AKG 3220H00010

AKG Pro Audio D12VR Dynamic Microphone User Manual

Model: 3220H00010

Introduction

The AKG Pro Audio D12VR is a reference large-diaphragm dynamic microphone designed specifically for kick-drum recording applications. It features a cardioid polar pattern and a thin diaphragm to enhance low-frequency performance. The microphone's warm sound is achieved through an original C414 transformer, particularly effective at high signal levels. The D12VR includes three active filter presets for sound shaping, which automatically reduce the output level by 10 dB when activated. Without phantom power, the microphone operates in passive mode, delivering the instrument's pure sound.

Safety Information

Please read and understand all safety instructions before using the AKG D12VR microphone. Keep this manual for future reference.

- Do not expose the microphone to extreme temperatures, humidity, or direct sunlight.
- Avoid dropping or subjecting the microphone to severe impacts.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the microphone. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- Ensure proper phantom power (if used) is supplied by a compatible audio interface or mixer.
- Keep the microphone away from strong magnetic fields.

Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- D12 VR Microphone
- User Manual (this document)

Product Overview



Figure 1: AKG Pro Audio D12VR Dynamic Microphone. This image shows the microphone from a slight angle, highlighting its black mesh grille, the metallic band around its body, and the integrated stand mount with the AKG logo.

The D12VR features a robust construction designed for demanding studio and live applications. Key components include:

- **Microphone Grille:** Protects the internal capsule.
- **Microphone Body:** Houses the diaphragm, transformer, and circuitry.
- **Integrated Stand Mount:** For secure attachment to a microphone stand.

- **XLR Connector:** Standard 3-pin XLR for audio output.
- **Filter Preset Switch:** Located on the microphone body for selecting active filter modes.

Setup

Connecting the Microphone

1. Attach the D12VR to a standard microphone stand using its integrated mount. Ensure it is securely fastened.
2. Connect a balanced XLR cable (not included) to the XLR output connector at the base of the microphone.
3. Connect the other end of the XLR cable to an input on your audio interface, mixer, or preamplifier.

Phantom Power and Filter Presets

The D12VR can operate in two modes:

- **Passive Mode (No Phantom Power):** When no phantom power is supplied, the microphone operates as a pure dynamic microphone, delivering the instrument's natural sound without any active filtering.
- **Active Filter Mode (With Phantom Power):** When 48V phantom power is supplied, the microphone's active filter presets become available. Use the switch on the microphone body to select one of the three filter settings. Activating a filter automatically reduces the output level by 10 dB.

Operating

Microphone Placement for Kick Drum

Optimal placement is crucial for capturing the desired kick drum sound:

- **Inside the Kick Drum:** For a punchy, attack-focused sound, place the microphone inside the kick drum, pointing towards the beater. Experiment with distance from the beater head.
- **At the Port Hole:** For a balanced sound with good low-end and attack, place the microphone just inside or at the edge of the kick drum's front head port hole.
- **Outside the Kick Drum:** For a fuller, more resonant sound with less attack, place the microphone a few inches to a foot away from the front head.

Using Filter Presets

The D12VR offers three active filter presets to tailor the sound to different kick drum characteristics or desired sonic outcomes. These presets are only active when phantom power is supplied.

- Consult the microphone's physical switch for the specific labeling of each filter preset.
- Experiment with each setting to find the one that best complements your kick drum and mix.
- Remember that activating a filter will automatically reduce the output level by 10 dB, which may require adjusting gain on your mixer or interface.

Maintenance

Proper care will ensure the longevity and performance of your D12VR microphone:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the microphone body. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the microphone in its original packaging or a protective case when not in use to prevent dust and physical damage.

- **Handling:** Always handle the microphone with care. Avoid dropping it or exposing it to excessive vibration.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Sound Output	• Incorrect cable connection • Faulty XLR cable • Input gain too low on mixer/interface • Phantom power not engaged (if active filters desired)	• Check all cable connections. • Try a different XLR cable. • Increase input gain. • Engage 48V phantom power on your mixer/interface if using active filters.
Weak or Distorted Sound	• Improper microphone placement • Input gain too high (clipping) • Faulty cable or input • Active filter engaged with incorrect gain staging	• Adjust microphone position relative to the sound source. • Reduce input gain to prevent clipping. • Test with different cables and inputs. • If active filter is on, ensure gain is adjusted to compensate for the -10dB reduction.
Filter Presets Not Working	• No phantom power supplied • Faulty microphone switch	• Ensure 48V phantom power is engaged on your mixer/interface. • If phantom power is supplied and filters still don't work, contact support.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Microphone Type	Dynamic
Polar Pattern	Cardioid (Unidirectional)
Frequency Response	Optimized for kick drum applications (thin diaphragm for enhanced low frequency)
Impedance	200 Ohm
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	80 dB
Noise Level	10 dB
Connectivity	XLR
Power Source	Corded Electric (Phantom Power for active filters)
Dimensions (L x W x H)	9.06 x 7.87 x 3.94 inches
Item Weight	1.79 pounds
Model Number	3220H00010

Feature	Detail
UPC	885038033196

Warranty and Support

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official AKG website or contact your authorized AKG dealer. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.
Online Resources: www.akg.com

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

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