
brauner. microphones
VALVET X PURE CARDIOID
MANUAL
THE ART OF MICROPHONES

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THE ART OF MICROPHONES

PREAMBLE

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Thank you for purchasing the Valvet X and congratulations on your new Brauner tube microphone. You now own one of the most up to date and high quality large diaphragm condenser microphones the market has to offer. Its technical specifications are at the edge of physics and define a quality standard that is only made possible through highest precision crafting technology, smallest tolerances and enormous efforts in selecting the best components.

Every single Brauner microphone is entirely assembled in Germany and all parts are supplied by renowned German companies in whose lasting quality standards we have been trusting for many years. An exception is the TubeLink cable which has been developed in cooperation with the Swiss company Vovox.

Of course, this quality has its price but in exchange you receive a product with maximum performance and reliability - a tool you will be always able to trust in.

We would like you to enjoy your Brauner microphone your whole life. Our love for detail and the experience of many great and internationally renowned sound engineers helped to develope our products. If you should ever face a problem, we are always there for you.

Dirk Brauner

Owner

TECHSPECS

Equivalent Noise	< 9 dB A (IEC651)
Signal to Noise	> 84 dB (1 Pa/1 kHz-Cardioid)
Sensitivity	28 mV / Pa-Cardioid
Directivity	Cardioid
Frequency Range	20 Hz - 22 kHz
Maximum SPL	142 dB SPL @ 0,3 % THD
Voltage	115 V or 230 V, switchable

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Please read and follow these instructions carefully before using the microphone:

1) The microphone and power supply must always be grounded to safety earth.

2) Do not open. No user serviceable parts inside. Risk of electrical shock or hazard.

3) Do not use with damaged cables or after unit has fallen and loose parts or broken glass can be heard inside.

4) Take care of cables. Do always wind them properly and carefully. Do never use damaged cables.

5) Fix the suspension on a stable tripod that can handle the heavy weight of the microphone.

6) Do not take the microphone out of the suspension if not necessary.

7) Replace fuse only with the same type.

8) If the microphone is hung down, ensure that it can not fall out of the suspension. Under normal conditions, the suspension holds the microphone tight enough. But always check suspension for proper grip.

GETTING STARTED

Always mount the microphone on a stable tripod that can handle the weight of the microphone.

To take the microphone out of the suspension, carefully pull it out of the inner c-shaped cradle. To reinsert it, just let it snap back into the cradle again. The rubber rings may leave little traces on the body of the microphone, which can easily be removed with a soft cloth. If there is no urgent need we advise to always leave the microphone in its suspension.

To quickly tighten and loosen the suspension and change the vertical angle of the microphone, use the lever on the suspension's back. This lever is suspended by a spring. If you pull up the lever in its center axis, you can easily readjust its position without loosen or tighten its strength. This is practical in case you want to guide the cable behind the lever and use it to lock the cable or to enable the lever to be turned, when it is too close to the suspension and otherwise could not be moved any further.

If you guide the cable behind the lever and secure it as mentioned, it will keep the cable from slipping away or hanging down. This will also ensure a better acoustical decoupling of the cable and can secure the microphone from falling down if done properly.

Connection

Use the black 8-pin Tuchel cable to connect the microphone to the power supply. Properly screw and tighten the connectors after being plugged in. Otherwise hum or crackling noises may appear due to improper signal grounding. If a humming sound occurs, try the ground lift switch on the back of the power supply.

Never run the microphone without being connected to earth! This is dangerous in case of an electrical fault and absolutely not necessary.

GETTING STARTED

Microphone Suspension

Usually you should leave the microphone in its suspension as it can be stored safely in its case this way. If you have to take it out, pay attention to the 3rd picture on the page before. Hold the microphone safely with both hands and, pressing against the inner suspension cradle with your thumbs, remove it from the suspension in a slightly rotating move.

Power up

Before operating the device you should check for the correct setting of the mains voltage. This can be set to either 115 V or 230 V. If you are not sure about the voltage in your environment, you should ask a qualified technician or electrician.
Before turning on the power, be sure that the input of your microphone preamp or the channel is muted, just to avoid any possible damage to your speaker system.

Now use the power switch on the PSU's front panel to turn the microphone on. The red LED should now glow softly. Turn up the volume of your preamp. Approximately 20 seconds after the microphone has been switched on, it is ready for use. We do however recommend to let it warm up for another 15 minutes to get the tube and all other parts into a state of thermal equilibrium.

1 POWER CONNECTOR
2 FUSE
3 VOLTAGE SWITCH
4 XLR OUT
5 MICROPHONE IN
6 GROUND LIFT SWITCH

GROUND LIFT SWITCH

The ground lift switch is located on the back of the power supply. It detaches the ground pin (Pin 1) of the XLR output from ground. Safety earth is of cause never detached in any position! You should under no circumstances detach the safety earth from any of your cables or plugs. This can lead to lethal accidents and any warranty or liability is lost. By using the ground lift switch you can solve hum problems caused by potential differences as might occur in location recordings or when the equipment you use is supplied with power from different sources. To avoid hum problems, you should be sure to use proper power and wiring techniques, with one central ground and earth potential and no ground loops in between.

The positions are as follows:

H (Hard-Ground)
The ground pin (Pin 1) of the XLR connector is conductively connected to the ground center of the internal circuit.

L (Ground-Lift)
The ground pin is completely disconnected from the ground.

S (Soft-Ground)
The ground pin is connected to the ground via a safety capacitor that decouples the AC portion of the hum to ground.

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