

User Manual

for Karma K-58 Tube Mic

Thank you for purchasing Karma microphones. Our products are manufactured with the finest materials, components, and craftsmanship.

The K58 is a tube microphone and requires a special setup and treatment. Inside the flightcase you will find a custom power supply box. You will also notice that there are multi-pin connectors on one cable. These connectors are for use with these microphones only.

Take your custom power supply from the case and plug one end of the multi pin connector cable into the microphone and the other end of the cable into the multi pin input on the custom power supply. Next take the normal 3-pin XLR cable and plug one end into the 3-pin side of the custom power supply and the other end into your desired input such as a mixer or stand alone mic pre-amplifier. It is highly recommended that a quality, stand alone mic pre-amplifier be used for best results, enhanced sound and performance with all Karma microphones.

If power is being supplied and still there is no signal, be sure to check all the cables you are using and make sure they are operational. Just like any other tube microphone, you must always turn on your power supply and microphone to let them warm up for about an hour before using. Once you have your custom power supply turned on and your mic is warmed up, you may now adjust your gain. Please also note that gain-staging is very important and if not gain-staged properly, you can overdrive an input stage and produce unwanted distortion. It is critical to set the gain correctly. See your mixer and/or microphone pre-amplifier manuals for more details.

Please note that this is a tube microphone and provides that warm vintage tube sound so many recording artists, engineers, and producers prefer, however tubes require special treatment. Remember you must always turn on your power supply and microphone and let it warm up for about an hour before using. Tubes need to completely warm up and stabilize before actual use. Also, tubes do age and need replacing now and again. CAUTION: With the power supply unplugged from the wall electrical outlet and no cable attached to the mic, you can unscrew the body of the microphone and carefully remove the tube and replace with a new one from Karma at anytime.

Microphone placement and pattern selection are also variables that can produce a variety of results when recording acoustic instruments or voice. The K58 has 9 patterns available with a continuous dial allowing exploration of all the points in between each position. Feel free to experiment for best results.

You are sure to enjoy years of trouble free use with proper care and maintenance. We wish you many hours of wonderful recordings!

KARMA AUDIO PRODUCTIONS 21621 STEVENS CREEK BLVD. CUPERTINO, CA 95014 408-446-2928
(M-F 9am-6pm; Sat 2pm-8pm)