

## Zoom ZDM-1

# Zoom ZDM-1 Dynamic Podcasting Microphone User Manual

Model: ZDM-1 | Brand: Zoom



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Zoom ZDM-1 is a high-quality dynamic microphone designed for podcasting, voice-overs, interviews, vocals, and more. It features a large diaphragm, high SPL capability, and a sturdy metal body, ensuring clear and broadcast-quality sound. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your ZDM-1 microphone.



Figure 1.1: The Zoom ZDM-1 Dynamic Podcasting Microphone.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand all safety precautions before using this product. Failure to do so may result in injury or damage to the device.

- Do not expose the microphone to extreme temperatures, humidity, or direct sunlight.
- Avoid dropping or subjecting the microphone to strong impacts.
- Keep the microphone away from water and other liquids.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the microphone. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- Use only specified accessories and cables.

### **3. PACKAGE CONTENTS**

Verify that all items are present in your ZDM-1 package:

- ZDM-1 Dynamic Microphone
- Microphone Stand Adapter
- Removable Windscreen



Figure 3.1: The ZDM-1 microphone and its packaging.

## 4. SETUP

### 4.1 Connecting the Microphone

1. Attach the ZDM-1 to a microphone stand using the included stand adapter.
2. Connect an XLR cable (not included) to the XLR output at the bottom of the microphone.
3. Connect the other end of the XLR cable to your audio interface, mixer, or recorder.



Figure 4.1: ZDM-1 connected to a stand via XLR cable.

## 4.2 Attaching the Windscreen

The ZDM-1 comes with a removable windscreen to reduce plosives (harsh 'p' and 'b' sounds) and breath noise. Gently slide the foam windscreen over the microphone's grille until it is securely in place.



Figure 4.2: ZDM-1 with the included windscreen and a small desktop stand.

## 5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 5.1 Optimal Placement

For best results, position the ZDM-1 approximately 6-12 inches (15-30 cm) from the sound source. Due to its unidirectional polar pattern, the microphone is most sensitive to sounds directly in front of it, effectively rejecting off-axis noise. Experiment with distance and angle to find the ideal sound for your specific application.

### 5.2 Gain Settings

Adjust the gain on your audio interface or mixer to achieve an optimal signal level. Aim for a strong signal without clipping (distortion). The ZDM-1 is a dynamic microphone and does not require phantom power.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and performance of your ZDM-1 microphone, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- Clean the microphone body with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- The windscreen can be gently hand-washed with mild soap and water, then air-dried completely before reattaching.
- Store the microphone in a cool, dry place, away from dust and extreme temperatures.
- When not in use, disconnect the XLR cable to prevent strain on the connector.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

### 7.1 No Sound Output

- **Check Connections:** Ensure the XLR cable is securely connected to both the microphone and your audio device.

- **Verify Gain:** Confirm that the gain level on your audio interface or mixer is set appropriately.
- **Input Selection:** Make sure the correct input channel is selected on your audio device or software.
- **Cable Integrity:** Test with a different XLR cable if possible, to rule out a faulty cable.

### 7.2 Excessive Noise or Hum

- **Ground Loop:** Ensure all audio equipment is properly grounded.
- **Cable Quality:** Use high-quality, shielded XLR cables.
- **Proximity to Electronics:** Move the microphone away from power supplies, monitors, or other electronic devices that may cause interference.
- **Shock Mount:** Consider using an external shock mount to reduce handling noise and vibrations transmitted through the stand.

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

| Feature                        | Specification                               |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Brand                          | Zoom  |
| Model Name                     | ZDM-1                                       |
| Microphone Form Factor         | Large Diaphragm                             |
| Polar Pattern                  | Unidirectional                              |
| Connectivity Technology        | XLR   |
| Material                       | Metal                                       |
| Item Weight                    | 1 pounds (454 Grams)                        |
| Product Dimensions (L x W x H) | 5.9 x 2.12 x 2.12 inches                    |
| Audio Sensitivity              | 135 dB                                      |
| Signal-to-Noise Ratio          | 78 dB                                       |
| Power Source                   | Corded Electric (No Phantom Power Required) |
| Recommended Uses               | Video Conference, Singing, Karaoke          |



Figure 8.1: Approximate dimensions of the ZDM-1 microphone.

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Zoom ZDM-1 Dynamic Podcasting Microphone comes with a manufacturer's warranty. For detailed warranty information, including terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included in your product packaging or visit the official Zoom website. For technical support, troubleshooting assistance beyond this manual, or service inquiries, please contact Zoom customer support through their official channels.