

Sanken Mono Shotgun Microphones



Sanken microphones are very well made to withstand the harsh condition of production sound recording, and aside from that, it delivers superb audio. Which make them a must have in your arsenal.

Sanken makes a wide range of microphones from mono, stereo, and surround shotgun mic. For today's topic, I will only concentrate on the mono shotgun microphones. Specifically, the CS1e, and the CS3e.

The CS1e is an extremely small microphone comparing to the rest of its class. Hence, it is marketed by Sanken, because they marketed this mic as an onboard mic for DSLR shooters. To be frank, this mic is better kept off camera and meant to be mounted on a boom pole. The pickup pattern of this mic is supercardioid/lobar. Which means it does not have a tail lobe. So, the mic will only pick up sound from the front. The frequency response from this mic is ranged from 50hz-20khz, which is slightly narrower than other lines of shotgun microphone. The reason for that is because the CS1e, and CS3e have an exceptional off axis rejection of unwanted audio. Typically, when the shotgun mic is facing away from the noise source; the high frequency typically do not make it to the front of the mic. However, the low frequency is the one that made it there. With a slightly narrower frequency response, it elevates ability for off axis rejection. Due to the short acoustic tube, the on axis of the CS1e range around 40 degree. Moreover, signal to noise ratio for this mic is incredible. You can practically record very low sound for practically no noise in your recording. With the size of 7 inches (same as MKH 8060), the CS1e is perfect for indoor; the small profile help you get the boom in tight spaces. All in all, this microphone is extremely imperative in any sound mixer package.

The CS3e have exactly the same quality as the CS1e; except for a few points. The CS3e has a longer acoustic tube, 10.63 inches, which gives the mic a narrower on axis pattern. The pickup pattern is roughly 30 degree. Even Though, the CS3e is only 10 inches (which is roughly the same size with other short shotgun mic) it behaves more like a long shotgun. Exceptional side rejection with extremely far reach. These characteristics make the CS3e perfect for outdoor use and high ceiling rooms.

Sanken also makes superb lavalier mic (COS-11d). The beauty is the shotgun mics and the COS-11d lav is they all sound the same. Most audience will not know the difference when you cut the audio in between the shotgun and the lav. This gives you more reason to keep everything in the same line of mic for consistent audio. The price tag on the Sanken mic is fairly low comparing with other competitors. Hence, any mixer who seek clean sound should not have a lot of problem obtaining Sanken.

Thi Dinh Sound
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