## User Guide



# KSM42









## **CARDIOID CONDENSER MICROPHONE**

Thank you for selecting the KSM42.

Over 85 years of audio experience has contributed to making this one of the finest microphones available.



If you have any questions not answered in this guide, please contact Shure Applications Engineering at 847-600-8440, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, CST. In Europe, call 49-7131-72140. Our web address is www.shure.com.



## **General Description**

This premium side-address, cardioid condenser microphone features a large dual-diaphragm optimized for world-class vocal recording and performance applications. With a tailored frequency response and extensive internal and external pop filtering, the single-pattern, dual-diaphragm design of the KSM42 exhibits an exceptionally smooth frequency response and ultra-wide dynamic range. The KSM42 is the premier choice for capturing sophisticated and intimate vocal performances.

#### **Features**

- · Highly consistent cardioid polar pattern creates a broad "sweet spot" and natural off-axis response
- Dual-diaphragm design with an active front, ultra thin (2.5 micron) 24-karat gold, low mass, 1-inch Mylar® diaphragm
- · Passive back diaphragm delivers exceptional control of low frequency proximity effect
- · Tailored low-frequency roll-off minimizes low frequency room noise
- Integrated three-stage mesh grille guards against wind and breath noise—magnetic pop filter attachment for additional pop protection
- Open cage ShureLock® rubber suspension shock mount with low-profile magnetic pop filter produces a natural space between performer and microphone
- · Extremely low self noise for critical studio vocal recording
- Advanced preamplifier technology exhibits extremely low self-noise with superior dynamic range, transient response and ultra-low distortion for transparent recording
- · Premium electronic components and gold-plated internal and external connectors
- Durable zinc die-cast housing and hardened low carbon steel grille
- · Internal shock mount to reduce unwanted handling and stand noise

#### **Performance Characteristics**

- · Consistent frequency response, irrespective of distance
- · High output level
- · Extensive pop filtering protection system (internal and external)
- · High input SPL capability
- · Ultra-low distortion
- · Uniform polar response
- Superior common mode rejection and suppression of radio frequency interference

#### **Applications**

The KSM42 is designed primarily for:

- · Solo and backing vocals
- Voice-overs
- · Speech

Secondary uses might include:

- · Ensembles—choral or orchestral room ambiance pick-up
- Acoustic instruments—piano, guitar, and stringed instruments
- · Wind instruments-brass and woodwinds

#### **OPERATION**

#### **Power Requirements**

This microphone requires phantom power and performs best with a 48 Vdc supply (IEC-268-15/DIN 45 596). However, it will operate with slightly decreased headroom and sensitivity with supplies as low as 11 Vdc. Most modern mixers provide phantom power. You must use a **balanced** microphone cable: XLR-to-XLR or XLR-to-TRS.

## **Suspension Mount**

Use the supplied ShureLock® rubber suspension mount to secure the microphone to a floor or boom stand.

**Important:** Thread the knurled locking ring securely to the base of the microphone. Do not overtighten.





#### **Positioning**

Position the front of the microphone, with **SHURE**, towards the desired sound source. Position the rear of the microphone, with the vintage circle S logo, towards any unwanted sound sources.



## Pop Filter

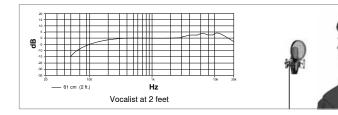
An integrated three-stage mesh grille guards against wind and breath noise. Use the included pop filter accessory for additional protection against breath and "plosive" noises. The pop filter magnetically attaches to the front of the shockmount ring.

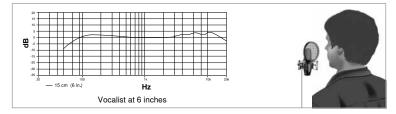




## **Reduction of Proximity Effect**

To counter proximity effect, the KSM42 uses two diaphragms, one active and one passive, to create an acoustic phase shift at the rear of the microphone. This produces a broad "sweet spot" of uniform low-frequency response, allowing the performer to move closer or further from the microphone with minimal changes in sound quality.





## **SPECIFICATIONS**

| Transducer Type  | Dual-Diaphragm, Front-Active, Externally Biased Condenser   |
|--|---|
| Frequency Response   | 60 to 20,000Hz  |
| Polar Pattern  | Cardioid  |
| Output Impedance   | 147 Ω   |
| Sensitivity (at 1 kHz, open circuit voltage)                   | -37 dBV/Pa (14.1 mV)<br>1 Pascal=94 dB SPL  |
| Maximum SPL<br>(1 kHz at 1% THD)                               | $1000~\Omega$ load: 139 dB $2500~\Omega$ load: 139 dB THD of microphone preamplifier when applied input signal is equivalent to cartridge output at specified SPL |
| Signal-to-Noise Ratio<br>(referenced at 94 dB SPL at 1<br>kHz) | 86 dB<br>S/N ratio is difference between 94 dB SPL and equivalent SPL of self<br>noise, A-weighted  |
| Dynamic Range<br>(at 1 kHz)                                    | 1000 Ω load: 131 dB<br>2500 Ω load: 131 dB  |
| Common Mode Rejection<br>(10 Hz to 100 kHz)                    | > 60 dB   |
| Clipping Level<br>(20Hz-20 kHz at 1% THD)                      | 1000 $\Omega$ load: 6.5 dBV 2500 $\Omega$ load: 8 dBV   |
| Self Noise<br>(typical, equivalent SPL,<br>A-weighted)         | 8.5 dB  |
| Polarity   | Positive pressure on diaphragm produces positive voltage on pin 2 with respect to pin 3   |
| Weight   | Net: 494 g<br>with shock mount and pop filter: 820 g  |
| Connector  | Three-pin professional audio (XLR), male  |
| Power Requirements   | 11 to 52 Vdc phantom, 6 mA  |

#### **ACCESSORIES AND PARTS**

#### **Furnished Accessories**

| Magnetic Pop Filter                      | A42PF |
|--|-------|
| ShureLock® Rubber Suspension Shock Mount | A42SM |
| Aluminum Carrying Case                   | A42SC |
| Protective Velveteen Pouch               | A42VB |
| Suspension Mount O-rings (4)             | A42OR |

#### **Optional Accessories**

| Windscreen                    | A32WS |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Padded, Zippered Carrying Bag | A32ZB |
| Swivel Stand Mount            | A32M  |

#### **Replacement Parts**

| Suspension Mount O-rings (4) | A42OR |
|------------------------------|-------|
|------------------------------|-------|

#### **CERTIFICATION**

Eligible to bear CE Marking. Conforms to European EMC Directive 2004/108/EC. Meets Harmonized Standards EN55103-1:1996 and EN55103-2:1996, for residential (E1) and light industrial (E2) environments.

The Declaration of Conformity can be obtained from:

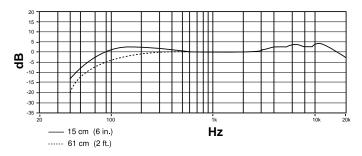
Authorized European representative:

Shure Europe GmbH

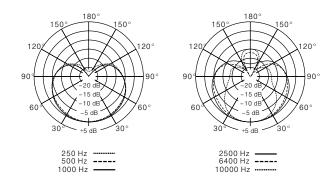
Headquarters Europe, Middle East & Africa

Department: EMEA Approval Wannenacker Str. 28

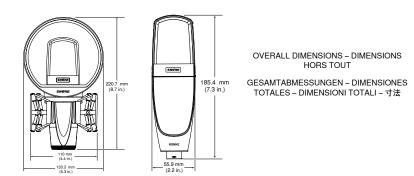
D-74078 Heilbronn, Germany Phone: +49 7131 72 14 0 Fax: +49 7131 72 14 14 Email: EMEAsupport@shure.de



TYPICAL FREQUENCY RESPONSE
COURBE DE REPONSE TYPIQUE - TYPISCHES FREQUENZVERHALTEN - RESPUESTA DE FRECUENCIA TIPICA
TIPICA RISPOSTA IN FREQUENZA - 周波数特性



TYPICAL POLAR PATTERNS
COURBE DE DIRECTIVITE TYPIQUES - TYPISCHE POLARCHARAKTERISTIK - PATRONES DE CAPTACION POLAR
TIPICOS - TIPICI DIAGRAMMI POLARI - 指向特性



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Patent Notice: Pat. D447,131



SHURE Incorporated http://www.shure.com United States, Canada, Latin America, Caribbean:

5800 W. Touhy Avenue, Niles, IL 60714-4608,

USA

Phone: 847-600-2000 U.S. Fax: 847-600-1212 Intl Fax: 847-600-6446 Europe. Middle East. Africa:

Shure Europe GmbH, Phone: 49-7131-72140

Fax: 49-7131-721414

Asia. Pacific:

Shure Asia Limited, Phone: 852-2893-4290

Fax: 852-2893-4055

SHURE Incorporated http://www.shure.com États-Unis, Canada, Amérique latine, Caraïbes: 5800 W. Touhy Avenue, Niles, IL 60714-4608, U.S.A.

Téléphone: 847-600-2000

Télécopie aux États-Unis : 847-600-1212 Télécopie internationale : 847-600-6446 Europe, Moyen-Orient, Afrique:

Shure Europe GmbH, Téléphone : 49-7131-72140

73-7131-72140

Télécopie: 49-7131-721414

Asie, Pacifique:

Shure Asia Limited, Téléphone: 852-2893-4290

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SHURE Incorporated http://www.shure.com Estados Unidos, Canadá, Latinoamérica, Caribe: 5800 W. Touhy Avenue, Niles, IL 60714-4608,

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Fax: 847-600-1212

Fax internacional: 847-600-6446 Europa, Medio Oriente, Africa:

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Shure Asia Limited, numero telefonico:

852-2893-4290 Fax: 852-2893-4055