Handheld Condenser Microphones

By GeorgePetersen

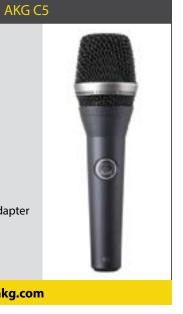
ynamic microphones have been the standard in vocal performance mics for decades. However, if you're looking for extended bandwidth and fast transient response in a handheld, a condenser mic is just the ticket.

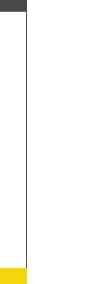
With that in mind, we present this look at some current condenser models. All models listed require phantom powering. No frequency response data is given; a "flat" response is rarely desirable and many models include LF or upper mid presence boosts to add character or intelligibility. Weight can be a factor, particularly with certain vocalists using a handheld mic over extended periods. And street pricing is provided for your convenience.

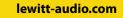


Street Price: \$179 Pattern: Cardioid **Max SPL:** 145 dB Sensitivity: 4 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 25 dB (A) Weight: 12.2 ounces **Notes:** Presence boost adapter offers two tonal choices.









Lewitt MTP 940 CM

Street Price: \$599

Max SPL: 156 dB

Sensitivity: 10 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 9 dB (A)

Weight: 11.7 ounces

choices.

Notes: Three-way LF rolloff;

-6/-12 dB pad; three pattern

Pattern: Switchable supercardi-

oid/cardioid/wide-cardioid



Miktek PM5

Sensitivity: 13 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 21 dB (A) Weight: 10.4 ounces Notes: 12 dB pad and 80 Hz low-cut switches.

Street Price: \$959

Pattern: Cardioid

(pad in/out)

Max SPL: 150/138 dB



milabmic.com

Milab LSR-3000

Apex 515

Street Price: \$119 Pattern: Cardioid/omni/supercardioid

Max SPL: 134 dB Sensitivity: 13.8 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 17 dB (A) Weight: 9 ounces

Notes: Includes three inter-

changeable capsules.



Audio-Technica AE5400

Street Price: \$379 Pattern: Cardioid **Max SPL:** 157/147 dB (pad in/out) Sensitivity: 10.0 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 14 dB (A) Weight: 11.6 ounces

Notes: Same capsule as AT4050 studio mic: 10 dB pad:

LF roll-off.



Audix VX5

Street Price: \$249 Pattern: Supercardioid Max SPL: 140+ dB (with pad in)

Sensitivity: 5 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 26 dB (A)

Weight: 8 ounces

Notes: 10 dB pad and LF roll-off

switches.



Street Price: \$699 Pattern: Supercardioid Max SPL: 150 dB Sensitivity: 4.5 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 18 dB (A) Weight: 10.6 ounces Notes: Cardioid KMS104 ver-

sion also available

neumannusa.com

miktekaudio.com

Street Price: \$129 Pattern: Cardioid Max SPL: 136 dB Sensitivity: 7.1 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 24 dB (A) Weight: 11.2 ounces Notes: Non-reflective black

peavev.com

Sennheiser e965

Sensitivity: 5.00 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 18 dB (A) Weight: 10.9 ounces Notes: Available in black or nickel finish.

Street Price: \$329

Pattern: Supercardioid

Max SPL: 151 dB SPL

rodemic.com

beyerdynamic TG V96c

Street Price: \$699

Pattern: Cardioid Max SPL: 150 dB

Sensitivity: 4 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 20 dB (A)

Weight: 11.6 ounces Notes: Operates on phantom

down to 11 volts.



Blue enCORE 300

Street Price: \$199 Pattern: Cardioid Max SPL: 146 dB Sensitivity: 11 mV/Pa Self-Noise: n/a

Weight: 13.4 ounces **Notes:** Backlit logo indicates

phantom power.



bluemic.com

CAD Audio C195

Street Price: \$99 Pattern: Cardioid

Max SPL: 132 dB Sensitivity: 18 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 22 dB (A) Weight: 10 ounces

Notes: Transformerless design.



cadmics.com

Schoeps CMH-64 U

Street Price: \$1,779 Pattern: Cardioid

Max SPL: 132 dB Sensitivity: 13 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 24 dB Weight: 6.7 ounces

Notes: CMH 641 U supercardioid version also avail.

Pattern: Switchable cardioid/ supercardioid

Max SPL: 152/142 dB (pad in/ out)

Street Price: \$699

matte finish.

Sensitivity: 7 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 21 dB (A) Weight: 13.9 ounces

Notes: Switchable low-cut filter

and 10 dB pad.

Street Price: \$139

Shure KSM9

Street Price: \$699 Pattern: Switchable cardioid/

supercardioid

Max SPL: 152 dB Sensitivity: 2.81 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 22 dB (A)

Weight: 10.6 ounces Notes: KSM9HS (switchable

hypercardioid/subcardioid) version also offered.

shure.com

DPA d:facto II

Street Price: \$979 Pattern: Supercardioid

Max SPL: 160 dB

Sensitivity: 5 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 19 dB (A)

Weight: 10.9 ounces **Notes:** Capsule removes to

be used with various wireless transmitters.

dpamicrophones.com

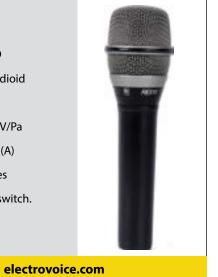
Street Price: \$999 Pattern: Hypercardioid Max SPL: 145 dB Sensitivity: 10 mV/Pa

Self-Noise: 22 dB (A) Weight: 12.8 ounces

Notes: Bandwidth extends to



Street Price: \$249 Pattern: Supercardioid Max SPL: 146 dB Sensitivity: 3.2 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 22 dB (A) Weight: 9.2 ounces **Notes:** LF roll-off switch.



Street Price: \$219 Pattern: Cardioid Max SPL: 140 dB Sensitivity: 8 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 14 dB (A) Weight: n/a Notes: Switchable low-cut filter and 10 dB pad.

sontronics.com

superlux.us

Pattern: Cardioid Max SPL: 136 dB Sensitivity: 10 mV/Pa Self-Noise: 16 dB (A) Weight: 13.8 ounces Notes: 100 Hz low-cut filter.

sennheiserusa.com

AC Power Distro Systems Systems for tying into pow-



er at a venue are something where a home-brew DIY approach won't cut it. We look into top-of-the-line models from a dozen manufacturers that bring safe, clean power to the stage.

AUGUST 2015 • fohonline.com fohonline.com • 2015 AUGUST