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## HopCentury cassette-converter-249

# User Manual

HopCentury Audio Cassette to Digital Converter

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides detailed instructions for the operation and maintenance of your HopCentury Audio Cassette to Digital Converter. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the device to ensure proper functionality and to maximize your user experience. This device is designed to convert analog audio from cassette tapes into digital WAV, MP3, or other audio file formats, and can also function as a portable cassette player.

## 2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

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The HopCentury Audio Cassette to Digital Converter is a versatile device that allows you to preserve your old cassette tape collections by converting them into digital audio files. It also features a built-in speaker and a 3.5mm earphone jack for direct playback.

### 2.1 Package Contents

- HopCentury Audio Cassette to Digital Converter Unit
- USB Type-C Cable
- User Manual (this document)

### 2.2 Device Components



Figure 2.1: Front view of the HopCentury Audio Cassette to Digital Converter, showing the translucent casing and the "ezcap USB CASSETTE CONVERTER" branding.

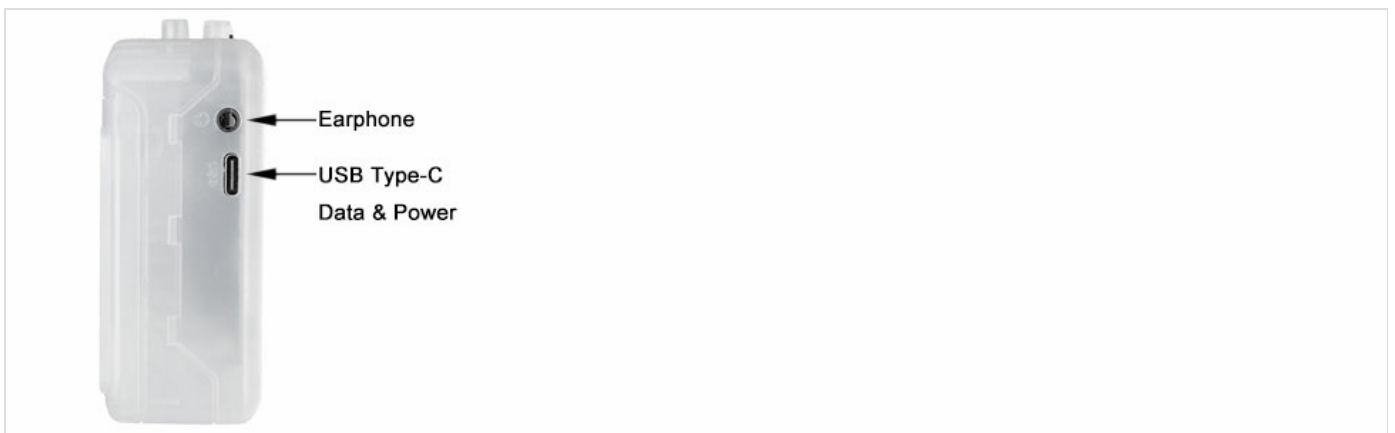


Figure 2.2: Side view of the converter, highlighting the Earphone jack and the USB Type-C port for data and power.

- **Cassette Compartment:** Holds the audio cassette tape.
- **Play/Stop/Rewind/Fast Forward Buttons:** Standard cassette player controls.
- **Volume Control:** Adjusts playback volume.

- **Earphone Jack (3.5mm):** For connecting headphones.
- **USB Type-C Port:** For power supply and connection to a computer for digital conversion.
- **Built-in Speaker:** For direct audio playback without headphones.
- **Battery Compartment:** For 2x AA batteries (for portable use).

## 3. SETUP

### 3.1 Powering the Device

The converter can be powered in two ways:

1. **USB Type-C Power:** Connect the provided USB Type-C cable to the device and to a computer's USB port or a USB power adapter (not included). This method is required for digital conversion.
2. **AA Batteries:** For portable playback without a computer connection, insert two (2) AA batteries into the battery compartment. **Note: Do NOT insert AA batteries when using the USB Type-C port for power or data transfer.**



Figure 3.1: View of the open battery compartment, showing where to insert two AA batteries.

### 3.2 Inserting a Cassette Tape

1. Gently open the cassette compartment lid.
2. Insert your audio cassette tape with the open side facing upwards and the tape reels aligned with the device's spindles.
3. Close the cassette compartment lid firmly until it clicks into place.



Figure 3.2: The cassette compartment opened, ready for tape insertion.

## 4. OPERATING THE DEVICE

### 4.1 Playing Cassette Tapes

To play a cassette tape:

1. Ensure the device is powered (via USB or batteries).
2. Insert a cassette tape as described in Section 3.2.
3. Press the **PLAY** button.
4. Adjust the volume using the volume control dial.
5. You can listen through the built-in speaker or connect headphones to the 3.5mm earphone jack.
6. Use the **STOP**, **REWIND**, and **FAST FORWARD** buttons as needed.

### 4.2 Converting Cassette Tapes to Digital Files

To convert your cassette tapes to digital audio files (WAV, MP3, etc.), you will need to connect the device to a computer.

1. Connect the converter to your computer using the provided USB Type-C cable. The device will be powered by the USB connection.
2. Your computer should recognize the device as an audio input source.
3. Open your preferred audio recording software (e.g., Audacity, QuickTime for Mac, or other compatible software).
4. In the recording software settings, select the "USB Audio Device" or similar as your input source.
5. Start recording in your software, then press the **PLAY** button on the cassette converter.

6. Monitor the audio levels in your software to ensure optimal recording quality.
7. Once the tape has finished playing, press **STOP** on the converter and stop the recording in your software.
8. Save the recorded audio file in your desired format (WAV, MP3, etc.).



Figure 4.1: The HopCentury cassette converter connected to a laptop via its USB Type-C port, illustrating the setup for digital conversion.

## 5. POWER MODES

The device supports various power configurations, each affecting its functionality:

	Insert Batteries	Connect to Computer	Connect to USB Power Adapter	Built-in Speaker
Mode 1	Yes	No	No	Works
Mode 2	No	Yes	No	No
Mode 3	No	No	Yes	Works

Figure 5.1: A table illustrating the different power modes and their corresponding functionalities regarding battery use, computer connection, USB power adapter use, and built-in speaker operation.

**Table 5.1: Power Mode Functionality**

Mode	Insert Batteries	Connect to Computer	Connect to USB Power Adapter	Built-in Speaker
Mode 1	Yes	No	No	Works
Mode 2	No	Yes	No	No
Mode 3	No	No	Yes	Works

**Important:** As noted in the table, the built-in speaker does not function when the device is connected to a computer (Mode 2). This is by design to facilitate clean audio capture for digital conversion.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Product Dimensions:** 4.72 x 3.54 x 1.38 inches (120 x 90 x 35 mm)
- **Item Weight:** 6.3 ounces (178 grams)

- **Model Number:** cassette-converter-249
- **Power Supply:** 2x AA Batteries or USB Type-C (5V DC)
- **Audio Output:** 3.5mm Stereo Jack, Built-in Speaker
- **Interface:** USB Type-C (for data and power)
- **Compatible OS:** Windows, macOS (QuickTime recommended for Mac)
- **Output Audio Formats:** WAV, MP3, WMA (software dependent)
- **Color:** Translucent



Figure 6.1: Diagram showing the physical dimensions of the HopCentury Audio Cassette to Digital Converter.

## 7. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the device. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents.
- **Tape Heads:** Periodically clean the tape heads with a cotton swab lightly dampened with isopropyl alcohol to ensure optimal audio quality and prevent tape damage.
- **Storage:** Store the device in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. If storing for extended periods, remove the AA batteries to prevent leakage.
- **Handling:** Handle the device with care. Avoid dropping it or subjecting it to strong impacts.

## 8. TROUBLESHOOTING

**Table 8.1: Common Issues and Solutions**

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Possible Cause</b>	<b>Solution</b>
Device does not power on.	No power source or depleted batteries.	Ensure USB Type-C cable is securely connected to a power source, or replace AA batteries. Remember not to use both simultaneously.
No audio output from speaker/headphones.	Volume too low, headphones not connected properly, or device connected to computer.	Increase volume. Check headphone connection. Note that the speaker is disabled when connected to a computer (Mode 2).
Computer does not detect the device.	Loose USB connection, driver issue, or incorrect USB port.	Ensure USB Type-C cable is firmly connected. Try a different USB port on your computer. Restart your computer.
Poor recording quality.	Dirty tape heads, worn-out cassette tape, or incorrect software settings.	Clean tape heads (see Maintenance). Use a good quality cassette tape. Verify input source and recording levels in your audio software.

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

HopCentury products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the contact information provided with your purchase or visit the official HopCentury website. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

