

Sennheiser ME3 & ME3 Combo User Guide



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Congratulations on your purchase of a Sennheiser ME or ME3 Combo. This is a high-quality microphone that should give you years of use. The ME3 is a bit different from the usual computer microphone and we recommend that you briefly review this guide to assure successful use.

Sound card compatibility

There are 3 important compatibility issues to consider with your ME3-II:

1. The ME3 is wired slightly differently than the usual PC microphone (the base and tip connections are reversed compared with other microphones). By virtue of this wiring difference, the ME3 is compatible with most but not all computer sound cards.
2. The ME3 does not use a standard audio jack and, rather, includes a jack with a "locking ring". The reason for this is that the ME3 is manufactured for use by stage entertainers and intended to be plugged into a belt-worn wireless transmitter which has the appropriate jack to mesh with the locking ring. The consequence of this locking ring is that the ring takes up some of the space on the main portion of the plug and does not allow full insertion into standard audio jacks. It is for this reason that we bundle every ME3 with a plug adapter to convert the non-standard plug into a standard plug.
3. Finally, a few years back when Sennheiser transitioned from the ME3-N to the current ME3-II, it deployed a slightly less sensitive microphone element. This did not change the high quality and amazing external noise rejecting qualities of the microphone, but it leaves the element slightly less "hot." For some sound cards that don't expect this, the signal might just be too weak for use with associated speech recognition software. We have tested various external sound cards and in both a Windows and Mac environment and have made the following observations:
 - In a Windows environment, the ME3 works well with both the Andrea Pure Audio MA USB adapter and the Buddy 7G USB adapter.
 - In the Mac environment, the ME3 works best with the Andrea Pure Audio MA USB adapter

For the above reasons, we strongly recommend that you utilize the included plug adapter. Similarly, we recommend that you interface with your Sennheiser ME3 with either the Andrea Pure Audio or Buddy 7G USB adapter if you are a Windows user, and an Andrea Pure Audio USB adapter if a Mac user. Since it works well in both environments and is more cost effective, we bundle the ME3 with the Andrea Pure Audio adapter.

Set-up and Use

Use of the ME3 is quite straightforward. We recommend you follow these simple instructions:

1. The headband that comes with the ME3 serves no useful purpose. It is recommended that you remove the band and set it aside for the unlikely situation that you decide to return the product.

2. If you haven't done so already, insert the plug on the ME3 into the bundled plug adapter and insert this into your sound card. See brief instructions below related to use of the plug adapter.



1. Insert the ME3 plug firmly into the adapter, enough that the threads on the locking ring mesh with the threads on the adapter.
2. Rotate the locking ring clockwise to engage the threads and pull the plug firmly into the adapter.

3. If you using an external USB sound adapter, insert it into your PC or Mac and wait a moment for drivers to install.
4. Following instructions below based on your operating system.

Dragon Set-up

Current versions of Dragon NaturallySpeaking, Dragon Medical Practice Edition, and Dragon Legal make integration with a new microphone fairly seamless. The steps are as follows:

1. Plug in your USB adapter; wait a moment for any drivers to be installed
2. Start Dragon; if your sound adapter is new and assuming there is an on-board sound card, you will be given the choice of which sound card to use. Select the one to which you ME3 is attached.
3. Dragon may ask you to do some reading to adjust the sound input volume of the mic/sound card.
4. You're done!

If you are having any problems or if you are using a much older version of dragon, refer to the table below for alternative set-up instructions.

Dragon 11 or 12	Dragon 13/14
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select Dragon > Open User .. 2. On the far right of the Open User dialog, click on "Source" and then "New" 3. Select the new source (Andrea PureAudio) from those listed and follow subsequent instructions 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select Manage Dictation Sources from the "Profile" menu. 2. Click "Add new dictation source" 3. Follow all subsequent instructions

Mac Set-up

Macintosh computers do not allow use of a headset microphone plugged into the Audio port, so it is mandatory to use an external USB sound adapter like the Andrea Pure Audio USB adapter when interfacing the ME 3 (or any other analog microphone). All you need to do is install the USB adapter and drivers will be automatically installed from the OS. If you are using Dragon Dictate, you need to set up the USB adapter as a new source for your user profile. This is done as follows:

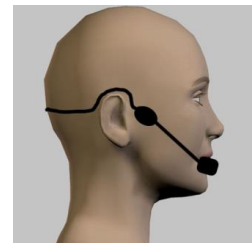


1. Start by going to the OS Systems tools and select "Sound"
2. Confirm that the Andrea Pure Audio USB adapter is present and chosen
3. Open Dragon and navigate to Tools > Profiles
4. Under Audio Sources click on the "+" symbol to add a new source
5. On the subsequent window select the Andrea PureAudio USB-MA or Buddy 7G from the drop-down (depending upon which you are using), name the profile, click "Continue" and follow all subsequent instruction to complete set-up



Microphone Use

Mounting the microphone to your head: In general, the velcro strap offers no particular function and can be discarded. Mounting of the microphone is not always intuitive. Refer to the diagram to the right for help if needed. Rather than going over the top of your head, the ME goes around the back of your head.



Positioning: The foam covered microphone element should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch from the right front of your mouth, and ideally to the side of your mouth. If necessary, bend the flexible boom to get the proper position. If you get warnings of excessively high or low sound levels when performing the Audio Set-up Wizard with NaturallySpeaking, simply move the microphone slightly further away or closer as appropriate.

Speaker: Don't search for it. The ME3 is a high-quality head-mounted microphone only and does not include a speaker!