



**Wildtronics, LLC**

**Pro Mini**

**Parabolic**

**Instruction Manual**

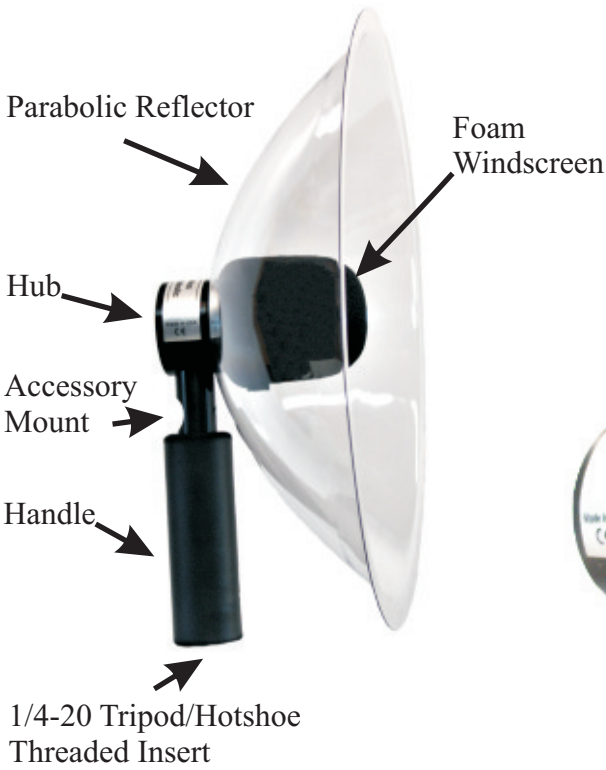
**2016 Model**

Thank you for purchasing the Wildtronics Pro Mini Parabolic. Your new parabolic reflector kit was designed for years of service, ease of use, superior performance, and allows installing many cylindrical omnidirectional, cardioid, and even lavalier microphones. You may also easily install the high performance, low noise Wildtronics Micro Mic series microphones. The Pro Mini Parabolic is a modular system that will require mounting a microphone into the hub to complete the parabolic microphone. Use commonly available cables to connect your microphone to your recorder. Read the entire manual before installing your microphone.

### **Parts Identification:**

Referring to the photo on page 2, the part names of the Pro Mini Parabolic are labeled. These names will be used throughout the manual to describe parts.

1. **Parabolic Reflector** -Depending on the model, it will be clear polycarbonate or black ABS.
2. **Hub** -This is where the microphone is inserted and secured.
3. **Accessory Mount** -Used for mounting our Mini-Accessory Bar.
4. **Handle** -With a foam comfort grip.
5. **1/4-20 Tripod/Hotshoe Threaded Insert** -Metal insert that allows attachment to tripods and hotshoe adapters.
6. **Hairy Ring** -Retains the windscreen when the windscreen is installed.
7. **Thumbscrew** -Used to retain the microphone.
8. **Mic Adapter Sleeves** -Used to adapt to different diameter microphones. One is thin, and one is thick.
9. **Lavalier Mic Adapter** -Used to mount a lavalier microphone into the Hub.
10. **Cardioid Mic Vent Seal** -Used to cover the vents on the side of a cardioid microphone, in case a cardioid microphone is used.

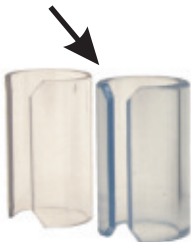


### Hub Detail



### Microphone Adapters

1 Thin, 1 Thick  
Mic Adapter Sleeves



Cardioid Mic  
Vent Seal



Lavalier Mic Adapter



### **Pro Mini Parabolic Parts**

## Recommended microphones to use:

We recommend using an omnidirectional microphone for best results. You can use a cardioid microphone, if that is all you have, but you must seal the vents on the side of the microphone as described later. Shotgun microphones will not work with parabolic reflectors at all, since their polar response is too narrow, and would pick up very little of the sound reflected by the parabolic dish. Use cylindrical, pencil style, microphones that are 19-26mm in diameter. You may also use most lavalier microphones with the included lavalier mic adapter. Remember that lavalier microphones are typically noisy, and should be avoided for long range use or faint sounds. For best results, use a microphone with less than 16dBA self noise. The lower the better for increased range and quality of recordings. Wildtronics offers the Micro Mic Series Microphones that are high quality, low noise, and easily fit into the Pro Mini Parabolic. Other common microphones that would work well are: Sennheiser MKH20, MKH8020; Audio Technica 4022; DPA 4060; Schoeps Mk5, and MK2H.

## Installing a Wildtronics Micro Mic PIP Microphone:

Installing a Micro Mic PIP microphone is very straight forward and easy. Attach your cable and slide the cable and microphone in from the front of the dish until the o-ring contacts the Hub. The microphone is now at the focal point. Tighten the Thumbscrew to retain the microphone. Next, slip the Windscreen over the hub and carefully pluck the sides to fit the Windscreen around the Hairy Ring. The Hairy Ring provides firm retention of the Windscreen. That is it, your microphone is ready to use.



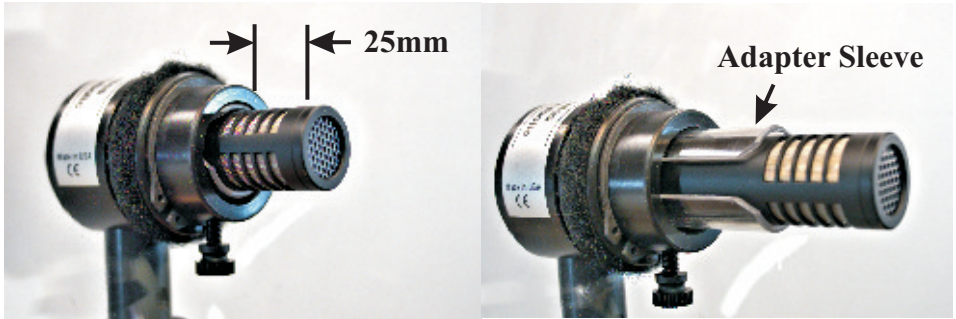
Install Micro Mic PIP so that the O-ring contacts the Hub, and tighten the Thumbscrew.



Install the Windscreen over the Micro Mic PIP, and around the Hairy Ring.

## Installing a typical cylindrical microphone:

Installing a typical microphone is similar to installing the Micro Mic PIP, but you will have to set the focal point before tightening the Thumbscrew. You may find it easier to insert the microphone from the rear of the Mini Parabolic. Set the focal point, where the actual microphone's element is located. The focal point is located 25mm or 1-inch in front of the face of the Hub. Accuracy of 1-2mm results in maximum performance. Tighten the Thumbscrew and install the Windscreen over the microphone and the Hairy Ring. You may use the windscreen that came with your microphone if you want.



Insert microphone so that the mic's actual element is 25mm in front of the Hub face. This is the focal point of the parabolic dish.

Depending on the diameter of your microphone, you may need an adapter sleeve. See the table below for the sleeve to use.



### Cardioid Seal



Use the thin or thick adapter sleeve if needed to retain your microphone. If you use a cardioid microphone, as shown above, note the vents on the side of the mic. Place the cardioid seal over the mic. The seal converts the cardioid response to an omnidirectional mic response, improving the overall performance.

## Using Mic Adapter Sleeves:

To allow for various microphone diameters, Wildtronics uses adapter sleeves that fit over the microphone and into the Hub. Select the adapter you need from the table below. Align the slot in the sleeve 90 degrees from the thumb screw for best clamping.

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

## Installing a Lavalier Microphone:

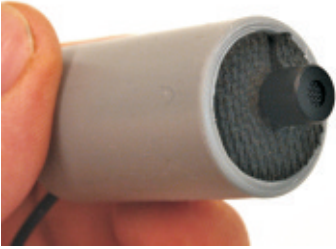
You may install a lavalier microphone by using the Lavalier Mic Adapter. It should be noted, in general, there are very few lavalier mics that have low noise. Therefore, lavalier mics should not be used when you need maximum range or when in a quiet environment. However, we include a the Lavalier Mic Adapter to improve the reach and isolation of the lavalier. This results in a shotgun microphone like response.



Thread the lavalier mic so the mic sticks out from one end of the tube.



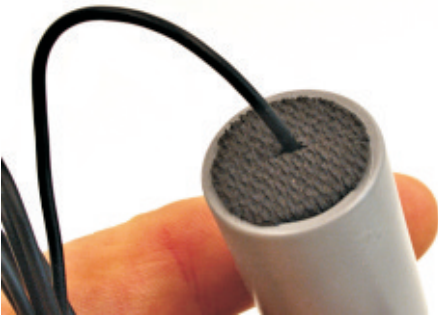
Take one of the foam rubber pieces, and open the slice to fit around the mic. Try to protrude the mic from the foam by about 6mm or a 1/4 inch. If your mic is large, you can protrude it more.



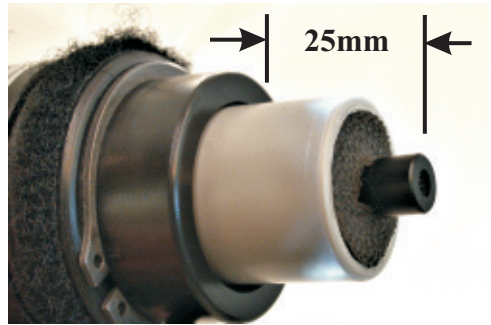
Next, insert the foam rubber and the mic into the tube until the foam is flush with the end of the tube. Your mic should protrude as shown.



Retain the cable on the opposite end of the tube with the other foam rubber piece, by inserting the cable into the slice.



Squeeze the foam rubber around the cable, and insert into the tube until the foam is flush as shown. You can pull on the cable slightly to straighten and seat the mic. The mic and cable is now securely held.



Insert the mic and adapter into the Hub, until the front end of the mic is 25mm from the face of the Hub. This is the exact focal point. Tighten the Thumbscrew to retain the assembly. Install the Windscreen over the mic and Hairy Ring. You can also use the windscreen that came with your mic for a double windscreen.

### Using the Cardioid Mic Vent Seal:

Use the Cardioid Mic Seal around your mic if you are using a cardioid mic. This seal prevents sound from entering the back side of the mic element, converting the cardioid response into an omnidirectional response. This will improve the overall performance of your parabolic system by improving the gain and frequency response.



## Using the Accessory Mount:

The Accessory Mount is located on the back side of your Pro Mini, just under the Hub, on the Handle. The Accessory Mount can be used to mount the Wildtronics Mini Accessory Bar. The Mini-Accessory Bar allows attachment of a small, hand-held recorder. This allows for quick easy use with just one short cable to your microphone.



The Accessory Mount.

Attaching a small hand-held recorder using the Mini-Accessory Bar.

## Using Pro Minis to Capture Stereo Sound:

The compact, light weight Pro Minis are ideal for stereo use. The available Wildtronics Mini Stereo Bar accessory can be used in many different ways. Mount two Pro Minis, a camera, a recorder, extra mics, tripods, and more. Independently point at two subjects or maintain a fixed angle. Perfect for capturing a stereo image for run and gun filming or audio recording.



Hand holding two Pro Minis, and a recorder with the Mini Stereo Bar. The system is light, superbly balanced, and easy to hold.



Here is an example of using two Pro Minis with a camera.





Other accessories are available for your Pro Mini Parabolic, such as: hotshoe adapters, a camera quick release, stereo Y cables, ball swivel mounts, and more. Visit [www.wildtronics.com](http://www.wildtronics.com) for the latest accessories available.

Using a hotshoe mount adapter to mount a Pro Mini directly to a camera.

### **Using the Parabolic Microphone:**

Parabolic microphones are highly directional microphones that have acoustical gain. They are intended for use when increased signal strength and isolation of a single subject, beyond the ability of any other type of microphone, is required. They have many applications including: recording distant birds, animals, insects, people, background sound reinforcement, etc. Simply 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 five degrees of the subject for full frequency response. The pointing accuracy is more critical for recording higher pitched birds and insects.

### **Care:**

The Wildtronic Pro Mini Parabolic doesn't require much maintenance. When the dish is dirty, blow off excess dirt with air, and clean with a mild dish detergent and water mixture using 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 microphone is cleaned with Novus No. 1 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. Do not use any solvents, and 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 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 may start burning the windscreen material. We recommend a maximum storage temperature of 200/93° F/C. Exceeding 200/93° F/C may distort the parabolic dish permanently. A hot car interior should not exceed 185/85° F/C. 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 0.030 thick clear dish tighter than 4-5 inches in diameter. Do not bend the Black Ops dish. Rolling the clear dish can be great for traveling or temporary storage. For long term storage, keep the parabolic dish away from any sunlight, in cool temperatures, and not rolled. If you need expendable parts such as windscreen or dish replacements, contact Wildtronics, LLC for service part pricing and availability.

### **Warranty:**

The Wildtronics Pro Mini 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 200/93° 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 1 year 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](mailto:customersvc@wildtronics.com) or mail to Wildtronics, LLC, PO Box 376, Newton Falls, OH 44444, USA.

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