CASCADE MICROPHONES

Valve 55 (V55) User Manual

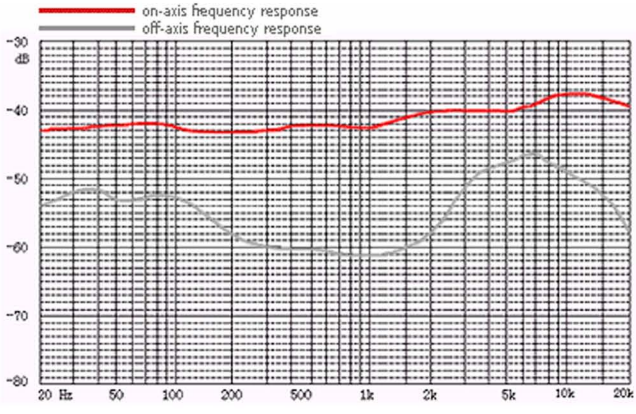
Description:

Cascade's V55 features a classic tube design... It's an excellent choice for vocals as well as acoustic guitar and drums. The circuit design utilizes a specially selected Mullard 12AT7WA/CV4024 tube. The Cascade V55 has a 1.38" (35mm) gold-sputtered diaphragm & offers transformer balanced output. The transformer design ensures higher immunity to noise and longer cable drive capability. The Cascade V55 delivers a smooth, fast transient response with extremely low noise and low distortion.

Included accessories:

Dedicated vintage style power supply
High quality 7-pin cable with military style connector
Aluminum flight case
Wooden box for the microphone
Heavy-duty spider shockmount
Extra replacement elastic band for spider shockmount

Frequency response:



Specifactions:

Type:	Vacuum tube condenser
Capsule:	1.38” diameter, gold vacuum plated diaphragm
Frequency Response:	20Hz to 20 kHz
Polar Pattern:	Cardioid
Sensitivity:	20mV/Pa or -36±1dB (0dB=1V/Pa 1000Hz)
Tube Type:	Mullard 12AT7WA/CV4024
Output impedance:	< 200 ohms
Output Noise:	< 16dB typical, (A weighted)
THD:	< 0.5% at 130 dB SPL
Connector:	7-pin military connector
Power Requirement:	Dedicated Power Supply, switchable 115v to 220v.

The Cascade V55 microphone **DOES NOT** require ±48v phantom power.
A heavy-duty stand is recommended due to the weight of the Cascade V55.

Step-up connections:

1) Make sure the power supply is in the OFF (switch down) position.
2) Set the red voltage switch on the power supply to the proper voltage, 115v or 230v*
3) Plug the supplied 7-pin cable (male connector) into the MIC input, then plug the 7-pin (female) connector into the V55.
4) Using an XLR cable, connect the XLR(F) connector into the power supply OUT.
5) Next connect the XLR(M) connector from the same cable into your mixer / micro phone preamp. **DO NOT** engage the ±48v phantom power.
6) Plug the power supply into an AC wall outlet.
7) Turn the power supply to the ON (switch up) position.

* 115v is the USA standard. 230v is the European standard.

NOTE: For optimal performance allow the tube to warm up before use. Leave the microphone connected to the power supply switched on for 30 minutes.

Replacing the tube:

To replace or change the V55's tube, unscrew the base of the microphone, then pull straight down to remove the body. Next grasp the tube and remove it from the ceramic socket. Your V55 comes stock with a Mullard 12AT7/ECC81 New Old Stock (NOS) tube. The Mullard 12AT7/ECC81 is a high quality tube that will deliver excellent results. You can experiment with different tubes such as 12AX7/ECC83 and 12AY7/6072A. All of which can be changed out very easily. Finding the perfect tube for a particular application can be very rewarding.

Recording vocals:

We recommend using a pop-filter for vocal applications. Pop-filters provide an acoustically transparent barrier between the singer and the microphone that is used to prevent the breath/moving air from reaching the microphone capsule, which causes pops. A pop-filter also helps prevent moisture from accumulating on the capsule.

The placement of the microphone and pop-filter varies depending on the vocalists style and volume. We suggest experimenting until you find the optimal position.

Recording acoustic and electric guitar/bass:

When recording acoustic guitar the most common microphone position, is about 1 foot away from the front of the instrument where the neck and body meet. Adjust the distance and position to tune the desired response.

When recording from a guitar or bass amplifier the microphone should be placed close to the speaker of the amplifier and directed slightly to the side.

Recording drums:

When recording drums with a single microphone, we suggest that you place the microphone above the center of the drum kit at the same height as the drum kit is wide, with the front of the microphone facing downward.

NOTE: These are general techniques. We suggest that you experiment until you find the positioning and sound you desire.

Storage:

When not in use, the V55 should be placed back in it's wooden box or enclosed within a non-lint covering. Leaving the microphone exposed for extended periods of time may cause lint and dust particals to accumulate on the diaphragm.

WARNING: DO NOT OPEN THE POWER SUPPLY! LETHAL VOLTAGES MAY BE PRESENT!

User Notes:

Optional accessories:

The MS-37 is a sturdy, all metal brace construction, boom microphone stand. A rotating lever on the neck of the stand provides fine adjustment control to the height of the stand. It has three telescopic legs with camera tripod style locking at each joint, providing ultimate control over angle of the stand. This feature also makes it possible to level the microphone stand in almost any outdoor terrain. A hook that hangs from the center of the stand is provided for the addition of weight (sandbags) in order to achieve more stability. The mic stand breaks down into two easy to carry parts, making it ideal for on location and outdoor recording.

The PF-1 is a professional pop-eliminator for vocal applications. The design utilizes a metal screen that eliminates pops more effectively than fabric type designs. The Cascade PF-1 eliminates high frequency losses that occur with fabric pop filters. It can be cleaned with soap and water between uses to promote a high level of sanitation. The Cascade PF-1 features a 5.25" round filter and an attached 13" flexible goose neck with adjustable clamp.

CASCADE MICROPHONES

www.cascademicrophones.com

Cascade Microphones
3720 Gravelly Beach Loop NW
Olympia, WA 98502

Phone: (360) 867-1799 FAX: (360) 867-1793