

VM-150

DSLR/VIDEO
MICROPHONE



POLSKEN™

PRODUCT
MANUAL



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING POLSEN.

The Polsen VM-150 DSLR-Video microphone is a sleek and compact directional condenser microphone that is designed to deliver professional-sounding audio to a DSLR, video camera, or audio recorder. It is ideal for professionals recording in the field or a studio, but it will also enhance home video recordings.

Unlike omnidirectional microphones built into most cameras, the VM-150's supercardioid polar pattern and shotgun design offer great clarity and focus when recording voices or dialog. The VM-150 is optimized to focus on the sound directly in front of it while rejecting off-axis sound, making it an ideal microphone for anyone recording speech or dialog in noisy environments. Other features like adjustable gain sensitivity and a high-pass filter further ensure clear and natural sound with minimal background noise or rumble.

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The VM-150 includes an integrated shock mount to minimize vibrations from the camera or motion noise from a boom pole. The shoe-mount adapter fits any shoe-mount attachment and includes a metal 1/4"-20 threaded socket for attaching to boom poles. The compact and lightweight design assures that the VM-150 will never weigh down your rig or extend out into the picture frame. It runs on a single AAA battery (included) and comes with a foam windscreen for added protection against vocal plosives and wind noise.

Among the benefits you'll enjoy:

- Compact and lightweight design
- Supercardioid polar pattern
- Adjustable gain sensitivity
- Low-cut filter
- Integrated shock mount with shoe-mount adapter
- 1/4"-20 metal threaded socket for boom pole attachment
- 3.5 mm audio connection
- LEDs indicating power on/off and signal overload

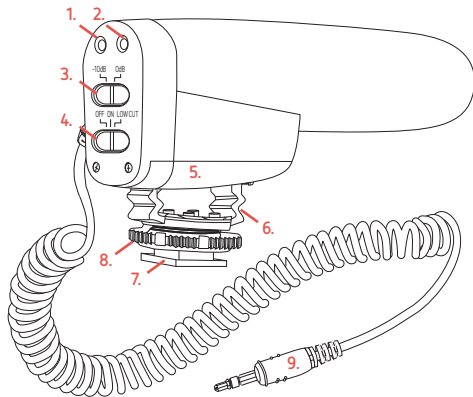


PRECAUTIONS

- Please read and follow these instructions, and refer to this manual in case of questions. Keep this manual in a safe place.
- Keep this product away from water and any flammable gases or liquids.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or repair the equipment yourself.
- Handle this product with care.
- Clean the product with a soft dry cloth.
- Before use, make sure that this product is intact and that there are no missing parts.
- All photos are for illustrative purposes only.
- Do not leave the batteries in this product for long periods of non-use. Batteries can leak and damage the microphone.

OVERVIEW

1. Sound overload indicator
2. Power indicator
3. Sensitivity switch (-10 dB / 0 dB)
4. Power / Low-Cut switch (OFF ON LOWCUT)
5. Battery compartment
6. Shock Mount
7. Mounting foot with 1/4"-20 threaded socket
8. Locking wheel
9. 3.5 mm mini plug connector



INSTALLING THE BATTERY

The VM-150 operates on one AAA battery (included). To install the battery, do the following:

1. Unlock the battery compartment by pushing the battery compartment latch. The battery compartment swings open from the back of the microphone.

Note: The battery compartment cover is attached by a hinge. Do not try to detach the battery compartment cover from the microphone.

2. Insert the battery with the orientation indicated by the diagram inside the compartment.
3. Close the battery compartment cover by snapping it into place.

Important: Battery life is approximately 100 hours of normal operation. If the overload indicator glows a constant red even when not recording, the battery is low and should be replaced.



MOUNTING THE VM-150

Shoe Mount

The VM-150 mounts onto a DSLR or video camera with the shoe-mount adapter under the shock mount. To attach the VM-150 to the shoe mount of a DSLR camera, do the following:

1. Loosen the locking wheel by turning it counterclockwise.
2. Securely hold the microphone and the camera.
3. Gently slide the microphone's mounting foot into the camera's shoe mount so that it is fully seated.
4. Tighten the locking wheel by turning it clockwise until the microphone is held securely in place.



Mic Boom Pole

The mounting foot adapter of the VM-150 comes with a threaded 1/4"-20 socket for attaching to a boom pole. To attach the microphone to a boom pole, do the following:

1. Position the microphone so that the threaded post at the end of the boom pole is aligned with the threaded socket of the VM-150.
2. Screw the boom pole into the threaded socket until the microphone is secure.

Note: In some cases, a 1/4"-20 to 3/8" adapter (sold separately) will be needed for boom pole attachment.



Making the audio connection

The VM-150 must be connected to the audio input jack of your camera or audio recorder to record sound.

1. Make sure the power button of the VM-150 is in the ON or LOW-CUT position.
2. Connect the VM-150 by plugging the 3.5 mm mini plug into the audio input / mic input jack of your camera or recorder.
3. If using a boom pole, you will need an extension cable (sold separately).



RECORDING WITH THE VM-150

Once the VM-150 is securely attached and connected to the camera or recorder, follow these steps to begin recording.

Pro Tip: Before recording a complete take, it is always advisable to do a test recording and listen to the playback. This will assure that the settings selected on the VM-150 will result in optimal recording quality.

Turning on the power and selecting a filter

1. Turn the VM-150 microphone on by moving the power button to the ON or LOW-CUT position. The power indicator will glow a constant blue to indicate normal operation.
2. At the ON position, the VM-150 will record with a flat response.
3. Selecting LOW CUT will roll off low-end frequencies.

The low-cut filter minimizes rumble, room noise, or machine sound from the camera or recorder.



Using the Gain Button

The VM-150 offers two settings determining the microphone's sensitivity. This button should be used if normal audio is too loud and is causing distortion.

1. If the red indicator is blinking during recording, it indicates that the sound is overloading. Select the -10 dB position.
2. If normal audio is not overloading the microphone, leave the button set to 0 dB.

Setting the level on the Camera or Recorder

You may have to set the input level on your camera or recorder. Some DSLR cameras, camcorders, and audio recorders allow the user to access the recording level via the device's menus. If you are adjusting the input level manually, set the level so that the meter reads slightly below maximum level at the loudest points ("peaks") of your test audio. Consult the manual of your camera or recorder for more information.



Using the Windscreen

The VM-150 should always be operated with the attached foam windscreen. It minimizes vocal plosives and breath noise during up-close microphone placement and will also minimize wind noise.

SPECIFICATIONS

POLAR PATTERN Supercardioid

FREQUENCY RANGE 50 Hz - 20 kHz

SENSITIVITY -42 dB (6.2m V/Pa)

HIGH-PASS FILTER 80 Hz/12 dB/octave

MAXIMUM SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL 110 dB

SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO 74 dB SPL

OUTPUT IMPEDANCE 10K Ω

POWER REQUIREMENT AAA Battery (1)

BATTERY LIFE (APPROXIMATE) 100 hours (normal use)

OUTPUT CONNECTOR 3.5 mm stereo mini plug

CABLE LENGTH (COILED TO EXTENDED) 1' (0.3 m) - 4' (1.2 m)

OUTER CASE ABS construction

DIMENSIONS (WITH SHOCK MOUNT & WIND SCREEN) (L x W x H)

5.2" (13.2 cm) x 1.1" (2.8 cm) x 2.7" (6.9 cm)

WEIGHT (WITH BATTERY) 3.2 oz. (90.7 g)



TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Solution
No sound was recorded	<p>Make sure that a fresh AAA battery is installed and correctly oriented in the battery compartment. (See “Installing the Battery” instructions on page 6.)</p> <p>Make sure the power switch on the microphone is set to the ON or LOW-CUT position.</p> <p>Make sure the 3.5 mm mini plug is connected to the correct audio input/mic input jack on the device to which you are recording.</p>
The sound is distorted	<p>Make sure the 3.5 mm mini plug is fully plugged into the audio input jack of your camera or recorder.</p> <p>Make sure the gain sensitivity switch is set to -10 dB.</p> <p>If your camera or device has an input control, decrease the mic gain (audio input level) on your camera until the meter reads below peak level at the loudest point of the audio.</p> <p>Reposition the VM-150 further away from the sound source. (See: “Pro Tip” under <i>Recording with the VM-150</i> on page 10.)</p>



Problem	Solution
The recording level is too low	<p>Make sure the gain sensitivity switch is set to 0 dB.</p> <p>If your camera or device has an input control, increase the mic gain (audio input level) on your camera until the meter reads slightly below peak level at the loudest point of the audio.</p> <p>Reposition the VM-150 closer to the sound source. (See: "Pro Tip" under <i>Recording with the VM-150</i> on page 10.)</p>
Overload indicator won't turn off	The battery is low and should be replaced.
The microphone is stuck in the camera's shoe mount	<p>Make sure the locking wheel is fully loosened.</p> <p>Important: The microphone should easily mount and dismount. Do not apply force by trying to pull the VM-150 off the camera. You could damage the microphone and the camera.</p>



ONE-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

This Polsen product is warranted to the original purchaser to be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal consumer use for a period of one (1) year from the original purchase date or thirty (30) days after replacement, whichever occurs later. The warranty provider's responsibility with respect to this limited warranty shall be limited solely to repair or replacement, at the provider's discretion, of any product that fails during normal use of this product in its intended manner and in its intended environment. Inoperability of the product or part(s) shall be determined by the warranty provider. If the product has been discontinued, the warranty provider reserves the right to replace it with a model of equivalent quality and function.

This warranty does not cover damage or defect caused by misuse, neglect, accident, alteration, abuse, improper installation or maintenance. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN, THE WARRANTY PROVIDER MAKES NEITHER ANY EXPRESS WARRANTIES NOR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. This warranty provides you with specific legal rights, and you may also have additional rights that vary from state to state.

To obtain warranty coverage, contact the Polsen Customer Service Department to obtain a return merchandise authorization ("RMA") number, and return the defective product to Polsen along with the RMA number and proof of purchase. Shipment of the defective product is at the purchaser's own risk and expense.

For more information or to arrange service, visit www.polsenaudio.com or call Customer Service at 212-594-2353.

Product warranty provided by the Gradus Group.

www.gradusgroup.com

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