



MIDIDeviceManager (MDM)

Using CME WIDI Devices with MIDIDeviceManager

Quick Start Guide

Version 1.9.1 for Build 108

Updated following field testing by Wade and confirmation from CME.

Control Your Entire MIDI Environment

Welcome to MIDIDeviceManager

Spend less time managing MIDI. More time making music.

Welcome to MIDIDeviceManager (MDM).

MDM helps you organize your MIDI equipment, quickly find your favourite patches and prepare your entire musical environment for rehearsals and live performances.



Chapter 1 — Welcome

MIDIDeviceManager supports compatible Bluetooth MIDI devices through Apple's CoreMIDI framework, including wireless MIDI interfaces from the CME WIDI family.

This guide explains how to connect one or more CME WIDI devices successfully, avoid common connection issues, and understand how CME's automatic pairing behaviour interacts with iPhone and iPad.

By the end of this guide you will be able to:

- Connect one or more CME WIDI devices.
- Configure multiple WIDI devices for reliable use with iPhone or iPad.
- Recognise the different LED states.
- Avoid unintended WIDI-to-WIDI pairing.
- Reconnect devices successfully if Bluetooth communication is interrupted.
- Troubleshoot the most common connection issues.

This guide assumes that your CME WIDI device has already been installed on your MIDI equipment in accordance with CME's installation instructions.

Chapter 2 — Understanding CME WIDI Automatic Pairing

One of the most useful features of the CME WIDI family is its ability to connect directly to another WIDI device without requiring a computer, phone or tablet.

When two compatible WIDI devices are powered on, they may automatically discover and connect to each other before your iPhone or iPad connects to them.

This behaviour is intentional and is ideal when you want two MIDI devices to communicate wirelessly.

However, if you intend to connect both WIDI devices to MIDIDeviceManager, they may pair with each other before your iPhone or iPad has a chance to connect to them.

As a result, one or both devices may not appear in the Bluetooth MIDI connection list.

This is normal behaviour and is part of the CME WIDI design rather than an MDM issue.

For regular use with multiple WIDI devices, CME recommends configuring each device in Force Peripheral mode. In this mode, the WIDI devices wait for your iPhone or iPad to establish the Bluetooth MIDI connections instead of automatically connecting to each other.

The next chapter explains how to connect a single WIDI device. Chapter 4 explains the recommended configuration for multiple WIDI devices.

Chapter 3 — Connecting Your First CME WIDI Device

Before connecting your WIDI device, ensure that:

- Your WIDI interface is connected to your MIDI equipment and powered on.
- Bluetooth is enabled on your iPhone or iPad.
- Your WIDI device is **not** already connected to another Bluetooth device.

Open **MIDIDeviceManager** and tap **Bluetooth MIDI** from the Devices screen.

After a few seconds, your WIDI device should appear in the list of available Bluetooth MIDI devices.

Tap the device name to connect.

Once connected:

- The device appears in the Connected Devices list.
- The WIDI status LED changes to indicate a successful Bluetooth MIDI connection.
- MIDIDeviceManager is now ready to communicate with your MIDI equipment.

If your WIDI device does not appear, refer to the Troubleshooting chapter later in this guide before attempting more advanced diagnostics.

Chapter 4 — Connecting Multiple CME WIDI Devices

When using more than one CME WIDI device with MIDIDeviceManager, the recommended configuration is to set each WIDI device to Force Peripheral mode.

Recommended Configuration — Force Peripheral

In Force Peripheral mode, each WIDI device waits for your iPhone or iPad to establish the Bluetooth MIDI connection.

This prevents the WIDI devices from automatically pairing with each other before MIDIDeviceManager can connect to them.

CME documents two ways to place a WIDI Master in Force Peripheral mode:

- Using the WIDI App to configure the device's BLE role.
- On compatible WIDI Master firmware, while the unit is powered on, press and hold the button for three seconds, then release it.

When configured through the WIDI App, the setting is stored in the WIDI device and normally only needs to be set once.

After all WIDI devices have been configured in Force Peripheral mode:

1. Power on the WIDI devices.
2. Open Bluetooth MIDI in MIDIDeviceManager.
3. Connect each WIDI device from the Bluetooth MIDI list.

The devices may be powered on at the same time because they will wait for your iPhone or iPad rather than automatically connecting to each other.

Important — Switching Between Apple Devices

The following behaviour applies specifically to CME WIDI devices configured in Force Peripheral mode.

When a CME WIDI device is configured in Force Peripheral mode, it waits for an iPhone, iPad or Mac to establish a Bluetooth MIDI connection. Once an Apple device has connected successfully, that Apple device will normally reconnect automatically whenever both devices are powered on and Bluetooth is enabled.

Only one Apple device can use a CME WIDI device at a time.

If you wish to move the CME WIDI device from one Apple device to another, the original Apple device must first release its Bluetooth association. Disconnecting the MIDI session

inside MIDIDeviceManager may not be sufficient, because the operating system can automatically reconnect to a previously paired CME WIDI device.

If necessary, disconnect the CME WIDI device or use Forget This Device in the Bluetooth settings of the original Apple device before connecting from the new one. In some situations, power-cycling the CME WIDI device may also be required.

This behaviour is normal for CME WIDI devices operating in Force Peripheral mode, and reflects the way Apple operating systems manage previously paired Bluetooth MIDI devices.

For most users, once a CME WIDI device has been configured and connected successfully, MIDIDeviceManager reconnects to it automatically whenever the device is powered on and becomes available, provided that:

- the CME WIDI device is not already connected to another Apple device; and
- the Bluetooth association has not been removed, for example by using Forget This Device in the Apple Bluetooth settings.

Fallback Procedure — If Force Peripheral Is Not Configured

If you prefer to leave automatic pairing enabled, or cannot change the WIDI role, connect the devices one at a time:

1. Power on the first WIDI device.
2. Open Bluetooth MIDI in MIDIDeviceManager.
3. Connect the first WIDI device.
4. Once the connection is established, power on the second WIDI device.
5. Connect the second device from the Bluetooth MIDI list.

This prevents the WIDI devices from pairing with each other before iOS establishes the Bluetooth MIDI connections.

Important

A WIDI device in Force Peripheral mode waits for another device to connect to it.

It will not initiate a direct connection to another WIDI device.

If you want two WIDI-equipped devices to communicate wirelessly with each other without an iPhone, iPad or computer, you will need to restore the appropriate automatic or central-capable WIDI configuration.

Chapter 5 — Understanding the WIDI LED Indicators

The LED on your CME WIDI device provides a quick indication of its current connection status.

The most common indications are:

- **Solid Blue — Connected to a Bluetooth MIDI host, such as your iPhone or iPad.**
- **Light Blue / Turquoise** — Connected to another Bluetooth MIDI device (typically another WIDI interface).
- **Slow Blinking Blue** — Waiting for a Bluetooth connection.

If the LED is **Light Blue / Turquoise** when you expected to connect to MIDIDeviceManager, your WIDI device has most likely paired with another WIDI device instead of your iPhone or iPad.

When multiple WIDI devices are intended to connect to an iPhone or iPad, repeated Light Blue / Turquoise indications may mean that Force Peripheral mode has not been configured and the devices are continuing to connect to each other automatically.

In this situation, disconnect or power down the devices and reconnect them using the procedure described in **Chapter 4 – Connecting Multiple CME WIDI Devices**.

Learning to recognise these LED indications can often identify the cause of a connection problem before any troubleshooting within MIDIDeviceManager is required.

LED behaviour may vary depending on the WIDI model, firmware version or device configuration. If the indication differs, consult the documentation for your specific CME WIDI device.

Chapter 6 — Reconnecting After Bluetooth Interruptions

If Bluetooth communication is interrupted, MIDIDeviceManager will normally reconnect to your WIDI devices automatically when the application returns to the foreground.

While a Background Session is running, this does not happen on its own.

MIDIDeviceManager is not on screen during a session and cannot detect a Bluetooth device reconnecting. If a WIDI adaptor drops while you are playing, MIDI stops reaching that equipment and nothing restores it until you bring MIDIDeviceManager to the front. Do that first. The steps below apply if the connection still does not return.

If a connection is not restored, try the following steps:

1. **Open Settings → Bluetooth**, then turn Bluetooth **off**.
2. Wait a few seconds.
3. Turn **Bluetooth** back on.
4. Return to **MIDIDeviceManager** and reconnect your WIDI devices if necessary.

This procedure refreshes the Bluetooth connection without requiring you to restart your iPhone or iPad.

If the connection remains unstable after a firmware or operating-system update, CME recommends removing the previous WIDI pairing from Bluetooth settings, restarting Bluetooth and establishing a new connection.

For the most reliable operation, connect your WIDI devices using **MIDIDeviceManager's Bluetooth MIDI panel** rather than pairing them through the general iOS Bluetooth Settings screen.

If the problem persists, continue to the Troubleshooting chapter.

Chapter 7 — Troubleshooting

If you experience connection difficulties, the following checks resolve most issues.

My WIDI device does not appear in MIDIDeviceManager

- Verify that the WIDI device is powered on.
- Ensure Bluetooth is enabled on your iPhone or iPad.
- Check that the WIDI LED is **not** indicating a connection to another WIDI device.
- If using multiple WIDI devices, configure them in Force Peripheral mode.

My WIDI devices connected to each other instead of my iPhone or iPad

This is normal WIDI behaviour when automatic pairing is enabled.

For regular use with multiple WIDI devices and MIDIDeviceManager, configure each WIDI device in Force Peripheral mode as described in Chapter 4.

A Light Blue / Turquoise LED indicates a WIDI-to-WIDI connection rather than a connection to your iPhone or iPad. The LED colours are explained in full in Chapter 5.

My WIDI devices no longer connect directly to each other

Check whether one or both devices have been configured in Force Peripheral mode.

A forced peripheral waits for a central device, such as an iPhone, iPad, computer or another WIDI acting as central.

To restore direct WIDI-to-WIDI operation without a phone or tablet, change the WIDI role back to an appropriate automatic or central-capable configuration using the WIDI App.

The Bluetooth connection was lost

- Turn Bluetooth off, wait a few seconds, then turn it back on.
- Return to MIDIDeviceManager and reconnect your WIDI devices if required.

Patches are missing after building an index

WIDI adaptors carry index imports perfectly well. Every piece of equipment MDM can read directly has been imported over one, complete and without skips — including three sharing a single adaptor.

An index import asks the equipment for its whole patch list, which can be several hundred replies sent one after another. Any wireless link can in principle drop one, and a dropped reply becomes a patch missing from an index that still appears to have worked — either a

partial index or, if enough go astray, none at all. The import reports success in both cases, so it is worth checking the finished index rather than assuming.

If it happens it is a property of the transfer, not a fault in your WIDI device or your equipment.

If patches are missing, connect the equipment by cable and build the index again. That settles it either way. Once the index exists there is nothing to decide — recalling a patch is a single short message and Bluetooth carries it without difficulty.

Importing a CSV file is unaffected, because no MIDI is involved.

My connection dropped when I left MIDIDeviceManager

On iPad, keep MIDIDeviceManager on screen beside the other app in Split View. It is never suspended, and the WIDI connection is unaffected.

On iPhone there is no Split View. Running iOS 26 or later you can start a Background Session instead, and Bluetooth MIDI keeps running while another app is in front. Below iOS 26 there is no background session, so MIDIDeviceManager needs to stay on screen.

If the connection was genuinely lost, follow the steps above.

Important

For best results, always connect your WIDI devices through MIDIDeviceManager's Bluetooth MIDI panel rather than through the general iOS Bluetooth Settings screen.

If the problem persists, consult the CME WIDI documentation or contact MIDIDeviceManager Support for further assistance.

Chapter 8 — Congratulations

Congratulations!

Your CME WIDI interface is now connected to MIDIDeviceManager and ready to control your MIDI equipment wirelessly.

You have learned how to:

- Connect one or more CME WIDI devices.
- Configure multiple WIDI devices in Force Peripheral mode to prevent unintended WIDI-to-WIDI pairing.
- Interpret the WIDI LED indicators.
- Recover from common Bluetooth connection issues.
- Connect your WIDI devices using MIDIDeviceManager's Bluetooth MIDI panel.
- Know when to use a cable instead of Bluetooth.

If you later want two WIDI-equipped devices to communicate directly without an iPhone or iPad, remember to restore the appropriate WIDI role first.

You are now ready to continue with the **MIDIDeviceManager Quick Start Guide**, where you'll learn how to discover your MIDI equipment, create Device Pads, build Scenes and prepare your live performance environment.

We hope this guide helps you spend less time troubleshooting and more time making music.

Enjoy MIDIDeviceManager! 🙌
