



# **Quick Guide**

### You must read the Usage and Safety Precautions before use.



Download the Operation Manual from the ZOOM website (https://www.zoom.jp/docs/h3-vr). This page has both PDF and ePub format files. The PDF file format is suitable for printing and viewing on a computer. The ePub file format is suitable for smartphones and tablets and can be read on electronic book readers.

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The contents of this manual and the specifications of the product could be changed without notice.

# Preparations

**1**. Press the battery/microSD card compartment cover down to open it and insert batteries and a microSD card.



HINT

- An AC adapter (ZOOM AD-17) designed for use with this recorder can also connected to the USB port to operate it using AC power.
- When connected to a computer, power can be supplied by USB.



HINT

- To turn the power off, slide O HOLD toward O.
- Sliding  $^{\textcircled{O}}$   $^{\textcircled{HOLD}}$  to the HOLD side will disable button operations.



# Recording

## Make recording settings



#### HINT

- By combining Ambisonic format files recorded with the H3-VR with video recorded using a 360° camera you can create videos that allow the audio to follow the visual perspective.
- Using software provided by ZOOM, you can convert files recorded with the **H3-VR** to a variety of formats, including stereo, 5.1ch surround, and binaural stereo.

Setting items

### Setting the mic position: Mic Position

The **H3-VR** can record sound in every direction, including forward, backward, left, right, up and down.

Use Mic Position to set the orientation of the mics and recorder in relation to the forward direction.

When Mic Position is kept at its default setting, the built-in motion sensor allows it to always record with normal forward/backward, left/right and up/down position relationships regardless of whether the mics are oriented up, down or forward.

Setting	Mic/recorder orientation	Explanation
Auto	-	The <b>H3-VR</b> automatically sets the mic position according to its orientation at the start of recording.
Upright	Forward	Use this setting to record with the <b>H3-VR</b> upright.
Upside Down	Forward	Use this setting to record with the <b>H3-VR</b> upside down.
Endfire	Forward	Use this setting to record with the <b>H3-VR</b> oriented horizontally with its display up.
Endfire Invert	Forward	Use this setting to record with the <b>H3-VR</b> oriented horizontally with its display down.

The orientation of the **H3-VR** is detected by the motion sensor and shown on the Home Screen. Adjust the angle of the **H3-VR** so that the tilt indicator is centered.



Tilt indicator

#### • Setting the recording mode: Rec Settings ⇒ Rec Mode

Setting	Explanation
FuMa	Record as Ambisonics B FuMa format (4-channel).
AmbiX	Record as Ambisonics B AmbiX format (4-channel).
Ambisonics A	Record as Ambisonics A format (4-channel).
Stereo	Record as an ordinary stereo (2-channel) file.
Binaural	Record as a stereo (2-channel) file that has been converted to binaural.

This sets the file format used to record files.

#### Setting the recording format: Rec Settings ➡ Rec Format

The recording format can be selected in consideration of audio quality and file size. Settings range from 44.1kHz/16-bit to 96kHz/24-bit.

Higher values provide higher audio quality but also have larger file sizes.

• Setting the Ambisonic monitoring mode: Input/Output → Ambisonic Monitor

This sets the conversion format when outputting Ambisonic input signals from the PHONE OUT and LINE OUT jacks.

Setting	Explanation
Stereo	The input sound is converted to ordinary stereo and output.
Binaural	The input sound is converted to binaural and output.

HINT

Use

 $\overset{\circ}{\models}$  VOLUME to adjust the headphone output volume.

#### Setting the low-frequency filter: Input/Output ➡ Lo Cut

This function can reduce low-frequency noise, including air-conditioning, wind and vocal pops. This can be set from 10 to 240 Hz or Off.

#### • Setting the limiter: Input/Output → Limiter

The limiter can prevent distortion by reducing loud input signals.

Setting	Explanation
On/Off	This turns the limiter on and off.
Threshold	The threshold for limiter operation can be set from -2 to -16 dBFS.
Attack Time	In a range from 1 to 4 ms, this sets the amount of time after the input signal exceeds the threshold until compression of the output signal is maximized.
Release Time	In a range from 1 to 500 ms, this sets the amount of time after the input signal goes below the threshold until the limiter stops compressing the signal.

## Adjusting input levels (MIC GAIN)



1. Turn MIC GAIN

Adjust so that peak levels on the level meters stay around -12 dBFS.



## Recording



**1.** Press • when the Home Screen is open.

This shows the name of the recording file and starts recording.

2. Press

This stops recording and opens the Home Screen.

## Operations during recording ENTER

• Pause: Press

This pauses recording. Marks are added automatically at points where recording has been paused.

Resume recording: Press () again.



# Playing recordings



ENTER

1. Press (>/II) when the Home Screen is open.

This shows the name of the file and starts playback.





2. Press

This stops playback and opens the Home Screen.

## Changing the playback mode



**1.** Press during playback.

Press repeatedly until the desired playback mode is selected.



### Tracking playback mode

Stereo audio signals can be extracted according to specific orientations from files recorded in Ambisonics A and Ambisonics B (FuMa and AmbiX) formats. The orientation of the extracted audio can be adjusted by changing the orientation of the **H3-VR**.



### Manual playback mode

Stereo audio signals can be extracted according to specific orientations from files recorded in Ambisonics A and Ambisonics B (FuMa and AmbiX) formats.

The angle of the audio extracted can be adjusted by pressing (-) for the horizontal angle and pressing (-) for the vertical angle.



### **Binaural playback mode**

Files recorded in Ambisonics A and Ambisonics B (FuMa and AmbiX) formats can be converted to binaural.



## **Operations during playback**



to mark positions.

# List of functions and settings

When the home screen is open, press to open the MENU screen where you can use the following functions and settings.

Item		Explanation
Finder		This shows the folders and files on the microSD card.
Input/Output	Lo Cut	This function can reduce noise, including air-condi- tioning, wind and vocal pops. (Off/10 – 240 Hz)
	Limiter	The limiter can prevent distortion by reducing loud input signals.
	Ambisonic Monitor	This sets how Ambisonic input sounds are monitored. (Stereo/Binaural)
	Line Out level	This adjusts the line output level. $(-40 \text{ dB} - 0 \text{ dB})$ A test tone can be played in order to adjust the level of a digital SLR camera or other device.
Mic Position		This sets the mic orientation during recording. (Auto/Upright/Upside Down/Endfire/Endfire Invert)
Rec Settings	Rec Mode	This sets the file format used to record files. (FuMa/AmbiX/Ambisonics A/Stereo/Binaural)
	Rec Format	The recording format can be selected in consider- ation of audio quality and file size. (44.1k/16 bit – 96k/24 bit)
	Rec File Name	This sets the file name used for recorded files. (Auto (Date)/User Defined Name)
	Sound Marker	A tone signal (sound marker) can be output from the PHONE OUT and LINE OUT jacks when recording starts. (Off/On)

Item		Explanation
System	Date/Time	This sets the date/time and date display format. (YYMMDD/MMDDYY/DDMMYY)
	Time Display	Set how the counter appears on the display during recording and playback. (During recording: Elapsed Time/Remaining Time) (During playback: Elapsed Time/Remaining Time)
	LCD	The time until the display backlight turns off and the display contrast can be set. (Backlight: Off/On/30 sec/1 min/2 min/3 min/4 min/5 min) (Contrast: 1–10)
	Battery	Select the type of batteries used in the <b>H3-VR</b> . (Alkaline/Ni-MH/Lithium)
	SD card	The microSD card can be formatted and tested for performance.
	Versions	The firmware versions can be checked.
	Factory Reset	The factory default settings can be restored.
Language		This sets the language shown on the display.
USB	Audio I/F	<b>H3-VR</b> input signals can be input directly to a computer or iOS device, and playback signals on a computer or iOS device can be output from the <b>H3-VR</b> .
	Card Reader	Use a computer to check the files saved on the microSD card and copy those files to the computer.
BTA-1 (This menu item only appears when a BTA-1 is connected.)		Make this setting when a dedicated BTA-1 Bluetooth adapter is used to enable control of the <b>H3-VR</b> from an iOS device. (Off/On)

# **Connecting by USB**

## Using as an SD card reader



4. Use a USB cable to connect the H3-VR and the computer.



- 5. When finished, end the USB connection from the computer.
- 6. Press (=) when the Home Screen is open.

MENU

- 7. Use and by to select "Exit", and press ()
- 8. Disconnect the USB cable from the H3-VR and the computer.

## Using as an audio interface

MENU

- **1.** Press (I) when the Home Screen is open.
- 2. Use and to select "USB", and press in the select "USB".
- 3. Use and to select "Audio I/F", and press ()
- 4. Use and to select the mode or type of connected device, and press

Setting	Explanation
Stereo	This sends a stereo mix of input signals 1-4 to the computer.
4ch Ambisonics	This sends tracks $1-4$ , which are converted from input signals $1-4$ , as separate signals to the computer.
Stereo (iOS)	This sends a stereo mix of input signals 1–4 to the iOS device.

ENTER

5. Use a USB cable to connect the **H3-VR** with the computer or iOS device.



- 8. Use and to select "Execute", and press .
- **9.** Disconnect the USB cable from the **H3-VR** and the computer or iOS device.

#### HINT

- When connected to a computer, the recorder will operate on USB bus powered.
- Use batteries when connected to an iOS device.

# **Specifications**

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Recording media	Cards compatible with microSD/microSDHC/microSDXC specifications (Class 4 or higher)
Recording formats	Ambisonics A, Ambisonics B (EuMa/AmbiX) WAV 4ch poly (supports BWF and iXML): 44.1 kHz/16-bit, 44.1 kHz/24-bit, 48 kHz/16-bit, 48 kHz/24-bit, 96 kHz/16-bit, 96 kHz/24-bit Stereo WAV stereo (supports BWF and iXML): 44.1 kHz/16-bit, 44.1 kHz/24-bit, 48 kHz/16-bit, 48 kHz/24-bit, 96 kHz/16-bit, 96 kHz/24-bit Binaural WAV stereo (supports BWF and iXML): 44.1 kHz/16-bit, 44.1 kHz/24-bit, 48 kHz/16-bit, 48 kHz/24-bit
Display	1.25" monochrome LCD (96×64)
Motion sensor	6 axes (3-axis gyro, 3-axis acceleration)
Built-in Ambisonic mic	4 matched unidirectional condenser mics Maximum sound pressure input: 120 dB SPL Mic gain: +18 - +48 dB
LINE OUT	Connector: 3.5 mm stereo mini Maximum output level: -10 dBu (1 kHz, 10 kΩ load)
PHONE OUT	Connector: 3.5 mm stereo mini Maximum output level: 20 mW + 20 mW (into 32Ω load)
USB	Connector: microUSB <u>Mass storage operation</u> USB 2.0 High Speed <u>Audio interface operation</u> 2 in/2 out (stereo/binaural input), USB 2.0 Full Speed 44.1 kHz/16-bit, 48 kHz/16-bit 4 in/2 out (Ambisonics A/FuMa/AmbiX input), USB 2.0 High Speed 44.1 kHz/24-bit, 48 kHz/24-bit
Power	2 AA batteries (alkaline, rechargeable NiMH or lithium) AC adapter (ZOOM AD-17): DC 5V/1A (supports USB bus power)
Estimated continuous recording time using batteries	48 kHz/24-bit, FuMa Rec Mode Alkaline batteries: about 11.5 hours NiMH batteries (1900 mAh): about 11.5 hours Lithium batteries: about 24 hours
	<ul> <li>The above values are approximate.</li> <li>Continuous battery operation times were determined using in-house testing meth-</li> </ul>
	ods. They will vary greatly according to use conditions.
External dimensions	76 mm (W) × 78 mm (D) × 123 mm (H)
Weight (main unit only)	120 g

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