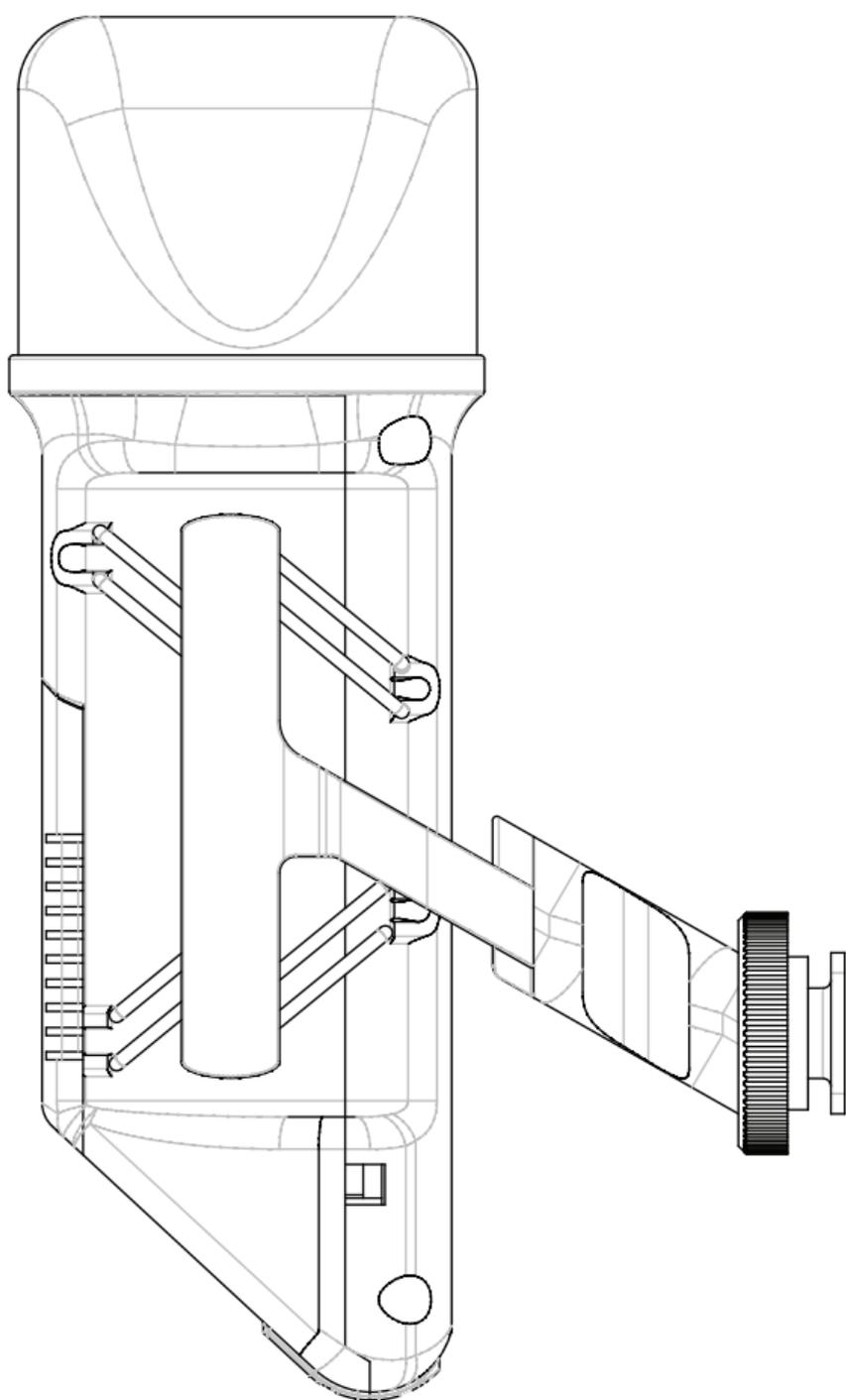


**RØDE**<sup>®</sup>  
MICROPHONES



# Stereo VideoMic

## Instruction Manual



# SVM

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# RØDE SVM

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Thank you for investing in the **RØDE** Stereo VideoMic (SVM).

Those of you who are first time **RØDE** customers, may be interested to know that we are one of the largest and most respected professional microphone companies in the world. Our studio microphones are the 'tone' behind some of the biggest hits of the last decade, and our award winning live performance microphones are on tour throughout the world. See more of what we do at [www.rodemic.com](http://www.rodemic.com)

The **RØDE** SVM is a very special product born out of the success of the original VideoMic, now the worlds biggest selling on camera shotgun.

So why did we design the SVM? It's simple, our customers asked us to give them the same sound quality and performance they were getting from the VideoMic but in a stereo system. We listen to our customers.

This was not an easy project, but as you will soon hear, **RØDE** have done it again!

The SVM captures the true ambience of the recording space, and still offers a high level of rear rejection and low noise. You can also use the SVM as a remote mic on a stand or boom pole and have a VideoMic on the camera, or an NTG1/2 on a boom pole. By incorporating a simple mixer you can then create a very professional audio track.

How can **RØDE** achieve this level of quality and performance when other mic makers can't? It is simple.

**RØDE** spends millions of dollars on R&D and automated machinery. When you invest in high volume production technologies, the costs drop dramatically. We pass on these savings to our customers. We have been doing this with our studio microphones for the last 14 years, and continue to win international awards for performance and quality.

Please take the time to read this manual so that you can get the best out of your microphone.

If you have any queries or comments, you can log onto our web site: [www.rodemic.com/svm](http://www.rodemic.com/svm) where there are answers to frequently asked questions as well as our contact details



Peter Freedman  
Sydney, Australia

## Specifications

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**Acoustic Principle:**

Gradient

**Directional Pattern:**

Cardioid.

**Frequency range:**

40 Hz ~ 20 000 Hz selectable High Pass Filter (HPF) @ 80 HZ 12 dB/octave.

**Output Impedance:**

200  $\Omega$

**Signal/Noise Ratio:**

79 dB SPL (A - weighted per IEC651)

**Equivalent Noise:**

15 dBA SPL (A - weighted per IEC651)

**Maximum SPL:**

130 dB (@ 1kHz, 1% THD into 1 $\Omega$  load)

**Sensitivity:**

-44 dB re 1V/Pa (6.3 mV/Pa @ 94 dB SPL)  
+/- 3 dB @ 1kHz

**Dynamic Range:**

115 dB SPL (A - weighted per IEC651)

**Power (Supply voltage):**

7 mA, 9 V DC Alkaline Battery, (NSI: 1604A or IEC:6LR61).

**Battery Life:**

>60 hours

**Output Connection:**

Stereo mini jack plug -  $\varnothing$ 3.5mm.  
Right Channel - Ring  
Left Channel - Tip

**Weight - (Microphone no battery):**

330 grm

**Packed Weight :**

470 grm

**Dimensions :**

Length: 172mm (6-4/5"),  
Height: 100mm (4"),  
Width: 64mm (1-1/2").

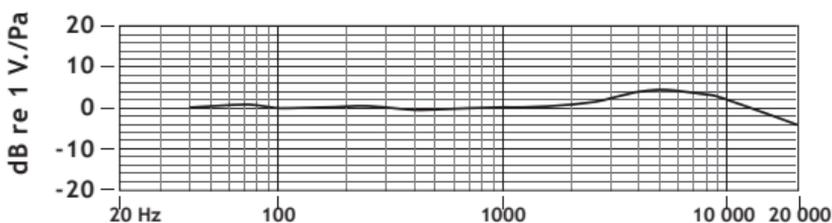
## Features

- Stereo X/Y condenser microphone.
- Broadcast sound quality.
- Rugged cast aluminum body.
- 9V battery operation.
- Custom designed integral windshield.
- Low noise circuitry.
- Low handling noise.
- Integral camera-shoe mount.
- Designed & manufactured in Australia.
- Full 10 year guarantee\*.

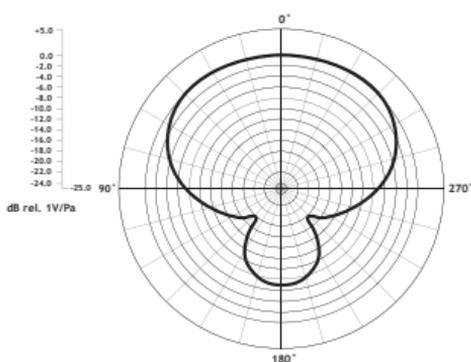
## Specifications cont.

### Frequency range:

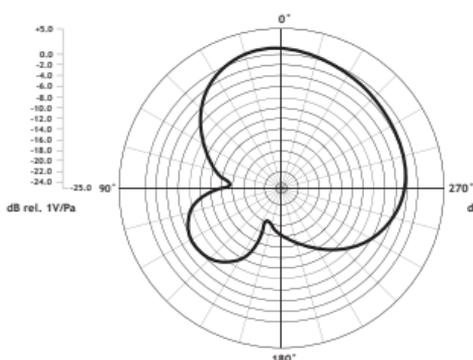
40 Hz ~ 20 000 Hz selectable (HPF)  
@ 80 Hz 12 dB/octave.



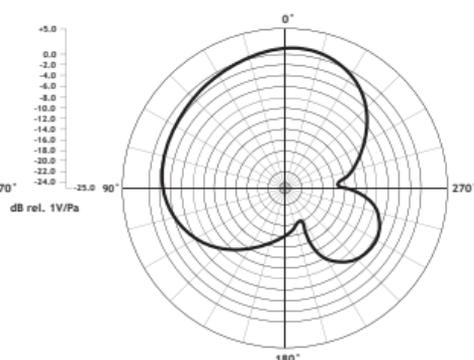
### SVM Polar Pattern: Super Cardioid - 250 Hz



### SVM Polar Pattern: Super Cardioid - 1 KHz



### SVM Polar Pattern: Super Cardioid - 1 KHz



## Battery Installation

1) The SVM operates on a standard 9V battery (ANSI:1604A or IEC:6LR61). We recommend you use either Alkaline or Lithium batteries for the longest continuous operating time.

2) The SVM will run continuously for over 60 hrs. with a good quality Alkaline battery. It is however important to understand that battery performance can vary dramatically with ambient temperature and of course shelf life.

Actual operation times will vary and we suggest you always carry a spare battery.

If the application is critical and where there is no opportunity to 're-shoot', we suggest that you use a fresh battery every time.



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3

3) To install the battery, simply place your thumb on the top section of the microphone. (fig. 1) Press down gently and slide back the cover till it stops (fig. 2) then lift the lid to a vertical position.

Insert the battery as shown in fig. 3. You will find that you cannot reverse the battery, as the compartment won't allow this.

Once you have installed the battery, slide the cover back into position and you are ready to fasten the mic onto the camera. Do not leave the battery in-place if you are going to store

the SVM for long periods. Batteries can 'leak' and the chemicals will damage your microphone".

## Mounting Your SVM

- 4) The SVM incorporates a standard camera-shoe mount on the bottom of the microphone (fig. 4). Designed to reduce camera borne motor and handling noise, the shock mount has a 3/8" x 16 threaded insert for mounting on tripods and poles.



fig. 4

You will find older models and low cost cameras produce more motor noise, which the highly sensitive SVM can pick up. If so, switch on the High Pass Filter (HPF) to reduce this (fig. 8a).

You may also notice that your camera's inbuilt microphone may not pick up this noise and wonder why. On-board mics are for general-purpose use, and designed to do a basic job. They can cancel out certain sounds such as motor noise at the expense of tone and directional characteristics.

The very latest cameras incorporate low noise/vibration motors, making them relatively silent.

- 5) Before sliding the camera-shoe into place, turn the knurled tightening ring anti clockwise which will make sliding the camera-shoe into place much easier (fig.



fig. 5

5). Now turn the knurled ring in a clockwise direction, gently tightening it so the SVM is seated firmly in place. You will notice the SVM may seem slightly loose in it's mount. This is due to the shock mount system and is not a fault.

## Mounting Your SVM cont.

- 6) The SVM delivers a mic level signal to the video camera via a stereo mini jack audio lead.



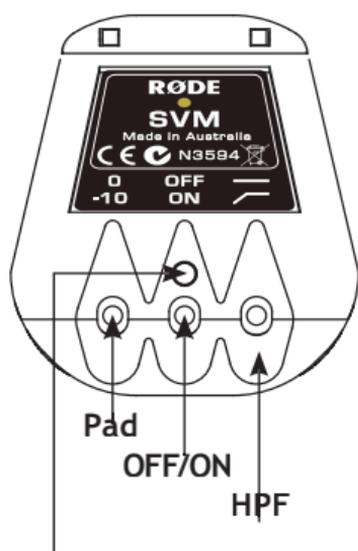
fig. 7

The mini jack should be connected to the camera via the camera's "Audio-In" socket (fig. 7), - refer to your video camera user manual.

## SVM Controls

- 7) Now that you have the SVM securely fastened to your camera and the audio output lead connected, you can switch the mic on.

There are three switches located on the end of the mic body (fig. 8):



LED Power Indicator:

- RED/GREEN - Self check
- GREEN - Battery Charged
- RED - Replace Battery

fig. 8 - VideoMic Controls

a Pad (with 0 and -10dB level cut), an **On-Off** switch, a High Pass Filter (✓ and —) with which you can use to remove rumble or other low frequency noise while recording. It will affect the tone slightly but in some situations it is required.

A power indicator LED flashes RED for 0.25 sec. when the mic is first turned on. This changes to GREEN indicating the battery has adequate charge. When the battery runs low, the LED will change

back to RED and you should change the battery for a fresh one.

The mic will work for approximately 1 hr. once the RED indicator is lit, however with reduced performance.

## SVM Controls cont.

- 8) It is now time to set the camera's audio level. To ensure the optimum signal you will need to set the VU meter on the camera to read around "3/4" or "75%" on the sound 'peaks'. Most cameras will allow you to access this setting through the camera menu. You should try and set the level using the sound source you will be recording, or a sound source of similar level before starting to record or you could distort the input of your camera if the level has been set too high. We suggest you read your camera manual, which should cover this topic.
- The SVM has been optimized for high rejection of radio frequency interference, but we suggest you keep all transmitters, mobile/cell phones, pagers etc. at least 2m away to reduce the possibility of interference ruining your recordings.

## SVM Windshield

- 9) The SVM comes with a custom designed windshield.
- The windshield should be left on at all times as even the slightest breeze can cause sound interference. When shooting outside in heavy winds you may need to purchase a more specialized windshield. **RØDE** has a full line of accessories available, please visit our web site [www.rodemic.com](http://www.rodemic.com) for further details.

## General Operation

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- 10) **RØDE** SVM is not designed for long distance pick up. I have heard people ask, "How far away can this mic pickup sound?". Of course you can boost the gain level on your camera and you will hear more defined sounds over a longer distance than with conventional microphones, but you will also get a lot of ambient noise and reflections making it sound hollow. For best results you need to be within 6' (2m) of a person talking. If you want very clear dialogue, you will need to have the mic position close to the person you are recording and use an extension mic cable which we supply as an accessory. There are microphones that are especially designed for long distance pick up. They do not have the 'Hi Fi' sound quality of the VideMic or SVM, but do a specific job. These include parabolic reflector systems and more recently adaptive arrays using multiple capsules and Digital Signal Processing (DSP) technologies.
- The SVM has a wide pick-up angle and polar response, so can be used to great effect with cameras for news gathering, weddings or sporting events. The SVM can be used in any situation where you want to listen to what's in the near field shot and what's at the side or out of view.
- 11) The best way to get optimum results with the SVM is to use it so you become more familiar with its sound and pick-up characteristics.

The **RØDE** SVM is made from rugged cast aluminum, ensuring impact resistance and a longer life. However care must be taken not to get the SVM wet nor do we advise you to drop it from a great height! Treat the mic the way you should treat your camera and you will have many years of reliable service.

## Warranty Service

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\* The **RØDE** SVM is warranted for 1 year from the date of purchase. You can extend that to a full ten years if you can register on line at [www.rodemic/svm.com](http://www.rodemic/svm.com) or use the supplied warranty card to record your purchase.

The warranty covers parts and labour that may be required to repair the microphone during the warranty period.

The warranty excludes defects caused by normal wear and tear, modification, shipping damage, conforming to mandatory standards or failure to use the microphone as per the instruction guide.

If you experience any problems or have any questions regarding your microphone, first, contact the dealer who sold it to you. If the microphone requires factory authorized service, that dealer will organize return or you can e-mail [support@rodemic.com](mailto:support@rodemic.com)

## Contact Details

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