



yeti studio

Sometimes you run across something that's just an awesome deal. It's like, how can they do that? Blue Microphone's Yeti Studio is just such a deal and I'm really picky about mics and how they sound, so if they don't sound good I'm not interested. In the Yeti Studio package you get the Yeti, which is really four mics in one—3 mono mics and one stereo mic—and you also get Studio One Artist recording software from PreSonus, AND it comes with iZotope's Nectar Elements vocal effects plug-in! It can't be emphasized enough that this package isn't made up of products from untested, unheard of companies. These are all from first-class manufacturers whose products are used at the highest level in world-class studios all over the planet! Considering the fact that the Yeti lists for \$149 and Studio One Artist lists for \$149 and that Nectar Elements lists for \$129, for a grand total of \$427 bucks, it seems unreal that the full retail list price of the Yeti Studio package is—wait for it—\$149!



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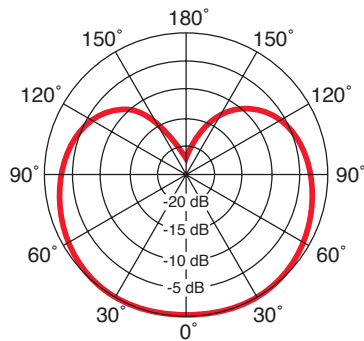
So let's talk about some of the specific features that make the Yeti unique.

- It's a USB mic, which—for use with your computer—makes it virtually plug and play. I have a lot of great mics and mic preamps and a few different interfaces that I like. But when I want to get something recorded before I lose the opportunity or the creative idea, I keep my USB mic an arm's length away on a shelf where I can always get to it. In fact, in the podcast of this review I use a Yeti plugged straight into my Mac and I use Studio One to record the voice and the guitar examples.
- Four pick up patterns! That's just crazy in a mic in this price range. And the patterns they've included are even wilder.

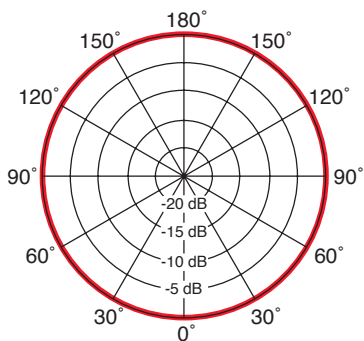


The back of the Yeti includes a gain control and four pickup patterns.

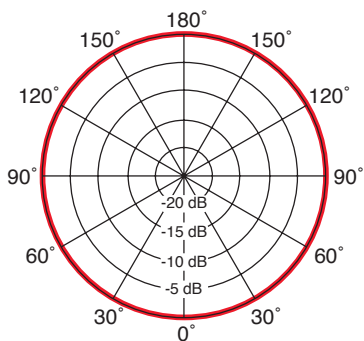
Here they are:



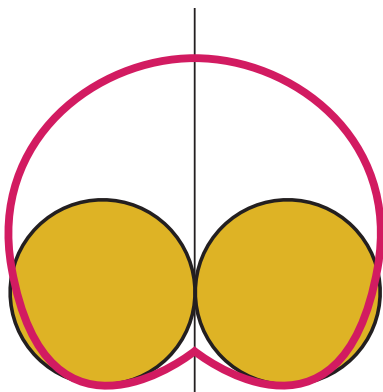
1. Cardioid, which focuses on the sound in front of the mic and rejects the sound from the back—very useful and most mics use this pattern but when you get close to the source they can get a little boomy in the low end.



2. Omnidirectional, which hears the same from all directions. This is great for recording the sound of the room along with the source; however, if you get really close to an omni mic it doesn't get as boomy in the low end as a cardioid mic—kind of nice for some vocal sounds.



3. Bidirectional, another very useful option where the mic hears sound from both opposing sides but not from either edge. This is great for recording two vocalists to the same channel. There are a lot of creative and unique things you can do with a bidirectional mic. This one gets pretty boomy in the low end when you get close to the source, too.



4. Stereo—this is the one that is NOT normal to include, especially at this price point—well, any price point! There are all sorts of multipattern mics on the market but most of them have different forms of cardioid, omni, and bidirectional variations. In order to capture all of these polar patterns, the folks at Blue have included three condenser capsules, the most accurate of all of the operational types. The stereo feature of this mic makes it super versatile. If you really want to capture a 3D rendition of a great instrument or voice in a nice room, stereo miking is really the





only solution, AND it's great for recording sound effects for use in videos, games , and such.

- Add all of this to the fact that there's a built in Mute switch, great for hiding a cough or sneeze during a podcast, a gain control so you can set the recording level just right, and a headphone output with a volume control so you can always monitor your recordings in real-time—sometimes there's a slight delay coming from the computer, which can be very annoying in certain situations. DANG!



To close this out, on the podcast revision of this review, I play a little something on my acoustic guitar so you can get a feel for how the Yeti sounds in a musical application. I'll change between the pickup pattern too, so you can hear the Yeti's versatility. And to top it all off, the Yeti looks cool!

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