recordinghacks

- home
- microphones
- about

Search Microphones

Microphone name or model

Share This Page

Related Microphones

- Groove Tubes GT55
- More Sterling microphones

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.

- **Microphone Parts**
  The “T84-55” circuit kit from MicParts.com replaces the noisy GT55 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.

  Read more about the T84-55.

Subscribe via RSS

- RecordingHacks Blog; awesome!
- Newest Microphones

Pricing & Availability

- MSRP: $499

Tags

side-address
large-diaphragm
transformer-coupled
condenser
hpf
class-a

disk-resonator

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	Pads & Filters
CHART Cardioid (32 mV/Pa; 20 - 20,000 Hz)	• Pad: -10dB (Via Switch) • Filter: HPF: -12dB/octave @ 75Hz (Via Switch)

Capsule Dimensions	Impedance	SPL/Noise
Diaphragm diameter: 26mm Capsule diameter: 32mm Diaphragm gauge: 3 microns	200 Ohms *(Low)*	Max SPL: 144 dB Self-noise: 22.0 dB(A)

Weight	Length	Max Diameter	Interface(s)
544g *(19.19oz)*	190mm *(7.48")*	46mm *(1.81")*	• 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
STSM4 Shockmount Sterling Audio STSM4 Shockmount for ST55/ST66 Microphones	Musician's Friend	$39.99
ST55 Sterling Audio ST55 Large Diaphragm FET Condenser Mic	Amazon	$175.00
ST55 Sterling Audio ST55 Large Diaphragm FET Condenser Microphone	Musician's Friend	$199.99
ST55 Sterling Audio ST55 Large Diaphragm FET Condenser Microphone Standard	Woodwind Brasswind	$199.99
ST55/ST31 Bundle Sterling Audio ST55 / ST31 Condenser Mic Package	Musician's Friend	$199.99

Did we get anything wrong on this page? Please let us know!

scroll to top

loading