

ZOOM H4N QUICK START GUIDE

Powering Up:

- Insert (2) AA Batteries
- Make sure the Stamina switch is set to the Off position
- Push the Power slide down to the ON position and hold until Z appears on Zoom display
- The Volume buttons control only the headphones volume (adjust to 50 when setting up)
- Insert headphones into jack marked on left side

Selecting Record Mode:

- Zoom Recorders have 3 Record Modes: Stereo, 4CH (4-channel), and MTR (Multi-track Recording)
- A red light under the top ZOOM logo will indicate the current mode
- The recorder needs to be set to STEREO. If STEREO MODE is not enabled, press the MENU button on the right side
- Use the scroll dial above the MENU button and scroll down to MODE
- Press the dial in (like a button) to bring up MODE settings
- Choose STEREO and press the Menu dial in to select.
- Press MENU twice to exit out.

Selecting Record Format:

- Record Format should be set to **48kHz/16bit** and the file should be **.WAV**
- You should not record in the MP3 format because it is a compressed and inferior format
- The display will show the current record format inside a box in the upper left corner
- The file type (WAV or MP3) is to the right of that and follows the name of the audio track
- If not set to 48kHz/16bit WAV press Button 4 marked WAV/MP3.
- Set to WAV48kHz/16bit if you are recording audio for a video project. If you are making a non-critical recording of a lecture that you need to get off of the recorder and share with others as soon as possible, you might consider recording in one of the MP3 formats. The size will be much smaller, more easier sharing but with some sacrifice in overall sound quality.

To select Built-in Mics:

- Under INPUT choose MIC, MIC lights up red when enabled

Using an external mic:

- Plug mic cable (XLR) into bottom of Zoom – 1

- Make sure mic has battery and turn on
- Under INPUT Press 1 or 2 (both light up)
- Microphone records onto Left Channel

To record to both L and R channels:

- In the Menu under INPUT set 1/2 LINK to ON
- Set MONO MIX to ON.

Setting Record Levels:

- On the right side of the unit adjust REC LEVEL + or – (start at 50)
- Your record levels should peak around -12db.
- Sounds that are louder than 0db will distort. You will hear overmodulated and crunchy audio in your headphones.
- The ideal range for direct recording is 1-1.5ft so get close to your subject

Start Recording:

- Press REC once, the button will keep blinking. This means it is on STANDBY mode, it is not yet recording. You should now hear sound in your headphones and see the record levels on the display moving.
- Press REC again, the light turns solid red. Time on display begins rolling.
- If you press REC again while it is rolling, a marker will be created.
- To stop recording press STOP button.

Playback:

- Press the play/pause button. The last recording will play back.
- To hear previous recordings, use the forward and back buttons (below play button) to switch between files

Switching off:

- Slide the power button down and hold till it turns off
- The HOLD button can be used during recording to make sure the settings don't change if buttons are accidentally pressed.

Getting your files off of the recorder:

- Remove SD card and use card reader to transfer files onto computer
- Your audio files will be in the STEREO folder > FOLDER01
- Drag files into a new folder on your computer or external hard drive and label folders and files as needed.