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> Zoom H6 All Black 6-Track Portable Recorder, Stereo Microphones, 4 XLR/TRS Inputs, Records to SD Card, USB Audio Interface, Battery Powered, Podcasting and Music USB Audio Interface, Battery Powered, H6 All Black (2020 Model)

Zoom H6AB

Zoom H6 All Black Handy Recorder User Manual

Model: H6AB | Brand: Zoom

INTRODUCTION

The Zoom H6 All Black Handy Recorder is a versatile 6-track portable recorder designed for high-quality audio capture in various applications, including podcasting, music recording, and filmmaking. Its robust design and intuitive interface make it an essential tool for creators seeking professional-grade audio on the go.





Figure 1: Front view of the Zoom H6 All Black Handy Recorder with XY microphone capsule attached.

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Video 1: Official introduction to the Zoom H6 All Black Handy Recorder, highlighting its key features and applications.

SETUP

1. Battery Installation

The Zoom H6 operates on four AA batteries, providing over 20 hours of continuous recording. To install, open the battery compartment on the back of the unit and insert the batteries according to the polarity indicators.







Figure 2: Back view of the Zoom H6 All Black, showing the battery compartment.

2. SD Card Insertion

The device supports SD cards up to 128GB. Locate the SD card slot on the side of the unit and insert the card until it clicks into place. Ensure the card is properly formatted before recording.



Figure 3: Side view of the Zoom H6 All Black, highlighting the SD card slot.

3. Microphone Capsule Attachment

The H6 features interchangeable microphone capsules. The included XY microphone capsule attaches to the top of the unit. Align the pins and slide the capsule into place until it locks securely.

4. Connecting External Microphones/Instruments

The H6 is equipped with four XLR/TRS combo jacks, allowing connection of microphones or line-level devices. These inputs are essential for expanding your recording capabilities with external microphones like lavaliers, handhelds, or boom mics, or for connecting instruments.



Figure 4: Side view of the Zoom H6 All Black, showing the XLR/TRS combo input jacks.

5. Connecting to Computer or iPad

The H6 can function as a multi-channel audio interface for your computer or iPad. Connect the device using a mini USB cable to transfer data or use it as an interface for your digital audio workstation (DAW).

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Powering On/Off

To power on the device, slide the power switch located on the side. The large full-color display will light up, showing the recording interface. To power off, slide and hold the power switch until the unit shuts down.

2. Gain Control and Pad Switch

Each input on the H6 has its own dedicated gain control knob and a -20dB pad switch. Adjust the gain to achieve optimal recording levels and use the pad switch to prevent clipping when recording loud sound sources.

3. Phantom Power

The H6 provides phantom power in three different voltages (+12V, +24V, +48V) for condenser microphones. Access the Phantom Power setting through the Input/Output menu on the display.

4. Recording Multiple Tracks

The H6 can record up to six tracks simultaneously. Use the individual track arming buttons (L, R, 1, 2, 3, 4) to select which inputs you wish to record. The display will show individual level meters for each active track.

5. Built-in Effects

Enhance your recordings with built-in effects such as low-cut filters, compressors, and limiters. These can be accessed and adjusted through the easy-to-navigate menus on the display.

6. Recording Functions

The H6 offers various recording functions to ensure you never miss a moment:

- **Auto Rec:** Automatically starts recording when a sound level threshold is met.
- **Pre Rec:** Captures a few seconds of audio before you press the record button.
- **Backup Rec:** Records a duplicate track at a lower gain level as a safety measure against unexpected peaks.

7. Monitoring with Headphones

Monitor your audio in real-time using headphones connected to the dedicated headphone jack. Adjust the headphone volume using the controls on the side of the unit.

8. Recording Formats

The H6 supports various WAV and MP3 formats, including high-definition 24-bit/96kHz WAV for pristine audio quality.

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Video 2: A detailed look at the Zoom H6 Black, showcasing its features and recording capabilities.

MAINTENANCE

Keep your Zoom H6 in optimal condition by regularly cleaning its exterior with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid exposing the device to extreme temperatures, moisture, or dust. Store it in its protective case when not in use.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Audio Clipping

If your audio is clipping (distorted sound due to excessively high input levels), reduce the gain using the dedicated gain

knobs for each input. For very loud sources, engage the -20dB pad switch.

USB Microphone Limitations

When using the H6 as a USB audio interface with a computer, note that directly plugging in multiple USB microphones to the computer may not work properly. The H6 acts as a multi-channel interface, allowing you to connect XLR/TRS microphones to the H6 itself, and then connect the H6 to your computer via USB for multi-track recording into your DAW.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	4.4 ounces (125 Grams)
Product Dimensions	3.1 x 1.9 x 6 inches (8.5"D x 6.5"W x 2.4"H)
Model Number	H6AB
Batteries	4 AA batteries required (Alkaline)
Memory Storage Capacity	128 GB (SD cards)
Digital Recording Time	8 hours
Microphone Operation Mode	Stereo
Connector Type	4 XLR/TRS Inputs
Hardware Interface	USB
Operating System	Windows

WARRANTY & SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official User Guide (PDF) provided by Zoom. You can access the full user guide [here](#).

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page’s manual context to help answer it.

Name

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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.

Submit question