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TASCAM DR-05X

TASCAM DR-05X Stereo Linear PCM Recorder User Manual

Model: DR-05X

1. Introduction

The TASCAM DR-05X is a portable stereo linear PCM recorder designed for high-quality audio capture. It features built-in omnidirectional stereo microphones, a USB audio interface function for use with computers, and supports recording up to 96kHz/24-bit. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your DR-05X.


TASCAM
L
R
PEAK
REC
48kHz
USB AUDIO I/F
DR-05X
RECORD
HOME
MENU
QUICK
MARK
LINEAR PCM RECORDER

Figure 1: Front view of the TASCAM DR-05X recorder, showing the display, control buttons, and built-in microphones.

2. Getting Started

2.1 Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- TASCAM DR-05X Unit
- AAA Alkaline Batteries (x2)
- Owner's Manual (this document)
- Warranty Card

2.2 Battery Installation

1. Locate the battery compartment cover on the back of the unit.
2. Slide the cover open.
3. Insert two AAA batteries, ensuring correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

Note: For extended use, consider using rechargeable Ni-MH batteries or a USB power adapter (sold separately).

2.3 Inserting a microSD Card

The DR-05X records audio to a microSD/microSDHC/microSDXC card (up to 128GB). A card is not included and must be purchased separately.

1. Ensure the DR-05X is powered off.
2. Locate the microSD card slot on the side of the unit.
3. Insert the microSD card with the contacts facing down until it clicks into place.
4. To remove, push the card in gently until it clicks, then release it to eject.





Figure 2: Side view of the DR-05X, showing the microSD card slot (top right) and USB port (bottom right).

2.4 Powering On/Off

- **To Power On:** Press and hold the **POWER/HOME** button until the display lights up.
- **To Power Off:** Press and hold the **POWER/HOME** button until "Power Off" appears on the display, then release.

3. Basic Operation

3.1 Recording Audio

1. **Prepare for Recording:** Power on the unit. Ensure a formatted microSD card is inserted.
2. **Adjust Input Level:** Press the **REC** button once to enter record-pause mode. The level meters will be active. Use the

+ and **-** buttons to adjust the recording level so that the peak levels are around -12dB to -6dB, avoiding clipping (red PEAK indicator).

3. **Start Recording:** Press the **REC** button again. The REC indicator will light up, and recording will begin.
4. **Stop Recording:** Press the **STOP** button. The recorded file will be saved to the microSD card.





Figure 3: The DR-05X set up on a mini-tripod, connected via USB to a laptop, demonstrating its use as an audio interface or for file transfer.

3.2 Playback

1. **Select File:** Use the **REW** (<<) and **FF** (>>) buttons to navigate through recorded files.
2. **Start Playback:** Press the **PLAY/PAUSE** (>) button.
3. **Pause Playback:** Press the **PLAY/PAUSE** button again.
4. **Stop Playback:** Press the **STOP** button.
5. **Adjust Playback Volume:** Use the **+** and **-** buttons during playback.

3.3 Menu Navigation

The DR-05X features a menu system for advanced settings and functions.

1. Press the **MENU** button to enter the menu.
2. Use the directional buttons (**UP/DOWN**) to scroll through menu options.
3. Press the **PLAY/PAUSE** button (center of directional pad) to select an option or enter a sub-menu.
4. Press the **MENU** button again to go back to the previous screen or exit the menu.

3.4 USB Audio Interface Function

The DR-05X can function as a 2-in/2-out USB audio interface for your computer, allowing you to record directly to your DAW or use it as a high-quality USB microphone.

1. Connect the DR-05X to your computer using a USB cable (Micro-B to Type-A, not included).
2. Power on the DR-05X. It will prompt you to select a USB mode.
3. Select "Audio I/F" using the directional buttons and confirm with the **PLAY/PAUSE** button.
4. Your computer should recognize the DR-05X as an audio device. Select it as your input/output device in your operating system's sound settings or your DAW.

4. Maintenance

4.1 Cleaning

- Wipe the unit with a soft, dry cloth.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents as they may damage the finish.
- Avoid getting moisture into the microphones or other openings.

4.2 Storage

- When not in use for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage.
- Store the unit in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity.

5. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Unit does not power on.	Batteries are dead or incorrectly inserted.	Replace batteries or check polarity. Ensure the power button is held long enough.
No sound during playback.	Playback volume is too low; headphones not connected or faulty.	Increase playback volume. Check headphone connection and try different headphones.
Recording level is too low or distorted.	Input level is set too low or too high.	Adjust the input level using the + and - buttons before recording. Ensure PEAK indicator does not light up red.
"SD Card Error" message.	SD card is not inserted correctly, is corrupted, or incompatible.	Reinsert the SD card. Try formatting the card (this will erase all data). Try a different, compatible SD card.
Unit freezes or becomes unresponsive.	Temporary software glitch.	Remove and reinsert the batteries to perform a hard reset.

6. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Recording Media	microSD card (64MB to 2GB), microSDHC card (4GB to 32GB), microSDXC card (48GB to 128GB)

Feature	Detail
Recording Formats	WAV (BWF), MP3
Sampling Frequency	44.1k/48k/96kHz (WAV), 44.1k/48kHz (MP3)
Quantization Bit Rate	16/24-bit (WAV)
Microphones	Built-in omnidirectional stereo condenser microphones
Analog Input	EXT MIC/LINE IN (3.5mm stereo mini jack, plug-in power supported)
Analog Output	LINE OUT/HEADPHONE OUT (3.5mm stereo mini jack)
USB Port	Micro-B type (USB 2.0 High Speed)
Power Supply	2 x AAA batteries (Alkaline or Ni-MH), USB bus power
Battery Life (Alkaline)	Approx. 17.5 hours (WAV, 44.1kHz/16-bit, using built-in mics)
Dimensions (W x H x D)	61 x 141 x 26 mm (2.4 x 5.6 x 1.0 inches)
Weight	116 g (4.1 oz) without batteries
Compatible Devices	PC
Hardware Interface	USB 2.0
Screen Size	2 Inches

7. Warranty and Support

7.1 Warranty Information

This TASCAM DR-05X unit comes with a**1-year manufacturer's warranty** from the date of purchase. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. The warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. It does not cover damage caused by misuse, accidents, unauthorized modifications, or improper maintenance.

7.2 Customer Support

For technical support, service, or further inquiries, please visit the official TASCAM website or contact your local TASCAM distributor. You can find detailed contact information and FAQs on their support pages.

TASCAM Official Website: https://tascam.com/

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Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

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