

High End Music Player

SoundDroid VALOQ

Equipped with upsampling function

Supports DSD audio source playback

User's Guide



Thank you very much for purchasing the VentureCraft product. Please read this User's Guide thoroughly before using the device, and make sure to update the firmware first.

Store this in a safe location so it can be referenced when necessary.

CONTENTS

Overview of This Product	2
Name and Function of Each Part	3
Charging	4
Home Screen	4
Connecting to a PC (Copying Music)	5
Listening to Music	6
Playing back	6
Play screen	6
Playlist	7
Options Menu List	8
Player controls	8
Audio settings	8
Other settings	9
Language setting	9
Connecting with Headphones/Earphones	10
Standard headphones/earphones	10
Headphones/earphones supporting the balance connection	10
Connecting with an External Device	10
Line output	10
Connecting with an External Device (Cont.)	11
Optical digital output	11
Updating the Firmware	11
Return to Factory Default	11
Troubleshooting	12
Error screen of the internal drive is displayed	12
The power does not turn on	12
Power cannot be turned off	12
Pop noise sounds when turning on the power	12
Major Specifications	12
Cautions on Use	13
Product Support	15
Trademarks and Registered Trademarks	15

Overview of This Product

SounDroid VALOQ is a high quality and high end music player by VentureCraft, that can provide a realistic sound close to the original sound by converting the PCM audio source in various formats to DSD128 or PCM maximum 384k/32 bits within the player in real time, and supports DSD256 native playback and playback of the PCM maximum 384k/32 bits.

It has realized an amazing cross talk, signal to noise ratio, and expansion and low distortion of the dynamic range by adopting the VERITA AK4137 by Asahi Kasei Microdevices for the real time conversion SRC, which is the key function of this device, and also by adopting VERITA AK4490, the flagship new generation 32 bit premium DAC by Asahi Kasei Microdevices, for the DAC.

The analog circuit of SounDroid VALOQ is full of passion that cannot be found in the other portable players.

The analog circuit after the DAC is designed in full balance, using the VISHAY MELF for all the resistors in the signal circuit and RUBYCON PML for the film capacity for filtering, realizing smooth audio quality by reducing heat noise and senses of peak and noise.

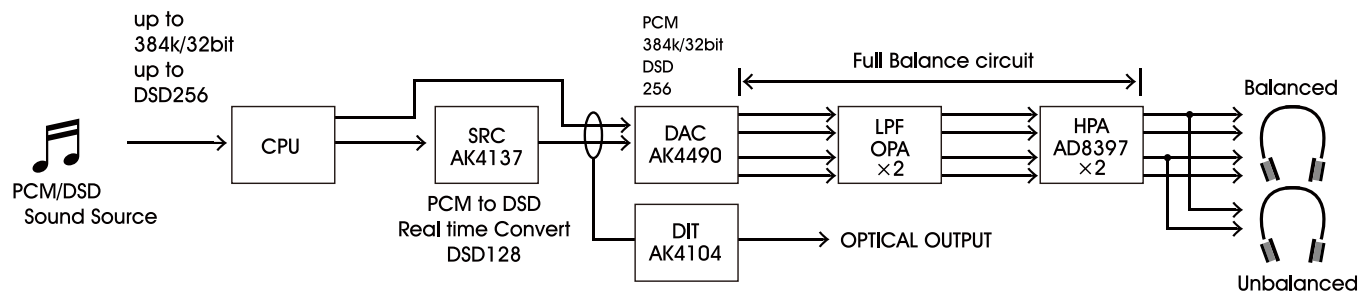
New Japan Radio MUSES8820D is equipped as standard for the operational amplifier for LPF of DAC.

Also, the LPF operational amplifier for DAC is designed to be replaceable, so it is designed to set the operational amplifier that the user prefers.

* Replacement is to be performed with the responsibility of the user.

A newly developed charge pump power supply is adopted for the headphone amplifier power supply, driving at $\pm 7V$.

It has realized high power and high audio quality, even though it is a portable player, by adopting the Analog Devices AD8397 that secures sufficient drive voltage and can drive large load in superior linearity to the headphone amplifier.



Name and Function of Each Part

The appearance, print, and embossing may be changed depending on the model.

Contents of this product set

- VALOQ main unit
- microUSB cable (USB2.0 compliant)
(A connector - microB connector type) x 1
- User card/warranty

“BAL” terminal

Connect the headphones/earphones supporting the balance audio connection (2.5 mm 4-pole stereo).

“PHONE/OPT.OUT” terminal

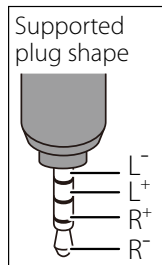
Connect the normal headphones/earphones (3.5mm stereo mini plug).

It is also possible to connect the optical digital cable (S/PDIF: Round 3.5mm mini) to play the track saved on this device on an external device.

“PCM/DSD” lamp

The sampling frequency of the audio source being played back or the status of this device is notified by the LED lamp.

When playing back audio source	● Red light	44.1kHz to 96kHz
	● Green light	176.4kHz/192kHz
	● Blue light	352.8kHz/384kHz
	● Purple light	DSD 64
	● Orange light	DSD128
When power is on	○ White light	DSD256
	● Off	When LCD is on
	● Aqua blink	When LCD is off
	● Yellow blink	SD card is formatting
	When power is off	● Aqua blink
● Orange blink		Charging
● Green blink		Charge completed
Booting	● Aqua	Normal boot
Booting	● Red blink (blink for few seconds)	Not enough battery. Charge the device.



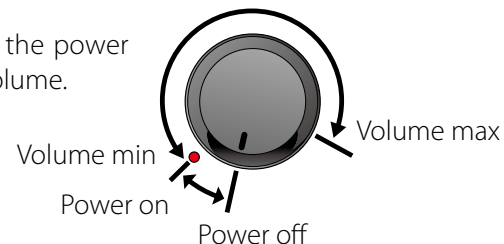
LCD panel

microUSB terminal

This is used to connect this device to a PC or to charge this device.

Volume/power dial

Turn the dial to switch the power on/off and adjust the volume.



Shuttle switch

Turn	Upward: Fast reverse, Downward: Fast forward
Click	Selection, playback/pause
Double-click	Play next track
Triple-click	Play previous track

Back button

Returns to the previous menu/screen.
Returns to the Home screen by pressing and holding.

Lock switch

The operation of the Shuttle switch, Back button, and volume are locked by sliding it upward.

microSD card slot

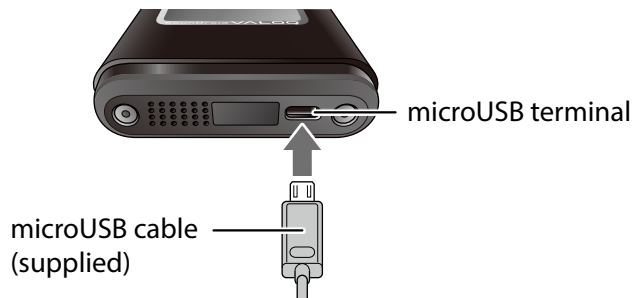
The microSD card is inserted to access the files in the microSD card.

* Recommended manufacturer:
SanDisk, Transcend, Silicon Power,
Toshiba, Samsung

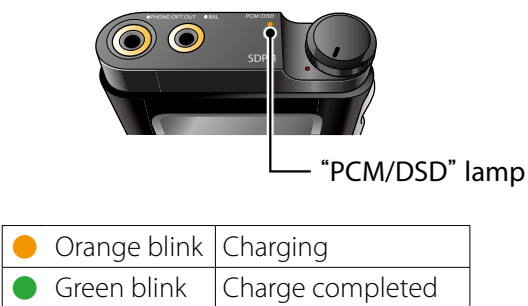


Charge by connecting with a PC or the AC charger using the supplied microUSB cable.

The commercially available AC charger (USB charging adapter) is required to perform the AC charging.



The “PCM/DSD” lamp will blink in orange while charging.

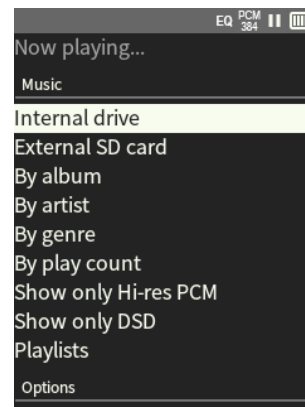


Caution

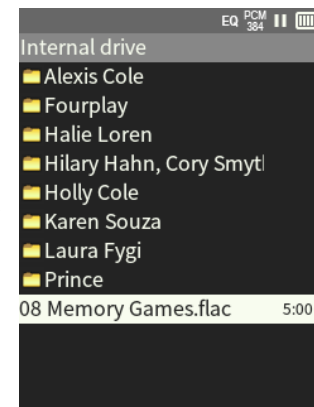
The battery is not sufficiently charged at the time of purchase. Use the device after fully charging it.

Select the item in the list by turning the Shuttle switch up or down, and select by pressing the Shuttle switch.

Home screen



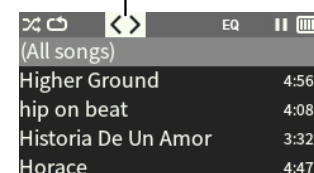
Folder screen



Hierarchy display
(sub-menu, folder name, artist name, etc.)

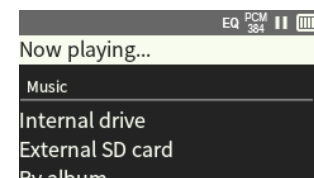
The page forward icon is displayed at the top of the screen when the number of tracks to display has exceeded 200, so 201st and subsequent tracks are displayed by selecting this and turning the Shuttle button downward.

Page forward icon



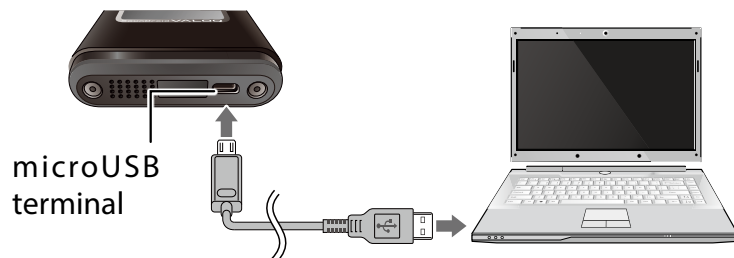
To display the track being played back

The play screen is displayed by selecting [Now playing] in the Home screen while a track is being played.



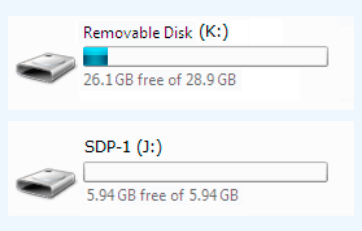
Connecting to a PC (Copying Music)

- 1 Turn on the power of this device and the PC.
- 2 Connect the microUSB terminal on the bottom of this device with the USB terminal on the PC using the supplied microUSB cable.



- 3 Select [Player controls] - [Enter USB MSC mode] from the Home screen of this device.
- 4 The confirmation screen is displayed, so select [Yes]. It will be connected to the PC and the drives for this device and the microSD card are displayed on the PC.

Display example for Windows
(The drive letter will differ depending on the used PC)



Display example for Mac



- 5 Drag and drop the music file inside the PC to the internal drive (SDP-1) or the microSD card (removable disc or the drive named as "NO NAME") to copy.

The file formats that can be played back with this device are as follows.

WAV, AIFF, mp3, AAC, ALAC, FLAC, Ogg Vorbis, DXD, DSDIFF, DSF (DSD256/SD (DSD128 when USB_DAC*))

* Supported after updated.

Point

It is necessary to format the microSD card in Fat32 to be used on the external drive.

It will be Fat32 format when the drive format function in this device is used.

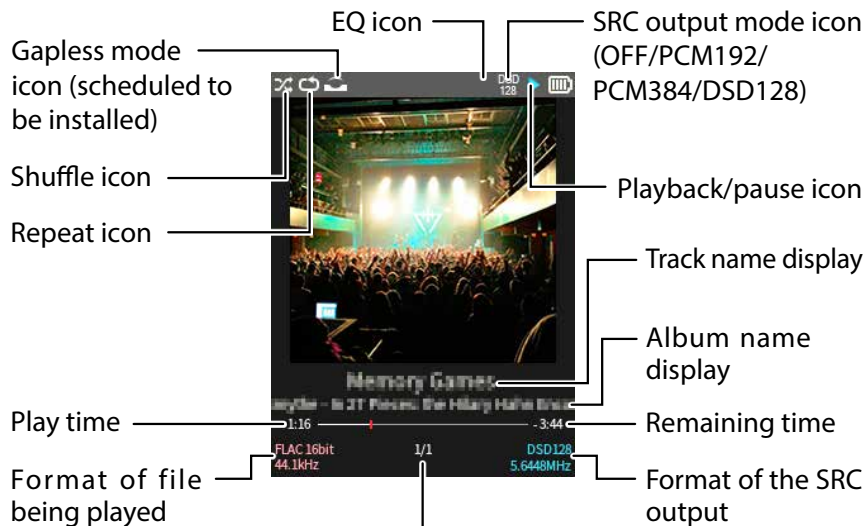
Caution

Make sure to make a backup in advance when transferring audio files to the internal drive or when updating the firmware.

Playing back

Playback will start by selecting a track from the list and selecting it by pressing the Shuttle switch.

Play screen



Current number/total number of tracks in list
(Number of tracks will change depending on the selected folder, album, playlist, etc.)

Operation in the Play screen

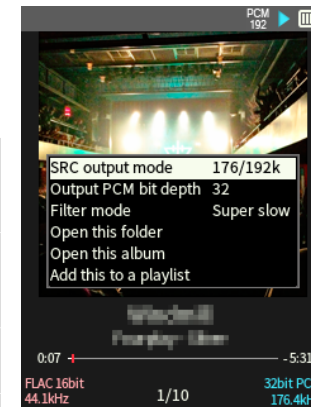
The following operations can be performed with the shuttle Switch during playback.

Turn	Upward: Fast reverse, Downward: Fast forward
Click	Switch playback/pause
Double-click	Play next track
Triple-click	Play previous track

Sub-menu

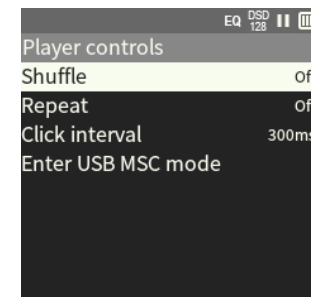
The sub-menu is displayed by pressing and holding the Shuttle button while the Play screen is displayed.

SRC output mode	Switches the setting for the internal sampling rate converter.
Output PCM bit depth	Switches the setting for the bit depth for the internal sampling rate converter.
Filter mode	Switches the setting for the DAC digital filter.
Open this folder	Displays the folder that contains the track being played.
Open this album	Displays the album that contains the track being played.
Add this to a playlist	Adds the track being played to a playlist.



Shuffle function/repeat function

- 1 Select [Player controls] from the [Options] list in the Home screen.
- 2 Set [Shuffle] or [Repeat] to [On].
An icon is displayed at the top of the screen when the shuffle function or the repeat function is turned on.



Equalizer setting

Select [Audio settings] - [Equalizer] from the [Options] list in the Home screen.

Each range can be selected and set.

It can be set from the presets by selecting the item.

off/Classic/Dance/Jazz/Pop/Rock/Bass Boost/Treble Boost/User setting



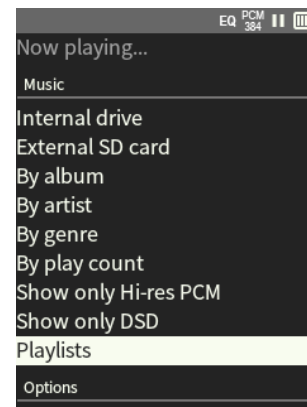
The band and gain setting values for the user setting are recorded in the internal memory even when the power is turned off, so the setting values are applied after the power is turned on again.

The equalizer is not applied when [off] is selected, and the audio source is output without any change.

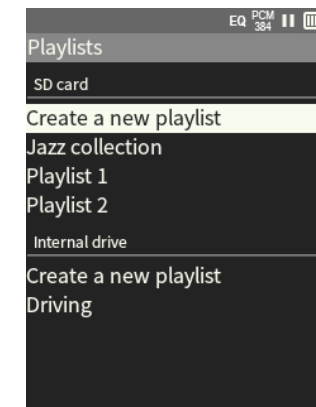
Playlist

The Playlist menu is displayed when [Playlist] is selected in the Home screen.

Home screen



Playlist menu



Creating a new playlist

- 1 Playlist 1 is created by selecting [Create a new playlist] in the SD card or the internal drive and the Shuttle switch is pressed.
- 2 A file named "Playlist 1" is displayed in the Playlists by pressing the Back button.

Changing the name of the playlist

Connect a PC to this device, and change the name of the playlist file on the PC.

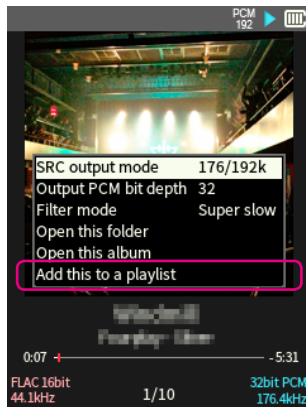
Playlist (Cont.)

Adding/deleting a track to the playlist

- 1 Select a playlist from the Playlists and press and hold the Shuttle switch.
The sub-menu is displayed.
- 2 Select either [Add music to this playlist] or [Remove this playlist] and press the Shuttle switch.
When adding a playlist, select the track and press the Shuttle switch.

To add the track being played

- 1 Press and hold the Shuttle switch while the Play screen is displayed.
- 2 The sub-menu is displayed, so select [Add this to a playlist].
- 3 Select [Create a new playlist] or an existing playlist.



Options Menu List

Player controls

Setting item	Selection item	Description
Shuffle	Off, On	Shuffles tracks.
Repeat	Off, 1 track, All tracks	Repeats 1 track or all the tracks.
Click interval	300 to 600ms	Sets the time until the operation after pressing the Shuttle switch. (ms = 1/1000 seconds)
Enter USB MSC mode	-	Connects this device with a PC.

Audio settings

Audio quality

Setting item	Selection item	Description
Equalizer	off, Classic, Dance, Jazz, Pop, Rock, Bass Boost, Treble Boost, User setting	Sets the equalizer. → 7p

Analog output settings

Setting item	Selection item	Description
SRC output mode	Bypass, PCM176.4/192KHz, 352.8/384KHz, DSD128	Switches the setting for the internal sampling rate converter. * The SRC output will be DSD128 output only if the playback file is DSD64 when DSD128 is set. * PCM conversion is not performed if the playback file is DSD when PCM is set.

Options Menu List (Cont.)

Setting item	Selection item	Description
Output PCM bit depth	16, 24, 32	Switches the setting for the bit depth for the internal sampling rate converter. * Bit depth cannot be selected when the SRC output mode is DSD128.
Filter mode	Super slow, Slow, Fast,	Switches the setting for the DAC digital filter. * Filter setting cannot be selected when the SRC output mode is DSD128.
Line output mode	On, Off	Switches to the headphone output or the line output.

Digital output settings

Setting item	Selection item	Description
SRC output mode	Bypass, PCM176.4/192kHz	Switches the optical digital output.

Volume settings

Setting item	Selection item	Description
Gain	0 to -30dB (1 dB steps)	Sets the gain of the headphones or the earphones.
L/R Balance	L12 to Center to R12 (0.5 dB steps)	Sets the gain balance between left and right.
Touch locks Volume knob	On, Off	The volume is also locked when the Lock switch is set to the lock position.

Other settings

LCD and power settings

Setting item	Selection item	Description
Backlight brightness	20 to 100%	Sets the brightness of the backlight.
Time to dim backlight	10s. to 5m., Off	Sets the time to dim the backlight.
Time to turn off backlight	1 to 30m., Off	Sets the time to turn off the backlight.
Time to power off	5 to 180m., Off	Sets the time to turn off the power.

Format and update

Setting item	Description
Update the firmware	Updates the internal software.
Format a drive	Formats the internal drive/SD card.

Information

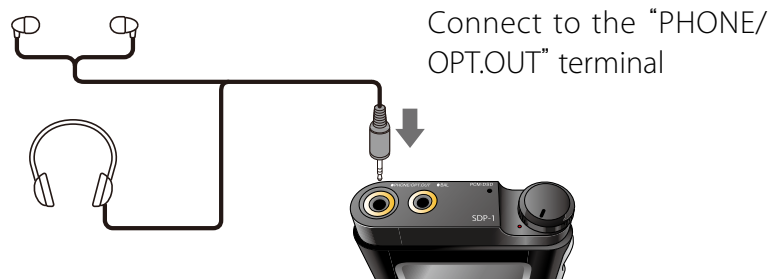
Setting item	Description
Legal notices	Displays license information, etc.
About VALOQ	Displays version information, etc.

Language setting

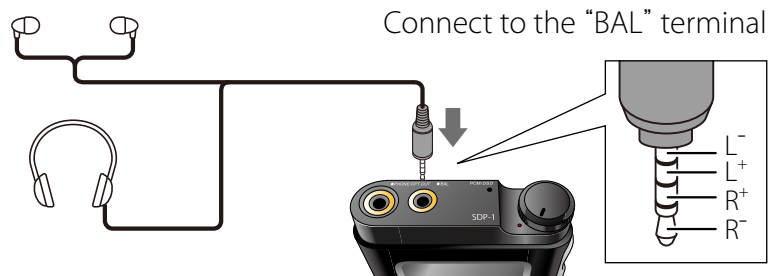
Setting item	Selection item	Description
Language	Japanese, English, Chinese (Traditional, Simplified)	Sets the language to display.

Connecting with Headphones/Earphones

Standard headphones/earphones



Headphones/earphones supporting the balance connection



⚠ Caution

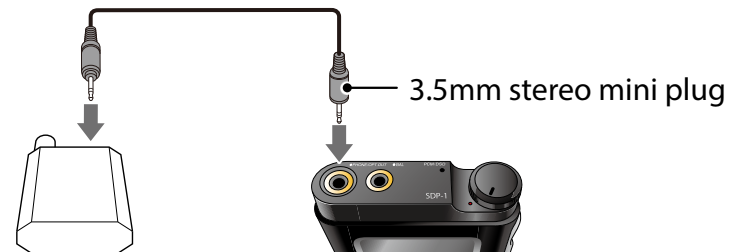
- Connecting anything other than the above plug may cause malfunction by shorting, etc.
- Do not connect the earphones/headphones to both "PHONE/OPT.OUT" terminal and the "BAL" terminal simultaneously. It may cause malfunction due to power consumption and high load.
- Replacement of the connection plug or modification of the cable may be required when connecting earphones/headphones to the "BAL" terminal. VentureCraft is not liable for any damage, etc., of the device caused by modification.

Connecting with an External Device

Line output

Connect the "PHONE/OPT.OUT" terminal with the line input terminal of the destination.

Set [Audio settings] - [Analog output settings] - [Line output mode] to [On] when performing line output.



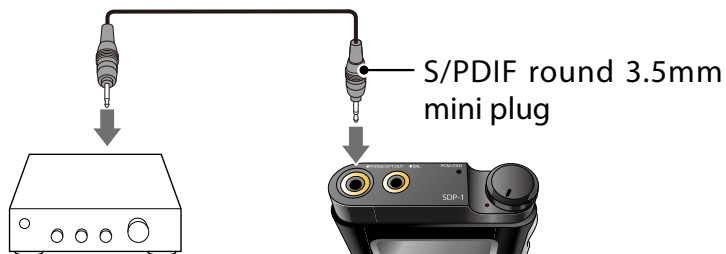
⚠ Caution

- Do not connect the earphones or headphones when set to line output mode. Make sure that the earphone or headphone plug is disconnected when setting [Line output mode] to [On]. It is played back at the maximum output level (2Vrms) regardless of the volume position when [Line output mode] is set to [On].

Optical digital output

Connects to the “PHONE/OPT.OUT” terminal in the same way as the 3.5mm stereo mini plug cable.

- The optical output of this device can be set to either Bypass or 176.4/192kHz 24bit. (Set in [Audio settings] - [Digital output settings] - [SRC output mode])
- The optical output is PCM converted during DSD playback.
- Use the optical cable supporting 176.4/192kHz.



- 1** Download the update file (update.bin) from the Venture-Craft software download site and save on the microSD card.
- 2** Insert the microSD card with the update file saved into the microSD card slot of this device.
* Insert while the power is turned off.
- 3** Turn on the power of this device.
- 4** Select [General settings] - [Misc] - [Update the firmware] from the Home screen of this device.
- 5** Update following the instruction on the screen.

Caution

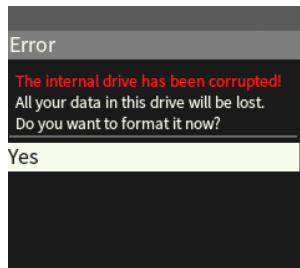
Make sure to make a backup in advance when transferring audio files to the internal drive or when updating the firmware.

Return to Factory Default

- 1** Select [General settings] - [Misc] - [Format a drive] from the Home screen of this device.
- 2** Select [Internal drive].
- 3** Select either [Cancel] or [Yes].
All the data in the drive will be lost when [Yes] is selected.

Error screen of the internal drive is displayed

Select [Yes] when the screen to the right is displayed to format the drive.



The power does not turn on

- (1) Turn off the power switch.
- (2) Disconnect the microUSB cable.
- (3) Turn on the power switch.
- (4) If the power still does not turn on, charge for approximately 30 minutes, and try again from (1).
If the power still does not turn on, perform steps (1) to (3) for "Power cannot be turned off."

Power cannot be turned off

- (1) Turn off the power switch.
- (2) Disconnect the microUSB cable.
- (3) Press and hold the Shuttle switch and the Back button for 10 seconds.

Pop noise sounds when turning on the power

To prioritize the audio quality, this device only uses a minimal muting circuit and it is not equipped with a semiconductor switch, etc.

Therefore, some pop noises may sound, but this is not a malfunction.

Memory media	
Internal memory	Approx. 6GB
External slot	microSD card x 1: SDHC/XC * SDXC will support up to 2TB (4GB per file) by formatting with this device
Music playback	
Continuous playback	Approx. 7 hours (FLAC/44.1k/16bit)
File format	WAV, AIFF, mp3, AAC, ALAC, FLAC, Ogg Vorbis, DXD, DSDIFF, DSF (DSD256/SD (DSD128 when USB_DAC))
Sampling rate	PCM: 44.1/48/88.2/96/176.4/192/352.4/384kHz DSD: DSD64/DSD128/DSD256
Quantization bit rate	16/24/32 bit
Folder management	○
Tag information	○
Database management	Music (all/by how many times played/playlist), by album, by artist, by genre, show only hi-res PCM, show only DSD
Resume function	○ *
Album art display	○
Playlist function	○
Repeat mode	Repeat, 1 track repeat, shuffle
EQ function	5 band EQ
Gapless playback	○ (on/off) *
Electrical performance	
Headphone output	125mW+125mW at 32Ω (Unbalance/Balance)
Line output level	2Vrms (with no load, during line output mode) (Unbalance/Balance)
Frequency property	10Hz-80kHz (PCM384kHz, +0.5dB/-3dB) (Unbalance/Balance)
S/N ratio	113dB or higher (A-weighted) (Unbalance/Balance)
THD+N	0.001% or less (1kHz/-6dBFs, PCM 44.1kHz 24bit, with no load) (Unbalance/Balance)

Display language	
Japanese, English, Chinese (Traditional, Simplified), others *	
Power supply	
Battery	Internal lithium ion polymer (3000mAh/3.7 V)
Auto off function	Auto power off (user setting possible), back-light off (user setting possible), sleep timer
Charging method	Charging only (when power is off), charging & playback, charging & data transfer
Charging time	Approx. 6 hours (with 500mA charging)
USB type	
Shape	microUSB (B)
Interface	USB2.0 High speed
USB class	USB mass storage
Screen	
Display resolution	2.4 inches TFT color LCD QVGA (W320 x H240 dots)
Size/weight	
Size	W70mm x H107mm x T20mm
Weight	Approx. 160g

The specifications and appearance of the device may be changed without prior notice.

* Supported after updated.

Battery Disposal and Recycle

When disposing of this product, do so in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable in the area you live. This product has a built-in battery therefore can not be disposed of together with general household waste.



In order to use this product safely and prevent accidents, please take the following cautions.

- In order to avoid risks such as fire and electric shock, do not use in high-humidity environments or where this product may come in contact with water.
- Do not use, charge, or leave this product in locations exposed to direct sunlight such as car dashboards and window sills. Also, do not use, charge, or leave in high-temperature environments such as inside vehicles parked in the sun or near heat sources such as heaters and stoves.
- Do not use to play music, etc. while driving a vehicle, riding a bicycle, or walking.
- If liquid that has been leaked from the battery makes contact with your skin or cloths, wash under running water immediately. Also, if such liquid enters your eyes, wash under running water immediately without rubbing and consult a doctor.
- Do not disassemble, modify, or repair this product by yourself.
- If this product does not get fully charged after the specified charging time, cease charging and arrange for inspection/repairs to be performed.
- Use a soft cloth to clean this product. Do not directly apply water, dust spray, solvent, polisher, cleaning agent, etc.
- The battery has a life duration. The usable duration will become shorter due to aging degradation. Do not keep charging for a long period of time. Always disconnect the microUSB cable each time when charging is completed.
- Any damage or malfunction (including stripped screw) regarding the replacement of OPAMP is responsible of the user, and VentureCraft is not liable even if it is still under the warranty period.
- The screw may be stripped when using an inappropriate screwdriver. The screwdriver recommended to be used is the VESSEL T5 No. 5400TX Power Grip TORX screwdriver.
* Even if there was a problem using the screwdriver recommended by VentureCraft, opening/closing of the screw is a disassembly, so VentureCraft is not liable.

About China RoHS Compliance

有毒有害物质或元素含有表

有毒或 有害物质	零部件	
	电路板	附件
铅 (Pb)	○	○
汞 (Hg)	○	○
镉 (Cd)	○	○
六价铬 (Cr ⁶⁺)	○	○
多溴联苯 (PBB)	○	○
多溴二苯醚 (PBDE)	○	○

○ 表示该有毒有害物质在该部件所有均质材料中的含量均在 SJ/T 11363-2006 标准规定的限量要求以下。

× 表示该有毒有害物质至少在该部件的某一均质材料中的含量超出 SJ/T 11363-2006 规定的限量要求。

根据中国电子行业标准 SJ/T 11364-2006 和相关的中国政府法规，本产品及其某些内部或外部组件上可能带有环保使用期限标识。取决于组件和组件制造商，产品及其组件上的使用期限标识可能有所不同。组件上的使用期限标识优先于产品上任何与之相冲突的或不同的环保使用期限标识。



European Union - Electronics and Battery Disposal Information:

This symbol means that according to local laws and regulations your product and its battery should be recycled separately from household waste. When this product reaches its end of life, take it to a collection point designated by local authorities for the recycling of electronic product. The improper disposal of waste electronic product from the consumer may be subject to fines. The separate collection and recycling of your product and its

battery at the time of disposal will help conserve natural resources and ensure that it is recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment.

Venturecraft Inc. Gadget Business Division

<http://www.go-dap.com/>

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Tokyo, 101-0047 JAPAN

Hour of operation: Weekdays 10:00 to 17:00
(closed on Sat, Sun, holidays)

Contact: contact@venturecraft.jp

FAX: +81-3-3525-8417

Disclaimer

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