

## MR-8 8-Track Digital Multitracker

### KEY FEATURES

**8 tracks recording & playback**  
128MB CF Included!

**Records to CompactFlash (CF)**

**Simple & Easy Interface**

No menus to navigate  
Knob/Button for each function

**On-Board Effects**

Reverbs  
Delays  
Guitar FX  
Amp Simulator  
Mic Simulator  
Mastering

**USB Port**

.WAV import/export  
Archiving  
CD Burning

**2 XLR Mic Inputs**

**2 Guitar Inputs**

**S/PDIF Digital Output**

**Built-In Microphone**

**Portable - Battery Operated**

**2 Headphone Jacks**

### AT A GLANCE



The Fostex MR-8 is the first solid-state memory recorder in the industry that offers 8-tracks of recording on the very popular CompactFlash card media. The MR-8 comes with a very competitive price point, especially compared to the current digital 4-track memory recorders already on the market.

Fostex's design goal for the MR-8 was to create a digital multitrack recorder with unprecedented ease of operation for musicians who want digital recording and superb sound quality, but also offers the simplicity of their favorite old analog machine. Nearly all the functions of the MR-8 are on the physical knobs and buttons of the top panel. User frustration caused by having to flip through pages and pages of LCD menus, is not an issue with the MR-8.



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### DETAILS & FACTS



#### Marketing Context:

Main applications include: songwriters, traveling musicians, entry-level recording enthusiasts, and project studios. With just over 2 hours of battery time (6 AA), the MR-8 offers an affordable portable field recorder solution where timecode is not needed.

#### Customer Profile:

Entry-level customers who would have considered a 4-track cassette/4-track memory solution. Customers who need a low-cost portable recording solution, any singer/songwriter, and any person who wants to record audio away from their studio.

#### Hot Buttons:

- 8 tracks of recording instead of 4
- Uncompressed recording offers better quality
- On-board XLR mic inputs
- USB port insures PC/MAC compatibility for archiving, mixdown, CD-burning
- Truly Portable
- Extremely easy to learn/use direct interface

#### Competition:

##### Boss BR-532

\$395 street, only 4-tracks, most difficult to learn, more expensive

##### Korg PXR4

\$399 street, only 4-tracks, least amount of features in category, no XLR mic inputs

##### Zoom MRS4

\$249 street, no microphone input, no built-in mic, limited EQ

##### Tascam Pocket Studio

\$499 street, No MIDI sync capability, expensive, no .wav capability

When it comes to getting everything you could want in a recorder at this price-level, the Fostex MR-8 truly offers anything and everything a customer could want...all in a compact, portable package.

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**FULL FEATURE LIST**

The world first 8-track recording into solid state memory (Compact Flash Card).

High quality sound recording and playback with uncompressed linear 16-bit/44.1 kHz digital audio (normal mode). 2-track simultaneous recording and 8 tracks playback.

Recording time is about 25 track-minutes with 128MB Compact Flash Card. Extend Mode (16-bit/22.05 kHz) doubles the recording time.

Unlike other digital recorders, it offers quite intuitive operation, which is ideal for the users who have no experience in digital multitrack recording. Most of the functions appear on the top panel physically instead of page surfing on LCD.

128 x 64 dot-matrix LCD and self illuminating keys to show current status visually.

Digital effects (delay/reverb) with newly developed algorithm for MR-8, as well as Guitar Amp simulation (input A at "Guitar" position) and Microphone simulation (input A at "Line/Mic" position) as insert effect.

Analog type guitar distortion is available on input A (at "Guitar" position).

Mastering effect for stereo buss: songs after bounce or mix down on track 7/8 can be processed with the Mastering Effects.

Digital data (S/PDIF) can be output in stereo from optical output.

Built-in USB port for WAV file data transfer between MR-8 and Windows PC for data editing, CD burning (normal mode) and backup.

AC and Battery (6 AA alkaline cells) operation.

Built-in microphone for quick recording of ideas or events

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**SPECIFICATIONS****Recording/Reproduction**

Recording Medium	Compact Flash Card
Recording Format	VFAT (FAT16)
Sampling Frequency	44.1 kHz / 22.05 kHz
Quantization	16-bit linear
A/D Converter	16-bit Delta-Sigma
D/A Converter	16-bit Delta-Sigma
No. of Recording Track	8 tracks (maximum 2 tracks simultaneous recording)
Recording/Reproduction Frequency	20 Hz – 20 kHz (Normal Mode)

**Input/Output**

Analog In (2ch)	
Connector	XLR-3-31 type and f 6mm TRS phone
Input Level	-40dBV (MIC) - +10dBV (LINE)
Input Impedance	1.5k ohm or more (XLR)

Stereo Out (L, R)	
Connector	f 6mm stereo phone
Load Impedance	more than 16 ohm
Output Level	20mW or more (at 32 ohm)

MIDI Out	
Connector	DIN 5 pin

Foot Switch	
Connector	f 6mm phone
Level	TTL level

USB	
Connector	B type (data save/load controlled from PC)

S/P DIF	
Connector	Optical
Format	IEC 60958 (S/P DIF) 44.1kHz only (Normal Mode)

**General**

Dimensions	65 (H) x 215 (D) x 283 (W) mm
Weight	approximately 1.9 kgs. (1.6 kgs. without AC adaptor)
Power Supply	AC Adaptor AD12A (supplied accessory) or 6 x AA alkaline battery

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### FAQs

**Q: How much record time do I get on a 128MB CF?**

A: Recording time is about 25 track-minutes with 128MB Compact Flash Card. Extend Mode (16-bit/22.05 kHz) doubles the recording time.

**Q: How much time do I get of 6 AA batteries**

A: Just over 2 hours (normal use)

**Q: Does the MR-8 have phantom power?**

A: No it does not

**Q: How can I archive my 8-track data?**

A: The MR-8 can archive recorded data using either the USB port directly to a PC or Macintosh computer OR it can archive directly out the S/PDIF output

**Q: What is the maximum CompactFlash (CF) card the MR-8 will accept?**

A: Currently there is no limitation to the maximum size CF the MR-8 will recognize. At the moment the limitation is dependent upon current technology of the media

**Q: How many tracks can the MR-8 record at one time?**

A: 2 tracks can be recorded simultaneously.

**Q: Does the optical output support the ADAT lightpipe format?**

A: No. The optical digital output only supports the S/PDIF stereo format.

**Q: Can I import/export audio tracks to and from my computer?**

A: Yes. This is done in the .WAV format using the USB port on the MR-8. To import or export multiple mono files before stereo mixing, a free application "MR-8 WAV MANAGER" is required on the PC, which will be downloadable from the Fostex web site free of charge. Data transfer with Mac requires a third-party CF card reader/writer unit.

**Q: How do I burn a CD from the MR-8?**

A: You simply export the stereo mix file via USB to your computer. From there you simply burn the CD as you normally do on your computer

**Q: What kind of Amp simulation effects are on-board the MR-8?**

A: BRIT STACK, US METAL, and 60'S COMBO. There are various presets within each of these amps

**Q: What type of Microphone simulators does the MR-8 have?**

A: There are 3 category types: DYNAMIC, CONDENSER, TUBE  
Each type contains various microphone models that fit that category type.

**Q: What type of converters does the MR-8 use?**

A: 16-bit Delta Sigma

**Q: What type of MIDI implementation does the MR-8 have?**

A: MIDI synchronization. Can be a MASTER using MTC or MIDI Clock