

# DIY Kits Break the Price/Performance Barrier

*"This mic is superb in almost every way. Every source I throw at this thing just sounds great."*

Although originally developed as a student DIY kit, the S-25 delivers surprisingly strong performance on a diverse range of sources—and has become a go-to mic at notable Los Angeles area studios, including Greg Wells' Rocket Carousel and Eric Valentine's Barefoot Recording.

We have since developed a companion kit, the T-25, which offers an even easier build process and a complementary, contrasting sound.

## S-25 Transformerless Mic Kit

The S-25 circuit design is based on the Schoeps CMC5. We supply upgraded components, including an individually "biased" JFET and NOS output transistors, to ensure that the finished mic provides high headroom, low noise, and accurate transients. The capsule captures a smooth and uncolored frequency response.

## T-25 Transformer Mic Kit

The T-25 circuit design is based on the "charge amp" of the Neumann KM84. This circuit provides rich harmonics and extended frequency response. The finished mic adds texture and saturation to the source, with a hint of transient compression.

## What's In The Box?

Both kits include a custom printed circuit board, hand-picked components, capsule with mount, and the full microphone metalwork. A 30-page hardcopy booklet provides step-by-step assembly instructions.

## Microphone Features & Characteristics

Both microphones are small and easy to use. Both have tight pattern control (Cardioid). Both models have an internal pad switch.

Both kits include a swivel mount and storage case.



## "Can I Keep the Mic?"

The finished S-25 / T-25 microphones are tools that student engineers will use for years. Both are versatile, interesting, and musical, complementing sources as diverse as voice, strings, horns, and drums.

## Customer Testimonials

"I had a fantastic experience building my first microphone. I had absolutely no prior experience soldering. I did one brief practice project and then dove in and had great results. The guides are comprehensive and easy to follow. 10/10 would recommend."

\* \* \*

"I had never soldered a single thing before this mic, and the instructions were so well written. I succeeded first try. On top of it, the mic has a really cool vibe. I will definitely be using it along side my far more expensive mics."

\* \* \*

"I bought this for myself for my birthday and I must say, I know how to buy a gift. The instructions are very clear and the assembly went off without a hitch. The finished

project feels sturdy and solid. The sound is excellent. The frequency response is excellent and there is almost zero noise... even when I crank the pre's up."

\* \* \*

"First time mic build for me. I really enjoyed it. Mic sounds really good. I tried it on cello, guitar, and bells. It has a really cool colour on cello, something I didn't already have."



	MicParts S-25	MicParts T-25
Mic Type:	Medium-diaphragm condenser	Medium-diaphragm condenser
Topology:	Electronically balanced	Transformer balanced
Ancestry:	Based on Schoeps CMC5	Based on Neumann KM84
Build Time:	2–4 hours	1.5–3 hours
Requires:	Basic soldering skills	Basic soldering skills

# DIY Kits for Students & Educators



micparts

## Why DIY?

Recording is a gear-intensive process. The only way to get acoustic sources and vocals into the DAW is with microphones, preamps, and converters.

While offshore manufacturing has helped make basic recording gear affordable on a student budget, many of those entry-level products are disposable tech: limited in performance, impossible to maintain, easy to outgrow.

DIY kits offer a solution to all of these problems. The kits are affordable. The finished products can be repaired and maintained. And their performance rivals premium name-brand devices at much higher price points.

DIY helps demystify the gear. A microphone need not be a “black box.” The process of building the circuit and assembling the microphone helps convey an understanding of how the mic works, and why it sounds the way it does—which in turn informs future decisions about microphone choice in sessions.

DIY affords students the opportunity to personalize their gear. While our entry-level kits were designed to be simple, straightforward builds, most of the MicParts large-diaphragm kits contain build-time customization options: switch behavior, capsule voicing, EQ, saturation.

The sense of satisfaction when first plugging in a DIY microphone, and hearing it work, is unforgettable. Students report that their mic building labs have been among their most rewarding classes.



## Terms for Schools

- Discount tiers for 5- and 10-piece orders of the S-25 and T-25 microphone kits.
- Add a half-price FET LDC kit for the instructor.
- We accept school purchase orders.
- Discounts available for student groups.

## Past Build Events



*Student build team at Mercy College*



*Audio Builders Workshop event, AES 2019,  
Javits Center Crystal Pavilion*



*Student build teams at Drexel University*

## Academic Customers\*

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