



Personal Audio Recorder v4.0 User Documentation

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Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	3
2.	System Requirement	4
2.1	Compatibility.....	4
3.	Installation	5
4.	Launching PAR.....	6
5.	Registering PAR after you have purchased PAR.....	6
6.	User Interface.....	7
7.	General Preferences	8
8.	Recording Preferences	9
8.1	Recording Tips	11
9.	POD Broadcasting.....	12
10.	Copying Voice to Desktop Computer	12
11.	User License.....	13
12.	Uninstalling Personal Audio Recorder	13
13.	Upgrading Personal Audio Recorder.....	13
14.	Copyright	13
15.	Disclaimer.....	14
16.	Limitation of Liability.....	14
17.	Termination of License	14
18.	Technical Support	14

1. Introduction

Personal Audio Recorder (PAR) turns your Palm® handheld into an audio recorder and POD broadcasting tool. PAR records voice memos to external card SD card.

You can play back recorded voice memos with easy. PAR is very flexible and configurable. Option includes different sample rates and record in mono or in stereo mode.

When you have your voice mail email to you, you can use PAR PRO to listen to them. Only GSM 7.11 format is support. Check with your wireless carrier on the format.

You can Beam voice memo to other devices, Send voice memos using Bluetooth to other devices, send to email client and transfer to the desktop.

PAR includes one button press recording feature, button record on headset button press, pause recording, pause play, rewind and fast forward play back and supports exchange manager.

2. System Requirement

- Palm® OS 5.0 and higher with Extended Sound Manager
- 150K of free memory for the main program.
- External SD/MMC/MS card optional.

2.1 Compatibility

- Handspring® or PalmOne® Treo600/650/680/700p/755/Centro®.
- Treo® 600 may require firmware 3.05 update.
 - New 3.05 firmware update with Extended Sound Manager. To get new firmware update go to
http://www.palmone.com/us/support/downloads/treo/treo_600_updater.html
- Any Palm® OS 5.0 and higher with Extended Sound Manager such as Palm ® Tungsten T, Zire® 72, LifeDrive™, SonyClie® with PalmOS® 5.2.1
- Palm Tungsten T5 and TX users you will need a MIC module from one of the following vendors:

Tech Center Labs <http://home.earthlink.net/~gmayhak/index.html>

<http://forum.brighthand.com/showthread.php?t=221857>

- Compatible with desktop wave player such as Media Player. Voice memo can be read on the desktop without and conversion software.
- External SD/MMC card optional
- Speech to text applications such as Dragon Nature Speaking.
- StyleTap PalmOS® emulation for the PocketPC and Windows Mobile www.styletap.com

3. Installation

To install PAR double click on the file PAR.prc and PARex.prc files and then press the HotSync® button on the cradle. The HotSync® manager will install the file on to your Palm.

PAR.prc - Main program
PARex.prc - PAR plugin

Press the HotSync® button on the cradle. The HotSync® manager will install the file on to your Treo®.



4. Launching PAR



To launch Picture Link, look for the icon **PAR** on the Launcher and tap on it.

5. Registering PAR after you have purchased PAR

After you have installed all the files, launch PictureLink and you will see the following screen below.

You will need to write down your **Serial #** to use for generation of your Registration Key. Send your serial number to support@toysoft.ca for your registration key.

When you get your Registration Key, launch the **PAR** application again and enter the Registration Key into the RegCode: input area and tap the **Register** button. You will only have to do this once.

PAR Registration

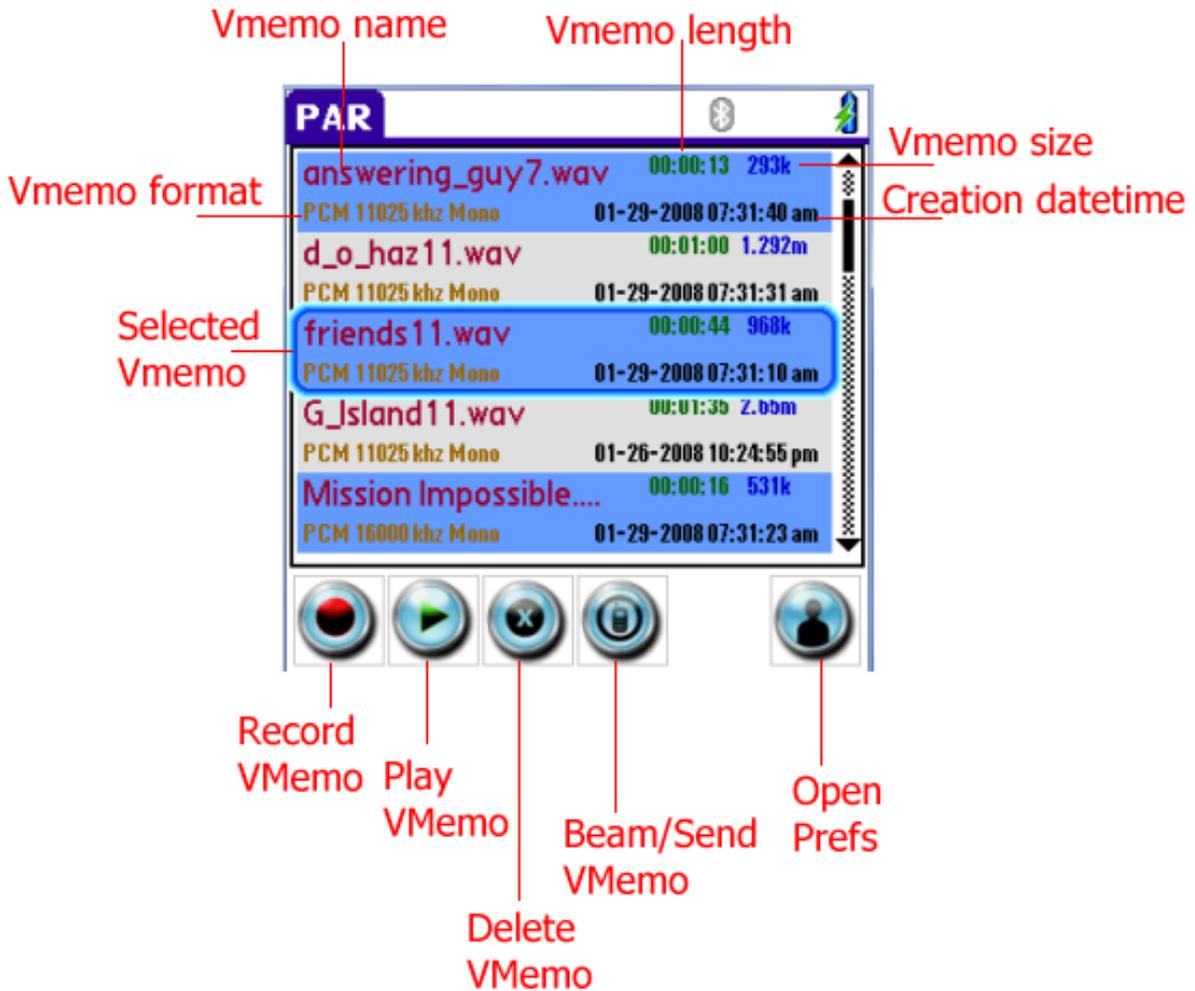
 **Version 4.0 #2008.005**
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Toysoft, Inc.
www.toysoft.ca

Purchase at www.toysoft.ca

Serial Num:
Reg Code: | 

Expire in 10 days

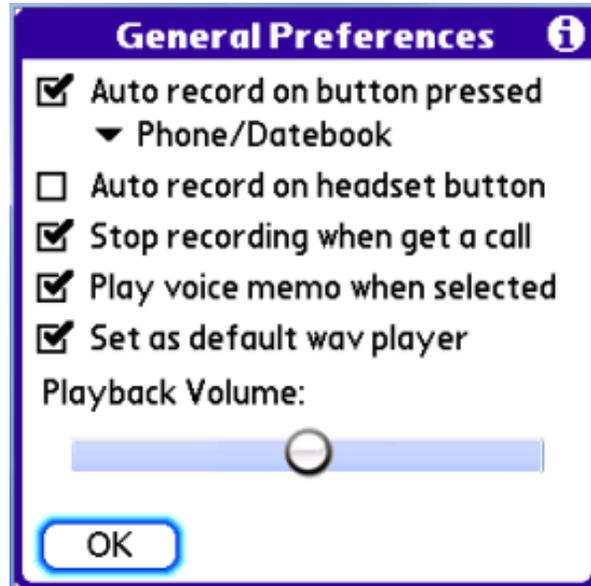
6. User Interface



The first time you start PAR, PAR will scan the AUDIO folder on SD card for all the sound files that it can play. Any files that is listed on the play screen can be played by PAR.

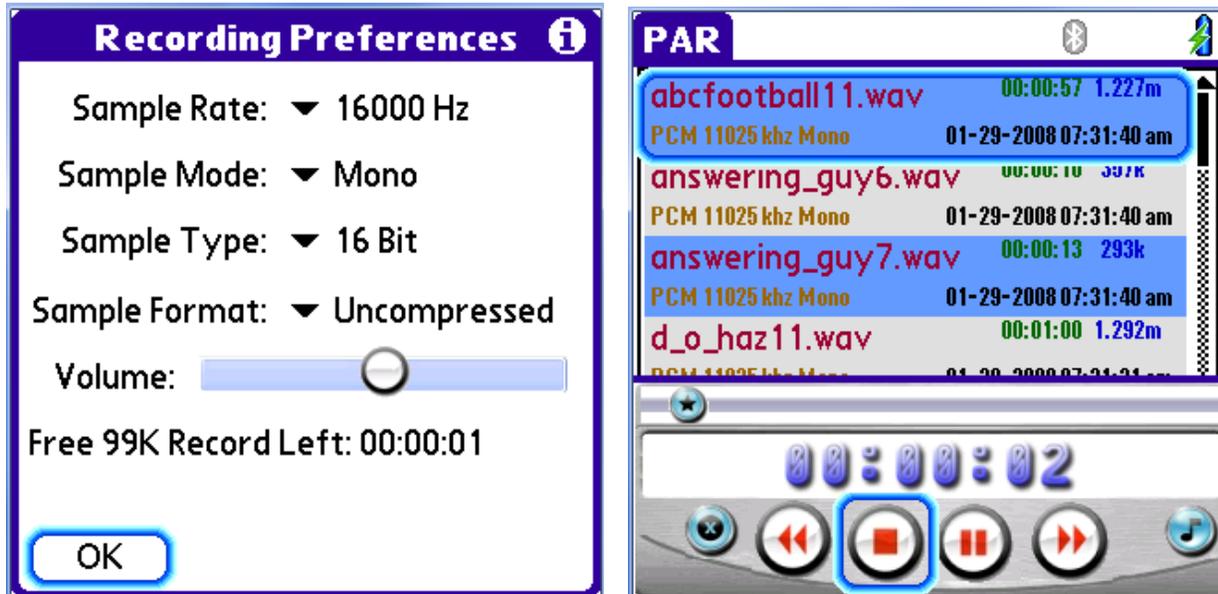
If you have added new external wav files to the AUDIO folder on the SD card you can tap on the PAR title  and select the Options->Scan Sounds menu item to refresh the sound list.

7. General Preferences



Controls	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Auto record on button pressed ▼ Phone/Datebook	Start recording when the assigned Button is pressed and hold.
<input type="checkbox"/> Auto record on headset button	Start recording when the headset button is pressed on the Treo® smartphone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stop recording when get a call	Stop recording when a new phone call arrives on the Treo® smartphone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Play voice memo when selected	Play the voice memo as soon as you tap on it
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Set as default wav player	Set PAR as the default wav player
Playback Volume: 	Set the starting playback volume

8. Recording Preferences



The Recording Preferences screen lets you control the recording quality.

Record Setting Recommendation

Device Type	Recommended Settings
Treo®600	Sample Rate: 16khz Sample Mode: Mono Sample Type: 8bit Sample Format: Uncompressed
Treo®650/680/700P/755/Centro	Sample Rate: 16khz Sample Mode: Mono Sample Type: 8bit or 16bit Sample Format: Uncompressed or GSM 7.11 If you want better quality then use uncompressed

Tungsten Series and Others	Sample Rate: 22khz Sample Mode: Mono Sample Type: 16bit Sample Format: Uncompressed
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Typically the higher the frequency of recording eg: 16khz vs 22khz the more space is required. This is true for Mono and Stereo, 8bit and 16bit.

If you intend to playback the voice recording on the desktop computer then record in 16bit.

Sample Rate

Generally the lower the Sample Rate the less the quality. If you want high quality voice memo you should set the Sample Rate to at least 16000 Hz. 22050 Hz would be best for mobile devices. If your recording sounds too fast then you need to lower the Sample Rate.

If you still experience choppy recording then your SD card might be too slow. We recommend Sandisk SD Cards.

Sample Mode

You should set the Sample Mode to Mono to reduce the size of the voice memo. If space is not an issue then use Stereo mode. Note that recording Stereo to the card maybe result in choppy quality

To record a new voice memo tap on the Record button or press the short cut key.

Sample Format

On devices such as the Treo® 650 and Tungsten you can record in compressed format. The quality is not as good as uncompressed but you will have more space. When using compressed format you should set the Sample Type to 16bit.

GSM 7.11 Codec

GSM 7.11 codec is included in PAR. The GSM 7.11 is widely used on cellphone, VOIP and mobile devices. The advantage of GSM codec is the compression.

GSM 7.11 codec is best used if for short records that you send via email. Use 8khz and Mono. This is the lowest quality with acceptable result.

Sample Type

You can set the recording to record in 8bit or 16bit mode. 16bit mode takes twice as much disk space to save. 16bit is recommended if you want to playback the voice memo on the desktop or use recognition software such as Dragon Natural Speaking software.

8.1 Recording Tips

1. For better quality use Sample Rate 16000Hz or 22050Hz
2. For short voice memos record to RAM then export to the card. This gives better quality.
3. When recording do not hold the MIC to close to the subject. This may create cracking sounds.
4. Recorded voice memos on the card can be directly read by desktop applications
5. Play around with the recording volume. Generally setting it to mid range is OK. If you can not hear the recording then set the volume higher.
6. When recording do not try to scratch or make any noise on the Palm. Any unwanted sound will be recorded.

9. POD Broadcasting

PAR is a perfect tool for doing personal and professional podcasting. When you record for podcasting make sure you record with the following settings in the Record screen.

Sample Rate: 16khz to 22khz

Sample Mode: Stereo

Sample Type: 16bit

Sample Format: Uncompressed

10. Copying Voice to Desktop Computer

Voice memos are recorded to the AUDIO folder on the SD card. To copy the voice memos to your desktop computer you will have to remove the SD card from your Palm handheld, insert the SD card into the SD card reader on the desktop computer. Use the File Manager on the desktop computer to examine the AUDIO folder on the SD card and then copy the voice memos.

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12. Uninstalling Personal Audio Recorder

To uninstall PAR do the following:

1. Go to the Launcher and from the **App** menu select **Delete...** menu item.
2. Look for **PAR** and **PARex** name in the list. Select it and then tap on the **Delete** button.

13. Upgrading Personal Audio Recorder

Just install the new version over the current version.

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