

Manuals+

[Q & A](#) | [Deep Search](#) | [Upload](#)

manuals.plus /

› [Sennheiser](#) /

› [Sennheiser MD 46 Cardioid Interview Microphone User Manual](#)

Sennheiser MD 46

Sennheiser MD 46 Cardioid Interview Microphone User Manual

Model: MD 46 (005172)

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your Sennheiser MD 46 cardioid interview microphone. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the product to ensure optimal performance and longevity.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Sennheiser MD 46 is a high-quality dynamic microphone specifically designed for interview and reporting applications. Its cardioid pickup pattern effectively focuses on the subject's voice while minimizing background noise, making it suitable for challenging environments. The microphone features a robust construction to withstand the rigors of field use.

Key Features:

- **Cardioid Dynamic Capsule:** Provides focused sound capture and excellent speech intelligibility.
- **Double Layer Grille Basket:** Offers increased protection against wind and plosive noises.
- **Low Handling Noise:** Engineered to reduce unwanted noise from physical contact during use.
- **Long Handle with Excellent Balance:** Designed for comfortable and stable handling during extended interviews.



Figure 1: Sennheiser MD 46 Cardioid Interview Microphone. This image shows the full microphone with its black grille and dark gray body.

3. SETUP

3.1 Unpacking

Carefully unpack the contents of the box. The package should contain:

- 1 x Sennheiser MD 46 Microphone

3.2 Connecting the Microphone

The MD 46 microphone uses an XLR connector for audio output. To connect the microphone:

1. Ensure your audio recording device, mixing console, or audio interface is powered off.
2. Connect a standard XLR cable (not included) to the XLR output port at the base of the MD 46 microphone.
3. Connect the other end of the XLR cable to an available XLR input on your recording device.
4. Power on your recording device and adjust input gain levels as necessary.



Figure 2: Close-up of the MD 46 microphone grille. This image highlights the robust double-layer grille designed to protect against wind and plosive sounds.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Microphone Placement

The MD 46 is a cardioid microphone, meaning it is most sensitive to sounds coming from the front and rejects sounds from the sides and rear. For optimal performance during interviews:

- Position the microphone directly in front of the speaker's mouth, typically 4-8 inches away.
- Ensure the microphone grille is pointed towards the sound source.
- In noisy environments, maintaining closer proximity to the speaker will enhance voice clarity and further reduce background noise.

4.2 Handling Noise Reduction

The MD 46 is designed with low handling noise characteristics. To further minimize any unwanted noise from handling:

- Hold the microphone firmly but gently by the handle.
- Avoid rubbing or tapping the microphone body during recording.

- If using a microphone stand, ensure it is stable and isolated from vibrations.

4.3 Wind and Pop Noise

The integrated double-layer grille helps to reduce wind and plosive (P, B sounds) noise. For outdoor use or in situations with strong air movement, consider using an additional foam windscreen (not included) for maximum protection.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning

To maintain the appearance and performance of your microphone:

- Wipe the microphone body with a soft, dry cloth.
- For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by immediate drying.
- Do not use harsh chemicals, solvents, or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- Avoid getting moisture into the microphone grille or connector.

5.2 Storage

When not in use, store the microphone in a clean, dry place, away from extreme temperatures and humidity. Using a protective pouch or case (not included) is recommended to prevent dust accumulation and physical damage.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your MD 46 microphone, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound or low output	Incorrect cable connection Low input gain on recording device Faulty XLR cable	Ensure XLR cable is securely connected at both ends. Increase the input gain on your mixer or audio interface. Test with a different XLR cable.
Excessive background noise	Microphone too far from sound source High ambient noise in environment	Move the microphone closer to the speaker. Reduce ambient noise if possible. Ensure the microphone is pointed directly at the sound source.
Popping sounds (plosives)	Microphone too close to mouth Strong breath sounds	Slightly increase distance from the speaker's mouth. Angle the microphone slightly off-axis from the mouth. Consider using an external foam windscreen.

If the problem persists after attempting these solutions, please contact Sennheiser customer support.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

The following table lists the technical specifications for the Sennheiser MD 46 microphone:

Feature	Detail
Model Name	MD 46
Item Model Number	005172

Feature	Detail
Brand	Sennheiser
Polar Pattern	Cardioid (Unidirectional)
Frequency Response	40 - 18,000 Hz
Sensitivity (free field, no load, 1kHz)	2.0 mV/Pa
Nominal Impedance	350 Ohm
Min. Terminating Impedance	1000 Ohm
Connector Type	XLR
Connectivity Technology	Wired
Microphone Form Factor	Handheld
Material	Alloy Steel
Color	Black
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	5.31 x 2.6 x 13.78 inches
Item Weight	1.9 pounds (360 g)
Recommended Uses	Speech
Included Components	1 MD 46 Microphone

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Sennheiser products are covered by a manufacturer's warranty. Specific warranty terms and conditions, including duration and coverage, may vary by region and purchase date. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Sennheiser website for detailed information.

9. SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or to access additional resources such as FAQs and firmware updates, please visit the official Sennheiser support website:

[Sennheiser Support](#)

You can also find more information about Sennheiser products on their Amazon store page:[Sennheiser Amazon Store](#)