

Setting up a Sony® DSLR with a MixPre-3 or MixPre-6

This document describes configuration based on Sony a7S, running v3.20 firmware; however, procedures are similar for the a7Sii, a7r, and a7rii.

This documented setup fulfills the following requirements. Tweak as necessary to suit your needs.

- Three input sources: channel 1 – phantom mic; channels 2 & 3 – wireless receivers set to line out level
- Record stereo mix to both the DSLR and the MixPre
- Record ISOs, each of the three inputs to its own track, on the MixPre
- Confidence check the camera audio via the MixPre headphone output

Note: For the highest quality headphone monitoring, Sound Devices recommends using the MixPre's LR Stereo headphone preset instead of the camera output audio using the Camera Stereo preset.

- Timecode and record triggers from Sony camera's HDMI output to MixPre HDMI TC input

Connecting Camera to MixPre

To connect a Sony a7S to MixPre:

- ▶ Use the following diagram as a guide for connecting your camera to the MixPre:



Adjusting Settings on the Camera

This procedure assumes a working knowledge of the camera's menu structure.

To set up the a7S:

1. In the Camera menu, go to page 7, and set Audio Rec Level to 1.
2. In the Suitcase menu, on page 3, go to the TC/UB Settings sub-menu, and set TC Run to Free Run.
3. Then go to the HDMI Settings sub-menu, and do the following:
 - a. Set TC Output to On.
 - b. Set REC Control to On.
 - c. Set HDMI Info Display to Off.
4. Set Volume setting to 10.

Adjusting Settings on the MixPre





You may manually configure the settings on the MixPre, as described in the following procedure, or download a MixPre Preset (.XML) file from the Sound Devices website, copy it to the MixPre's SD Card SETTINGS folder, and then load it to the MixPre, via the Presets sub-menu.

Links to preconfigured MixPre Preset files are provided here:

- For MixPre-3 users: [MP3-A7S.XML](#)
- For MixPre-6 users: [MP6-A7S.XML](#)

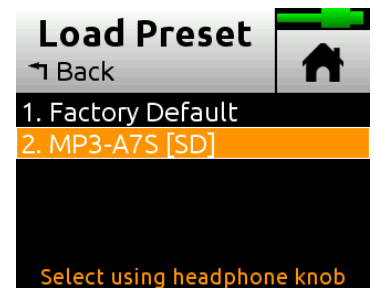
Note: These presets should also work for a7Sii, a7r, and a7rii DSLRs. Make sure to download & load the correct file for your MixPre mixer/recorder.

To manually adjust settings on the MixPre:

1. Tap  and page over to System > Mode and select Advanced.
2. In the Outputs menu, set St. Out Gain to -40dB.
3. Configure monitoring of the camera's audio via the MixPre by doing the following:
 - a. Set Inputs > Aux In Mode to Camera.
 - b. Set Inputs > Camera Gain to 20dB.
 - c. Tap  and set HP preset to Camera Stereo.
 - d. Use the headphone encoder to set the MixPre's headphone gain.
4. Configure the MixPre to receive timecode and record triggers from the camera.
 - a. Tap  and page over to Timecode > TC Mode and select HDMI TC In. After a few seconds, you will see the camera's timecode displayed on the MixPre's Home screen.
 - b. Tap  and page over to Record > Rec Trigger and select HDMI Flag In.
5. Press the Channel knobs and configure channels 1, 2 and 3 according to your hardware setup.

Note: The MixPre Preset files are preconfigured for a phantom mic on channel 1 and wireless receivers, set to Line Out on channels 2 and 3. Modify as needed.

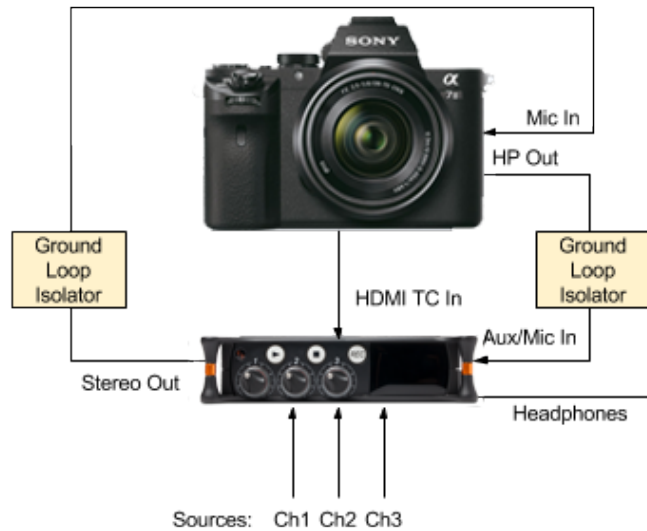
6. Adjust gain for channels 1, 2 and 3 accordingly.



When you are ready, press Record on the camera. The MixPre will automatically start recording. Mix your audio, using Channel knobs 1-3.

Note: If you're experiencing any audio noise or hum, read this [Tech Note](#) first, and then try the following:

- Use inline ground loop isolators to connect audio outputs to inputs as shown in the following diagram. Low cost isolators are available at many retail outlets.



- Electrically isolate the metal casing of the MixPre from the camera.