



Product Review

QA22 Dual Ear Headworn Microphone from Que Audio

The Que Audio QA22 Dual Ear Headworn Microphone offers a comfortable, affordable solution to a wide range of speech-based presentations.

Que Audio have become a recognised brand for miniature microphones with a range of products catering to theatre, speech presentations, live broadcast, sporting events and film recording.

The QA22 is a dual-ear head-worn microphone and is the latest microphone coming from Que Audio. It is well-placed in the market with a price point to please most users. The performance and features of this new microphone compete favourably with similar dual-ear styled microphones at a much higher price point.

The QA22 is supplied in a slim, compact leatherette case that keeps the microphone and accessories neat and tidy. Accessories provided include a cable tie-clip, miniature wind filters and 1.8m inter-connect cable terminated with the Q Compact Connection System (QCCS). Que Audio offer a range of adapters to suit belt-pack transmitters compatible with many wireless systems manufacturers.



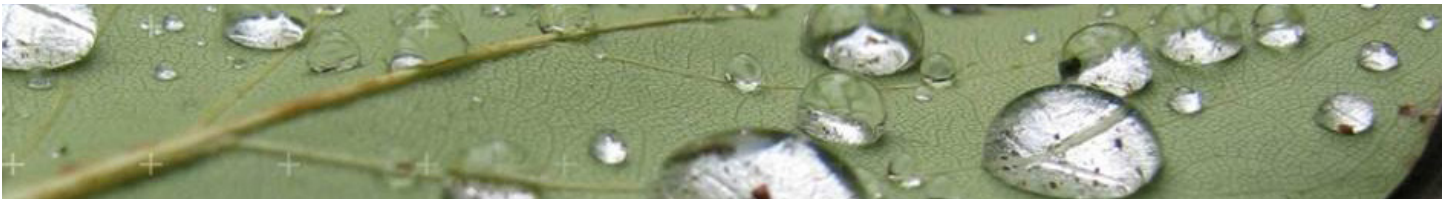
The QA22 offers the same capsule as the popular Que Audio DA12 Headworn Microphone, however provides a great deal more flexibility to position the microphone capsule where is it needed. The headset is well constructed and allows adequate adjustment to suit all fitting requirements. Once fitted, the dual-ear headband feels light and secure .

The construction of the ear-piece is much slimmer than the DA12. This arrangement works very well with hearing aid users and presenters wearing glasses. The flexible ear-piece is suitable for all users – which is great for non-standard ear sizes - and suits left or right ‘handed’ users. The ear-pieces can simply be flipped to suit fitting the microphone capsule to either ear.



The QA22 can be worn for long periods without distraction. The whole microphone assembly (without cable) weighs in at 12 grams.

Due to the slim-line design and small microphone capsule, the QA22 is not intrusive and becomes almost invisible from a distance, ideal for theatre and stage/platform presentations. This is also the case for on-camera work, where the microphone element is often difficult to spot for typical head + shoulder presentations.



In the event of damage or general wear, all components of the headset are available as spare parts.

As with similar microphones of this style, the QA22 is prone to wind noise, breath + plosives when not placed correctly. While the microphone element is more forgiving than some headset mics, it is best placed back from the crease of the mouth. If there is time, experimenting with the presenter for optimum placement is well advised. The QA22 performs very well even when placed further from the mouth. The included wind filters can assist in reducing noise and are suitable for inside use. For outdoor applications a more robust wind filter may be required, particularly for exposed audio system requirements.

With a nominally flat frequency response, the QA22 provides clarity and detail in speech from all presentation styles. The QA22 comfortably handles softly spoken voice through to the excitement of a sports announcer. The microphone works equally well for both female and male presenters. There appears to be a slight increase in frequencies above 8kHz that assists sibilance and detail at the high end.

The QA22 is an excellent microphone choice and suitable for a wide range of speech-based presentations.

Some useful links:

<http://queaudio.com>

<http://queaudiousa.com/>

<http://queaudiousa.com/PortfolioItems/qa22/>



Que Audio

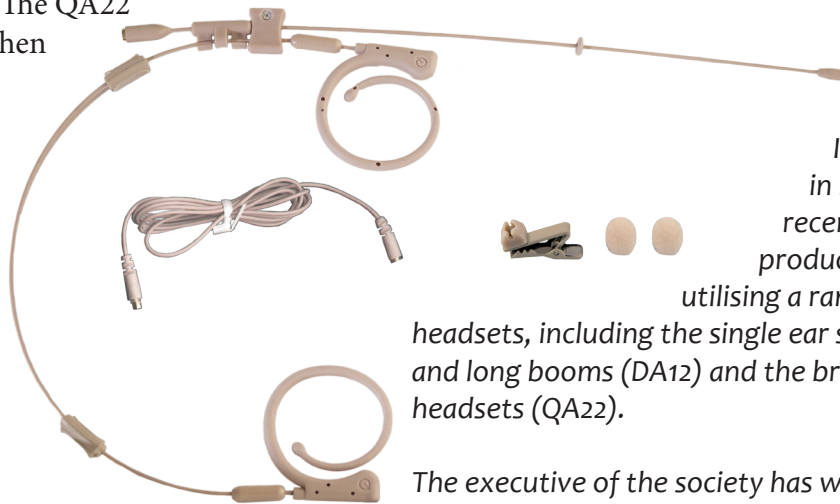
Tim Kuschel is an acoustic consultant and architectural projects coordinator. With a background in architecture and music, his business, GUZ BOX design + audio specialises in architectural acoustics and sound reinforcement design.

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Notes and Quotes:

From the Author, Tim Kuschel:

“I’ve had this demo QA22 mic out on theatre projects, at various church services (both traditional and contemporary) and also handed it around for review with other audio + video production guys. All comments have been very positive.”



The Eastwood
Uniting Church
Musical Society
Inc. (EUCMS) located
in Eastwood, Sydney,
recently completed
production of ‘Godspell’,
utilising a range of the Que Audio

headsets, including the single ear short (DA12-petite) and long booms (DA12) and the brand new dual ear headsets (QA22).

The executive of the society has written and indicated that: *“Godspell was the best sounding show EUCMS has produced. We were greatly appreciative of the quality of the sound.”*

EUCMS sound designer and musical director, Andrew Yager commented: *“I was thrilled with the clarity and fidelity we achieved with the Que Audio headsets. The vocal dynamic and frequency response we were able to achieve was superb for a challenging venue. When placed along side some of our legacy Shure and Rode headsets, the difference was immediately noticeable. Our cast found the new dual ear headsets very comfortable to wear, and it was easy to mold them to fit a wide range of head shapes and sizes.”*