Audio Lab Setup

Hardware

Trouble-free use of the audio studio requires that three devices—the input device, the mixer, and the computer’s capture card—be properly connected to each other.

1. Although it may seem obvious, the mixer won’t work unless its power is ON. If troubleshooting a problem, check this first. See Figure 1.

2. The mixer connects to the capture card via two XLR cables (Figure 1), one each for the left and right channels.

3. Use the RCA plugs when capturing video. Connect them via an RCA cable to the ‘out’ from the video playback device.

4. Use two XLR cables to connect the outputs of the DAT to inputs two and three of the mixer. See Figure 3 below.
**Mixer Settings**

See Figure 4 for reference.

1. The male end of the XLR microphone cable connects to the mixer here. Of course you may also choose to use the 1/4” jack if the circumstances warrant it.

2. This is the **TRIM** control. Use it as the primary input volume control. You should initially set it to **U**.

3. This is the **GAIN** control, which controls the input’s level in the final mix. Use it as a secondary volume control. Set it initially to **U** as well.

4. Connect the **right and left outputs** from the cassette deck here.

5. This knob and group of buttons determine what appears on the level indicators. Depress the **MAIN MIX** button to monitor the microphone input and the **TAPE** button for tape input. If you wish to route the tape output to the computer, be sure to activate the **ASSIGN TO MAIN MIX** button and adjust the **CTL ROOM/SUBMIX** volume knob accordingly.

6. This knob controls the mixer’s output level, and the LEDs indicate the volume. **Continuous sound levels should hover around 0 and peak no higher than +7.**

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Figure 3: limitations of DMC equipment require using the analog outputs of the DAT player

Figure 4: the top of the mixer
**Using the Mixer**

*Before turning on the mixer, connect the microphone, tape deck or other input device(s). If using the tape deck, make sure to depress both the TAPE button, found in the CONTROL ROOM SOURCE column, and the ASSIGN TO MAIN MIX button.*

1. Turn all TRIM and GAIN knobs to the far left position.
2. Depress the SOLO button for an active channel—a channel connected to input.
3. Turn the GAIN knob to the U position (12 o’clock).
4. Begin speaking into the microphone. Gradually turn the TRIM knob to the right while watching the meters.
5. When the meters register consistently between 0 and +7, press the SOLO button again, and repeat the previous four steps with each additional active input.

**Software**

*If you’re having trouble recording input, check to make certain that Windows is set to receive input from the Osprey-500’s XLR connection. You’ll need to close whatever application you are using.*

**Windows**

1. Double-click the speaker icon in the system tray.
2. Go to Options→Properties.
3. Select ‘Osprey-500’ from the Mixer Device drop-down menu. Click the Recording radio button.
4. Make sure that the XLR Balanced box is selected and that its slider is at 80% or higher.

![Figure 1: the Osprey-500 recording input window](image)