

Sony VX2100 Setup & Troubleshooting Instructions

WARNING- Do not reuse old tapes. DV recording heads are very sensitive to contamination. If you encounter a dirty heads error, do not continue recording on the same tape. The tape has become contaminated and will continue to foul the recording heads. If you encounter the dirty heads message, you can purchase a DV head cleaning tape. Return the cleaning tape and your receipt for the tape with the camera and we will gladly reimburse you.

Basic Setup – Shooting (in Easy Mode)

1. Remove camera from box. Insert the battery.
2. Locate the power switch. It is on the back right of the camera, it's part of the red 'Record' button.
3. Switch the selector to 'Camera'.
4. Open tape door and insert a new MiniDV tape. Remove lens cap.
5. Open the flip LCD screen. Screen is housed on the left side of the camera body, and there is a catch that must be pressed.
6. Press the red 'Record' button to start recording.

Basic Setup – Playback and Capture

1. To playback, turn the power switch to VCR mode.
2. The VCR controls will light up underneath the top handle.
3. To capture, connect firewire cable to computer and to the camera. See warning below. Firewire port is located on the front right of the camera near the lens. Pull off the rubber protective covering to expose the firewire port as well as the S-Video and RCA jacks.
4. Make sure camera is powered on and in VCR mode.
5. (Important) *Then* open capturing software on your computer.
6. Make sure that your capture settings match the settings that the tape was shot in.
7. Start capture.

Warning: When capturing footage over a FireWire cable, use only the FireWire cable provided with your rental, and insert the connector carefully without forcing. Other cables sometimes cause expensive damage to the firewire connector on the camera

Using the Menu

1. There are several important settings in the menu. Which format you'll be shooting in, which framerates, which audio inputs you'll be using, among many other things are in the camera menu.
2. First flip out the LCD screen – the menu will display on this screen.
3. Press the 'Menu' button, which is located in the cavity where the LCD screen is stored.
4. To navigate, there is a small push-wheel on the back of the camera to the left of the battery. Pushing it up or down navigates up and down through the menu, and depressing it in like a button selects.
5. To exit the menu, just press the menu button again.

Connecting Audio

1. The VX2100 includes a built in microphone, but you may connect an external microphone to the 1/8" mic jack if you prefer.
2. Audio levels can be automatic or manually adjusted. All adjustments are made in the menus. There is a button labeled 'Audio Level' on the back of the camera near the menu wheel that you can press to check your audio levels.
3. Use headphones! It might look like you have good signal, but the best way to ensure you have good audio is to use headphones. Listen to be sure it's not clipping, too quiet, or picking up any annoying hums or other noise.

Troubleshooting

1. Won't power on.
 - Check that the battery is in the internal rear battery compartment.
 - Check that the lock switch is switched to 'standby', not 'lock'.
 - Check charge on battery.
2. Computer will not recognize the camera while capturing.
 - Check to be sure the firewire cable is connected.
 - Check online documentation that your editing software supports the PD-170.
 - Turn the camera on before opening up your editing software.

Questions? Call toll-free 1-888-418-9037 or email atsinfo@atsrentals.com.
For urgent technical support outside of business hours call 1-815-230-1911.