Creative Nomad II MG

User Guide

On-line Version

CREATIVE®

Getting Started

Creative® NOMAD® II MG Player
Casady & Greene's SoundJam™ MP

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October 2000

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CAUTION: This device is intended to be connected by the user to a CSA/TUV/UL certified/listed IBM AT or compatible personal computers in the manufacturer's defined operator access area. Check the equipment operating/installation manual and/or with the equipment manufacturer to verify/confirm if your equipment is suitable for devices to be connected to it.

ATTENTION: Ce périphérique est destiné à être connecté par l'utilisateur à un ordinateur IBM AT certifié ou listé CSA/TUV/UL ou compatible, à l'intérieur de la zone d'accès définie par le fabricant. Consulter le mode d'emploi/guide d'installation et/ou le fabricant de l'appareil pour vérifier ou confirmer qu'il est possible de connecter d'autres périphériques à votre sytème.

Notice for the USA

FCC Part 15: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, this notice is not a guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try one or more of the following measures:

- ❑ Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- ❑ Increase the distance between the equipment and receiver.
- ❑ Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- ❑ Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician.
- ❑ Caution

To comply with the limits for the Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules, this device must be installed in computer equipment certified to comply with the Class B limits.

All cables used to connect the computer and peripherals must be shielded and grounded. Operation with non-certified computers or non-shielded cables may result in interference to radio or television reception.

Modifications

Any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the grantee of this device could void the user's authority to operate the device.

Notice for Canada

This apparatus complies with the Class "B" limits for radio interference as specified in the Canadian Department of Communications Radio Interference Regulations.

Cet appareil est conforme aux normes de CLASSE "B" d'interférence radio tel que spécifié par le Ministère Canadien des Communications dans les règlements d'interférence radio.

Compliance

This product conforms to the following Council Directive:
Directive 89/336/EEC, 92/31/EEC (EMC), 73/23/EEC (LVD)

- ❑

Declaration of Conformity

According to the FCC96 208 and ET95-19,

Manufacturer/Importer's Name:
Creative Labs, Inc.

Manufacturer/Importer'sAddress:
1901 McCarthy Boulevard
Milpitas, CA. 95035
United States
Tel: (408) 428-6600

declares under its sole responsibility that the product

Trade Name:**Creative Labs**

Model Numbers:**DAP-6401/DS-6401**

has been tested according to the FCC / CISPR22/85 requirement for Class B devices and found compliant with the following standards:

EMI/EMC:ANSI C63.4 1992, FCC Part 15 Subpart B
Complies with Canadian ICES-003 Class B.

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules.
Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause harmful interference, and
2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesirable operation.

Ce matériel est conforme à la section 15 des régles FCC.
Son Fonctionnement est soumis aux deux conditions suivantes:

1. Le matériel ne peut être source D'interférences et
2. Doit accepter toutes les interférences reques, Y compris celles pouvant provoquer un fonctionnement indésirable.

Supplementary Information:

DAP-6402 == Japan Model

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Introduction

Your NOMAD II MG player is a digital audio player for the Internet generation. The NOMAD II MG is designed for the active user, with features that emphasize quick setup and mobility. It is equipped with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) connection for faster transfer rates and hot-plugging connectivity, and SSFDC (Solid State Floppy Disk Card) compliant flash memory card support in all configurations. And,the NOMAD II MG features an FM tuner, MP3 playback, and voice recording capability.

A key feature of the NOMAD II MG is its programmability, designed to support multiple digital audio formats, such as Windows Media Audio (WMA) and other software extensions that will be available on **www. nomadworld.com**. In addition, NOMAD II MG is designed to enable you to download support for future digital technology, including Secure Digital Music Initiative (SDMI) compliant formats, enabling the NOMAD II MG to play in secure formats.

The sound in the light, shock-resistant Player does not skip or fade even during vigorous exercise or after repeated playback. The ID3 Tag information—song title and artist name—are also conveniently displayed on the LCD.

NOMAD II MG Software

NOMAD II MG includes the following software and music:

- ❑ NOMAD II Manager transfers music files such as MP3 (only from the PC to NOMAD II MG) or voice files between NOMAD II MG and the PC
- ❑ Creative Digital Audio Center encodes MP3 files from audio CDs and Wave files
  Mac Users: Casady & Greene's SoundJam is the ultimate MP3 music center for the Mac—playing MP3 files, playing CD music, converting audio files, downloading files from the Internet, automatically adding album names of your CDs along with the song titles, artist names, and more.
- ❑ MP3 music from a variety of MP3 providers such as Soundbuzz.com, EMusic.com, MP3.com, and Audio Explosion, Inc.
- ❑ And more—additional titles may be listed when you install the NOMAD II MG software.

Your NOMAD II MG may not include the content CD containing MP3 music, depending on the region in which you purchased it.

What's New in NOMAD II MG?

- ❑ High-tech magnesium case
- ❑ Blue EL-backlit LCD for better viewing
- ❑ Play voice files at speeds up to 1.5 times faster or 0.5 slower than the original recorded speed, an advanced voice processing capability or "Time Scaling"
- ❑ Record FM broadcasts
- ❑ 64 MB built-in memory and a flash memory card slot for adding up to 128 MB, or even 192 MB, of additional memory (flash memory card is not included)

System Requirements

The NOMAD II MG is supported in both Windows and Macintosh environments.

Windows

The minimum system requirements for NOMAD II MG are as follows:

- ❑ Microsoft® Windows® 98/2000
- ❑ 200MHz or higher Pentium (Pentium II recommended for MP3 encoding)
- ❑ SVGA graphics adapter (256 colors, 640x480)
- ❑ Internet connection for internet content downloading or CDDB support (any charges incurred are the responsibility of the end-user)
- ❑ 32 MB RAM (64 MB recommended)
- ❑ USB port
- ❑ 12 MB free hard disk space (or more for audio content storage)
- ❑ Installed mouse
- ❑ Sound Blaster® Live!™ for EAX™ enhanced MP3 encoding
- ❑ CD-ROM drive with digital audio extraction support

Macintosh

The minimum system requirements for NOMAD II MG are as follows:

- ❑ Mac® OS version 8.6 or higher
- ❑ iMac™, G3 or higher
- ❑ Internet connection for Internet content downloading or CDDB support (any charges incurred are the responsibility of the end-user)
- ❑ 32 MB RAM (64 MB recommended)
- ❑ USB port
- ❑ USB Manager, version 1.2 or higher
- ❑ 12 MB free hard disk space (more for audio file storage)

Handling Instructions

Avoid severe impact on the Player

- ❑ Do not drop the Player on a solid surface or drop a heavy object on the Player.

Prevent water from entering the Player

- ❑ If the Player comes into contact with water, dry it immediately with a dry cloth.
- ❑ If the Player becomes wet, remove the battery and flash memory card. Allow the Player and components to dry completely before re-assembling.
- ❑ If the Player is not functioning, call Technical Support.

Storing the Player set

- ❑ Avoid storing NOMAD II where there is high humidity, strong magnetic fields, or high heat.

1

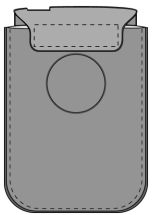
Your NOMAD II MG

Your NOMAD II MG Player includes the following items:

NOMAD II MG Player

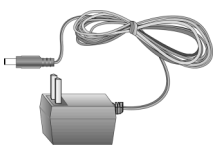
Docking station

High-quality stereo headphones
Note: Your headphones may be different from those shown above.

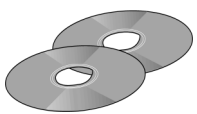


Protective pouch for player

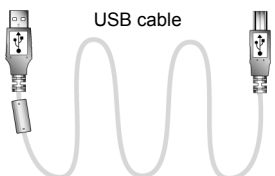
Your NOMAD II MG may not include the content CD containing MP3 music, depending on the region in which you purchased it.



AC adapter



Software installation CD and MP3 content CD



USB cable

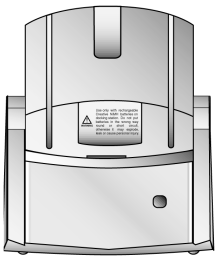
Two rechargeable AAA NiMH batteries

Note: Use Creative's rechargeable NiMH batteries for maximum playback time. Other NiMH batteries may result in shorter playback time.

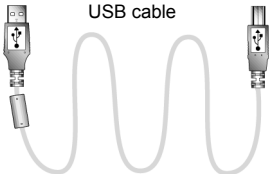
Optional Accessories

For the latest list of accessories, visit **www.NOMADWorld.com**

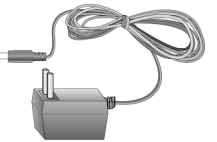
Docking Station Kit (additional)



Docking station



USB cable

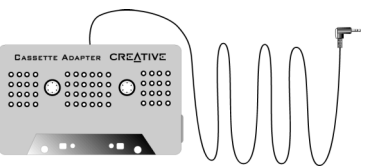


AC adapter

Other Accessories

USB cable allows you to connect the Player directly to your PC without the docking station.

Flash memory card

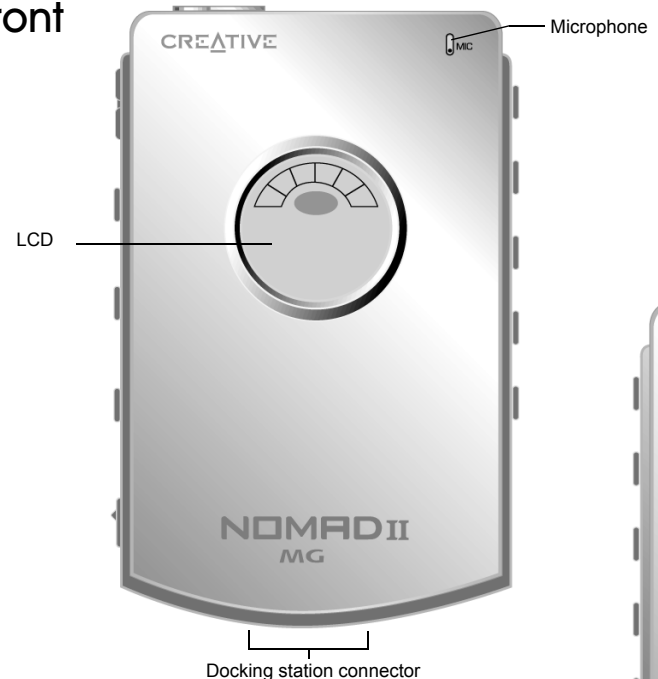


Car cassette adapter

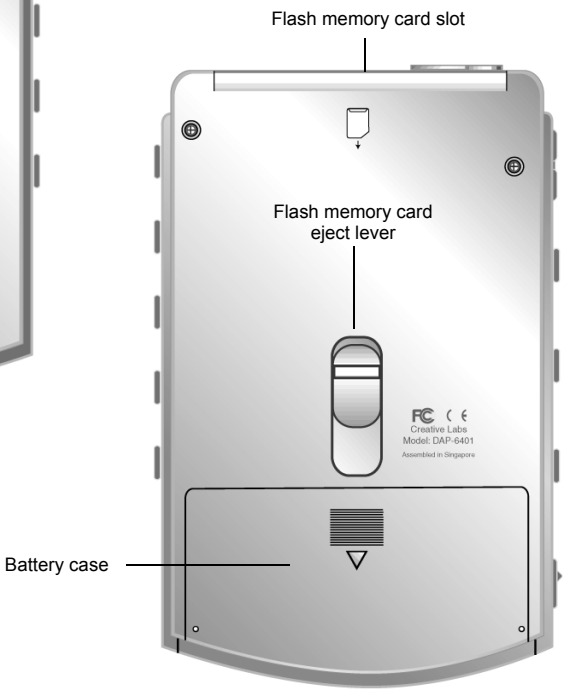
While your NOMAD II MG Player is compatible with SSFDC flash memory cards, use Creative flash memory cards to ensure compatibility with your NOMAD II MG Player.

NOMAD II MG Player Controls

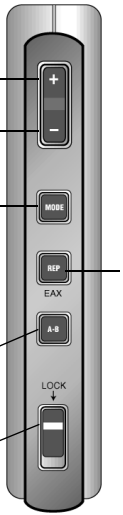
Front



Rear



Left



Volume +

Volume -

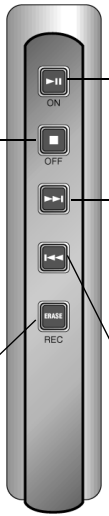
Mode Select

- Repeat 1
- Repeat all
- Repeat random
- None
- EAX

- Mark segment of track to be repeated
- Store FM presets

Lock switch: Locks the buttons on the Player

Right



- Power On
- Play
- Pause
- Select (menu)

- Power Off (press and hold)
- Stop
- Cancel (menu)

- Skip track forward
- Scan frequency forward (press and hold)
- Navigate right/down (menu)

- Skip track reverse
- Scan frequency reverse (press and hold)
- Navigate left/up (menu)

- Record
- Erase

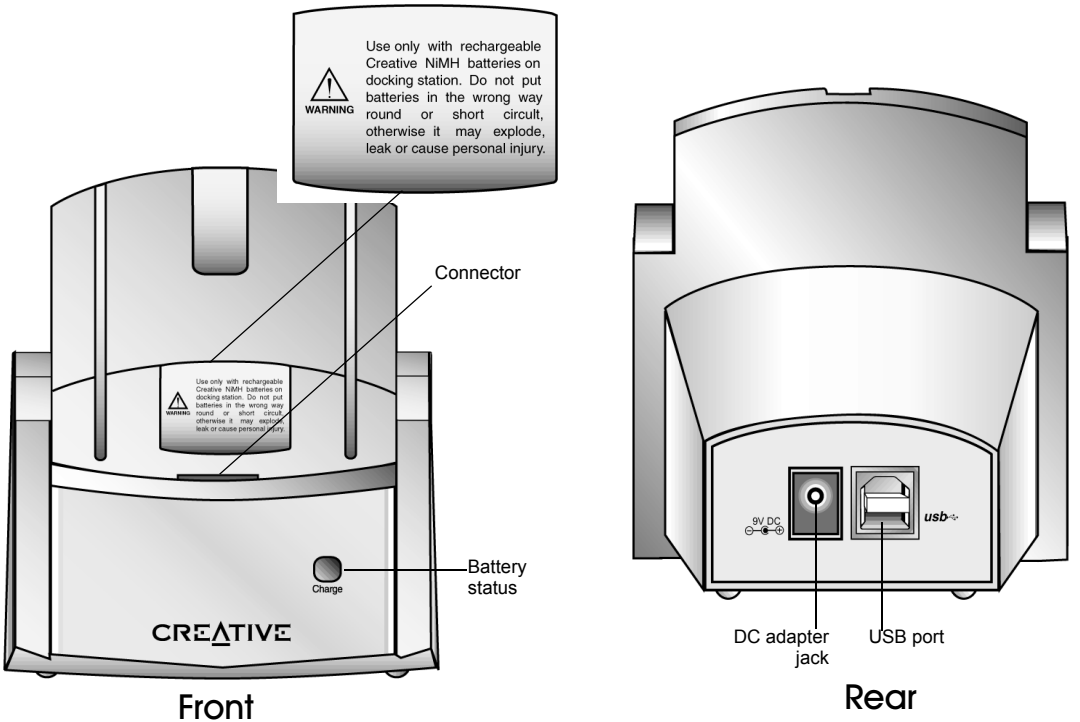
Top

Headphone jack
NOTE: The jack is wired for a future LCD wired remote control.

Docking station connector

Bottom

Docking Station



Battery Status

The status of the Player's batteries is indicated by the light on the front panel of the Docking Station:

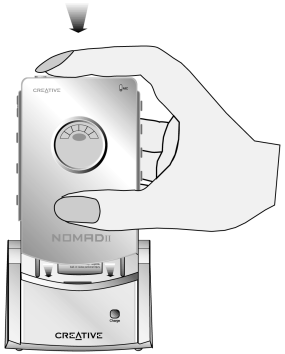
- Red (constant or blinking): Battery is being charged
  Fully recharging the battery can take up to three hours; for example, if half charged, a full charge requires approximately 90 minutes.
- Green: Battery is fully charged

Using the Docking Station

To place the Player in the Docking Station:

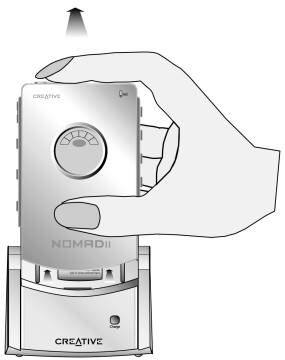
1. Press the Player down onto the connector of the Docking Station. You will feel a click when the Player sits snugly in the Docking Station.

   Do *not* force the Player down.



To remove the Player from the Docking Station:

1. Hold the Player as shown in the figure to the right. Pull the Player up and away from the connector.



2

Setting Up Your NOMAD II MG Player

Your NOMAD II MG Player's internal memory contains a "Welcome to NOMAD" MP3 song. Follow the steps below to get started with your Creative NOMAD II MG Player and listen to the music.

Step 1: Insert Batteries

To insert the batteries:

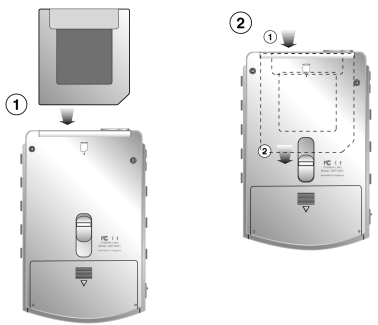
1. Use your thumb to slide down the battery compartment cover.
2. Insert the batteries as shown in the diagram on the bottom of the battery compartment.
3. Replace the battery compartment cover.

Step 2: Insert the Flash Memory Card

To insert the flash memory card:

1. Align the flash memory card with the Player's card slot and insert.
2. Ensure that the flash memory card is fully inserted and the eject lever is pushed downwards.

To remove the card, push the eject lever upwards and take out the card.



Step 3: Connect Headphones to the Player

Connect your headphones to the player as shown to the right.

You can go to "Step 7: Listen to MP3 Music" on page 10 to listen to the MP3 song on your NOMAD II MG player.

Step 4: Install Software

There are separate software installation procedures for Windows and the Macintosh OS.

Windows

To install the Creative NOMAD II MG software in Windows:

1. Insert the Creative NOMAD II installation CD into the CD-ROM drive. If the Setup program does not run automatically, continue with step 2.
   If the Setup program runs automatically, skip to step 4.
2. Click Start on the Windows Taskbar, and click on Run.
3. On the Run dialog, type **D:\CTRUN\CTRUN.EXE** (where **D:** is your CD-ROM drive) and click OK.
4. On the Creative NOMAD II setup screen, the applications to be installed are selected by default. Click the Right Arrow button to start the installation. The Creative Product Registration dialog appears.
5. Click the Next button to register your NOMAD II MG. Otherwise, click the Cancel button.
6. Follow the instructions on the screen to continue with the installation. A message appears after the first application is installed, informing you that the Creative PlayCenter 2 Setup is complete.
7. Click the OK button and continue to install the remaining applications.
8. When prompted to restart your computer, leave the CD in the CD-ROM drive, select the "Yes, I want to restart my computer now" option and then click the Finish button.

Install all the programs on the software CD before accessing it or the MP3 content CD.

Macintosh

To install the Creative NOMAD II MG software in the Macintosh OS:

1. Insert the SoundJam MP CD-ROM into your drive.
2. When the SoundJam window opens automatically, double-click the SoundJam MP Installer program.
3. If you want to install SoundJam on a hard disk other than the startup disk, click the Switch Disk button in the Installer window. Otherwise, click the Install button.
4. When the Installer completes the installation, you are prompted to restart your computer.
5. After your Mac restarts, you may double-click on the SoundJam MP icon to start the program.

Step 5: Connect NOMAD II MG Player to PC

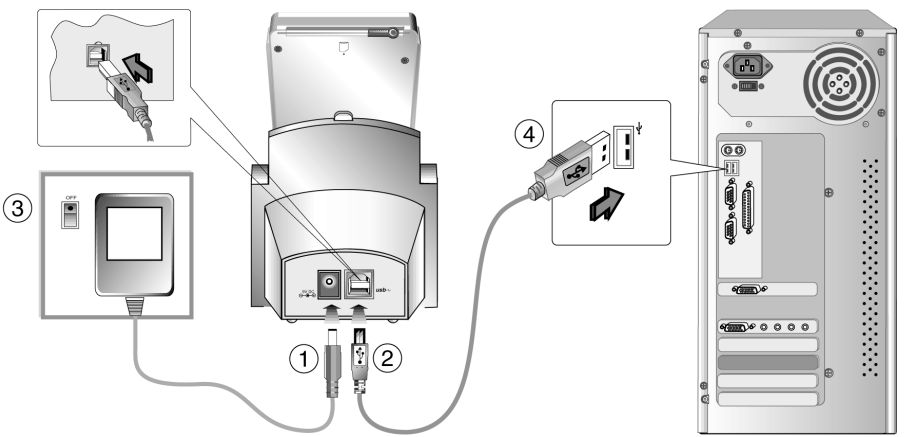
Before you begin, position your computer so that you can easily access a USB port. The USB port(s) may be located on the front, rear, or side panel of the computer case.

To connect the Player to your PC:

1. Plug the adapter into the connector on the rear plate of the Docking Station.
2. Plug the square end of the USB cable into the USB connector on the rear plate of the Docking Station.
3. Turn on the power to the adapter.
4. Plug the flat end of the USB cable into the USB connector of the PC.

You need not switch off your computer when you connect your NOMAD II MG player to the PC since USB is Plug-and-Play.

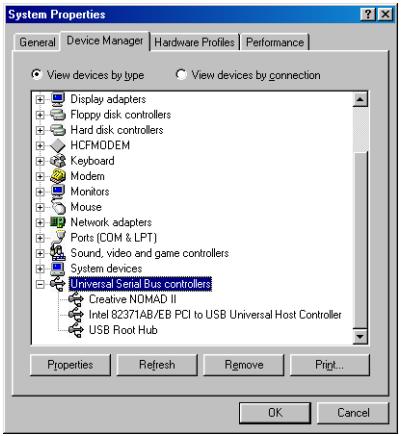
The batteries must be in the NOMAD II MG Player—it is not USB powered.



Step 6: Verify Installation of NOMAD II MG Driver

To check the driver installation in Windows:

1. Click the Start button on the Windows Taskbar, select Settings, and click on Control Panel.
2. In the Control Panel window, double-click the System icon.
3. On the System Properties dialog, click the Device Manager tab.
4. On the Device Manager tab page, double-click Universal Serial Bus controllers, and then check that Creative NOMAD II MG is present as shown in the figure to the right.



Step 7: Listen to MP3 Music

Press the PLAY button on the Player to display the NOMAD II MG Music mode, indicated by ♫ in a blue oval on the LCD. The first MP3 song title appears on the LCD. Press the PLAY button to enjoy clear digital music.

Step 8: Listen to FM Radio

To listen to FM radio, press the MODE button to change to the FM Radio Mode. Press and hold the FORWARD button to scan for an FM radio station.

Step 9: Make a Voice Recording

To make a voice recording:

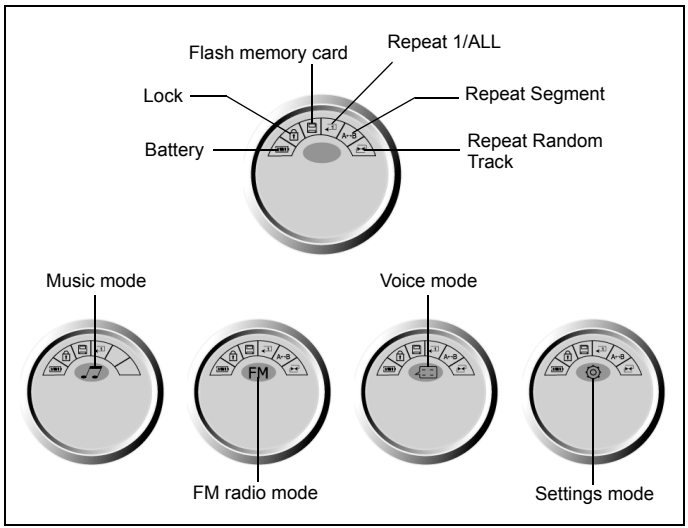
1. Press the MODE button until the icon displays in the middle of the LCD.
2. To begin recording, press and hold the ERASE/REC button until the assigned file name appears on the display. To stop the recording, press the STOP button.

For more details on how to use your Player, refer to Chapter 3, “Using Your NOMAD II MG Player”

3

Using Your NOMAD II MG Player

Overview



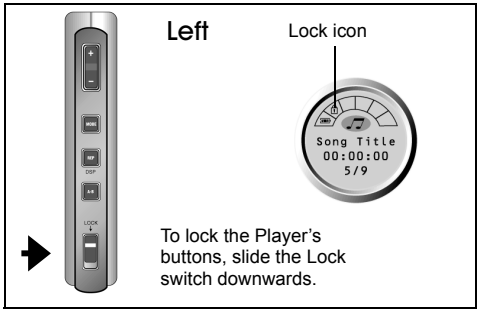
Power ON/OFF

1. Press the PLAY button to turn on the power. A message “Digital Audio in Style” appears. The Player then displays the mode that was being used when it was turned off.
2. To turn off the power, press and hold the STOP button for more than one second.

The message “Shutting down” appears on the LCD. If the Player is idle for 15 minutes, it turns off automatically. The Power Off time can be changed in Settings mode.

Lock

The Lock switch must be Off (Up position) before you can use the Player's controls.



Music Mode

To access Music mode, press the MODE button until the ♫ icon appears in the blue oval in the middle of the LCD. The last track played is displayed.

Playing a Music File

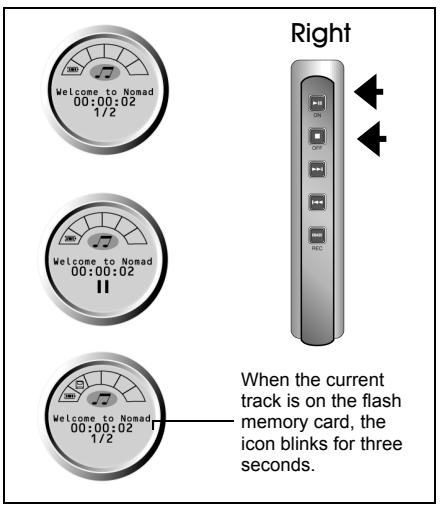
To play a music file:

1. Press the PLAY button to play the current track; press it again to pause.

   Information about the track scrolls across the LCD once.

   While paused, the Pause icon appears and blinks. More track information then scrolls across the LCD.

   During the playback, the song title, the artist name, the album name, time elapsed, and song order are displayed on the LCD.
2. Press the STOP button to stop playback. If held down for longer than one second, the Player is turned off.



NOMAD II MG is easily upgradable. Whenever new audio formats are available, they can be downloaded to your computer and programmed into the Player. For the latest information, visit **www.NOMADWorld.com** for any new releases.

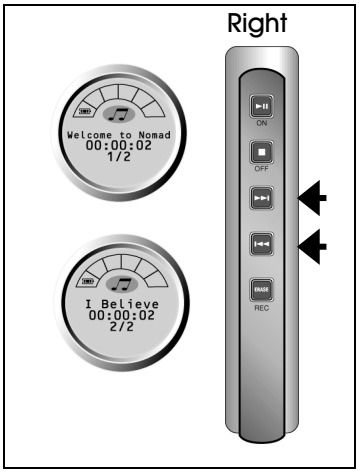
Searching Forward or Backward

To search in Stop mode:

1. Press the FORWARD button or REVERSE button to skip to the next or previous track.

To search in Playback mode:

1. Press and hold the FORWARD button or REVERSE button to advance within the same track.

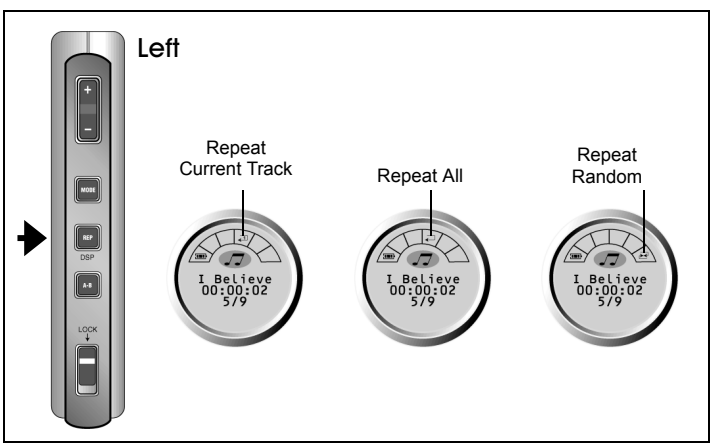


Repeating Playback

To repeat a track:

1. Press the REPEAT button to select Repeat Current Track, Repeat All, or Repeat Random, which appear in order on the display.

   To cancel the Repeat command, press the REPEAT button until the Repeat indicator no longer appears on the display.



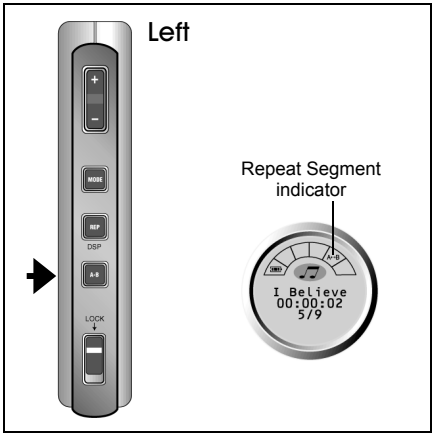
Repeating a Section

To repeat a selected section of a track:

1. Press the A-B button while a track is playing to mark the start of a section you want to repeat; press the button again at the end of the section.

   The section plays continuously until cancelled.

To cancel the operation, press the A-B button again.
The A-B indicator disappears from the LCD and the track continues playing from the point at which the section ended.



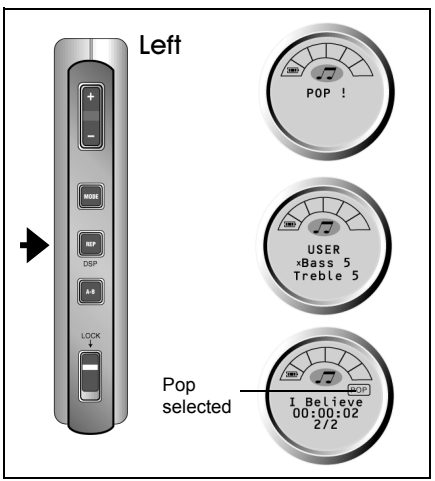
Using the EAX Equalizer

To display the EAX Equalizer:

1. Press and hold the REPEAT/EAX button to select an option among EAX Off, Pop, Rock, Classic, Jazz, or User that appear in turn.

Only the User option allows you to change the Bass and Treble level. Set the levels quickly as the display returns to the song in two seconds.

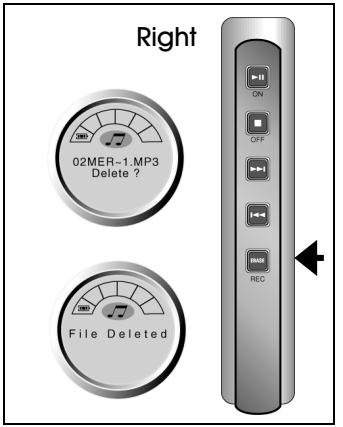
To set either level, press the FORWARD or REVERSE button to select Bass or Treble, and then press the VOL + or VOL - to increase or decrease the level.



Erasing an MP3 File

To erase an MP3 from Player memory:

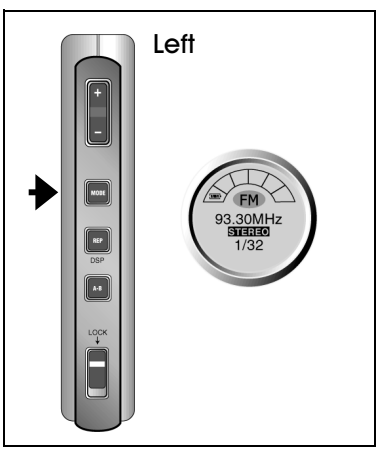
1. Press the MODE button to go to Music mode.
2. Select the desired track using the FORWARD or REVERSE button.
3. Press the ERASE button. A confirmation message appears on the LCD.
   Press the PLAY (Select) button to erase.
4. To cancel, press any button other than the PLAY button.
5. When the action is cancelled, the Player returns to Music mode.



FM Radio Mode

To access FM Radio:

1. To access FM Radio mode, press the MODE button until the FM icon FM appears in the blue oval. The first preset channel is selected.

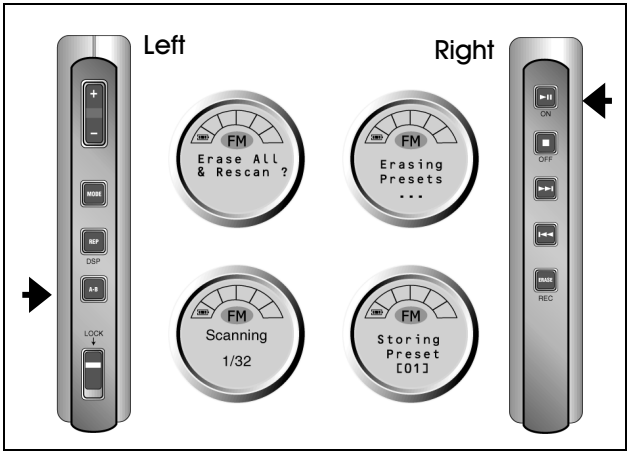


Presetting FM Radio Stations Automatically

You can change the radio sleep time in Settings mode.

To automatically preset FM radio stations:

1. Press and hold the A-B button. A message "Erase all and rescan?" appears on the LCD.
2. Press the PLAY button to rescan for FM radio stations.
   The player scans for stations and, when a station is found, prompts you to save to a Preset Channel.
3. Press PLAY to accept the Preset Channel or STOP to continue scanning without accepting.
4. Repeat Step 3 to preset other frequencies.
   "AutoScan completed" appears on the LCD when the process is finished.



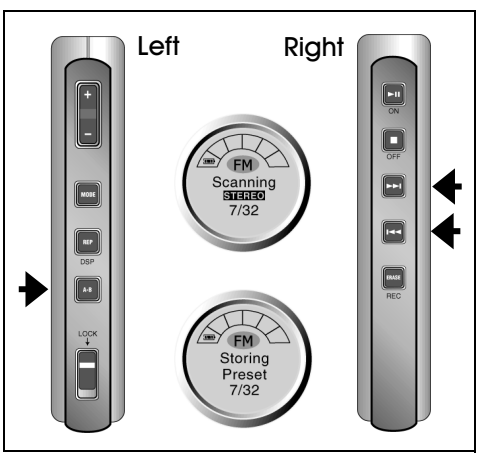
Presetting FM Radio Stations Manually

To manually preset FM radio stations:

1. Press the FORWARD or REVERSE button once to advance 0.1 MHz each time to scan for stations manually.
2. Once a station is located, press the A-B button to assign the radio frequency to the Preset Channel.

Initially, all Preset Channels are tuned to 87.5 kHz.

Use the PlayCenter 2's Settings option to edit the Preset Channels. For details, refer to Help.



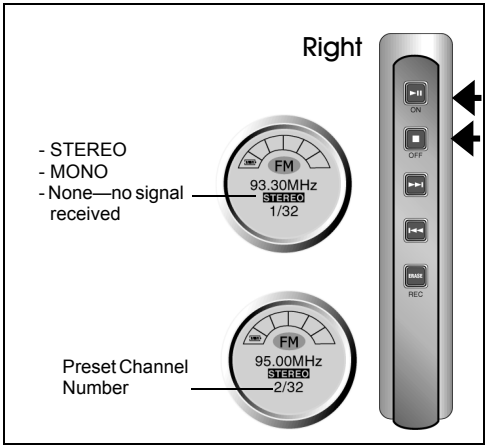
Searching for a Preset Channel

To select a preset channel:

1. Press the PLAY button or the STOP button to go to the next or previous Preset Channel.

The Preset Channels can be edited by using PlayCenter 2's Settings option. For details, refer to Play Center 2's online Help.

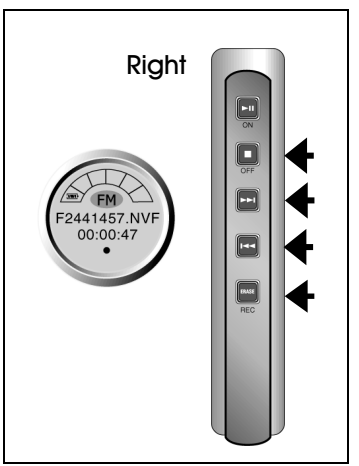
You can set up to 32 Preset Channels.



Recording a Radio Broadcast

To record a radio broadcast:

1. Press the FORWARD or REVERSE button to access the desired Preset Channel.
2. To start recording, press and hold the ERASE/RECORD button until the assigned file name appears on the display.
3. Press the STOP button to stop recording.
   The Player resumes playing the FM station.



Voice Menu

To access Voice mode, press the MODE button until the Mode icon appears in the blue oval. The first voice recording appears in the LCD.

Making a Voice Recording

To make a voice recording:

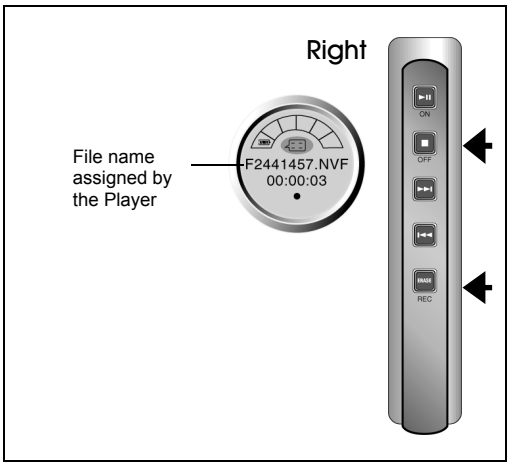
1. To start recording, press and hold the REC/ERASE button until the assigned file name appears on the display.

   By default, the recording is saved to the Player's internal memory; if the internal memory is full, the recording is saved to the flash memory card.

   The file name, time elapsed, and the recording icon appear on the LCD.
2. Press the STOP button to stop recording.

When the memory is full, a message appears and recording stops automatically.

The recording is in ADPCM format—the same format as a voice recording. The recorded quality is not as good as that of the FM radio broadcast.



Playing a Voice Recording

To play a voice recording:

1. Press the PLAY button to play back the current track. The name of the file scrolls across the LCD followed by the playing time remaining.

   Press the PLAY button again to pause.

   To resume the playback of the current track, press the PLAY button again.

Searching for a Voice Recording

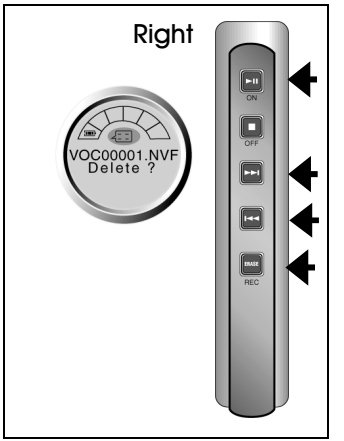
The process for locating a particular voice recording is the same for locating an MP3 track. See "Searching Forward or Backward" on page 13.

Erasing a Voice Recording

The track numbers are adjusted immediately when a track is added or removed.

To erase a voice recording:

1. Select a track using the FORWARD or REVERSE button.
2. After selecting a track, press the ERASE button. A confirmation message appears on the LCD.
3. Press the PLAY button to erase.
4. To cancel the operation and not erase the track, press either the STOP or MODE button.
5. When the action is cancelled, the Player returns to the last played track remaining.



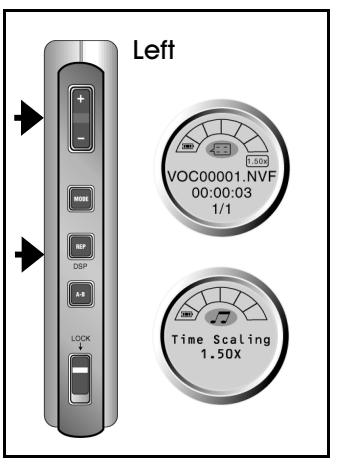
Using Time-Scaling Playback

The maximum playback speed is 1.5 times the recorded playback speed and the minimum speed is 0.5 times.

Creative EAX's time-scaling technology allows you to vary the speed of audio playback.

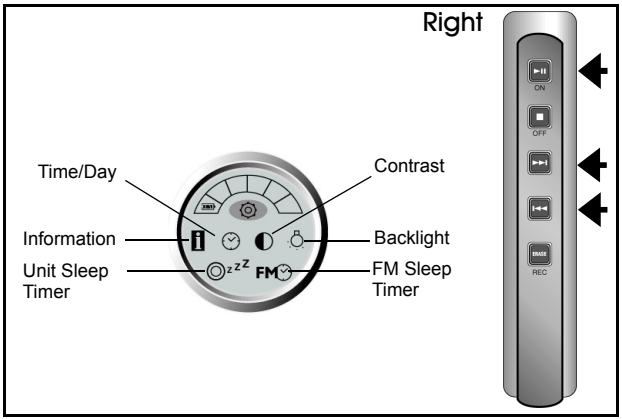
To activate time-scaling playback:

1. Press and hold the REP/EAX button to activate time-scaling playback. The "Time Scaling 1.00x" message appears on the LCD.
2. Press the VOL + or VOL - buttons on the Player to increase or decrease the time-scaling playback speed.



Settings Mode

To access Settings mode, press the MODE button until the Settings icon appears in the blue oval. Two rows of icons appear in the LCD and is highlighted.



Navigating and Accessing Settings

To access the Settings icons:

1. Press the FORWARD button to navigate to the next icon on the right or below. Press the REVERSE button to navigate to the previous icon on the left or up.
2. Press the PLAY button to access the settings of the icon currently selected.
3. Press the MODE button to exit Settings mode.

Viewing Information

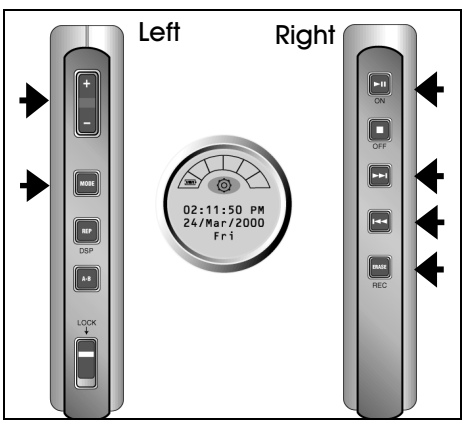
To view Settings Information:

1. Navigate to the Information icon and then press the PLAY button. The Information text, on available memory, scrolls from left to right on the LCD.

Setting Time/Day

To set the time and day for the Player:

1. Navigate to the Time/Day icon and then press the PLAY button. The Time/Day settings appear similar to that shown.
2. Press the ERASE/REC button to change the settings. The Hour setting blinks.
3. Press the VOL + or VOL - buttons on the Player to increase or decrease the Hour.
4. Press the FORWARD or REVERSE buttons to select the next or previous setting.
5. Press the PLAY button to save the selected Settings. The word “Saving” is shown on the LCD and the new settings appear.



The setting order is Hour, Minutes, Seconds, AM/PM, Day, Month, Year, and Day of the week.

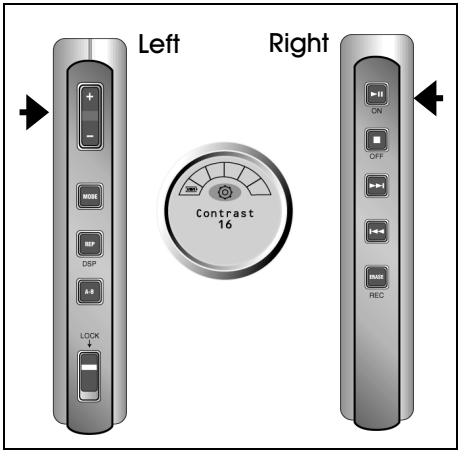
To increase or decrease any value, press and hold VOL + or VOL -.

Setting Contrast

The maximum Contrast level is 30 and the minimum level is 0.

To set the Contrast:

1. Navigate to the Contrast icon ◐ and then press the PLAY button.
   The Contrast setting appears with the level blinking.
2. Press the VOL + or VOL - buttons on the Player to increase or decrease the contrast level.
3. Press the PLAY button to save the selected settings. The word "Saving" is shown on the LCD and the new setting appears.



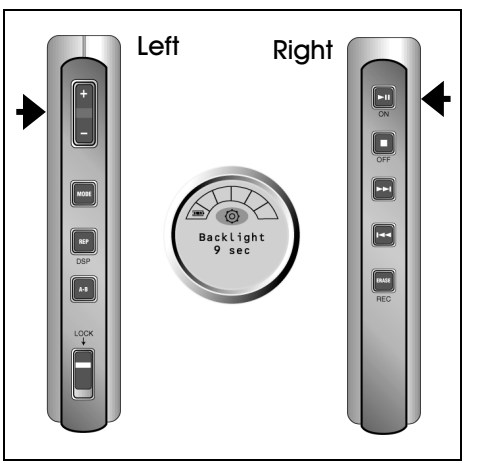
Setting Backlight on Interval

The maximum Backlight period is 10 seconds. The Player does not activate the Backlight if the duration is set to "Off".

The Player LCD is illuminated by backlighting.

To set the Backlight interval:

1. Navigate to the Backlight icon ☼ and then press the PLAY button. The Backlight setting appears as shown with the duration blinking.
2. Press the VOL + or VOL - buttons on the Player to increase or decrease the period the backlight is activated.
3. Press the PLAY button to save the selected settings. The word "Saving" is shown on the LCD and the new setting appears.



Setting Unit Sleep Time

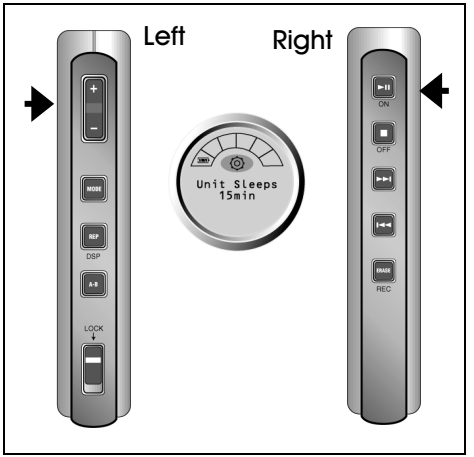
Unit Sleep time is the period of inactivity before the Player turns off automatically.

To set the Unit Sleep time:

1. Navigate to the Unit Sleeps icon and then press the PLAY button. The Unit Sleeps setting appears as shown, with the time blinking.
2. Press the VOL + or VOL - buttons on the Player to increase or decrease the shut-off time period.
3. Press the PLAY button to save the selected settings. The word "Saving" is shown on the LCD and the new setting appears.

Every press of the VOL + or VOL - increases or decreases the time by 15 minutes. The maximum time is 24 hours. The Player does not shut off if the duration is set to "Off".

Also, when in FM mode, the FM Sleep Timer setting overrides the Unit Sleep Timer setting.

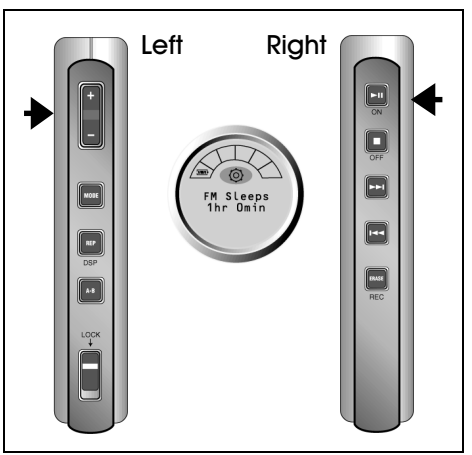


Setting FM Sleep Time

FM Sleep Time is the period of inactivity before the FM Radio automatically shuts off.

To set FM Sleep Time:

1. Navigate to the FM Sleep Time icon and then press the PLAY button. The FM Sleep Time setting appears as shown, with the time blinking.
2. Press the VOL + or VOL - buttons on the Player to increase or decrease the time after which the radio automatically shuts off.
3. Press the PLAY button to save the selected settings. The word "Saving" is shown on the LCD and the new settings appears.



4

Using Your NOMAD II MG Software in Windows

This chapter describes only the basic tasks available with PlayCenter 2. For more information, see the PlayCenter 2 Help file by clicking the question mark (?) on the PlayCenter 2; or click Start on the Taskbar, choose Programs, choose Creative, choose PlayCenter 2.0, and click on Creative PlayCenter 2.0 Help.

PlayCenter 2

Creative PlayCenter 2 allows you to manage the contents on your NOMAD II MG:

- ❑ Play MP3 files on the NOMAD II MG.
- ❑ View and manage the contents of the NOMAD II MG.
- ❑ Upload MP3 and other files to the NOMAD II MG.
- ❑ Download the contents (except MP3 files) to the computer.

To open PlayCenter 2:

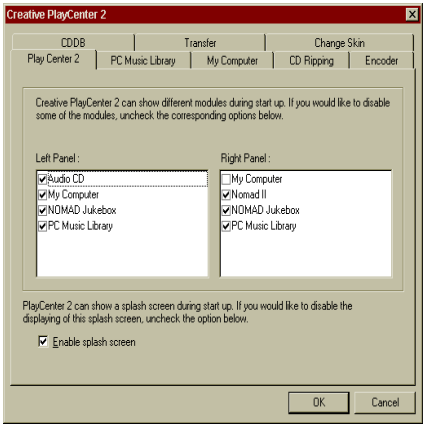
1. Connect NOMAD II MG to your computer. (See "Connecting the NOMAD Player to a Computer" on page 8.)
2. You can start PlayCenter 2 by either of the following methods:
   - Double-click on the PlayCenter 2 icon on the Windows Desktop.
   - Click Start on the Windows Taskbar, select Programs, select Creative, select Creative PlayCenter 2.0, and click on Creative PlayCenter 2.0.

To access help information:

1. On the PlayCenter 2, click the question mark (?) in the upper right corner.
2. On the Help screen, double-click the book icon to display additional topics.

To change the PlayCenter 2 settings:

1. Click on the Settings button to display the Setting dialog.
2. Click on one of the tabs to display the dialog on which changes can be made to the PlayCenter 2:
   - PlayCenter 2: Selects modules (Audio CD, My Computer, NOMAD II MG, PC Music Library) to be displayed on either panel.
   - PC Music Library: Assign folder for storing files on your PC's hard disk drive.
   - My Computer: Select the types of media files that you want PlayCenter 2 to display.
   - CD Ripping: Configure a CD-ROM drive for digital audio extraction.
   - Encoder: Select between MP3, WMA and WAV compression methods.
   - CDDB: Select whether or not to automatically retrieve CDDB information for audio CD.
   - Transfer: Select options for file transfer.



To play a track using PlayCenter 2:

1. Click the NOMAD II MG button.
2. Double-click All Tracks to display all of the tracks available.
3. Select a track from the list and press the play button at the bottom of the window.

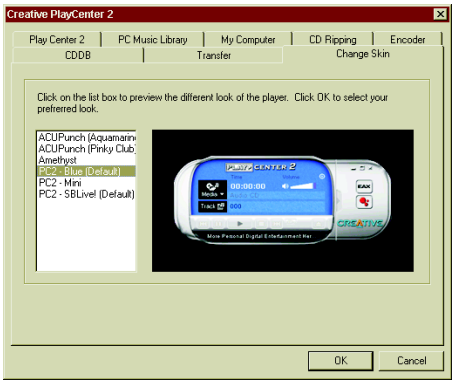
   You may listen to the track only through devices attached to the II MG, such as headphones or speakers.

Changing Skins

The PlayCenter 2 display is excellent for managing and transferring files between your NOMAD II MG and your PC. However, the alternate *skins* provide a more user-friendly access to playing and listening to tracks while connected to the computer.

To change the PlayCenter 2 skin:

1. On the PlayCenter 2 display, click the Settings button.
2. Click on the Change Skin tab.
3. On the Change Skin tab page, select the skin that appeals to you. The each skin is previewed as you select it in the list of available skins. When the skin you want is shown in the preview, click OK to return to PlayCenter 2.
4. To switch to the skin you have chosen, click the Skin icon on the PlayCenter 2 display.



Formatting the Flash Memory Card

Formatting a flash memory card deletes any existing files.

To format the flash memory card:

1. Select the icon for the flash memory card:
   - Open the View menu by clicking on the arrow at the top left of the PlayCenter.
   - Click on Flash Memory Card.
2. With the Flash Memory Card contents displayed, click the Format icon.

Format Icon

If the flash memory card is already formatted, you can add or delete files to the card.

If you change the flash memory card, click the Refresh button Refresh to display the file information for the new card.

To check the status of the flash memory card, click the View box at the top of the Player window and click Information.

Downloading MP3 Files

You must have MP3 files on your computer in order to download them to NOMAD II MG Player

You can download MP3 files located on your computer to the NOMAD II MG Player.

To download MP3 files:

1. Connect the Player to your computer. You may connect the Player to a USB port while the computer is running.
2. Start Creative PlayCenter 2 by clicking on the Start button on the Windows Taskbar, select Programs, select Creative, select Creative PlayCenter 2, and click on Creative PlayCenter 2.
3. On PlayCenter 2's My Computer window (on the right), click View and browse to the folder on your computer that contains MP3 files.
4. Select the files you want to download and then click the Transfer button.

When the download is complete, you can listen to a file on the Player.

Managing Files

You can use the PlayCenter 2 to convert and transfer files between the NOMAD II MG and your computer, add or delete files, connect to the NOMAD web site, and upgrade the NOMAD II MG's firmware.

Converting and Transferring Files

To convert CD audio tracks to MP3 on your hard disk drive:

1. Insert an audio CD into your CD-ROM drive.
2. Click the Audio CD button to the left of the track list window.
3. Select the drive in which the CD was placed. The list of tracks on the CD are displayed in the track list window.

4. Click TRANSFER/RIP on the right side of the PlayCenter 2 and select the destination for the converted tracks, for example, Music Library.
5. Select the track(s) to be converted and transferred to your NOMAD II MG (or to your PC's hard disk drive).
6. The PlayCenter 2 shows the status of the selected tracks in the Transfer Queue window.

To copy files from your hard disk to the NOMAD II MG:

1. On the PC Music Library window, select the tracks to be uploaded to the NOMAD II MG.
2. Click the arrow button pointing to the NOMAD II MG window.

   The Transfer Queue scale at the bottom of the PC Music Library window displays the status of the transfer.

To transfer files from the NOMAD II MG to your computer:

1. In the My Computer window, open the folder to which you want to copy the file from the Player.
2. Select the file in the Player that you want to copy to your PC's hard disk (or other destination).
3. Click the Upload button on the NOMAD II MG window to copy the file to your PC.

Deleting Files

To delete files from NOMAD II MG:

1. In the NOMAD II MG window, select the file to be deleted.
2. Click on the Delete icon to permanently remove the file from NOMAD II MG.

To delete files from your computer's hard disk:

1. In the My Computer window, select the file to be deleted.
2. Click on the Delete icon to permanently remove the file from your computer's hard disk. You are asked to confirm the deletion.

Creating Play Lists

After you create a play list on your computer, you can copy it to the NOMAD II MG.

To create a play list on the NOMAD II MG:

1. Click the NOMAD II MG button on PlayCenter 2.
2. Click the NOMAD II MG menu.
3. On the menu, select Play List.
4. Click New on the PlayCenter 2 Toolbar.
5. In the Play List box, enter a title for your play list.

6. In the My Computer window, display a music library containing the track(s) you want to add to the play list.
7. Select the track(s) you want to add to the play list.
8. Click the left arrow button to add the track(s) to the play list. If the track(s) are located on your computer, they are copied to the NOMAD II MG.

To create a play list on your computer:

1. Click the PC Music Library button on the PlayCenter 2 window.
2. Click Play Lists in the PC Music Library window.
3. Click New.
4. In the Play List 1 box, enter a new name for the play list.
5. Follow the instructions, starting with number 6, above.

Connecting to the NOMAD Web Site

To connect to the NOMAD web site:

1. Click on the Internet button on PlayCenter 2.
   Or, type the URL address **(www.nomadworld.com)** into your browser's Location box and press the ENTER key.

You must have a Internet service provider in order to make the Internet connection.

Upgrading NOMAD II MG's Firmware

To upgrade the NOMAD II MG:

1. Click on the Internet button on PlayCenter 2.
   Or, type the URL address **(www.nomadworld.com)** into your browser's Location box and press the ENTER key.
2. On the NOMADWorld home page, click on Software Downloads.
3. Under Downloads, look for an upgrade to NOMAD II MG (or PlayCenter 2). Follow the instructions on the web site to download the upgrade file.

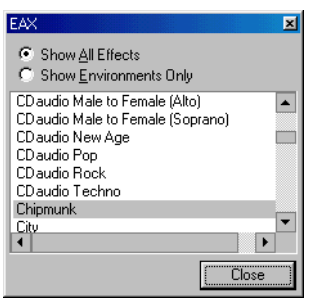
Environmental Audio

You may use Environmental Audio effects when recording a title from an input source, such as a CD-ROM. To include effects, display the Recorder Settings dialog and enable CD Recording Mode, Analog; and choose an effect. When you include the effect with the recording, it remains in the file; you must re-record the title to remove the effect.

In the Playlist, highlight the title to which you want to add Environmental Audio effects and right-click on it. If you add Environmental Audio effects, the title in the Playlist is preceded by "EA."

To enhance an audio file or audio CD track with EAX:

1. Select the track to be enhanced with an EAX environment.
2. Click the EAX button to display the EAX menu.
3. Select the Effects or Environment option.
4. Click on an Effect/Environment.
5. Click on the Rip To arrow to convert the file with the EAX enhancement.



5

Using SoundJam™ MP with Macintosh OS

SoundJam MP is the ultimate MP3 music center that can play MP3 files in any order. SoundJam can also:

- ❑ Display animated graphics.
- ❑ Change its look, “skin,” at your command.
- ❑ Play music CDs with visuals.
- ❑ Convert almost any kind of sound file, including those on your favorite CDs, into MP3 files that you can transfer to your NOMAD II MG.
- ❑ Download new MP3 files directly from the Internet with the built-in Web menu.
- ❑ Play streaming music from the Internet—live broadcasts as well as commercial recordings that come in the form of real-time transmissions, not downloadable files.
- ❑ Automatically fill in the names of your CDs, songs and artists by linking to CDDB, the Internet’s massive CD-ROM information database.
- ❑ Serve as a database of your own music. Sort by song name, artist name, album, and much more.

With SoundJam installed there are several methods for opening and playing a music file:

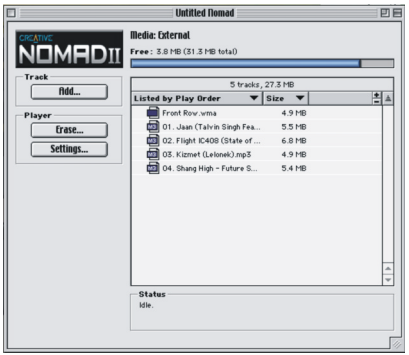
- ❑ Files opened or created in SoundJam can be opened by double-clicking the file.
- ❑ Drag the file’s icon over the SoundJam icon.
  Or, with SoundJam or a SoundJam window open, drag the file icon—or even the folder— to SoundJam or the SoundJam window.
- ❑ With SoundJam open, open the File menu, choose Open, and navigate to the folder in which the file or files are located. Double-click on the file you want to play.

SoundJam and NOMAD II MG

When SoundJam MP is installed on your Mac and the NOMAD II MG is correctly connected to your Mac, the main NOMAD screen appears and an entry for the NOMAD window is added to SoundJam's Window menu.

Voice files created with the NOMAD II MG have a file name extension of .NVF. SoundJam can manipulate and play .NVF files in the same way it works with any other file.

NOMAD II MG WINDOW



NOMAD II MG Logo: Click this logo to launch your Web browser and access the Creative Labs NOMAD Web site: **www.nomadworld.com**. It includes music downloads, information about the NOMAD hardware and accessories, and more.

Content Gauge: The content gauge monitors the memory in your NOMAD II MG.

Playlist: In the NOMAD II MG playlist, the first column lets you list tracks by album, artist, genre, name, size or time. The subsequent columns also allow you to list tracks by these catorgories. The display at the top of the playlist tells you how many items are in the playlist and how much space the files require.

MP3 file names in the NOMAD II MG playlist appear with a maximum of eight characters followed by the.MP3 file name extension. When the NOMAD II MG actually plays the files, the song's full title is displayed.

Add...: Clicking this button brings up the standard Macintosh get file dialog box, where you can select files that you want to add to the playlist. It's much easier, however, to simply drag files from another SoundJam playlist or the Macintosh Finder into the NOMAD II MG playlist. As soon as you drag the files, SoundJam transfers the files to the NOMAD II MG, and keeps you updated on the transfer's progress.

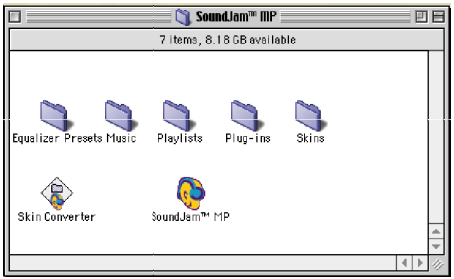
Settings...: Clicking this button brings up a window where you can select the bass, treble, balance and volume of your NOMAD II MG.

Opening SoundJam

Once SoundJam is properly installed on your hard disk drive, it is ready for you to run and enjoy. See “Installing the Software for Mac” on page 7 for installation instructions.

To open SoundJam:

1. Double-click on the SoundJam MP icon to start the program.



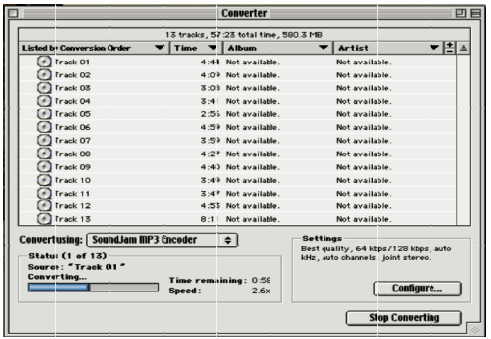
SoundJam Controls

The SoundJam control panel contains a volume slider, play and stop buttons, a counter, and other features. The illustration below identifies the controls most useful to you.

Converting CD Audio to MP3

There are several ways to convert music from a CD to MP3. The following instructions represent one of the preferred methods.

To convert CD audio tracks to MP3 files:



1. Insert a CD into your CD-ROM drive.
2. On the Window menu, choose Audio CD (or the name of the CD).
3. Click the name of a track that you want to convert to MP3.
4. Click Add to Converter.
5. When you have added all of the files you want to convert into the Converter, select "SoundJam MP3 Encoder" from the "Convert using" menu. Then, click on the "Start converting" button.

   This conversion uses the default configuration. You may want to change the configuration later, but for now the default settings will supply excellent quality MP3 files for your NOMAD II MG.

   The "Start converting" button changes to "Stop converting" and the progress of the file conversion is shown in a bar on the lower left of the window.
6. When the conversion is complete, the playlist window reopens displaying the newly converted MP3 files.
7. Connect the NOMAD II MG to your Mac; the NOMAD II MG window opens automatically.
8. Select the files in the SoundJam playlist that you want to load into the NOMAD II MG and drag them into the NOMAD II MG playlist.

   Or, click Add in the NOMAD II MG window and select the files you want to load into the Player.
9. Once the files are in the NOMAD II MG window, they are automatically transferred to the Player.

Other methods that you can use to convert CD tracks to MP3 files include:

- On the Windows menu, choose Converter. Insert a CD in your CD-ROM drive. When CD-ROM drive icon is displayed on the desktop, double-click on it. Select the icons representing the tracks you want to convert and drag them into the Converter window.
- On the Window menu, choose Converter. Open a playlist of the tracks you want to convert. Drag the track names from the playlist into the Converter.

A

Technical Specifications

NOMAD II MG Player (DAP-6400)

Size (W x H x D)/ Weight

- ❑ 58 x 90 x 18 mm / 77.1g (without battery)

Memory

Internal memory

- ❑ 64MB

Type of removable memory

- ❑ 1 x SmartMedia™ slot

Maximum memory

- ❑ 128MB (64MB Internal, 64MB SmartMedia*)
- ❑ 192MB (64MB Internal, 128MB SmartMedia*)

Interface

- ❑ USB (using docking station USB cable or via optional USB cable direct)

LCD Display

- ❑ 85 x 51 Electro-Luminescent backlit display

Standard Playback Usage

- ❑ 2 x AAA NiMH Alkaline
- ❑ 8-10 hours for MP3/voice playback

Signal to Noise Ratio

- ❑ >90 dB

Frequency Response

- ❑ 20 Hz - 20 KHz

* SmartMedia flash memory card not included.

Maximum Output

- ❑ 5-7 mW

Harmonic Distortion Output

- ❑ 0.05% at 1 khz with 32 ohm load

EAX™

- ❑ Five presets and one user setting: bass and treble control

Audio Codec support

- ❑ MPEG Audio Layer 3 (MP3) and future formats*

Firmware

- ❑ Flash based. User upgradable*

SDMI Compliance

- ❑ Hardware ready*

FM

- ❑ 87.5 to 108mhz

Voice Recording

- ❑ G721 ADPCM encoding at 32kbps. Up to four hours recording on internal memory and 64MB SmartMedia.

* Future audio codec support, firmware upgrades, and SDMI compliance will be available on www.nomadworld.com

Troubleshooting

B

My NOMAD II MG Player is not detected automatically when I connect it to my computer (either through the Docking Station or directly through the optional USB cable).

Cause

Your Player may not be connected correctly to the computer.

Solution

Check the connections between the Player and your computer (see“Step 5: Connect NOMAD II MG Player to PC” on page 9).

I can’t successfully make a voice recording with the NOMAD II MG Player
or
My MP3 files don’t play.

Cause

The flash memory card in your Player may have been incompletely or incorrectly formatted.

Solution

Reformat the flash memory card using NOMAD II Manager.

The Player isn't able to read the flash memory card formatted with Media Card reader/writer.

Cause

NOMAD II MG only supports Solid State Floppy Disc Card (SSFDC) format (FAT12).

Windows 98 detects the Media Card reader/writer as an external removable drive in Windows Explorer. You can only format the flash memory card into FAT16 format with the Media Card reader/writer and NOMAD II MG is unable to recognize the FAT16 format.

Solution

To format the flash memory card, you need to obtain a software utility from the Media Card reader/writer vendor that supports SSFDC format (FAT12).

My computer doesn't recognize the NOMAD II MG Player when it's connected.

Cause

The Player may not be correctly connected or the drivers may not be correctly installed on your computer.

Solution

Check the connections (see "Step 5: Connect NOMAD II MG Player to PC" on page 9) between the Player and your computer.

Check the driver installation by clicking Start on the Windows Taskbar, select Settings, and click on Control Panel. On the Control Panel, double-click the System icon. Click the Device Manager tab, scroll toward the bottom of the Device Manager window to locate Universal Serial Bus Controller, and click on the plus (+) sign next to the icon. Creative NOMAD II MG must be listed.

If it is not listed or there is an exclamation point on its icon, re-install the NOMAD II MG drivers (see "Step 4: Install Software" on page 8).

C

MP3 Primer

What is MP3?

MP3 is an acronym for Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) Layer 3—an audio data compression standard that can reduce the size of digital sound files by a 12:1 ratio with virtually no loss in quality. It is an efficient method of storing high-quality music or other audio content on your computer.

MP3 files can be very small—compared to the size of a commercial CD audio file—yet retain high sound quality. MP3 files usually have the file name extension .MP3, and can be downloaded from the Internet, or can be legally made for personal use from audio CDs that you purchase.

MP3 Conversion

Extracting from an Audio CD

It is illegal to encode MP3 files for trade or sale unless you have the expressed and explicit permission of the copyright holder(s).

Audio CD *extraction* is the first phase in the MP3 conversion process. *Extraction* is the reading of data from an audio CD and storing it temporarily on your hard drive. The audio data is extracted from the CD file by means of an application (commonly called a *ripper*) and copied to a file on your computer's hard disk drive.

The time required for extracting data from an audio CD depends on the speed of the CD-ROM drive. The speed ratings commonly seen on CD-ROM drives—such as 8X, 24X, etc.—refers to the speed at which it can read data. Your particular drive may be fast for data, but slow for audio.

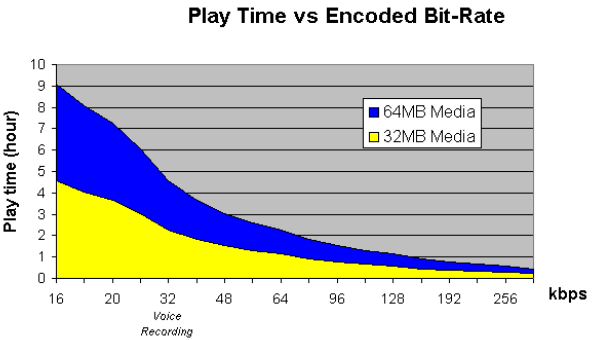
Another factor is the condition of the CD, such as defects or scratches on its surface. When playing the audio CD in a CD-ROM drive, the data lost due to error is negligible. But when data is read incorrectly and put through the MP3 encoding phase, the distortion is highly noticeable. To avoid distortion, the audio CD extraction software may read the data two or three times to make sure it is read correctly. This error-checking feature is an option in most audio CD data extraction software—be sure error-checking is enabled in your audio CD extraction software.

Encoding to MP3

It is illegal to encode MP3 files for trade or sale unless you have the expressed and explicit permission of the copyright holder(s).

The data extracted from an audio CD is usually in .WAV format. The encoder reads .WAV data and outputs MP3 data. These data are put into an MP3 file.

MP3 encoding is the compressing of data by transforming it into the frequency domain. MP3 encoding/compression is quality-loss compression and the amount of loss (of quality) is dependent upon the sampling rate of the output and the bit rate of the output. The higher the sampling and bit rates used, the better the quality of the sound. This leads to more data storage and memory requirements. The amount of memory required for the NOMAD II player is proportional to audio playback time.



For optimal quality, set your encoding bit rate at 128 kbps when you create MP3 files from audio CDs using Creative Digital Audio Center.

MP3 Files on the Internet

Through Internet web sites, you can download MP3 files either with or without charge, and get information about the latest techniques and software related with MP3.

Examples of web sites with MP3 content are:

- ❑ NOMAD World **http://www.nomadworld.com**
- ❑ Amp3 **http://www.Amp3.com**
- ❑ ArtistOne, Inc. **http://www.ArtistOne.com**
- ❑ Big Heavy World **http://www.BigHeavyWorld.com**
- ❑ Cductive **http://www.Cductive.com**
- ❑ EMusic **http://www.EMusic.com**
- ❑ Epitonic **http://www.Epitonic.com**
- ❑ Sound Click **http://www.SoundClick.com**
- ❑ The Digital Music Co. **http://www.TDMCINC.com**

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