Wildtronics, LLC

All Purpose

Parabolic Kit

Instruction Manual

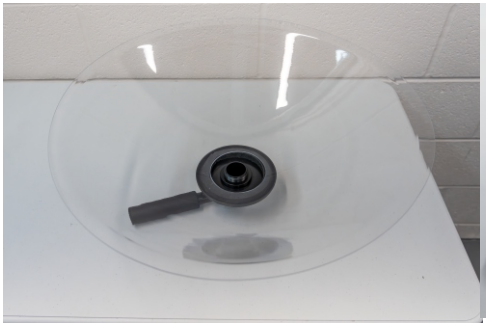
2026 Model

Thank you for purchasing the Wildtronics All Purpose Parabolic Kit. Your new kit was designed for years of service, ease of use, superior performance, and allows mounting almost any existing microphone including the Wildtronics Micro Mic PIP, Micro Mic XLR, and Amplified Omni Microphones. The All Purpose Parabolic is a modular system that will require some assembly. This manual will describe the many different ways this versatile kit can be used and assembled. Use commonly available cables to connect your microphone to your recorder. Read the entire manual before installing your microphone.

Parts Identification:
Refer to the photo below for the part names of the All Purpose Parabolic Kit. These names will be used throughout the manual to describe parts. The parabolic dish is not in the photo.

1. **Handle**
2. **Front plate**
3. **Mic Tube**
4. **Microphone Clamp Screw**
5. **Mic Tube Clamp Screw**
6. **Accessory Bar Mount**
7. **Adapter Sleeves** -used for mounting different diameter microphones.
8. **Foam Cable Clamps**
9. **Tube Retainer O-rings**
10. **Windscreens -**one has though hole, one is closed one side.

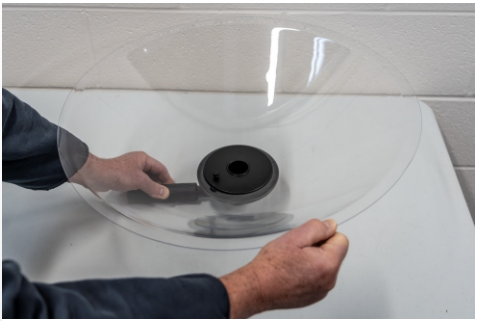
Assembly of Dish and Handle:
To assemble the Handle to the Parabolic Dish, place the handle on a flat surface pointed up. Place the dish on top, as shown, and center the dish on the handle's backplate. Next, place the Front Plate onto the thread of the handle, so that the beveled side is towards the dish. Clock-wise rotate the Front Plate, being careful not to strip the plastic threads, using the thumb knob to start tightening the Front Plate to the Handle. It should turn easily at first. Then hold the Handle and rotate the Dish clock-wise until the dish is tight to the handle. Reverse the procedure to remove the Dish from the Handle.



Lay Handle on flat surface and place dish centered on top.

Place Front Plate onto the Handle threads.

Tighten the Front Plate onto the threads of the Handle.

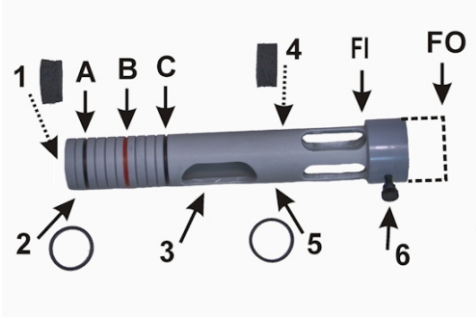


Finish by rotating the Dish clock-wise while holding the Handle.

Handy way to store Handle and Mic Tube.

Using the Mic Tube to mount a microphone:

The Mic Tube has a number of features and associated parts. Focusing works as follows, the Mic Tube has an integral focus gauge with lines, A, B, and C that correlate to the microphone focal points FI, the end of the tube, and FO. When in use, lines A, B, or C will align at the rear edge of the Handle depending on which mic mounting method you use. All Mic Tubes are now black and do not have colored markings, but the below illustration clarifies the focus lines. When using a microphone pointed towards the dish, align the Mic Tube line A at the rear edge of the Handle for perfect focus. When using a mic pointed away from the dish, align line C at the rear Handle edge. Sometimes it is preferred to defocus a subject that is less than twenty feet away by pushing the focal point away from the dish by 6mm, and by 12mm if closer than 10 feet.



Mic Tube and related parts.

Installing a mic pointed towards the dish is the preferred way to use any parabolic microphone, and works well with modern, shorter mics. Omnidirectional microphones are preferred, but you may use a cardioid microphone.

To install a mic pointed towards the dish: First, install one of the Foam Cable Clamps, inside the Mic Tube between the cable slot, 3, and the beginning of the open slots. This foam piece blocks sound from the Mic Tube causing inference with the microphone. Install your microphone so that the element is flush with FI, and clamp using thumb screw, 6. FI is at the end of the open slots, exactly 1.0 inch deep. You may need to use one of the Adapter Sleeves on your microphone so that it fits snugly into the Mic Tube. See more about using the Adapter Sleeves later in the manual. Next, install the Windscreen, the one with holes on both ends. Place the larger hole onto the small end of the Mic Tube and slide it towards and over the larger end where the thumb screw is located, until it hits the thumb screw. The smaller opening will have a tight fit over the Mic Tube. Next, install one of the o-rings, 1x1/16 inch, onto the Mic Tube. Place the o-ring at point 5, this will become a cable retainer. Attach your mic cable to the mic and route the other end of the cable under the o-ring you placed at point 5, through the cable slot, 3, and out the end of the Mic Tube. Assemble the other Foam Cable Clamp onto the cable by opening the slice cut in the foam, placing it around the cable and into the end of

the Mic Tube. This will retain the cable in the Mic Tube. Slide the mic cable and the Mic Tube into the Front Plate, and through the Handle. Assemble o-ring, 2, onto the Mic Tube at focus position A. This o-ring retains the Mic Tube from falling out when the Mic Tube Clamp Screw is loose, and helps set the focal point. Align point A to the rear edge of the hub. Position and tighten Mic Tube Clamp Screw. You are ready to use the parabolic microphone.

Inward facing mic in Mic Tube

Assembled & at focus point.

Installing a microphone pointed away from the dish will result in decreased performance, but maybe necessary when using longer microphones. Microphones used this way must be omnidirectional microphones. The Foam cable clamp, and o-ring are not used with this method. Install your microphone cable. Insert your microphone and cable into the small end of the Mic Tube until the element is even with focal point FO, which is 1.0 inch or 25mm out from the edge of the Mic Tube. This is the same distance as the thick section on the one end of the Mic Tube, which you can use as a ruler. You may need to use a mic Adapter Sleeve so your microphone will fit snug into the end of the Mic Tube. See the section on using Adapter Sleeves below. Secure the microphone in place by tightening thumb screw, 6. Install a Foam Cable Clamp around the mic cable that exits the end of the Mic Tube, and insert it into the end of the Mic Tube to retain the cable. If you have a very long microphone, the Foam Cable Clamp may not be needed, as the mic body or mic connector may exit the Mic Tube. Insert the mic cable and Mic Tube into the Front Plate and through the Handle until line C is even with the back edge of the Handle. Install o-ring, 2, onto the Mic Tube in position C. Position and tighten the Mic Tube Clamp Screw. Either slide the included Windscreen, the one with only one hole, or your own windscreen, over the end of the mic. The parabolic microphone is ready to use.

Outward facing mic in Mic Tube.

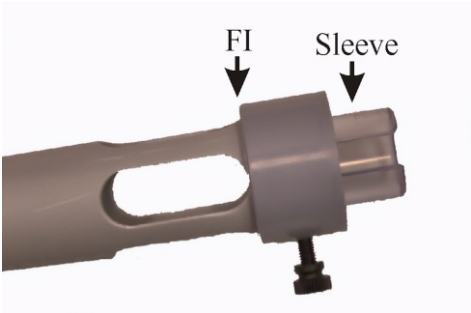
Assembled & at mic focus

Using mic Adapter Sleeves:

To adapt to a number of different microphone diameters, Wildtronics uses adapter sleeves that fit over the microphone and into the Mic Tube. Select the adapter you need from the table below. When using the thick sleeve, it

Sleeve Use Table	
Microphone Diameter	**Sleeve Needed**
18 -19.5 mm	Thick - Clear
19.5 - 22.5 mm	Thin - Clear
22 - 26 mm	No Sleeve Needed

is easier to insert the sleeve into the Mic Tube first then to place it on the microphone. When using a mic pointed towards the dish, be sure that the sleeve does not extend into the slots, of the Mic Tube, past the F1 position. Align the slot in the sleeve 90 degrees from the thumb screw for best clamping.



Inward pointing mic sleeve install

Assembled Micro Mic PIP

Store mic cable inside Mic Tube

Using the Wildtronics Micro Mic PIP and XLR Microphones:

The Wildtronics Micro Mic PIP microphone is a great, low noise, lightweight, inexpensive microphone to use with your All Purpose Parabolic Microphone. It is powered using Plug-in Power, or PIP that is available on many 3.5mm input devices. It requires 3-5 volt PIP, and the microphone is driven only on the left channel. The right channel is grounded. It will work with many DSLR and video cameras as well as mini audio recorders that have a 3.5mm microphone input. Our Amplified Omni Mics are better suited for use with other lower cost mini recorders, since these recorders have higher input noise.

Installing the Micro Mic PIP uses the same instructions read earlier about using the Mic Tube to install a microphone. There are just a few differences. There is no need to use a Mic Sleeve. The o-ring on the Micro Mic PIP sets the depth of insertion, whether you install it pointed towards or away from the dish. A 6 foot cable is included with the Micro Mic PIP. When used pointed towards the dish, use the 90 degree connector to connect to the mic. When used pointed away from the dish, use the straight connector to connect to the mic. This will make cable routing easier. You may curl any excess cable not used into the Mic Tube before installing the Foam Cable Clamp into the rear end of the Mic Tube.

Another popular mic to use is the Wildtronics Micro Mic XLR microphone. It installs similar to the PIP microphone, except you will use larger XLR cables you provide.

Using the Parabolic Microphone:

Parabolic microphones are highly directional microphones that have acoustical gain. They are intended to be used to increase the signal strength and isolate single subjects beyond the abilities of any other type of microphone. They have many uses including recording distant birds, animals, insects, people, background reinforcement, etc. Generally, point the microphone within 10-15 degrees of your subject. Since the microphone becomes more directional as the frequency increases, you should aim the microphone within two degrees of the subject for full frequency response. This is more critical for recording higher pitched birds and insects. The All Purpose Parabolic Kit allows you to mount microphones in many different ways, but in general, the microphone will either be pointed towards or away from the dish. The recommended way to use a parabolic microphone is to point the microphone towards the dish. You may use a cardioid, but an omnidirectional microphone is recommended when pointed towards the dish. Sometimes, you may need to point the mic away from the dish due to microphone length or other experimental needs. You will not obtain all the gain and performance as you would if pointed towards the dish, and you must use an omnidirectional microphone when pointed away from the dish, since the microphone is operating backwards. You may read our articles on Parabolic Microphone Theory and Use on our website to better understand parabolic microphones. Keep all the parts included in the All Purpose Parabolic Kit. If you don't need all the parts now, you may have a need for a different application in the future that will make use of the parts. The primary foam windscreens, of most microphones, are generally good for 10-12MPH winds. Any higher than that, and the dish can get hard to handle, and you will likely pick up too much environmental noise the wind creates.

We offer a few accessories, such a Mini Accessory Bar Kit, Pro Cable Clamp and Accessory Bar-1 Kit that can attach to the Handle. A carrying strap is another accessory you may find very useful. It attaches to the 1/4-20 threaded hole at the base of the Handle.

Care:

The Wildtronics All Purpose Parabolic Microphone doesn't require much maintenance. When the dish is dirty, disassemble, blow off excess dirt with air, and clean with a mild dish detergent and water mixture and a microfiber or a very soft cloth. Other recommended cleaners are Novus No. 1, Plexus, Brillianize, or wipes used to clean flat screen TV's. Each dish is cleaned with Brillianize before it ships from the factory. You can use Novus No. 2, and 3 to polish out haze and scratches that may develop over time. Don't get the microphones wet though, and do not use any solvents. Avoid contact with DEET on any plastic products.

The most important warning is not to point the microphone at the sun, even if it is cloudy. The large perfect parabolic shape not only focuses sound, but also radiant heat from the sun, like a giant magnifying glass. Pointing the microphone towards the sun, even when it is cloudy, will quickly overheat and damage the microphones, and start burning the windscreen material. We recommend a maximum storage temperature of 180/82° F/C. Exceeding 180/82° F/C may distort the parabolic dish permanently, also avoid load or stress on the dish, at higher temperatures, such as setting the dish on it's side, or placing objects against the dish. Avoid any conditions that will bend, stress, or distort the parabolic dish for longer periods of time. If you really need to “roll” the parabolic dish to fit inside airline luggage, never roll the 0.060 thick clear dish tighter than 10 inches (preferably 15 inches) separating the edges. Do not bend the Black Ops dish. A slight permanent set of a non perfect parabolic shape may occur, that some think is okay, but we do not recommend it in order to maintain full high frequency response. Bending in the opposite direction for a while should reset the parabolic shape, in most cases, if the above recommendations were followed. The Feather Light Parabolic Dish is available if you need a super light dish that actually rolls to a 6 inch diameter, for up to 48 hours, which can be great for traveling. Do not crush the Feather Light dish while it is rolled. This will cause permanent damage. For storage, keep the parabolic dish unrolled, away from any sunlight, in cool temperatures. Do not keep batteries in any microphone for extended periods of time, as some batteries still leak and could corrode the battery holder connections. If you need expendable parts such as windscreen replacements, contact Wildtronics, LLC for service part pricing and availability.

Warranty:

The Wildtronics parabolic microphone is warranted for 1 year against manufacturer defects and limited operational problems when used under normal conditions. Wildtronics will try to resolve any problems. No part of the microphone will be covered under warranty if the microphone was pointed towards a heat source or the sun, or stored at over 180/82° F/C, as this is a user error that will cause damage to the microphone.

This product has been manufactured and tested to the highest quality standards by Wildtronics, LLC. This Limited Warranty offered by Wildtronics, LLC covers defects in material or workmanship in new Wildtronics, LLC products. This warranty extends to the original purchaser only and is non-transferable. Only consumers purchasing Wildtronics, LLC products from authorized Wildtronics, LLC retailers, Wildtronics, LLC distributors, or through the Wildtronics, LLC website may obtain coverage under our limited warranties.

What is covered? Wildtronics, LLC warrants this product against defects in material or workmanship as follows: Wildtronics, LLC will replace at no charge parts, or at its option, replace any assembly of the product that proves defective because of improper workmanship and/or material, under normal use, service and maintenance. If repair is not practical, with consensual agreement, Wildtronics, LLC may elect to refund the purchase price in exchange for the return of the product.

How Long Does The Coverage Last? Our warranty period is 1year from the documented date of purchase.

What Our Warranty Does Not Cover? Our warranties do not cover any problem that is caused by:

A. Conditions, malfunctions or damage not resulting from defects in material or workmanship.

B. Conditions, malfunctions or damage resulting from normal wear and tear, improper installation, improper maintenance, misuse, abuse, negligence, accident or alteration. In the specific case of the Parabolic Dish Microphone, damage caused by pointing towards the sun or storing above 200/93° F/C causing heat destruction will not be covered.

C. Accessories, connected materials and products, or related products not manufactured by Wildtronics, LLC, or problems that are caused by connecting products not manufactured by Wildtronics, LLC.

Our limited warranties are void if a product is returned with removed, damaged or tampered labels or any alterations (including removal of any component or external cover).

How to File a Claim? Wildtronics, LLC will not provide any warranty coverage unless claims are made in compliance with all terms of the warranty statement included with your Wildtronics, LLC product and you follow proper return procedure. To request warranty service, you will need to provide:

1. The sales receipt or other evidence of the date and place of purchase.

2. A description of the problem.

3. Obtain a RMA number by contacting Wildtronics, LLC for shipping information. You are responsible for the shipping to us, and we will ship the unit back to you (non-expedited) at our cost.

Product Registration:
Please register your microphone to hear about updates and for us to recognize your serial number if you purchased through a distributor.

Name:
Address:
Country:
Phone number: Email address:
Model #: Serial #:
Date of purchase: Purchased from:

Email to customersvc@wildtronics.com or mail to Wildtronics, LLC, PO Box 376, Newton Falls, OH 44444, USA.

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