

ManiaLive Extending Plugin Pack

MLEPP Website

<http://mlepp.trackmania.nl/>

ManiaLive Website <http://www.manialive.com/>

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[Software User Manual]

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1. Introduction

Manialive Extending Plugin Pack is a complete tool to extend ManiaLive. A framework for

controlling the dedicated server which alone can't do much. This plugin package provides you with full server control and extended server abilities from what you were used with XAseco or FAST. We developers have re-thought some of the basic principles the other server controllers have and tried to make the gaming experience better for admins and players.

For admins we did superb command infratructure that every admin command, though they might be a little longer to type, is easy to remember and other plugins can extend commands to admin structure too. If you use oliverde8 HudMenu, all admin and player commands are accessible with just a few clicks.

Thanks

We, developers, would like to thank everybody who helped us by visiting the testing servers and all the server owners who use MLEPP on their servers.

Special thanks goes out to:

[R602] **Klompie** for donating coppers for our really cool MLEPP developers tags.

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Willie-Maykit for checking the grammar of this document.

2. Installation

To install MLEPP, you first need a working ManiaLive installation which needs a working

Trackmania Dedicated server.

The installation guide for Trackmania Dedicated can be found at Mania-Creative:
http://tutorials.mania-creative.com/server_dedicated/index-eng-1

You can follow the installation guide there, but in Windows make the default install to a hard drive root i.e. **C:\tm_dedicated\server1** or **D:\tm_dedicated\server1**
on Linux you can choose your home directory, or use the **/opt/tm_dedicated/server1/**
remember to assign proper user and user group with needed rights to the folder.

The installation guide for ManiaLive can be found at <http://code.google.com/p/manialive/wiki/UserDoc?tm=6>

ManiaLive installation guide doesn't include instructions to setup the server environment, the following instructions will help you setup a working server, run ManiaLive and MLEPP. Download links to ManiaLive and MLEPP can be found later on.



Some of the needed configuration files are encoded in UTF-8 and will use UNIX line-carrier. To edit the files properly and without errors in Windows, please install notepad++ from <http://notepad-plus-plus.org/>

2.1 Installation Guide for Windows

This example will use XAMPP as server component for MySQL and PHP. You can use also WAMPP, Uniform-server or get the official service-packages for PHP and MySQL.

Installation package for XAMPP can be found at:
<http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp-windows.html>



If you are focusing on production use of the servers, please read the entire XAMPP download page to make your server environment secure!

The recommended place to install XAMPP is at root of any hard drive, i.e. C:\xampp\, D:\xampp and so on. This installation guide will use C:\xampp for default location.
After installing and doing the basic security settings open the following directory:
c:\xampp\php

Find file named **php.ini** and use Notepad++ to edit the file contents.

- 1) Search for **php_curl** it should be somewhere near line 950.
Remove semicolon from the start of the line, the text-color changes from green to black this means the option is enabled.
- 2) Search for **php_sqlite** and remove the semicolon if any, do same for **php_sqlite3**

- 3) Write following additional line at the end of the extensions:
extension=php_openssl.dll
- 4) Save and close the editor for now.

Once you have done this go to: [Setup Guide](#).

2.2 Installation Guide for Debian-based Linux

Installing a server environment to Debian-based Linux, like Ubuntu is quite easy. You can do it via terminal or using synaptic package manager with graphical interface. This instructions will use terminal commands to guide you though the installation process. If you prefer to use graphical environment, just search for the packages and install them with synaptic or other application installer.

To install the needed software, type the following lines at terminal:

sudo apt-get update

**sudo apt-get install apache2 mysql-server mysql-client php5 php5-cli php5-mysql
php5-curl php5-sqlite phpmyadmin**

Enter your password and it installs all the needed applications for you.

Once this is finished, please follow down this document to [Setup Guide](#).

3. Setup Guide

3.1 MySQL

To set up MySQL databases, please launch your web-browser and type-in following address: <http://127.0.0.1/phpmyadmin>

Once logged in:

Click privileges

Click add a new User

If you are setting up multiple servers, a good naming idea might be: mlepp_server1, mlepp_server2 or if you know the login names of the servers then use those to make individual databases.

Below is example of the view you should have

User name: mlepp_server1

Host: localhost

Password: *****

Re-type: *****

Database for user:

{ } none

{x} create database with same name and grant all privileges.

{ } Grant all privileges on wildcard name (username\%)

Click the little Go button at bottom right and we now are set up.

You can now log out from PHPMysqlAdmin and follow the rest of document.

3.2 MLEPP and ManiaLive

To obtain the latest packages for ManiaLive and MLEPP use following links:

<http://code.google.com/p/manialive/downloads/list>

<http://code.google.com/p/mlepp/downloads/list>

Download latest ManiaLive, standard plug-ins and MLEPP.

You should have dedicated server installed allewady, you can use that directory or do separate directory for server controller. Let's assume you did the directories like suggested earlier in this document. So head to **C:\tm_dedicated**

Unzip the ManiaLive zip package there. It should create a folder named **manialive_1.0_r???**

Now rename that to something useful like **manialive_server1**

Go to the newly made folder and extract the zip containing latest MLEPP to the directory.

3.2.1 Windows

edit **c:\tm_servers\manialive\run.ini**

set php.exe to:

phpPath=C:\xampp\php\php.exe

Save and quit.

3.2.2 Linux

type:

which php

it should say it's **/usr/bin/php**, if not then use the one it gives.

edit **/opt/tm_servers/manialive_server1/run.ini**

and point the full path to php:

phpPath=/usr/bin/php

Save and quit.

4. Configuration Guide

To make essential configurations for ManiaLive and MLEPP, please follow the instructions. Go to your ManiaLive installation directory and find folder named config.

4.1 ManiaLive

To configure ManiaLive, you need to make a copy of **config-example.ini** and re-name it to **config.ini**.

Every line by default starts with semicolon and they are ignored, if you use Notepad++ the lines are green. To enable the configuration remove the semicolon at start of the line. On Notepad++ the line should change its color to black.



the values you enter after equal sign has different meaning when set with hyphens or not. For numeric and boolean values you should not use hyphens. examples:
numeric=123
boolean=true
boolean=false
for text values use:
textvalue='this is a text value'

First thing to configure is php, this is used for threading and if set wrong in Windows you will see a pop-up Window from Explorer when ManiaLive tries to use threading. For Linux set path you were given by **which php**.

phpPath = 'C:/xampp/php/php.exe'

For dedicated server configuration remove the semicolon from following lines and set the right values depending on dedicated_cfg.txt from TrackMania dedicated server:

server.host = '127.0.0.1'
server.port = 5000
server.user = 'SuperAdmin'
server.password = 'yourdedicatedserverpassword'

Define default master admins:

admins.logins[] = 'login'
admins.logins[] = 'login2'

find this at the end:

```
;-----  
[hostname: testHost]  
;-----
```

add semicolon at the start of the middle line, or remove the middle line completely:

```
;-----  
;[hostname: testHost]  
;-----
```

Save and keep the editor open.

4.2 MLEPP

4.2.1 General Configuration

Open **config-example-mlepp.ini** with the text editor.
Select all, copy-paste it to the end of the **config.ini** -file.

Find the database, edit and enable the following settings:

```
plugins.load[] = 'MLEPP\Database'  
plugins.MLEPP\Database.type = 'MySQL'  
plugins.MLEPP\Database.port = '3306'  
plugins.MLEPP\Database.host = '127.0.0.1'  
plugins.MLEPP\Database.user = 'yourMySQLuser'  
plugins.MLEPP\Database.password = 'yourMySQLuserpassword'  
plugins.MLEPP\Database.name = 'yourMySQLuser'
```

Save.

After doing that, take time to adjust various settings in MLEPP configuration, to customize your MLEPP installation. You can enable also additional plugins, which are not included in the default plugins set.

When you are pleased with the modifications. Save the **config.ini**.

Proceed then to assigning the admin groups.

4.2.2 Admin Groups

Admin groups can be configured by making a copy of **config-mlepp-admingroups-example.ini** and re-naming it to **config-mlepp-admingroups.ini**

The admin groups are group based. You can assign one or more groups to a login, to do so just put comma between the groups names. To assign a login to master group without any restrictions set the group to root. Otherwise set the group either admin or operator or define a custom, own group.

To assign a login to admin group, just edit **config-mlepp-admingroups.ini** and add

login = 'root'

Where login is the wanted admin login, this will grant all possible command privileges to the login. If you want to restrict the login's access, just type in

login = 'admin'

or

login = 'operator'

After configuring this part, proceed to next part, configuring widgets.

4.2.3 Widgets

Before you start you have to make a copy of **config-mlepp-widgets-example.ini** and re-name it to **config-mlepp-widgets.ini**. If you don't find the default values good enough, edit the file.

Inside the file you find the loading commands and positions to all widgets. To disable a widget, add semicolon before its loading command.

5. First start

First start theTrackMania dedicated server and wait until you see it running. Then start MySQL service, if it's not start by default. After that run ManiaLive:

in Windows:

double click the run.bat

in Linux do following for the first start:

chmod +x run

./run

You should see the following line as last line:

```
[PluginHandler] All registered plugins have been loaded
```

When you see this line, it means you are good to go. If not, then an error has occurred while loading ManiaLive and you are not running all the plug-ins properly.

5.1 Error messages and causes

If you see an error which looks like:

```
Warning: Unexpected character in input: '\' (ASCII=92) state=1 in  
C:\Trackmania_dedicated\server1\bootstrapper.php on line 20
```

```
Parse error: syntax error, unexpected T_STRING in  
C:\Trackmania_dedicated\server1\bootstrapper.php on line 20
```

This means that your php installation is way too old to run ManiaLive.

To fix:

- 1) Install the latest PHP / XAMPP version (PHP has to be at least at version **5.3.1**)

```
-> Exception with code 0  
fsockopen(): unable to connect to localhost:5000
```

This means the dedicated server has not been found at the port you configured it.

Causes might be:

- 1) You started TrackMania game before the dedicated server, the default port 5000 is bind by the game client for in-game server. Fix: change **xmlrpc port** at **dedicated_cfg.txt** or start dedicated server before launching the game.
- 2) Dedicated server is not running at the port you defined. Check **dedicated_cfg.ini** and **config.ini** for the right server port.
- 3) Localhost is pointing somewhere else than local loopback. This can be fixed changing **hosts** file at your Operation System. Please consult the server administrator to do the changes.

```
-> Exception with code 0  
sqlite_open(): file is encrypted or is not a database  
- in  
C:\Trackmania_dedicated\server1\libraries\ManiaLive\Database\SQLite\Connecti  
on.php on line 41
```

ManiaLive couldn't open the internal SQLite database.

Causes might be:

- 1) ManiaLive was not shut down properly / cleanly. Try restarting ManiaLive.
- 2) Try deleting 127.0.0.1.db or localhost.db at **/data/** directory.

```
[19:32:55] [MLEPP] [Database] Connecting to MYSQL database server . . .
```

```
Error while connecting:
mysql_connect(): [2002] Connection can not be established, because object computer doesn't
allow it. (trying to connect via tcp://127.0.0.1:3306)
```

ManiaLive couldn't connect to MySQL service.

Causes might be:

- 1) Your MySQL server / service is not started, or is running other than default port.
Check that the service is running and that the service is bind to 3306 port.

```
[19:59:11] [MLEPP] [Database] Connecting to MYSQL database server . . .
Error while connecting:
mysql_connect(): Access denied for user 'mlepp'@'localhost' (using password: YES)
```

MySQL client was not able to connect using your entered credentials.

- 1) Check MySQL database, username and password settings and try again.

6. Migrating from XAseco

If you have already running XAseco installation, you can have your local records, player nicknames and karma from migrated to MLEPP.

The tool is located at ManiaLive root **folder/tools/migrating**.

Copy the files at the directory to ManiaLive root, edit **xaseco_migration.ini** to match your MySQL settings:

set the databases to match your databases, make sure you have started MLEPP succesfully once so the databases are created.

```
xaseco_db = "xaseco"
mlepp_db = "manialive"
```

In Windows:

double click the xaseco_migration.bat

In Linux:

type:

```
php xasecoimport.php
```

You are then given warnings, **make sure you read them**, after that type with capitals: **DO IT**

If you are thrown back to the terminal without seeing a message that everything went right

the procedure has failed and you have to start all over from backups or from empty mlepp database.

7. Additional Tools and Settings

7.1 MLEPP Music Manager for Musicbox-plug-in

The Musicbox plug-in needs a little helper application to work right. Sorry, but currently Linux users are not supported. See file format specification later on.

You find the MLEPP music manager under **/tools/MusicManager/MusicManager.exe**

How to add music to your server:

Put all the music (.ogg and/or .mux) you want on your server in a root folder like **D:\music\for Tm**. You may use sub folders in there. Open the Windows application.

Then choose **Music/Import**.

All music in the root folder and its sub folders will appear in the list.

Edit the data to your likings. You can select multiple items to paste data in.

Click File/Save.

Upload the whole root folder including the sub folders to your music server (must be accessible from the web).

Put the Internet address in the URL config.

If you need to change the song title, artist or genre afterwards, you can use Excel or OpenOffice Calc to change the values.

7.1.1 File Format

The file is named **index.csv** and it should be at the root of your music files.

File is standard comma separated file with separating character ;

The fields are following:

Artist	Title	Genre	Filename	Path	enabled
--------	-------	-------	----------	------	---------

Path for same directory is always just /

If you have subdirectories, they must end with /

7.2 Color Themes

MLEPP ships with some pre-defined chat color themes in addition of the default one provided. To apply a color theme like XAsec or FAST just open the provided **mlepp-**

color-themes.txt at **/config/** folder then copy-paste the color settings you like to be the last entries at **config.ini**.

8. In-game Commands List

8.1 Administration

The admins can control almost all server settings from within the game.

The commands structure is based on a certain logic, that is based on 2 main groups:

These main groups are **get** and **set**.

There are many set and get commands, an interactive help system will lead you through all possible commands.

Just type **/admin set** or **/admin get** to see all possible following commands, add the variable to the command to see the next options etc.

This way you can easily get one step further each time, until you reach the setting you want.

If you type a wrong admin command, words printed in red show you where you got wrong.

In addition to the get/set system there are some shortcuts for often used commands:

warn, kick, ban, unban, black, unblack, ingnore, unignore in combination with a login for player management.

loadtracklist, savetracklist for quick management of tracklist. you can give additional playlist name as parameter, remember the extension too.

skip, restart, endround, shuffle to quickly control the playing track.

cancel to cancel a vote when the MLEPP vote plugin isn't used.

8.1.1 /admin set

8.1.1.1 /admin set player

- **warn <login>** → Warns a player with a login
- **spec <login>** → Forces a player to spectator.
- **black <login>** → Sets a player to the blacklist (permanent ban) and saves it right away to the blacklist.txt.
- **unblack <login>** → Removes player from permanent banlist
- **ignore <login>** → Ignores a player from chat, based upon login.
- **unignore <login>** → Allows player to speak to chat.
- **kick <login>** → Kicks a player based upon login
- **ban <login>** → Bans a player based upon login
- **unban <login>** → Removes player from temporarily banlist.

8.1.1.2 /admin set server

- **name "new server name"** → set a server name. However it can not be empty.
- **comment "new comment"** → type "" to clear
- **password "new password"** → type "" to clear
- **specpassword "new password"** → type "" to clear
- **refereepassword "new password"** → type "" to clear
- **maxplayers <number>** → set value of max player. Max value is 150.
- **maxspec <number>** → set value of max spectator.
- **hide <value>** → value can be visible, hidden or nations
- **challengedownload <bool>** → bool can be true / false
- **stop <value>** → value can be manialive, server or both
- **matchsettings <text>** → to save current tracklist.
- **warmupduration <number>** → set how many m:ss warmup duration is.
- **gamemode <value>** → value can be team, ta, rounds, cup, stunts or laps
- **skip** → to skip current challenge, shortcut /admin skip
- **restart** → to restart current challenge, shortcut /admin restart
- **respawn <bool>** → allow/disallow player respawning. bool can be true/false.
- **chattime m:ss** → set podium screen chat time, m:ss is minutes separated by semicolon and ss is seconds.
- **shuffle <bool>** → set shuffle playlist to true / false.
- **callvote <bool>** → enable / disable user call votes.

8.1.1.3 /admin set ta

- **timelimit m:ss** → set timeattack timelimit. m:ss is minutes separated by semicolon, ss is seconds.
- **warmupduration <number>** → set 0 to disable. the other numbers are the

challenge gold time multiplier!

8.1.1.4 /admin set rounds

- **end** → forces current round to end.
- **custompoints <value/numbers>** → set points to a custom value.
valid values are: **f1old, f1new, motogp, motogp5, fet1, fet2, fet3, champcar, superstars, simple5, simple 10**, valid numbers is comma separated string: **/admin set rounds custompoints "10,8,6,4,2,1,1,1"**
- **pointslimit <number>** → Set a new points limit for rounds mode.
- **forcedlaps <number>** Set a new number of laps for rounds mode 0 = default, use the number of laps from the challenges, otherwise forces the number of rounds for multilaps challenges.
- **newrules <bool>** → enable/disable the newrules.
- **finishtimeout <seconds>** → sets new finish timeout in seconds.
- **warmupduration <number>** → set how many rounds is a warmup duration.

8.1.1.5 /admin set laps

- **timelimit m:ss** → sets new timelimit for laps.
- **nblaps <number>** → sets new number of lap required to play.
- **finishtimeout <seconds>** → sets new finish timeout in seconds.
- **warmupduration <number>** → warmup duration = multiplier of challenge gold time.

8.1.1.6 /admin set cup

- **pointslimit**→ set the number of points for be in final
- **roundsperchallenge**→ set the number of rounds per map before change map
- **warmupduration**→ set the duration of warm-up for each map
- **nbwinners**→ set the number of winners

8.1.1.7 /admin set team

- **pointslimit <number>**→ set the number of points for win the map
- **maxpoints <number>**→ set the limit of points can be won each rounds
- **newrules <bool>**→ set new rules true / false
- **player <playerlogin> <color>**→ set one player in one team blue / red
- **warmupduration <number>**→ set the duration of warm-up for each map

8.1.2 /admin get

8.1.2.1 /admin get player

- **blacklist**→ give the blacklist of the server
- **ignorelist**→ give the ignorelist of the server
- **banlist**→ give the banlist of the server

8.1.2.2 /admin get server

- **matchsettings <text>**→ load a matchsettings. If <text> is empty, the server

load the file tracklist.txt

- **hide**→ say if the server is visible or hide
- **maxplayers**→ give the max of players accepted by the server
- **maxspec**→ give the max of spectator accepted by the server
- **specpassword**→ give the password for join in spectator
- **password**→ give the password for join in player
- **refereepassword**→ give the password for go in referee
- **respawn**→ say if the respawn is authorized
- **challengedownload**→ say if players can download tracks on the server
- **chattime**→ give the time in the podium

8.1.3 /admin add

Adding tracks

/admin add track local popup a window to add tracks stored in the tracks folder.
/admin add track local <text> add track from maps folder, remember to specify folder if any and track name without extensions. for example: downloaded/beta1

/admin add tmx <TMX-ID> tmn|tmu|tmnf to add tracks from TrackMania Exchange.
/admin add mx <ID> to add tracks from ManiaExchange with id.

Adding Admins

/admin add admin <login> <group> to add new admin to group. If no group is given, the default group will be admin, other build in groups are operator and root. The new admin must exist on the server when added.

8.1.4 /admin remove

Removing tracks

/admin remove track popup a window to remove tracks in the track list.
/admin remove track <ID> remove track with the ID which can be found in /list.
/admin remove track this remove the current track.

Removing Admins

/admin remove admin <login> to remove an admin from group.

8.2 Player-related Commands

8.2.1 ChatEmotes

All following commands can be triggered with typing slash and command, they will perform a chat emote, you can also include any text you wish or players login name, in that case the login will be translated to nick name.

Usage:

/bb, /bye, /hi, /hello, /thx, /ty, /lol, /brb, /afk, /gg, /nl, /bgm, /sry, /sorry, /glhf, /wb, /omg, /buzz, /eat, /drink, /rant, /ragequit, /bootme

8.2.2 ChatLog

This plugin will show the last 500 lines of public chat in a window.

Usage:

/chatlog

8.2.3 ChatMe

The ChatMe plugin helps to express yourself.
It can be used with or without a login.

Usage:

/me "text between hyphens" - Express your state, feeling, where about etc.

/me "text between hyphens" [login] - Express your state, feeling, where about

8.2.4 Communication

The Admin Chat

- A private channel for all admins.
- Only admins can use and see this channel.

Usage:

/a "message between hyphens" - Write a message in the admin channel;

The Team Chat

- Allows to make a private chat channel.
- Only invited people in the same channel will be able to read and respond to the chat.

Usage:

/t invite <login> - Invite player to channel.

/t "message between hyphens" - Write a message in the channel you joined.

/t leave - Leave the chat channel you joined.

The Private Messages

- Allows you to send a private message.
- Only you and the receipient can see the message.
- You can use the login or ID of a player.
- Find the login or ID of a player with /players.
- Use the /r function to make a conversation easier

Usage:

/pm login\"message between hyphens\" - Send a private message to that login.

/r \"message between hyphens\" - Send another message to the same person that you sent the last pm.

8.2.5 Jukebox

This function opens a window with all tracks on this server.

It is also possible to add criteria, to be able to find tracks with a specific attribute.

Usage:

/jukebox <ID> - Add a track to the jukebox. (Find track ID with the /list function)

/jukebox list - See the tracks that are already queued in the jukebox.

/list - Show all tracks on the server.

/list <name or part name> - Show all tracks with a certain (part of a) name on this server.

/list <criterium> - Show all tracks on this server corresponding to the chosen criterium.

Possible criteria are:

best, worst, nofinish, nofirst, authortime, noauthortime, goldtime, nogoldtime, silvertime, nosilvertime, bronzetime, nobronzetime.

/list <criterium> <variable>

Possible criteria with their variables are

shorter (seconds), longer (seconds), rank (number), first (number),

tmx_type (Race | Puzzle | Platform | Stunts | Shortcut),

tmx_dif (Beginner | Intermediate | Expert | Lunatic),

tmx_style (normal | Stunt | Maze | Offroad|Laps|Fullspeed|Lol|

Tech|Speedtech|RPG|Pressforward)

8.2.6 Karma

You can express your liking towards the current played track with the karma, admin can then choose to use auto track manager to get rid automatically the tracks what players doesn't like, or remove the tracks with bad karma by hand.

Usage:

--,-,+,++ and +++ with or without slash.

8.2.7 Local Records

Local Records will keep track of the times what you drive at server.

Usage:

/recs - Shows an popup window with current local records.

8.2.8 MusicBox

Open a window showing all songs on this server.

Usage:

/mlist - Show all songs on this server.

/mlist "text between hyphens" - Show all songs corresponding to the text. The text can be (part of) artist, (part of) title and (part of) genre.

/mbox <id> - Add song to MusicBox

8.2.9 Rankings

Open a window with the current top 100 of records holders on this server.

Usage:

/rank - Shows chat message of your current rank.

/top100 - Show the 100 best players on this server.

8.2.10 ServerInfo

Open a window with current server info and linked servers.

Usage:

/serverinfo - Open a window with current server info.

8.2.11 ServerMail

You can send and receive mail, and it will be saved to the database.

This allows to communicate with players that are not online at the same time as you. It can also serve as memo function, as you can send yourself a mail. The mail function also helps communicate with the server admins.

Usage:

/mail check - Check if you have received new mail.

/mail read - Open a window with your inbox.

/mail send <login> "message between hyphens" - Send a message to a login.
/mail send admin "message between hyphens" - Send a mail to all admins.

8.2.12 Votes

You can cast server votes from menu or by typing.

Usage:

/skip - Calls a vote for skipping the challenge
/restart - Calls a vote for replaying the challenge
/replay - <alias for above>

9. Problem Reporting Instructions

If you encounter a fatal error or find an issue you can report it at Google Project page:
<http://code.google.com/p/mlepp/issues/list>

When reporting, please make a topic name that describes the issue as good as possible. Please tell us what revision of ManiaLive and MLEPP you are using and try to tell us what you did (or what user did) - what happened and what you expected to happen. You can also copy-paste the console errors log / full stack trace, that will help us resolve the problem better. If you are developer, patches in SVN diff format can be also sent.