

## Marantz PMD661 MKII Tutorial

### Kit:

- The Marantz PMD661 MKII kit comes with a recorder, headphones, a card reader, a USB cable, a 6 foot XLR cable, and a AA battery charger with 8 AA rechargeable batteries.

### Recorder Basics:

- To turn on the recorder, find the power switch on the ride side of the device and flick it up.
- Make sure the switch next to the XLR inputs is set to the correct input. If you are using a mic that needs phantom power your input should be set to “MIC” and “ON P48,” all the way to the left. If you are using a battery powered shotgun mic your input should be set to “MIC” and “OFF,” the middle selection.
- All of the necessary presets have already been stored on the device. To switch between them go to “MENU,” “PRESETS,” and then “SELECT.” Preset 1 is for mono recording, Preset 2 is stereo recording, and Preset 3 is for recording with the internal microphone.

### Recording:

- To start recording, first plug in your microphone and headphones. Then, press “REC PAUSE” to listen for audio levels. Audio levels can be adjusted with the “REC LEVEL” dial on the bottom of the device next to the headphone input. Ideal levels for dialogue or interviews are generally between -12 and -6 dB. Adjust the levels until your subject’s audio is comfortably within that range.
- Be sure to adjust the “REC LEVEL” and not the “HEADPHONE/SPEAKER VOLUME” for appropriate levels - boosting the “HP VOLUME” will not affect recording levels, it will only distort them more. With this in mind, keep the “HP VOLUME” around 50%, where noise is minimal.
- When ready, press “REC” to start recording. When finished, simply press “STOP” to create a new track. Then repeat for any additional takes.

### Playback:

- If you want to play back a recording, select “LIST” on the main menu. Toggle between the recordings and press “ENTER” when you’ve found the clip you want. Press “PLAY” and you’re good to go. Hit the “STOP” button to return to the main menu at any point.

### Format:

- Last, to format, or erase, the SD card in the Marantz go to “MENU,” “UTILITY,” “CARD FORMAT.” Select “YES.” And now you have an empty card for more recordings. Be sure to backup everything before formatting any media though.

### Troubleshooting:

- The PMD661 does not turn on → Install fresh batteries
- There is no signal from the microphone input → Check input selection. Make sure you have the correct selection (“ON P48” for mics requiring Phantom Power and “OFF” for powered mics). Check REC LEVEL control settings.