



MXL 990 Ribbon

Classic Ribbon Microphone

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Thank you for purchasing the MXL 990 Ribbon microphone. MXL microphones are the result of world-class engineering and manufacturing capabilities. They are designed to provide you with outstanding performance and exceptional value. With proper care, this mic will provide many years of satisfaction. For best results, please take a few moments to review this literature.

General Characteristics

The MXL 990 Ribbon microphone uses an aluminum ribbon transducer which by nature is a bidirectional (figure-8) pickup pattern. A figure-8 pattern will pick up sounds from the front and back sides of the microphone with equal sensitivity while maintaining a large amount of rejection 90° off axis. The front of the microphone is indicated by the MXL logo where the audio signal is “in-phase” while the back side has an inverted phase. Ribbon mics typically have a lower output than condenser microphones and may require a preamplifier with a lot of gain. It is highly recommended to use a preamp with low noise, high gain, and an input impedance of 1500Ω or greater. We strongly advise experimentation with placement and isolation requirements with the gain initially set low to avoid possible equipment (and hearing) damage.

Power Requirements

IMPORTANT – This microphone does NOT require a power supply. Use of phantom power with this microphone is NOT recommended as it can severely damage the ribbon element and cause the microphone to be unusable.

Care/Handling

- The ribbon element is very fragile and even though each unit has been thoroughly checked by MXL it is important to check the microphone as soon as you receive it to insure that it was not damaged in shipping.
- To help prevent transducer failure avoid large vibrations and severe shock such as dropping the microphone.
- Never expose the microphone to large bursts of air as it can stretch or tear the ribbon element. It is highly recommended to use a pop-filter when using this microphone.
- Dust and foreign material (especially metal shavings) can degrade the performance of a microphone so always store the unit in its case.
- Never intentionally or accidentally apply power to the microphone as it can permanently damage the ribbon element.

*Please note: Damage to the ribbon is not covered by the warranty and there will be a charge for a replacement. Please contact Marshall directly for more details.

Microphone Cables

The microphone cable can have a profound effect on the sound of any microphone. Even the finest microphones will sound poor if the cable allows noise to enter or causes distortion and loss of information. We recommend using a Mogami cable.

Warranty

Marshall microphones are guaranteed against defects in material and workmanship for one year from date of purchase. The ribbon element is not covered by the normal warranty so please check the microphone immediately upon receipt. Should you encounter any problem with this unit, promptly contact the company you purchased it from within five days of purchase for assistance. Contact Marshall directly for a quote to repair a damaged ribbon. The original dated sales receipt will be necessary for any warranty claim. Do not send any unit directly to us without prior authorization from our service department! Warranty coverage is limited to repair or replacement (at our option) of the microphone, and does not cover incidental damages due to use of this unit, nor damage caused by accidental misuse of this product.