

By GeorgePetersen

Kick Drum Microphones

Once upon a time, choices for miking kick drums were few — RE-20's, D12's, MD421's and the occasional M88. But as bass drum became more prominent in music mixes, a market opened for specialized microphones for kick applications, with new high-SPL, plug-and-go models that required little or no EQ to provide a solid kick sound. Today, there are dozens of such models available — and even more if you consider all the boundary-style mics suitable for the task. We looked into some current market offerings and found a huge selection to fit anyone's taste or budget. Speaking of price, all include an MSRP here, although street prices can vary widely if you shop around. So get kicking!

Avantone MONDO



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 15k Hz
Weight: 16 ounces
Notes: Includes shock mount.

MSRP \$125
avantonepro.com

Beyer M99



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Hypercardioid
Frequency Response: 30 Hz to 18k Hz
Weight: 18.5 ounces
Notes: Three onboard filter switches; includes shock mount.

MSRP \$699
north-america.beyerdynamic.com

CAD Audio D12



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 50 Hz to 16k Hz
Weight: n/a
Notes: Integral swivel mount.

MSRP \$129
cadaudio.com

Drum Workshop Moon Mic



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 15k Hz
Weight: 56 ounces (without stand)
Notes: Phase and HP filter switches; 8-inch diaphragm.

MSRP \$667
dwdrums.com including stand

Earthworks SR25



Type: Condenser
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 50 Hz to 25k Hz
Weight: 5.6 ounces
Notes: Use with optional KP-1 KickPad EQ/pad for improved kick sound.

MSRP \$849
earthworksaudio.com

Electro-Voice N/D868



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 10k Hz
Weight: 10.4 ounces
Notes: Neodymium magnet structure.

MSRP \$282
electrovoice.com

Heil PR-48



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 30 Hz to 8.5k Hz
Weight: 20 ounces
Notes: 45-degree XLR jack for easy connection.

MSRP \$349
heilsound.com

Lewitt DTP-60 REX



Type: Dynamic/Condenser (dual-element)
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 20k Hz
Weight: 27.3 ounces
Notes: Onboard pad and filter switches; twin capsule design.

MSRP \$449
lewitt-audio.com

Audix D6



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 30 Hz to 15k Hz
Weight: 7.7 ounces
Notes: VLM diaphragm for improved transient response.

MSRP \$310
audix-usa.com

Audio-Technica AE2500



Type: Dynamic/Condenser
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 17k Hz
Weight: 13.8 ounces
Notes: Has dynamic and condenser capsules, each with separate output.

MSRP \$769
audio-technica.com

AKG D12 VR



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 17 Hz to 17k Hz
Weight: 17.6 ounces
Notes: Active dynamic design; three onboard filters.

MSRP \$649
akg.com

Miktek PM11



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Supercardioid
Frequency Response: 50 Hz to 10k Hz
Weight: 10.4 ounces
Notes: Neodymium magnet; custom AMI transformer.

MSRP \$419
miktekaudio.com

Milab BDM-01



Type: Condenser
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 20k Hz
Weight: 7.4 ounces
Notes: Transformerless design.

MSRP \$1,076
milabmic.com

MXL A-55 Kicker



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 30 Hz to 15k Hz
Weight: 19 ounces
Notes: Integral swivel mount.

MSRP \$149
mxlmics.com

Sennheiser e902



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 40 Hz to 16k Hz
Weight: 15.5 ounces
Notes: Integral swivel mount.

MSRP \$199
sennheiser.com

Shure Beta 52A



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Supercardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 10k Hz
Weight: 21 ounces
Notes: Neodymium magnet; integral swivel mount.

MSRP \$236
shure.com

Sontronics DM1B



Type: Condenser
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 20k Hz
Weight: 28 ounces
Notes: Switchable -15 dB pad.

MSRP \$399
sontronics.com

Telefunken M-82



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Cardioid
Frequency Response: 25 Hz to 18k Hz
Weight: 22.4 ounces
Notes: Onboard Kick EQ and High Boost switches.

MSRP \$439
t-funk.com

Yamaha SKRM-100 SubKick



Type: Dynamic
Pattern: Figure-8
Frequency Response: 100 Hz to 2k Hz
Weight: 141 ounces (less stand)
Notes: Ten-inch unit sets up in front of kick drum.

MSRP \$669
usa.yamaha.com including stand

LIVE RECORDING? NO COMPUTER - NO WORRIES

- Capture live multi-track audio without a computer
- Records to USB2 drive, or Flash drive, for instant re-purposing
- Various analog and digital versions available
- Multiple units can be stacked for larger recordings
- Remote control via iPad with JoeCoRemote

BLACKBOX RECORDER

a multi-track for the 21st century

www.joeco.co.uk

SEE THE BLACKBOX AT
NAMM | PROLIGHT + SOUND | NAB

FullScaleAV
Distributed in the USA and Canada by FullScaleAV
Tel: 615-833-1824 | www.fullscaleav.com | info@fullscaleav.com