KSM44MP

Large Diaphragm Multi-Pattern Condenser Microphone

Manual for the Shure KSM44MP cardioid condenser microphone. Find specifications and more about choosing polar pattern, low frequency response, or placement.

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KSM44MP
Large Diaphragm Multi-Pattern Condenser Microphone

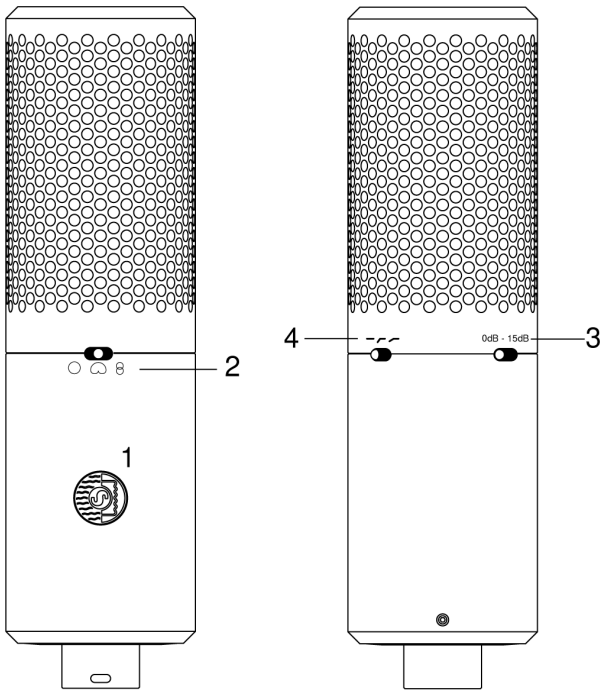
What is the Shure KSM44MP?

The Shure KSM44MP is a premium multi-pattern condenser microphone. Made with 1” dual gold-layered Mylar® diaphragms and gold-plated internal and external connectors, the KSM44MP has industry-leading low self-noise and flexibility for a variety of applications.

The anodized aluminum housing delivers a lightweight, exceptionally durable design for use with boom stands and includes a 15 dB attenuation switch, a 3-position low cut filter, and a subsonic filter to eliminate rumble from mechanical noise below 17 Hz. The second diaphragm enables multiple patterns, reduces the proximity effect, and provides an extended flat frequency response.

With exceptional low-frequency off-axis rejection and interior RF shielding, the KSM44MP is designed to deliver authentic sound and is the premier choice for critical audio capture.

KSM44MP Parts



1. Shure logo indicates the front of the microphone
2. Polar pattern switch. **Options:** Omnidirectional, Cardioid, and Bidirectional
3. Padding switch. **Options:** 0 dB and -15 dB
4. Frequency response switch

Frequency Response Switch Options

Icon	Meaning
	Flat response
	**Low frequency cutoff:** an 18 dB-per-octave cutoff at 80 Hz.
	**Low frequency rolloff:** a 6 dB-per-octave rolloff filter at 115 Hz.

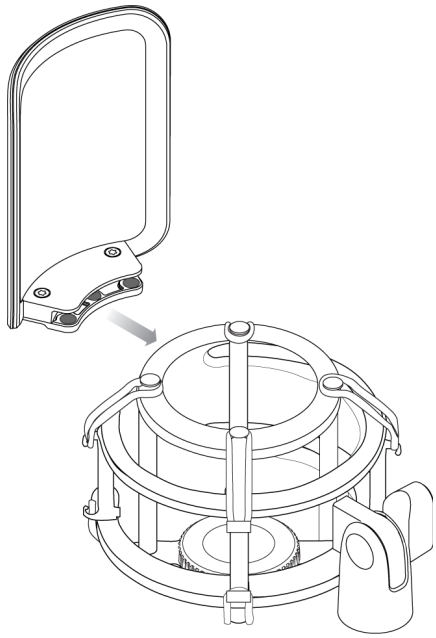
Power Requirements

Important: For best performance, this microphone needs a +48 V DC phantom power supply. Most mixers or interfaces have a switch or button to activate phantom power.

Microphone can operate with voltages down to 12VDC but will not meet all specifications.

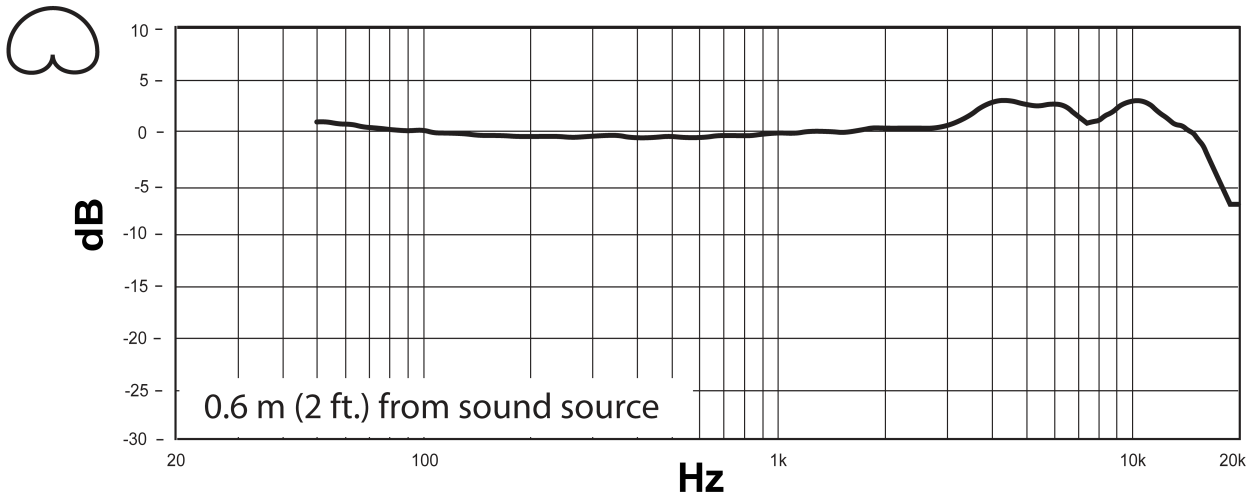
Attach the Pop Filter

Use the magnets to attach the pop filter to the shock mount.

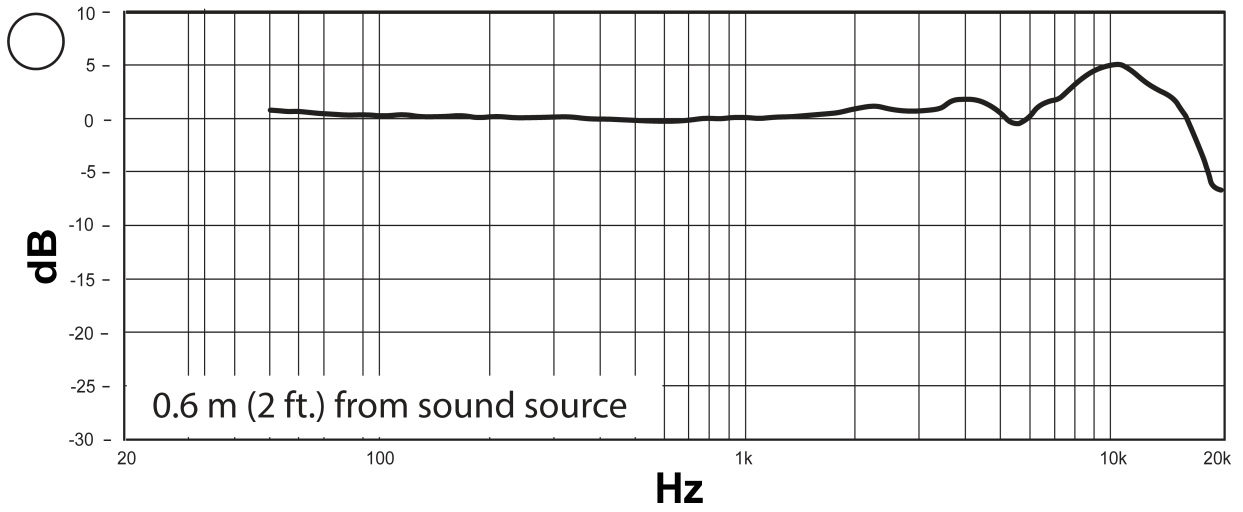


KSM44MP Specifications

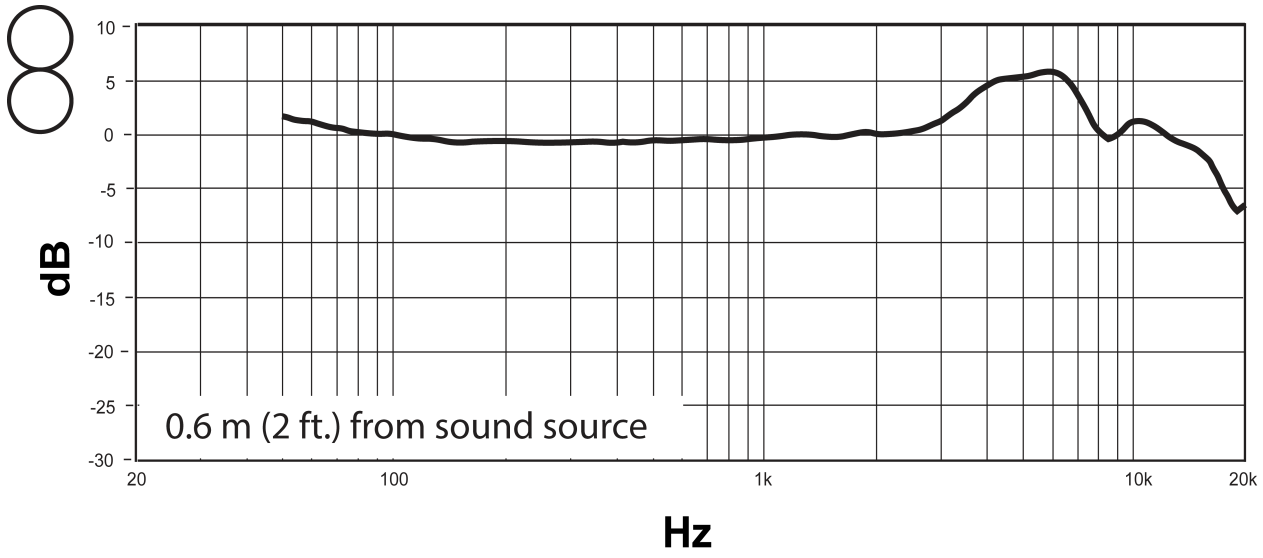
Frequency Response: 20 to 20,000 Hz



Cardioid

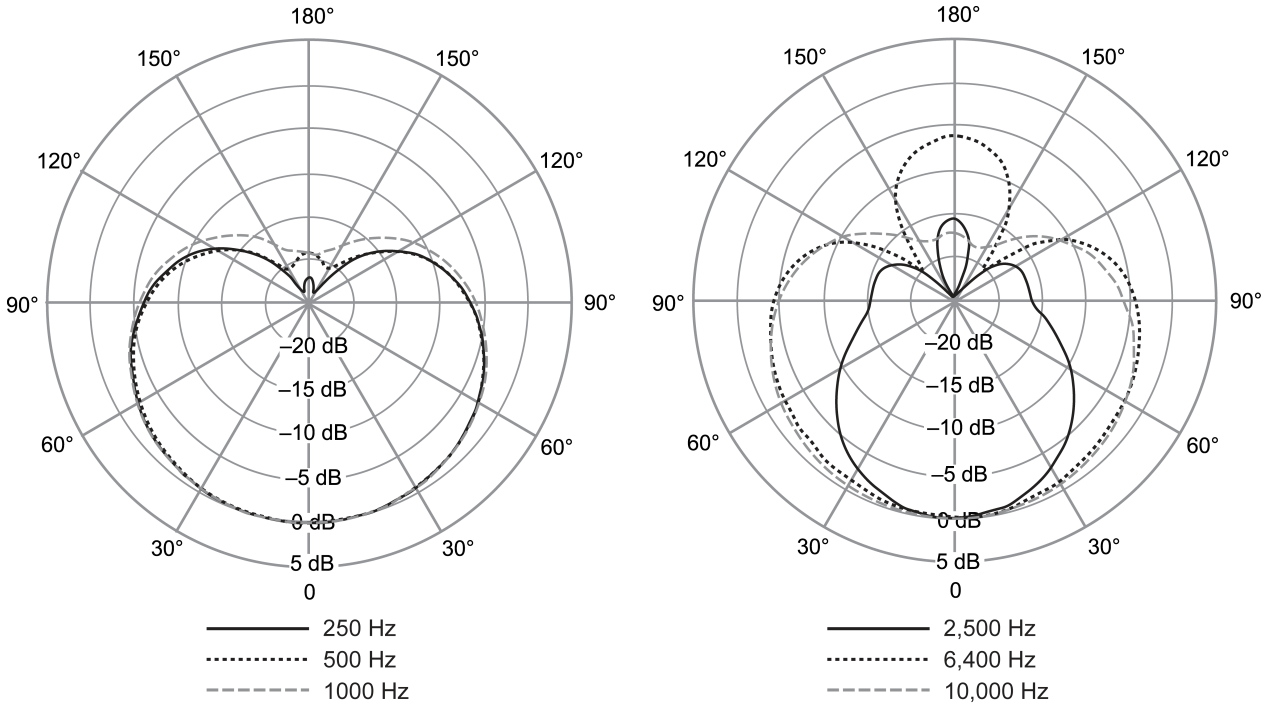


Omnidirectional

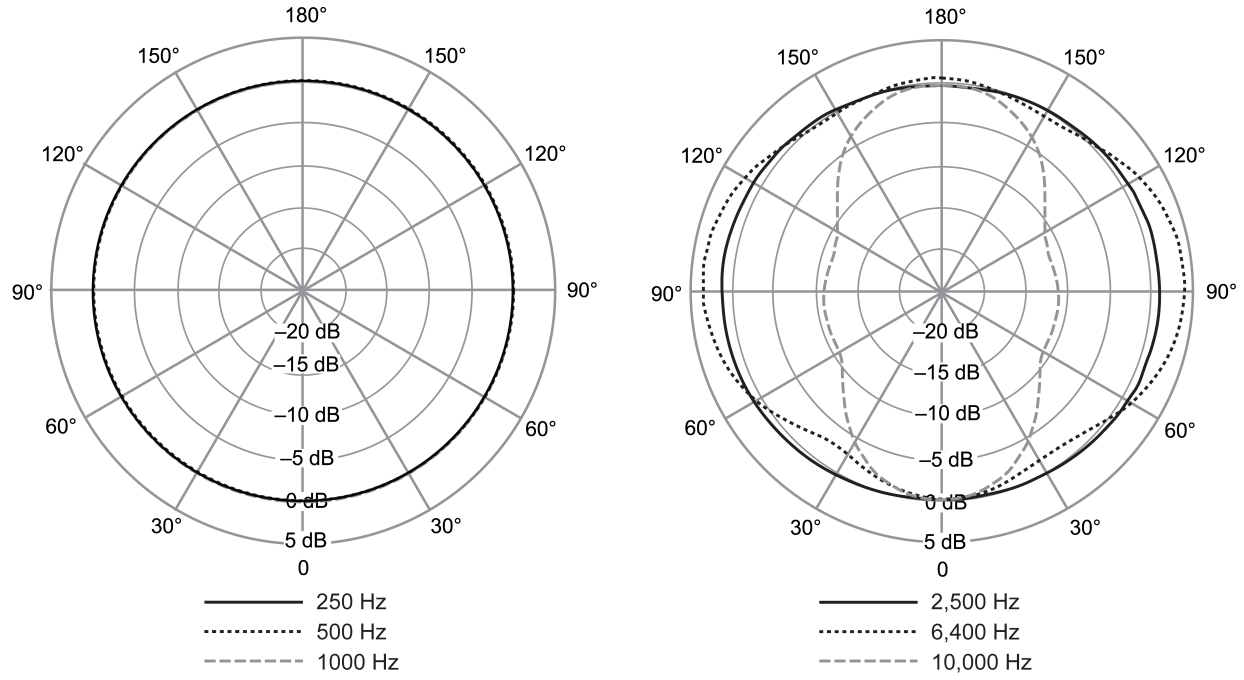


Bidirectional

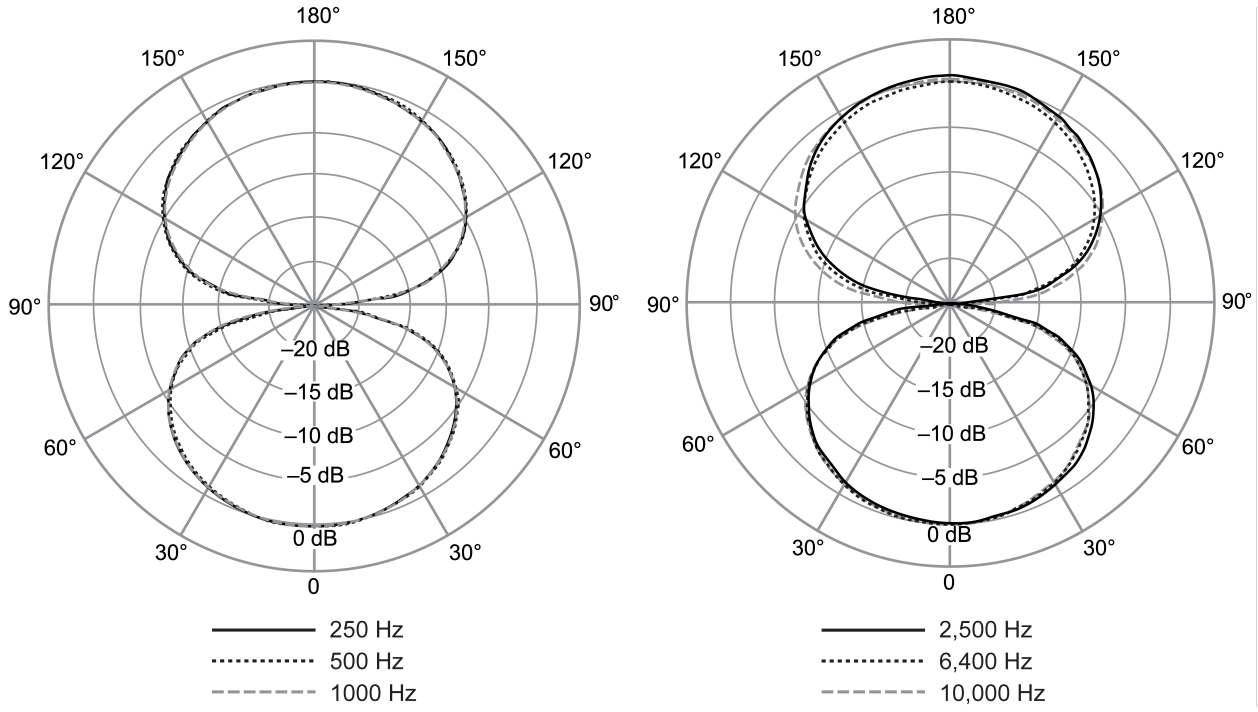
Polar Pattern: Selectable. Cardioid, Omnidirectional, Bidirectional



Cardioid



Omnidirectional



Bidirectional

Type: Condenser (externally biased)

Output Impedance: 47 Ω +/- 5

Sensitivity *open circuit voltage @ 1 kHz, typical*

Pattern	Value
Cardioid	-30 dBV/Pa[1]
Omnidirectional	-35 dBV/Pa[1]
Bidirectional	-35 dBV/Pa[1]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio

Pattern	Value
Cardioid	89 dB
Omnidirectional	87 dB
Bidirectional	86 dB

Max SPL *1 kHz at 1% THD*

Pad	Load	Value
No Pad	1000 Ω	130 dB SPL
	2500 Ω	135 dB SPL
	5000 Ω	135 dB SPL
With 15 dB Pad	1000 Ω	145 dB SPL
	2500 Ω	150 dB SPL
	5000 Ω	150 dB SPL

Dynamic Range *@ 1 kHz (No Pad)*

Pattern	Load	Value
Cardioid	1000 Ω	126 dB
	2500 Ω	130 dB
	5000 Ω	130 dB
Omnidirectional	1000 Ω	123 dB
	2500 Ω	128 dB
	5000 Ω	128 dB
Bidirectional	1000 Ω	121 dB
	2500 Ω	126 dB
	5000 Ω	126 dB

Clipping Level *@ 1kHz, 1% THD*

Load	Value
1000 Ω	5.1 dBV
2500 Ω	9.3 dBV
5000 Ω	9.4 dBV

Self-Noise *equivalent SPL, A-weighted, typical*

Pattern	Value
Cardioid	5 dBA
Omnidirectional	7 dBA
Bidirectional	8 dBA

Common Mode Rejection*20 Hz - 20 kHz*: >60 dB

Attenuator Switch: - 0 , -15 dB

Low-Frequency Filter Switch: - Flat, –6 dB/octave below 115 Hz, or –18 dB/octave below 80 Hz

Polarity: Positive pressure on diaphragm produces positive voltage on pin 2 with respect to pin 3

Connector: Three-pin professional audio (XLR), male

Dimensions: 47.6 x 171.1 mm (1.87 x 6.74 in.)

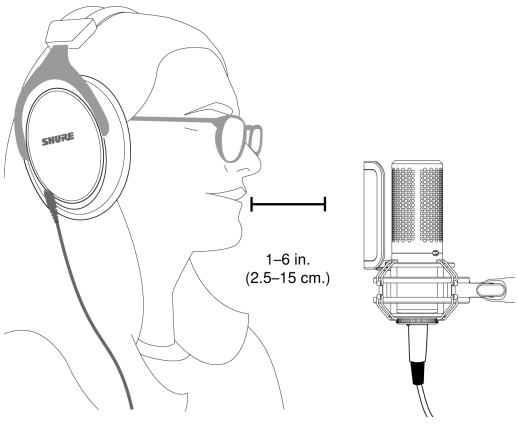
Weight: 295 g

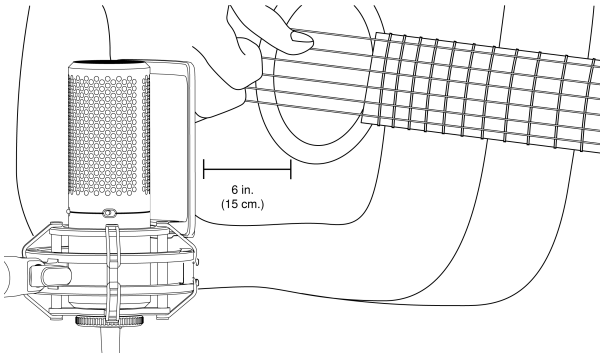
Housing: Machined, anodized aluminum alloy

Power Requirements: 48 V DC phantom power (5.9 mA), IEC 61938, P48

Where to Place the KSM44MP

Start by placing mic a few inches away from your sound source. Listen and experiment with the angle and placement of the mic until you find the sound you want.





Applications and Placement

Large Diaphragm Condenser Applications and Placement

Application	Distance from source	Tips
Vocals and speech	1–6 inches (2–15 cm)	Use a pop filter to prevent plosives.
Acoustic guitar	6–12 inches (15–30 cm)	Place near the sound hole or the twelfth fret for a balanced, natural sound.
Drums	3–6 feet (1–2 m)	Place in front of the drum kit to capture more of the kick drum, or as an overhead (above the kit, facing down) to capture more cymbals. Consider using additional Shure microphones on individual drums for more mixing flexibility and a thicker sound.
Strings or horns	1–6 feet (30 cm–2 m)	For a single instrument, place the microphone close to the source. For a horn or string section, arrange players at an equal distance from the microphone.
Woodwinds	2–6 inches (5–15 cm)	Experiment with placement near the sound holes and bells of woodwind instruments.
Amplifiers	1–6 inches (2–15 cm)	Aim towards the center of the speaker for a clear, aggressive sound, or towards the edge of the speaker for a mellow sound. Watch for distortion.

Visit www.shure.com for more on microphone placement and recording techniques.

Choose a Polar Pattern

There are 3 polar patterns available for this mic. See the KSM44MP specifications for the polar pattern graphs.

- **Cardioid.** Picks up sound directly in front of the microphone and is least sensitive to those in back. This is most commonly used in studio recording and live-sound applications.
- **Omnidirectional.** Picks up sounds from all directions. Often used to capture room ambiance or several sound sources simultaneously. The omnidirectional polar pattern exhibits no proximity effect.
- **Bidirectional.** Picks up sounds from the front and back of the microphone while rejecting sounds from the sides. Often used for stereo recording (such as mid-side and Blumlein techniques).

  Note: *As with all bidirectional microphones, sounds picked up from the back will be out of polarity with the source. Those from the front are in polarity with the source.*

Caution: The polar pattern switch produces mechanical noise which, when amplified, may damage the loudspeakers. Turn down any loudspeakers or mute the microphone at the mixing console before using the switch.

Select a Low Frequency Response

A 3-position switch on the microphone adjusts the low frequency response. You can use these filters to reduce wind noise, room noise, or proximity effect.

Flat response: provides the most natural sound in most applications.

Low frequency cutoff: provides an 18 dB-per-octave cutoff at 80 Hz. This setting can help eliminate low frequency room noise.

Low frequency rolloff: provides a 6 dB-per-octave rolloff filter at 115 Hz. Use this to compensate for proximity effect or to reduce low frequencies that could make an instrument sound dull or muddy.

Set Attenuation

The attenuation/pad switch reduces the signal level without altering the frequency response. This can prevent extremely loud sounds from overloading the microphone circuitry.

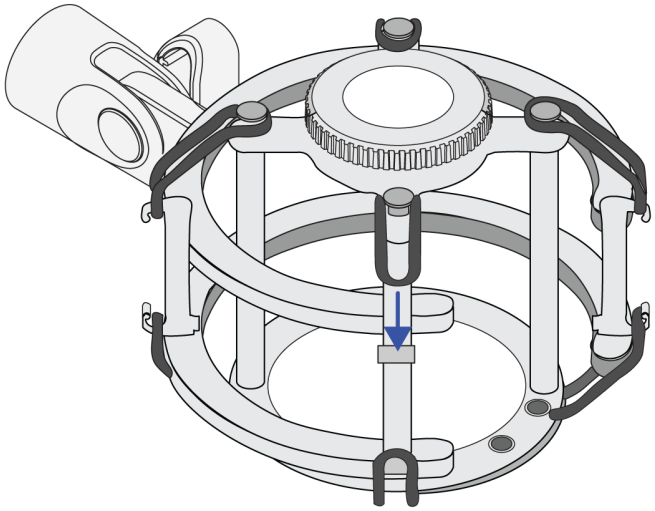
0 dB: For quieter or standard sound sources.

−15 dB: For extremely loud sound sources such as drums, horns, or loud guitar cabinets.

Replace Bands on the Shock Mount

To replace the rubber bands on the shock mount:

1. Remove the old rubber bands.
2. Position the inner mount with magnets facing the open side of the outer mount.
3. Pull the 8 new bands from the screws on the inner mount to the hooks on the outer mount .



Load Impedance

For the microphone's signal to transfer well, the load/input impedance of your preamplifier should be at least 1000 Ω. Most modern microphone preamplifiers meet this requirement.

Additional Resources

- Shure Knowledge Base FAQs
- Microphone Techniques for Recording
- Shure Performance & Production YouTube channel
- Shure Creators YouTube channel

How to Avoid Plosives When Recording

Accessories and Replacement Parts

- AKSM40/44-CASE carrying case for KSM40C and KSM44MP
- AKSM40/44-SM shock mount for KSM40C and KSM44MP
- A4PF magnetic pop filter
- A4M swivel hard mount
- AKSMEB elastic bands for KSM shock mounts
- 31B1856 brass adapter

Important Safety Instructions for Passive Microphones

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Before using this product, please read and save the enclosed warnings and safety instructions.

⚠	WARNING: Ignoring these warnings may cause severe injury or death as a result of incorrect operation. If water or other foreign objects enter the inside of the device, fire or electric shock may result. Do not attempt to modify this product. Doing so could result in personal injury and/or product failure.
⚠	CAUTION: Ignoring these cautions may cause moderate injury or property damage as a result of incorrect operation. Never disassemble or modify the device, as failures may result. Do not subject to extreme force and do not pull on the cable or failures may result. Keep the microphone dry and avoid exposure to extreme temperatures and humidity.

Environmental Regulatory Information

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive

In the European Union and the United Kingdom, this label indicates that this product should not be disposed of with household waste. It should be deposited at an appropriate facility to enable recovery and recycling.

Registration, Evaluation, Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) Directive

REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization of Chemicals) is the European Union (EU) and the United Kingdom (UK) chemical substances regulatory framework. Information on substances of very high concern contained in Shure products in a concentration above 0.1% weight over weight (w/w) is available upon request.

Recycling Information

Please consider the environment, electric products and packaging are part of regional recycling schemes and do not belong to regular household waste.

Certifications

CE Notice

Hereby, Shure Incorporated declares that this product with CE Marking has been determined to be in compliance with European Union requirements.

The full text of the EU declaration of conformity is available at the following site: https://www.shure.com/en-EU/support/declarations-of-conformity.

UKCA Notice

Hereby, Shure Incorporated declares that this product with UKCA Marking has been determined to be in compliance with UK-CA requirements.

The full text of the UK declaration of conformity is available at the following site: https://www.shure.com/en-GB/support/declarations-of-conformity.