

- QUICK START GUIDE -

MixPre-3

Audio Recorder



SOUND  **DEVICES**

Welcome

Thank you for purchasing the MixPre-3. This Quick Start Guide provides the initial steps necessary to set up and begin using the MixPre-3. The following table shows what is included in the box.

QUANTITY	ITEM
1	MixPre-3
1	MX-4AA, a battery sled that holds four AA batteries (not included)
1	Y-cable USB-C to two USB-A
1	Anti-rotation pin
1	Hex key
1	Registration Card
1	Quick Start Guide

After receiving your purchase, remove all contents from the box to ensure there are no missing parts and that all parts were received without damage.

Featured Usage

The MixPre-3 is an incredibly versatile audio recorder that is ideal for the following scenarios, and more.



Musicians

- Singer/Song Writer
- Live Performance
- Music Recitals



Videographers

- Audio for DSLRs
- Audio for iPhones



Field Recording

- Interviews / Podcasts
- Corporate Meetings
- Nature Recording

Read and Register...

Sound Devices strongly encourages you to register your product. Registration extends your warranty and ensures you will receive timely updates.

For a full description of all product features, user-based procedures, specifications, and safety information, please refer to the product's User Guide located on the Sound Devices website. Use the QR code or respective link to access and download the guide.

Full User Guide



www.sounddevices.com/download/guides/MixPre3ug_en.pdf

Register Your Product



www.sounddevices.com/support/registration/

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Call Support



1-608-524-0625
1-800-505-0625

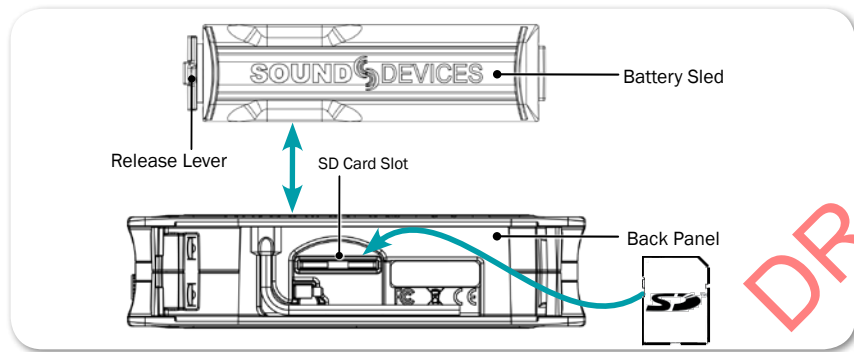
 Use of this product is subject to acceptance of the end-user license agreement (EULA) provided in the online User Guide.

1. Insert SD Card

The MixPre-3 records audio to SD, SDHC or SDXC cards. The SD card slot is located on the back panel behind the battery sled.

To insert an SD card:

1. Press the release lever at one end of the battery sled to remove it and gain access to the back panel.
2. Insert an approved SD card into the slot provided. Be sure to push in and release; a soft click will sound to indicate proper insertion.



When inserting the SD card, ensure the bottom of the card (the side with metal contacts visible) is facing down toward the bottom of the device.

Recording Times

Recording times will vary based on the storage capacity of the card being used. Other variables that affect digital audio recording times include concurrent audio track count and the data rate of compressed or uncompressed formats.

- For help with calculating record times and storage capacity needs, check out Sound Devices' free Audio Record Time Calculator available on the Sound Devices website at: <https://www.sounddevices.com/tech-notes/audio-record-time-calculations>

Here are some record time estimates for a 16 GB SD card.

FORMAT & RATE	TRACKS	RECORDING TIME
WAV - 96 kHz / 24 bits	1	16 hours 11 minutes
WAV - 48 kHz / 24 bits	1	1 day, 8 hours 21 minutes
WAV - 48 kHz / 24 bits	3	10 hours 47 minutes
MP3 - 192 kb/s	2	8 days, 2 hours 11 minutes
MP3 - 320 kb/s	2	4 days, 20 hours 30½ minutes

2. Power On

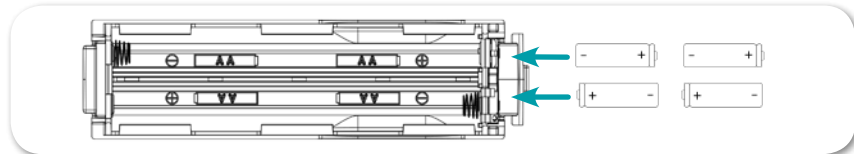
The MixPre-3 may be powered via batteries or the USB-C port located on the left panel.

- Sound Devices recommends using only approved power cables and supplies when powering the MixPre-3. Use with unapproved power options may adversely affect performance. For a list of approved power options, visit the Sound Devices website at: [\[LINK GOES HERE TBD - XREF\]](#)

While the MixPre-3 comes with a battery sled that holds four AA batteries (not included), other powering accessories that are available include a sled that holds eight AA batteries and a sled for two L-mount Lithium Ion batteries.

To insert AA batteries into the sled:

1. Press the release lever at one end of the battery sled to remove it from the back panel.
2. Insert AA batteries into the sled. Their position should match polarity markings—negative (-) ends toward metal springs.

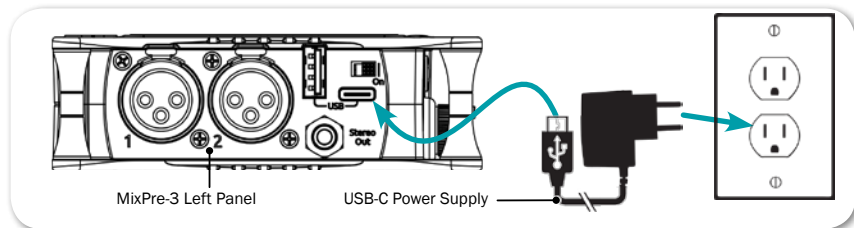


3. Snap the battery sled in place on the MixPre-3's back panel.

Caution: Incorrect use of batteries poses a danger of explosion. Replace only with the same or equivalent type. Properly recycle batteries. Do not crush, disassemble, incinerate, dispose in a fire or expose batteries to high temperatures.

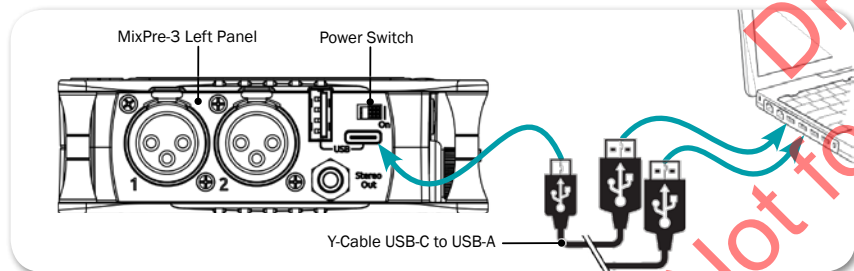
To connect the MixPre-3 to external USB power source:

- ▶ Connect one end of an approved USB-C power cord to the USB-C port on the MixPre-3, and the other end into an external power supply.



Using a portable USB power bank that provides ## volts minimum (NEED INFORMATION HERE) is also possible.

- ▶ Connect one end of the USB Y-cable to the USB-C port on the MixPre-3's left panel and the other ends to two USB-A ports on a computer (as shown).



Powering from a computer requires the use of a dual USB-A power source. Plugging only one in does not provide enough power and could result in unsatisfactory performance.

To power on your MixPre-3:

- ▶ Slide the Power switch—located on the left panel—to the right.

3. Format SD Card

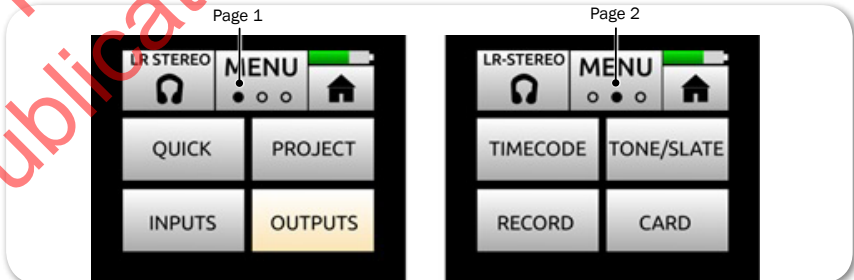
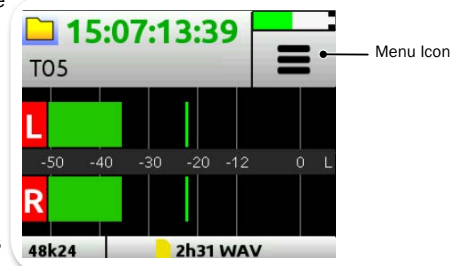
SD cards used with the MixPre-3 must be formatted by the MixPre-3.

To format the SD Card:

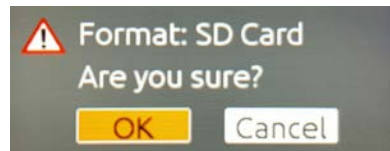
1. Power on the MixPre-3.
2. Tap the MENU icon.

There are three pages of Menu settings, as indicated by dots. The solid black dot denotes which page is displayed.

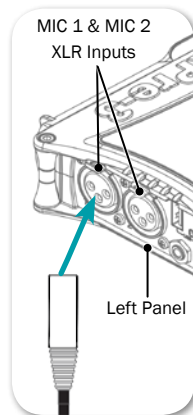
3. Tap MENU again to view the 2nd page of settings.



4. Tap CARD > EDIT > FORMAT.
5. When asked to confirm the command to format the card, tap OK.



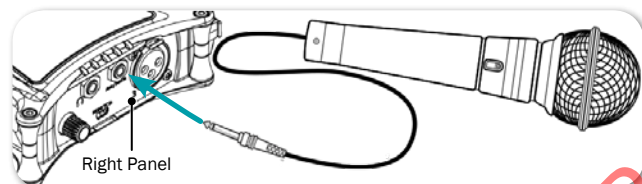
4. Connect an Audio Source



The MixPre-3 provides versatile connectivity options for a wide variety of recording applications. Channels 1-3 can be sourced from the XLR inputs, the Aux/Mic Input, or USB 1-2 inputs.

To connect an audio source:

- ▶ Using a standard XLR cable, connect an audio source to any of three XLR inputs on the MixPre-3.
- ▶ Plug an audio source into a USB port on the MixPre-3.
- ▶ Plug an audio source into the Aux/Mic In 3.5 mm TRS connection.



5. Connect Headphones

On the right panel of the MixPre-3, there is a 3.5 mm output for low-impedance headphones.

To connect headphones:

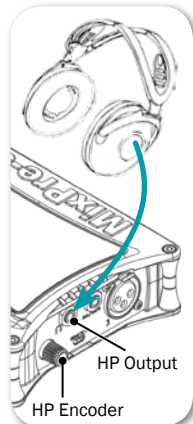
- ▶ Plug in the headphones cable to the headphone output.

□ Use a 1/4-inch to 3.5 mm adapter if necessary.

⚠ **The MixPre-3 can drive headphones to dangerously loud levels. Take care when attaching headphones and when setting the headphone level.**

To adjust headphone volume:

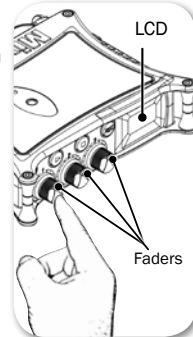
- ▶ Turn the HP encoder, located on the left panel of the MixPre-3.



6. Set up Inputs

To set up inputs:

1. Press in the fader for the chosen input. The Input Settings screen appears on the LCD.



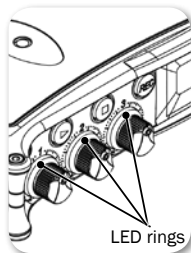
2. Tap Input and select one of the following options:

OPTION	INPUT(s)	DESCRIPTION
Mic	1, 2, 3	Use this type for dynamic microphones.
Line	1, 2, 3	Use this type for analog line level sources.
Aux In #	1, 2	Use for auxiliary stereo input. (Channels 1 and 2 only)
USB #	1, 2	Use for external audio from iOS device. (Channels 1 and 2 only)
Off	1, 2, 3	Use to turn the input off.

□ The variable # (in above table) represents the chosen input/channel. For instance, Aux In 1 is an option when the fader for Input 1 is pressed, as shown in step 1. Press the fader for input 3, and the options change to: Mic, Line, and Off. When an input is off, turning or pressing the fader for that input will result in a pop-up display message, such as "Channel 3 is Off".

3. Tap LO-CUT to set low-cut filter levels. The range is in 40 Hz increments between 40 and 240, so options include: Off, 40 Hz, 80 Hz, 120 Hz, 160 Hz, 200 Hz, and 240 Hz.
4. Tap PAN to adjust the input's pan.

7. Adjust Fader Levels



The LED rings around each of the three faders on the front of the MixPre-3 illuminates in various colors based on certain criteria:

- Solid Green when on - normal (not soloed or muted)
- Solid Red when muted
- Flash Yellow when soloed
- Flash Orange when limiting
- Flash Red when peaking

To adjust channel fader levels into the mix:

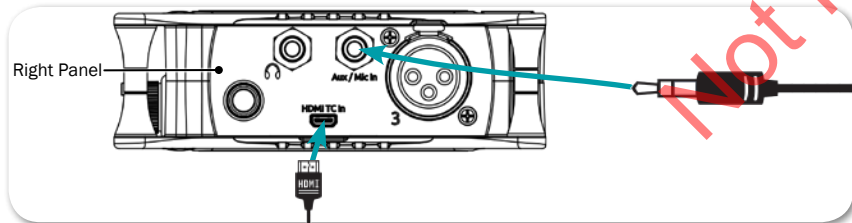
- ▶ Turn the input's fader right (up) or left (down) accordingly.

8. Connect Timecode (Optional)

The MixPre-3 has an internal Time-of-Day clock that can be used for timecode, but an external source for timecode may also be obtained either via HDMI or the Aux/Mic In 3.5 mm connection on the MixPre-3's left side panel. The Aux/Mic In port provides two unbalanced channels through which to receive timecode.

To connect timecode:

1. Connect your timecode source to the appropriate port. For instance, connect an external timecode generator to the Aux/Mic In port, or for DSLR cameras that supports HDMI timecode, connect the HDMI out from the camera to the HDMI TC In port on the MixPre-3.



2. Tap the Menu icon.

3. Select Timecode > Mode. Options include: Off, Aux In 1, Aux In 2, and HDMI TC In.

9. Record and Playback

There are three illuminated transport controls on the front panel of the MixPre-3 for recording and playback operations.

To begin recording:

- ▶ Press the REC button.

To stop recording:

- ▶ Press the Stop (■) button.

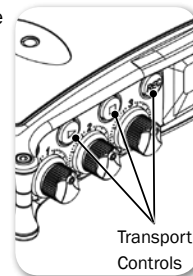
To play a recorded file:

- ▶ Press the Play (▶) button.

Recording may also be triggered from rolling timecode or from compatible DSLR cameras with HDMI output.

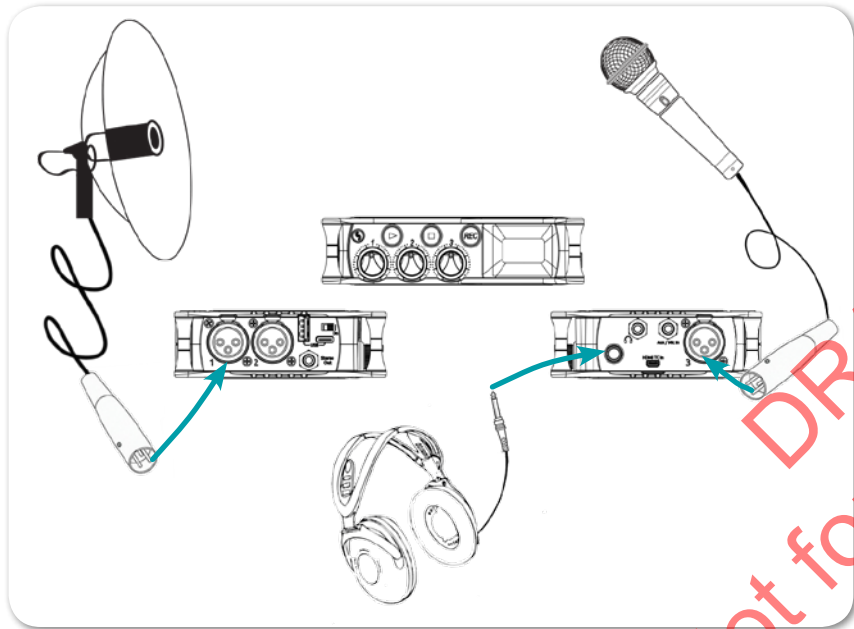
To set up Record Triggering:

1. Tap the Menu icon.
2. Select RECORD > Rec Trigger. Options include: Off, HDMI flag, and Timecode.



Typical Applications: Audio Recording

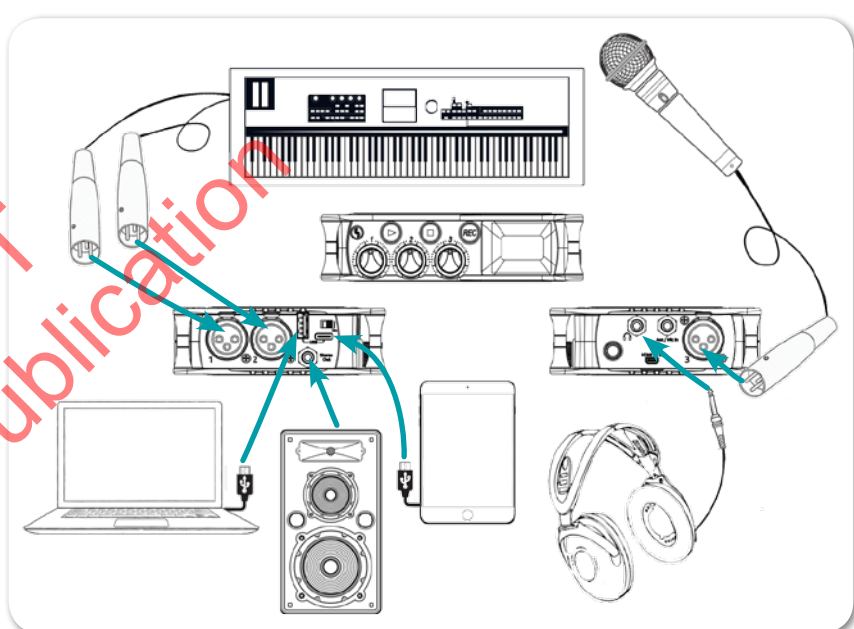
The following illustration shows one example of how the MixPre-3 may be connected to different external microphones for recording natural sound and audio, such as capturing birdsong or soundscapes, conducting interviews, and other similar in-the-field audio applications.



□ The MixPre-3 works with a vast variety of microphones, from parabolic and hand-held plug-in power microphones to wireless lavs and boom mics, or even the built-in mic on an iOS device.

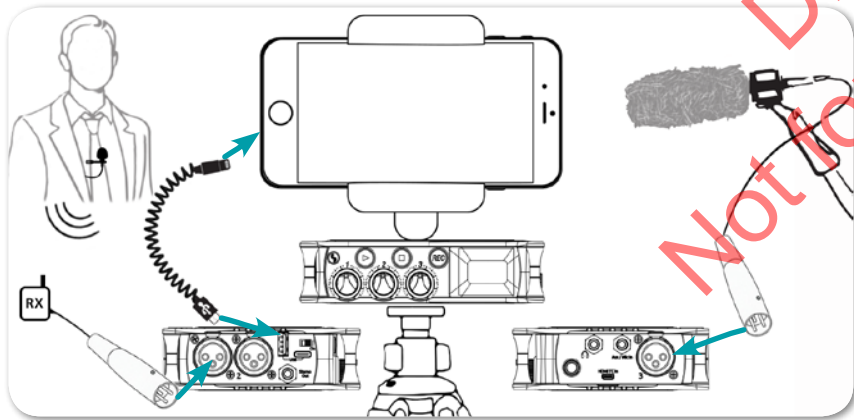
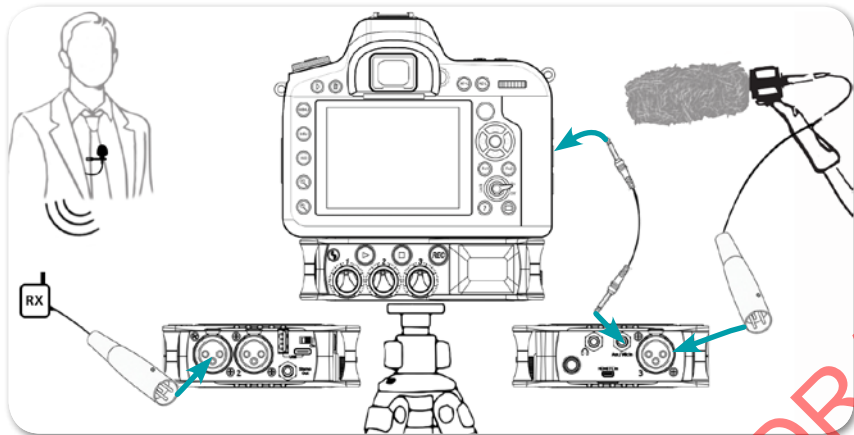
Typical Applications: Music Recording

The following illustration of a sample musical recording workflow shows one example of how the MixPre-3 may be connected to external devices—such as musical instruments, microphones, speakers and headphones for monitoring, and computer or tablet.



Typical Applications: Videography

The following illustrations show examples of how the MixPre-3 may be used with either DSLR cameras or iPhones in various sound-for-video applications.

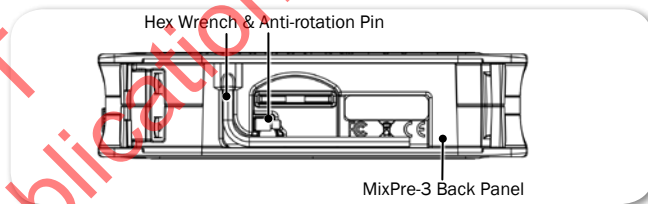


Using the MixPre-3 with a Camera and/or Tripod

The MixPre-3 has $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch, threaded screw mounting options on the top and bottom panels, so it may be mounted to gear in a variety of ways. For instance, when mounting between a tripod and camera, attach it to the bottom of the camera first before screwing it into place atop the tripod.

To attach the MixPre-3:

1. Remove the battery sled to gain access to the back panel.
2. Retrieve the anti-rotation pin and hex wrench. Both are magnetically held in place on the back panel.

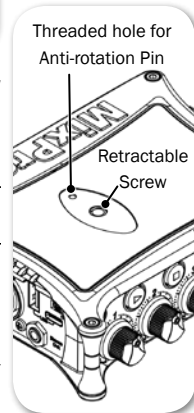
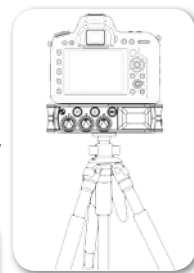


3. (Optional) If your camera has a slot for the anti-rotation pin, screw the pin into place on top of the MixPre-3, and then position the MixPre-3 against the bottom of the camera so that the pin fits into the camera's slot.

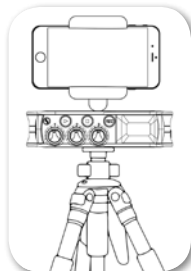
❏ *The anti-rotation pin may also be screwed into a tripod and slotted into the bottom of the MixPre-3.*

4. From the MixPre-3's bottom panel, insert the hex wrench into the mounting screw hole and push up on the retractable screw. Rotate to screw the MixPre-3 into place underneath camera.
5. Align the mounting screw hole on the bottom panel with the mounting screw on the tripod, and screw into place.

❏ *(Optional) Using a TRS cable, connect the camera's analog audio output to the 3.5 mm Aux/Mic In on the MixPre-3 to monitor return audio from the camera.*



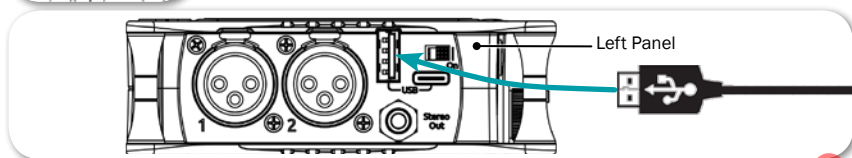
Using the MixPre-3 with iOS Devices



The size and portability of the MixPre-3 make it ideal for use with mobile iOS devices, such as iPhones or iPads.

To attach the MixPre-3 to an iOS Device:

1. Screw an iPhone (or iPad) mount accessory to the top panel of the MixPre-3.
2. Screw in any hand-held wand or tripod to the bottom of the MixPre-3.
3. Connect the iOS device to the USB-A port on the left panel of the MixPre-3.



4. On the iOS device, set it to external USB audio.

Enabling Bluetooth on MixPre-3 for Wingman

The MixPre-3 has built-in Bluetooth® Smart functionality that allows for integration with the iOS-based Wingman™ application.

The Sound Devices Wingman, which is a free download from Apple's App Store, is a wireless interface that gives users touch-screen access to monitor meters, start and stop recordings, and edit metadata on the MixPre-3 directly from an iPhone or iPad.

To turn on Bluetooth:

1. Tap the Menu icon.
2. Tap SYSTEM > Bluetooth. Options include Off and On.



Warranty and Service

Sound Devices, LLC strongly encourages you to register your product. Registering can extend your warranty and ensure you will receive timely updates.

Register online here: www.sounddevices.com/support/registration

Read your warranty here: www.sounddevices.com/support/warranty

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PRODUCT: _____
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FCC Part 15.19 (a) (3)

Full FCC compliance information may be found in the product's User Guide found at www.sounddevices.com.

SOUND  **DEVICES**

Declaration of Conformity



Manufacturer's Name: Sound Devices, LLC
Manufacturer's Address: E7556 State Road 23 and 33
Reedsburg, WI 53959
USA

Declares under sole responsibility that the product as delivered

Product Name: MixPre-3 Audio Recorder
Model Number: MixPre-3
Description: Portable audio recorder with mixing & Bluetooth capabilities
Product Options: This declaration covers all options of the above product.

complies with the essential requirements of the following applicable European Directives, and carries the CE marking accordingly:

EMC Directive (2014/30/EU)
EN 55032:2013
CISPR 32:2012
EN 55032:2012/AC:2013
EN 55103-2:2009
R&TTE Directive (1999/5/EC)
EN 300 328 v1.9.1
EN 301 489-17 v2.2.1



This Declaration of Conformity applies to the above-listed product(s) placed on the EU market after:

March 10, 2017

Date

Matt Anderson - Sound Devices, LLC President

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