

User's Guide

Creative Live! Cam Voice

How to use this manual

This document has been designed to provide you with complete product knowledge. You can resize the document window or print this document, access linked web sites and get information from specially prepared graphics.

- To jump to a linked topic or a web site, click the underlined blue text, or the hand symbol  whenever it appears.
- To show a short description (tooltip) of an object, move your mouse cursor over it. A tooltip appears after a few seconds.

You can choose to print portions of this document:

1. On the Contents tabbed page to your left, click a topic heading.
2. On the menu, click the Print button.
3. In the dialog box that appears, click the option to print one topic only, or all topics under a heading.



1

Introduction

Introduction

Congratulations on purchasing your Creative Live!® Cam Voice. You can enjoy fantastic voice clarity and high quality video images while video chatting with your friends and loved ones. This webcam captures 24-bit videos and still photos in 16.7 million colors at resolutions up to SXGA (1280 x 960). Its built-in microphones enable you to lean back and chat comfortably while video chatting!

Read on to learn more about your web camera and how to use it to enhance your video chatting experience.

Before You Begin

Package Contents

Your webcam package contains the following items:

- ☐ Creative Live! Cam Voice with USB cable attached
- ☐ Creative Live! Cam Voice Installation CD
- ☐ Hands-free Headset
- ☐ Quick Start Booklet



Note

- Contents may vary depending on product model and region of purchase.

README file

The README file on the CD-ROM contains late-breaking or other information that supplements the product documentation. Read the file before you begin installing your webcam.



Minimum System Requirements

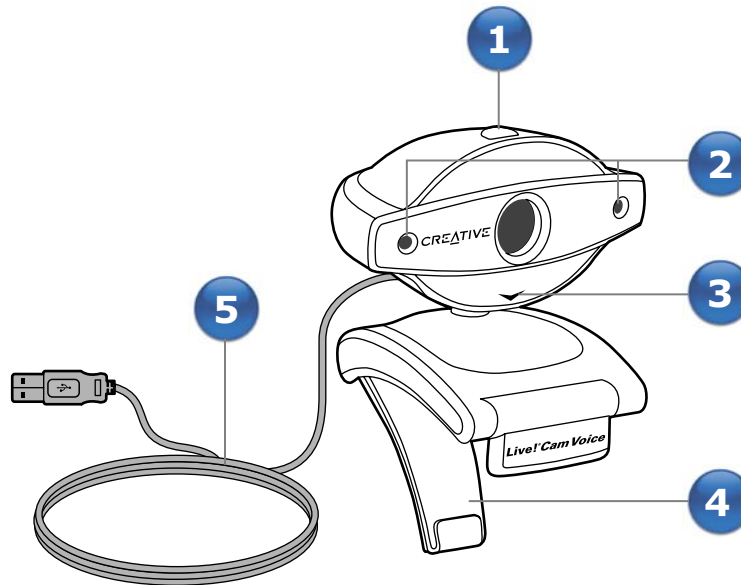
- ☐ Intel® Pentium® III or AMD® equivalent processor running at 850 MHz or higher (Intel Pentium 4, 2.8 GHz recommended)
- ☐ Microsoft® Windows® XP or Windows 2000
- ☐ 128 MB RAM (256 MB RAM or higher recommended)
- ☐ 100 MB free hard disk space (excludes third party software installation)
- ☐ Available USB 1.1 port or a USB 1.1 hub with external power supply (USB 2.0 required for maximum frame rate and resolution)
- ☐ 16-bit true color display
- ☐ CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive for software installation
- ☐ Sound Blaster® or other Windows-compatible audio card. Sound Blaster 16 or higher required for simultaneous two-way conversation with full-duplex support.

For Video Instant Messaging

- ☐ Modem or LAN access to the Internet at 56 Kbps or faster

About Creative Live! Cam Voice

The figure below highlights the features of Creative Live! Cam Voice.



	Component	Description
1.	Snapshot button	Press to launch WebCam Center (when Cam Detector is running in the background) and capture images.
2.	Microphones	Captures voices clearly during video chats.

	Component	Description
3.	Power LED	Lights up green when your webcam is connected to your computer's USB port. Lights up red when performing video and/or audio capture.
4.	Hinged lever	Use this to mount your camera on an LCD display panel.
5.	USB cable	Connect to your computer's USB port.



2

Installing Your Webcam

Installing Your Webcam

You need to install device drivers and applications before using your webcam.

Do not connect your webcam to your computer before installing the drivers.

If you accidentally begin installation with your webcam connected and the **Add New Hardware Wizard** or **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears, click the **Cancel** button.

1. Insert the Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive. Your CD should start automatically. If it does not, follow the steps below:
 - i. Double-click the **My Computer** icon.
Alternatively, click **Start** → **My Computer**.
 - ii. Right-click the CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive icon, and then click **Autoplay**.
2. Select the region you are in and then click the **Next** button.
3. Select a language and then click the **Next** button.
4. Click the options for installing drivers and applications, and then click the **Install** button.
5. When prompted, connect your webcam's USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (see "Connecting Your Webcam" on page 2-3). Windows automatically detects the device.
6. To complete the installation, follow the appropriate steps below:

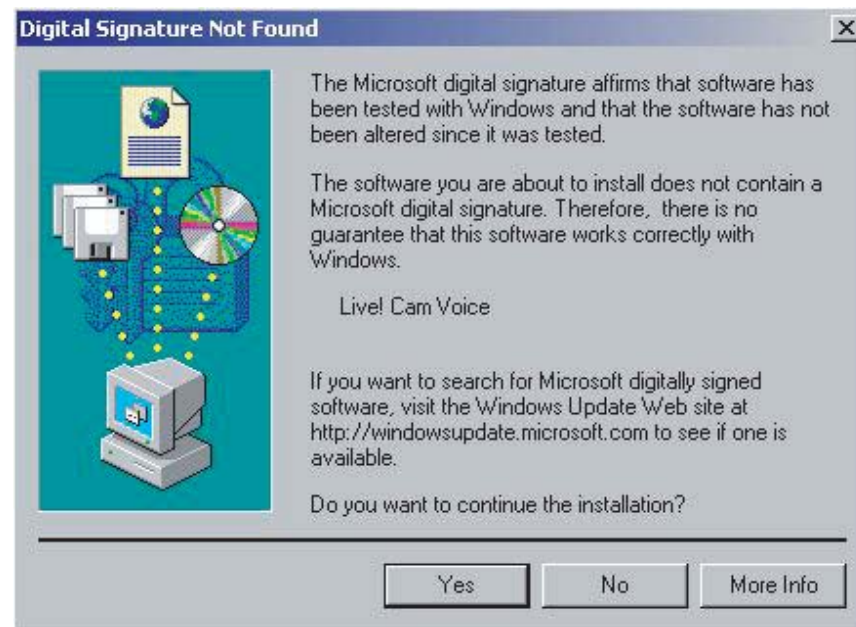
For Windows XP

- i. When the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears, select **Install the software automatically (Recommended)**, and then click the **Next** button.
- ii. Follow the instructions on screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after the drivers have been successfully installed, if you want to restart your computer. Select **No** until all the applications are installed.
- iii. Restart your computer after all the applications have been installed.

To verify the installation, see "Verifying the installation in Windows XP and Windows 2000".

For Windows 2000

- i. When a **Digital Signature Not Found** dialog box appears (see figure below), telling you that **Creative Live! Cam Voice** has been detected, click the **Yes** button.



- ii. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after the drivers have been successfully installed, if you want to restart your computer. Select **No** until all the applications are installed.
- iii. Restart your computer after all the applications have been installed. To verify the installation, see "Verifying the installation in Windows XP and Windows 2000".



Note

For users with USB 2.0-equipped computers only

Creative Installation automatically checks that the software components required for optimal USB 2.0 performance are installed on your computer, and alerts you if these components are missing. If you receive such a message, do one of the following to ensure that your webcam always performs to its fullest potential over a USB 2.0 connection:

- download and install the latest Windows Service Pack for your operating system
- if you are using Windows XP SP1, install Windows XP Hotfix KB822603
- install the USB 2.0 driver provided by your hardware vendor

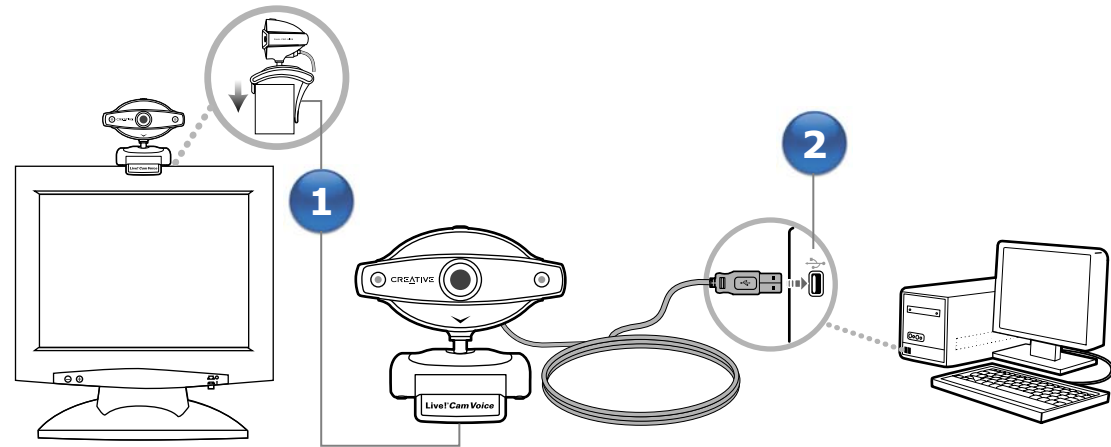
The latest Windows Service Packs and Windows Hotfix KB822603 can be obtained from the Microsoft Help and Support website or via Windows Update.

Connecting Your Webcam

Do not connect your webcam to your computer before installing the drivers. To install your drivers, see "Installing Your Webcam" on page 2-1.

Place your webcam on top of your computer monitor or other flat surface. For LCD flat panel monitors or notebook computers, use the integrated hinged lever to mount the camera.

Follow the diagram below to connect your webcam.



	Component
1.	Hinged lever
2.	USB port



Note

- You can connect your webcam while your computer is turned on.
- You can attach your webcam to a USB hub or device with its own dedicated power supply.



Verifying the
installation in
Windows XP and
Windows 2000

1. Right-click the **My Computer** icon on your desktop or in the Windows Start menu.
2. On the menu that appears, click **Properties**.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Hardware** tab.
4. Click the **Device Manager** button. A window appears.
5. Click the plus (+) sign next to the **Imaging Device** icon.
The entry "Live! Cam Voice" appears.
6. Click the plus (+) sign next to the **Sound, Video and Game controllers** icon.
The entry "Live! Cam Voice (Mic)" appears.



3

Creative Live! Cam Voice Applications

Creative Live! Cam Voice Applications

The Installation CD includes the following:

- ☐ Creative WebCam Center
- ☐ Creative Photo Manager
- ☐ Creative Photo Calendar
- ☐ muvee® autoProducer™
- ☐ Orb™ with OrbSecure
- ☐ SightSpeed™
- ☐ Yahoo!® Messenger



Note

- The applications included with your webcam may differ from those described here.

Creative WebCam Center

With this powerful application, you can record videos, take pictures and perform advanced tasks like remote monitoring, motion detection and time lapse video capturing. There are various settings for you to adjust, allowing you to optimize the quality of your pictures and videos. You can also browse all your photos and videos at one convenient location. For details, see "Using Creative WebCam Center".



Creative Photo Manager

With Creative Photo Manager, you can organize, arrange and manage all your photos and videos. It also comes with enhanced features and effects for advanced photo and video management.

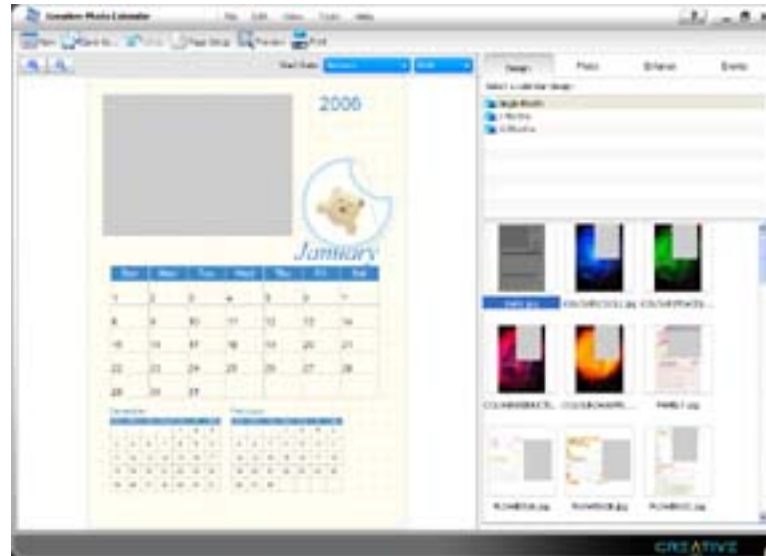
For additional information and usage instructions, see the application's Help.



Creative Photo Calendar

Use Creative Photo Calendar to design and create your own photo calendar for print. You can also insert your own lunar calendar dates, public holidays and special events.

You can have your personalized photo calendar ready in three easy steps: just create, save and print!



muvee autoProducer

With muvee autoProducer, you can create videos easily and quickly. Its fantastic video editing technology enables you to produce professional videos in an amazingly short period of time. Simply shoot it, muvee it and share it!

For additional information and usage instructions, see the application's Help.



Orb with OrbSecure

Perfect for remote monitoring, Orb with OrbSecure is your personal home security application. From anywhere and at any time, you can view your home to assure yourself that all is right.

When used together with Internet-connected devices such as notebooks or Personal Digital Assistants, Orb with OrbSecure also gives you instant access to files on your home computer.

For additional information and usage instructions, see the application's Help.



Note

- Only available for American customers.

SightSpeed

SightSpeed is an easy-to-use technology that transforms your computer into a video phone. With SightSpeed, you can see and hear your co-workers, friends and family, no matter how far away they are, without incurring long-distance fees. You can have multiparty conference and video calls with up to four people seeing and hearing one another simultaneously!

For additional information and usage instructions, see the application's Help.



Yahoo! Messenger

Enhance your Internet messaging and web chat experience with Yahoo! Messenger services. For additional information and usage instructions, see the application's Help.





4

Using Creative WebCam Center

Using Creative WebCam Center

Creative WebCam Center makes it easy to capture images and video with your webcam. You can also perform advanced tasks like remote monitoring, motion detection and time lapse video capturing.

You can start Creative WebCam Center in any of the following ways:

- ❑ Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative WebCam** → **Creative WebCam Center**.
- ❑ Right-click the **Creative Cam Detector** icon  in your taskbar, and select **Launch WebCam Center**.
- ❑ Plug your camera into the USB port and let Windows auto-detect it. You can choose to start Creative WebCam Center in **Capture** mode from a popup window that appears.



Note

- If Creative WebCam Center does not recognize the camera correctly, see "Frequently Asked Questions" on page C-1.
- Creative WebCam Center automatically detects your installed model of webcam, and disables any unsupported features in the user interface.

For more information about the application's features and settings, refer to its Help file.

To start the Help file: In Creative WebCam Center's main window, click *Help*.

Capturing Images and Videos

Taking a Photo

1. In the **Creative WebCam Center** window, click the **Capture** tab.
2. Click the **Photo** Resolution box and select the resolution that you want.
3. Click the **Snap photo** button  to capture an image. Images are saved as files in the default media folder.

To view the images in the image viewer, double-click the image files in the **Thumbnails / Details** pane.



Note

- Your photo resolution is determined by your video resolution. To adjust your photo resolution, select the video resolution that you want.

Recording a Video

1. In the **Creative WebCam Center** window, click the **Capture** tab.
2. Click the **Video** Resolution box and select the resolution that you want.
3. Click the **Record** button  to start and stop video recording.

Videos are saved as files in the default media folder when you stop recording.

To view the videos in the video viewer, double-click the video files in the **Thumbnails / Details** pane.

Using Face Tracking

With Face Tracking, your camera automatically zooms in on your face during video instant messaging sessions, or when recording video.

Using color detection technology that locks on to skin tone, your camera will zoom in on and frame your face in real time. Face Tracking also recognizes and detects all faces if there is more than one face in your camera's field of view.



Face Tracking has two tracking modes:

- ☐ **Continuous**
The tracker continuously follows each face movement (Note: Avoid selecting this mode if there is rapid head movement as continuous tracking movement can result in jerky video).
- ☐ **Smart**
The tracker waits until your head stops moving before framing your face.

Enabling Face Tracking

You can enable Face Tracking in the Face Tracking Utility. You can launch the Face Tracking Utility in the following ways:

- ☐ In WebCam Center, select **Creative Live! Cam Voice** and click **Tools → Face Tracking Utility**.
- ☐ Right-click the **Creative Cam Detector** icon in the System Tray and select the **Face Tracking Utility** option.

If you have more than one camera installed in your computer, you must first select the camera that you want.

- ❑ Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative Live! Cam Voice** → **Face Tracking Utility**.



Note

- Face Tracking is only available with selected webcams. You will not see the **Face Tracking Utility** option if your camera does not support Face Tracking.

Tips for successful Face Tracking

- ❑ Make sure the white balance is correctly adjusted so that there is no color cast. To quickly adjust white balance, place a blank sheet of white paper about 20 cm (8-inches) in front of your webcam for three seconds.
- ❑ Make sure your face is well lit and not over- or under-exposed. An over-exposed face appears white whereas an under-exposed face appears dark.
- ❑ Avoid backgrounds and clothing that are the same color as human skin.
- ❑ Avoid sleeveless clothing.
- ❑ The tracker is sensitive to head movement. In the unlikely event that the tracker fails to detect very small head movements, gently move your head to attract the attention of the tracker.
- ❑ The tracker is set to work best at the default color saturation setting. Changing this setting, especially to one of the extreme ends, will affect the performance of the tracker.
- ❑ Place the camera on a sturdy surface. The Face Tracking feature is very sensitive to movement, and holding the camera can cause the software not to track properly.

Using the Pan and Tilt feature

With the digital Pan and Tilt feature, you can control your webcam's view in zoom mode without moving your webcam manually. The software lets you adjust the view by panning horizontally, vertically and diagonally in eight different directions. Select one of the following options to start controlling your webcam's view directly from your computer.

- ☐ With WebCam Center
- ☐ With Pan and Tilt Control.

With WebCam Center

1. In Creative WebCam Center, make sure Face Tracking is not enabled, and you are not in **My Recordings** mode.
2. On the video pane, click the **Zoom In** slider to enable the feature.
3. Move your mouse toward the direction you want to view. An arrow appears on the screen.
4. Click the arrow. Your camera view moves toward the direction indicated by the arrow.
5. To bring the camera view back to its default position, move your mouse

toward the center of the video pane, and then click the symbol  that appears.

With Pan and Tilt Control

1. Launch Pan and Tilt Control in the following ways:
 - In WebCam Center, select **Creative Live! Cam Voice** and click **Tools** → **Pan and Tilt Control**.
 - Right-click the **Creative Cam Detector** icon in the System Tray and select the **Pan and Tilt Control** option.
If you have more than one camera installed in your computer, you must first select the camera that you want.
 - Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative Live! Cam Voice** → **Pan and Tilt Control**.
2. On the **Pan and Tilt** window, click the **Zoom In** button to enable the Pan and Tilt feature.

3. To change the field of view, click any of the directional buttons. Alternatively, you can also navigate your camera view by pressing the arrow keys on your keyboard.
4. To zoom in or out of the camera's field of view, click the zoom button you want.



Understanding the WebCam Audio Control feature

The WebCam Audio Control feature activates your webcam's stereo microphones, freeing you from wearing a headset during video chatting. The WebCam Audio Control feature includes audio enhancements like noise cancellation and directional beam. This patented technological feature will redefine voice clarity for video chatting.

There are three types of audio control:

☐ **Normal**

The sensitive stereo microphones in your webcam let you to speak comfortably, from a distance of up to 48 inches (1.2 metres) away.

☐ **Noise Cancellation**

This speech-centric feature removes environmental and background noise by improving the signal-to-noise ratio and enabling higher voice recognition rates.

☐ **Directional Beam with Noise Cancellation**

This directional beam feature centers the microphone sensitivity on your voice and reduces pickup of surrounding noise.

Launching WebCam Audio Control

1. Launch WebCam Audio Control using one of the following methods:
 - In WebCam Center, select **Creative Live! Cam Voice** and click **Tools** → **WebCam Audio Control**.
 - Right-click the **Creative Cam Detector** icon in the System Tray and select **WebCam Audio Control**.
If you have more than one camera installed in your computer, you must first select the camera that you want.
 - Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative Live! Cam Voice** → **WebCam Audio Control**.
2. On the **WebCam Audio Control** window, click the audio control mode that you want.



Note

- This feature is only available for Creative Live! Cam Voice.
- It is recommended that you set Directional Beam with Noise Cancellation as the default setting before you begin video chatting.
- To change your default recording device settings, see "Frequently Asked Questions" on page C-1.



5

Using Creative WebCam Features

Using Creative WebCam Features

Enabling Advanced Video FX Utility

Advanced Video FX Utility enables you to add fun and interesting effects to your webcam video. You can launch the Advanced Video FX Utility in the following ways:

- ❑ Right-click the **Creative Cam Detector** icon in the System Tray and click the **Advanced Video FX Utility** option
- ❑ Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative WebCam** → **Advanced Video FX Utility**

To apply a video effect, do the following:

1. Launch Advanced Video FX Utility.
2. Click the **Select Category** box (if available), and select the type of effect you want.
3. Click the **Select Effect** box, and select the specific effect you want.
4. Launch WebCam Center.
Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative WebCam** → **Creative WebCam Center**.
5. In WebCam Center, select **Creative WebCam (With Video Effects)** from the **Device list** box.



Note

- Make sure you launch Advanced Video FX Utility before launching WebCam Center.
- The **Select Category** box is available only when you download more video effects. For more information, click **More** → **More video effects**.
To add the downloaded video effects to Advanced Video FX Utility, click **More** → **Add video effects**.



- For more information on Advanced Video FX Utility, refer to the Creative WebCam Features online Help.

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A

Technical Specifications

Technical Specifications

Construction	☐ Creative Live! Cam Voice with an attached USB cable
Power	☐ Supplied by a USB port
Sensor	☐ 1.3 Megapixels Sensor
Video Resolution	☐ Up to 1.3 Megapixels (true resolution)
Picture Resolution	☐ Up to 5 Megapixels software enhancement with Creative WebCam Center
Video formats	☐ RGB24 ☐ I420
Audio	☐ Frequency: 200 Hz - 10 000 Hz ☐ Sensitivity: -44dB, +/-4dB
Exposure control	☐ Automatic
White balance	☐ Automatic
Field-of-view	☐ 85 degrees +/- 5% (diagonal)
Focus range	☐ 15 centimeters (6 inches) to infinity
Port compatibility	☐ Universal Serial Bus (USB) 1.1 and 2.0



Software compatibility

- ❑ TWAIN, Video for Windows, and WDM MiniDriver for DirectShow that runs in Windows XP and Windows 2000.

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B

Note on USB Compatibility

Note on USB Compatibility

While testing your webcam on motherboards with integrated Universal Serial Bus (USB) ports, we encountered a small number of motherboards that do not meet the USB specification exactly. These and other non-USB-compliant motherboards may not operate correctly with your webcam. Fortunately, the manufacturers of some of these motherboards have released new versions of motherboards or BIOS to address the problem.

If the setup program warns you that your motherboard's USB port is incompatible with your webcam, or if the camera does not work on your system and you suspect that the problem may be related to your computer's USB port, the following is a list of available options:

1. Contact your computer vendor.
Your computer vendor may be able to upgrade your motherboard or its BIOS to a newer version that addresses USB incompatibilities.
2. Use a PCI host adapter that provides USB connectors.
If you are not able to upgrade your motherboard or its BIOS, we recommend this approach.
3. Attach your webcam to a USB hub with an external power supply.

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C

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions

This section covers questions you might have while using your webcam. If you have more questions about this product, you may wish to consult our self-help tool "Knowledge Base". Go to www.creative.com, select your region and then select **Support**.

The audio enhancement (for directional beam) feature cannot be enabled during video chatting.

To resolve this problem:

1. Exit from your video chatting application.
2. Click **Start** → **Programs** or **All Programs** → **Creative** → **Creative Live! Cam Voice** → **WebCam Audio Control**.
3. Select **Directional Beam with Noise Cancellation**.
4. Start your video chatting application.



Note

- Set Directional Beam as your default audio enhancement feature to enable changing of audio enhancement settings during video chatting.

Unable to capture audio using another recording device.

Creative Live! Cam Voice is the default recording device. To change a recording device, follow the steps below:

1. Click **Start** → **Settings** → **Control Panel** → **Sounds and Audio Devices**.
2. Click the **Audio** tab.

3. Select the device that you want from the Sound recording **Default device** list box.



Note

- Repeat the steps above if you want your webcam to be the default recording device subsequently.

An application reports that the video driver is already in use, or that the camera cannot be found.

The camera is not properly connected.

To resolve this problem:

4. Ensure that the camera's USB connector is inserted, and that the USB connector is enabled in the BIOS. Refer to your computer's documentation for information on the BIOS.
5. Reinstall the video capture drivers and restart your computer.

My computer cannot detect the camera when I connect the camera with an extended USB cable.

To resolve this problem:

- ☐ Connect the camera directly to a USB port on your computer.
Make sure the camera is connected to the USB port at the back of your computer. Some USB ports at the front of computers may not supply sufficient power for your camera.

The webcam does not light up, or in Windows 2000, the computer restarts for no apparent reason.

You may have USB devices drawing too much power from your computer. This can happen especially when connecting USB devices to a passive or self-powered USB hub. In Windows XP, a **USB Hub Power Exceeded** dialog box appears.

Try the following:

- ☐ Connect the camera directly to your computer's USB port.
- ☐ Use a USB hub with an external power supply.

Insufficient system resources reserved for the USB port, causing the system to be unable to function.

There are too many devices in the system, causing IRQ problems with the system's USB controller.

Do the following:

1. Remove some devices from the system.
2. Restart the system.
The computer reallocates resources.

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Appendixes

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License and Copyright

License and Copyright

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The Software License Agreement is found in a separate folder on the installation CD.

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