

Lesson 18

Microphone Placement Techniques

Q & A

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STUDIO NAME: House DC
NAME OF MENTOR(S): Jake

1. Who chooses which type of microphone is to be used on a certain instrument or voice? the engineer (page 132).
2. Explain stereo midside/MS miking technique. (page 143) It's a miking system that picks up a direct sound along with a side figure 8 sound which picks up ambient and reverberant sound.
3. Name and explain a few stereo miking techniques. (page 142)
 - a Spaced pair - Placed in the front in a left to right fashion
 - b X/Y - 2 of the same mics are placed as close together as possible with the
 - c M/S - 1 mic in the front and 1 on each side of that direct mic
 - d Decca tree - uses 3 omnidirectional mics (2 placed 3 feet apart and the 3rd 1.5ft out in front) - uses both time & amplitude
4. Explain the Blumlein technique (page 142). Uses 2 crossed bi-directional mics that are offset by 90° to each other
5. Describe a "Common" drum miking technique: (page 160-161)
 - a Placing a mic on the kick
 - b Placing a mic on the snare drum
 - c 2 overhead pick-ups spaced
 - d 2 overhead pick-ups coincident
6. The engineer/ producer should be aware of the following traps that are often encountered when recording the human voice: (page 168)
 - a Excessive dynamic range
 - b Sibilance
 - c Excessive bass boost due to proximity effect
7. Explain stereo-spaced pair miking technique (page 142). The use of 2 mics to capture a coherent sound; they can either be close or distant
8. The Cardoid Dynamic mic is the most popular mic for picking up a loud electric guitar tone in the studio. (page 153)
9. Recording direct as well as miking the bass guitar amp is useful for capturing a cleaner, more present sound of the guitar. (page 154)