



Measure a Sample

Measuring a sample requires you to prepare your sample, to set and save your measurement settings, to measure a background spectrum, and finally to measure the sample.

❖ To measure a sample using OMNIC Paradigm software for touchscreen

1. Prepare your sample

How you prepare your sample will depend on your spectrometer and sampling accessory. For details on preparing and loading the sample, see your sampling accessory's user guide.

2. Select the analysis type that reflects the analysis that you are performing. To measure a sample without performing additional analysis, select **Measure**.

After selecting an analysis type, the settings summary view opens.

Figure 1. The Summary tab displays common measurement settings.

The screenshot shows the 'Measure - Details' interface with three tabs: 'Summary', 'Details', and 'Background'. The 'Summary' tab is active, displaying the following settings:

Measurement name	Tag	Final format
<current date/time>		Absorbance

Number of scans	Resolution	Detector
10	4	DTGS KBr

Accessory: None

At the bottom of the screen are two buttons: 'Measure Background' and 'Measure Sample'.

3. Review and edit your measurement settings.

Open the **Details** tab to review additional measurement settings or open the **Background** tab to adjust settings for how the background is measured. Depending on your background settings, you may be prompted to measure a new background before measuring the sample.

See "[Measurement Settings](#)" for a description of each setting.

For details on setting up your analysis, see [“Identify an Unknown with ATR,”](#) [“Verify Sample Composition,”](#) or [“Quantify Sample Components.”](#)

4. When you are satisfied with your settings, touch **Measure Sample**. The sample preview opens and displays a live preview of the spectrum.
5. To proceed, touch **Start Sample Measurement**.

During the measurement, you can pause, restart, or stop and save your measurement. For example, if you feel your data are sufficient and you do not want to wait for more scans, touch **Stop** to save and use the data as is. Touch **Restart** to clear all data and begin scanning from the beginning.

Once your sample is measured, you can process or analyze it in the spectral view, or you can measure another sample. To measure another sample from the Spectral view, touch **Measure New Sample**.

Next Steps

Measuring a sample with OMNIC Paradigm software requires only a few simple steps. Before measuring the sample, review your measurement settings and ensure that you have a recent background spectrum in use.

With your spectrum measured, you're ready to identify, verify, or quantify the spectra. See [“Identify an Unknown with ATR”](#) for a guide to using a library search to identify your sample.

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269-335800_Revison A