Mackie MTest-1

Mackie MTest-1 Cable Tester User Manual

Model: MTest-1 | Brand: Mackie

1. Introduction

The Mackie MTest-1 is a versatile, battery-powered cable tester designed for quick and accurate verification of various audio and data cables. It features a simple 5-way rotary switch for testing individual pins on connectors and includes probes for manual continuity checks. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your MTest-1 to ensure reliable performance.

2. Features

- Tests most commonly used connector types in live sound and studio applications.
- Quickly verifies each pin via a 5-way rotary switch.
- Allows manual continuity checks with supplied probes.
- Powered by a single 9V battery.
- Features a robust, 'Built-like-a-tank' construction for durability.

3. Package Contents

- 1 x MTest-1 Cable Tester Unit

Note: A 9V battery is required for operation and may not be included.

4. Setup

4.1 Battery Installation

The MTest-1 requires one 9V battery for operation. To install or replace the battery:

1. Locate the battery compartment on the underside of the unit.
2. Slide the battery compartment cover open.
3. Insert a fresh 9V battery, ensuring correct polarity (+/-).
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

Figure 1: Underside view showing the battery compartment. Lift to withdraw the battery.

4.2 Overview of Connectors

The MTest-1 features a comprehensive array of input and output connectors on its sides and top panel, allowing for testing of various cable types. Familiarize yourself with the location of each connector type before operation.

Figure 2: Top-down view of the Mackie MTest-1 Cable Tester, highlighting the diverse range of input and output ports available for testing.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1 Cable Testing with 5-Way Switch

The MTest-1's primary function is to test the continuity of individual pins within a cable using its rotary switch and LED indicators. This method is suitable for most standard audio and data cables.

1. Connect both ends of the cable you wish to test into the appropriate input/output jacks on the MTest-1. For example, for an XLR cable, connect one end to an XLR-M port and the other to an XLR-F port.
2. Turn the 5-way rotary switch to cycle through the pins (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).
3. Observe the LED indicators. A lit LED next to a pin number indicates continuity for that specific pin. If an LED does not light up for a connected pin, it indicates a break in that connection.
4. The 'Battery Check' LED will illuminate if the battery has sufficient charge.

Figure 3: Angled view of the Mackie MTest-1, illustrating the 5-way rotary switch and corresponding LED indicators for pin continuity testing.

5.2 Manual Continuity Testing with Probes

For custom cables, internal wiring, or specific components, the MTest-1 includes probes for manual continuity testing.

1. Plug the red and black probes into the 'Banana / Continuity' jacks on the top panel of the MTest-1.
2. Touch the tips of the probes to the two points you wish to test for continuity.
3. If there is continuity, the 'Continuity' LED will light up and a beeper will sound.

Figure 4: The Mackie MTest-1 with red and black continuity probes connected to the 'Banana / Continuity' jacks.

5.3 Official Product Video: Mackie Cable Tester MTest-1

Video 1: An official product video demonstrating the features and usage of the Mackie MTest-1 Cable Tester.

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6. Supported Connector Types

The MTest-1 is equipped to test a wide range of common audio and data connector types, including:

- TRS (Tip-Ring-Sleeve)
- TS (Tip-Sleeve)
- XLR (3-pin and 5-pin)
- RCA
- Speakon
- 3.5mm TRS
- MIDI
- Banana Jacks
- USB (Type A and Type B)
- Ethernet (RJ45)

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7. Specifications

Specification	Value
Brand	Mackie
Model Number	CT-MACKIE (MTest-1)
Power Source	Battery Powered
Battery Type	1 x 9V battery required (Alkaline recommended)
Item Weight	1.4 Pounds (0.64 kg)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	6.5 x 4.8 x 2.7 inches (16.5 x 12.2 x 6.9 cm)
Color	Black
Measurement Type	Ohmmeter (for continuity)
Specification Met	CE, RoHS

8. Maintenance

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the MTest-1. Avoid using abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Battery Replacement:** Replace the 9V battery when the 'Battery Check' LED indicates low power or when the unit fails to power on. Always dispose of used batteries responsibly.
- **Storage:** Store the unit in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures when not in use. If storing for extended periods, remove the battery to prevent leakage.
- **Connector Care:** Keep all connector ports free of dust and debris.

9. Troubleshooting

- **Unit does not power on:** Check if the 9V battery is correctly installed and has sufficient charge. Replace the battery if necessary.
- **No LED lights during cable test:** Ensure both ends of the cable are securely connected to the appropriate ports. Verify the 5-way switch is correctly positioned for the pins being tested. Check the battery status.
- **Incorrect LED readings:** Double-check the cable type and ensure it is compatible with the MTest-1's testing capabilities. Confirm the cable is fully inserted into the ports.
- **Continuity beeper does not sound:** For manual continuity tests, ensure the probes are firmly touching the points being tested and that the 'Banana / Continuity' jacks are properly connected.

10. Warranty and Support

Mackie products are designed for reliability and durability. For specific warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Mackie website. For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or service inquiries, please contact Mackie customer support through their official channels.