At last, quality and style meet convenience and affordability with the Yamaha MD8 Multitrack MD Recorder. The handsome and sleek MD8 is a self-contained personal digital 8-track recording and mixing system designed to let you push your music to ever higher levels of creativity with clean sound—without getting lost in layers of complicated technology, or adding unwanted noise as you do your thing.

The MD8 will literally have you multitracking in minutes. Simply connect it to an amp and speakers, hook up one or two of your favorite effects processors, plug in some microphones, synthesizers, samplers and guitars—then go for it! Record it. Mix it down. It really is that easy. And the sound quality is truly stunning.

And since it's digital, there's a host of handy track and song copy, move, combine and other editing functions simply not possible with tape-based recording systems. Certainly not for this price. Also, it's easy and practical to record and archive all of your important song data on small, durable MD DATA Mini Discs. Key MD8 features include...

- Up to 8 tracks simultaneous recording and playback, with zero wow and flutter and zero pitch fluctuation, and an uncompromising 20 Hz to 20kHz frequency response.

- 8-track, 4-track, 2-track and monaural "MD DATA" record and play modes, plus 2-track and monaural standard "Mini Disc" record and play modes.

- Ability to ping-pong all eight tracks down to one or more tracks to free up space for more parts, without signal degradation from multiple ping-ponging or repeated play.

- Fast and accurate search and locate, precise Auto Punch In/Out with up to 99 takes, disc and song titling for easy music identification, programmable song order, multiple mark points for easy song editing and cue-list assembly, plus repeat playback and pitch control (±12%).

- Jog/Shuttle dial for quick and easy song location and edit function access, multiple recorder controls including direct/group track assign buttons, plus large display with individual track and stereo level indicators, song time indicator in minutes/seconds/frames or measure/beat, plus more.

- High-quality 8-channel analog mixer with variable gain and 3-band EQ with mid sweep on each channel, 2 Aux Sends (with stereo returns), pan and fader on all input channels, in-line recording capability, stereo and cue monitoring, and more.

- Balanced XLR inputs (with phantom power), phone-type jacks and insert I/O jacks on channels 1/2, unbalanced phone-type input jacks on channels 3-8, plus direct track outs, stereo outs, monitor outs, 2-track inputs, and more.

- MIDI In, Out and Thru terminals, MIDI clock output, MIDI Time Code (MTC) transmit, MIDI Machine Control (MMC) receive, and more.

- Part Copy, Track Copy, Song Copy, Song Renumbering, Tempo Map (with 26 Meter and 26 Tempo change events per song) and other handy editing functions.
Superior Audio Fidelity

With the MD8, tape hiss is a thing of the past. Crystal clear, dynamic sound quality—even with compact discs—is where it’s at. That’s because the MD8 records digitally to a small but durable MD DATA disc with a sampling frequency of 44.1kHz, delivering flat frequency response from 20 Hz to 20kHz with inaudible 0.02% total harmonic distortion (at 1kHz), at a signal-to-noise ratio of 96dB.

What’s more, unlike cassette or other tape-based systems, the MD8 shines through with zero wow and flutter and zero pitch fluctuation, and ensures that sound quality will never degrade over time or through repeated recording and playback.

The MD DATA disc format permits 18-minutes of 8-track recording, 37-minutes of 4-track recording, 74-minutes of stereo recording, and 148-minutes of monaural using a standard Mini Disc. Convenient disc times of 8-minutes of 8-track recording, 16-minutes of 4-track recording, 37-minutes of stereo recording, and 74-minutes of monaural recording and playback.

Precise Punch In/Out With 99 Takes

The MD8 features various track punch-in/punch-out recording options which let you re-record a specific segment of a track to spot-fix a mistake or brush up a key passage in an otherwise perfect take. You can punch the MD in and out manually using the panel controls or a footswitch, or set specific record start and stop points for automatic punch-in and -out recording. A Rehearsal mode lets you practice the take as many times as you want before actually recording.

You can even set the pre-roll and post-roll, or how many seconds the song plays before recording starts and after recording stops, so you can “fall into” naturally with the dynamics of the music to achieve the smoothest possible take. What’s more, you can record up to 99 takes and then choose the best one.

Multiple Controls & Large Fluorescent Display

A full complement of panel controls give you direct and immediate access to record, playback and editing functions intuitively—with only one hand. Included are familiar transport functions like Record, Play and Stop, plus convenient Direct/Group track assign buttons for each track, and a pitch function which lets you adjust the pitch for playback and recording by ±12%.

A handy Jog/Shuttle dial lets you fast-forward at HALF speed, or fast-forward/rewind through a song at 2x, 8x, 16x or 32x speeds, as well as locate a specific beat or frame. The Jog/Shuttle dial also works in conjunction with Edit, Utility and other menus to quickly call up specific functions—with the simple twist of the dial.

The large fluorescent display provides ample feedback of current operating status, including selected tracks for recording, current operating mode, disc and song titles, and level meters (with clipping indicators) for each track as well as the stereo output. A song time indicator gives you the option of displaying song location in minutes, seconds and frames—either as Elapsed time, Total time, or Remaining time, or by measure/bars.

MDI Control Options

The MD8 comes equipped with MDI In, Out and Thru terminals, plus various MDI control options such as MDI Time Code (MTC) transmit which permits the MD8 to control playback of an MTC-compatible music sequencer or digital system, plus MIDI Machine Control (MMC) receive which permits an external MIDI sequencer to control playback of the MD8.

A Tempo Map function lets you determine up to 26 Meter change and 26 Tempo change events per song, thus giving you flexible options for precise control of playback timing.

The 8-channel Mixer Section

Channel Inputs & Inserts

The MD8’s high-quality 8-channel mixer section is designed not only for great sound but flexibility in the field. Provided on channels 1 and 2 are balanced XLR inputs (with phantom power) and phone-type jacks, plus insert jacks for direct in/out connection to an external EQ, compressor or other effect of your choice. Channels 3-8 sport unbalanced phone-type jacks.

Each channel features a continuously variable Gain control from microphone to line level, thus permitting accurate level matching with the widest possible range of input sources. Simply plug in your microphones, synths, samplers and guitars, set the optimum input gain, and start recording.

3-band EQ With Mid Sweep

Each channel features a 3-band EQ section which gives you considerable control over the sound of your tracks—during recording and during musicians. EQ lets you optimize the sound of each track by boosting certain frequencies and cutting others—so do things like bring a guitar forward in the mix, or fatten up a thin bass. Or create unusual effects on a vocal. And much, much more.

The MD8’s equalization controls feature high and low shelving type bands and a peaking type mid band with 250 Hz to 5kHz sweep that permits fine control over the critical midrange frequencies where vocals and lead type instruments are centered.

Flexible Signal Routing

The MD8’s signal buss circuit design makes signal routing to recorder tracks as simple as the flick of a switch and routing of aux sends as flexible as your creative powers, allowing you to simultaneously feed an external mixer capable of additional sound processing and song naming functions help you keep track of your expanding music archives.

Simultaneous 8-track Recording & All-track Ping-pong

With the MD8, up to eight tracks can be recorded simultaneously, which means you have the option of laying your band’s live performance down as is, as well as overdubbing additional parts to your heart’s content.

If eight tracks are simply not enough to handle your creative powers, you can “ping-pong” it all down to two or more tracks and keep on building up layer upon layer of sound from there. Because it operates in the digital domain, the MD8 offers far more flexible ping-pong than analog-based multitrack recorders, including no signal degradation from multiple ping-pong, plus the unique ability to play back all eight tracks and mix them down to two tracks—rather than mixing six tracks to two.

Precise Punch In/Out With 99 Takes

The MD8 features various track punch-in/punch-out recording options which let you re-record a specific segment of a track to spot-fix a mistake or brush up a key passage in an otherwise perfect take. You can punch the MD in and out manually using the panel controls or a footswitch, or set specific record start and stop points for automatic punch-in and -out recording. A Rehearsal mode lets you practice the take as many times as you want before actually recording.

You can even set the pre-roll and post-roll, or how many seconds the song plays before recording starts and after recording stops, so you can “fall into” naturally with the dynamics of the music to achieve the smoothest possible take. What’s more, you can record up to 99 takes and then choose the best one.

Monitoring Features & Direct Outputs

The MD8’s flexible monitoring capabilities are designed to help simplify recording and mixing operations by letting you hear exactly what you want at all times. You can monitor the MD8 with a pair of stereo headphones plugged into the front-panel PHONES jack, as well as with an external amplifier and speaker system connected to the stereo MONITOR OUT jacks—overall output volume is controlled by the MONITOR LEVEL control.

The MONITOR SELECT switches let you route the returned stereo signals to the recorder tracks at will. (You can also use the 9/10 or 11/12 jacks to input stereo signals from an external sound source such as a sampler or submixer.)

Direct outputs for each recorder track let you bypass the on-board mixer entirely, by connecting them to an external mixer capable of additional sound processing...
Top Panel

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The MD8 offers fast and accurate search and locate features which greatly speed up the recording and mixing process. There are a variety of controls to help you jump directly to any song location you want.

Song Search buttons let you cue instantly to the beginning of each song. Last Record Search buttons let you go directly to the point at which recording was last started or ended. Mark Search buttons let you locate “markers”, or up to 12 specific points within each song which are freely assignable. The MD8 also has a Time Entry Search function which lets you locate a specific point within a song by entering the exact time position in minutes, seconds and frames (or by measure and beat), as well as quickly find your location aurally using the Jog/Shuttle dial.

The MD8’s song and track editing features give you the flexibility to fine-tune the details of your creation as well as experiment with different arrangement ideas without fear of losing any important takes.

Song Copy lets you make a safety backup copy of a song—including title, marks and tempo map—before track ping-ponging, so if you’re not happy with the result, you can always go back to the duplicate version and try again. You can determine track mode for 4- or 8-track recording. Song Divide lets you divide a song into several independent songs, which can then be arranged as a program for playback. Song Combine lets you combine adjacent songs that were divided using the Song Divide function. Song Move lets you move a song to a specified blank area on the disc, and Song Renumber lets you reorganize the songs so that each song number matches its actual order on the disc.

Other edit functions include Part Copy, which lets you copy a part of a track between the last record in and out points to another track, and Track Copy, which lets you copy an entire track to another track. A Rehearse mode lets you perform a dry run before activating the actual recording operation.

The MD8’s program list contains up to 36 steps (i.e., a sequence of cues for playback). The Program Playback function works in a similar way, letting you compile a “Program” of songs to play in a specific order, by assigning a song number to each step in a Program list containing up to 36 steps. Other edit functions include Part Copy, which lets you copy a section from one track to a different section in a different track.

The Part Copy function lets you copy a section from one track to another track. A Rehearse mode lets you perform a dry run before activating the actual recording operation.

### Setting Up A Cue List

The Cue List Playback function lets you compile markers into a list of steps, or “cues”, for playback in a sequence. Since each cue can be set and executed with a precision of approximately 1/100 of a second, the MD8 provides instant, seamless playback of each consecutive step in the sequence, thus letting you create a completely different arrangement of a song.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Start-End</th>
<th>Playback</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Plays Chorus 1 twice</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Plays Verse 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Plays Chorus 2 twice</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Plays Verse 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Plays Bridge, Instrument 1 and Guitar solo</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Plays Chorus 3 three times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Plays Instrument 2 and Ending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The MD Data Disc

The Mini Disc is an optical disc-based sound recording and playback format which is extremely durable, highly reliable, virtually unaffected by external magnetic fields, and retains its inherent quality despite repeated recording and playback. The MD8 uses MD DATA discs which permit 16-minutes of 8-track recording, 37-minutes of 4-track recording, 74-minutes of stereo recording, and 148-minutes of mono recording. The MD8 also offers options for stereo and monaural recording and playback of standard Mini Discs, including playback of commercially available pre-recorded Mini Discs and Mini Discs recorded on home consumer-type MD decks (Note: MD DATA discs cannot be played on consumer-type MD decks.)
The MD8 in a MIDI System

MIDI System

- Computer & MIDI Sequencer Software
- Effects
  - Compressor
  - Effects Processor 2

Effects Processor 1

Master Recorder

- Stereo Out
  - L, R
- 2TR In
  - L, R
- Monitor Out
  - L, R
- Power Amplifier
- Headphones
- Footswitch

Optional Accessories

- Footswitch
- PCS

Recordable MD Data Disc

- MMD-140
- Master Rec & Play
- MD Data and MiniDisc are registered trademarks of Sony Corporation.

Mixer Specifications

- Inputs
  - 10 IN (L, R) x 8 (CH 1–8) PHONE jack (–10dB)
  - 2 TR (CH 1, 2) TRS phone jack x2 (–10dB)
  - 8 MIC/LINE (CH 1–8) Balanced phone jack (–10~–50dB)

- Outputs
  - 2 L, R PHONE jack (–10dB)
  - STEREO L, R PHONE jack (–10dB)

- Frequency Response
  - 20Hz – 20kHz

- EQ
  - 4-Band Parametric (48kHz sampling, MD Toning 56kHz – 30kHz, 12kHz shelving)

General Specifications

- Power Requirements
  - 3A & 230V ac, 50/60Hz

- Dimensions (W x H x D)
  - 484 x 102 x 452mm

- Weight
  - 13.1kg

- Operating Conditions
  - Temperature: 5°C ~ 35°C (41°F ~ 95°F)

- Specifications subject to change without notice.


For details please contact:

YAMAHA CORPORATION

17-BOX 1, Hiramatsu-cho, Japan

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