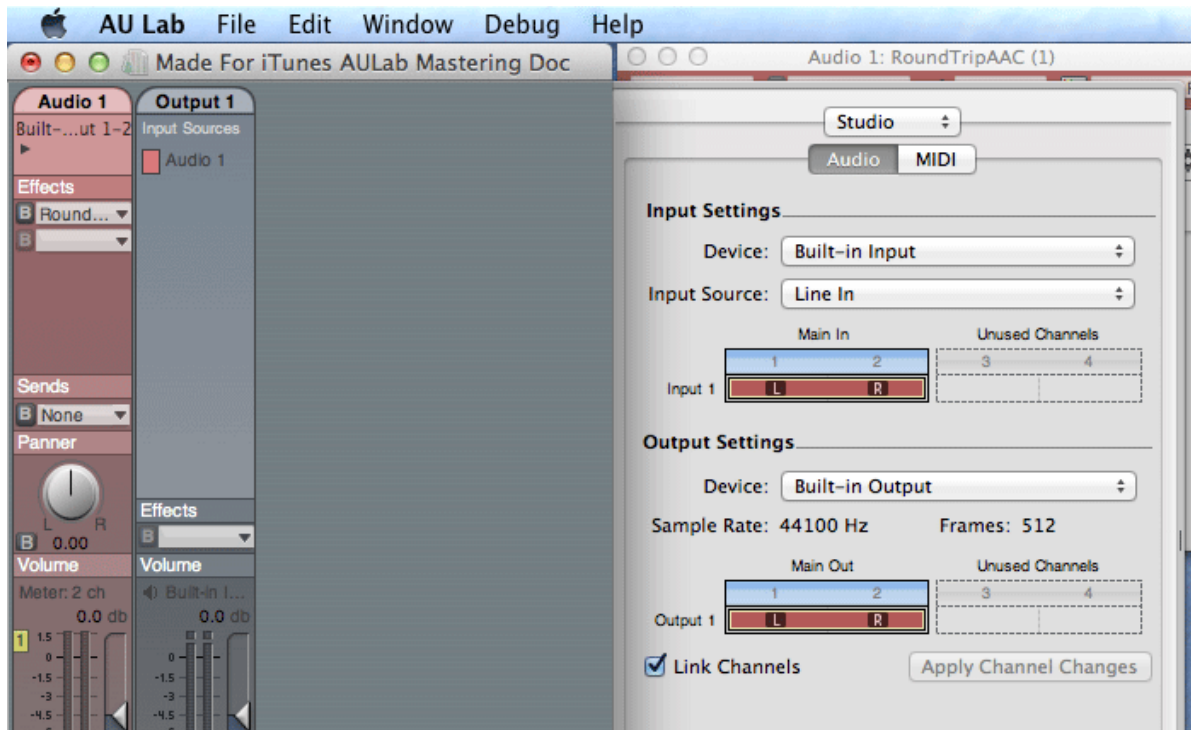
3. Copy the Mastering for iTunes AU Lab document to your local machine. This file can be found in the Apple Audio Mastering Tools file.



4. Open your local copy of the Mastering for iTunes document.
5. When the document is first opened, AU Lab may display a dialog to configure the input and output. Select the output device that you will use to monitor the audio. If you are using built-in audio, select Built-in Input from the Input menu and Built-in Output from the Output menu. If you are using an external audio device, select that device from both the Input and Output menus. Click Open Document on Selected Device to open the AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit with the selected output and input.



6. Go to the Window menu in AU Lab and choose Show Studio. This opens the Studio configuration dialog, which you can use at any time to modify your device settings, including audio input and output devices used by the document.



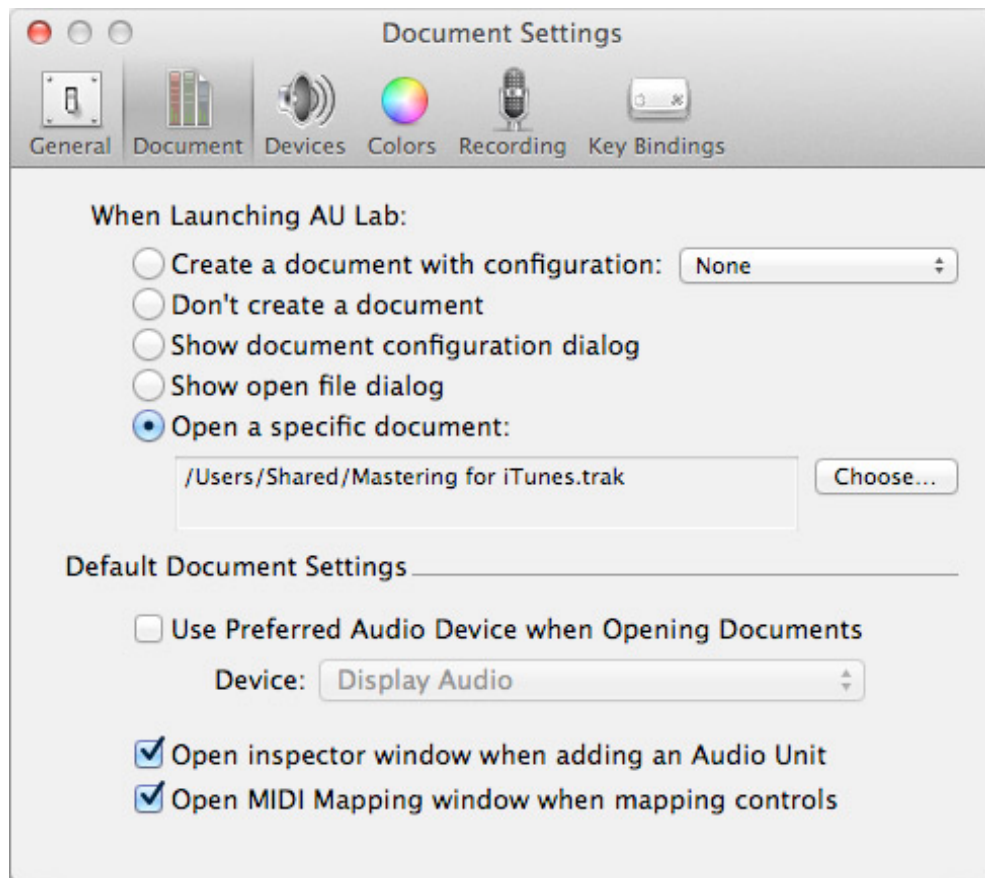
7. Choose the appropriate audio devices for input and output from the Device menus under Input Settings and Output Settings.
8. Save the AU Lab document. This ensures that your device settings will be restored the next time you open this document.

Configuring AU Lab to Automatically Open the Mastered for iTunes AU Lab Document

Optionally, you can configure both AU Lab and your computer to automatically open the Mastered for iTunes AU Lab document if your machine is restarted.

To configure AU Lab to automatically open this document when AU Lab launched:

1. From the AU Lab menu, choose Preferences.
2. Go to the Document tab in the General Settings toolbar.

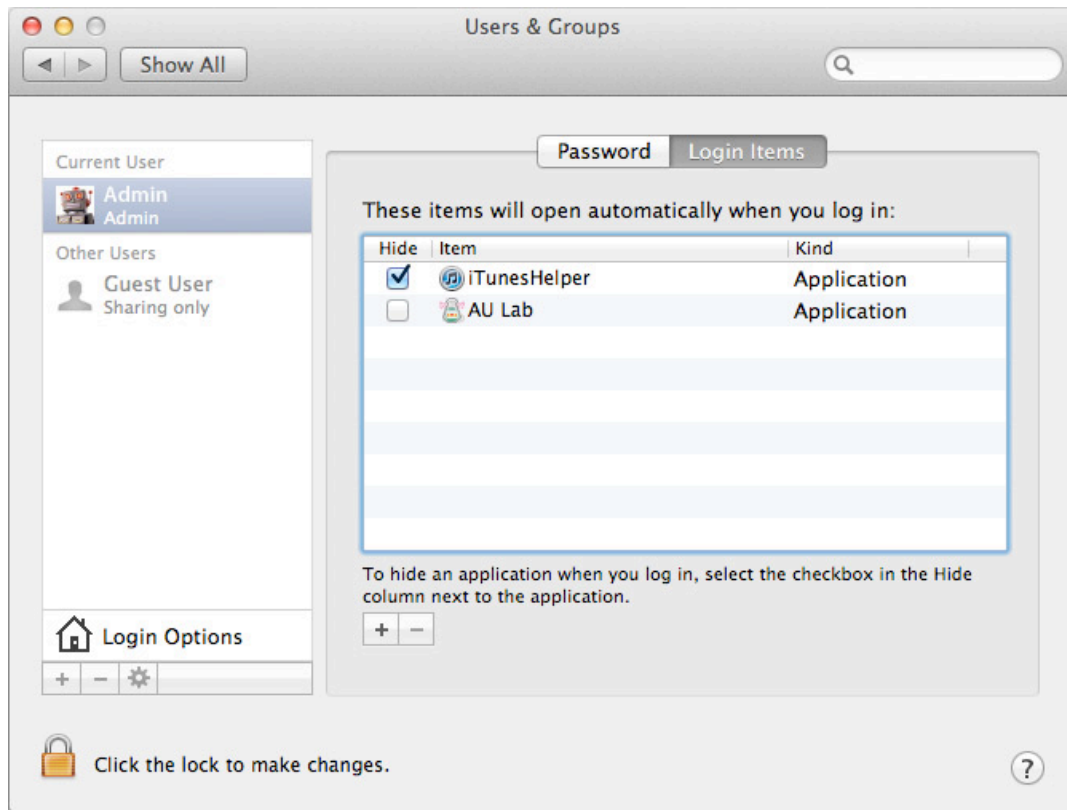


3. Select "Open a specific document:":
4. Click Choose.
5. Choose the local copy of the Mastering for iTunes AU Lab document that you saved in the previous steps, and click Open.
6. Close the General Settings window.

Configuring AU Lab to Automatically Launch When Your Computer is Restarted

Optionally, you can also configure AU Lab to automatically launch when you restart your computer. You must have an administrator account to use these steps.

1. From the Apple Menu, choose System Preferences.
2. Select Users & Groups under System.



3. Select the Administrator user in the user list.
4. Go to the Login Items tab.
5. Click the + button.
6. Navigate to the AU Lab application, then select it and click Add.

Your computer is now configured for use as a Mastering for iTunes audio workstation. You can use the RoundTripAAC Audio Unit to monitor the source audio to check for clipping, compare the source to audio encoded using iTunes Plus AAC, and perform ABX listening tests.

See the AURoundTripAAC ReadMe for more information on how to use the AURoundTripAAC Audio Unit.

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