

AKG 3138X00100

AKG Pro Audio C5 Professional Condenser Vocal Microphone

User Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

The AKG Pro Audio C5 is a professional condenser vocal microphone designed for lead and backing vocals. Its advanced features ensure clear, detailed sound reproduction and robust performance in live settings. The C5 is engineered to provide maximum gain before feedback, making it ideal for use with in-ear monitor systems.

Key Features:

- Delicate Cardioid condenser capsule for detailed pickup of unique individual acoustic color.
- 24-Carat gold-plated transducer case for maximum resistance to corrosion and humidity.
- Unique presence boost adapter offers a choice of two different sound flavors.
- Integrated shock absorber system effectively eliminates unwanted handling noises.
- Robust zinc-alloy housing and spring steel grille provide extreme ruggedness for a long stage life.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand all safety instructions before using the AKG C5 microphone. Failure to follow these instructions may result in electric shock, fire, or damage to the product.

- Do not expose the microphone to rain or moisture.
- Do not disassemble the microphone. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
- Ensure proper phantom power (48V) is supplied from a compatible device (mixer, audio interface) as required by condenser microphones. Incorrect voltage may damage the microphone.
- Avoid dropping the microphone or subjecting it to severe impacts.
- Keep the microphone away from strong magnetic fields.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your AKG C5 package:

- AKG C5 Professional Condenser Vocal Microphone
- Microphone Clip

4. SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your AKG C5 microphone:

1. **Attach the Microphone Clip:** Securely attach the provided microphone clip to a standard microphone stand.
2. **Insert the Microphone:** Carefully insert the AKG C5 microphone into the microphone clip. Ensure it is firmly seated.
3. **Connect XLR Cable:** Connect one end of a balanced XLR cable to the XLR output connector at the bottom of the C5 microphone.
4. **Connect to Audio Device:** Connect the other end of the XLR cable to an XLR input on your mixer, audio interface, or other compatible audio device.
5. **Activate Phantom Power:** The AKG C5 is a condenser microphone and requires 48V phantom power to operate. Activate the phantom power on your connected audio device's input channel. Refer to your audio device's manual for instructions on enabling phantom power.
6. **Set Gain Levels:** Before use, set the gain level on your audio device's input channel appropriately. Start with the gain low and gradually increase it while speaking or singing into the microphone to achieve a strong, clear signal without clipping.





Figure 4.1: The AKG C5 Professional Condenser Vocal Microphone. This image shows the microphone's main body, grille, and the AKG logo, indicating its professional design.



Figure 4.2: The microphone clip included with the AKG C5. This clip is designed to securely hold the microphone on a stand, allowing for proper positioning during use.

5. OPERATING

The AKG C5 is optimized for vocal performance. Here are guidelines for optimal operation:

- **Microphone Placement:** For best results, hold the microphone approximately 2-6 inches (5-15 cm) from your mouth. Experiment with distance to find the optimal balance between vocal presence and plosive reduction.
- **Cardioid Polar Pattern:** The C5 features a cardioid polar pattern, meaning it is most sensitive to sound coming from the front and rejects sound from the sides and rear. This helps to minimize feedback and isolate your vocals from other stage noise. Ensure the microphone is pointed directly at the sound source.
- **Presence Boost Adapter:** The C5 includes an attachable presence boost adapter. This adapter can be used to subtly enhance the high-frequency response, providing a brighter and more articulate vocal sound. To engage, attach the adapter to the microphone as instructed in the included quick start guide. Experiment with and without the adapter to find your preferred vocal tone.

- **Monitor Placement:** When using stage monitors, position them behind the microphone to take advantage of the cardioid pattern's off-axis rejection, further reducing the chance of feedback.

6. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance will ensure the longevity and performance of your AKG C5 microphone:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the exterior of the microphone. For the grille, a soft brush can be used to gently remove any debris. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents, as they may damage the microphone's finish or internal components.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the microphone in its original packaging or a protective case to prevent dust accumulation and physical damage. Store in a cool, dry place away from extreme temperatures and humidity.
- **Humidity Protection:** The 24-carat gold-plated transducer case provides excellent protection against corrosion and humidity. However, prolonged exposure to high humidity should still be avoided.
- **Cable Care:** Always disconnect XLR cables by gripping the connector, not the cable itself, to prevent damage to the cable or microphone connector. Coil cables neatly when storing.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your AKG C5 microphone, refer to the following troubleshooting guide:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output	No phantom power; Faulty cable; Incorrect input selection; Gain too low.	Ensure 48V phantom power is active on the input channel. Check XLR cable for damage and replace if necessary. Verify correct input is selected on your audio device. Increase gain level.
Distorted sound	Input gain too high (clipping); Microphone too close to sound source; Faulty cable.	Reduce input gain on your audio device. Increase distance between microphone and sound source. Check XLR cable.
Excessive feedback	Microphone pointed at speaker/monitor; Gain too high; Room acoustics.	Reposition microphone so it is not pointing directly at speakers or monitors. Reduce gain. Consider acoustic treatment for the room if applicable.
Intermittent sound	Loose cable connection; Damaged cable.	Ensure all XLR connections are secure. Replace cable if damaged.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed technical specifications for the AKG C5 Professional Condenser Vocal Microphone:

Specification	Value
Model Name	C5
Item Model Number	3138X00100
Microphone Form Factor	Microphone only

Specification	Value
Polar Pattern	Unidirectional (Cardioid)
Connectivity Technology	Wired
Connector Type	XLR
Power Source	Corded Electric (requires 48V Phantom Power)
Audio Sensitivity	49 dB
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	78 dB
Number of Channels	1
Item Weight	1.27 pounds (0.57 kg)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	7.9 x 5.9 x 3 inches (20.07 x 14.99 x 7.62 cm)
Material	Alloy Steel
Color	Black
Recommended Uses For Product	Vocals

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding the product warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official AKG website. AKG provides customer support for product inquiries, technical assistance, and service requests.

You can find more information and support resources on the [AKG Pro Audio Store on Amazon](#) or the official AKG website.

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