

STC-1

quick start guide

Welcome to your new STC-1 microphone and, if you're a first-time owner of a SONTRONICS® product, welcome to the family too!

All our products are designed and crafted with care and passion and we hope you love your new mic as much as we've loved making it.

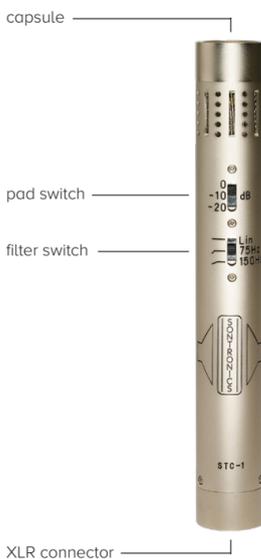
This short guide will give you all the information you need to get your new microphone set up and working in no time, as well as expert guidance on getting the best possible results from it.

Should you need more advice or tips, visit the Support page on our website: www.sontronics.com.

Thank you for choosing a SONTRONICS® product. We look forward to seeing and hearing what you get up to with your new mic and wish you many years of enjoyment from it.



Trevor Coley, Founder & Designer, SONTRONICS



INTRODUCTION

The STC-1 is a condenser microphone, which means it works by converting the sound pressure that comes into contact with its highly sensitive capsule into an electrical signal.

As its capsule is small, STC-1 is ideally suited for focused recording of a single instrument or for capturing detail from a source. It can also be used in pairs for stereo recording applications of all kinds, either closely positioned for detail or overhead an instrument or groups of instruments or voices.

We recommend STC-1 particularly for:

- solo string instruments
- solo woodwind instruments
- foley/sound effects
- acoustic guitar & other strummed instruments
- in pairs for stereo and overhead work

TECH SPECS

- Polar pattern:** Cardioid
- Frequency response:** 25Hz to 20kHz
- Pad:** 0dB, -10dB, -20dB
- Filter:** Linear (off), 75Hz, 150Hz
- Sensitivity:** 12mV/Pa -36dB ±2dB (0dB = 1V/Pa @ 1kHz)
- Impedance:** ≤200 Ohms
- Max. SPL:** 137dB (for 0.5% THD @ 1kHz)
- Equivalent noise level:** 16dB (A-weighted)
- Connector:** 3-pin XLR
- Power:** Phantom power 48V ±4V required
- Weight:** 214g
- Dimensions:** 230 x 169 x 81mm

LIFETIME WARRANTY ON ALL OUR MICS

SONTRONICS® is the only microphone brand in the world to offer a LIFETIME WARRANTY as we are so proud of the quality and longevity of our products.

Please take a moment to register your new microphone online: www.sontronics.com/warranty

to give you peace of mind for a lifetime of recording.

All we need is your serial number and purchase information and that's it!

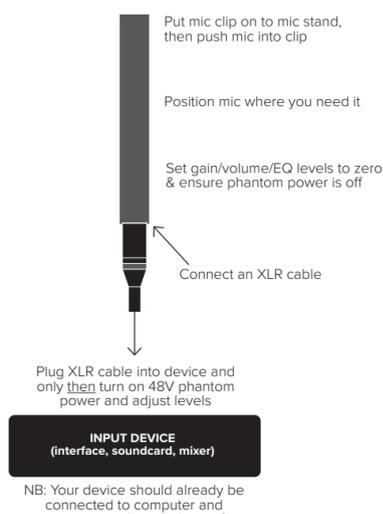
Your Lifetime Warranty must be activated within 30 days of purchase, otherwise your mic will only be covered by a standard two-year manufacturer's warranty. The standard warranty and our Lifetime Warranty do NOT cover problems relating to regular wear and tear, accidental damage, modification or use of the microphone that deviates from our recommended use.

For more information, see our website or email: warranty@sontronics.com

SETTING UP

The STC-1's internal circuit requires 'phantom power' to operate, so the microphone must be plugged into a device that supplies this, such as an interface, soundcard or mixer.

1. Attach the supplied mic clip on to a stand. The thread adaptor inside the end of the clip allows you to connect to a standard 3/8" (with it in) or 5/8" stand thread (with it removed).
2. Push the STC-1 into the clip and position it at the desired distance and angle from the source being recorded.
3. Ensure that gain, volume and EQ levels on your input device and recording software are set to zero and that the phantom power is switched off before connecting an XLR cable to the end of the microphone and plugging the other end into your device. (Likewise, set all levels to zero before unplugging it.)
4. Turn on phantom power on your device (usually via a switch or button labelled '48V') and adjust the gain/volume as necessary. You'll probably find you don't need EQ at all.



EXTRA INFO

Your STC-10 features pad and filter switches that give you greater control over your recordings.

Pad/attenuator switch:

When switched to OFF, the mic will function normally. When -10dB is selected, the mic's sensitivity is reduced by 10 decibels and when switched to -20dB, it's reduced by 20 decibels. This is really useful as it helps to prevent overload or clipping when recording powerful sources such as brass and drums.

Filter switch:

As with the pad, when the filter switched is OFF (sometimes referred to as 'linear' mode), the mic functions normally. When the filter switch is engaged, the mic's pickup of lower frequencies is reduced, first by 75Hz and then by 150Hz. This helps to limit unwanted low-end background noise and rumble, improving the clarity of your recordings.

It is recommended to turn the gain/volume settings to zero before changing switch position. Always give the microphone's circuit a moment to stabilise to the new setting after changing the switch position.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

1 You will need an input device that supplies 48 Volt DC to your microphone. Ensure that your device is working properly and that, where necessary, you have downloaded all up-to-date drivers so that it is communicating with your recording software. Any problems or damage caused to the microphone through a faulty input device will not be covered by warranty.

2 You should always use the best quality XLR cable you can afford as low quality cables can result in poor signal and distorted sound. It should be wired as follows:
pin 1 = ground
pin 2 = +
pin 3 = -

3 Experiment with microphone position and the acoustic properties of your room before using EQ. It's always best practice to get the best quality recording from your room/space before adding any processing and effects in the mix.

IMPORTANT CARE & SAFETY INFORMATION: PLEASE READ!

As with any sensitive electrical equipment, your STC-1 should be treated with care. The following tips will help extend the life of your microphone and keep it working at its best...



- When you're not using it, keep the mic in its box or in a flightcase or pouch (together with the silica sachet) to prevent it from being affected by dust, dirt and moisture.
- Use a soft dry cloth to **clean your microphone after every use** (especially when recording vocals or wind instruments). Remember that if fingerprints are left on the mic body, they can cause corrosion over time.
- Keep your microphone away from moisture, liquid, hot drinks, naked flame, direct heat or powerful light sources, and take care to avoid any knocks or bumps.
- Avoid transferring the mic from cold to warm environments as this can lead to the condensation forming on the capsule

- surface, adversely affecting its performance. Should condensation occur, ensure the mic is unplugged and leave it to reach room temperature before using it again.
- When recording with vocals, use a pop shield to protect the mic from moisture as well as to improve your recording.
- **Do not turn on phantom power before plugging in the mic** as this can damage the internal components. Similarly, when you've finished using your mic, **turn off the phantom power BEFORE disconnecting the mic.**
- **Under no circumstances should you open or service the microphone yourself.** This will invalidate your warranty and may result in damage to your mic or injury to you!

If you experience any issues or have any questions about your mic, look at the advice and FAQs on the Support page on our website. If you still have questions, contact the shop you bought it from or the distributor for your country (details on our website) who will advise on the steps you need to take. If the microphone requires repair or an official service, it may need to be returned to Sontronics HQ.

For information on all our microphones and accessories, and for advice, support or troubleshooting tips, visit www.sontronics.com. If, after all of the above, you still need help or advice, don't hesitate to contact us via email, see below.