

Setup Instructions - ASIO



With the nano or micro iDSD or Retro Stereo 50, with Foobar2K, one must install the SACD/DSD input and ASIO output plug-ins to enable it to play true native DSD.

This step-by-step guide ensures your computer audio program is configured to natively DECODE DSD for full native playback.

Foobar2K is open-source. As such, there is no customer support. Beyond these instructions, it is best to check with the Foobar2K forum for detailed solutions to Foobar2K and its plug-ins.

Background:

If you already have Foobar2K installed, we recommend a full uninstall, clean all registries (eg CCleaner) and reboot the computer. Otherwise, the plug-ins may not work correctly. Also see User Notes at the end of this article.

For those seeking a more stable audio software playback solution, we recommend JRMC.

Please download the following:

- i. [Super Audio CD Decoder/DSD input plug-in](http://sourceforge.net/projects/sacddecoder/files/)
<http://sourceforge.net/projects/sacddecoder/files/>
Save the downloaded file *foo_input_sacd-0.6.0.zip* into.
- ii. [Foobar2K](http://www foobar2000.org/download)
<http://www foobar2000.org/download>.
Save the downloaded file *foobar2000_v1.1.15.exe*.
- iii. [Official ASIO output plug-in](http://www foobar2000.org/components/view/foo_out_asio)
http://www foobar2000.org/components/view/foo_out_asio
Save the file *foo_out_asio.fb2k-component*.

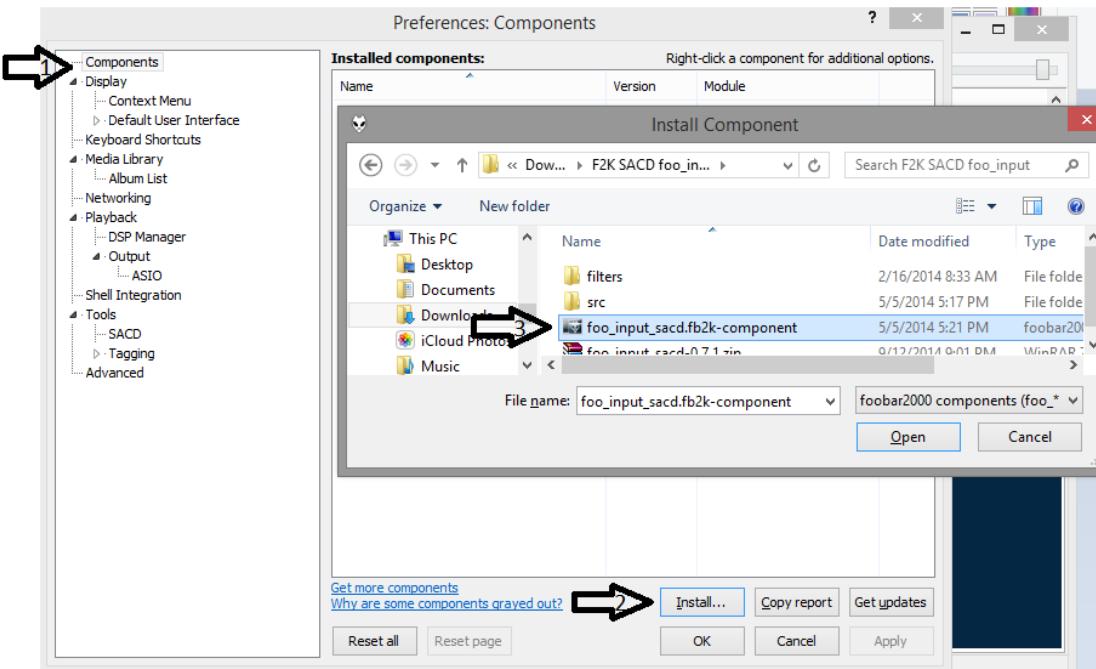
Open the folder with the unzipped files ready for access from within Foobar2K.

Step 1: If using Windows (OS X not required as already compliant), install the **iFi driver** (<http://ifi-audio.com/portfolio-view/nano-idsd/> >iFi USB Audio Class 2.0 Driver

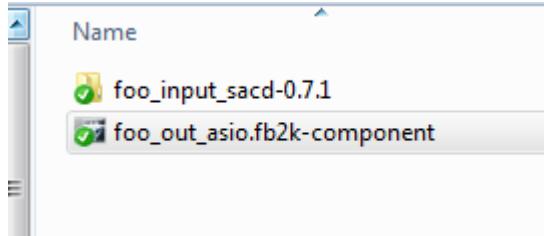
Step 2: Install **Foo_Input (ASIO Proxy_Install_xxx.exe)**

Step 3: Install **Foobar2K (STANDARD version NOT portable)**

From Foobar 2K, select File > Preferences. Click “Install” > “foo_input_sacd.xxx-component”



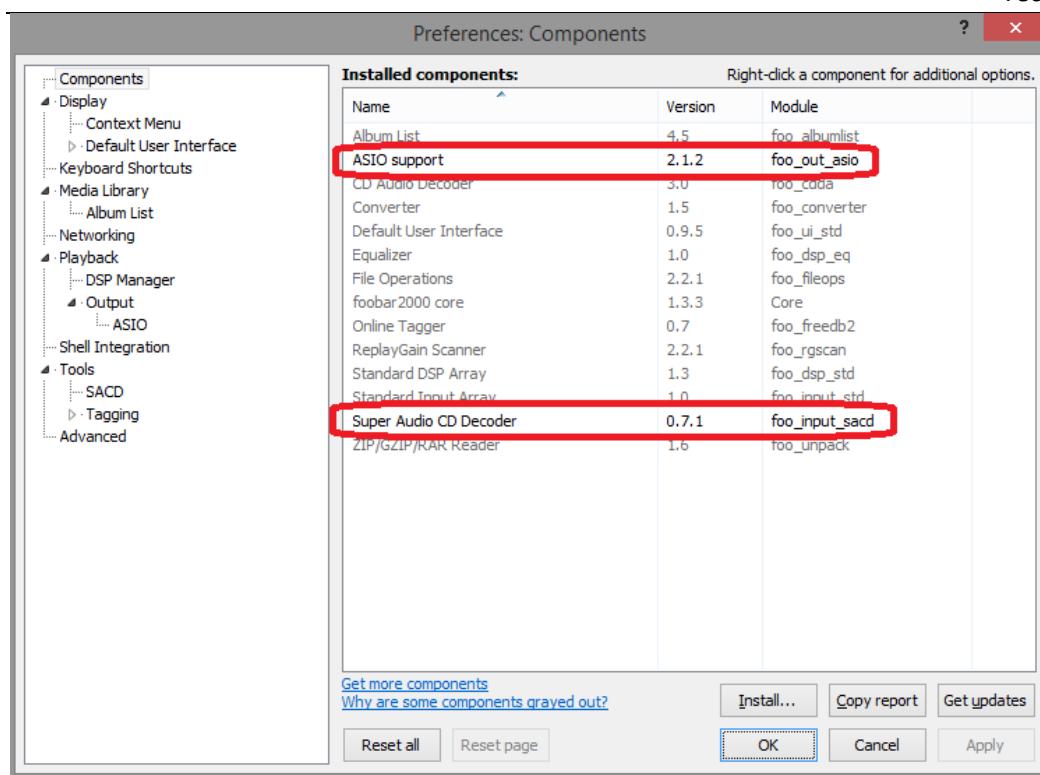
Step 4: Again, click on “Install” and select “foo_out_asio.fb2k-component”



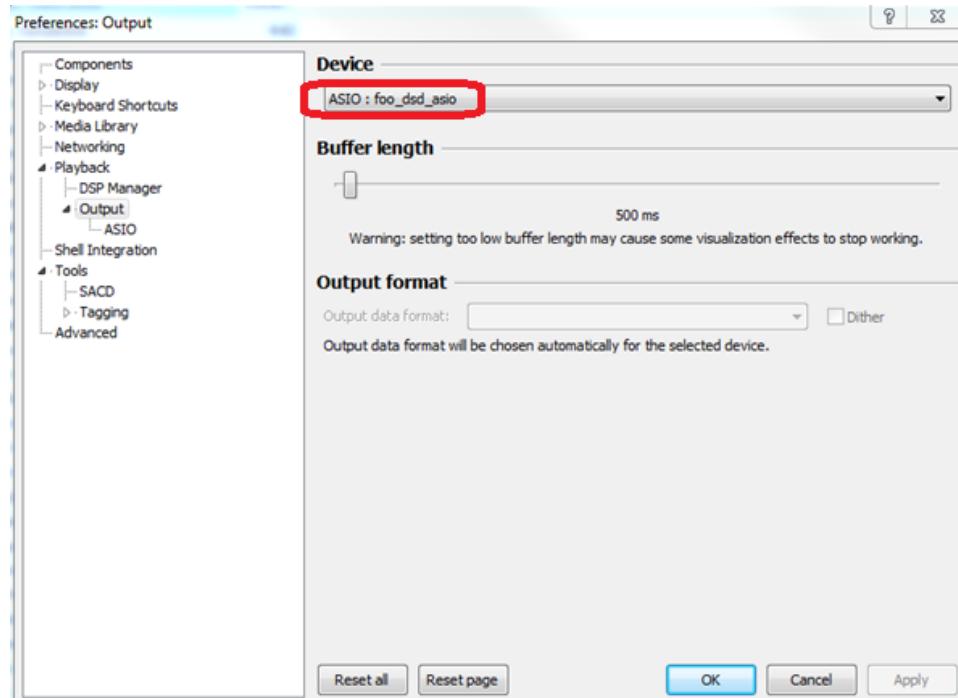
Step 5. Foobar2K will ask for permission to restart....click “OK”

Step 6. After Foobar2K has restarted, go back into File > Components.

You should have “ASIO support” and Super Audio CD Decoder installed as outlined:

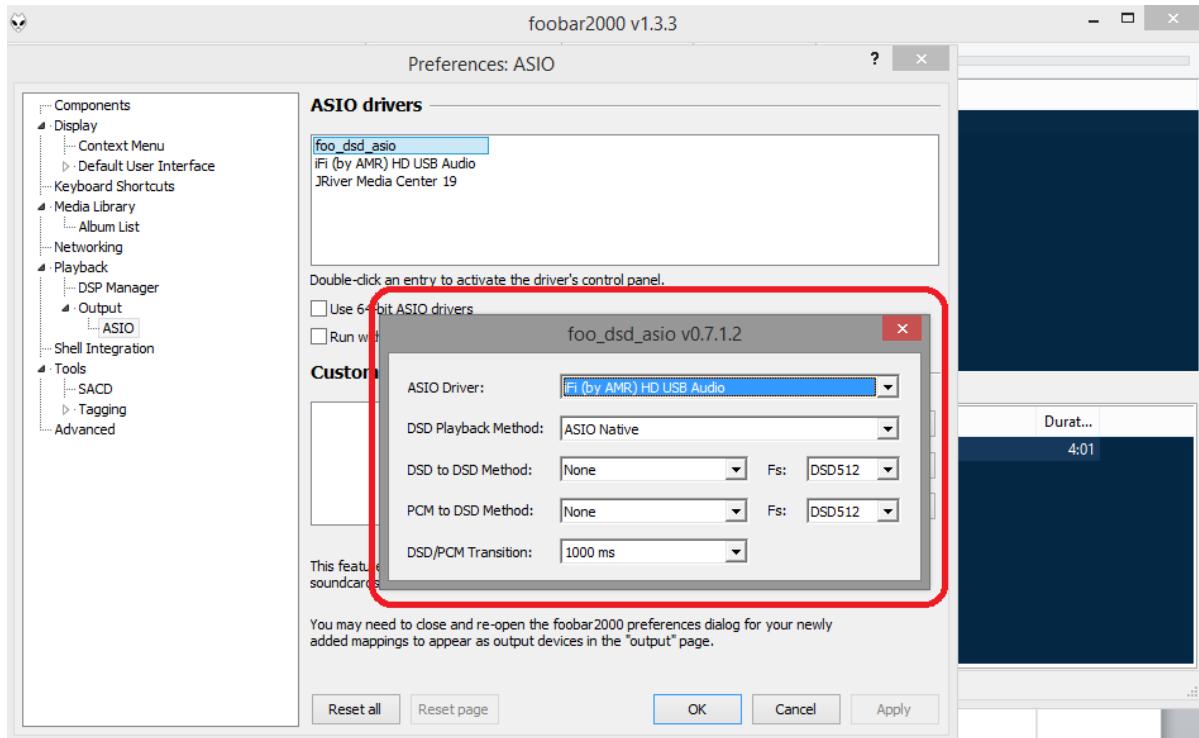


Step 7: Under Preferences >Playback> Output confirm “ASIO: foo_dsd_asio”

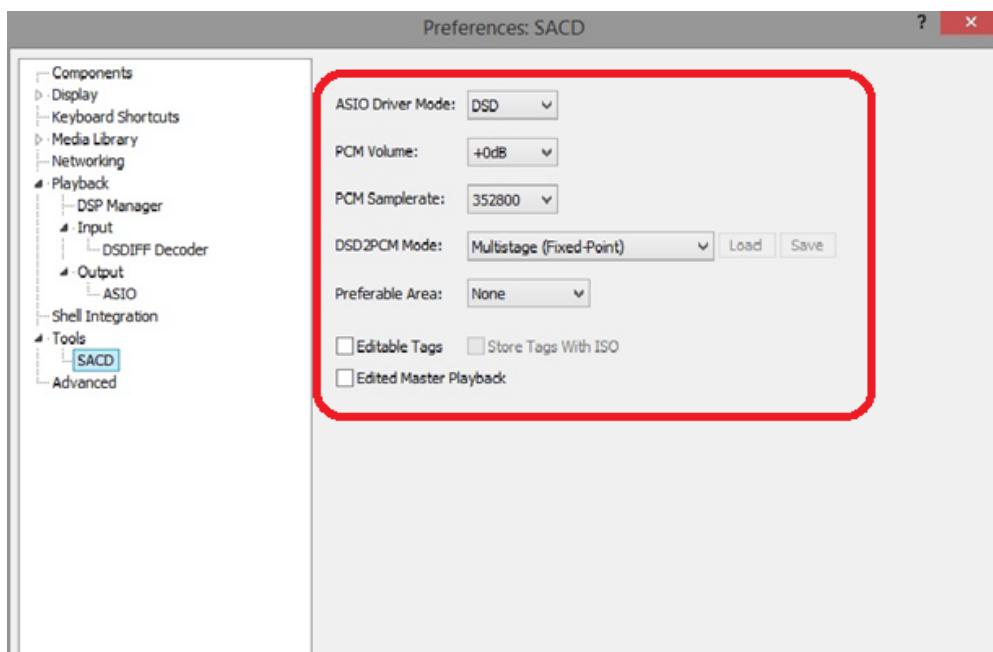


Tip: Try “Buffer length” of ~10,000 ms too, to determine which works best for your PC.

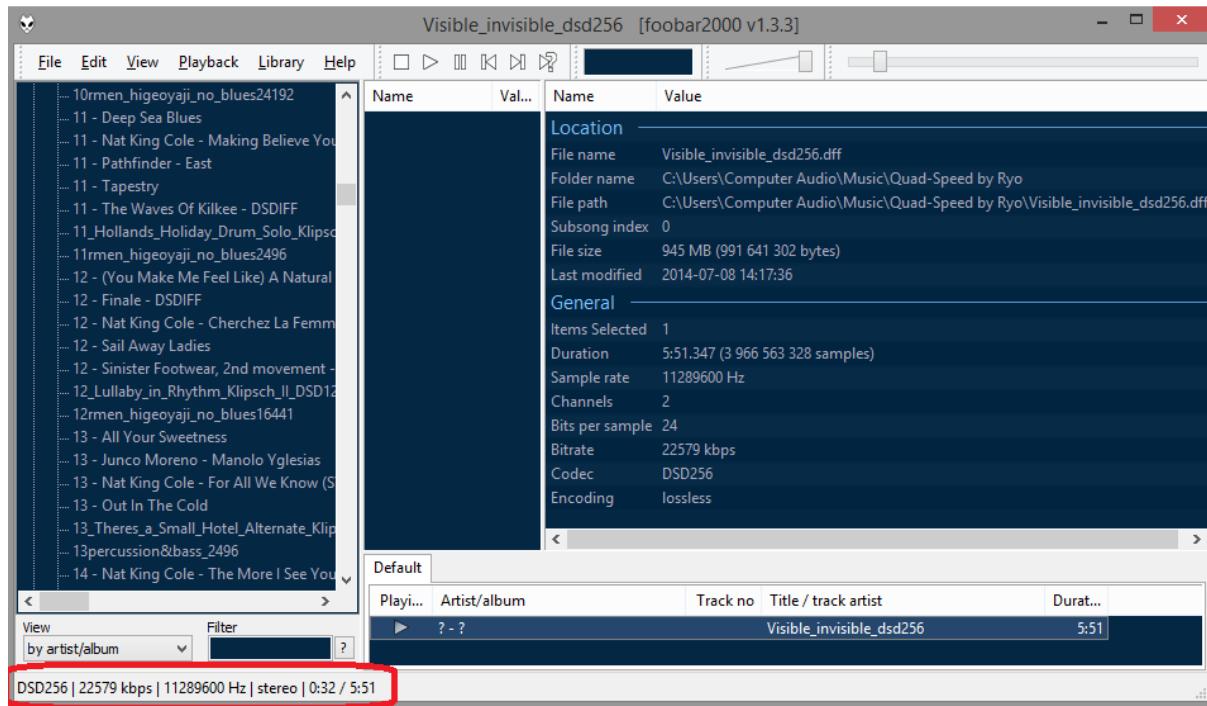
Step 8: Under Preferences > Playback > Output > ASIO confirm these selections



Step 9: Under Components > Tools > SACD confirm these settings



Step 10: Exit. You are now ready to enjoy DSD without conversion to another format on your iDSD/Retro Stereo 50 by iFi.



User Notes:

We have tried this installation on approximately 10 work computers and sometimes when playing DSD, the GREEN LED is lit on the micro iDSD.

In which case, this means that Foobar has reverted back and PCM is being passed through. You may also receive an error message when playing DSD files.

In either case, as in Step 2: go back into Components > Super Audio CD Decoder and reinstall "foo_input_sacd" then Foobar2K should play DSD natively back through the chain again.

Unfortunately, this is the vagaries of open-source software and maybe a future revision will make the playback software more reliable.