Voice Record Pro 7 – iOS

Audio Recording App – sampling frequency up to 96kHz, output files 24-bit resolution.
www.bejbej.com

The Main Screen of Voice Record Pro 7 displays all the important settings for this App. Select "Advanced" at the top of the screen to show all the audio settings. You can select Sample Rate, Bit Depth and Channels all from this one screen.
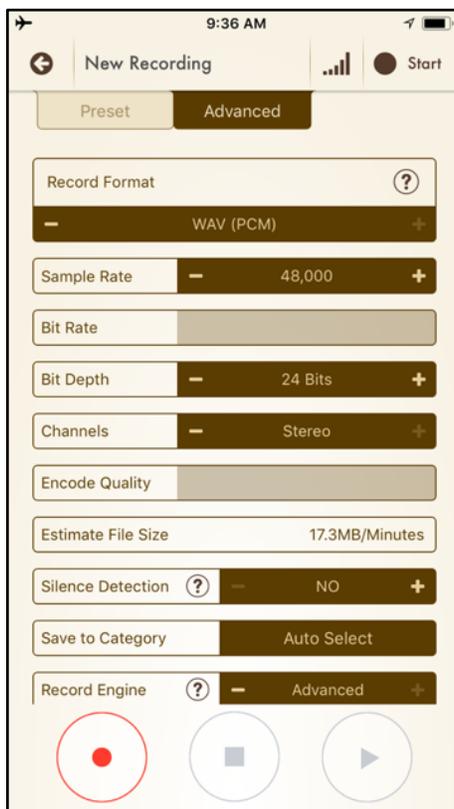
The big red button on the bottom left starts the recording. The small "Start" button at the top right also starts recording. The "iiII" icon on the upper right brings up the Level Check screen.
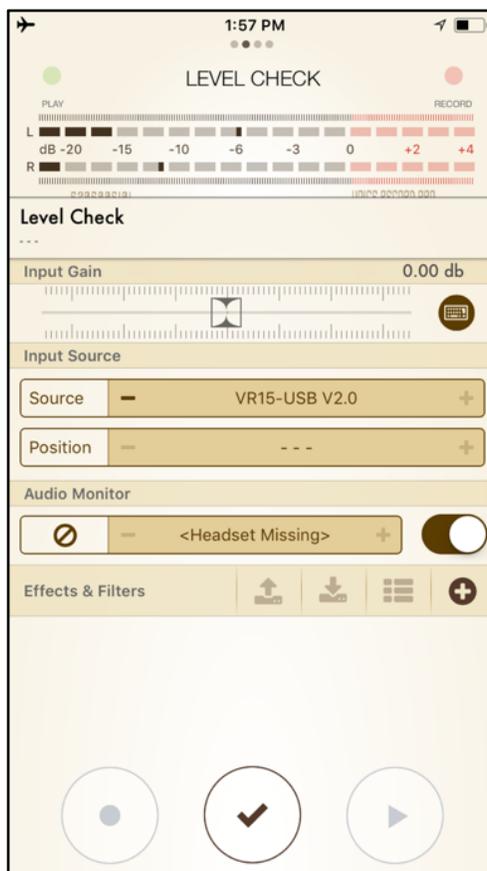
Here you can see the input Source is set to SonicPresence®. Just above the Input Source you have the Mic Volume slider (Input Gain). You should set this to "0" for most situations. That's the level we chose to calibrate this App for our tests. At the top of the screen are the meters, which are switchable to VU or PPM. This is everything you need to set your levels before pushing Record.

The Voice Record Pro 7 App automatically detects and switches to SonicPresence® when you follow our procedure. If you don't see SonicPresence® as the source, try running the "Calibrate Engine" in the Utilities menu. You access this menu by clicking the "gear" icon on the upper right.
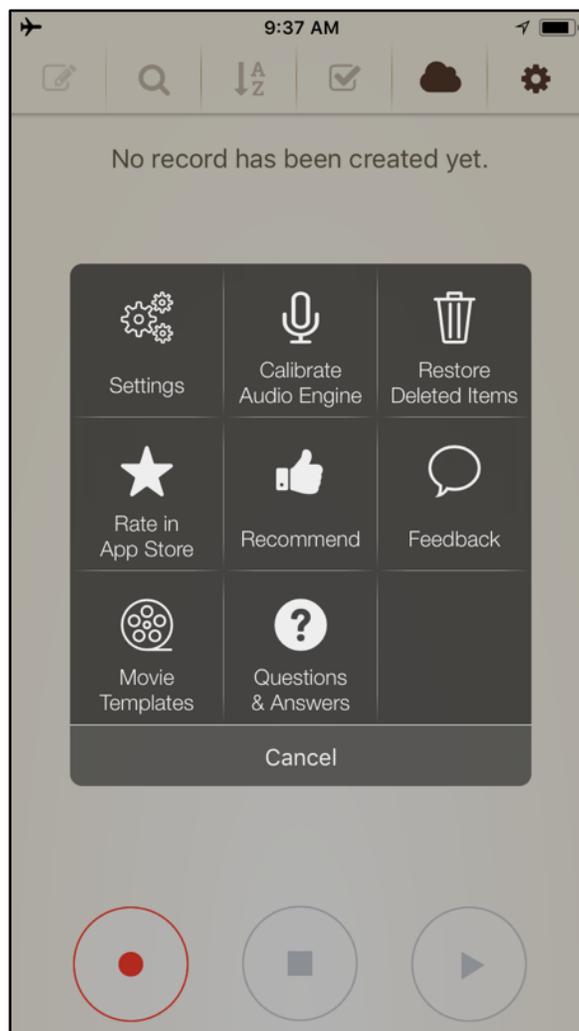
Meter check and Level Test

This measurement table shows our test generator's signal levels together with the VRP 7 App's meter readings and the headphone analog output level. We set the Input Gain to "0" for these tests. The headphone analog output level is 6dB below the other iOS Apps we tested. We do not know why this is the case.

VR 7 Pro	Input Gain = 0									
scale	grey	grey	grey	grey	grey	grey	grey	grey	red	red
scale marking		-10			-6		-3		0	+4
generator mV rms	4	7	10	12	18	50	80	120	190	clip
calculated level in dB	-33.5	-28.7	-25.6	-24.0	-20.5	-11.6	-7.5	-4.0	0	
PB level dB(analog)	-40	-35	-32	-30	-27	-18	-14	-10	-6	
reference acoustic level					94dB SPL				114dB SPL	

The following graphic shows the meter scale for the VRP 7 App. The meter markings shown beneath the scale in normal type are taken from the App's display. Our measurements are shown in italics above the scale. There are significant discrepancies, which explains why we had difficulties setting our recording levels with this App.
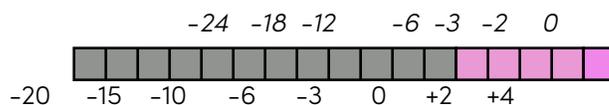
The Input Gain in this App is actually calibrated, and you can set it with the slider or you can key in a number. That's a really nice feature, except the gain varies wildly from what you set. For example, setting gain to +3 gave us gain of +10dB. Reducing the gain to –3 gave us a gain of –10dB. Be careful using this Input Gain control. Small changes result in big variations that can cause distortion. Here is a table showing our gain measurements.

VR 7 Mic Volume						
Scale	-10	-6	-3	0	+3	+6	+10
Gain dB	-26	-20	-10	0	+10	+18	+30

There's a lot to like with this App's especially the User Interface. However, the meters are inaccurate, and we found the Input Gain setting is very inconsistent. Variations of 6 to 10dB happen for no apparent reason. We also encountered unexpected shifts in the balance between channels sometimes by as much as 20dB.

Caution: these gain changes and channel imbalances can happen randomly by just stopping and starting the recording. We found that the best way to cure them is to shut down the App and start it up again.