Congratulations on your purchase of the MXL 550/551 Recording Ensemble. With proper care, these microphones will provide many years of satisfaction. For the best results, please take a few moments to review this literature.

**General Characteristics**

These microphones have gold-sputtered diaphragms and a fixed cardioid pickup pattern. Condenser microphones are very sensitive, readily revealing very subtle sonic details. They also tend to pick up sounds outside the pattern more than some designs, which can lead to powerful feedback if you are not careful. We strongly advise experimentation with placement and isolation requirements with the gain initially set low to avoid equipment (and ear) damage. It is strongly advised to use a mesh pop-filter to avoid moisture from damaging the capsule.

**Power Requirements**

IMPORTANT - These units require phantom power at 48 volts, +/- 4 volts. Each unit has been thoroughly checked before shipping, so if you do not hear sound, check that the phantom power on your mixer or separate power supply is switched on!

**Microphone Cables**

The microphone cable can have a profound effect on the sound of any microphone. Even the finest microphones will sound poor if the interconnect cable allows noise to enter, or causes distortion and loss of information. Use only the best microphone cable your budget will allow. We highly recommend using Mogami® brand cable.

**Care**

Dust and foreign material can degrade the performance of a microphone over time so always store the unit in its case. Due to the delicate nature of condenser microphones, never use water or any other liquid for cleaning purposes.

---

**MXL 550 vs MXL 551**

**Type:** Pressure gradient condenser microphone

**Frequency Range:** 30 Hz – 20 kHz

**Polar Pattern:** Cardioid

**Sensitivity:** 15mV/Pa

**Impedance:** 200Ω

**S/N Ratio:** 80dB (Ref. 1Pa A-weighted)

**Equivalent Noise Level:** 20dB (A weighted IEC 268-4)

**Max SPL for 0.5% THD:** 130dB

**Power Requirements:** 48V Phantom Power (+/- 4V)

**Current Consumption:** <3.0mA

**Size:** 47mm x 170mm

**Weight:** 0.8 lbs

**Metal Finish:** Red with chrome grill

**Type:** Pressure gradient condenser microphone

**Frequency Range:** 30 Hz – 20 kHz

**Polar Pattern:** Cardioid

**Sensitivity:** 15mV/Pa

**Impedance:** 110Ω

**S/N Ratio:** 78dB (Ref. 1Pa A-weighted)

**Equivalent Noise Level:** 20dB (A weighted IEC 268-4)

**Max SPL for 0.5% THD:** 137dB

**Power Requirements:** 48V Phantom Power (+/- 4V)

**Current Consumption:** <3.0mA

**Size:** 22mm x 134mm

**Weight:** 0.2 lbs

**Metal Finish:** Red with chrome grill

---

**Warranty**

Marshall microphones are guaranteed against defects in material and workmanship for one year from date of purchase. Should you encounter any problem with this unit, promptly contact the company you purchased it from for assistance. The original dated sales receipt will be necessary for any warranty claim. Do not send any unit directly to us without prior authorization from our service department! Warranty coverage is limited to repair or replacement (at our option) of the microphone, and does not cover incidental damages due to use of this unit, nor damage caused by accidental misuse of this product.