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Subject: Re: Microphones

Posted by [Thermionic](#) on Tue, 26 Oct 2010 19:02:50 GMT

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Hi DJ Dave,

I'd recommend the old workhorse Shure SM58. Without going into lengthy details, I have a great deal of experience with both live sound and recording, both in front of the mixer as a musician and behind it "twisting knobs," and I've only seen two SM58s fail in about 25 years.

Both were dropped on hard floors and landed right on the windscreen. One actually died; the other had a scratchy voice coil after that. And, I feel that both were flukes, because I've seen SM58s take a LOT more abuse than that and still work perfectly.

In one group I used to play with, our four SM58s were horribly dented and chipped, having been dropped on concrete floors untold times. They looked worse than any mics I've seen to this day; really disfigured! But, they still sounded flawless, and do to this day, about 20 years after they were bought new.

There's an old joke about the SM58:

Bob - "Hey, hand me a hammer."

Bill - "I don't have one."

Bob - "Then hand me a SM58 instead."

Granted, the newer ones with the Chinese capsules aren't quite what the American-made ones were as far as sound quality (at least to my own ears), but I've used them for a few years now and have had no problems whatsoever. You just won't go wrong with a SM58, especially for the price. Are there better sounding dynamic vocal mics for stage use? Yes. Are there tougher mics? Well, very few, if any.

Thermionic

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