

# How to Update the Hydrasynth Firmware

## System Requirements

- macOS 10.13+
- Windows 7+
- Direct USB connection to your computer (hubs are not recommended)

## Getting Started

*Note: Hydrasynth version 2.0 firmware requires the latest versions of the Hydrasynth Updater and Hydrasynth Manager. Do not use earlier versions of these applications with v2.0 firmware.*

1. Download the version 2.0 bundle for your instrument from [AshunSoundMachines.com/downloads](https://AshunSoundMachines.com/downloads). It includes the firmware and the latest versions of the Hydrasynth Updater and Hydrasynth Manager applications.
2. Always back up your patches with the latest version of the Hydrasynth Manager before you update your Hydrasynth. Please refer to the Hydrasynth Manager documentation to learn about the Backup and Restore procedures, as well as the other patch management features it provides.

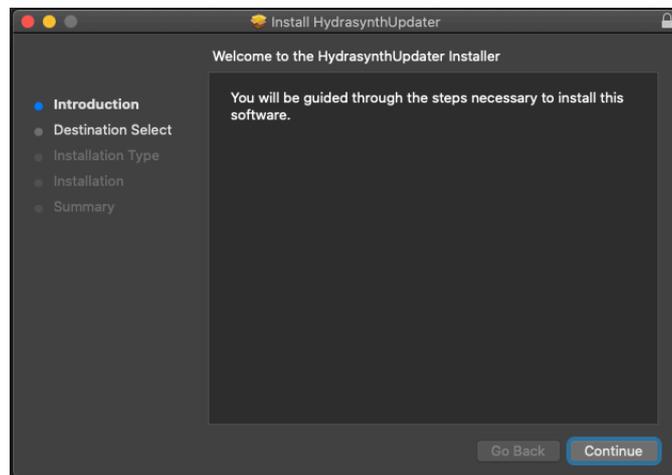
*Note: Do not use the Hydrasynth Manager application while other USB MIDI applications are running, such as a DAW or an editor/librarian. This will help to prevent communication errors.*

3. Follow the instructions below to install the latest version of the Hydrasynth Updater application on your computer.

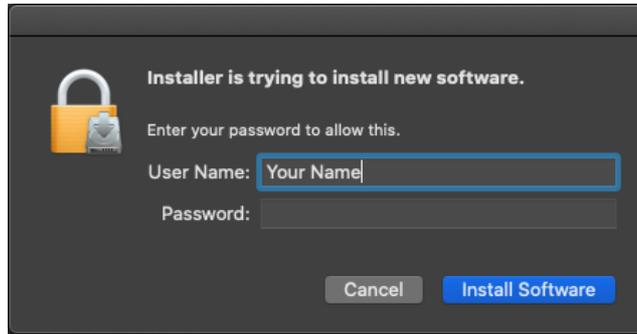
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## Install the Updater (macOS)

1. Double-click the *Hydrasynth\_Updater\_Mac\_v#.#.#.pkg* file and follow the prompts.
2. After the Welcome screen is shown, click "Continue".

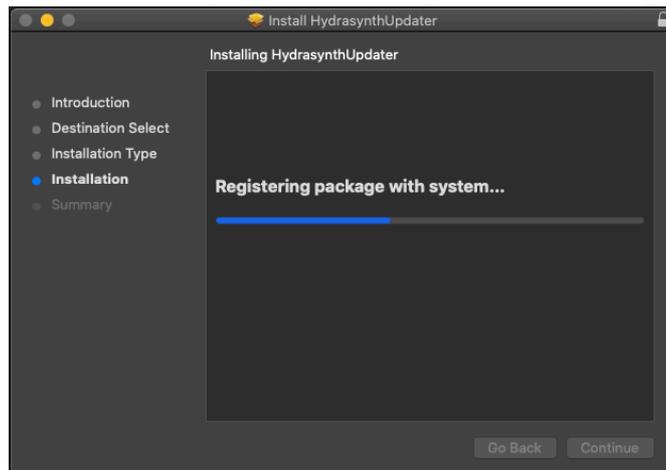


3. The Installer may ask you to enter your password in order to proceed. After doing so, click "Install Software".

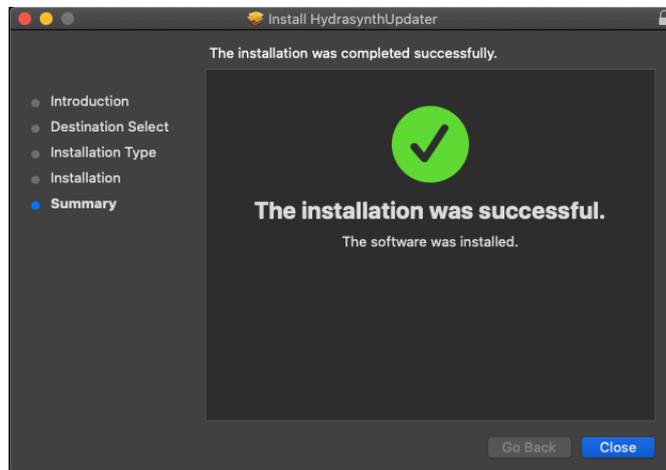


After this window your computer will scan for available drives onto which the application can be installed. If given the option, use the same drive where all other applications reside.

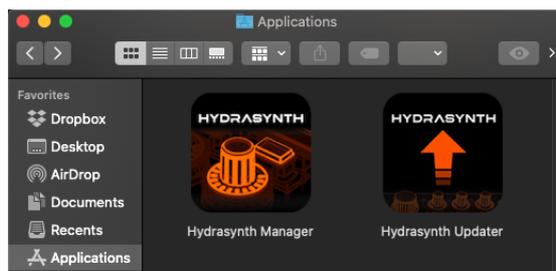
4. You'll see a progress bar as the application is installed.



5. Once the installation is complete, click "Close".



6. The Ashun Sound Machines application icons look like this.

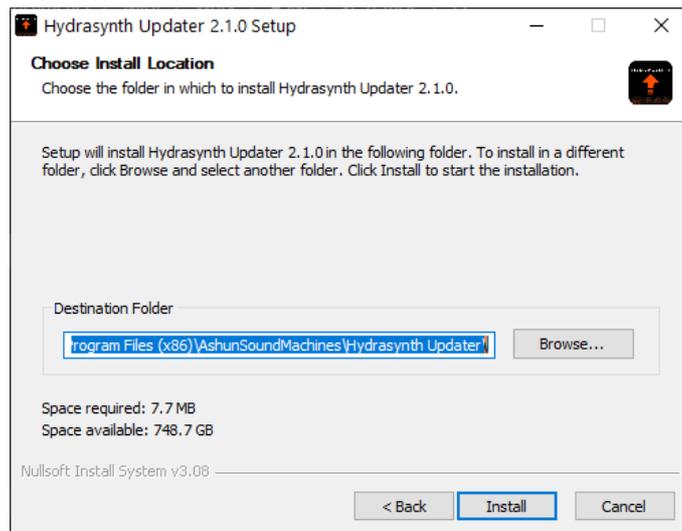


# Install the Updater (Windows)

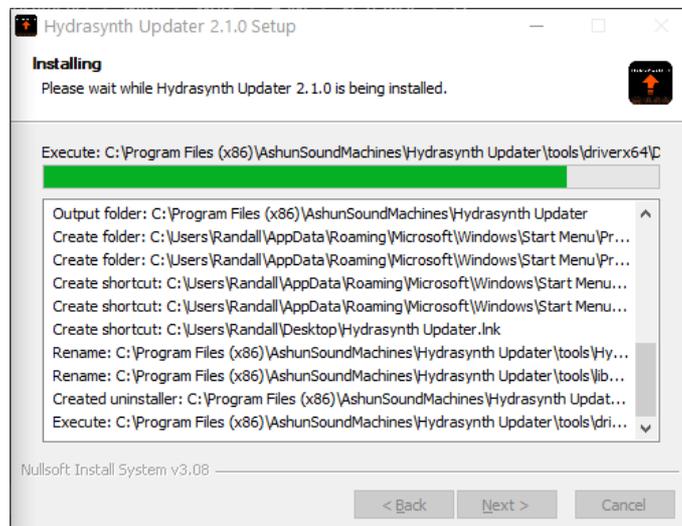
1. Close all other applications that are running.
2. Double-click the *Hydrasynth\_Updater\_Win\_v#. #.#.exe* file and follow the prompts.
3. After the Welcome screen is shown, click "Next".



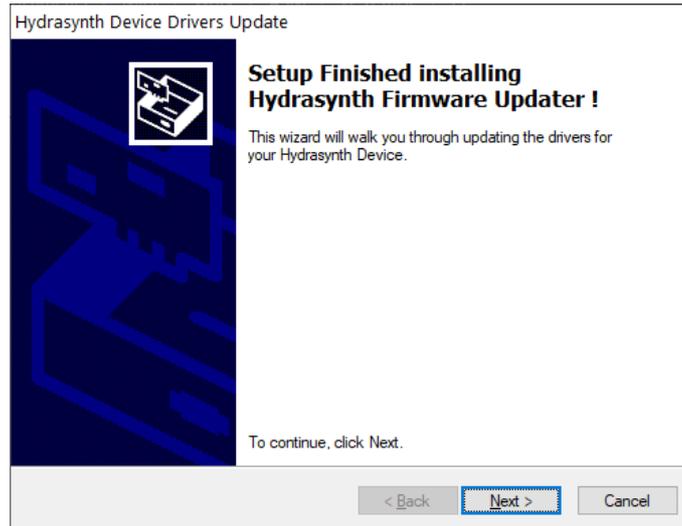
3. You will be asked to read the License Agreement. Click "I Agree" in order to proceed.
4. Select the installation location for the application. Use the same folder where all other applications reside.



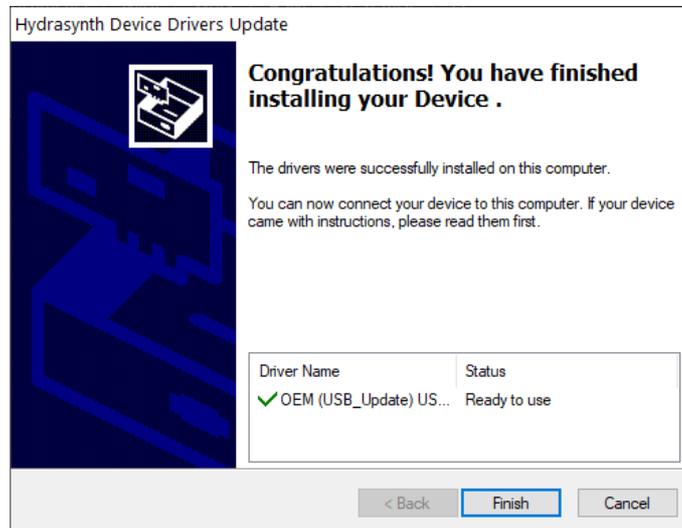
4. You'll see a progress bar as the application is installed.



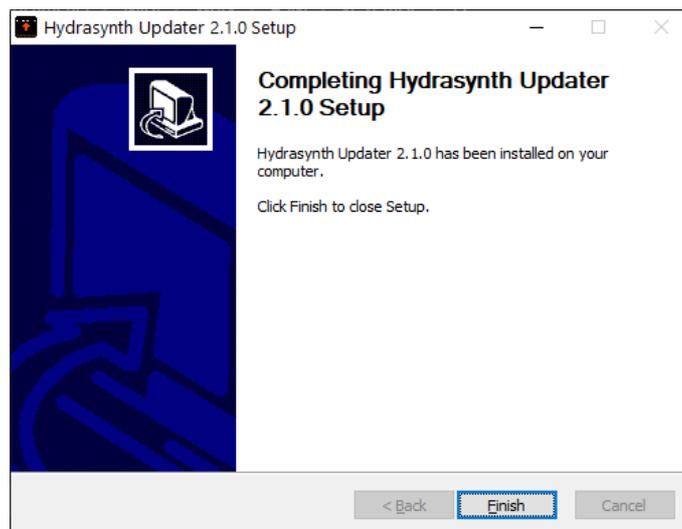
5. After the installation is finished, click "Next" to proceed to the USB driver installation page.



6. After the driver installation is complete, click "Finish" to proceed to the final page.



7. Click "Finish" to exit the installer application.

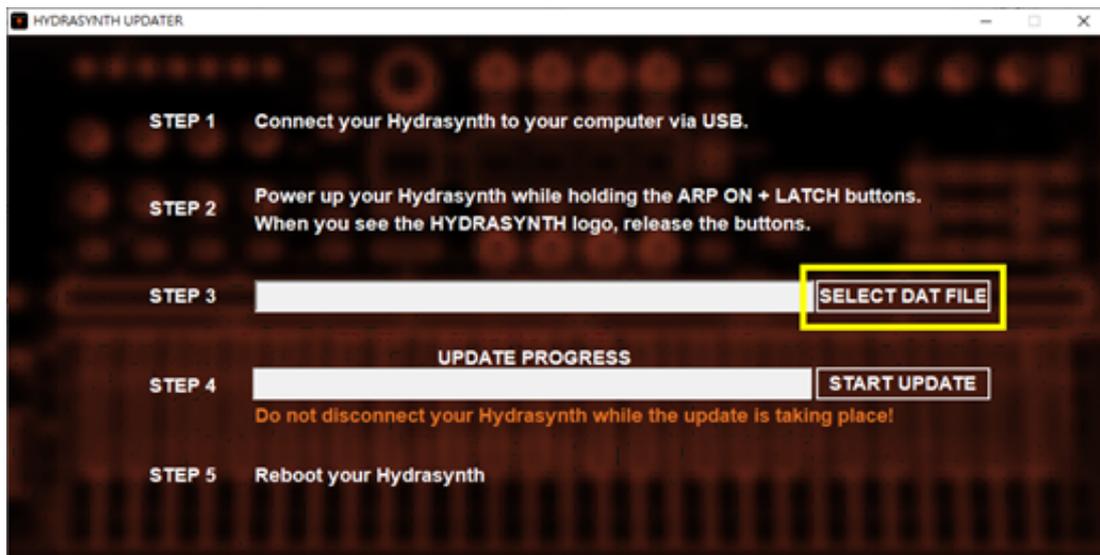


8. A Hydrasynth Updater icon was placed on your computer's desktop and in the Start menu during the installation process. Our application icons look like this.

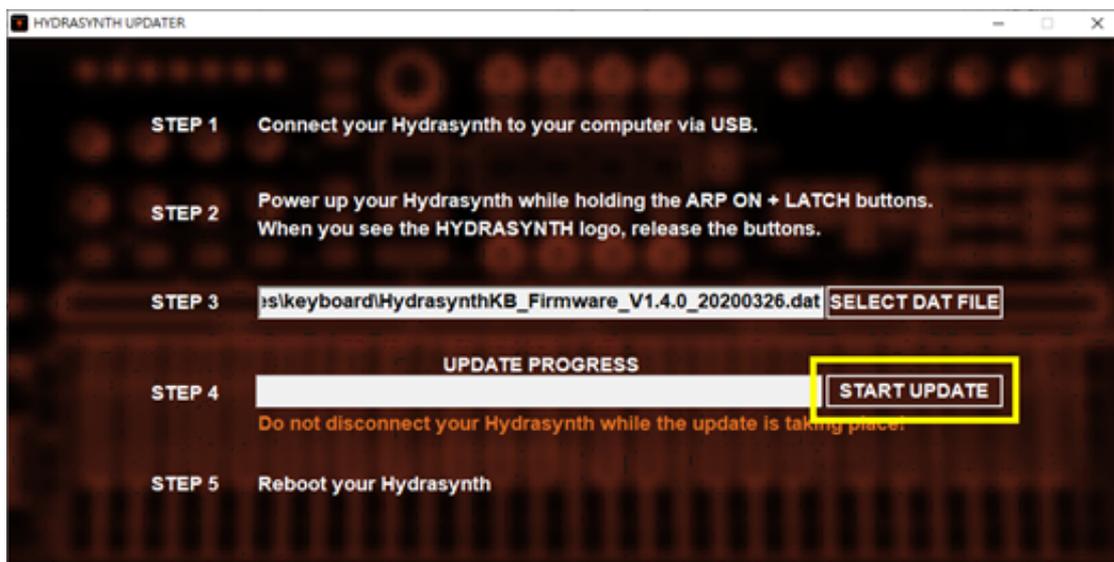


## Firmware Upgrade Procedure

1. Power up the Hydrasynth while holding the [ARP ON] and [LATCH] buttons
2. Wait until the Hydrasynth logo stabilizes in the Left display on your unit
3. Launch the Hydrasynth Updater
4. Click the SELECT DAT FILE button in the Updater window



5. Navigate to the new firmware file on your computer  
*To update a Hydrasynth or Hydrasynth Desktop you must confirm you selected the correct firmware during the next step.*
6. Click the START UPDATE button and wait until the progress bar has moved through all of the pages. This could take up to 30 seconds.



**DO NOT** interrupt this process until it is complete.

7. When the update is finished click OK, quit the app, and read the next section.

## After an update you should...

1. **Reboot** the Hydrasynth
2. Press [SYSTEM SETUP]
3. **Confirm the OS:** Hold [SHIFT] and press the Page Down arrow to jump to the OS page.  
*Verify that the OS version matches the number shown in the firmware update file name*
4. **Reset the unit:** Press the Page Up arrow and then press Control button 2 to perform a Factory Reset.  
*This will not erase your patches, but it will reset all System settings to their default values.*
5. **Recalibrate** your pitch/mod wheels or pitch/mod strips, ribbon controller, and expression pedal as described below.

## Recalibration: Wheels and Strips

*Hydrasynth, Hydrasynth Explorer, and Hydrasynth Deluxe*

1. Press the Page Up arrow again to reach the System Calibration page. (The page number is different for each unit.)
2. Press the Control button to enter this page, then move each wheel through its full range.
3. For the Hydrasynth Explorer, touch the pitch/mod strips and move your finger from top to bottom on each strip.
4. The Min/Max range for each of the controls should be as follows:
  - a. Hydrasynth / Hydrasynth Explorer: 0-127
  - b. Hydrasynth Deluxe: Other values are typical (7-123, 5-119, etc.).
5. Press [EXIT] to return to the System Calibration page.

## Recalibration: Ribbon controller

*Hydrasynth, Hydrasynth Deluxe*

1. Navigate to the System Calibration page, if you're not still there. (The page number is different for each unit.)
2. Starting on the far left side, touch the ribbon above the lowest C until the display says OK.
3. Touch the ribbon above the next 4 C keys until the display says OK.  
*Be sure not to slide your finger or touch any points between the C keys.*



4. After all points have been calibrated the Hydrasynth will exit automatically to the System Calibration page.
5. Press [EXIT] to return to the Home page.

# Recalibration: Expression Pedal

*Hydrasynth, Hydrasynth Desktop, and Hydrasynth Deluxe*

1. Press [SYSTEM SETUP]
2. Press the Page Up arrow to reach page 4 (the System MIDI page)
3. Press Control button 7 to enter the ExpPedal Set page
4. Move the expression pedal through its full range
5. Press [EXIT] to return to the previous page.

*If needed, try the ExpCurve settings to see which works best for you.*

6. Press [EXIT] again to return to the Home page.

You're done!