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> Audio-Technica ATR2100x-USB Cardioid Dynamic Microphone (ATR Series) USB and XLR Outputs User Manual

Audio-Technica ATR2100X-USB

Audio-Technica ATR2100x-USB Cardioid Dynamic Microphone User Manual

Brand: Audio-Technica | Model: ATR2100X-USB

INTRODUCTION

The Audio-Technica ATR2100x-USB is a versatile handheld dynamic microphone designed for a wide range of applications, including live performance, podcasting, home studio recording, field recording, and voiceover work. It features dual outputs, offering both a USB-C digital connection for direct recording to computers and an XLR analog connection for use with traditional sound systems. The microphone is built with durable metal construction and provides a smooth, extended frequency response, ensuring high-fidelity audio capture.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Verify that all the following components are included in your package:

- ATR2100x-USB Microphone
- Stand clamp for 5/8"-27 threaded stands
- Tripod desk stand
- 2 m (6.6') USB-C to USB-C cable (USB On-The-Go Compliant)
- 2 m (6.6') USB-C to USB-A cable
- 3 m (9.8') XLRF to XLRM cable



The ATR2100x-USB microphone shown with its included tripod desk stand.



The included 3-meter XLR to XLR cable for analog connections.



The included 2-meter USB-C to USB-A cable for connecting to standard USB ports.



The included 2-meter USB-C to USB-C cable for connecting to USB-C devices.

SETUP

USB Connection (Digital Recording)

For digital recording, connect the microphone directly to your computer (Windows or Mac) using either the supplied USB-C to USB-C cable or the USB-C to USB-A cable, depending on your computer's available ports. The microphone will be recognized as an audio input device.



The microphone connected to a laptop, demonstrating a typical USB setup for digital recording.

XLR Connection (Analog Performance)

For live performance or use with a sound system, connect the microphone to a conventional microphone input using the supplied XLR to XLRM cable. Note that some XLR setups, particularly those involving condenser microphones, may require **phantom power**, which is typically supplied by a mixer or audio interface. While the ATR2100x-USB is a dynamic microphone and does not strictly require phantom power for operation, an audio interface or amplifier may be necessary to achieve sufficient gain and volume, especially when connecting to devices like phones or cameras that lack built-in preamps.

Connecting to Mobile Devices/Cameras

To connect the microphone to mobile devices or cameras, a USB-C to 3.5mm audio adapter may be required, as the microphone's USB-C port is primarily for digital recording to computers or for power when used with an amplifier. Ensure your adapter supports audio input. For optimal audio levels, especially with XLR connections to mobile devices, an external amplifier or audio interface with appropriate inputs and outputs is recommended.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Power and Monitoring

- **On/Off Switch:** The microphone features an on/off switch that functions for both USB and analog (XLR) operation. Ensure the switch is in the 'On' position for the microphone to function.
- **Headphone Jack:** A built-in headphone jack with level control allows for direct monitoring of your audio from the microphone. This is crucial for real-time feedback, especially during recording. Adjust the dial on the bottom of the microphone to control headphone volume.

Gain Adjustment

When using an external audio interface or amplifier with the XLR output, you can adjust the gain (input level) to optimize the microphone's signal. Set the gain to a level that is loud enough for clear audio without causing distortion or 'clipping'. Refer to your audio interface's manual for specific gain adjustment procedures.

Polar Pattern

The ATR2100x-USB features a **cardioid polar pattern**. This design primarily picks up sound from the front of the microphone, significantly reducing the pickup of unwanted sounds from the sides and rear. This characteristic is beneficial for isolating the desired sound source, making it ideal for vocal applications, podcasting, and situations where background noise reduction is important.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Audio-Technica ATR2100x-USB microphone, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the microphone's exterior. Avoid using harsh chemicals, solvents, or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the microphone in a cool, dry place, away from extreme temperatures, humidity, and direct sunlight. Using the original packaging or a protective case can prevent dust accumulation and physical damage.
- **Handling:** Handle the microphone with care. Avoid dropping it or subjecting it to strong impacts, as this can affect its performance and durability.

TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your ATR2100x-USB microphone and provides potential solutions.

Issue	Possible Cause	Solution
Low volume when using USB-C connection.	Input gain on computer/device is too low; inherent characteristic of USB-C output without external amplification.	Increase input volume settings on your computer or recording software. For louder output, consider using an audio interface with the XLR output.
Cannot hear audio playback through the audio interface without headphones.	Many audio interfaces, including some Vocaster models, require headphones for direct monitoring of input and playback.	Connect headphones to the audio interface's headphone output to monitor audio. Alternatively, if using the microphone directly with a device, unplug the USB-C cable to allow the device's internal speakers to play back audio.
XLR output has no sound or very low sound.	Microphone is not powered on; incorrect gain settings on mixer/interface; faulty cable.	Ensure the microphone's on/off switch is in the 'On' position. Adjust the gain knob on your mixer or audio interface. Test with a different XLR cable if available. Verify that your mixer/interface is providing sufficient gain for a dynamic microphone.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	Audio-Technica
Model Name	ATR2100XUSB
Connectivity Technology	USB and XLR Outputs
Connector Type	USB Type-C

Feature	Detail
Microphone Form Factor	Handheld
Polar Pattern	Unidirectional (Cardioid)
Minimum Frequency	50 Hz
Maximum Frequency	15000 Hz
Audio Sensitivity	24 dB
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	192 Hz (A/D converter sampling rate)
Noise Level	24 dB
Item Weight	1.61 pounds
Product Dimensions	2.01 x 2.01 x 7.2 inches
Material	Metal
Power Source	USB-C
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer
Included Components	Microphone, Stand clamp, Tripod desk stand, USB-C to USB-C cable, USB-C to USB-A cable, XLRF to XLRM cable

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Audio-Technica products are designed for durability and performance. This product comes with a standard manufacturer's warranty. For detailed warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the official Audio-Technica website or the full user manual.

A digital version of the user manual is available for download:[Download User Manual \(PDF\)](#)

