

## SUBZERO SZC-100

# SUBZERO SZC-100 Microphone Recording Pack User Manual

Model: SZC-100 | Brand: SUBZERO

## INTRODUCTION

The SUBZERO SZC-100 Microphone Recording Pack is designed for high-quality audio capture, particularly suited for acoustic instruments such as guitars, pianos, and strings, as well as overhead recording. This pack includes two SZC-100 pencil condenser microphones, along with essential stands and cables, providing a complete solution for stereo recording. The microphones feature a streamlined design and transformerless FET circuitry, ensuring a clean and uncolored signal path for crystal-clear recordings.

This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your SZC-100 Microphone Recording Pack to ensure optimal performance and longevity.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

- 2 x SUBZERO SZC-100 Pencil Condenser Microphones
- 2 x Microphone Stands
- 2 x XLR Cables



Figure 1: Complete contents of the SUBZERO SZC-100 Microphone Recording Pack, including two microphones, two microphone stands, and two XLR cables.

## SETUP

1. **Assemble Microphone Stands:** Unfold the tripod base of each stand and extend the main pole to the desired height. Secure the boom arm to the top of the main pole.
2. **Attach Microphones to Stands:** Screw the microphone clip onto the threaded end of the boom arm. Gently insert the SUBZERO SZC-100 microphone into the clip, ensuring it is securely held.
3. **Connect XLR Cables:** Connect one end of an XLR cable to the XLR output at the base of the microphone. Connect the other end of the XLR cable to an audio interface, mixer, or preamplifier that provides 48V phantom power. The SZC-100 microphones require phantom power to operate.
4. **Position Microphones:** Place the microphones in the desired recording position. For stereo recording, common techniques include X-Y, A-B, or spaced pair configurations, depending on the sound source and desired stereo image.



Figure 2: A SUBZERO SZC-100 microphone properly set up on its stand, connected via XLR cable to an audio interface, ready for recording.



Figure 3: Detail of the SUBZERO SZC-100 microphone mounted on its stand, showing the XLR connection point and the included foam windscreen.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The SUBZERO SZC-100 microphones are small diaphragm condenser microphones with a unidirectional (cardioid) polar pattern. This means they are most sensitive to sound coming from the front and less sensitive to sound from the sides and rear, which helps in isolating the desired sound source and reducing room reflections.

- **Phantom Power:** Ensure that the audio interface or mixer you are connecting to has 48V phantom power enabled for the channels connected to the SZC-100 microphones. Without phantom power, the microphones will not operate.
- **Gain Staging:** Adjust the input gain on your audio interface or mixer to achieve a healthy signal level without

clipping. Aim for peak levels around -6dB to -3dB on your recording software's meters.

- **Microphone Placement:** Experiment with microphone placement relative to the sound source. For acoustic guitars, try placing one microphone near the 12th fret and another near the sound hole for a balanced sound. For overhead drums, position them to capture the overall kit sound and cymbals.
- **Monitoring:** Use headphones or studio monitors to listen to the microphone signal during recording. This allows you to identify and correct any issues with placement or gain before recording.



Figure 4: Proper microphone placement for recording an acoustic guitar, demonstrating how the SZC-100 can be used to capture detailed sound.

## MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the microphone body and stand after each use. Avoid using abrasive cleaners or solvents, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the microphones in their original packaging or a padded case to protect them from

dust, moisture, and physical damage. Disassemble the stands and store them in a dry place.

- **Cable Care:** Coil XLR cables neatly after use to prevent kinks and damage. Avoid stepping on cables or placing heavy objects on them.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Avoid exposing the microphones to extreme temperatures, high humidity, or direct sunlight, as these conditions can negatively affect performance and lifespan.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from microphone	Phantom power not enabled	Activate 48V phantom power on your audio device.
	Faulty XLR cable	Try a different XLR cable.
	Incorrect input selection on interface/mixer	Ensure the correct input channel is selected and gain is turned up.
	Microphone not securely connected	Check all cable connections.
Distorted or noisy sound	Input gain too high (clipping)	Reduce the input gain on your audio device.
	Interference from other electronic devices	Move the microphone away from sources of electromagnetic interference.
	Damaged microphone or cable	Test with another microphone or cable if available.
Weak or low signal	Input gain too low	Increase the input gain.
	Microphone too far from sound source	Move the microphone closer to the sound source.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	SUBZERO
Model	SZC-100
Microphone Form Factor	Small Diaphragm Condenser
Polar Pattern	Unidirectional (Cardioid)
Connectivity Technology	XLR
Power Source	Corded Electric (Requires 48V Phantom Power)
Compatible Devices	Audio Interfaces, Mixers, Preamplifiers with XLR inputs and Phantom Power
Item Weight	7.2 Kilograms (for the entire pack)
Package Dimensions	20 x 10 x 6 cm (approximate, for individual microphone)



Figure 5: Front view of a single SUBZERO SZC-100 microphone, highlighting its compact design.



Figure 6: Rear view of a single SUBZERO SZC-100 microphone, displaying regulatory compliance markings.



Figure 7: The SUBZERO SZC-100 microphone with its capsule detached, illustrating the internal connection point.

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support regarding your SUBZERO SZC-100 Microphone Recording Pack, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or visit the official SUBZERO store online.

Official SUBZERO Store: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/stores/SubZero/page/E4089AEC-0312-4873-8BD8-30513A32B865>

Always ensure you purchase from authorized retailers to guarantee valid warranty coverage.