

Olympus ME-31

Olympus ME-31 Compact Gun Microphone Instruction Manual

Model: ME-31

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Olympus ME-31 is a compact, directional gun microphone designed for high-quality audio recording in various environments. Its robust metal construction ensures durability, making it suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. The microphone is particularly effective for capturing sound from a specific direction while minimizing ambient noise.

Key Features:

- **Easy to grip:** Ergonomically designed for comfortable handling.
- **Attachment stand included:** Provides versatility for placement on surfaces.
- **Compatible with tripod:** Can be mounted on standard camera tripods for stable positioning.
- **Pinpoint recording:** Highly directional pickup pattern for focused audio capture.



Image 1.1: The Olympus ME-31 Compact Gun Microphone with all included accessories, including the microphone unit, foam windscreen, grip with stand adapter, desktop stand, and connecting cable.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Please ensure all the following items are present in your package:

- ME-31 Compact Gun Microphone Unit
- Foam Windscreen
- Grip with Stand Adapter
- Desktop Stand
- Connecting Cable (3.5mm jack)
- Padded Zippered Pouch

3. SETUP

3.1 Attaching the Microphone

1. Gently slide the foam windscreen over the microphone head to reduce wind noise and plosives.
2. Attach the microphone unit to the provided grip. Ensure it is securely fastened.

3.2 Connecting to a Device

The ME-31 microphone connects via a 3.5mm jack. It requires **plug-in power**, which is typically supplied by most consumer-grade audio equipment, including digital recorders, cameras, computers, and smartphones with a 3.5mm microphone input.

1. Insert the 3.5mm jack of the connecting cable into the microphone's input port.
2. Connect the other end of the 3.5mm jack to the microphone input port on your recording device (e.g., camera, audio recorder, computer).

3.3 Mounting Options

- **Desktop Use:** Attach the grip to the included desktop stand for stable placement on a flat surface during lectures or interviews.
- **Tripod Mounting:** The grip facilitates attachment to a standard camera tripod (NS 5/8") for elevated or fixed-position recording.
- **Handheld Use:** The ergonomic grip allows for comfortable handheld operation, ideal for dynamic recording situations.



Image 3.1: A hand demonstrating the comfortable grip of the Olympus ME-31 Compact Gun Microphone, ready for handheld recording.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Recording with the ME-31

The ME-31 is a highly directional microphone, meaning it is designed to pick up sound primarily from the direction it is pointed, while significantly reducing sounds from the sides and rear. This characteristic is crucial for focused audio capture.

1. **Positioning:** Aim the front of the microphone directly at your sound source. For optimal results, maintain a distance appropriate for the sound level and desired focus.
2. **Monitoring:** Always monitor your audio levels through headphones connected to your recording device to ensure clear sound capture and prevent clipping or distortion.
3. **Environment:** While the directional nature helps, avoid excessively noisy environments if possible. The included foam windscreen helps mitigate wind noise during outdoor recordings.

4.2 Recommended Applications

- **Outdoor Recording:** Ideal for capturing natural sounds like bird calls or distant ambient audio.
- **Lectures and Presentations:** Can be placed on a table or stand to focus on a speaker.
- **Interviews:** Excellent for isolating interviewee voices in various settings.
- **Video Production:** Suitable for use with cameras to enhance audio quality for video recordings.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper care will extend the life and performance of your Olympus ME-31 microphone.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the microphone body. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents.
- **Windscreen Care:** The foam windscreen can be gently hand-washed with mild soap and water, then air-dried completely before reattaching.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the microphone and its accessories in the provided padded zippered pouch to protect it from dust, moisture, and physical damage.
- **Avoid Extreme Conditions:** Do not expose the microphone to extreme temperatures, high humidity, or direct sunlight for prolonged periods.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your ME-31 microphone, please refer to the following common solutions:

- **No Sound or Low Volume:**
 - Ensure the 3.5mm cable is securely connected to both the microphone and the recording device.
 - Verify that your recording device's microphone input is enabled and the input volume is set appropriately.
 - Confirm that your recording device provides **plug-in power** to the 3.5mm jack. Some older devices or specific ports may not supply this power.
 - Test the microphone with another compatible recording device if possible to rule out a device-specific issue.
- **Poor Audio Quality (Hissing, Distortion):**
 - Check for loose connections.
 - Ensure the microphone is not positioned too close to the sound source, which can cause distortion. Adjust input levels on your recording device.
 - Minimize background noise in your recording environment.

- Ensure the foam windscreen is properly installed to reduce wind noise.
- **Microphone Not Recognized by Device:**
 - Confirm that the device's input port is specifically for microphones and not a line-in or headphone jack.
 - Restart your recording device or computer.
 - Check your device's audio settings to ensure the external microphone is selected as the input source.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	ME-31
Item Model Number	133846
Brand	Olympus
Polar Pattern	Unidirectional
Frequency Response	16000 Hz
Audio Sensitivity	32.5 Decibels
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	78 dB
Material	Metal
Power Source	Corded Electric (Plug-in Power)
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	10 x 1 x 5 inches (25.4 x 2.54 x 12.7 cm)
Item Weight	3.43 ounces (0.1 kg)
Compatible Devices	Camera, Audio Recorders, Computers, Smartphones (with 3.5mm mic input)

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Warranty information for the Olympus ME-31 Compact Gun Microphone is typically provided with the product packaging or can be found on the official Olympus website. Please refer to these resources for details regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions.

9. SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or additional product information, please visit the official Olympus support website or contact their customer service department. You can often find FAQs, driver downloads, and service center locations on their website.

Official Olympus Store: [OM SYSTEM Store on Amazon](#)

