Audio-Technica AT2020USB PLUS

Audio-Technica AT2020USB+ Cardioid Condenser USB Microphone User Manual

Model: AT2020USB PLUS | Brand: Audio-Technica

1. INTRODUCTION

The Audio-Technica AT2020USB+ is a professional condenser microphone designed for digital audio capture. It features a USB output for direct connection to your computer, making it ideal for music recording, podcasting, voice-overs, and home studio applications. The microphone delivers studio-quality articulation and intelligibility, building on the critically acclaimed sound of the AT2020 series.

Key features include a built-in headphone jack with volume control for direct, delay-free monitoring, and mix control to blend microphone and pre-recorded audio. Its cardioid pickup pattern provides excellent off-axis rejection, ensuring clear sound capture. The A/D converter supports 16-bit, 44.1/48 kHz sampling rates for high-fidelity sound reproduction.

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Your Audio-Technica AT2020USB+ package includes the following components:

- AT2020USB+ Microphone
- Tripod Desk Stand
- Exclusive Stand Mount
- 3.0m USB Cable
- Soft Protective Pouch

Image: The Audio-Technica AT2020USB+ microphone shown with its included accessories: a tripod desk stand, stand mount, USB cable, and protective pouch.

3. SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your AT2020USB+ microphone:

1. **Attach the Stand Mount:** Secure the exclusive stand mount to the base of the AT2020USB+ microphone.

2. **Mount on Tripod:** Screw the microphone (with attached stand mount) onto the tripod desk stand. Ensure it is stable.

3. **Connect USB Cable:** Plug the included 3.0m USB cable into the USB port at the bottom of the microphone.

4. **Connect to Computer:** Plug the other end of the USB cable into an available USB port on your computer. The microphone's blue LED indicator will illuminate, signifying it is powered and connected.

Image: The AT2020USB+ microphone mounted on a boom arm (alternative to included tripod) and connected via USB to a laptop, ready for recording.

Video: An unboxing and initial setup guide for the Audio-Technica AT2020USB+ microphone, demonstrating how to connect the components.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The AT2020USB+ features intuitive controls for optimal audio performance:

- **Headphone Jack:** Located on the back of the microphone, this 3.5mm jack allows you to plug in headphones for direct, real-time monitoring of your audio without any latency.

- **Headphone Volume Control:** A scroll wheel on the microphone adjusts the volume of the audio output to your connected headphones.

- **Mix Control:** Another scroll wheel allows you to blend the live microphone signal with any pre-recorded audio playing from your computer. Scroll towards "MIC" to hear more of your voice, or towards "COM" (computer) to hear more of the playback audio.

- **Cardioid Polar Pattern:** The microphone utilizes a cardioid pickup pattern, meaning it is most sensitive to sound coming from directly in front of it and rejects sound from the sides and rear.

Position the front of the microphone (indicated by the Audio-Technica logo) towards your sound source for best results.
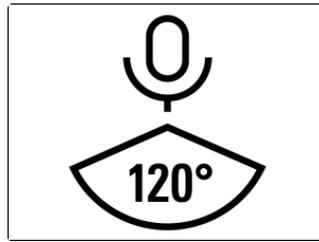

Diagram: Illustration of a cardioid polar pattern, showing the microphone's directional sensitivity.

Image: Front view of the AT2020USB+ microphone, highlighting the mix control and headphone volume wheel.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your AT2020USB+ microphone, follow these

maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the microphone's exterior. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the microphone in its provided soft protective pouch to shield it from dust and physical damage.
- **Handling:** Handle the microphone with care. Avoid dropping it or subjecting it to strong impacts, as this can damage the internal components.
- **Environment:** Keep the microphone away from extreme temperatures, high humidity, and direct sunlight.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your AT2020USB+ microphone, try the following troubleshooting steps:

- **No Sound/Low Volume:**
  - Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the microphone and your computer.
  - Check your computer's sound settings to confirm the AT2020USB+ is selected as the input device.
  - Adjust the headphone volume control on the microphone and your computer's output volume.
  - Verify the mix control on the microphone is set appropriately (e.g., towards "MIC" if you want to hear your voice).

- **Distorted Sound:**
  - Ensure the microphone is not too close to the sound source, which can cause clipping. Maintain an appropriate distance.
  - Check your computer's input gain settings and reduce them if the audio is peaking.
  - Consider using a pop filter to reduce plosive sounds (harsh "p" and "b" sounds).

- **Background Noise:**
  - The AT2020USB+ is sensitive; try to record in a quiet environment.
  - Position the microphone to utilize its cardioid pattern, pointing it directly at the desired sound source and away from noise.
  - Ensure your computer's fan noise or other ambient sounds are minimized.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Microphone Form Factor	Table Array
Polar Pattern	Unidirectional (Cardioid)

Connectivity Technology	USB
Connector Type	USB
Sampling Rate	16-bit, 44.1/48 kHz
Frequency Response	48 KHz
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	74 dB
Audio Sensitivity	10 Decibels
Item Weight	0.39 Kilograms (13.6 ounces)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	6.4 x 2 x 2 inches
Material	Stainless Steel
Color	Black
Compatible Devices	Headphone
Recommended Uses	Singing, Streaming

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Audio-Technica products are designed for durability and performance. For specific warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included in your product packaging or visit the official Audio-Technica website. For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or service inquiries, please contact Audio-Technica customer support through their official channels.