

**NAME**

**amidi** – read from and write to ALSA RawMIDI ports

**SYNOPSIS**

**amidi** [*-p port*] [*-s file* | *-S data*] [*-r file*] [*-d*] [*-t seconds*] [*-a*]

**DESCRIPTION**

**amidi** is a command-line utility which allows one to receive and send SysEx (system exclusive) data from/to external MIDI devices. It can also send any other MIDI commands.

**amidi** handles only files containing raw MIDI commands, without timing information. **amidi** does not support Standard MIDI (.mid) files, but [aplaymidi\(1\)](#) and [arecordmidi\(1\)](#) do.

**OPTIONS**

Use the *-h*, *-V*, *-l*, or *-L* options to display information; or use at least one of the *-s*, *-r*, *-S*, or *-d* options to specify what data to send or receive.

*-h*, *--help*

Help: prints a list of options.

*-V*, *--version*

Prints the current version.

*-l*, *--list-devices*

Prints a list of all hardware MIDI ports.

*-L*, *--list-rawmidis*

Prints all RawMIDI definitions. (used when debugging configuration files)

*-p*, *--port=name*

Sets the name of the ALSA RawMIDI port to use. If this is not specified, **amidi** uses the default port defined in the configuration file (the default for this is port 0 on card 0, which may not exist).

*-s*, *--send=filename*

Sends the contents of the specified file to the MIDI port. The file must contain raw MIDI commands (e.g. a .syx file); for Standard MIDI (.mid) files, use [aplaymidi\(1\)](#).

*-r*, *--receive=filename*

Writes data received from the MIDI port into the specified file. The file will contain raw MIDI commands (such as in a .syx file); to record a Standard MIDI (.mid) file, use [arecordmidi\(1\)](#).

**amidi** will filter out any Active Sensing and Clock bytes (FEh, F8h), unless the *-a* or *-c* options have been given.

*-S*, *--send-hex="..."*

Sends the bytes specified as hexadecimal numbers to the MIDI port.

*-d*, *--dump*

Prints data received from the MIDI port as hexadecimal bytes. Active Sensing and Clock bytes (FEh, F8h) will not be shown, unless the *-a* or *-c* options have been given.

This option is useful for debugging.

*-t*, *--timeout=seconds*

Stops receiving data when no data has been received for the specified amount of time.

If this option has not been given, you must press Ctrl+C (or kill **amidi**) to stop receiving data.

- a, --active-sensing**  
Does not ignore Active Sensing bytes (FEh) when saving or printing received MIDI commands.
- c, --clock**  
Does not ignore Clock bytes (F8h) when saving or printing received MIDI commands.
- i, --sysex-interval=mseconds**  
Adds a delay in between each SysEx message sent to a device. It is useful when sending firmware updates via SysEx messages to a remote device.

## EXAMPLES

**amidi -p hw:0 -s my\_settings.syx**

will send the MIDI commands in *my\_settings.syx* to port *hw:0*.

**amidi -p hw:1,0,0 -s firmware.syx -i 100**

will send the MIDI commands in *firmware.syx* to port *hw:1,0,0* with 100 milliseconds delay in between each SysEx message.

**amidi -S 'F0 43 10 4C 00 00 7E 00 F7'**

sends an XG Reset to the default port.

**amidi -p hw:1,2 -S F0411042110C00000000074F7 -r dump.syx -t 1**

sends a "Parameter Dump Request" to a GS device, saves the received parameter data to the file *dump.syx*, and stops after the device has finished sending data (when no data has been received for one second).

**amidi -p virtual -d**

creates a virtual RawMIDI port and prints all data sent to this port.

## FILES

*/usr/share/alsa/alsa.conf* default rawmidi definitions

*/etc/asound.conf* system-wide rawmidi definitions

*~/.asoundrc* user specific rawmidi definitions

## SEE ALSO

[aplaymidi\(1\)](#)

[arecordmidi\(1\)](#)

## AUTHOR

Clemens Ladisch <clemens@ladisch.de>