Zoom H4n Quick-Start Guide

From UW Phonetics/Sociolinguistics Lab Wiki

The H4n is an excellent portable flash recorder, with good quality built-in microphones, and the option of external microphones via XLR jacks at the bottom.

Zoom H4n

Contents

Operation

- Turn on the H4n by sliding and holding the power switch on the left-hand side of the recorder.

- Attach the recorder to the tripod using the screw-on peg.

- To make a recording, press the record button twice.

- While recording, you can pause with the pause button, and stop with the stop button.

Using the Built-In Microphones

- Make sure the MIC button is selected on the left side of the recorder.

- Cover the microphones with the included windscreen.

- The two microphones at the top have two polar patterns: 90° (better for one subject, or multiple speakers sitting close to one another), and 120° (better for multiple and/or spread out speakers). To adjust the polar pattern, twist each microphone to the desired setting.

Using an External Microphone

- Connect using the XLR jacks on the bottom of the recorder.

- If the microphones require phantom power, turn it on by navigating to MENU > INPUT > PLUG-IN > PLUG-IN POWER ON.

- Use the 1 and 2 buttons to select the appropriate microphone(s), and disable the built-in ones.

- After recording and before disconnecting the microphone(s), first turn off phantom power, then disconnect the microphone(s).

Tips & Tricks

- Pressing the record button once turns monitoring on. Use this to set your levels and decide on placement.

- Be careful with the rechargeable batteries included in the kit: they tend not to last very long. If possible, plug the recorder in before starting the recording. Otherwise, if you'll be recording in an area without a plug nearby, consider buying some extra batteries.

- Although the recorders are set to record in mono, they output "stereo" files, with identical left and right channels. For filesize's sake, simply throw away one of the channels in the audio editing software of your choice.

Retrieved from "https://zeos.ling.washington.edu/~labwiki/w/index.php?title=Zoom_H4n_Quick-Start_Guide&oldid=287"

- This page was last modified on 17 January 2015, at 15:21.