# Owner's Manual

Track    Time
► 12    1:42

## CD Player

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# Contents

# Welcome to

# Ayre

*To our North American customers, please be sure to mail in your warranty registration card.*

Thank you for purchasing the Ayre CX-8 Compact Disc Player. We sincerely hope you get as much joy listening through it as we did designing and building it.

Our team has been designing world-class, award-winning products since 1993. It is our goal to make the most musically accurate equipment we possibly can at any given price range. We enjoy designing, building, and talking about what we do. If you have any questions about your new Ayre product, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Your CX-8 is the culmination of decades of audio innovation, distilling elements from Ayre's most celebrated works into this piece of equipment that can range from a CD player to a full network and USB DAC, allowing you to hear music from a variety of sources.

As always, the warmth and immediacy of a live performance are apparent from the first listening that will continue to improve over time during its initial break-in period. Combining superb resolution and a natural, relaxed quality, your CX-8 will draw you into the music time and time again.

This level of performance has been implemented using the highest level of workmanship and materials. You can be assured the CX-8 will provide you a lifetime of musical enjoyment.

# Installation

The Ayre CX-8 is easy to connect and use. The following guidelines will ensure that the installation goes smoothly.

## Location

*The infrared beam will travel through glass.*

A good location for your CD player is at an easily accessible height in an open-backed cabinet or on a shelf. The receiver for the infrared remote control is between the two front panel buttons. A line of site from the listening position will ensure maximum range.

## Analog Outputs

*It is not normally recommended to use both sets of analog outputs simultaneously.*

The Ayre CX-8 provides a stereo pair of XLR balanced output connectors as well as a pair of single-ended RCAs.

When you have a choice, a balanced connection will generally offer improved sound quality over a single-ended connection.

# Digital Outputs

The Ayre CX-8 features three digital output choices to connect to external equipment: a balanced AES/EBU made via a 3-pin XLR connector, a single-ended S/PDIF made with an RCA connector, and a TOSLINK optical output jack. Any of these connections may be used when connecting to an external device capable of receiving digital audio signals, such as a digital-to-analog converter (DAC) or digital audio recording device.

# AyreLink Ports

*For improved stack integration, try connecting your Ayre equipment together with AyreLink.*

The AyreLink communication system provides a convenient way to control your audio system. There are two AyreLink ports on the rear panel of the CX-8. Each port has four contacts and contain both and input and output. Both ports function identically and may be used interchangeably.

⚠ **Be sure to use two-line telephone cords to make AyreLink connections or the cables provided with your CX-8. These can be identified by the four gold contacts on each connector. Single-line phone cables with 2 contacts will not function properly. Incorrectly terminated cables may cause damage to the Ayre products.**

The linked components should be connected in a daisy-chain fashion, connecting each component to one another until all of the linked components have been connected. Be careful NOT to connect the two ends of the chain. Closing the chain to form a loop will cause the AyreLink system to not function.

Once connected and configured, the AyreLink system allows components to turn on and off other components in the system necessary for playback, sync brightness levels, and report any issues detected by any piece in the system. It is recommended to use the AyreLink system with your Ayre equipment whenever possible to take advantage of the ease of use it provides.

# USB Audio Input (Optional)

*The USB Audio option can be purchased and installed in the Ayre CX-8 at any time. Please contact your Ayre dealer for details.*

If your CX-8 has the USB Audio option installed, a type B USB port is provided to access Ayre's Asynchronous USB technology. This will allow your Ayre CX-8 to be connected to a computer or other USB host and operate as a digital-to-analog converter (DAC), allowing you to play music files through your audio system.

# Ethernet Input (Optional)

*The Ethernet input option can be purchased and installed in the Ayre CX-8 at any time. Please contact your Ayre dealer for details.*

If your CX-8 has the Ethernet option installed, it can be connected to your home's Ethernet network to allow audio streaming and control from a wide variety of devices and services.

The network module offers a RJ45 input for wired internet connection to your network. There are also two USB type A ports (USB Host) which allow you connect wirelessly using the included USB Wi-Fi adapter and/or directly access files from a USB flash drive.

It is recommended to use a wired Ethernet connection whenever possible for the most reliable connection to your network.
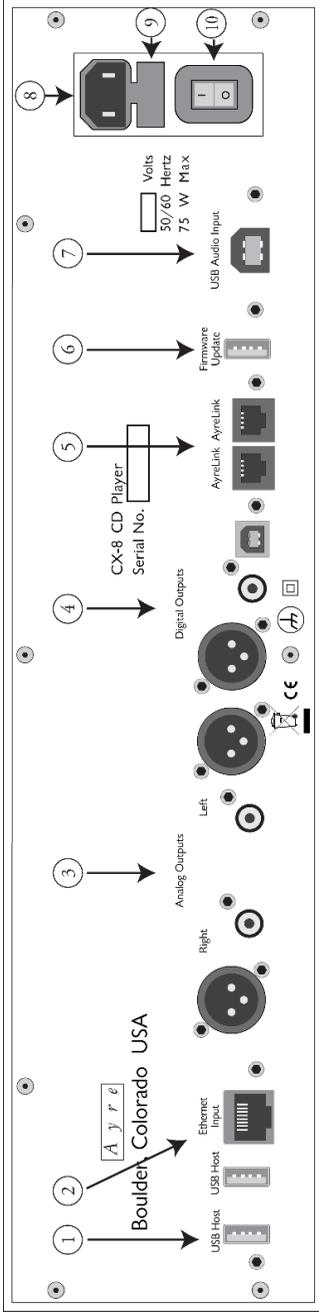
# Firmware Update Port

The Firmware Update port is a USB type A port that allows you to update the CX-8's firmware using a USB flash drive. For more information, please see page 28.

# AC Power

The Ayre CX-8 may be plugged directly into an unswitched wall outlet. In some situations an AC power-line filter may provide additional sonic benefits. The AC Power connection has a switch located directly below it allowing the power to the CX-8 to be turned on and off.
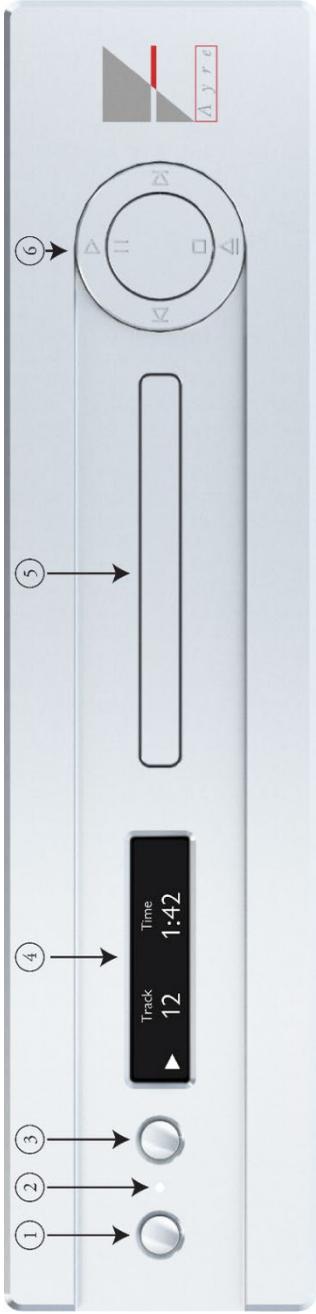
⚠ **Be sure to only plug the CX-8 into an outlet that provides the voltage the CX-8 was designed for. Connecting the CX-8 to an incorrect voltage may result in damage to the unit.**

1) USB Host Ports

2) Ethernet Input

3) Analog outputs

4) Digital outputs

5) AyreLink Ports

6) Firmware Update Port

7) USB Audio Input

8) IEC Power inlet

9) AC Fuse holder

10) On/Off Power Switch

1. Left-hand Button
   a. Sleep/Mute
2. IR Receiver / Status LED
3. Right-hand Button
   a. Input Select
4. Display
5. CD Drawer
6. Control Ring

# Operation

The following chapter details operation of the Ayre CX-8. The front of the unit contains two small control buttons, a status LED, a display, the control ring, and the drawer for the CD transport. In addition to these controls, some network applications can provide further integration with the unit if equipped with the Ethernet input option.

## Remote Handset

The Ayre CX-8 also may be controlled by the included remote-control handset. All functions for the CX-8 must be done while the remote control is in "disc" mode for the CX-8 to accept the commands. To enter this mode, simply press the "disc" button. The button will light up to indicate the new mode is set for the remote control. Any button presses on the remote will then light the disc button to indicate what mode the remote is set to send.

The provided remote control handset will operate the Ayre CX-8 as well as other Ayre 8 series products.

The top row of buttons contains illuminating product selection keys. Pressing the "disc" button will allow the remote to control the CX-8. Whenever another button is pressed, the key corresponding to the current selection will illuminate.
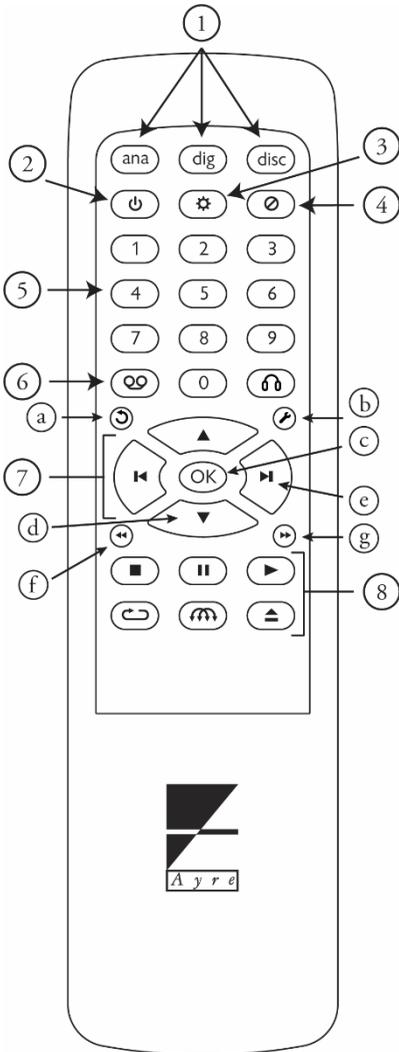
1) Product Selection Keys

2) System-sleep / Active Mode

3) Brightness Cycle

4) Mute Toggle

5) Number Keys (Input Selection)

6) Display Mode

7) Navigation keys

    a. Return

    b. Setup Menu

    c. OK will cycle through available inputs.

    d. Up/Down Arrows control the volume on AyreLink connected components.

    e. Right/Left Arrows will move to the Next/Previous track.

    f. Rewind

    g. Fast forward

8) Playback Control Keys

# System-sleep Mode

When first powered on, the Ayre CX-8 will automatically enter System-sleep mode after displaying the initial loading screens. The CX-8 will indicate that it is in System-sleep mode and ready to switch to Active mode by a green status LED. When in System-sleep mode, the outputs of the unit are disabled while all critical portions of the circuit are kept warm for optimal sonic performance. The CX-8 may be switched to Active mode by pressing the left-hand control button or the power button on the remote.

# Active Mode

Once in Active mode, all functions of the CX-8 are enabled. The currently selected input is shown on the display and any signal will be sent to the enabled outputs. When available, information, or meta-data, from a digital recording being played will be shown on the CX-8's display.

## Mute / system-sleep

A quick press of the left-hand control button while the CX-8 is in active mode will mute all outputs of the CX-8. While muted, an icon will appear on the display. This may also be done by pressing the mute button on the remote control. A second press of the left-hand control button or remote mute button will un-mute the unit.

*When muted, the CX-8 prevents all signals from reaching the outputs, but tracks will continue to play.*

By pressing and holding the left-hand button more than 1 second, the CX-8 will return to System-sleep mode. Continuing to hold the button for an additional second will send a system off command to all AyreLink-connected components to also enter System-sleep mode. This can also be done by pressing the power button on the remote control. A quick press of the power button on the remote control will switch only the CX-8 to System-sleep mode while a long hold of three seconds will switch the CX-8 and any AyreLink-connected devices to System-sleep mode.

## Input Selection

By pressing the right-hand control button, the currently selected input will cycle to the next enabled input. This may also be done using the center OK button on the remote control. The input will cycle between the CD transport, USB Audio input (if installed and enabled), and Ethernet input (if installed and enabled) with each press.

## Volume Control
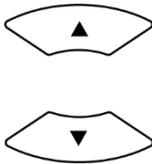
The up and down keys on the remote will send a volume command via AyreLink to any AyreLink-connected preamplifier or integrated amplifier. This allows for control of the system volume from one of those units.

## Compact Disc Playback

| Track | Time |
|-------|------|
| ▶ 12 | 1:42 |

To open or eject the compact disc transport of the CX-8, press the eject button on the control ring of the CX-8 or the eject button of the remote. The display will show, "CD Player Tray Open" and the transport tray will extend to allow a compact disc to be inserted or removed. To close or load a compact disc, press the eject button again or the play button and the tray will retract. The display will then show, "CD Player Loading Disc…" to indicate that the CX-8 is reading the disc information if a disc was placed in the transport tray.

**CD Player**
Loading Disc...

After reading the disc successfully, the display will then show a stop icon to indicate the disc is currently stopped if the tray was closed with the eject/close button, the total number of tracks on the disc, and the total time of the combined track lengths or it will begin playback on track 1 if the tray was closed using the play button.

To play a loaded compact disc, simply press the play button on the front of the CX-8 or on the remote control. The disc status icon will change to a play button to indicate the CD is now playing, the track will display the current track playing, and the time will indicate the elapsed time of the current track.

The elapsed track time can be changed to display the remaining track time by pressing the Tape icon on the remote control.

The current playback can be paused at any time by pressing the pause button on the front of the CX-8 or on the remote control. Playback will stop and the disc status icon on the display will change to a pause icon to indicate that playback is paused, and the time indicator will stop counting. To resume playback, press either the pause button again or the play button on the remote or front panel of the   CX-8 and playback will resume at the point that it was paused.

Pressing the stop button on the front panel of the CX-8 or on the remote will stop playback on the CX-8 and return to the disc information screen. Pressing play will start playback over from the beginning of the disc.

The previous track button on the CX-8 or remote control will restart playback from the beginning of the track. Pressing the button again (within the first 2 seconds of the track) will skip to the previous track on the CD. By pressing and holding the previous track button on the front panel of the CX-8 or by pressing and holding the rewind button on the remote control, the CX-8 will scan backwards quickly through the current track. When the button is released, playback will resume at the position scanned to.

The next track button on the CX-8 or remote control will advance the track to the beginning of the next track. Pressing and holding the next track button on the front of the CX-8 or by pressing and holding the fast forward button on the remote control will scan forwards quickly through the current track. When the button is released, playback will resume at the position scanned to.

Pressing the repeat button on the remote will cycle through repeat modes on the CX-8. The first press will repeat all tracks in order and is indicated by a circle with an arrow on the display.

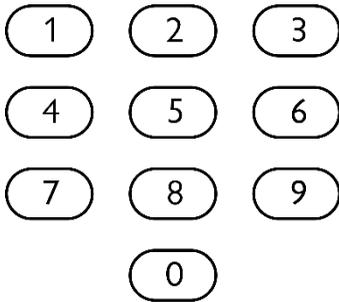| Track | Time | |
|---|---|---|
| ▶ 12 | 1:42 | ↻ |

The disc will play as normal and then repeat after reaching the end of the disc. The second press will switch to repeat track mode and will be indicated by a "1" in the top center of the repeat circle on the display. The disc will repeat the current track after reaching the end of the track. Pressing the repeat button a third time will turn off repeat mode and the disc will play through and end as normal.

Pressing the shuffle button on the remote will change tracks to a random track on the disc. After that track ends, the CX-8 will then pick a new track at random for as long as the shuffle mode is activated. Shuffle mode activation is indicated by the shuffle icon on the display.

| Track | Time | |
|---|---|---|
| ▶ 12 | 1:42 | ⋔ |

```
┌─────┐  ┌─────┐  ┌─────┐
│  1  │  │  2  │  │  3  │
└─────┘  └─────┘  └─────┘

┌─────┐  ┌─────┐  ┌─────┐
│  4  │  │  5  │  │  6  │
└─────┘  └─────┘  └─────┘

┌─────┐  ┌─────┐  ┌─────┐
│  7  │  │  8  │  │  9  │
└─────┘  └─────┘  └─────┘

         ┌─────┐
         │  0  │
         └─────┘
```

Pressing the number buttons on the remote will allow direct navigation to the track number pressed. For discs with 10 or more tracks, the first number selected will be displayed with a placeholder to indicate that a second digit is possible. If none is entered within 3 seconds then the first number entered will be used as the track number selection.

## USB Playback

In addition to a CD player, the CX-8 can be equipped with an optional module to allow it to operate as a USB DAC. This allows a computer or music server to connect to the CX-8 and send audio information to the player to be played through your stereo system. For information about connecting to a music server, please refer to the documentation that came with the server. For information about connecting to a Windows or Apple PC, visit www.ayre.com/usb for the latest information.

⚠  **For the most reliable connection, it is recommended to use a USB cable with a length of 1.5 meters (5 feet) or less.**

To listen to music being sent to the CX-8 via USB, the USB input must be selected. The display will show "USB" (or user selected name) and the sample rate detected by the USB input of the CX-8. If no USB cable is present or not connected to another system, "No Signal" will appear. Playback controls are handled by the host system. Please refer to the manual for the playback software being used for settings and playback controls.

## Ethernet Playback

The CX-8 can also be used to stream music from other network devices or online through music streaming services with its optional Ethernet module. When the Ethernet input is selected, the display will show "Network" (or user selected name) and additional information based on available data from the network service being used. This can include metadata that shows artist and track data for the currently playing song. If the display shows "No Signal", then the Ethernet is not currently receiving any information to play.

For information on how to connect and use the CX-8 as a network streaming device, please see the Streaming and Networking section on page 31.

## Display

*While the display of the CX-8 is rated for years of use, we recommend that the display be allowed turn off after a time-out period of your preference to reduce the amount of burn-in the display may experience, which can appear as "ghost" images on the display.*

By default, the CX-8 will turn its display off automatically after 5 seconds of inactivity, and the status LED will be blue to indicate that the CX-8 is still in Active mode. By turning off the display, the amount of digital activity in the CX-8 is minimized, ensuring that optimal sound quality is preserved while also extending the lifetime of the display. This feature can be adjusted for different lengths of time before the display is turned off or disabled entirely through the setup options of the CX-8. For details on how to do this, please see the Setup and Customization section on page 22.

The display brightness can also be adjusted to different settings by pressing the brightness button on the remote control. The brightness will cycle through 4 different levels with each press. If the CX-8 is attached to other Ayre devices with the AyreLink cable, all devices will follow the same brightness settings.

## Break-in Period

*Once installed, a break-in period of around 100 to 500 hours should be expected.*

While the Ayre CX-8 should provide high-quality audio as soon as it is installed in your system, due to the manufacturing processes used for wires, capacitors, and circuit board materials, a break-in period is necessary for the player to reach its full sonic potential.

## HDCD Indicators

If Pacific Microsonics HDCD encoding is detected in the current digital audio data, the letters HD/CD will appear on the screen to indicate that the CX-8 is applying the HDCD decoding algorithms.

| HD CD | Track | Time |
|---|---|---|
| ▶ | 12 | 1:42 |

## Pre-emphasis Indicator

The letters PRE, in the top left corner of the display, indicates that the current track was recorded with pre-emphasis, and the proper de-emphasis EQ is being applied.

| PRE | Track | Time |
|---|---|---|
| ▶ | 12 | 1:42 |

# Customization

Your Ayre CX-8 offers several options to further customize your listening experience to your preferences. The following information will help you to configure the unit in the best way for your system.

To access the setup menu, you may either use the remote control included with your CX-8, or with the two buttons to the left of the display.

For ease of use, the remote control is typically the easiest method to navigate the setup menu.

## Setup Menu

*Setup button*

To access the setup menu using the remote control, simply press the wrench icon on the remote control at any time. You will see "Setup Menu" followed by the main menu.

Alternatively, you can access the CX-8's setup menu from the front of the player while it is in System-sleep mode by pressing and holding the right-hand control button on the front of the player for two seconds.

To navigate the menu, the cursor is moved by pressing the up, down, previous track, and next track for up, down, left and right navigation, respectively. Selections of the highlighted item is made by pressing the center "OK" button on the remote control handset. To navigate back to a previous menu, use the back button on the remote control. The setup menu can be exited at any time by pressing the wrench icon on the remote control.

If using the front buttons on the CX-8 itself, the cursor is cycled to the next item in the setup menu by pressing the right-hand control button. After reaching the last item in the current setup screen, the cursor will cycle back to the first item. To select an item in the control menu, press the left-hand control button on the CX-8. To navigate back to a previous menu, press and hold the left-hand control button for three seconds. To exit the setup menu, press and hold the left-hand control button for three seconds for each menu level until "Exiting" is displayed.

*The arrow buttons on the remote control can also operate the setup menu of the CX-8.*

The menu is organized with the section title at the top of the display and the available options below. In each screen in the setup menu, up to four options are displayed at a time. If there are more than four options available for that menu, a left or right arrow will appear on the screen to indicate that more options are available on another page. These can be reached by navigating to the left or right with the remote control or by pressing the right-hand control button until the next page is reached.

In some settings, if there is a selection currently selected in the setup menu, a setting selection marker will appear next to the currently selected setting to indicate that is the active setting. Once a new setting has been selected, the marker will move to the new setting to indicate that it has been changed.

# Setup Menu Structure

The main setup menu is divided into several options to control various aspects of the CX-8. These options are: "Input", "Output", "Display", "Network", and "System". The Input menu contains settings related to the inputs of the CX-8, the "Output" menu contains settings related to the outputs of the CX-8, the "Display" menu contains settings for the display functions of the CX-8, the "Network" menu contains settings related to the connectivity and function of the optional network module for the CX-8 and the "System" menu contains overall settings and information for the CX-8.

## Input Menu

The "Input" menu uses separate settings sections for the CD Player, the optional USB module, and the optional network module, and are titled "CD Player", "USB", and "Network", respectively.

The selected "Input" sub-menu allows that input to be enabled or disabled , the name of that input to be altered, and all settings for that input to be reset to defaults.

The setup menu for the CD Player, the USB, and the Network inputs work identically, with the only difference being the name of the input in the CX-8.

If you wish to enable or disable the input, select the "Enable" option and then change the selected setting to "Enable" or "Disable". If disabled, the disabled input will not appear while cycling inputs while in operation mode.

The "Name" option allows the selected inputs display name to be changed. This can be changed to several pre-set options in the menu or to a custom name of your choice by selecting "Custom" in the "Input Name" menu. To enter a custom name, use the up or down arrows on the remote control to cycle through the available characters and press the "OK" button on the remote control or the previous track/next track keys to change the selected character to the left or right. If using the front panel of the CX-8, the right-hand button will cycle through available characters and the left-hand button will move the selected character to the right. Once the name has been entered successfully, press the back button on the remote control or press and hold the left-hand control button for three seconds to return to the previous menu. The "Reset" option sets the enable/disable settings back to default (enable) and the

Reset option, and then select the Yes option in the Reset name back to the default name for the input. To reset the input settings, select the "Input" submenu. The display will show "Please Wait…" while the settings are reverted to default before returning to the previous menu.

## Output Menu

The "Output Mode" menu allows selection of the active outputs used by the CX-8 when playing music from any input. These options are:

**Analog only** – Only outputs analog signals through the Analog XLR and RCA outputs of the CX-8. The digital outputs are disabled in this mode.

**Digital only** – Only outputs digital data through the AES/EBU, S/PDIF, and TOSLINK ports. The analog outputs are disabled in this mode.

**Analog + Digital** – All outputs are enabled.

It is recommended to set the outputs to the outputs actively being used in the CX-8 to ensure the best sonic performance.

## Display Menu

The display menu contains several options for the length of inactivity before the display times out and switches off. These range from 5 to 60 seconds to provide a variety of options based on your preference. In addition, the display timeout may be disabled entirely by selecting

the "Never" option in the menu. When selecting "Never", a warning will appear to inform the user that keeping the display on at all times will reduce the overall lifetime of the display.

⚠️ **If the display is set to never time out, ghost imaging may appear on the display from burn-in of the OLED segments.**

💡 Active displays in any product reduces the sonic performance of the unit. It is highly recommended to allow the display to turn off after a period of inactivity to enjoy the full potential of the player.

## Network Menu

The network menu contains several options for the connectivity and firmware of the optional network module of the CX-8. These options include "WiFi Setup", "Connection", "Check for Update", and "Reset". For further information on these options and their use, please refer to the Streaming and Networking section on page 31.

## System Menu

The system menu contains information on the firmware revisions installed via the "FW Revisions" selection, the options detected in the CX-8 via the "Options Installed" selection or can have all inputs and output settings reverted back to factory default through the "Factory Reset" selection in the system menu.

# Firmware Updates

*Firmware updates over the network may take up to 30 minutes, depending on your network connection.*

Firmware updates will be made available for the CX-8 as new features are added or as ease of use is improved. There are two methods for update the firmware of the CX-8; via the Network or via a USB flash drive.

For detailed information about firmware updates and to check for available updates, please visit https://www.ayre.com/support/

⚠ **Do not turn off the CX-8 while updates are in progress.**

## Firmware Updates via Network

If the Network option is installed in your CX-8, all firmware updates (SYS, DSP, and NET) can be performed automatically over the Internet.

*NET firmware can only be updated via the Network connection.*

Whenever the unit enters System-sleep mode, it will attempt to contact Ayre's servers and check for available updates. If any are found, you will be prompted to download and install them. You may also manually check for updates via the "Network" setup menu.

## Firmware Updates via USB

The system (SYS) and signal processing (DSP) firmware can be updated using the USB Firmware Update port on the rear of the unit.

When the unit is first powered on with the On / Off rocker switch, it will automatically check for a USB flash drive in the USB Firmware Update port. If a drive is detected, it will search for available firmware files and install them.

To perform a USB firmware update, please refer to the following procedure.

1) If the CX-8's firmware revisions do not match the revisions available at https://www.ayre.com/support/, you may download the new files from the website to your computer by following the links on the page.

2) The new firmware will be in a compressed folder called "CX8boot.zip". This compressed folder contains two program files, "cx8_p---.hex" and "cx8_x---.bin". Place these two files into a folder called "CX8boot" in the root directory of a USB flash drive. Please note the folder and program files are case sensitive.

⚠️ **Both program files should be placed into the USB flash drive at the following directory location: "[Drive:]/CX8boot/".**

3) Turn the power switch on the back panel of the CX-8 to the OFF position and allow several seconds for the device to power down.

4) Insert the USB flash drive into the port labeled "Firmware Update" on the back panel.

⚠ **Be sure to insert the flash drive into the Firmware Update port and not either of the USB Host ports, as these will not allow the unit to update.**

5) Turn the power switch on the back panel of the unit into the ON position. The firmware update will commence automatically, and the screen will show "Installing Update".

6) Once the update is complete, the unit will start as normal. Once in the System-sleep state, return the unit to operation mode by pressing the left-hand button.

7) The USB flash drive can be safely removed from the Firmware Update port.

# Networking

To begin streaming audio to your CX-8 over the network, you will first need to set up your connection. The CX-8 can be connected either with a standard Ethernet cable or with the included USB Wi-Fi adapter.

## Network Connection

Once set up, the CX-8 will be available for playback from a variety of applications.

Connection integrity has a significant effect on sound quality. The best quality audio will be achieved with a short, hard-wired connection to your home network. If a wireless connection is required, the best performance will be achieved by keeping the distance between your CX-8 and wireless router to a minimum.

## Connecting with an Ethernet cable

*If available, a hard-wired Ethernet connection is the best way to connect your CX-8 to your home network.*

Once connected to your home router with a standard Ethernet cable, the CX-8 will automatically connect to your home network and be available for use by any devices connected to the same network.

# Connecting Wirelessly

The three methods below will allow you to connect to your home network via Wi-Fi using the included USB Wi-Fi adapter. After performing one of these procedures, your CX-8 will automatically connect to your home Wi-Fi when it is powered on.

## Wi-Fi Connection using WPS

*Wi-Fi Protected Setup (WPS) is a common feature in wireless routers.*

If your Wi-Fi router supports WPS, this is likely the quickest and easiest way to connect your CX-8 to your home Wi-Fi network. You will need to know how to activate the WPS function on your wireless router.

1) Connect the included USB wireless network adapter to one of the two "USB Host" ports on the rear-panel of the CX-8.

2) Enter the Setup Menu and navigate to the Network sub-menu. From here, you can select "Wi-Fi Setup" and then "WPS Function".

3) Once confirmed, wait for the CX-8 display to change from "WPS Function: Initializing" to "WPS Function: Running".

4) Press the WPS button on your Wi-Fi router to begin the connection process.

5) The two devices will attempt to establish a connection, and when complete, the CX-8 will display "Connection success!" This may take about a minute.

## Wire-aided Wi-Fi Connection

*With a temporary wired connection, your Wi-Fi network information can be provided to the CX-8.*

To achieve the wire-aided Wi-Fi connection, you will need a smart device connected to your home network. You will also need to download and install the mConnect application to the device (page 36).

1) Connect the included USB Wi-Fi adapter to one of the two "USB Host" ports on the rear-panel of the CX-8. Also connect the unit to your home router using an Ethernet cable.

*To download mConnect, please visit the app store supported by your mobile device and search for "mConnect control".*

2) Using your smart device, open the mConnect application.

3) Access the mConnect setup menu using the gear icon on the player screen, then select "Device Setup".

4) Select "Ayre CX-8" from the list of available devices. You may need to refresh the list.

5) Select "Wi-Fi Network Selection".

6) Choose the desired Wi-Fi network from the list of available networks. You may need to refresh the list.

7) Type in your password. A notice will appear indicating "The device is attempting to connect to the network". Press OK.

8) After the wireless connection is established, you may disconnect the Ethernet cable and relocate the CX-8 if necessary.

# Wi-Fi Connection with the AP function

*By hosting its own network temporarily, the CX-8 allows you to connect to it with a smart device and provide your Wi-Fi network information.*

The Access Point (AP) function causes the CX-8 to temporarily host its own Wi-Fi network. By connecting to this network with a smart device, you may provide the CX-8 with your own Wi-Fi network information, similar to wire-aided Wi-Fi connection.

To perform the Access Point procedure, you will need a smart device connected to your home network. You will also need to download and install the mConnect application to the device (page 36).

*To download mConnect, please visit the app store supported by your mobile device and search for "mConnect control".*

1) Connect the included USB Wi-Fi adapter to one of the two "USB Host" ports on the rear-panel of the CX-8.

2) Enter the Setup Menu and navigate to the Network sub-menu. From here you can select "Wi-Fi Setup" and then the "AP Function".

3) Once "AP Function" has been selected, and confirmed, wait for the CX-8 display to change from "AP Function: Initializing" to "AP Function: Running".

4) Using your smart device, you will need to connect to the Wi-Fi network hosted by your CX-8, named "CX-8_---". The password is "password".

5) Once connected to the "CX-8_---" Wi-Fi network, open the mConnect application.

*Gear icon*

6) In the mConnect app, access the setup menu using the gear icon on the "Player" tab, then select "Device Setup".

7) Select "Ayre CX-8" from the list of available devices. You may need to refresh the list.

8) Select "Wi-Fi Network Selection".

9) Choose the desired Wi-Fi network from the list of available networks. You may need to refresh the list.

10) Type in your Wi-Fi network password then select "Join this Network". A notice will appear indicating, "The device is attempting to connect to the network". Press "OK".

11) At this point, the CX-8 will stop hosting its own network and attempt to join the network you selected. If it is successful, the CX-8 will display "Connection success!"

# Network Applications

The CX-8 network module supports a variety of network standards, which allows you to stream to and control the device. Below are a few of the supported applications. For a complete list, please visit:

 https://streaming.ayre.com

## mConnect Control

Some features supported by the CX-8 may only be available through the "mConnect Control" application. For a complete list of features, please visit the website above.

## Spotify

With a Spotify Premium account, the CX-8 becomes an available Spotify Connect device. Using the Spotify application, select the "Ayre CX-8" as the playback device.

## Roon

Roon is an advanced and powerful software application capable of relating, organizing and playing back a large digitally stored music library. As shipped from the factory, the CX-8 is a "Roon Ready Endpoint", which will allow you to connect to and control the CX-8 from a Roon control application.

## Generic UPnP Applications

A variety of applications across platforms support the DLNA standard, which allows them to stream music files to the CX-8. Searching for "UPnP control apps" in your device's application store will help you find available options.

# Specifications

| | |
|---|---|
| *Digital Inputs* | CD |

CD

- Redbook CD

USB (Optional)

- PCM 16, 20, 24 bits at 44.1 - 384 kHz
- DSD (as DoP) up to 2x (128)
- DSD-Raw up to 4x (256)

Network (Optional)

- PCM 16, 20, 24 bits at 44.1 - 384 kHz
- DSD up to 2x (128)

*XLR Input Polarity*

Pin 1 = Ground
Pin 2 = Non-inverting (Positive)
Pin 3 = Inverting (Negative)

*Power Consumption*

60 watts max

*IEC Power Fuse Values*

100/120V: 1.0A slow blow
220/230/240V: 0.5A slow blow

*Dimensions*

17.25" W x 13.00" D x 3.75" H (44 cm x 33 cm x 10 cm)

*Weight*

13 pounds (6 kgs)

# Trouble

In the event that you experience any technical difficulties with your Ayre product, the following items may help to solve the problem or track down the cause.

## Fault Messages

The Ayre CX-8 will display faults when a problem occurs. The following faults are listed, along with possible solutions to the problem:

### Low Voltage

*If you have trouble clearing any of these faults, contact your local Ayre dealer.*

If the AC line voltage supplied to the unit drops below operable levels for a brief period of time, this fault will be displayed. Once normal power is restored to the unit, a press of the left button will clear the message and the CX-8 will return to System Sleep mode.

If the fault persists, try restarting the CX-8.

### Update Error

If an error is detected during a firmware update process, this fault will be displayed.

Please try to update the unit again using the USB Firmware update method on page 28.

If the unit has become unresponsive, or if network functionality has been impacted, the update error may

have critically impacted the system and must be taken to an authorized Ayre dealer for repair.

## Persistent Faults

In the event that any fault persists, or if another issue occurs but is not displayed, please contact your Ayre dealer for further assistance.

## Network Connection Issues

If the CX-8 cannot be seen by devices on your home network or if playback is inconsistent, the following steps may help:

If you are using a wireless connection, try connecting the CX-8 with an Ethernet cable to see if that resolves the problem.

Visit the "Network Info" page in the setup menu (page 23) and verify that the CX-8 has been assigned an IP address on your home network. If both the "LAN IP" and "WLAN IP" fields are blank, or zeroes, there may be a connection issue between the CX-8 and your home network. Try reviewing the connection steps (page 28).

If you are experiencing streaming issues, visit the "FW Revisions" page in the setup menu (page 24) and verify that your NET firmware version matches the most recent found on the support web page.

# USB Connection Issues

If you are experiencing any issues with the USB audio input, please try the following:

Try using the stock USB A to B cable that came with your CX-8. Some custom USB cables, or cables of excessive length, can cause issues with USB connectivity and playback.

If the CX-8 appears as "Unknown USB device", or something similar on your computer, you may be experiencing a driver related issue. For more information about drivers, visit the product support page at https://www.ayre.com/support/.

# Statement of

# Warranty

## North American Warranty

Your Ayre Acoustics CX-8 CD Player is warrantied against defects in materials and workmanship for a period of five years (except for the disc transport mechanism which is warrantied for a period of two years) from the date the unit was shipped from Ayre. Additionally, you have the option at no cost to begin the warranty from your date of purchase by returning the completed Warranty Registration Card and a photocopy of your original purchase receipt in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to Ayre within ninety days of product delivery.

During the warranty period, Ayre will repair, or at our discretion, replace a product found to be faulty. All warranty repairs or service must be conducted by an authorized Ayre agent. Please contact your Ayre dealer for any service requests.

For further information regarding Ayre's warranty policy, please refer to the Warranty Registration Card included with your product.

# North American Warranty Statement

1. If any defects are found in the materials or workmanship of this Ayre product within the warranty period, the unit will be repaired or replaced by Ayre Acoustics, Inc. (Ayre) or its authorized agent.

2. Purchaser must return the product, packed in the original shipping carton, freight prepaid to Ayre or to Ayre's authorized agent.

The product must be accompanied by a written description of the defect and a photocopy of your original purchase receipt.

Ayre will not be responsible for any shipping damage and strongly recommends the purchase of shipping insurance.

3. Ayre reserves the right to inspect any product that is the subject of any warranty claim prior to repairing or replacing it. Final determination of warranty coverage lies solely with Ayre. Out-of-warranty claims will be billed for labor, materials, return freight, and insurance as required.

Any product for which a warranty claim is accepted will be returned to the purchaser and the cost of return shipping and insurance will be factory prepaid within the boundaries of the USA. Units to be shipped outside of the USA will be shipped freight collect only.

4. Ayre strives to manufacture the finest possible equipment, and therefore reserves the right to make improvements on its products, without necessarily assuming any obligation to retrofit such changes upon its previously manufactured models.

5. The above warranty is the sole warranty given by Ayre and is in lieu of all other warranties. All implied warranties, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose shall be strictly limited to the duration of the above warranty. Ayre shall have no further obligation of any kind, whether express or implied. Further, Ayre shall in no event be obligated for any incidental or consequential damages as a result of any defect or any warranty claim, whether express or implied.

6. Ayre does not authorize any third party, including any dealer or sales representative, to assume any liability of Ayre or make any warranty for Ayre. The unit must not have been altered or improperly serviced. The serial number on the unit must not have been altered or removed.

7. The remaining period of this warranty is only transferable to subsequent purchasers if the product is resold by an authorized Ayre dealer.

# International Warranty

Warranty terms outside of North America may vary. Please contact the authorized Ayre distributor in your country of purchase for the terms of warranty and also the service itself.

## A Place for

# Notes

*Serial Number:* _____

*Purchase Date:* _____

*Dealer:* _____

*Salesperson:* _____