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## Mods for the ST55 FET



- **Microphone Parts**

The “T84-55” circuit kit from MicParts.com replaces the noisy ST55 circuit with a true vintage design (based on the Neumann KM84). This DIY audio kit uses a single-stage topology, and includes a vintage JFET (manually biased for maximum headroom), custom-wound and US made output transformer, and audiophile grade capacitors. The modified’s mic’s output is higher, its self noise is lower, and the pad and filter switches are fully supported.

[Read more about the T84-55.](#)



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[Read more about the T84-55.](#)

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## Pricing & Availability

- MSRP: \$499

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## ST55 FET Documentation

- [ST55 Product Description](#)
- [ST55 Cutsheet](#)
- [ST55 Manual](#)

## Sterling Audio ST55 FET

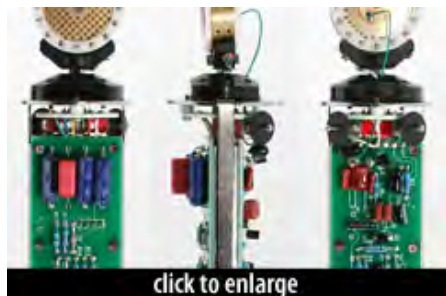
### Cardioid Condenser Microphone

The Sterling Audio ST55 FET appears to be a reincarnation of the Groove Tubes GT55.

Both are fixed-cardioid solid-state condenser microphones with the 32mm “disk resonator” capsule pioneered by GT founder Aspen Pittman. The capsule in both mics uses a 3-micron diaphragm.

In our sample microphone, the capsule polarization voltage was 38VDC.

Both models have very high sensitivity of 32mV/Pa, and high self-noise of 22dBA. Most modern FET condenser have much lower self-noise (4dBA being extraordinary, 12–16dBA being common).



The circuit of the ST55 is nearly identical to the circuit of the GT55. The same circuit shows up (albeit without switched features) in the [M-Audio Luna](#).

The ST-55’s transformer has an approximate turns ratio of 4.8:1 (as measured here in a sample microphone).

The ST-55 has a nickel-plated brass body with a painted black finish and chrome trim.

Two switches below the headbasket independently enable the pad (-10dB) and high-pass filter (-12dB/octave @ 75Hz).

The mic includes a hardmount (Sterling p/n HM2) and zippered storage case. A shockmount (p/n SM4) is available separately.

Permalink: [Sterling Audio ST55](#)

The mic was released in 2007.

### Specifications

#### Pickup Patterns

 Cardioid (32 mV/Pa; 20 - 20,000 Hz)

#### Pads & Filters

- Pad: -10dB (Via Switch)
- Filter: HPF: -12dB/octave @ 75Hz (Via Switch)

Capsule Dimensions		Impedance	SPL/Noise
Diaphragm diameter: 26mm			Max SPL: 144 dB
Capsule diameter: 32mm		200 Ohms ( <i>Low</i> )	Self-noise: 22.0 dB(A)
Diaphragm gauge: 3 microns			
Weight	Length	Max Diameter	Interface(s)
544g ( <i>19.19oz</i> )	190mm ( <i>7.48"</i> )	46mm ( <i>1.81"</i> )	• 3-pin XLR male (1)

### Power Specifications

- Requires phantom power
- Phantom voltage: 48v

## Comparison Shopping Data: the lowest prices for the Sterling Audio ST55 FET microphone and accessories

(links open in new windows)

Item	Store	Price
<a href="#">STSM4 Shockmount</a> Sterling Audio STSM4 Shockmount for ST55/ST66 Microphones	Musician's Friend	<a href="#">\$39.99</a>
<a href="#">ST55</a> Sterling Audio ST55 Large Diaphragm FET Condenser Mic	Amazon	<a href="#">\$175.00</a>
<a href="#">ST55</a> Sterling Audio ST55 Large Diaphragm FET Condenser Microphone	Musician's Friend	<a href="#">\$199.99</a>
<a href="#">ST55</a> Sterling Audio ST55 Large Diaphragm FET Condenser Microphone Standard	Woodwind Brasswind	<a href="#">\$199.99</a>
<a href="#">ST55/ST31 Bundle</a> Sterling Audio ST55 / ST31 Condenser Mic Package	Musician's Friend	<a href="#">\$199.99</a>

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