



# EMax® Plus

Microplate Reader

Installation Guide

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# Introduction

The EMax<sup>®</sup> Plus Microplate Reader is a filter-based absorbance microplate reader with eight standard filters for a wide range of applications. An external computer running the SoftMax<sup>®</sup> Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software provides integrated instrument control, data display, and statistical data analysis.

## Computer Integration

Each Molecular Devices microplate reader is shipped with a license key for the SoftMax<sup>®</sup> Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software that you install on the computer that you use to operate the instrument. The SoftMax Pro Software provides integrated instrument control, data display, and statistical data analysis.

You should install the SoftMax Pro Software on the computer before you set up the instrument. Please be aware that some updates to the SoftMax Pro Software require a purchase. Contact Molecular Devices before you update the software. To download the latest version of the software, visit:

<https://www.moleculardevices.com/products/microplate-readers/acquisition-and-analysis-software/softmax-pro-software#Order>.



**Note:** For information about the computer specifications that are required to run the software, the software installation and licensing instructions, and the directions to create the software connection between the computer and the instrument, see the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software Installation Guide*.

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## Setting Up the Instrument

Before you unpack and set up the instrument, prepare a dry, flat work area that has sufficient space for the instrument, host computer, and required cables. To provide access for disconnecting power from the instrument, maintain a 20 cm to 30 cm (7.9 in. to 11.8 in.) gap between the rear of the instrument and the wall. To ensure sufficient ventilation, do not block the ventilation grid on the right side of the instrument.

The package contains the instrument and accessories to set up the instrument:

- SoftMax Pro Software, product key, and installation guide
- EMax Plus Microplate Reader Installation Guide
- USB computer connection cable
- AC power adapter

For a complete list of the package contents, see the enclosed packing list.

The SoftMax Pro Software installation places a copy of the available microplate reader user guides (.pdf) in the following location on the computer:

C:\ProgramData\Molecular Devices\User Guides

The most recent version of the microplate reader user guides and the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software User Guide* are available on the Molecular Devices Knowledge Base:

In the software, select the **Home** tab, click **Contact Us**, and then select **Knowledge Base**.

Or go to [www.moleculardevices.com/service-support](http://www.moleculardevices.com/service-support).

Install the SoftMax Pro Software on the computer that operates the microplate reader. See the *SoftMax Pro Data Acquisition and Analysis Software Installation Guide*.

The packaging is designed to protect the instrument during shipment. You must remove the transport locks before you power on the instrument.



**Note:** Retain the shipping box and all packing materials for future transport needs.

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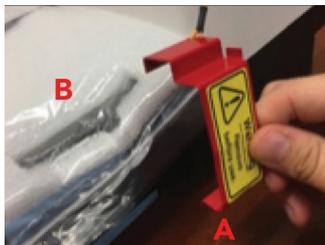


**CAUTION!** When transporting the instrument, warranty claims are void if damage during transport is caused by improper packaging.

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To unpack the instrument:

1. Check the box for damage that occurred during transportation. Inform the supplier immediately and keep the damaged packaging.
2. Open the top of the box.
3. Lift the accessories tool box and the instrument from the package and place the instrument on a level surface.
4. To remove the red transport lock (A), place one hand on top of the lock, and then use your other hand to carefully pull the bottom of the lock until it comes free of the instrument.



5. Remove the padded plastic bag that covers the instrument (B).

6. Follow the orange string attached to the red transport lock to a screw located underneath the instrument. Carefully move or tilt the instrument away from the table to access the screw.



7. Use your fingers to remove the transport lock screw.

## Connecting Instrument Cables

The power cord and USB cable connect to the ports on the rear of the instrument.

| Illustration  | Part Number            | Description                                       |
|---|------------------------|---|
|  | VZ 000 014             | USB computer connection cable, 3 meter (9.8 foot) |
|  | 4400-0002 or 4400-0036 | Power cord, 1 meter (3.3 foot)                    |



**Note:** Before you connect or disconnect the power cord, make sure that the power switch on the rear of the instrument is in the Off position.

To connect the instrument cables:

1. Make sure that the power switch on the rear of the instrument is in the Off position.
2. Connect one end of the supplied USB cable to the USB port on the rear of the instrument and the other end to a USB port on the computer.
3. Connect the supplied power adapter to the power port on the rear of the instrument and then connect the other end to a grounded electrical wall outlet.

## Getting Started

Now that you installed the SoftMax Pro Software on the computer, removed the transport locks, and connected the cables, it is time to get started.

1. Set the power switch on the rear of the instrument to the On position. The instrument performs a start up sequence where the indicator lights on the front of the instrument illuminate and the plate drawer opens.
2. Start the software on the computer. To start the software under normal conditions, wait for the instrument to complete the start-up sequence, and then double-click the **SoftMax Pro** icon on the desktop to start the program.

When you first set up the instrument it might be necessary to install USB drivers included with the SoftMax Pro Software.

Power off the instrument when not in use.

## Obtaining Support

Molecular Devices is a leading worldwide manufacturer and distributor of analytical instrumentation, software, and reagents. We are committed to the quality of our products and to fully supporting our customers with the highest level of technical service.

Our Support website, [www.moleculardevices.com/service-support](http://www.moleculardevices.com/service-support), has a link to the Knowledge Base, which contains technical notes, software upgrades, safety data sheets, and other resources. If you still need assistance after consulting the Knowledge Base, you can submit a request to Molecular Devices Technical Support.

Please have the instrument serial number, (on the rear of the instrument) and any related sample data files available when you call.

## Contact Us

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