

Recording on the Tascam Model 16 Mixer

An SD (Secure Digital memory) XC card can be used to record sound directly on the TASCAM Model 16 mixer. Once recorded, the audio .WAV files can be played back or copied to a computer for further processing (mixing/mastering) into finished audio such as a stereo .MP3 file or burned to a compact disk (CD).

Prepare an SDXC Card for Recording

The SDXC card must be inserted in the TASCAM mixer SDXC card slot and formatted by the mixer before it can be used. In addition, a new “song” must be created on the card after it is formatted. The “song” specifies a song name, recording frequency and bit depth for the recording. TASCAM provides a [list of SDXC cards](#) that they have successfully tested on the Model 16 mixer. Other SDXC cards from the same manufacturers have also been found to work well on the TASCAM Model 16 mixer, such as the ones pictured above.



The mixer should be powered OFF before the SDXC card is inserted or removed from the mixer.





Formatting an SDXC Card

1. Make sure the mixer is powered **OFF**.



2. Plug the SDXC card into the mixer SDXC card slot with the pins down and label to the left. Push the card down into the slot until it clicks in.



<p>3. Power ON the mixer.</p>	
<p>4. Press the MENU button below the TASCAM LCD display screen.</p>	
<p>5. Twist the Multi Jog wheel to highlight SYSTEM in the menu list.</p>	
<p>6. Press the Multi Jog wheel to select the SYSTEM menu.</p>	

7. Twist the Multi Jog wheel to select the **MEDIA FORMAT** option. Press the Multi Jog wheel to select the **MEDIA FORMAT** menu.



8. Highlight the **QUICK** format option. Press the Multi Jog wheel to perform a **QUICK** format.



9. Press the **YES** black button to erase all data on the SD card and format it for recording. You will see a circle of spinning dots on the LCD screen as the formatting occurs.



10. Press the black button under **EXIT** to exit the **SYSTEM** menu.



11. Press the black button under **HOME** to return to the **HOME** screen. An SD card icon will appear in the upper RH corner of the display. The words **NO SONG** will also display because, although the card is formatted, no song has yet been created.



The SDXC card is now formatted to record on the TASCAM Model 16 mixer. But before recording can begin, you must Create a Song to specify a song name, recording frequency and bit depth.

Create a New Song

1. With the previously-formatted SDXC card inserted in the TASCAM mixer SDXC card slot and the mixer power turned **ON**, press the **MENU** button below the TASCAM LCD display screen.



2. Twist the Multi Jog wheel to highlight the **SONG** menu. Press the Multi Jog wheel to select the **SONG** menu.






3. Press the **NEW** black button under the TASCAM LCD display screen.



4. Twist the Multi Jog wheel to select the recording frequency and bit depth.



There are four options: 44.1kHz - 16bit (default), 44.1kHz - 24bit, 48kHz - 16bit or 48kHz - 24bit. The recording frequency and bit depth selected, along with the number of tracks (channels) to be recorded will determine the maximum recording time available. A 32GB SDXC card can record up to 24 hours, so you can pretty much select any recording frequency and bit depth for a 1-hour recording session, like a typical worship service.

<p>5. Press the black NAME button under the TASCAM LCD display screen to change the name of the song.</p>	 A close-up photograph of the Tascam Model 16 mixer's LCD screen. The screen displays 'NAME EDIT' at the top and '241004_0001' in the center. Below the screen are four arrow buttons (up, down, left, right) and an 'EXIT' button. The mixer's main faders and level meters are visible in the background.
<p>6. Use the Multi Jog wheel to highlight the first character of the new song name.</p>	 A close-up photograph of the Tascam Model 16 mixer's LCD screen, identical to the previous image. The screen displays 'NAME EDIT' and '241004_0001'. The Multi Jog wheel is not clearly visible but is implied to be used for navigation.
<p>7. Press the black right arrow button to move the next character position.</p>	 A close-up photograph of the Tascam Model 16 mixer's LCD screen, identical to the previous images. The screen displays 'NAME EDIT' and '241004_0001'. The right arrow button is highlighted, indicating it has been pressed.
<p>8. Repeat steps 6 & 7 to complete the new song name you want.</p>	

9. Press the black button under **OK** to lock in the completed new song name.



12. Press the black button under **OK** again to confirm the recording frequency, bit depth and new song name. You will see a circle of spinning dots on the LCD screen as the new song is created on the formatted SDXC card.



10. Press the black button under **EXIT** to exit the song menu.



11. Press the black button under **HOME** to return to the **HOME** screen.



The SDXC card is now formatted and a new song is created. You are now ready to record tracks onto the SDXC card. You can create multiple new songs and select (**LOAD**) them individually for recording.

Recording

1. Make sure that the TASCAM Model 16 mixer is turned **OFF** and the Crown amp is also turned **OFF**.



2. Insert the previously-prepared SDXC card into the SDXC card slot, pins down, label to the left.






3. Push down until the SDXC card clicks into place.




4. Turn the mixer power **ON**.



<p>5. Make sure that each channel MODE switch is set to LIVE for recording.</p>	
<p>6. Make sure that the microphone(s) for each channel being recorded are powered ON and not muted. The channel SIG light should light up green when the microphone is powered ON and sound is applied.</p>	
<p>7. Arm each channel to be recorded by pressing the REC button at the top of each channel's fader track. The armed channels REC buttons should start blinking RED once they are armed.</p>	

Adjust the Recording Level

<p>8. Monitor the sound coming into each armed channel using the TASCAM recording LCD display screen and the MAIN LED meter lights which show L and R channels and 12 recording levels from -30dB to OL (overload).</p>	
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9. Using the red **GAIN** knob at the top of each channel strip, adjust the gain on each channel to get a meter response in the -20dB to 0 dB range.



10. The channel **SIG** light should still be green, If the **SIG** light turns red, the gain is set too high.



11. Repeat steps 9 & 10 for each channel being recorded noting that you may have to switch the LCD display screen to channels 9-16 to see channels above channels 1-8. Use the second and third black buttons immediately beneath the LCD display screen to select the channels you want to see.

The horizontal line on the LCD display screen is at -12dB. This (-12dB) is a good basic setting for recording, so try setting each channel input to hit that horizontal line.



Start Recording

12. Press the **RECORD** button (the one with the big circular black dot) to begin recording. The **RECORD** button will turn red, the **Play/Pause** button will turn solid green and the **REC** buttons on each armed channel will turn solid red.



Stop Recording and Save the Song

13. When the audio segment to be recorded has finished, press the **STOP** (square) button. This stops the recording. The LCD screen shows the time of the recording so far. The **Play/Pause** button will blink green indicating that additional recording is possible on the same song, if desired, by again pressing the **RECORD** button.



14. Pressing the **STOP** button again a second time rewinds the current song to the beginning of the current song to (t = zero).



15. Save the song after recording is finished. Use the **MENU** button, then twist the Multi Jog to select the song, select **SAVE** and press the Multi Jog again.



Playback

1. Change the **MODE** switches to **MTR** (**M**ulti **T**rack **R**ecording) for all channels (tracks) that you want to play back. If these switches aren't set to **MTR** for the recorded channels, you will not hear anything on playback.



2. Make sure that the Crown Amp is powered **ON** to hear the playback via front speakers in the Sanctuary.



3. From the **HOME** screen, select the song you want to play back:
MENU → **SONG** → (select song with the Multi Jog wheel) → **EXIT** → **EXIT**



4. Press the **Play/Pause** button to play the selected song.



5. When the song is over, press **STOP** twice to go back to the **HOME** screen



Make sure the mixer is powered **OFF** before removing the SDXC card.

Further Processing of Recorded Songs

Refinements to the overall song (mixing and mastering) can occur later after the individual .WAV file tracks are copied from the SDXC card to a Digital Audio Workstation computer running some sort of multi-track audio editing and mixing/mastering software.

Once the .WAV files are copied off the SDXC card, the SDXC card can be reformatted or songs can be deleted. This way, the SDXC card can be used again to record more songs in the future.

References

[TASCAM Model 16 Owner's Manual](#)

- page 49 (formatting SD cards),
- page 34 (Creating a New Song),
- pages 38-39 (Basic Recording),
- page 35 (Saving the current song),
- page 35 (Deleting songs),

[Tutorial and Informational Videos For Model 24/16/12](#)

- Lesson 1 – [Creating a Song](#)
- Lesson 4 – [Format the SD Card](#)
- Lesson 6 – [Recording to Tracks](#)
- Lesson 10 – [How to Set-up and Record a Song](#)
- Lesson 22* – [Multitrack Recording a Song \(Pt. 1\)](#)
- Lesson 23* – [Multitrack Recording a Song \(Pt. 2\)](#)

*These lessons show how to progressively add and mix additional channels (tracks) to an existing song. In our situation we will likely be recording all channels (tracks) at once.

Neil Howard
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