



## Pocketstudio 5 FAQ

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**What kind of inputs does the PS5 have?**

ANSWER- Two 1/4” unbalanced inputs. Input A can be set to instrument or line level and input B can be set to Hi Z mic or line level. There is also a 1/8” mic input for use with the included headset mic. To use a low Z microphone such as a Shure SM-58, a Low Z to Hi Z adapter should be used.

**How much recording time is available?**

ANSWER- PS5 comes with a 32MB compact flash card for recording media. This offers 10 minutes of recording time and 10 minutes of mixdown time. If you do not wish to mixdown to a stereo MP3 file, you can use 15 minutes of recording time and use the 1/8” stereo analog output jack to mixdown to an external 2-track recorder.

<b>Pocketstudio Recording Time (in minutes)</b>					
<b>(By Card Size)</b>					
Card Size	1 Track	2 Tracks	3 Tracks	4 Tracks	
16 MB	25.6	12.8	8.5	6.4	
32 MB	59.7	29.9	19.9	14.9	

64 MB	128.0	64.0	42.7	32.0
128 MB	264.5	132.3	88.2	66.1
Card Size	1 Track + Mix	2 Tracks + Mix	3 Tracks + Mix	4 Tracks + Mix
16 MB	8.5	6.4	5.1	4.3
32 MB	19.9	14.9	11.9	10.0
64 MB	42.7	32.0	25.6	21.3
128 MB	88.2	66.1	52.9	44.1

## What is the largest compact flash card I can use in PS5?

ANSWER- 128 MB. This may increase with future software updates.

## How will I know how much recording is left on my compact flash card?

ANSWER- There is a “card space” menu that shows you how many MB you have used and how many MB are available.

## What format are PS5 tracks recorded in?

ANSWER- Individual tracks are recorded as 16-bit, 44.1kHz, 64Kbps modified MP3 files. These are proprietary files that cannot be individually loaded into a DAW.

## How can I load PS5 tracks into my DAW?

ANSWER- There are only two ways to do this.

- A. Encode each track as a stereo MP3 file and import the files.
- B. Use the analog output to do a real time audio transfer of each track.

## Can I use PS5 as an MP3 player?

ANSWER- Yes. PS5 will play back any MP3 file recorded at 96Kbps or higher. Load in an MP3 file; plug in your guitar and jam along.

## Can I bypass recording tracks and record directly to a stereo MP3 file?

ANSWER- Yes. All input signals are automatically sent to the stereo buss so you can simply record a stereo MP3 file. This can be handy when using PS5 as an interview recorder. Simply use the internal microphone and record the interview.

When you're done, hook up PS5 to your computer via USB and transfer the file to your hard drive. Now the file can easily be posted to a website.

### **Does PS5 require any special software to transfer files to the computer?**

ANSWER- No. Your Mac or PC will simply see PS5 as an external drive. No software required. This makes PS5 very easy to with almost any computer. Windows 98SE will require a driver that is on the included CD ROM. Windows ME, XP and 2000 do not require any drivers. For a Mac you'll need OS9.x. Mac OS X is not yet fully supported.

### **Can I use PS5 as an audio interface to record audio in my DAW?**

ANSWER- No. PS5 is NOT a computer audio interface. If you need a computer audio interface please see the TASCAM US-428 or US-224.

### **Is PS5 a MIDI sequencer?**

ANSWER- No. PS5 has no built in sequencer. It does have a General MIDI tone generator and can play back Standard MIDI Files that we're created on a sequencer. These Standard MIDI files can be loaded into PS5 via USB. Not only can you create your own SMFs on an external sequencer, but you can also download SMFs of popular songs from the Internet for free.

### **PS5 is described as a "MIDI arranger." What does that mean?**

ANSWER- PS5 has 100 MIDI patterns. These are songs in multiple music genres that consist of an INTRO, VERSE, FILL, VERSE 2, FILL 2 and ENDING. You can manipulate these patterns. You can change the instruments they play back, the length of each section, the chord progression of each section and the tempo. You can even transpose the instruments +/- three octaves. This allows you to arrange your own MIDI composition and store it. You can also copy the settings of one pattern to another. So if you like the chord progression in an R&B pattern, but you want to create a Rock pattern, you can simply copy the R&B arrangement to the Rock pattern. Now you can play back a Rock version of the R&B arrangement.

PLEASE SEE THE PS5 DEMO PAGE TO HEAR EXAMPLES OF THESE PATTERNS. <http://www.tascam.com/products/pocketstudio/pocketstudio5/demos.php>

## **Does PS5 send or receive MIDI Machine control?**

ANSWER- No.

## **Does PS5 send or receive MIDI time code or MIDI clock?**

ANSWER- No.

## **How long will PS5 run on batteries?**

ANSWER- Two hours.

## **What kind of effects does PS5 have?**

ANSWER- PS5 actually has 5 effects processors built in. FX-1 has presets for electric guitar, acoustic guitar and bass. FX-2 has presets for vocals and drums. There is also a separate reverb processor. You can send to the reverb from the inputs and/or the recorded tracks. This means you can record a vocal track dry while listening to it with reverb. The General MIDI tone generator also has two effect processors. One is a reverb and the other can be Delay, Flange or Chorus. Each of the 16 MIDI channels has two aux sends to feed the two processors. All of these effects can be used simultaneously!

## **What kind of EQ does PS5 have?**

ANSWER- There is a two band, semi parametric EQ for tracks 1-4 and inputs A and B.

## **What is the MIDI jack for?**

ANSWER- This is a MIDI input jack. You can plug in a MIDI keyboard or MIDI sequencer and simply use PS5 as a 16 part, 64 voice General MIDI sound module. That means PS5 can play back 16 different instruments and 64 notes at one time.

## **Does PS5 have a built in guitar tuner?**

ANSWER- Yes.

## How many virtual tracks does PS5 have?

ANSWER- PS5 does not support virtual tracks. You can however save multiple versions of your songs and store them on your computer via USB.

## Does PS5 do track “bouncing?”

ANSWER- Yes.

## What is Pocketstudio Network?

ANSWER- Pocketstudio Network allows PS5 users to collaborate on songs over the Internet. Let's say you have a PS5 and you're working on a blues song. This song is just screaming for a harmonica track, but you don't know anyone who plays harmonica. Now you can simply go to the Pocketstudio Network and do a search for harmonica players. This will show you every harmonica player on the planet that owns a PS5. Each Pocketstudio Network member has a profile page that let's you see their information:

Name:	Blind Dog Murphy
Instrument:	Harmonica
E-mail address:	<a href="mailto:gotdablues@hotmail.com">gotdablues@hotmail.com</a>
Comments:	If it's a blues song recorded from 1932 to 1968 on Capitol Records and there's a mean sounding harmonica track on it, that's me playing it.

Blind Dog Murphy sounds just like the guy you need! Now you can send him an E-mail asking him if he'd like to record a harmonica track for your new blues song. You also attach your PS5 song file, which Blind Dog can then load into his PS5 to listen to. If he likes your song, he can record a harmonica track on it and E-mail you back the new song file. It's just that easy. Before long you'll have musician friends all around the world that you'll be collaborating with.

## Is there a travel case available for PS5?

ANSWER- Yes. It is \$49.95. You can get it from your local TASCAM dealer or you can order it from SHOP TASCAM online.

[https://shopteac.safeserver.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=SFNT&Store\\_Code=TAGAS](https://shopteac.safeserver.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=SFNT&Store_Code=TAGAS)

