

Choosing a Microphone

Communications & Media

Pattern and placement matter more than the price of the microphone.

Common choices and what each suits.

Mic	Best for
Shotgun on a boom	Dialogue, controlled rooms
Lavalier	Seated interview, moving subject
Handheld dynamic	Noisy street, vox pops
Cardioid on a stand	Studio voice, podcast
Stereo pair	Atmosphere and ambience

Halving the distance from the mouth to the microphone is worth more than any upgrade in microphone quality.