

# MEDIA SERVICES

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## RECORDING

Company: **Electro-Voice**

www.electrovoice.com/

Models: **Blue Series Cardinal, EV RE20**

Electro-Voice Blue Series Cardinal cardioid condenser microphone (\$199 street) is a versatile, inexpensive cardioid condenser designed for voice and instrument in live sound or studio applications.

Electro-Voice's RE20 (\$399 street) is one of the most popular dynamic cardioid microphones in the broadcast industry. The RE20 is virtually free of bass boosting "proximity effect" when used close and is great for acoustic and electric bass and kick drum.

Company: **Blue**

www.bluemic.com

» Blueberry

Models: **Blue Ball, Blueberry**

Blue's Ball (\$99 street) is Blue's first dynamic mic. Unlike most dynamic mics, the Ball has a phantom-powered proprietary active balancing circuit in the Ball's output stage. This circuit helps create a smooth and open sound. Because it is dynamic mic, the Ball is capable of handling extremely high sound pressure levels without distortion.

For those with a larger mic budget, Blue's Blueberry (\$999) large diaphragm cardioid mic with a transformer-based amp and sounds like a vintage vocal microphone and sounds great on everything from acoustic guitar, hand percussion, drums, and lead vocals.

Company: **Sennheiser**

www.sennheiserusa.com

Model: **MD 421 II**

The Sennheiser's MD 421 II's (\$349 street) full-bodied cardioid pattern, ability to handle high pressure levels and five-position bass control means it's an excellent choice for most instruments, as well as group vocals. The MD421 is very sturdy and has good feedback rejection.



## EXPERT FEEDBACK

For budget mics the first thing that comes to mind when trying to get a good mic collection together is that whatever mics you collect to record a drum kit will most likely get you through the rest of your overdubs as well. A good, transparent pair of large diaphragm mics on overheads will also work perfectly on vocals, piano, organ, acoustic guitar, percussion, etc. A couple of good dynamic mics that work on toms will also work on electric guitars, Wurltizers, Leslies, whatever percussion the condensers aren't right for. Your kick drum mic can double on bass amps, a small diaphragm condenser sounds good on hi-hat, acoustic instruments, you get the idea. Some inexpensive mics that I have had good luck with include the Audio-Technica ATM25, 4033, ATM35, and 4041/4051. A Shure SM57 is going to get you through basically anything, always good to have a few around.

All of the mics are under 400 bucks except the Sanken. The Sanken CU-31 is available at [www.macmidimusic.com](http://www.macmidimusic.com) for \$899.

—Jeff Socher, Engineer/Operations Czar  
Masterfonics Studios Nashville, TN