Zoom H4essential Recorder Manual

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06/16/2025

Zoom H4essential recorder allows you to record up to 4 channels. It records using 32-bit float format. Here are a step-by-step instructions for how to use Zoom H4essential for a recording.

1. **Power supply**

You can install two AA batteries at the back of the recorder, or you can use the USB port on the right side of the recorder to connect the recorder to a power supply.

2. **SD card**

Insert the microSD card on the left side of the recorder.

3. **Turn on the Zoom recorder**

The power button is on the right of the recorder. Hold the slider downward to turn on the recorder.

4. **Check the setting**
    a. **Phantom power:** If you are using a microphone that requires phantom power, go to the "Input" setting, and turn phantom power to "On". You go through the options using the blue roller at the right of the recorder, and select things by pressing the "Enter" button under the blue roller.

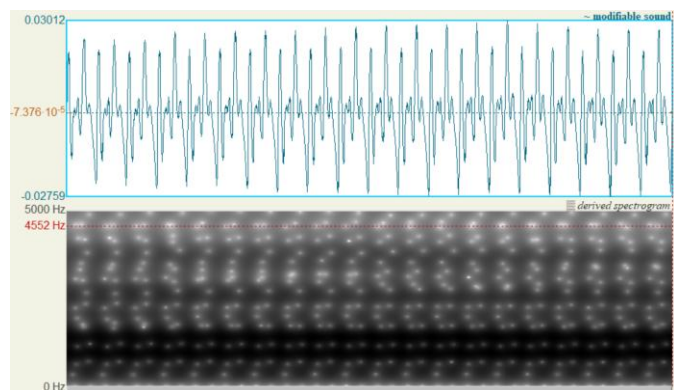b. **Sampling rate:** Go to "Rec" → "Sampling Rate" and choose your desired sampling rate.

5. **Recording**

a. Select the input channel you want. There are three options: Input 1 and 2 correspond to the XLR connections 1 and 2 at the bottom of the recorder; Input MIC represent the two built-in microphones of the recorder. If the red light it on, it means that channel is enabled. To enable/disable a channel, press the button of that channel. In the picture below, only Input 1 is enabled.

b. Adjust the gain of the microphone: Press the "MIXER" button. Select the channel that you want to change the gain. If the gain is near the zero line, the amplitude level is appropriate (if you open it in Praat, its amplitude is around 0.03).

c. Start the recording by press the red round button at the center of the recorder. The red light above the Record button turns on. The waveform on the screen turns red. To stop the recording, press the red round button again.

6. **Export the files**
   a. Insert the SD card to your computer SD reader; or connect the recorder to your computer using a USB-C cable through the USB-C port on the right of the recorder.

   b. File name:

061625_153747: Time when the recording was made: June 16, 2025; 15:37:47

TrMic: File recorded using the built-in XY mic

Tr1, Tr2: Files recorded using tracks 1 and 2

TrLR: File that is a stereo mix of all tracks

7. **Put away the device**
   Remove the batteries from the device, and remove the SD card from the device.