

U3 Smart Drives and the Korg M3 FAQ

There are issues using U3 Smart Drives with the Korg M3, and we don't recommend using them without first re-formatting them. This FAQ will give you background on this technology and how to use these drives with your M3 Music Workstation.

Q: What is a "U3 Smart Drive?"

A: U3 is a company producing a proprietary method of auto-launching applications from specially formatted USB flash drives, most commonly used by the SanDisk Cruzer and Verbatim brands. Flash drives adhering to the U3 specification are termed "U3 smart drives". U3 smart drives come preinstalled with proprietary Windows software. This software is intended to allow the Flash Drive to write files or registry information to the host device.

Q: Why is the "U3 Smart Drive" different from other Flash Drives?

A: The hardware configuration of the "U3 Smart Drive" will show up on your computer as two separate drives:

- A read-only ISO 9660 volume on an emulated CD-ROM drive with an auto-run configuration to execute the U3 software
- A standard flash drive (FAT formatted) that includes a hidden "SYSTEM" folder with installed applications.

Q: How can I tell if my USB Flash Drive is a "U3 Smart Drive"?

A: Generally, Flash Drives with the U3 partition will indicate this with a U3 logo on the Flash Drive, and promotional information on the packaging.

Q: Can I use a "U3 Smart Drive" with my Korg M3 Music/Workstation?

A: Yes, but only after removing the "U3 partition" and then re-formatting the Flash Drive on the M3 Music/Workstation.

Q: How can I remove the U3 software?

A: This must be done using a computer – the M3's reformat routine is not designed to remove this type of active partition on the device. You can download U3 software removal utilities from the links below:

<http://u3uninstall.s3.amazonaws.com/U3Uninstall.exe> - Windows

<http://communities.sandisk.com/sandisk/board/message?board.id=u3&thread.id=1066> - Mac

Q: Should I format my new Flash Drive before I use it in my Korg M3 Music/Workstation?

A: Yes, we recommend that you always format a new Flash Drive using your M3 Music/Workstation before you first use it.

Q: Where can I find more information about the U3 software?

A: For more information about U3 software, please check out the links below

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U3>

<http://www.u3.com/>