

Audio Recording Workshop

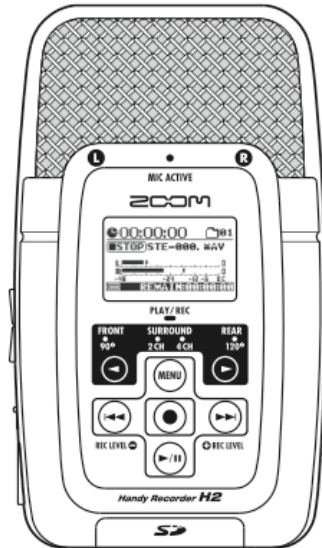
<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/vpa/etb/>
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Required software/supplies for this workshop:

Description	
Zoom H2 recorder http://www.samsontech.com/products/productpage.cfm?prodid=1916	
Audacity Download for free at: http://audacity.sourceforge.net/	

Audio Recording Workshop

In this workshop we will explore two ways of recording audio with your contact microphone: using the Zoom H2 recorder and using your desktop or laptop computer.



1. Zoom H2 recorder

The Zoom H2 recorder is an excellent portable sound recorder that allows you to record sound either with the built-in stereo microphone or with an external microphone (such as your contact microphone).

An easy step-by-step video introduction to the device can be found here:

<http://www.samsontech.com/products/productpage.cfm?prodid=1916> (accessed January 31, 2001). This video series contains the following tutorials:

- Zoom H2 basic recording
- Zoom H2 choosing mic patterns
- Zoom H2 setting recording levels

A more depth manual of all the device's function can be downloaded here:

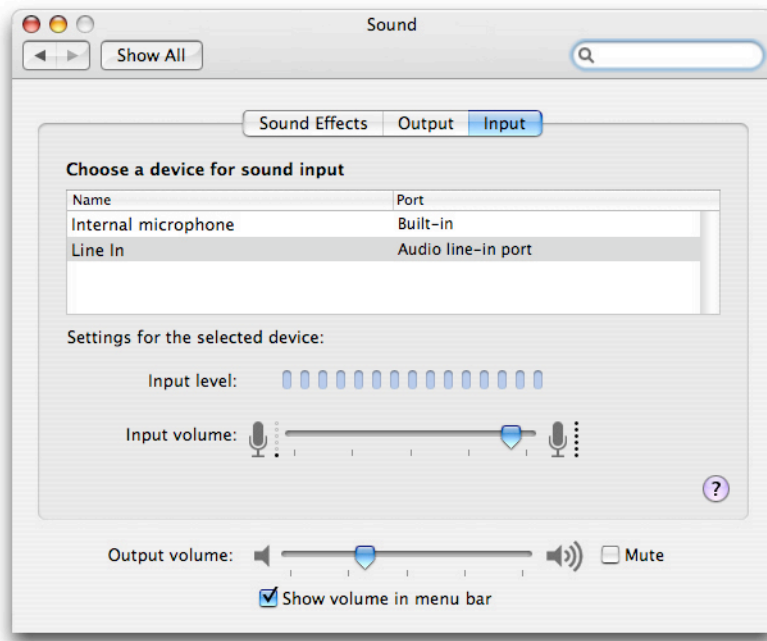
http://s3.amazonaws.com/samsontech/related_docs/H2_user_manual.pdf (2.2 MB)

2. PC and Audacity Software

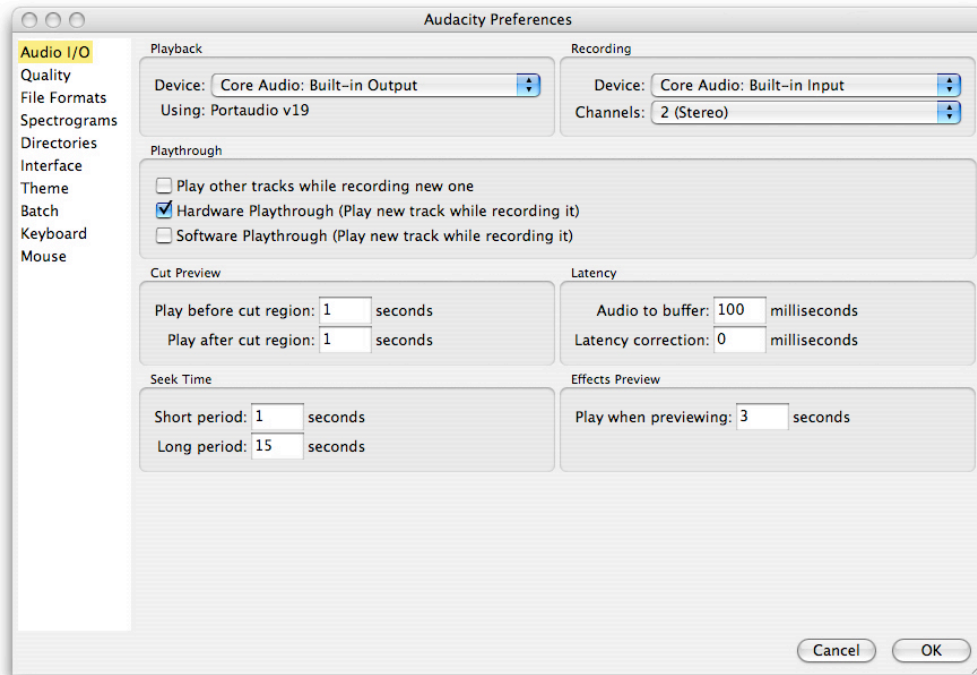
You can also use your own computer and the free software package "Audacity" to record sounds with your contact microphone. Download Audacity at:

<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/> and install the version for your operating system.

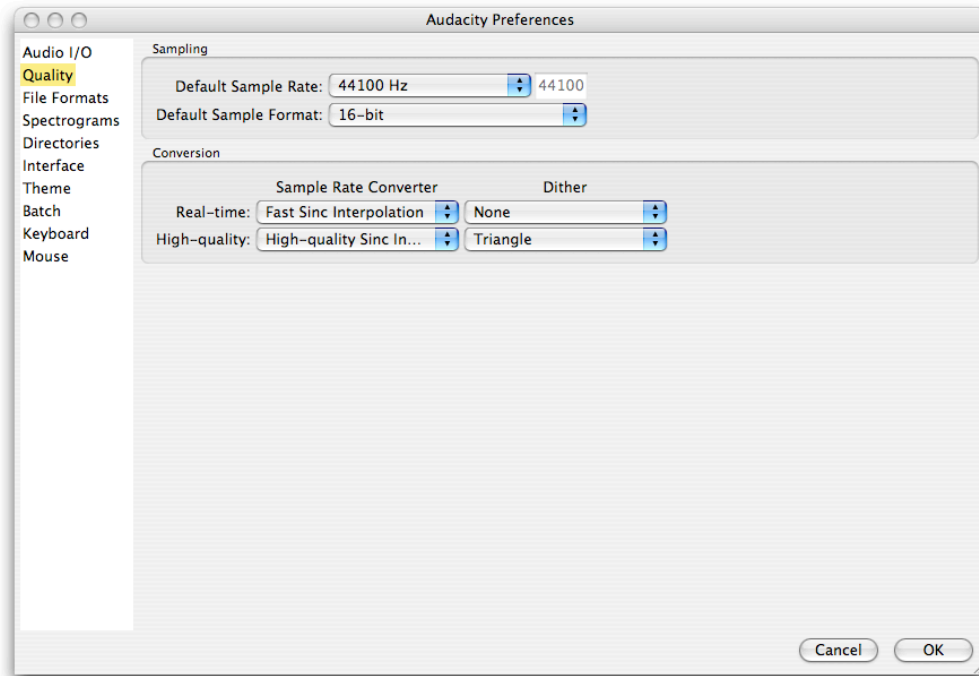
Then make sure that you have set the correct input source in your computer's system settings/preferences. On the Macintosh computer this looks something like this:



After starting Audacity, you need to double check for the proper input source in the software's preferences:



Set the recording format to either WAV or AIFF (WAV or wave files are the default audio standard on PC machines and AIFF – audio interchange file format is the default on the Macintosh). Set the default sample rate to **44100Hz** and the default sample format to **16-bit**.



Now you can start recording your sounds, make sure that the input signal does not go into the red area to the right of the VU meter. You should be also able to hear the sounds play through the software while you record them (check the hardware/software play through in Audacity's preferences)

Press the Record button to start recording



and the Stop button to stop recording.



When you are done recording, save all your audio files in one folder with the name of your project, Audacity will create a project file and separate audio files per saved audio recording for you. This way, you make sure they all stay together in one location where you can easily find them.