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Marantz Professional MPM-3500R

Marantz Professional MPM-3500R Ribbon Microphone User Manual

Premium Ribbon Microphone with Integrated Pop Filter and Shock Mount

Introduction

The Marantz Professional MPM-3500R is a high-quality ribbon microphone designed for precise audio capture. It excels at recording a wide range of sound sources, from delicate string instruments to powerful vocals and percussion. Its low-mass ribbon diaphragm captures subtle details while maintaining a warm and natural sound, resulting in vibrant and lifelike recordings. The MPM-3500R is robust, capable of handling sound pressure levels up to 135 dB, and requires 48 volts of phantom power for operation. Its dipole (figure-eight) pickup pattern allows for simultaneous capture of two sound sources while minimizing off-axis noise.

What's in the Box

Please verify that all the following items are included in your package:

- MPM-3500R Ribbon Microphone
- Pop Filter
- Shock Mount
- Aluminum Case
- Extra Shock-Mount Band
- User Guide (this document)
- Safety & Warranty Manual

Setup

Follow these steps to set up your Marantz Professional MPM-3500R microphone:

1. **Unpack the Microphone:** Carefully remove the MPM-3500R microphone and its accessories from the aluminum case.
2. **Attach the Shock Mount:** Secure the shock mount to a microphone stand. The shock mount helps to isolate the microphone from vibrations and handling noise.
3. **Insert the Microphone:** Gently place the MPM-3500R microphone into the shock mount, ensuring it is securely

held by the elastic bands.

4. **Position the Pop Filter:** Attach the included pop filter to the microphone stand and position it directly in front of the microphone. The pop filter reduces plosive sounds (like 'p' and 'b') and protects the ribbon element from moisture.
5. **Connect the XLR Cable:** Connect a standard XLR cable to the microphone's output and to your audio interface or mixer. Ensure a secure connection.
6. **Apply Phantom Power:** The MPM-3500R requires 48V DC phantom power to operate. Activate phantom power on your audio interface or mixer. **Important:** Always connect the microphone before activating phantom power and disconnect phantom power before unplugging the microphone.



Image: The Marantz Professional MPM-3500R microphone securely mounted in its shock mount with the pop filter positioned in front, ready for use.

Operating the Microphone

Understanding the characteristics of the MPM-3500R will help you achieve optimal recording results:

- **Phantom Power:** As an active ribbon microphone, the MPM-3500R requires 48V DC phantom power. Ensure your audio interface or mixer provides this power.
- **Dipole (Figure-Eight) Polar Pattern:** The microphone captures sound equally from the front and rear, while rejecting sound from the sides. This makes it ideal for recording two vocalists facing each other, or for capturing an instrument along with a desired amount of room ambiance. Position the microphone carefully to utilize this pattern effectively and avoid unwanted side noise.
- **Gain Staging:** Ribbon microphones can have a high output, and the MPM-3500R is designed to handle high sound pressure levels (up to 135 dB). Monitor your input levels on your audio interface or mixer to prevent clipping and distortion. Adjust the gain appropriately for your sound source.

- **Sound Source Placement:** Experiment with the distance and angle of the microphone relative to your sound source. Due to its figure-eight pattern, the microphone's position significantly impacts the captured sound and room reflections.



Image: A detailed view of the MPM-3500R microphone, highlighting its ribbon element and integrated pop filter and shock mount.

Maintenance

Proper care will ensure the longevity and performance of your MPM-3500R microphone:

- **Handle with Care:** Ribbon microphones are delicate. Avoid dropping the microphone or subjecting it to strong impacts, as this can damage the ribbon element.
- **Protect from Moisture and Dust:** Always use the pop filter to protect the ribbon from moisture. When not in use, store the microphone in its aluminum case to shield it from dust and environmental elements.
- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to gently wipe the exterior of the microphone. Do not use liquid cleaners or

solvents, as these can damage the finish or internal components.

- **Storage:** Store the microphone in its dedicated aluminum case in a cool, dry place when not in use. This protects the sensitive ribbon element from physical damage and environmental factors.





Image: The durable aluminum case provided for safe storage and transport of the MPM-3500R microphone.

Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your MPM-3500R, refer to the following common troubleshooting tips:

- **No Sound Output:**
  - Ensure the XLR cable is securely connected at both the microphone and the audio interface/mixer.
  - Verify that 48V phantom power is activated on your audio interface or mixer. The MPM-3500R requires phantom power to operate.
  - Check the input gain level on your audio interface/mixer. It might be set too low.
- **Low Signal or High Noise Floor:**
  - Increase the input gain on your audio interface/mixer, but avoid setting it so high that it introduces excessive noise.
  - Ensure the microphone is positioned appropriately close to the sound source.
  - Check for any ground loops or faulty cables that might be introducing noise.
- **Distorted Sound:**
  - Reduce the input gain on your audio interface/mixer. The microphone might be receiving too strong a signal.
  - Ensure the sound source is not excessively loud for the microphone's capabilities, although the MPM-3500R handles high SPLs well.
  - Check for any damaged cables or faulty equipment in your signal chain.
- **Unwanted Room Ambience:**
  - Due to its figure-eight polar pattern, the microphone picks up sound from the front and rear. If unwanted room sound is an issue, try to acoustically treat your recording space or position the microphone closer to the sound source to increase the direct-to-reverberant ratio.

Specifications

Feature	Specification
Model Name	MPM-3500R

Feature	Specification
Polar Pattern	Dipole (Figure-Eight)
Frequency Response	20Hz–20,000Hz
Sensitivity	-34dB ±2dB
Output Impedance	200Ω
Self Noise	15dBA
Max SPL	135dB
S/N Ratio	79dB
Phantom Power Requirement	48VDC, 3mA
Dimensions (H x W x D)	8.07” x 1.97” x 2.09” (205mm x 50mm x 53mm)
Weight	1.08 lbs (0.49 kg)
Enclosure Material	Aluminum
Connectivity Technology	Wired
Connector Type	XLR

Warranty and Support

Warranty Information: The Marantz Professional MPM-3500R microphone comes with a 1-year warranty from the date of purchase. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.
Technical Support: For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this guide, or warranty inquiries, please contact Marantz Professional customer support. Refer to the Safety & Warranty Manual included in your package for contact details or visit the official Marantz Professional website.

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