

Logitech USB Receivers and Mice

Introduction

Logitech has made several technology changes to the seemingly mundane mice and keyboards. One of the innovations is the Unifying receiver. Logitech devices come with a variety of USB receivers, including the Nano Receiver and two newer Unifying receivers. The Unifying receivers allow the user to use a single receiver with up to 6 devices and are pictured below. The 2nd generation is on the left and the 1st generation is on the right.



Example 1

I recently changed keyboards to a K350, but I didn't like the mouse that it came with. I had a M705 mouse and plugged in its receiver and everything worked fine. I saw a message on my screen that if I used the Unifying software available [here](#), that I could remove one of the receivers. I ran the software and subsequently was able to remove the 2nd receiver freeing up a USB port for something else.

Example 2

I was using the 1st generation USB receiver and pretended that I lost it and inserted a different receiver which was a 2nd generation receiver and after running the Unifying software, both the keyboard and mouse worked. I had to use a wired mouse to run the software.

Example 3

- I had one mouse and one Unifying receiver plugged in to a USB port
- I ran the Logitech Unifying software
- It reported that I didn't have a Unifying receiver plugged in
- I unplugged and re-plugged my receiver and it was recognized

- I had another mouse with the power turned off
- I clicked Pair Another Device in the Unifying software and turned on the power of the 2nd mouse and it was recognized and worked - two mice with one receiver.

Notes

1. You don't have to replace a keyboard or mouse if you lose the USB receiver. Just purchase a new Unifying receiver online for a few dollars.
2. Any receiver, mouse or keyboard that you want to pair must have the Unifying symbol on the it (as shown below), usually on the bottom.



Receivers

I've seen 4 types of receivers as follows:

1. Nano receiver with **Logitech** logo without the Unifying symbol (1st Gen)
2. Nano receiver with **Logi** logo without the Unifying symbol (2nd Gen)
3. Unifying receiver with **Logitech** logo with the Unifying symbol (1st Gen)
4. Unifying receiver with **Logi** logo with the Unifying symbol (2nd Gen)

Nano receivers can only pair with one device, but Unifying receivers can pair with multiple devices. You can tell a Unifying Receiver by the orange symbol. The older technology limits pairing changes to a maximum of 45 times. The newer ones can be paired an unlimited number of times. A Logitech mouse or keyboard can only pair with one receiver, but the Unifying receivers can pair with up to 6 devices, except for the newest devices. See **Profiles** below for more information.

Receiver Profiles

While most devices only have one profile, newer products such as the Logitech MX Master and the MX Anywhere allow multiple profiles. These devices can be connected to multiple receivers simultaneously. This allows the use of different receivers in several computers (e.g., with a desktop and a laptop computer) by simply changing profiles on the mouse. This multi computer function is further augmented by Logitech Flow software. For other devices, the receiver and input devices can be moved together from one computer to another maintaining their paired status after being unplugged. Here's what Logitech says:

“Logitech’s flagship mouse is designed for power users and masters of their craft who want to get more done, more efficiently. MX Master 2S packs a punch with Logitech Flow that lets you seamlessly control two computers with one mouse and copy-paste content between them. Combined with other advanced features and a stunning design, it provides exceptional comfort, control, precision and customization. Control multiple computers with one Flow-enabled mouse. Automatically switch between computers by moving your cursor to the edge of the screen. Your mouse flows with you, even between Windows® and macOS® operating systems. Flow makes transferring text, images, and files between your computers effortless – just copy on one and paste to the other. It’s the simplest way to transfer information – eliminating the need to rely on cloud services or sending yourself emails with attachments. See a video [here](#)”.

Mice

One of the distinguishing features of a mouse is the surface on which it will work, or its tracking technology. This includes both Optical, Laser and Darkfield Laser technologies. The most advanced is the Darkfield Laser Tracking Technology which allows a mouse to track on almost any surface including glass.

Other available features depending on the model include the following:

- Adjustable DPI
- Adjustable Polling
- Wired, Wireless and/or Bluetooth connectivity
- Gesture and other programmable buttons
- Customizable lighting
- Sensor technology including Optical, Laser or Darkfield
- Connect to multiple PCs and copy and paste data between them
- Balance and weight tuning
- Replaceable or rechargeable battery, battery life
- Number of customizable buttons
- Ability to add weights to customize the feel

Tips

- I programmed my scroll wheel so that when I pushed it to the left it acted as an Application Switcher. This a great feature that not only allows you to switch between open programs but, lets you open recent documents or web pages. Push to the left again and it returns you to where you were.

My latest and best-ever mouse

I have been using the Logitech G502 Hero mouse. It's marketed as a Gaming mouse and it's wired, not wireless. I'm not a gamer currently but wanted a more accurate mouse for graphic editing and it works well with MS Word, Photoshop and browsing the web. I'll list several features below:

- Resolution from 200 to 16,000 DPI
- You can add weights to suit your needs
- Polling rate from 125 to 1,000 Hz
- Eleven programmable buttons for Keystrokes, Macros or Functions

Resources

1. Wikipedia article [here](#).
2. Logitech Unifying software [here](#).
3. Logitech Flow tips [here](#).
4. Logitech Setpoint software [here](#).
5. Logitech Options software for setting up Flow [here](#).
6. Logitech MX Master with Multi-Computer Control and Flow technology [here](#).
7. For a list of Logitech products click [here](#).