



Blue
Microphones



Microphones

Step up to the mic.™

Blue Microphones
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Warranty

This Microphone or related part is warranted under the conditions outlined below to its original, registered owner, provided the purchase was made from an authorized Baltic Latvian Universal Electronics (BLUE) dealer. This Microphone or related part is guaranteed to remain free from operating defects for three years from the date of purchase. In the event that service is required, all necessary parts and labor will be furnished free of charge during this period except for tubes, which are guaranteed for 90 days against defects. This warranty is void if the serial number has been altered, removed or defaced. The warranty is void if the equipment is altered, misused, mishandled, maladjusted, or is serviced by any parties not authorized by Baltic Latvian Universal Electronics (BLUE). The warranty does not include transportation costs incurred because of the need for service unless arranged for in advance. Baltic Latvian Universal Electronics (BLUE) reserves the right to make changes in design and improve upon its products without obligation to install these improvements in any of its products previously manufactured. This warranty is in lieu of any or all expressed or implied.

In keeping with our policy of continued product improvement, Baltic Latvian Universal Electronics (BLUE) reserves the right to alter specifications without prior notice.

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Baby Bottle



Baby Bottle



Congratulations on your purchase of the Baby Bottle, a classic modern microphone made the old-fashioned way, without compromise. Following in the footsteps of our flagship Bottle mic system, the solid-state class A discrete Baby Bottle is truly a chip off the old block. In order to familiarize yourself with this microphone's specialized and unique features, please take the time to read this manual. And be sure to try the suggested recording tips. With proper care and feeding, the Baby Bottle will reward you with many years of recording enjoyment.

The Baby Bottle is a pressure-gradient cardioid condenser microphone that employs our edge-terminated single-membrane large diaphragm capsule. Enclosed within a spherical grille, the side-address capsule can be positioned in the smallest of spaces. Please note that, unlike some Blue microphones, the Baby Bottle capsule is not designed to rotate, swivel, or move in any direction.

The Baby Bottle features a Class A discrete transformerless amplifier. The Baby Bottle's character is especially rich in midrange response, making it an ideal choice for recording vocals, drums, electric guitar, and most acoustic instruments including difficult sources like saxophones, flutes, and stringed instruments.



mic system, The Baby Bottle is truly a chip off the
class A discrete condenser to insure nothing short of
precision-machined, cold-sputtered cardioid cap
Bottle is ideal for recording vocals, percussion, or any
protected by a beautiful che

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To get the most out of any quality microphone, it is essential to pair it with a good microphone pre-amplifier. We recommend Blue's *Robbie*, a single-channel Class A discrete vacuum tube mic and instrument preamp. To maintain the integrity of your signal, we suggest using our *Kiwi*, *Cranberry* or *Blueberry* high-definition microphone cables. And whenever possible, connect the mic preamp output directly to your recorder or A/D converter, bypassing any unnecessary components.



The Baby Bottle includes a vintage-style shockmount designed to isolate the microphone body from low frequency vibrations when mounted on a stand. To attach the mic to the stand, you may find it easiest to 1) loosen the boom stand arm or threaded end of the mic stand, 2) grasp the mic or shockmount assembly in one hand, and 3) screw the mic stand threads into the mount. This procedure eliminates any possibility of dropping or damage to the mic.

NOTE: Forceful positioning of the shockmount without loosening of the thumbscrew can result in damage not covered by warranty.

The Baby Bottle requires +48 volt phantom power, which is provided by most mic preamps, mixing consoles, or separate phantom power supplies. It is important to note that some units, though rated at 48 volts, may supply insufficient or unstable phantom power, which can result in distortion and/or degraded performance when used with this microphone.

To avoid damage to audio components when connecting phantom power, follow this simple procedure: 1) turn down the mic preamp gain, headphones, and your studio monitors, 2) connect microphone cable to the Baby Bottle and microphone input jack, 3) turn on phantom power, 4) turn up the mic preamp gain, etc. To disconnect or re-route the Baby Bottle, 1) turn down the mic preamp gain, headphones, and your studio monitors, 2) turn off phantom power and wait 30 seconds before disconnecting the mic.

So, now that you're familiar with the mic, here are some recording tips that will allow you to get the most out of your Baby Bottle.

Vocals

Here's a little-known secret – vocalists love singing into unique and impressive mics like the Baby Bottle. Put it in front of any singer and you are guaranteed to get a 110% inspired performance. For a "big" vocal sound, get the vocalist within one to four inches of the capsule. There is no need to worry about overloading the microphone, but be sure to use the pop filter included with the mic to protect the diaphragm. Tilt the microphone up (toward the forehead) for more projection and head tone, straight on at the mouth for maximum brightness and intelligibility, or down toward the chest for more robust full lows and smoother highs.



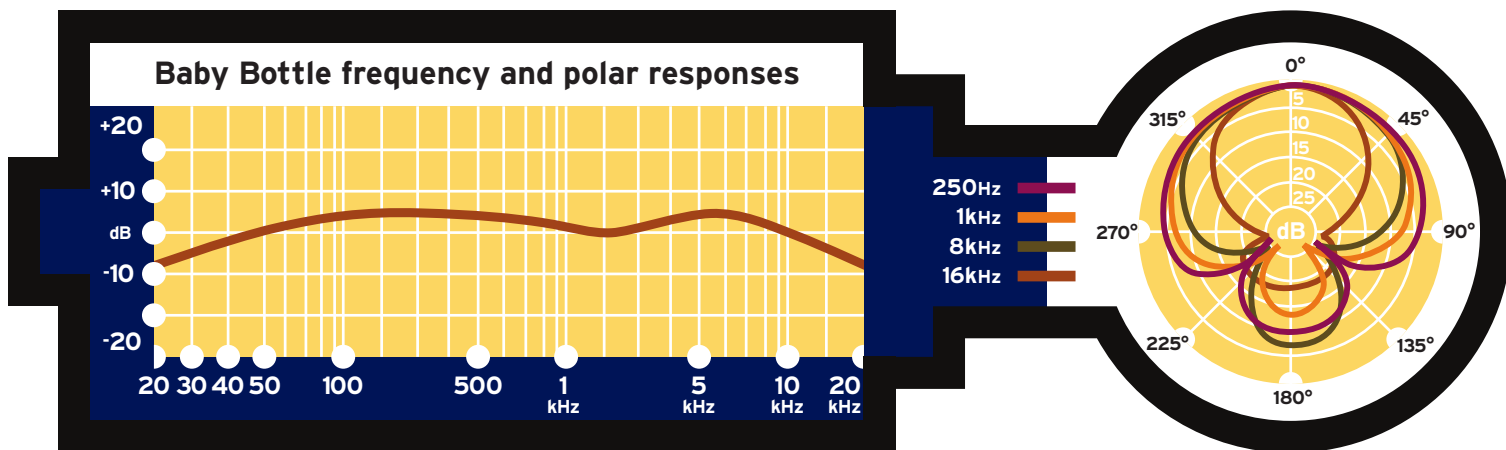
Electric Guitar



Because of its full midrange response, the Baby Bottle is an excellent mic for any clean or distorted amp sound. Orient the capsule toward the center of the speaker to capture more highs, or toward the edge of the cone for a fuller sound with more low end. For overdriven or distorted tones, move the mic towards the outer edge of the cone, or back it away from the amp a foot or more to add a little room sound and soften the extreme high end. Give the Baby Bottle a try on electric bass, blues harmonica, and organ too!

Acoustic Guitar

Large diaphragm mics require careful placement when used on acoustic guitar, but the Baby Bottle's rich tone and hot output is well-suited to this job. For a balanced sound with plenty of sparkling high end, place the microphone facing the guitar neck, right where the neck joins the body (usually around the 12th - 14th frets). For starters, keep the mic as close as possible, and tilt the capsule toward the soundhole to capture a blend of low end and pick sound. If you need more lows, move the microphone closer to the soundhole. For more high end detail, move the Baby Bottle farther from the guitar, either at the same neck position, or above the instrument up by the guitarist's head.



These frequency charts are only a beginning. It gives the recordist a basis of the sound provided. How the microphone reacts in a particular application will differ greatly because of many variables. Room acoustics, distance from sound source (proximity), tuning of the instrument and mic cabling are only a few of the interacting issues. For an artist or an engineer, how the microphones are used creates the basis of the sound.

Strings



Because of its high output, natural highs and abundant midrange characteristics, the Baby Bottle is an excellent choice for miking all members of the bowed string family. In general, the capsule should be oriented toward the instrument's bridge to pick up a blend of resonance and bow sound. On bass and cello, placement from 3 to 6 inches in front of the bridge is usually ideal. For violin and viola, it is preferable to position the microphone 1 to 2 feet above the instrument. Angle the capsule toward the bridge for more bow sound and low tones, or move the microphone toward the tuning pegs to capture a more diffuse, bright, and blended sound.

Drums

The Baby Bottle's slim profile and fast transient response offer numerous advantages when recording drums. For kit and hand drums, begin by placing the microphone two to four inches above the rim or hoop (where the head is secured to the shell). Angle the capsule toward the player's stick or hand to pick up more attack and definition. Orienting the capsule toward the shell will soften the sharp attack of a hand drum, or pick up more of the bright, crackling buzz from a snare. Moving the microphone closer to a drum generally increases the low end, shell resonance, and separation from other sound sources, while more distant placement emphasizes the interaction of the drum and the environment, producing a blended, airier sound.



Saxophones, Flutes, and Reeds



The smooth, natural high end response of the Baby Bottle makes it an ideal choice for miking saxophones and other wind instruments. For soprano sax, clarinet, and related instruments, position the capsule directly above and in front of the keys between the middle of the horn and the lowest pads. Try moving the mic up or down along the length of the body to adjust the balance of airy highs (toward the mouthpiece) and cutting midrange (toward the bell). On flute, start by placing the Baby Bottle above the middle of the instrument, and move the capsule closer to the mouthpiece if more

highs and breath sound is desired. For other members of the saxophone family, start by placing the Baby Bottle two to six inches in front of the lip of the bell. Angle the capsule up toward the mouthpiece to capture more air, brightness, and high notes. For a mellower sound, orienting the capsule toward the floor emphasizes the low range of the sax, and tames the biting upper mids that project straight out of the bell.

Enjoy your Baby Bottle!



Technical Specifications

Transducer Type: **Condenser, Pressure Gradient**

Polar Pattern: **Cardioid**

Frequency Response: **20Hz - 20KHz**

Sensitivity: **33.5mV/Pa at 1 kHz (1 Pa = 94dB SPL)**

Output Impedance: **50Ω**

Rated Load Impedance: **<1kΩ**

Maximum SPL: **133dB SPL (2.5kΩ, 0.5% THD)**

S/N ratio: **87dB-A (IEC 651)**

Noise Level: **5.5dB-A (IEC 651)**

Dynamic Range: **127.5dB (@2.5kΩ)**

Power Requirement: **+48V Phantom (IEC 268-15)**

Weight: **350g**

Dimensions: **222mm x 45mm**

Included Accessories:

- Wood storage box
- Custom pop filter
- Custom shockmount

Recommended Optional Accessories:

- *Kiwi*, *Cranberry* or *Blueberry* high-definition mic cable
- *Robbie the Mic Pre* Class-A vacuum tube mic preamplifier

