



R44 Series Studio Ribbon Microphones



- Accurate reproduction of the original RCA 44
- Sonically faithful to the best of the original RCA 44 series
- Authentic RCA New Old Stock ribbon material
- Custom AEA transformer, neodymium magnets, and bronze yoke
- Single-diaphragm with well-controlled, native figure-8 polar pattern
- Consistent horizontal polar response, on and off axis
- High null-axis sound rejection helps with difficult acoustics
- High SPL capability, 165 dB + above 1 kHz
- Low self-noise
- "X" motor high-output option for enhanced signal-to-noise ratio
- Consistent in high-humidity, non-condensing environments
- Hand-crafted and computer-analyzed to assure highest standards

RCA 44 ribbon microphones remain an essential part of studio life more than 50 years after manufacturing ceased in 1955. Their open sound and accurate polar pattern are still unlike anything else available. What you hear in the studio, is what plays back. Everything sounds good, and fits easily into the mix. The 44 EQs well, but generally does not need it. Additionally, for proximity effect, there is nothing like the warmth of the 44.

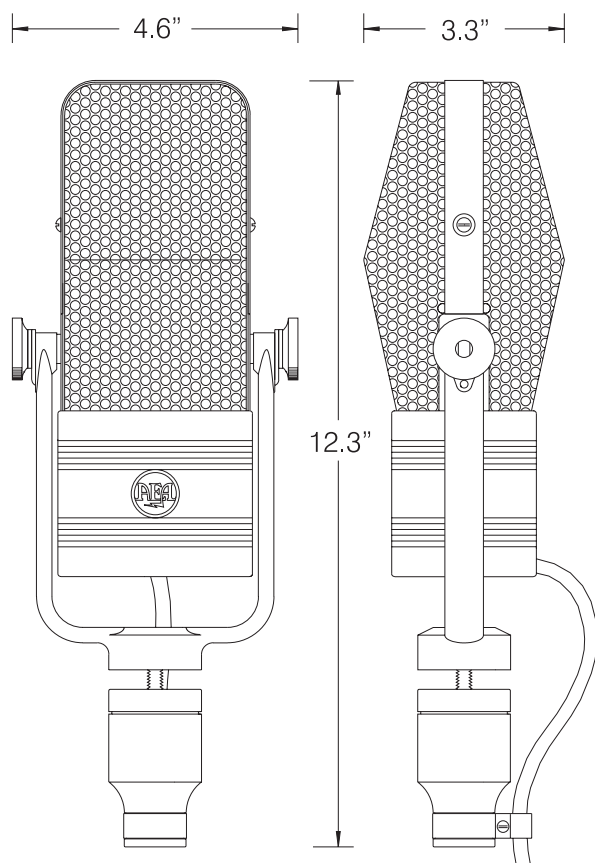
As collectors bought up RCA 44s in the 90's, their studio availability became endangered. As specialists in the field of ribbon microphones, AEA tracked down the engineers who originally manufactured RCA microphones, located original ribbon material, built tooling, and custom made all the parts to recreate the RCA 44 B/BX design to RCA's original 1930s' specifications. After years of painstaking work, AEA began production of the most important ribbon mic of all time: the AEA R44C.

How is the R44 different from other ribbon microphones ?

The 44 was RCA's best microphone from the 1930s into the '50s. Is AEA's R44 that good? Both listeners and measurements say that the AEA R44 is better. We start by using ribbon material originally manufactured for RCA. Next, we use modern magnet technology, which is much more robust than period magnets. We also combined the original American undamped ribbon design with the later British RCA 44 innovations that lower the weight and hum sensitivity.

The R44 design runs contrary to all current ribbon microphone manufacturing. It is large and heavy when other microphones are smaller and lighter. The internal ribbon element is by far the longest, and its resonance tuning the lowest, of today's ribbon microphones. It is a pure undamped ribbon design, an approach that had been out of production for over 50 years, while remaining in continuous studio use. It is different, and its sound is unique.

The R44 sounds good on everything. Leave it out and use it whenever you need to do a quick take. Bruce Swedien particularly likes them on vocals, Joe Chicarelli on sax, Allen Sides on electric guitar. Everyone has a favorite use, and everyone finds they sound good anywhere: brass, woodwinds, percussion, strings or voice work.



Weight: 7 pounds, 9 ounces in storage case
Length: 12.25 inches, Width: 4.62, Depth: 3.25"

Specifications:

Operating Principle: Velocity microphone

- Frequency Response: 20 Hz to 20 kHz
- Maximum SPL: 165 + dB SPL above 1 kHz for 1% third harmonic
- Output Sensitivity: 2.25 mV / Pa into unloaded circuit
- Output Impedance: 270 Ω broadband
- Recommended Load: 1.2 k Ω or greater
- Powering: Not required or recommended
- Polarity: Pin 2 high for positive pressure on the front of the microphone.
- Connector: XLR-3M wired to a 3 meter captive cable

Off Axis Response:

- Polar Pattern: Native bi-directional pattern
- Horizontal: Level changes with angle, frequency response is consistent, -90 dB null at 90° / 270°
- Vertical: Level changes with angle, reduced HF response above and below 0° / 180° axis, null at 90° / 270°

Transducer element

- Ribbon Thickness: 1.8 μ (0.0000018 m) of pure aluminum
- Ribbon Width: 4.7 mm
- Ribbon Length: 59.7 mm

Accessories:

- Included: Custom storage / shipping case, stand adapter, manual
- Optional: Any length cable, inquire for price and delivery.
- Custom transformer case laser engraved with your art or logo

Limited Warranty:

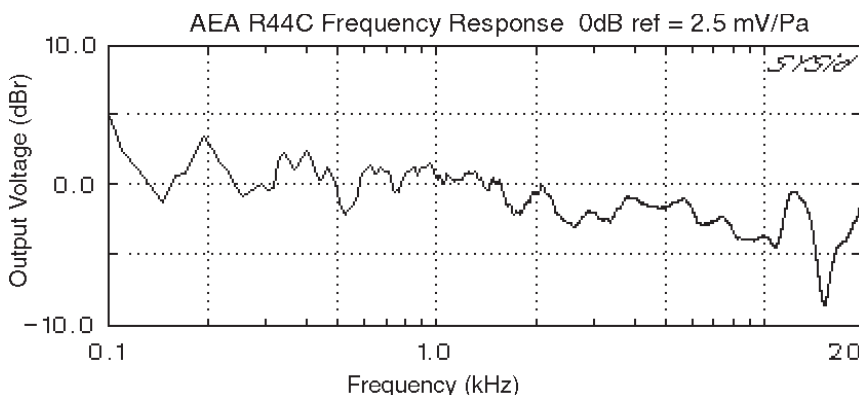
- Three years parts and labor, shipping not included.

Options

- X 6 dB more output than original RCA 44B/BX sound is slightly more forward, red logo
- M Hand tuning to stereo match a pair
- G Chrome finish grill for the R44 CNE
- HP Switchable high-pass (low-cut) filter
- U Custom body graphics or colors
- F Custom microphone flag

Accessories

- B Gray twill zippered bag
- S Round low profile desk stand
- AD-1 5/8"-27 stand adapter for Vintage RCA 44 & AEA R44C/CX
- 44VC Vertical carry case



Displayed range from 100 Hz up due to measurement room size limitations.

For more information contact:

Other AEA recording tools:

R84 Solo and Accent Ribbon Microphone
R88 Stereo Ribbon Microphone
R92 Close-Up Ribbon Microphone
TRP: The Ribbon Pre – ultra high gain two-channel preamp
Stereo Microphone Positioners
Collapsible "Flight-Weight" Tall Stands for on-location
Heavy-duty Microphone Stands and Booms
Decca Trees and Surround Microphone Arrays
The New Stereo Soundbook, Third Edition.
Useful information, no math required. www.stereosoundbook.com

