







Overview of digital audio recorders

- General:
- All recorders support linear PCM recording (at least 16 bit and 44.1kHz sample rate; some up to 96 kHz and 24 bit).
 - Most models have a USB connection for file transfer.
 - Microphone compatibility is often problematic: the preamps for the asymmetric input are often a bit weak for many types of microphones.

Brand/Type	Picture	Size /Weight W x D x H	Batteries/ recordig time	Media /Size	Data transfer to PC	Price € (excl.tax)	Link
M-Audio Microtrack		6x11x3 cm 140 gram	built-in Li-Ion battery (not replaceable) Ca. 5 hr	Compact Flash up to 2 GB 	Via card reader or USB connection	Ca 500,--	www.m-audio.com
Small, lightweight. Comes with small highly sensitive stereo microphone. Offers symmetrical inputs (useable with high output symmetrical mics). Well readable display. Operation not very intuitive. Non-replaceable battery limits recording time in the field.							
Edirol R09		6.3X10.2x2.9 cm 100 gram	2 x AA NIMH Ca. 6 hr	SD up to 4 Gb 	Via card reader or USB connection	Ca. 300,--	www.edirol.net
Small, lightweight. Good performance with built in stereo microphones. External mic input not very sensitive. Smal but well readable display. Very easy to use. Low cost.							
Sony PCM D1		6x15x3,5 cm 550 gram	4 x AA NIMH Ca. 5hr	4 GB Internal memory Sony Memory Stick Pro 	Via card reader or USB connection	Ca. \$ 1800,- (US dollar)	bssc.sel.sony.com
X/Y recording technique. Fairly high price. Not available in Europe, not tested by MPI.							

Edirol R1		9.9x13.4x3.0 cm 200 gram	2 x AA NIMH Ca. 3 hr	Compact Flash up to 2 GB	Via card reader or USB connection	Ca. 400,--	www.edirol.net
Built-in stereo microphones. External mic input not very sensitive. Easy to operate. Clumsy Flash compartment. Display well readable.							
Mahya Flashman		12.7x5.3x14.7 cm 715 gram	4 x AA NIMH Ca. 2.5 hr	Compact Flash up to 1 GB	Via card reader	Ca. 700,---	www.mayah.de
1 XLR input; stereo asym. mic input. No USB connector. Limited recording time (1 Gbyte card limit). Power hungry. Older model.							
Marantz PMD660		10.5x4.6x17.5 cm 700 gram	4 x AA NIMH Ca. 4 hr	Compact Flash up to 4 GB	Via card reader or USB connection	Ca. 600,--	www.marantz.com
2 XLR inputs, built-in stereo microphones							
Zoom H4		7x15x3.5 cm 190 gram	2 x AA NIMH Ca. 4 hr	SD up to 2 GB	Via card reader or USB connection. Also functions as USB audio interface for direct recording to PC	Ca. 320,--	www.samsontech.com
X/Y recording technique, built-in sensitive stereo microphones. 2 XLR inputs (useable with high output symmetrical mics) which double as 6.3 mm asymmetrical inputs. SD card slot a bit hard to reach. Small display. Low cost.							
Sony HiMD (different types)		8x1.9x8 cm 147 gram	1 AA NIMH / Li-Ion battery (depends on model) up to 25 hr	HiMD disk 1 GB	Via USB connection, Sony software is required for extracting audio files.	Ca. 300,--	www.sony.com
Low cost stereo PCM recorder. For upload to PC special software needed (Upload & conversion time rather long!). Sony microphones fit well to the input sensitivity of the preamp. Storage limited to 1 Gbyte = approx. 1h PCM recording in 44.1 kHz / 16 bits. Cheap media.							
Korg MR-1		6.4x12x2.4 cm 200 gram	built-in Li-Ion battery (not replaceable) recording time not yet known	Internal Hard Disk 20 GB	Via USB connection.	Ca. 750,-	www.korg.com
New DSD (Direct Stream Digital, 1 bit 2,8 Mhz) recorder. Also records Linear PCM WAV files. Stereo Microphone included. Non-replaceable battery limits recording time in the field. Not yet available, not tested by MPI.							