

# Zoom H5 Basic Setup

by Andrew Host, Version 1, August 2019

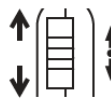

If the Zoom H5 recorder has been stored with batteries, then the device will remember the date and time and recording format settings from the previous time it was set up.

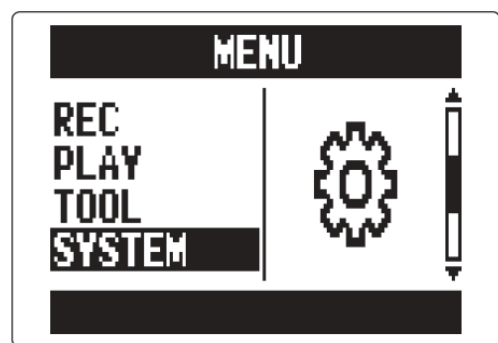
However, long-term storage with batteries installed can lead to the batteries leaking and cause permanent damage to the recorder. It is recommended that the Zoom H5 be stored without batteries inserted. But this means that before the next use, you will need to set the date and time, recording format, and phantom power options.

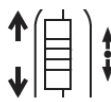

## Setting the Date and Time

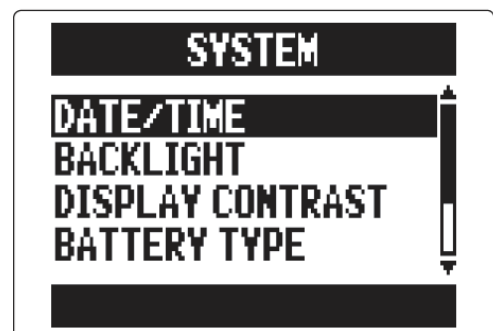
**1.** Press .

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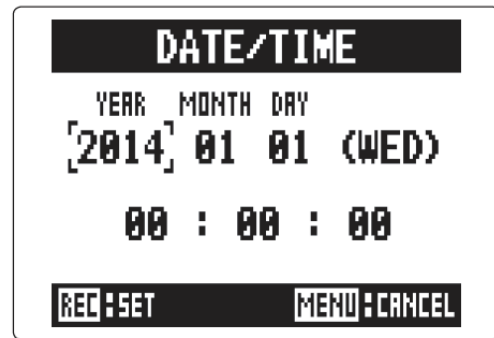
**2.** Use  to select "SYSTEM", and press .



**3.** Use  to select "DATE/TIME", and press .



## 4. Change the setting.




### ■ Changing settings

Move cursor: Move  up and down

Change item value: Press , then

move  up and down

Confirm change: Press 

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## 5. Press

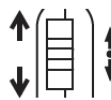

This completes setting the date and time.

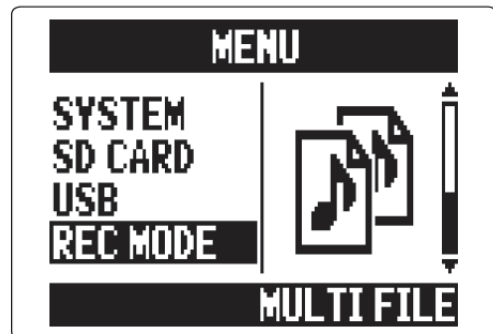
# Choosing the Recording Mode

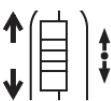

The Zoom H5 can be set to record from its built-in stereo microphones, or from external microphones plugged into the bottom of the device, or from both at the same time (Multi-file mode).

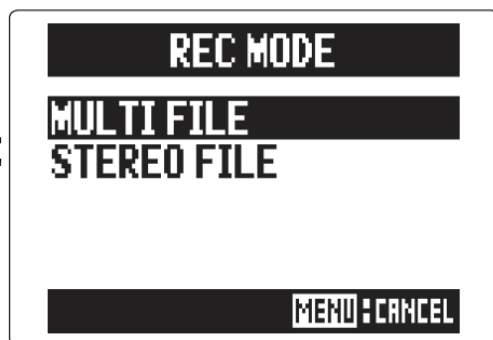
You should check that the Zoom H5 is set to **STEREO FILE**.

**1.** Press .

**2.** Use  to select  
REC MODE,  
and press .



**3.** Use  to select the  
recording mode, STEREO FILE  
and press .



Then press and hold the MENU button to return to the Home Screen.

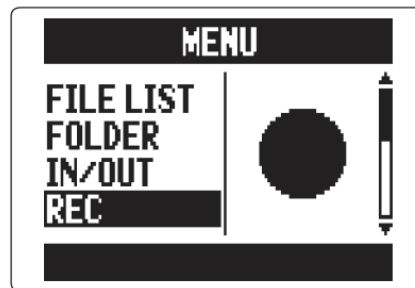
# Set the Recording Format







To conform to the recording standards set by Oral History associations all over the world, the Zoom H5 should be set to record **WAV** files with a sample rate of **48 kilohertz (kHz)** and a sample resolution of **24 bit**.

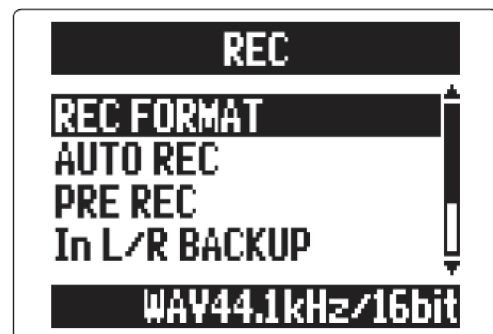
**1.** Press  MENU.







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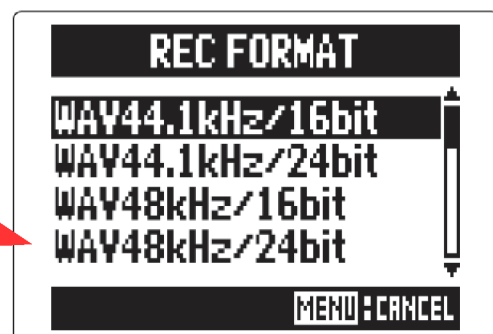
**2.** Use    to select "REC", and press   .



**3.** Use    to select "REC FORMAT", and press   .



**4.** Use    to select recording format, and press   .



Then press and hold the MENU button to return to the Home Screen.

# Phantom Power

If you are using external condenser microphones, such as the Rode M3 microphones, they require power to operate.

You can either insert a nine-volt battery into the microphone, or you can supply the microphone with power directly from the Zoom H5 via the microphone cables. This is known as Phantom Power.

If you are recording using the built-in microphones, or using external microphones that do not require power (such as dynamic microphones) then Phantom Power should be switched off.



Please note, that if the Zoom H5 is being used to supply Phantom Power, you will need to have the Zoom H5 itself powered by its USB cable connected to the appropriate 240 volt USB adapter.

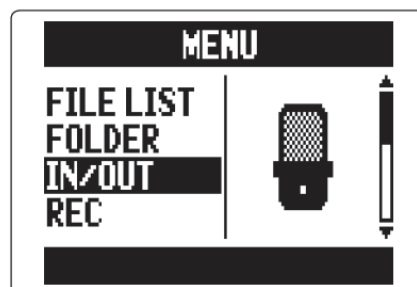
If you are unable to use a 240 volt power point, but still wish to use the Rode M3 external microphones, then you should consider powering the microphones with a 9-volt battery, because phantom power will quickly drain the batteries in the Zoom H5.



## To switch on Phantom Power:

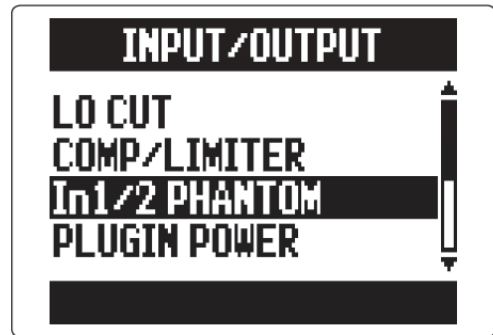
**1.** Press  MENU.



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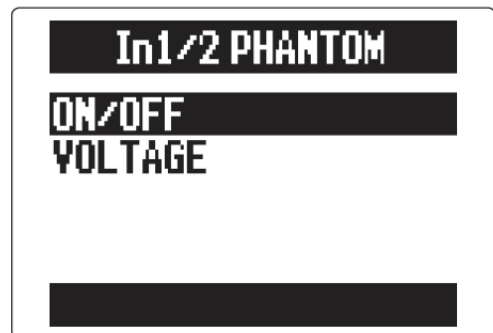
**2.** Use  to select "IN/OUT", and press .





- 3.** Use  to select "In1/2 PHANTOM", and press .

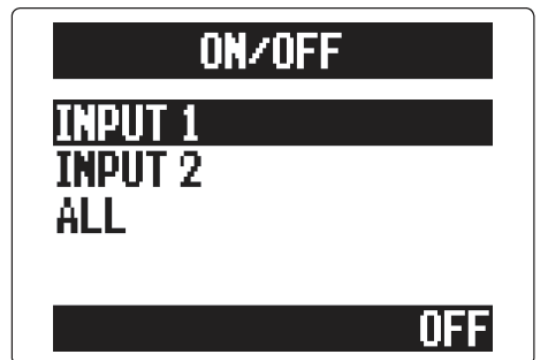


- 4.** Use  to select an item, and press .





#### ■ Turning "ON/OFF"

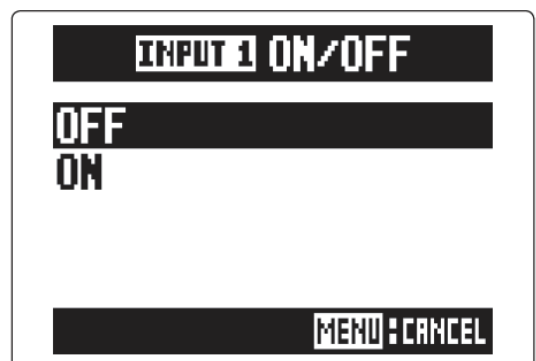
- Use  to select an input, and press .



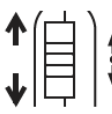
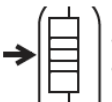
#### HINT

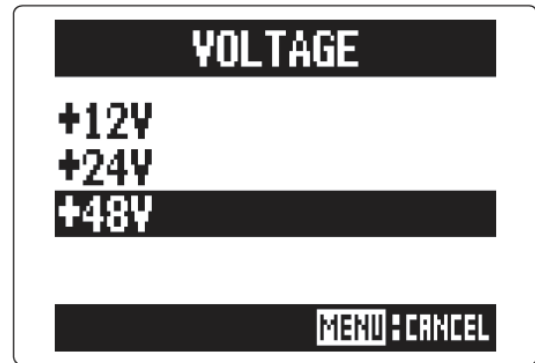
Select ALL to use phantom power on both inputs.

- Use  to select "ON", and press .



## ■ Set the "VOLTAGE"

Use  to select the voltage, and press .



Then press and hold the MENU button to return to the Home Screen.

## Microphone Placement

The Rode M3 microphones are quite directional.

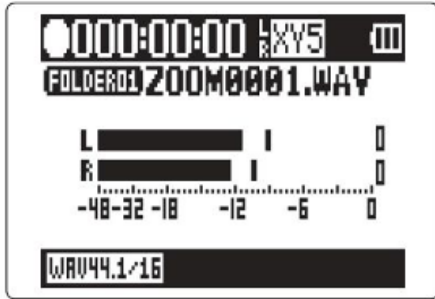
They should be set so that they are pointing towards the mouth of the person who is speaking, at a distance of between 30 and 60 centimetres.

## Backup Recording Device

It is recommended that you use a second recorder as a backup, in case the main recorder fails or has not been set up correctly.

If you are using a mobile phone as a backup recorder, ensure that it is first switched to SILENT and also to FLIGHT MODE to ensure that background tasks performed by the phone do not electronically interfere with the main recording.

# Recording Levels

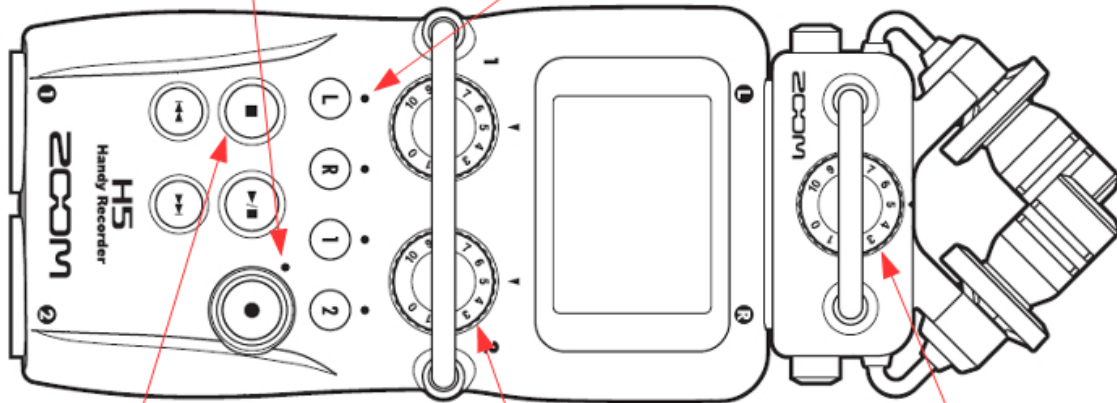


The level should generally be peaking between minus 12 and minus 6 decibels (dB).

Recording at a level that is too low will reduce the quality of the sound and introduce extraneous noise.

Recording at a level that is too high, will cause the sound to be distorted. If the level is too high, the small red light adjacent to the record select button (L, R, 1, 2) will flicker.

To start recording, press the record button. A small red light will illuminate next to the record button to confirm that you are recording.



To stop the recording, press the STOP button.

To adjust the recording level of external microphones, use the dials corresponding to input 1 and 2 which are underneath the silver bar across the middle of the device.

To adjust the recording level when using the built-in microphone, use the dial closest to the built-in microphone.