

Shure Digital Recording: Frequently Asked Questions

X2u XLR-to-USB Signal Adapter:

- **What is the X2u XLR-to-USB Signal Adapter and how does it work?**
The Shure X2u is a modular accessory that connects any XLR microphone (standard electrical connection) to a computer (Mac or PC) to create better-than-CD quality recordings. With the X2u, beginning and advanced recording enthusiasts can simply “Plug and Play” to experience Shure-quality digital recording with zero latency monitoring.
- **What is zero latency monitoring?**
The word “latency” is another way to say delay. In this case, latency refers to the amount of time it takes a computer to process a signal. With the X2u, latency refers to the amount of time it takes to convert the analog signal (your voice) to the digital signal and back again (for playback). When users plug earphones or headphones into the Shure X2u, they will hear themselves as they sing or talk, rather than experiencing a delay or echo.
- **What microphones are compatible with the X2u Adapter?**
While it was designed to extend the sleek, beautiful design of Shure’s iconic SM57 and SM58 microphones to portable recording devices, the X2u is compatible with any XLR microphone, including condenser microphones thanks to the phantom power feature.
- **Why did Shure decide to make a USB adapter?**
For more than 80 years, Shure has been dedicated to developing professional quality audio; the company recognizes that the rise in user-generated content brings more demand for low cost, digital recording options. Shure decided to create a microphone adapter to allow users to connect any XLR microphone to their computer to create better-than-CD quality recordings. The X2u redefines what musicians and podcasters can do in their own homes and on the go, just as the tape recorder redefined what artists could produce outside the studio.

PG27USB and PG42USB Side Address Condenser Microphones:

- **What are the PG27USB and PG42USB Side Address Condenser Microphones and how do they work?**
The PG27USB and PG42USB microphones connect professional-caliber Shure microphones to any computer for “Plug and Play” recording. Excellent tools for multi-track recording, the microphones feature built-in headphone monitoring with zero latency and monitor mix control, allowing users to instantly hear what they’re recording and make adjustments on the go. Both microphones are durable enough for everyday use and practice, but sophisticated enough for advanced recording and live performances by the most discerning artists.

- **What is a condenser microphone?**

A condenser microphone is a microphone that generates an electrical signal when waves vary the spacing between two charged surfaces: the diaphragm and the backplate. Condenser microphones tend to be more sensitive and more responsive to higher frequencies, which allow them to capture more detail from instruments like acoustic guitars or cymbals. Condenser microphones can also reveal added texture and realism in voices, or subtle nuances of the sound source.

- **What are the key differences between the PG27USB and the PG42USB Microphones?**

The key difference between the PG27USB and PG42USB microphones is the application for which they were designed:

- The PG27USB features a flat, neutral frequency response for natural reproduction of a wide variety of instrument and vocal sound sources.
- The PG42USB was specifically engineered to reproduce the subtle nuances of lead vocals. The large diaphragm allows for higher sensitivity to clearly reproduce refined performances. The low-cut filter and external shock mount further optimize performance for vocals.

- **What is frequency response?**

Frequency response is a measurement that indicates whether or not – and how accurately – a signal can be reproduced, and the range of frequencies over which it may be used effectively. When a microphone has a flat frequency response, it can naturally reproduce a wide variety of acoustic, amplified, and vocal sound sources.

- **How are Shure's PGUSB Microphones different from Shure's professional line of microphones?**

For more than 80 years, Shure microphones have delivered unmatched sound quality and durability, making them invaluable for professional stage performance and studio recording around the world. The PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones employ USB connectivity to bring the quality of Shure microphones to home and digital recording applications.

- **Do I need to install any software on my computer to use the microphones?**

Shure's PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones are a "Plug and Play" solution, meaning they'll work when plugged into a consumer's computer. However, the consumer will need software to record and edit sound.

- **Do I need a phantom power source?**

No. The microphones are entirely powered by the USB 5V power supply.

- **With what computers do the microphones work?**

The PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones work with any Mac or PC that has a USB port, and are compatible with Windows Vista, XP, 2000, and Mac OS X 10.1 or later.

General Information on the X2u Adapter and PG Microphones:

- **What accessories are included with Shure's X2u Adapter, PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones?**

- **X2u Adapter:** USB cable, zippered carrying pouch.

- **PG27USB:** Stand mount, USB cable, zippered carrying pouch.
- **PG42USB:** Shock mount, USB cable, carrying case.

- **How much do the X2u Adapter and PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones cost?**
The retail prices for these Shure products are as follows:
 - X2u Adapter:** \$129.00 retail [\$154.00 MSRP]
 - PG27USB:** \$199.00 retail [\$238.00 MSRP]
 - PG42USB:** \$249.00 retail [\$298.00 MSRP]

- **Where will Shure's X2u Adapter, PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones be sold?**
Shure's X2u, PG27USB and PG42USB Microphones and will begin to be available to consumers worldwide in spring 2009 and will carry a two-year limited warranty. The products can be purchased at select retail partners; the X2u will also be available at www.shure.com. Check www.shure.com for a complete list of Authorized Dealers.