

Marantz User Guide

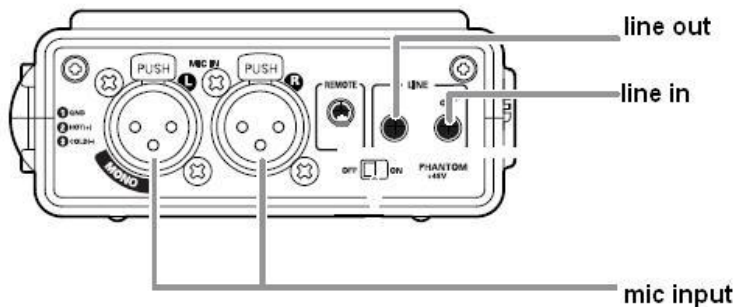
The Marantz Professional PMD660 (referred to as a 'marantz') is a CF card based digital audio recorder. Below are 7 quick steps for recording followed by more detailed explanations of how the marantz works.

7 quick steps for recording

1. Turn on the marantz by sliding the [POWER] switch on the right side panel
2. Plug in your microphone or line in
3. Put your headphones on!
4. Press the [REC] button if you want to start recording straight away or the REC/PAUSE button if you want to cue the levels first.
5. Check your levels using the VU meter and adjust with the REC LEVEL control
6. When you're finished press the [STOP] button, the recording will be automatically saved as an mp3.
7. Use the USB cable to transfer the files off the marantz to a computer for editing. (DC power must be plugged in to transfer files)



MIC IN / LINE IN



Plug a mic into the [MIC IN] jack on the top side of the marantz. If you are recording something from a mixing desk or other external output connect that to the [LINE IN] jack.

If recording from a sound board befriend the sound tech and ask them for the best quality output.

Make sure you contact the venue beforehand for

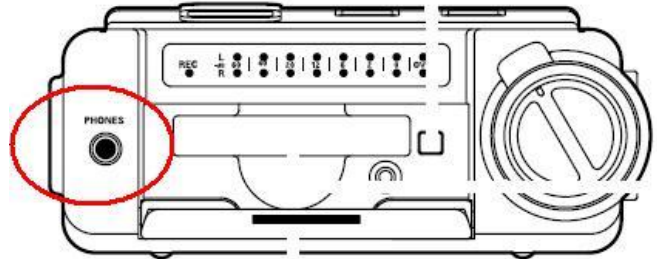
permission and show up nice and early. If you show up 2 minutes before the band/performance starts asking for a line into the sound board the sound tech will not be happy with you. It also makes CiTR look unprofessional and disorganized.

Headphones

ALWAYS WEAR HEADPHONES WHILE RECORDING!

Headphones allow you to hear what is being recorded while it is recording. What you're recording with the marantz isn't necessarily the same as what you would hear without headphones on. Headphones also give you an idea about the level of background noise. For example if a car passes behind you the marantz might pick this up and make the speech you're recording inaudible. If you've got headphones on you'll hear this disturbance and you can correct it in the field by asking your interviewee to repeat their answer. Once you get back to the station there is no way to fix the audio so you need to get it right when you record.

You can plug headphones into the left side panel (see right). You can adjust the volume on the left side panel. This will just adjust the volume of what you hear, not the recording level. If you do not have headphones plugged in and the headphones volume is up you will get feedback once you start recording.

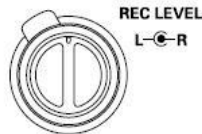
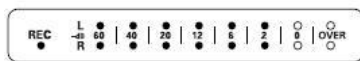


Recording

Press the [REC/PAUSE] button to put the marantz into recording standby mode. The play and pause symbols will appear on the display along with a flashing rec symbol. You are not recording anything yet.

This will allow you to adjust the levels and assess background noise.

The input level will be shown by the VU meter on the screen and you'll be able to hear the input through your headphones. If you want to exit from this mode press the [STOP] button which is next to the [REC PAUSE] button.



You can adjust the recording level with the REC LEVEL control and watching the VU meter on the bottom side of the marantz. Set the level as high as possible but so that the VU meter does not exceed 0 (dB) during the

loudest parts. A red light will flash on the far right side of the VU meter if your recording is peaking.



To start recording press the [REC] button. The REC symbol will stop flashing and the PAUSE symbol will disappear. The time counter will start ticking over. When you see this you'll know you're recording.

Checking your recording

Once you've recorded everything you want to press the [STOP] button to stop the recording. As soon as you do this your recording will be saved on the marantz's CF card as an mp3. To listen back to your recording just press the [PLAY/PAUSE] button on the front panel.



Transferring files to a computer



When you're finished with the marantz you need to transfer your mp3 files off and delete them from the CF card. Connect the marantz to a computer using the USB cord (see right) and plug in the DC power adaptor. Make sure you hold down the COPY/USB button when you turn the marantz on. If you do not do this you cannot get your files off the marantz. A pop up box will appear on the screen and you'll be able to drag and drop your files to a folder on your computer or another external storage device. The USB cord connects to the marantz of the right hand side. Once you've transferred your files to a computer or external storage device make sure you delete them from the marantz to keep the space free for the next person to use it.

Batteries

The marantz operates using AA battery power. Make sure the batteries have full power before recording anything and always be sure to carry spare batteries with you. There is also an AC power adaptor you can use as a power source.

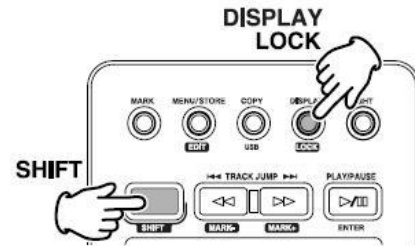
Borrowing a marantz

If you'd like to borrow one of CiTR's marantz recorders stop by the station during office hours and a staff member can sign one out for you. They are kept in Mobile Sound and can be borrowed for up to 3 days. If you are a newer volunteer you may be asked to leave a piece of ID as a deposit. There are three marantz recorders so you cannot always count on one being in the station when you need it. If you know you're going to need a one on a certain date speak to a staff member about reserving one.

Troubleshooting

Cannot press buttons

- Check if display lock is on. Press SHIFT + DISPLAY LOCK to turn off



Cannot hear recorded sound, or sound is very weak.

- Check that you mic is working and plugged into the correct input. Your mic or XLR cable could be faulty
- Check the [REC LEVEL] setting – the levels could be turned down
- Check whether the headphone volume is turned up
- If a CD player or similar device is connected to the [LINE IN] jack, try increasing the output level setting of the device.