



Microphone Placement with a Large Diameter Condenser Mic

Setting up to Record a Vocal

- Checklist

- Is the mic in cardioid pattern?
 - It may have only this pattern, or may have a switch.
- Is the vocalist addressing the front of the mic?
 - Usually indicated by a brand badge.
 - But for the first use, try both sides to make certain.
- Are there any pads turned on?
 - Usually -10 dB or similar switch. Probably not needed.
- Is there a low filter turned on?
 - Usually a  switch. Try it both ways.

Vocals: Placing the Microphone

- Distance from lips:
 - Usually from 4" to 12"
 - Move closer to 4" if you *need* a warmer sound, more bass
- Keep the distance constant through performance.
 - Moving location will change the tone.
- Some voices are trained to sound better with the head slightly tilted back.
 - Move the mic up a couple inches.



Vocals: Placing the Microphone

- If “plosives” (pops) are a problem
 - Use a pop filter in front of the mic.
 - Or move the mic a few inches to one side and angle it to aim it at the lips.
- If too much ss-sibilance is a problem
 - Move the mic a few inches down, so the voice is aimed just over it.
- A *dynamic* vocal mic may be held closer.

