PatchMaster Sound Trigger

User Manual

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PatchMaster Sound Trigger is an extremely sensitive device to detect sounds, designed to help photographers take stunning photos of sudden events like a popping balloon or a light bulb exploding. The device has been designed based on microcontroller technology and has a Sensitivity Adjustment Dial and a Delay Adjustment Dial between 0 to 1000 milliseconds. Sensitivity Adjustment Dial allows suppressing environmental noises causing false triggering and Delay Adjustment Dial allows capturing the desired phase of the sudden event. Each unit is tested in various test environments after production to verify it is ready to be shipped.

Please note that PatchMaster Sound Trigger triggers the flash units or professional lighting devices, not the camera!

Features:

- Extremely sensitive sound sensor to detect low sounds.
- Response (lag) time in microseconds level (Negligible).
- Optical isolated output to fully protect the flash units from any potential harms.
- Power and Trigger indicator LEDs.
- Sensitivity and Delay adjustment dials.
- Powered by 9V alkaline battery.
- Microcontroller-based design.

Dimensions:

- Length   : 3.93 in (100 mm)
- Width   : 2.36 in (60 mm)
- Height   : 0.78 in (20 mm)

Required Equipments:

1. A flash unit or a monolight or another lighting device with a sync port.
2. If using a flash unit a hotshoe adaptor with a sync port. (Sold separately)
3. A 3.5mm to sync cable. (Sold Separately)
4. A tripod or a solid support for fixing the camera and lighting unit.
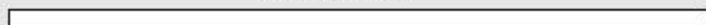
Optimum Environment:

1. An absolute dark room is needed to capture clear images. Any light leakage in the dark room will cause motion blurring in captured images.
2. A clear background will highlight the image. (Optional)
3. One light source is fairly enough but more than one light source will help the image to be lightened in both directions and will avoid disturbing shadows. (Optional)
4. A silent environment is preferred to avoid false triggering. Environmental noises can be isolated with the Sensitivity Adjustment Dial.

Instructions:

1. Make sure that the room is as dark as possible while capturing the image.
2. Set up your camera, flash and the object a balloon for example.
3. Make some test shots with lighting devices in dark conditions while keeping the time value between 20 and 30 seconds, adjust the aperture value to get the perfect image.
4. Connect PatchMaster Sound Trigger to your main lighting unit with the sync cable and place the Sound Trigger near to the balloon.
5. Once you complete the camera settings, obtain the dark environment. Push the shutter button of your camera and get ready for popping the balloon.
6. In a dark room no image will be created even your camera is capturing for 20 to 30 seconds unless a flash lightened the image.
7. Once you push the shutter button of your camera you will have 20 to 30 seconds (depends on your settings) to take action.
8. Pop the balloon with a needle. The popping sound of the balloon will be detected by the Sound Trigger and Sound Trigger will activate the lighting units at that moment.
9. Wait until camera finishes the capturing and check your photo.
10. If you captured an early phase of ripping balloon, you can adjust the Sound Trigger's delay to capture a later phase.
11. If you captured a post-ripped balloon image, adjust the delay to a smaller value or put the Sound Trigger to a nearer position to the image.
12. Some practice will make perfect!

Back Ground

Image

Sound Trigger

Flash

Sync Cable

Camera

LEDs and Buttons

1. Power LED
Lights when the device is working properly.

2. Trigger LED
Blinks when a sound is detected.

3. Sensitivity Dial
Turn counter-clock wise for more sensitivity.

4. Delay Dial
Turn clock wise for more delay.

5. On/Off Switch
Low-profile switch to turn the device on or off.

6. Cable Port
3.5mm cable port to connect device to lighting unit.

Troubleshooting:

- If the Power LED does not light:
  1. The switch may be OFF, make sure the switch is ON.
  2. The battery may be empty, replace the battery.

- If the Trigger LED is blinking continuously:
  1. The environment may be noisy, turn the sensitivity dial clock wise until blinking stops.

- If the sound triggers the LED but doesn't trigger the lighting device:
  1. Sync cable may be disconnected or improper with your lighting device, make sure the sync cable is compatible with your lighting device and connected properly.
  2. Check your lighting device settings for being triggered from sync cable source.