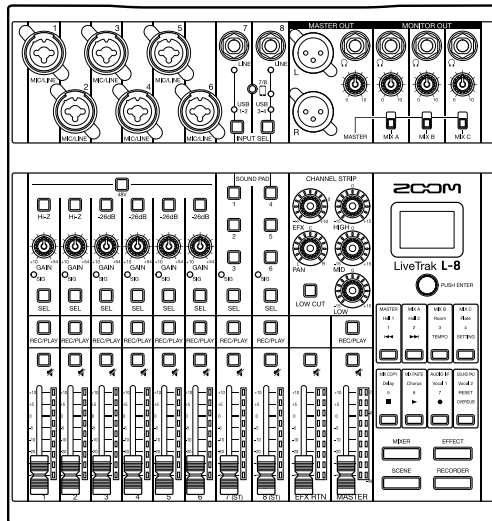


# ZOOM®

# L-8

## LiveTrak



## Quick Guide

You must read the Usage and Safety Precautions before use.



The Operation Manual can be downloaded from the ZOOM website ([www.zoom.jp/docs/l-8](http://www.zoom.jp/docs/l-8)). This page has files in PDF and ePub formats.

The PDF file format is suitable for printing on paper and reading on a computer.

The ePub format can be read with electronic document readers and is designed for reading on smartphones and tablets.

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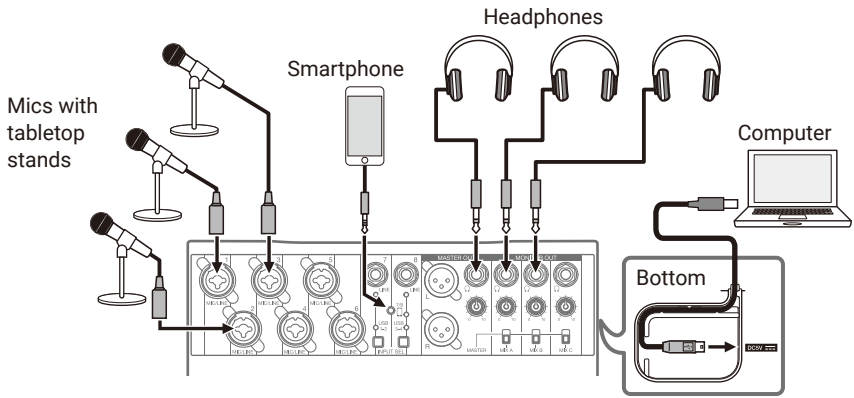
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You might need this manual in the future. Always keep it in a place where you can access it easily.  
The contents of this manual and the specifications of the product could be changed without notice.

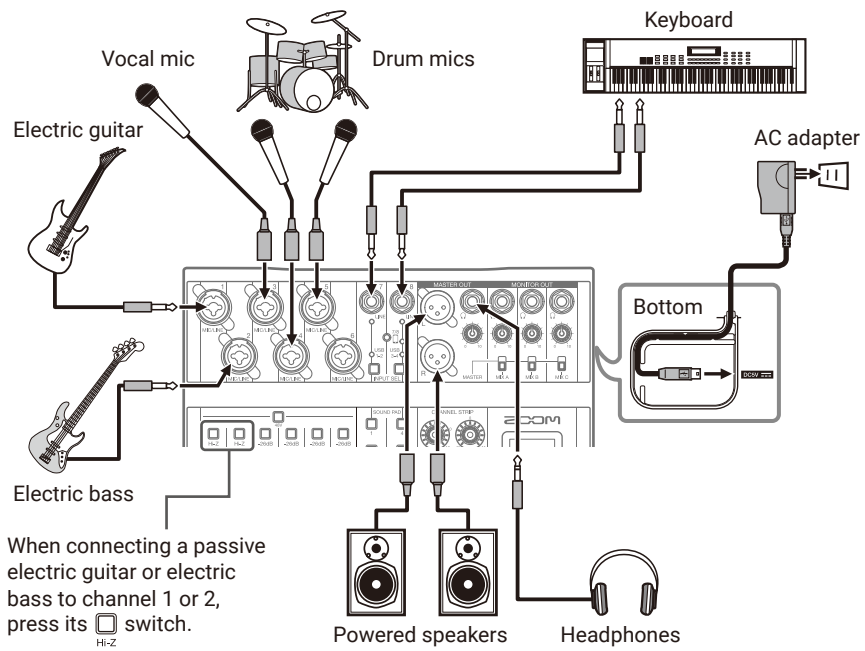
# L-8 overview

## Connection examples

### Podcasting



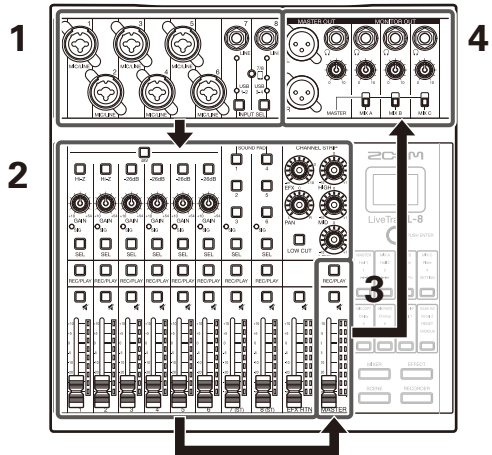
### Live PA system



## Signal flow

The **L-8** is a digital mixer with eight input channels. Audio is input, processed and output in the order shown by the arrows below.

1. Connect a mic or instrument and input sound.
2. Adjust the sound quality and volume of each channel.
3. Adjust the overall volume.
4. Connect speakers or headphones and output sound.

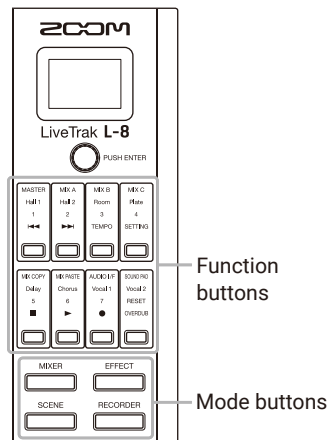


## Mode and Function buttons

Use the  ,  ,  and  buttons to select the operation mode.

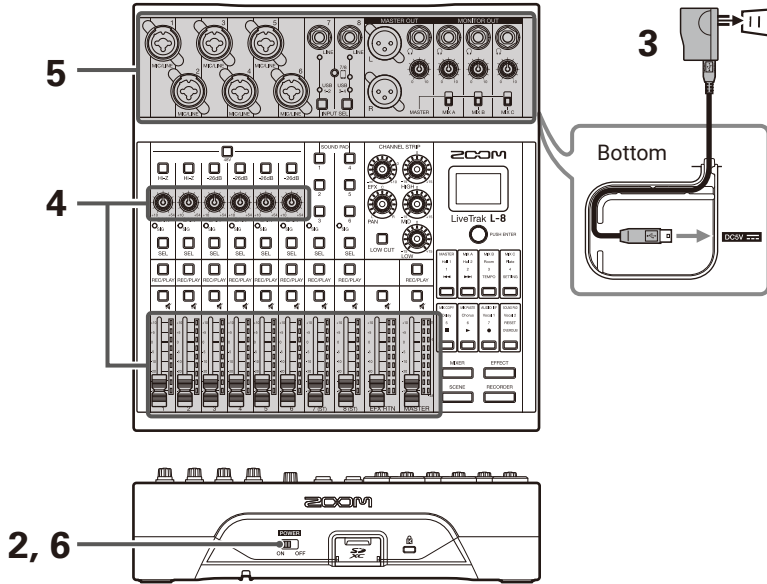
The functions of the Function buttons depend on the selected Mode and are shown by the lit characters or symbols.


- Use to make mixer and SOUND PAD settings.
- Use to select and adjust effects.
- Use to save and recall mixer settings.
- Use to record to and playback from SD cards and change various **L-8** settings.





# Turning the power on and off

## Turning the power on





1. Confirm that the output devices connected to the **L-8** are turned off.
2. Confirm that  is set to OFF.
3. Plug the AD-17 AC adapter designed for this unit into an outlet.


**HINT**  
The **L-8** can also run on AA batteries.

4. Set all  knobs and faders to their minimum values.
5. Connect instruments, mics, speakers and other equipment.
6. Set  to ON.
7. Turn on the output devices connected to the **L-8**.

### NOTE

- When using a condenser mic, turn  on. When connecting a device that does not support phantom power, turn  off.
- The power will automatically turn off if the **L-8** is unused for 10 hours. To make the power always stay on, disable the automatic power saving function See the Operation Manual for setting procedures.

## Turning the power off

1. Minimize the volume of output devices connected to the **L-8**.
2. Turn off the power of output devices connected to the **L-8**.
3. Set  to OFF.

The following screen appears and the power turns off.

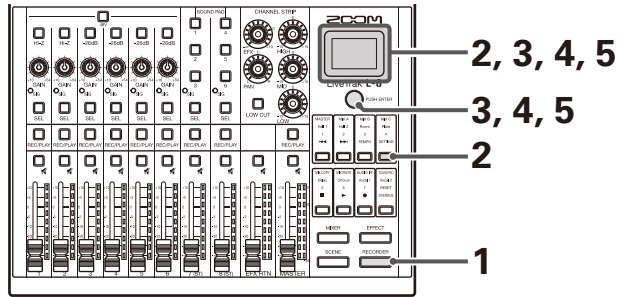


### NOTE

When the power is turned off, the current mixer settings are saved in the project on the SD card. If they cannot be saved to the SD card, they will be saved in the **L-8**.

# Setting the date and time

The first time you turn the power on after purchase, you must set the date/time.





1. Press  to light it.

2. Press  to light it.

This opens the SETTING screen.



3. Select **SYSTEM** > **DATE/TIME**.


Move cursor: Turn  

Confirm: Press 




4. Set the date and time.


Move cursor/change value: Turn  

Select item/confirm change: Press 

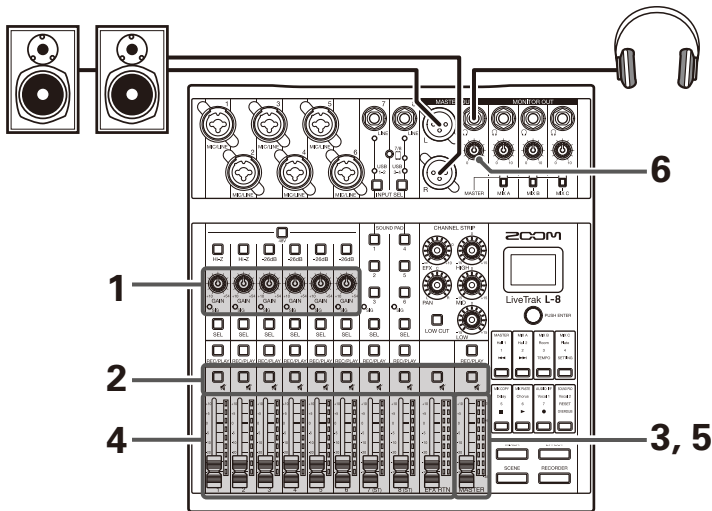


5. Use  to select **OK**, and press .

## HINT

Press  to return to the previous screen.

# Outputting input sounds from output devices





1. Use  to adjust the input signals while inputting sound from instruments and mics.

For channels 7 and 8, adjust the volumes on the connected devices.

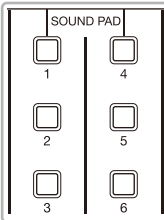
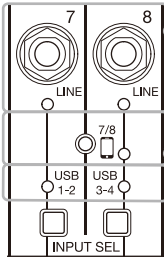
## NOTE

Adjust levels so that  indicators do not light red.

2. Turn  off (unlit) for the MASTER and the channels with sound you want to output.
3. Set the MASTER fader to 0.
4. Use the channel faders to adjust the volumes.
5. Use the MASTER fader to adjust the overall volume.
6. Use  to adjust the headphone volume.

# Switching channel 7 and 8 inputs

Channels 7 and 8 can use the following inputs.




**LINE input**  
Use the input jacks to connect line level equipment. For example, connect keyboards or audio devices.

**Smartphone input (channel 8 only)**  
A smartphone can be input in stereo using channel 8. When podcasting, this enables input from a connected smartphone of guests participating remotely. By using a four-pole mini-plug cable, the signal can be input from a smartphone and the signal mixed by the **L-8** can be sent back to it simultaneously. Since this output signal does not include the sound from channel 8, guests participating by phone will not have an echo.

**USB audio return**  
USB 1-2 and USB 3-4 are outputs from a connected computer that is using **L-8** as an audio interface. Background music can be played from a computer during podcasting and live streaming.

**SOUND PAD**  
Audio files (WAV format) can be assigned to the SOUND PAD buttons. Press one to play the assigned file. The level and playback method can be set for each pad. When shipped new, 13 sounds are already included for use.

## Switching inputs

1. Press  for channel 7/8 to select the input.

The LED for the selected input lights.

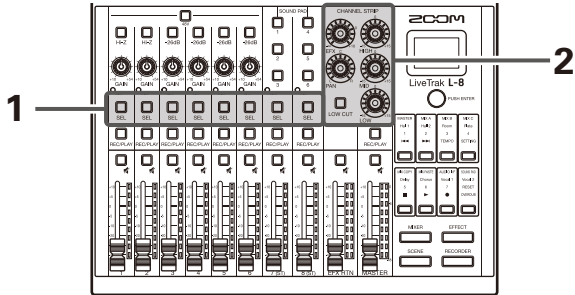
**Channel 7**      LINE input → USB 1-2 → SOUND PAD 1-3


**Channel 8**      LINE input → Smartphone input → USB 3-4 → SOUND PAD 4-6

**NOTE**  
Channel 8 smartphone input and channel 7 LINE input cannot be selected at the same time. Doing so will cause the channel 7 LINE indicator to blink.



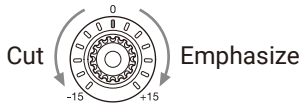
# Adjusting the tone and panning



1. Press  to light it for the channel for which you want to adjust tone and panning.
2. Use the knobs and button in the CHANNEL STRIP to adjust the tone and panning.

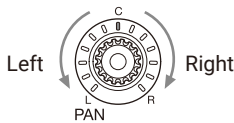
## ■ Adjusting the tone:

Use the equalizer bands (HIGH, MID, LOW) to adjust the audio quality.



## ■ Adjusting the panning:

Adjust the left-right position during stereo playback.

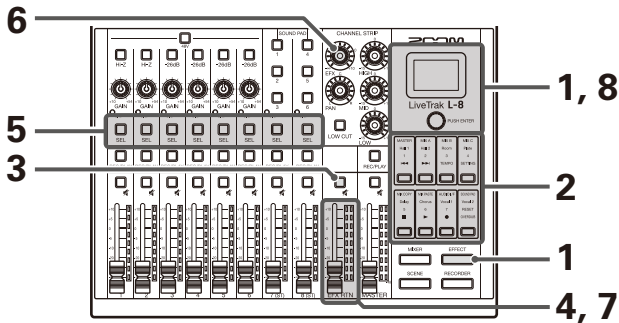



## HINT

See the Operation Manual for details about the knobs and button.

# Using the built-in effects

The **L-8** has a single bank with 8 types of send effects.



1. Press  to light it.  
The currently selected effect type is shown on the display.


2. Press a  button to select that effect.




The button for the selected effect lights.

3. Set the EFX RTN  to OFF (unlit).


4. Set the EFX RTN fader to 0.


5. Press  for a channel that you want to use the effect on to light it.

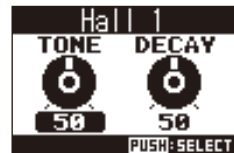
6. Use  to adjust the amount for each channel.

7. Use the EFX RTN fader to adjust the overall effect amount.


8. Use  to adjust the effect parameters.

Adjust parameter: Turn  PUSH ENTER

Select parameter: Press  PUSH ENTER



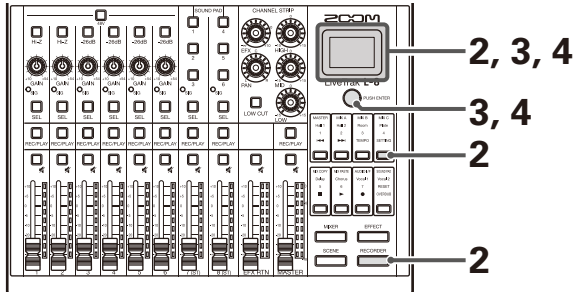
## HINT


See the Operation Manual for detailed information about the effect types and parameters that can be adjusted with .

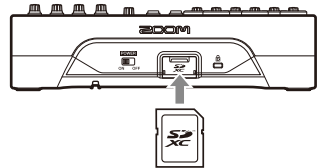
# Preparing to record

## Creating new projects

The **L-8** manages recording and playback data in units called projects.




1. After setting  to OFF, open the SD card slot cover, and insert an SD card all the way into the slot.  
To remove an SD card, push it further into the slot and then pull it out.



2. Press  and  so they light.  
This opens the SETTING screen.

3. Select **PROJECT > NEW PROJECT**.

Move cursor: Turn 

Confirm: Press 

4. Use  to select **YES**, and press .



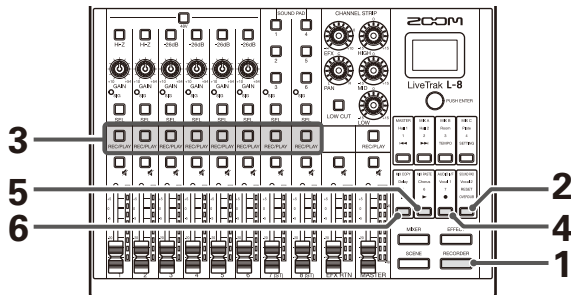
### NOTE





- See the Operation Manual for information about formatting SD cards.
- Use an SD card that is Class 10 or higher.
- Format an SD card before recording to it at 96 kHz. Without formatting first, skipping could occur when recording.
- When a new project is created, it will start with the current mixer settings.

# Recording/overdubbing and playing tracks



The L-8 has recorder functions that enable simultaneous recording of up to 12 tracks and simultaneous playback of up to 10 tracks. The input signals of every channel and from the master fader output can be recorded and played back.



## Recording



1. Press  to light it.
2. Use  to turn overdubbing on or off.
  - Lit (ON): Overwrite the current project
  - Unlit (OFF): Create a new project and record in it
3. Press  for the channels you want to record, lighting them red.
4. Press  to light it and start recording standby.

### HINT

If a recorded file already exists in the current project, and  is off, pressing  will create a new project and then start recording standby.

5. Press  to light it and start recording.
6. Press  to stop recording.

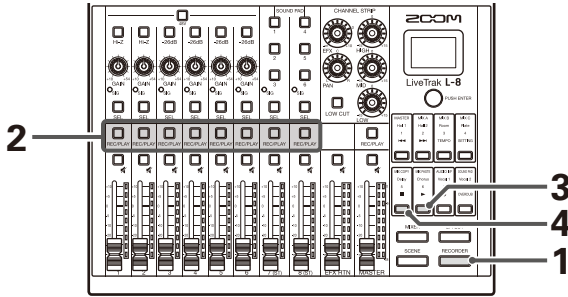
### NOTE







When recording stops, "Please wait" appears on the display. Do not turn the power off or remove the SD card while this message appears. Doing so could cause data loss or malfunction.

### HINT

See the Operation Manual for information about punching in/out, automatic recording and pre-recording.

## Playing recordings



1. Press  to light it.
2. Press  for the channels you want to play, lighting these buttons green.
3. Press  to start playback.
  -  lit: playing back
  -  blinking: paused
4. Press  to stop playback.

### NOTE

Other channels cannot be played back when the MASTER channel is playing back.

### HINT

- Playback signals are inserted before the equalizer section, so their EQ and panning settings can be adjusted during playback.
- See the Operation Manual for information about changing playback modes and selecting the playback project.

# Functions

<b>Mixer</b>	Channels 1–6 have high-quality mic preamps built-in. Each channel can also have 3-band EQ, LOW CUT, PAN, and effect send amounts set. Channel 8 has a jack to connect a smartphone.
<b>Effects</b>	The mixer includes 1 bus with 8 types of send-return effects. Parameters for each effect can be adjusted.
<b>Scenes</b>	This function enables saving up to 7 sets of current mixer settings as scenes and recalling these saved settings at any time. The mixer settings can also be reset.
<b>MONITOR OUT</b>	The MONITOR OUT jacks can output 3 different monitor mixes, allowing different performers to receive mixes as they like.
<b>SOUND PAD</b>	Audio files (WAV format) can be assigned to the SOUND PAD buttons. Press one to play the assigned file. The level and playback method can be set for each pad. When shipped new, 13 sounds are already included for use.
<b>Recorder</b>	<p>The recorder can simultaneously record 12 tracks, including each channel and the master track, and simultaneously play 10 tracks. Recorded data is saved in 16/24-bit, 44.1/48/96kHz WAV format and managed in units called projects.</p> <p>The following functions can be used with the recorder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recording, overdubbing and playing tracks</li> <li>• Adding marks and moving to marks</li> <li>• Punching in/out</li> <li>• Mixing down (master track recording and playback)</li> <li>• Automatically starting recording when a set volume is exceeded.</li> <li>• Pre-recording before recording starts</li> </ul>
<b>Projects</b>	<p>The following operations can be used with projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selecting projects for playback</li> <li>• Changing project names</li> <li>• Deleting projects</li> <li>• Protecting projects</li> <li>• Checking project information</li> <li>• Checking, deleting and moving to marks</li> </ul>
<b>Audio files</b>	<p>The following operations can be used on audio files.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deleting audio files</li> <li>• Assigning audio files to each channel</li> </ul>
<b>Metronome</b>	The volume, sound and pattern can be changed and the metronome includes a precount function. The volume of each output jack can be set.
<b>Audio interface</b>	When used as a USB audio interface, it supports 12 ins and 4 outs when the sampling rate is 44.1/48 kHz.
<b>Card reader</b>	Use as a card reader is possible when connected to a computer.
<b>Settings</b>	Settings related to the recorder and SD cards can be made by pressing the RECORDER button, and then the SETTING button.
<b>Recorder</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recording format settings</li> <li>Automatic recording settings</li> <li>Showing recording levels on level meters</li> <li>Latency adjustment setting</li> <li>Playback settings</li> <li>Pre-recording settings</li> </ul>
<b>SD cards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Checking open space</li> <li>Resetting to factory settings</li> <li>Testing card performance</li> </ul>
<b>Other settings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Date and time setting</li> <li>Changing the sampling rate</li> <li>Disabling the automatic power saving function</li> <li>Adjusting the display contrast</li> <li>Changing the display backlight time</li> <li>Settings related to batteries</li> </ul>
<b>Restoring factory defaults</b>	The unit can be restored to its factory default settings.
<b>Firmware</b>	You can check the firmware version and update it to the latest version.

See the Operation Manual for details.

# Specifications

<b>Inputs and outputs</b>	<b>Inputs</b>	MIC/LINE	6
		LINE	2
	<b>Number of channels</b>	<b>Output</b>	MASTER OUT
MASTER OUT (PHONES)			1
MONITOR OUT (PHONES)			3
<b>Inputs</b>	<b>MIC/LINE</b>	Type	XLR/TRS combo jacks (XLR: 2 HOT, TRS: TIP HOT)
		Input gain	+10 - +54 dB/-3 - +41 dB (when Hi-Z ON)
		Input impedance	XLR: 3 kΩ
			TRS: 3 kΩ/1 MΩ (when Hi-Z ON)
		Maximum input level	-2 dBu when -26dB switch OFF (at 0 dBFS) +24 dBu when -26dB switch ON (at 0 dBFS)
		Phantom power	+48 V
	<b>LINE</b>	Type	TS phone jack
		Input impedance	10 kΩ
		Maximum input level	+3 dBu
	<b>Smartphone connection jack</b>	Type	TRRS mini jack (4 contacts, TIP: L, RING1: R, RING2: GND, SLEEVE: MIC)
		Input impedance	10 kΩ
		Maximum input level	+3 dBu
<b>Output</b>	<b>MASTER OUT</b>	Type	XLR jacks (balanced)
		Maximum output level	+14.5 dBu
		Output impedance	100 Ω
	<b>MASTER OUT (PHONES)</b>	Type	Standard stereo phone jack
		Maximum output level	10 mW + 10 mW (60Ω load)
		Output impedance	10 Ω
	<b>MONITOR OUT (PHONES)</b>	Type	Standard stereo phone jack
		Maximum output level	10 mW + 10 mW (60Ω load)
		Output impedance	10 Ω
<b>Buses</b>	MASTER	1	
	MONITOR	3	
	SEND EFX	1	
<b>Channel strip</b>	LOW CUT	75 Hz, 12 dB/OCT	
	EQ	HIGH: 10 kHz, ±15 dB, shelving MID: 2.5 kHz, ±15 dB, peaking LOW: 100 Hz, ±15 dB, shelving	
<b>Level meter</b>		9 segments	
<b>Send effects</b>		8 types	
<b>Recorder</b>	Maximum simultaneous recording tracks	12 at 44.1/48/96 kHz	
	Maximum simultaneous playback tracks	10	
	Recording format	WAV 44.1/48/96 kHz, 16/24-bit, mono/stereo	
	Recording media	4GB-32GB SDHC-compliant cards (Class 10 or higher) 64GB-512GB SDXC-compliant cards (Class 10 or higher)	
<b>Audio interface</b>	44.1/48 kHz	Recording: 12 channels	Playback: 4 channels
	Bit depth	24-bit	
	Interface	USB 2.0	
<b>Card reader</b>	Class	Mass storage	USB 2.0 High Speed
<b>Sampling frequency</b>		44.1/48/96 kHz	
<b>Frequency response</b>		20 Hz - 20 kHz: -1 dB at 44.1 kHz	
		20 Hz - 40 kHz: -3 dB at 96 kHz (when GAIN at 3 o'clock)	
<b>Equivalent input noise</b>		-121 dBu or less (IHF-A) at +54dB/1500 input	
<b>Display</b>		LCD with backlight (96×64 resolution)	
<b>Power</b>		4 AA batteries (alkaline, lithium, or rechargeable NiMH)	
		AC adapter (ZOOM AD-17): DC 5V/1A	
<b>Estimated continuous recording time using batteries</b>		Supports USB bus power	
		Recording 44.1kHz/16-bit/4ch audio to SD card (when 48V is OFF, LCD BACKLIGHT is 15sec, BATTERY SAVING is ON and headphone impedance is 62Ω): Alkaline batteries: about 2 hours NiMH batteries (1900 mAh): about 3.5 hours Lithium batteries: about 6.5 hours • The above values are approximate. • Continuous battery operation times were determined using in-house testing methods. They will vary greatly according to use conditions.	
<b>Power consumption</b>		5 W	
<b>External dimensions</b>		268 mm (W) × 282 mm (D) × 74 mm (H)	
<b>Weight (main unit only)</b>		1.56 kg	



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