

Recording Audio for Video

LEEDS CONSERVATOIRE STUDIO TECHNICIANS

Table of Contents

EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST	2
SETTING UP	3
Zoom H5 Visual Guide	3
Attaching the H5 to a camera tripod	5
Check the venue's tech spec	5
Syncing audio to video	5
PREPPING THE ZOOM H5 FOR RECORDING	6
Formatting the SD card	6
Setting the Date/Time	6
Enabling multi-file recording	7
Setting the audio format	7
Applying pad to inputs 1 and 2	8
Setting Microphone Levels	8
Front-Of-House Levels	9
STARTING/STOPPING THE RECORDING	9
PREPARING TO RECORD CHECKLIST	10

Equipment Checklist

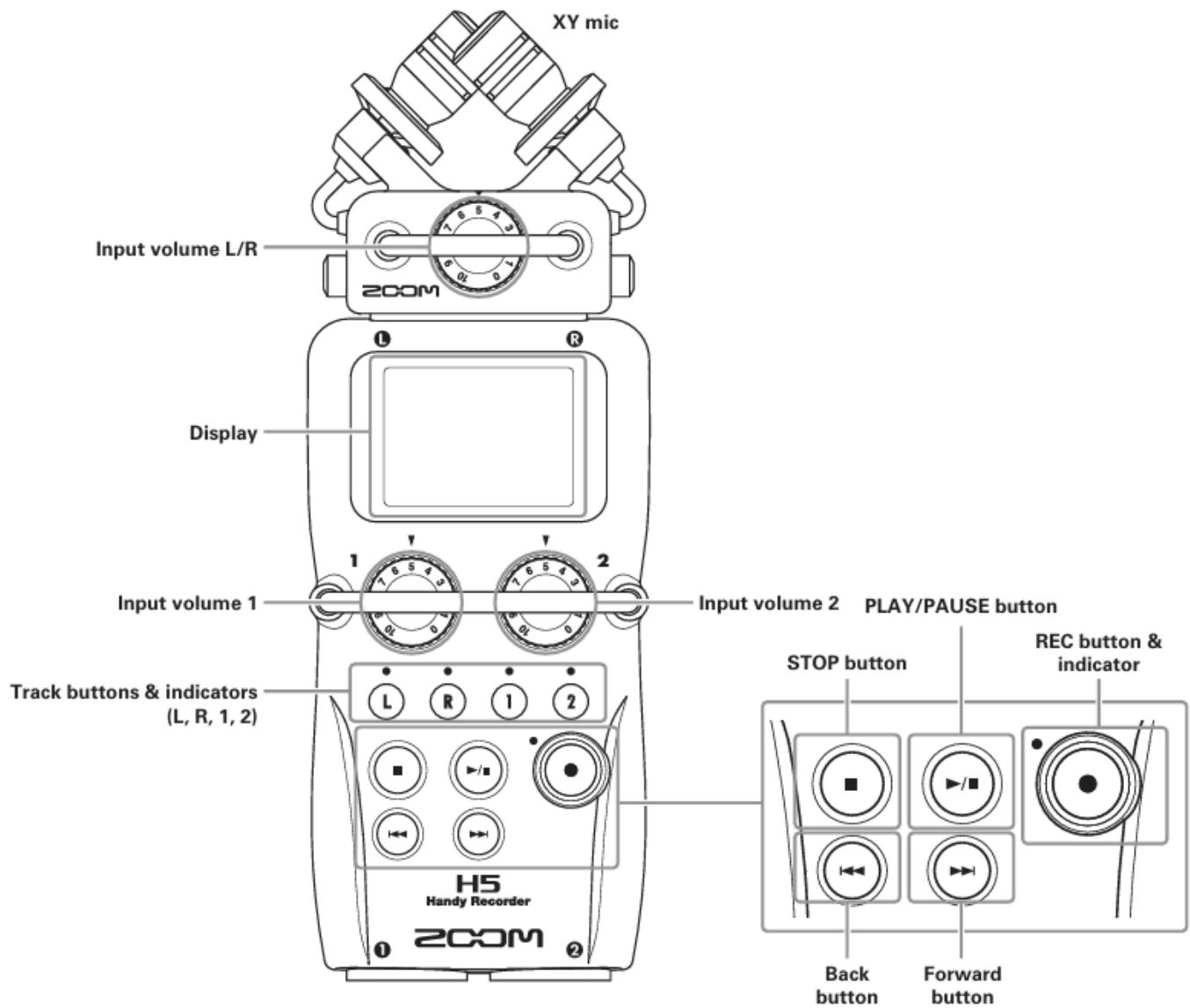
	Zoom H5 Portable Recorder
	Headphones w/ 1/4 inch to 3.5mm adapter
	2x XLRs or 2x TRS Jack leads
	Optional: Tripod for H5
	Optional: 3.5mm to 3.5mm TRS cable



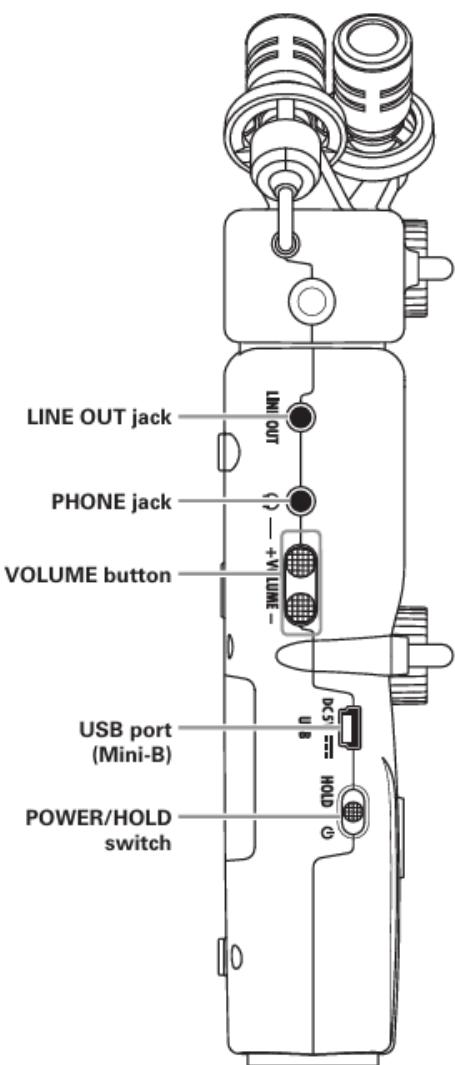
Setting Up

Zoom H5 Visual Guide

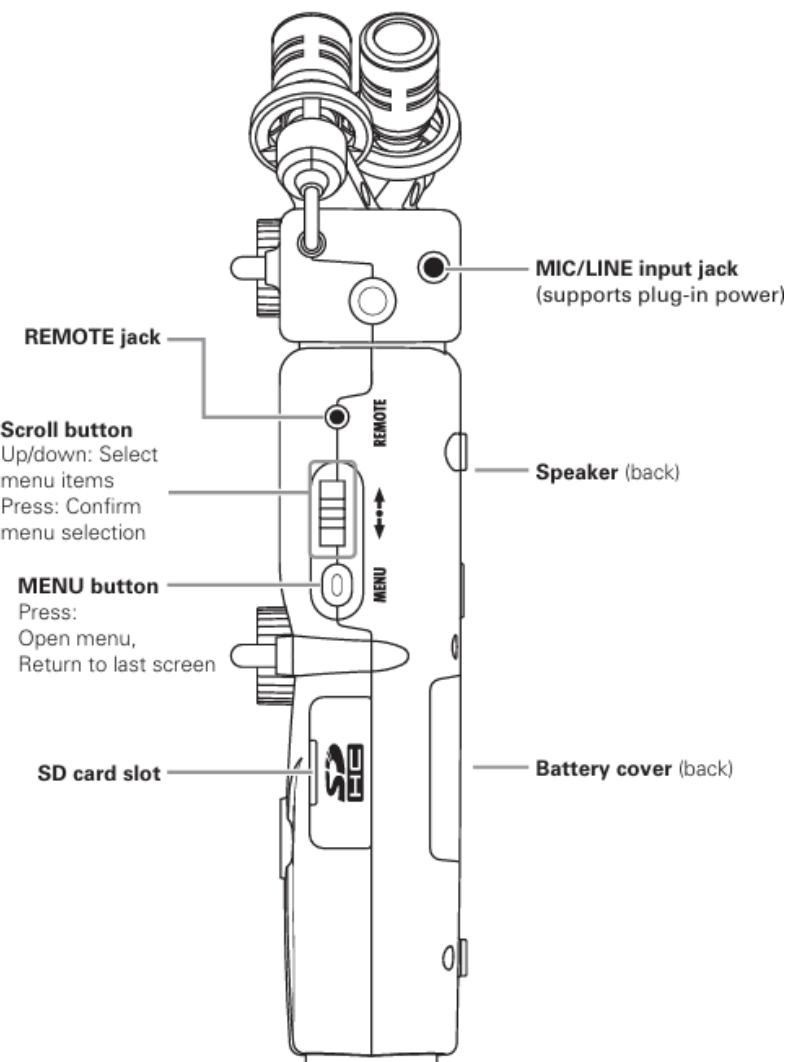
Front



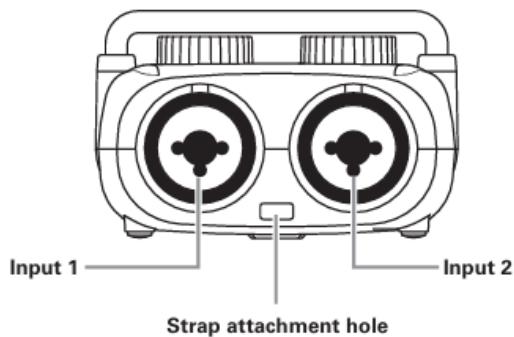
Left



Right/Back



Bottom



Attaching the H5 to a camera tripod



On the back of the Zoom H5, there is a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch threaded tripod mounting hole. This is compatible with most common camera tripods for easy positioning of the H5 whilst recording.

Check the venue's tech spec

If the venue you plan on recording in has a multichannel mixer, request from them that you can get a clean stereo feed for you to record into the Zoom H5.

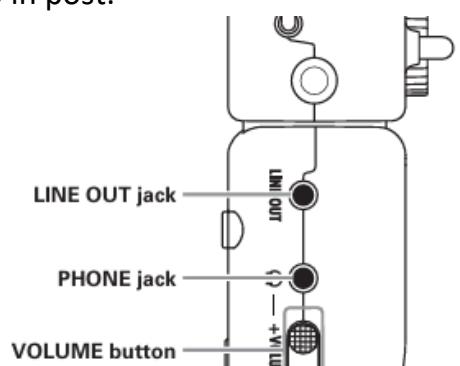
If this is not possible, you may have to set the Zoom H5 to record from the XY microphones alone.

See “Enabling multi file recording” for how to change this.

Syncing audio to video

There are a few options to prepare the H5 to be able to sync to video in post.

- A classic method is to use a clap sync. Stand in front of the camera and H5 after the recording has started and clap. This gives both a visual and audio cue when syncing in post.
- If the camera has a 3.5mm port labelled as “External Mic”, you could feed the camera with audio coming from the Zoom H5 using its “Line Out” port. This will print a copy of the audio to the camera recording, making syncing audio from the H5 to the footage much easier.



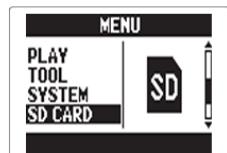
Prepping the Zoom H5 for Recording

Formatting the SD card

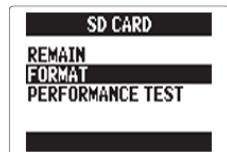
Prior to making any recordings, it's recommended that the SD card installed in the Zoom H5 is wiped.

1. Press .

2. Use  to select "SD CARD", and press .



3. Use  to select "FORMAT", and press .



4. Use  to select "YES", and press .



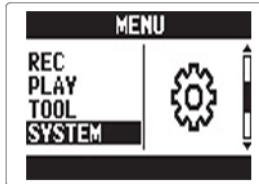
To check that this process has worked, navigate back to the menu and find "FOLDER". When "FOLDER" is selected, you should return to the main screen without seeing any files on the device.

Setting the Date/Time

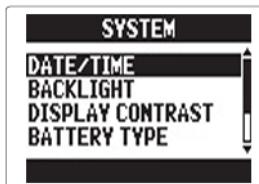
As the Zoom H5 utilises date/time as the naming convention for file names, it is particularly useful to set this correctly prior to the recording session.

1. Press .

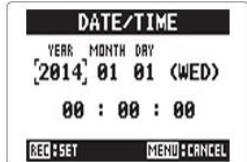
2. Use  to select "SYSTEM", and press .



3. Use  to select "DATE/TIME", and press .



4. Change the setting.



■ Changing settings

Move cursor: Move  up and down

Change item value: Press , then

move  up and down

Confirm change: Press 

5. Press .

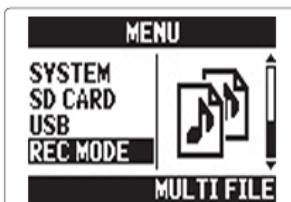
Enabling multi-file recording

To enable the Zoom H5 to record from the attached stereo mics and the XLR inputs simultaneously, it needs to be set to “Multi File” recording mode.

Selecting the recording mode

1. Press **(0)**.

2. Use **↑↓** to select REC MODE, and press **→**.



3. Use **↑↓** to select the recording mode, and press **→**.



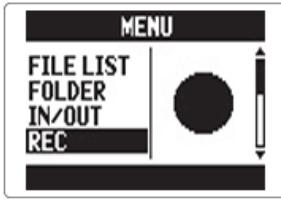
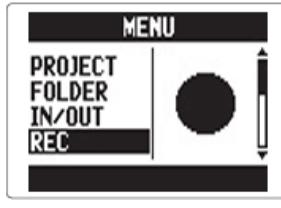
The resulting files that this will create will be an L/R file and a separate channel 1 and channel 2 file.

Setting the audio format

To ensure that the recordings are at a high quality for post-processing, the format should be set to 48kHz/24bit as the sample rate and bit depth respectively.

1. Press **(0)**.

2. Use **↑↓** to select “REC”, and press **→**.



3. Use **↑↓** to select “REC FORMAT”, and press **→**.



4. Use **↑↓** to select recording format, and press **→**.

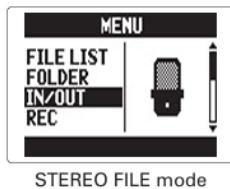
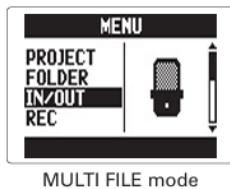


Applying pad to inputs 1 and 2

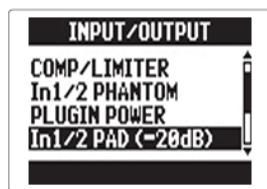
As sound level from the mixer will be loud, you will need to apply a pad to inputs 1 and 2 to prevent clipping the sound.

1. Press .

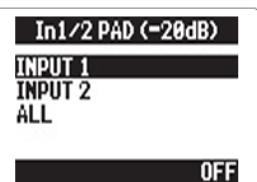
2. Use  to select "IN/OUT", and press .



3. Use  to select "In1/2 PAD (-20dB)", and press .



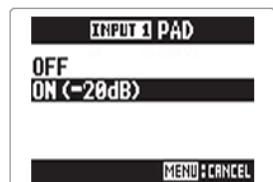
4. Use  to select the input, and press .



HINT

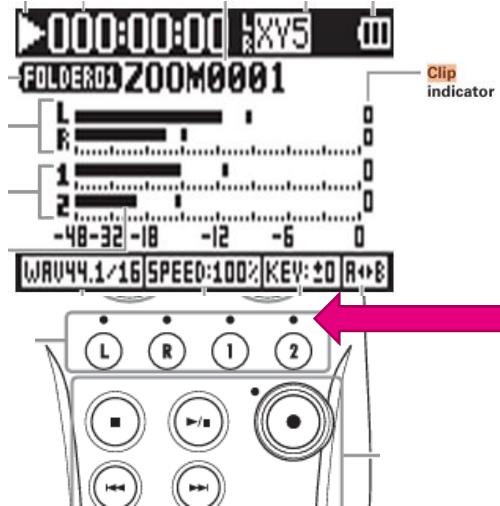
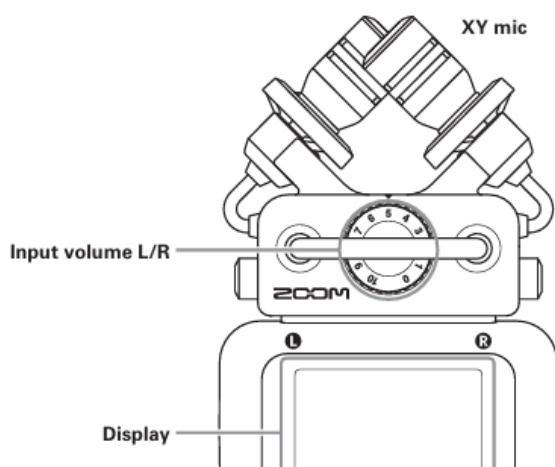
Select ALL to use the pad on both inputs.

5. Use  to select "ON", and press .



Setting Microphone Levels

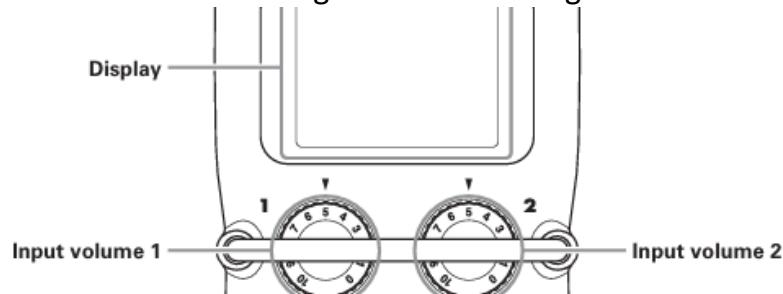
Be sure to enable the inputs in order to see levels by pressing the L, R, 1 and 2 buttons. To adjust the input levels of the microphones attached to the Zoom H5, you need to use the single dial located at the top of the unit.



As a general rule of thumb, aiming to have the maximum level to hit around -12 with peaks going no further than -6 is ideal. This will give you a good level of signal without the risk of clipping. If clipping does occur, small squares will flash on the screen at the end of the level indicators, as well as flashing LEDs above the LR buttons.

Front-Of-House Levels

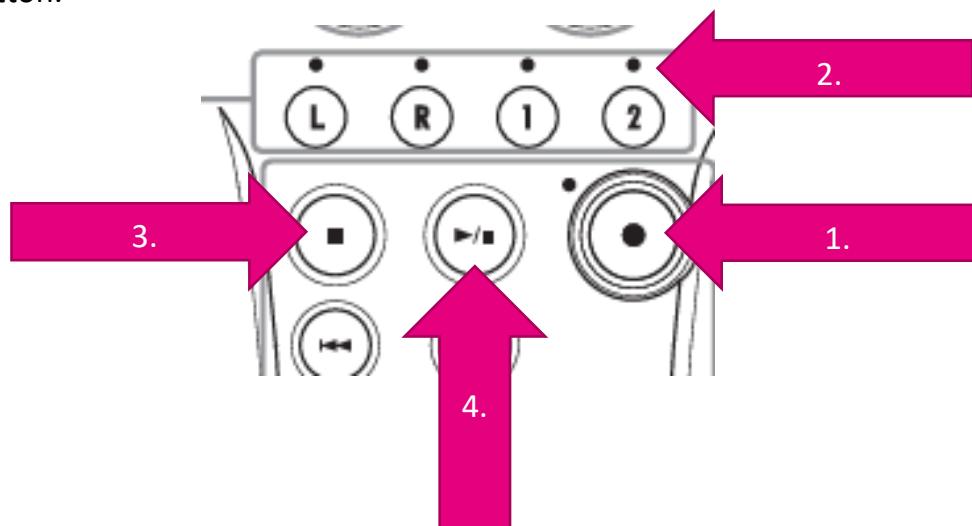
Using the same guide for the microphone, the same applies for the clean audio coming from the venue desk using either XLRs or ¼ inch Jacks into inputs 1 and 2. The dials for which are located just underneath the display. Any gain adjustments should remain paired to each other to maintain the correct stereo image of the recording.



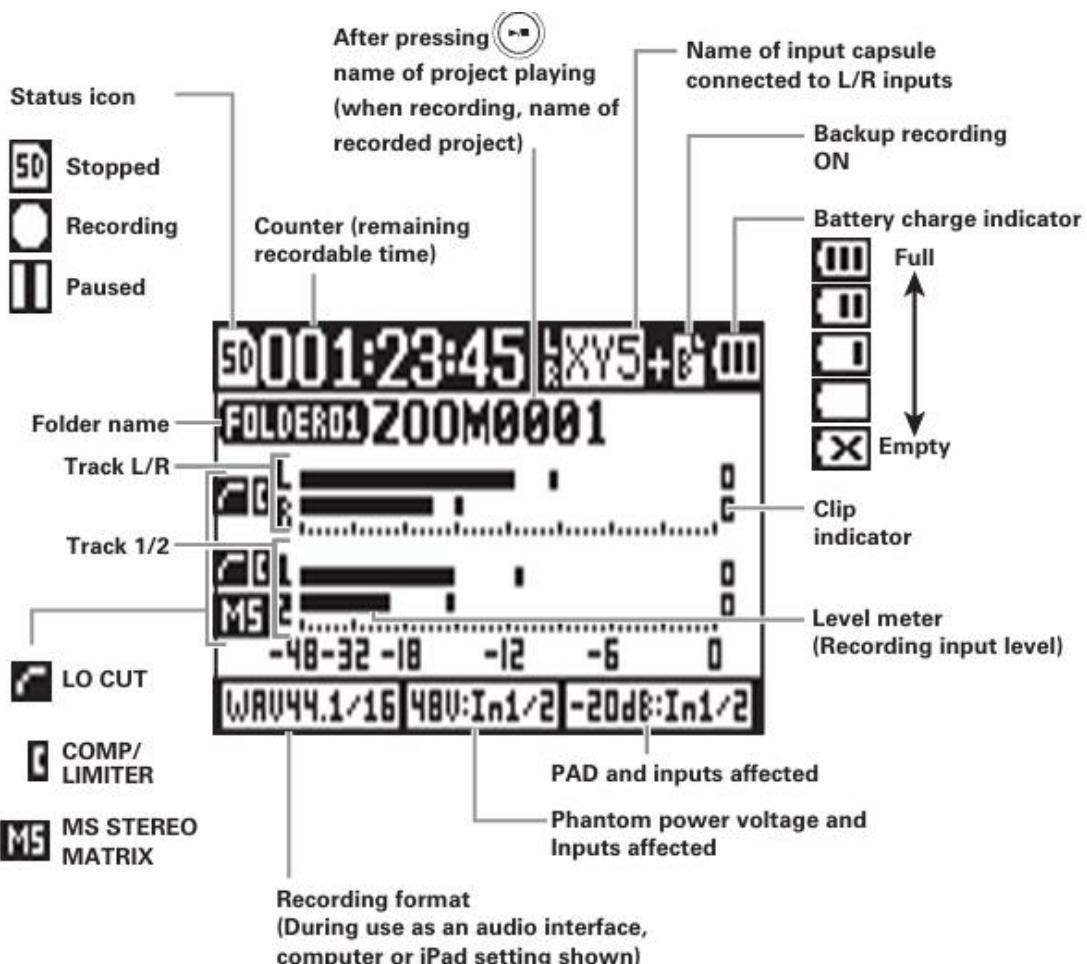
Starting/Stopping the recording

Once all the checks and prepping has been done, you may start the recording.

1. Simply press the Record button once to begin the recording.
2. Always monitor the levels (on screen or the red input LEDs) and adjust the relevant input dials to avoid clipping.
3. Once the performance has finished, press the Stop button to finish the recording.
4. You can immediately listen back to the most recent recording by pressing the Play/Pause button.



Preparing to Record Checklist



	Is there enough battery?
	Is there enough recording space?
	Have you done a visual and audio sync for post-production? (Clap sync/Line out to camera)
	Have you enabled multifile recording and set the audio format?
	Have you applied -20dB pads to input 1/2?
	Is your level around -12dB and peaking below -6dB?
	Have you pressed record?
	Have pressed stop to finish recording?
	Have you listened back to the recording?