

Louet North America Electronic Dobby Interface Installation Instructions

For



Megado



north america

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Congratulations on your purchase of a LOUET MEGADO dobby loom and electronic interface. You will find the use of the loom to be easy and a great way to improve the efficiency in your weaving. We wish you success with this LOUET product.

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1. Parts included with the interface



1 x 9 pin Serial cable - Male connector on one side, female connector on the other side



1 x USB Cable



1 x Power cable - We ship North American or European power cords, depending on the destination of the interface



2 x Spare 250V, 10 AMP fuses (these fuses work with 110V as well as 220V)



2 x Barrel nut



2 x Threaded Rod



4 x Knurled Nuts



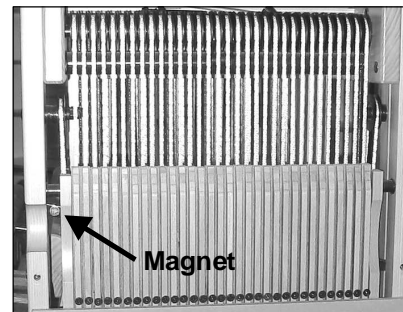
4 x Washers

1 x Rare earth magnet (no image)

Please note that the interface works with the serial port or the USB port. The interface has a built-in serial to USB converter. To use the Interface through the USB port, first install the USB driver. You can find the appropriate driver for your computer on our web site. Please go to www.louet.com

2. Interface installation

- (a) Install the two barrel nuts into the loom castle. Make sure the slots are facing outwards, and pointing in the same direction as the threaded rods being installed.
- (b) Insert the threaded rods through the castle and into the barrel nuts. Turn the threaded rods by hand until they are tight. Do not over tighten since this could damage the wood of the castle.
- (c) Slide one washer over the threaded rod and turn one knurled nut onto each threaded rod. knurled nut and the castle. Make sure this clearance is the same on both sides.
- (d) Slide another washer over both threaded rods.
- (e) Slide the interface over the threaded rods.
- (f) While making sure you support the interface, slide the remaining washers over the threaded rods, and install the knurled nuts. Make sure the nuts are tight.
- (g) Place the magnet on the Dobby knife as shown in picture to the right. Make sure the magnet will line up with the magnetic switches in the interface box
- (h) The magnetic switches are the black “dots” in the wooden block at the front of the interface.
- (i) Hook-up the serial cable or the USB cable to the computer. If you use the USB cable you need to make sure the USB driver has been installed.
- (j) Hook-up the power cord.
- (k) Assure that the voltage showing in the red window of the power entry module shows the proper voltage (110V or 220V) for your installation.



3. Third party software

Since the introduction of our first Electronic Dobby loom, we have worked with several weaving software companies. These companies developed drivers for our interfaces.

Make sure that you communicate with your weaving software provider regarding the type of loom you have, information about your computer, including the operating system on your computer, and that you get the proper driver for the interface.

- a) Fiberworks PCW
- b) Proweave
- c) Weave it
- d) Weavemaker
- e) Patternland
- f) PixieLoom

4. Operating the loom and interface

With the power cord and serial/USB cord hooked up, turn on the power switch. All the solenoids will temporarily activate and immediately de-activate. You will also notice that the cooling fan runs, and the red light on the control panel is turned on.

Start the weaving program on the computer and select a pattern. Now activate the weaving process on the software.

A signal will go from the computer to the interface, activating the selected solenoids. Push down the treadle and raise the selected harnesses. You will notice that after you have started the downward motion of the treadle, at a certain point the solenoids will be de-activated. This means that the interface is ready for the next pick. When the treadle is returned to the rest position, a new pick will be activated by the magnetic sensors.

5. Trouble shooting

If the interface does not react to a command of the computer:

Take the interface off the loom

1) Determine if you have power.

Turn on the power. The red light should come on, indicating there is power on the interface. Also the solenoids should temporarily activate and immediately de-activate, and the fan will start running.

If this does not happen, remove the fuse holder from the power entry module, and replace the fuses.

You need a small screwdriver to do this. See the section on power requirements.

Repeat the process to confirm you have power on the interface.

2) Run the self-test.

While depressing the white switch on the interface, turn on the power switch. When the first solenoid activates, you can let go of the white switch. The interface will cycle through all 16 or 32 solenoids, and then it will repeat. With a 16 harness Megado you will observe that there is a time lag before the repeat begins. This is because the interface is trying to cycle through 32 shafts. This test shows the circuit board is working properly.

3) Determine whether the interface communicates with the computer

With the interface off of the loom, remove the magnet from the loom. Switch on the interface, select a pattern in the weaving software and tell the software to "WEAVE". Hold the magnet in front of the top magnetic sensor. The first "pick" should activate. Slide the magnet down to the bottom sensor. You should see all solenoids de-activate. Slide the magnet back up to the top switch, where the next pick will activate. This mimics the action of the loom. The top sensor selects the next pick. The bottom sensor de-activates the solenoids.

If the solenoids activate according to the signals of the computer, the problem is the location of the magnet on the loom.

Solution - You need to re-adjust the actual location of the magnet. See adjusting the knife bar in the loom instructions

If the solenoids do not activate, there is no communication between the computer and the interface.

Check that the serial/USB cable is connected properly. Try another serial/USB cable to verify the cable is not faulty. If this does not work, please contact Louet North America info@louet.com

Irregularities in the in the advancement of the next pick

See above. Misalignment of the magnet is the probable cause.

Solenoids do not extend far enough

Adjust the knurled nuts. This will move the box closer to the dobbie bars.

6. Power and computer requirements

The Electronic interface will operate on both 110V and 220V. The operating voltage is displayed in the red window in the power entry module. Operating voltage and fuses can be changed by opening this window with a small screwdriver. Next, remove the fuse holder with the same small screwdriver. Change fuses if required, and put the fuse holder back, showing the appropriate voltage (110V or 220V)

The computing requirements are very modest, and both new and older computers can be used. It is actually a good place to use an older computer. An older PC or laptop running an older Windows or MAC OS is recommended, but not required. Also, a computer not connected to the Internet is recommended since Anti-virus software can also cause communication issues. Both PC's and Mac computers will communicate with the Louet interface.

7. Warranty

Louet North America offers a 2-year parts and labour warranty for our Electronic Interface.

For all warranty issues, contact Louet North America at info@louet.com