How to set "Sound Devices" 744T to record stereo?

ChatGPT said:

To set the **Sound Devices 744T** to record in stereo, you'll need to configure the **track routing** so that two inputs are assigned to two adjacent tracks (typically **Track A and B**) and panned accordingly. Here's a step-by-step to help you do that:

Recording:

1. Power On and Enter the Menu:

- Turn on the 744T.
- Press the **Menu** button to enter the setup menu.

2. Set Inputs:

- Go to **Input** settings.
- Assign Input 1 to Track A.
- Assign Input 2 to Track B.

Optionally: You can use **Line**, **Mic**, or **AES** inputs, depending on your source. Set the input type accordingly under Input Type.

3. Pan Inputs for Stereo:

- Navigate to the Routing or Track Arm/Routing section.
- Pan:
 - Track A (Input 1) hard Left
 - Track B (Input 2) hard Right

This creates a stereo image where each input is placed in its respective channel.

4. Arm the Tracks:

• Make sure both **Track A and B** are armed (ready to record). You'll see the track indicators lit up.

5. Record Settings:

- Set file format (WAV/BWF) and sample rate as desired.
- Stereo WAVs will be interleaved (2 channels in one file) if that's what you want. Otherwise, it'll be two mono WAVs (one per track).

Go to: Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type and choose Stereo (interleaved) if needed.

6. Test & Record:

- Feed signal into both inputs and check your meters.
- Adjust gain with the input trim knobs.
- Hit **Record** when ready!

Quick Tip:

Use **headphones** and toggle the **Monitor Mode** to L/R (Stereo) to make sure your stereo image sounds right before rolling.

Want to record from different input sources or use digital inputs in stereo? Let me know your setup and I can tailor the instructions!

You said: Now, how do I get it to record mono?

ChatGPT said:

To record **mono** on the **Sound Devices 744T**, the setup is even simpler. You're just routing a **single input** to **one track**, typically Track A, and optionally centering it in the mix if you're monitoring.

Here's how to do it:

Steps to Record MONO on the 744T:

1. Power On and Enter Menu:

- Turn on the 744T.
- Press Menu to enter the settings.

2. Set Input to Track:

- Go to Input Routing.
- Assign your desired input (usually Input 1) to Track A only.

If you're using a mic plugged into Input 1, make sure it's set to **Mic level** (Menu \rightarrow Input Type \rightarrow Input 1 \rightarrow Mic).

3. Pan Track A to Center (Optional):

- If you're just recording one input to one track, panning is less critical unless you're monitoring.
- You can leave it **centered** for mono monitoring.

4. Arm Only Track A:

• Make sure only Track A is armed (enabled for recording). The A indicator should be lit.

5. Set File Format:

- Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type.
- Choose Mono (WAV) if you want one channel only.

If you're recording just one track, you'll still get a mono file unless you choose stereo interleaved (which will duplicate the channel into L & R).

6. Check Levels & Record:

• Plug in your mic/source.

- Adjust input gain using the **Input 1 trim**.
- Monitor with headphones, make sure you're getting good levels.
- Hit Record!

V Summary:

- Input $1 \rightarrow \text{Track A}$
- Only Track A armed
- File Type = Mono
- Done!

Need help with setting phantom power or recording timecode alongside mono audio? Happy to walk you through it.

You said:

I have two mics and I want to record in mono. 1st mic into input 1, and 2nd mic into input 2.

ChatGPT said:

Got it — you've got **two mics (Input 1 and 2)**, and you want to record them **together as a mono mix** (i.e., mixed down into a single mono track, like one file with both mic signals blended). Totally doable on the **744T** — you just need to route both inputs to one track (typically **Track A**) and **center or mix** them as needed.

Here's how to do it:

i Two Mics \rightarrow One Mono Track (Mixdown) on 744T

1. Connect Your Mics:

- Mic $1 \rightarrow$ Input 1
- Mic $2 \rightarrow$ Input 2

Make sure phantom power is enabled if needed:

- Menu \rightarrow Input Settings \rightarrow Phantom Power \rightarrow Input 1 & 2 \rightarrow ON (if condenser mics)
- 2. Set Input Types:
 - Menu → Input Settings
 - Set **Input 1** and **Input 2** to **Mic** level (or Line, if applicable)
- 3. Routing Both Inputs to One Track (Mono Mix):
 - Go to Routing Menu
 - Route Input $1 \rightarrow$ Track A
 - Route Input $2 \rightarrow$ Track A as well

This way, **both mic signals are mixed together** into a single mono track.

4. Set Pan (Optional but Recommended):

• Make sure **both inputs are centered** (i.e., not panned L/R) so the mono track gets an equal blend of both.

5. Arm Only Track A:

- Only **Track A** should be armed for recording (the others can be off).
 - Press the track buttons to enable/disable tracks.

6. Set File Type to Mono:

- Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type
 - Choose **Mono** (this ensures the file is a single-channel WAV)

7. Adjust Gains and Monitor:

• Use the trim knobs to balance mic levels.

- Plug in headphones and monitor to make sure the blend sounds good.
- You can use the mix knob to adjust input monitoring, too.

8. Record!

• Hit the red button and you're rolling with a mono mix of two mics on one track.

Summary:

- Inputs 1 & 2 \rightarrow Routed to Track A
- Track A only armed
- File type: Mono WAV
- Both inputs centered in mix

This is great for interviews or natural ambiances where stereo isn't needed but you want coverage from two mics. Want to also record ISOs of each mic while creating the mono mix? That's also possible — just say the word!

You said:

Can you explain wav poly vs wav mono

ChatGPT said:

Certainly! The difference between **WAV Mono** and **WAV Poly** comes down to how the audio is stored and how many channels are included in the file.

WAV Mono:

A **WAV Mono** file contains **one audio channel**. It's the most straightforward file type, where all your recorded audio is stored in a single track.

• One Track, One Channel: If you record in mono, it's a single channel of audio in the file.

- **File Size**: Typically smaller than a stereo or poly file because it only contains a single audio channel.
- **Use Case**: Good for recording a single source, like a mic, or if you need a **single-channel mix** for quick delivery or broadcast.

Example:

- **1 Track** \rightarrow 1 channel of audio.
- File size: Smaller, only one channel of audio is stored.

J WAV Poly (Polyphonic WAV):

A **WAV Poly** file (also called a **Poly WAV** or **Interleaved WAV**) contains multiple **audio channels**, and each channel can correspond to a different track or input.

- **Multiple Tracks, Multiple Channels**: A Poly WAV allows you to combine several mono tracks into a **single file**. Each track is stored as a separate channel within that one file.
- **Channels are Interleaved**: The channels are combined into the same file but kept separate meaning if you're recording on multiple tracks, those tracks are stored within a single file (but can be separated when you open it in a DAW or editing software).
- Use Case: Poly WAV is useful if you want to record **multiple inputs** and keep them together in one file. For example, recording two microphones (one on Track A, the other on Track B) and combining them into one file, but preserving each mic on its own channel.

Example:

- **2 Tracks** \rightarrow 2 channels of audio (Left and Right) within the same file.
- File Size: Larger, as multiple channels are stored in one file.

Key Differences:

- Mono WAV = Single track/channel in one file (simple, for single sources).
- **Poly WAV** = Multiple tracks/channels stored in one file (used when recording multiple sources and keeping them together).

When to Use Each:

- **WAV Mono**: When you're recording a single microphone, simple audio, or when you don't need to keep track separation (like a basic interview with a single mic).
- **WAV Poly**: When you have multiple microphones, and you want to keep each input's audio on separate channels in a single file (great for multi-mic setups or field recording where you want to preserve individual sources but don't want separate files for each mic).

Example Scenarios:

- Mono: You record a single lav mic for a podcast. It's just one audio source, so you'll record WAV Mono.
- **Poly**: You record two **overhead mics** and a **handheld mic** at a music performance. These will all go into **WAV Poly**, where each mic's audio will live on its own channel within one file, but you can still access each microphone's audio separately in your editing software.

Does that clear up the difference? Let me know if you want more details about when to use either format!

You said:

I want one mic in Input 1. I want that to be a mono track. I want another mic in Input 2. I want that to be a mono track as well. How do I do this on a 744T? Or a 788T?

ChatGPT said:

Got it! You want to record **two separate mono tracks** — one from each mic, where each mic gets its own dedicated track (Track A for Input 1, Track B for Input 2) and both tracks are **mono**.

Here's how you can do this on both the **Sound Devices 744T** and **788T**. They both have similar routing setups, so I'll walk you through the process for each.

Sound Devices 744T:

1. Power On and Access the Menu:

• Turn on the **744T** and press the **Menu** button to enter the setup.

2. Set Input Types:

- Go to Menu \rightarrow Input Settings.
- Input 1 should be set to Mic (or Line, depending on your mic type) and ensure Input 2 is also set to Mic or Line depending on the input type for the second mic.

3. Routing Inputs to Separate Tracks:

- Go to the **Routing Menu** (this is where you assign inputs to tracks).
- Route Input $1 \rightarrow$ Track A (this will be your first mono mic).
- Route Input $2 \rightarrow$ Track B (this will be your second mono mic).
 - This ensures that each mic gets its own track.

4. Pan Both Tracks to Center (Mono):

- Since you want each mic on a **mono track**, you don't need to pan them left or right. You'll want them **centered**.
- Track A (Input 1): Make sure the pan is set to Center.
- Track B (Input 2): Make sure the pan is set to Center as well.

5. Arm Both Tracks:

• Arm Track A (it should be enabled for recording).

• Arm Track B (it should also be enabled for recording).

6. Set File Type to Mono:

- Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type.
- Select **Mono** for each track.
 - This will record both tracks as individual mono WAVs.

7. Adjust Gain and Monitor:

- Adjust the input gain for **Input 1** and **Input 2** as needed.
- Use the Input Trim knobs to set the gain for each mic.
- Plug in your headphones and monitor the levels.

8. Record!

• Once both tracks are armed and you've set your levels, hit **Record** and you're all set!

Sound Devices 788T:

The steps on the **788T** are very similar, but with a few added features, since it's a more advanced recorder with more inputs and features.

1. Power On and Enter Menu:

• Turn on the **788T** and press the **Menu** button to get to the settings.

2. Set Input Types:

- Go to Menu \rightarrow Input Settings.
- Set Input 1 to Mic (or Line).
- Set Input 2 to Mic (or Line) as well.

3. Routing Inputs to Separate Tracks:

- Go to the **Routing Menu** (Track Routing).
- Route Input $1 \rightarrow$ Track 1 (Mono).
- Route Input $2 \rightarrow$ Track 2 (Mono).
 - This ensures each mic gets its own track for mono recording.

4. Pan Both Tracks to Center:

- Since you're recording in mono, you want both tracks to be **center-panned**.
- Track 1 (Input 1): Set Pan to Center.
- Track 2 (Input 2): Set Pan to Center as well.

5. Arm Both Tracks:

- Arm Track 1 (Track 1 should be enabled).
- Arm Track 2 (Track 2 should also be enabled).

6. Set File Type to Mono:

- Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type.
- Choose **Mono WAV** for both tracks, ensuring that you're recording each mic as a separate mono file.

7. Adjust Gain and Monitor:

- Adjust the gain for **Input 1** and **Input 2** using the **Input Trim** knobs.
- Monitor your audio with headphones and adjust levels as needed.

8. Record!

• With both tracks armed, hit **Record** and you'll have two separate mono tracks, one from each mic.

Summary for Both Devices:

- 1. Set Inputs:
 - Input $1 \rightarrow Mic/Line$
 - Input $2 \rightarrow Mic/Line$
- 2. Routing:
 - Input 1 \rightarrow Track A (744T) / Track 1 (788T)
 - Input 2 \rightarrow Track B (744T) / Track 2 (788T)
- 3. Pan:
 - Pan **both tracks to center** (mono).
- 4. Arm Tracks:
 - Arm Track A (744T) / Track 1 (788T).
 - Arm Track B (744T) / Track 2 (788T).
- 5. Set File Type:
 - Choose Mono WAV for each track.
- 6. Adjust Gain and Record.

Both the **744T** and **788T** are designed to allow for easy routing and tracking, so you should be all set to capture two independent mono tracks! Let me know if you need further clarification on any step!

You said:

I thought that's what I did, but there are two .wav files for Input 1 and two files for Input 2. I was expecting only two .wav files for each mic.

ChatGPT said:

Ah, I see what's going on! It sounds like you're getting **two separate files per input** — likely one for each channel of a stereo recording, even though you're expecting **mono files** for each mic.

Possible Reason:

When you record on the **744T** or **788T**, if you don't explicitly set the file format to **mono** for each track (or stereo channels are mixed into a stereo file), you'll end up with **two files for each input** because the recorder might be defaulting to **stereo (interleaved) WAV** format instead of **mono**.

Let's troubleshoot and get things working as you expect:

How to Get Two Mono Files (One per Mic)

1. Confirm File Type Settings:

On the 744T and 788T, you need to ensure that **each track is set to mono** instead of stereo. Here's what could be happening:

- When you record with **stereo settings**, the recorder may automatically split your **single-track mono** input into **two stereo channels** (L and R) and store them as separate files.
- You need to force it to record as **mono WAVs** for each mic.

Steps to Fix This:

On the 744T:

- 1. Power on the 744T and press Menu.
- 2. Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type.
- 3. Select **Mono** (this ensures each track will be recorded as **Mono**). If it's set to **Stereo** or **Stereo** (interleaved), that would cause two files for each mic input.

- 4. Check Track Routing:
 - Input 1 \rightarrow Track A
 - Input 2 \rightarrow Track B
 - Both tracks should be **center-panned** for mono.
- 5. **Record:** Once these settings are confirmed, only two files should be created one for Track A (Input 1) and one for Track B (Input 2), each containing a **mono file**.

On the 788T:

- 1. **Power on the 788T** and press **Menu**.
- 2. Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type.
- 3. Select Mono WAV.
 - If **Stereo** or **Poly** is selected, you may end up with multiple stereo tracks or files for each input.
- 4. Check Track Routing:
 - Input $1 \rightarrow$ Track 1
 - $\circ \quad \text{Input 2} \rightarrow \text{Track 2}$
 - Both tracks should be **center-panned**.
- 5. **Record:** With this configuration, only two files will be created, each corresponding to one mic (one for Track 1 and one for Track 2).

Why This Happens:

If the recorder is set to **stereo (interleaved)** or **polyphonic WAV** (where each channel is interleaved), you'll get **two channels per track**, resulting in more than one file. But by setting **Mono WAV**, it ensures each mic gets its own mono track and its own mono WAV file.

A Quick Test:

• If you have the **stereo setting** active, **check the file** after recording — you'll likely see a **stereo file** where each mic is split across left and right channels. If it's set to **mono**, the file should only contain the signal from the mic (as a single-channel track).

Summary:

- Make sure you've set File Type \rightarrow Mono on your recorder.
- Each mic (Input 1 and Input 2) should be routed to separate tracks (Track A and Track B).
- Check that both tracks are **center-panned** for mono recording.
- With this setup, you should get **two mono files** one for each mic, no duplicates.

Let me know if that fixes the issue!

You said:

Does track 1 need to be pointed to L and A? And track 2 to R and B?

ChatGPT said:

Great question! It sounds like you're still seeing some confusion about how to route tracks in mono versus stereo. Let's clear that up.

No, you don't need to point Track 1 to L and A, and Track 2 to R and B. Here's why:

When you're **recording mono**, **each mic should be routed to its own track** (one mic per track), and you want each of those tracks to be **center-panned** (so that you get a single, centered mono file per mic).

Here's the correct setup for mono recording:

On the 744T or 788T:

- 1. Route Inputs to Tracks:
 - Input $1 \rightarrow$ Track A (this will be your first mono mic)

- Input $2 \rightarrow$ Track B (this will be your second mono mic)
- 2. Pan Each Track to Center (Mono):
 - Track A (Input 1): Set Pan to Center.
 - Track B (Input 2): Set Pan to Center.
- 3. File Type to Mono:
 - Make sure the File Type is set to Mono in the File Storage Menu. This is crucial so that the recorder doesn't create stereo or polyphonic files (which would cause extra files to be created).

Why Don't You Need to Use "L" and "R" Routing?

- The 744T/788T can record **mono** files even if it has stereo-capable tracks.
- Mono routing means that each Input 1 and Input 2 will be recorded independently on Tracks A and B (respectively).
- Panning is key here: you don't need to assign **Track A to L** and **Track B to R** unless you're recording **stereo** or want separate left/right channels for some reason. For **mono**, you want both tracks to be **center-panned**, which ensures you're getting **one mono file per mic**.

Recap:

- Input 1 \rightarrow Track A, and Input 2 \rightarrow Track B.
- Both Track A and Track B are panned to center.
- File Type: Mono WAV (not Stereo, not Polyphonic).
- This will create **two separate mono files** one for each mic (each file corresponding to its own track).

If you were recording in **stereo** and wanted the inputs to be split across left and right channels, then you'd assign **Input 1 to Track A (L)** and **Input 2 to Track B (R)**. But for **mono tracks**, this isn't necessary.

Does that help clear up the routing? You should only see **two mono WAV files** if everything is set to mono and the panning is centered. Let me know if anything else is still unclear!

You said:

How do I unassign L from Input 1 / Track A?

ChatGPT said:

Ah, I see! You want to **unassign the left channel (L)** from **Input 1** and **Track A**, so you're not recording it as part of a stereo mix. Here's how to do it on both the **744T** and **788T**.

Steps to Unassign L (Left) from Input 1 / Track A:

On the 744T:

- 1. **Power On the 744T** and press the **Menu** button.
- 2. Go to the **Routing Menu**:
 - Menu \rightarrow Track Routing (or Track Assign depending on the software version).
- 3. You should see Input 1 listed and assigned to Track A.

4. Unassign the Left Channel (L):

- If Input 1 is assigned to Track A, it should be using the Mono input (not stereo L/R).
- Ensure that **Track A** is **center-panned**. If it is **panned left**, it will assign only the **Left** channel, and you'll only get the left audio.
- **To ensure a full mono recording**, make sure **Track A** is **center-panned** and not split into left and right.

On the 788T:

1. Power On the 788T and press Menu.

- 2. Go to Menu \rightarrow Track Routing.
- 3. You should see Input 1 routed to Track 1 (or Track A, depending on the model).
- 4. Unassign L from Track A:
 - If **Input 1** is panned to **L**, that's where you might be running into the issue of it only recording a left channel.
 - Unassign the Left (L) by either:
 - **Panning Track 1 to center** (or Track A to center), ensuring it is mono.
 - Make sure you're not routing the left channel alone.

To Correct the Issue (Full Mono Setup):

- 1. Track Routing: Assign Input 1 to Track A, and Input 2 to Track B.
- 2. Panning: Make sure both Track A and Track B are center-panned.
 - This ensures that each track will receive the full mono signal from each mic and will not split it between left and right channels.
- 3. **File Type**: Ensure you've set the **File Type** to **Mono WAV** so the recorder will create mono files.

Why This Happens:

When a mic input is **assigned to Track A**, and **Track A** is panned to the left, it will only record the left channel of the mic. **Center-panning** it ensures that the mono mic signal is sent equally to both left and right channels, which is how you get a **true mono recording** that sounds balanced.

Let me know if this clears things up! If you're still seeing two files for each mic, or if you want to dive deeper into routing options, I can walk you through more details.

You said:

I want one track for one mic in input 1. I want the other track for the other mic in input 2. I do not want more than one track for each mic. Do I use wav mono or wav poly?

ChatGPT said:

Thanks for the clarification! Now I understand exactly what you're aiming for — **one track per mic**, with **each mic being recorded as its own mono track**, and **not creating extra tracks or files**.

The file type choice between **WAV Mono** and **WAV Poly** is crucial in ensuring that you only get one track per mic. Let's break this down:

What You Need:

- One track for Input 1 (Mic 1).
- One track for Input 2 (Mic 2).
- Both mics should be recorded as mono tracks, not stereo or polyphonic files.

File Type: WAV Mono

To achieve this, you'll want to choose **WAV Mono**. Here's why:

- WAV Mono will record each track as a single, independent mono file.
 - **Track 1** will contain the signal from **Input 1** (Mic 1).
 - **Track 2** will contain the signal from **Input 2** (Mic 2).
- With **WAV Mono**, you're telling the recorder to treat each track as a **mono channel**, so each mic will have its own file.
- No extra tracks or stereo splits. You won't get duplicate files; you'll only get one mono WAV file for each mic.

What Happens if You Choose WAV Poly?

- WAV Poly (also called Polyphonic WAV or Interleaved WAV) is used when you want to record multiple tracks in a single file.
 - This is typically used when you're recording **multiple mics or sources** and you want them all stored in one file, but as **individual channels** inside that file (like a multitrack recording).
 - You don't need this in your case because you only want one track per mic and WAV Poly might create a combined file with multiple channels that could confuse things and cause extra files.

So the choice is clear:

- Use WAV Mono to ensure each mic is recorded as a single mono file on separate tracks.
- **WAV Poly** would cause issues with extra channels being combined in a single file, which isn't what you want in this case.

Step-by-Step Setup (on the 744T or 788T):

- 1. Set Input Types:
 - Input $1 \rightarrow Mic$ (or Line, depending on your mic).
 - Input $2 \rightarrow Mic$ (or Line, depending on your mic).
- 2. Route Inputs to Tracks:
 - Input $1 \rightarrow$ Track A.
 - Input $2 \rightarrow$ Track B.
- 3. Pan Tracks to Center (so they're mono):
 - Track A: Center-panned.
 - Track B: Center-panned.

- 4. Choose File Type:
 - Go to Menu \rightarrow File Storage \rightarrow File Type.
 - Select Mono WAV.

5. Arm the Tracks:

- Arm Track A (for Mic 1 on Input 1).
- Arm Track B (for Mic 2 on Input 2).

6. Check and Adjust Levels:

- Adjust the **gain** for each input.
- Make sure the levels are where you want them.

7. Record:

• Hit **Record** to start capturing your audio.

Outcome:

- You'll have two mono WAV files:
 - One for Input 1 (Mic 1) on Track A.
 - One for Input 2 (Mic 2) on Track B.

Summary:

- File Type: WAV Mono.
- Each mic is routed to its own track, and both tracks are panned **center** (mono).
- No extra tracks or files you'll get exactly one mono file per mic.