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# Volume Control Using i3

## Change system volume/mute from media controls

For muting, using ALSA to mute the Master output is a safe bet.

```
bindsym XF86AudioMute exec amixer -q set Master toggle
```

To adjust system volume, I have done this in 2 main ways:

### Using Pulseaudio

Here, you can change how much you want to adjust the volume by (eg: 1%), and the sink number (eg: 2).

For example, I had the regular volume buttons change the 2nd sink volume, which is my USB DAC, and 'Mod1+XF86AudioRaiseVolume' to change the internal sound card volume by having it control sink 1.

```
bindsym XF86AudioRaiseVolume exec "pactl set-sink-volume 2 +1%"  
bindsym XF86AudioLowerVolume exec "pactl set-sink-volume 2 -1%"
```

### Using ALSA

This will change the volume of whatever output device is selected as default. I have found a slight glitch, if you adjust volume too fast, the left and right channels may imbalance. In this case, bring the volume down to 0, then back up.

```
bindsym XF86AudioRaiseVolume exec "amixer -q set Master 5%+ unmute"  
bindsym XF86AudioLowerVolume exec "amixer -q set Master 5%- unmute"
```

### New method from Fedora config

I saw this on Fedora git, and it works better. Use this. It doesn't imbalance. It does sometimes get stuck on my [Lenovo Thinkpad E495](#) and go up or down to infinity, but I think that's the laptop, not the config.

```
# Use pactl to adjust volume in PulseAudio.  
set $refresh_i3status killall -SIGUSR1 i3status  
bindsym XF86AudioRaiseVolume exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-volume  
@DEFAULT_SINK@ +5% && $refresh_i3status  
bindsym XF86AudioLowerVolume exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-volume  
@DEFAULT_SINK@ -5% && $refresh_i3status
```

```
bindsym XF86AudioMute exec --no-startup-id pactl set-sink-mute @DEFAULT_SINK@  
toggle && $refresh_i3status  
bindsym $mod+XF86AudioMute exec --no-startup-id pactl set-source-mute  
@DEFAULT_SOURCE@ toggle && $refresh_i3status
```

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