VMS ML-1
Quick Start

This quick start guide will help you get acquainted with your ML-1 so you can start making the best sounding music with it, fast.

First: Go to **http://SlateDigital.com/redeem** to redeem your Classic Tubes and Virtual Preamp Collection licenses. You will need a physical iLok 2nd or 3rd gen.

Download the Virtual Mix Rack (VMR) installer from **http://SlateDigital.com/Installers**

Making Connections

1. Connect your ML-1 to the input of the Preamp with an XLR cable.

2. The ML-1 microphone requires phantom power (+48v) to operate. Apply phantom power from your preamp.

> **!!! IMPORTANT !!!**
> When applying phantom power, be sure to always mute your monitors and headphones to prevent damage to your hearing or equipment!

3. Insert the Virtual Mix Rack plugin on a record enabled track in your DAW.

4. Add the **Classic Tubes** Module first, then either the **FG-73**, or **FG-76** Preamp Emulation AFTER. Note: You can place **TRIMMER** before Classic Tubes to monitor recording level, **see "Optimal Recording Levels".**

5. Select a Virtual microphone and Virtual preamp and start recording!

Understanding Latency

If you are new to native recording, let's talk about latency.

- To get the lowest latency, go to your hardware playback settings, and choose the lowest buffer size your CPU can operate at without artifacts.
- If you have plugins that add latency, you will need to bypass them before recording with VMS because those plugins will slow your roundtrip latency times.
- At a sample rate of 96 kHz, with a Thunderbolt interface, you'll be able to get down to roundtrip latency times of 0.5-2ms, lower

Pro Tools HDX and TDM Systems

If you have a Pro Tools HDX or TDM system, here is a trick for how to record and monitor live through your HD system.

- Put the DSP version of the EQ3 or EQ7 plugin on the first insert. Don't do anything with it, just park it there. It will not affect the sound if you don't adjust its parameters.
- Insert the VMR in the next slot, with the Classic Mics module and then the Virtual Preamp Collection module of your choice.

Now you can monitor live through the VMS!

Optimal Recording Levels

The Classic Tubes microphones are calibrated so that an input signal peaking around -12 to -10dBFS will match the original mic tone most accurately.

You can use the VMR Trimmer module before the Classic Tubes module to monitor your input level as you record or adjust it later in the mix.

For special effect, you can drive the Classic Tubes Module harder to get more harmonics and tube saturation, and you can further amplify these characteristics with the intensity knob.

Getting to Know the Mics

FG-47

The FG-47 recreates the sound of one of the most famous vintage tube microphones in the history of audio. It has a thick and full-bodied low end, rich and present mid-range, and smooth top end. This microphone sounds great on thick lead vocals, but also sounds incredible as a kick drum mic, room mic, guitar mic, and on horns and strings.

FG-M7

The FG-M7 takes one of the most famous dynamic vocal mics used in the studio by artists like Michael Jackson and adds the tube stage of the classic 47, making it extremely punchy and crisp, with incredible mids that cut through the mix. Definitely gonna be a favorite!

FG-800

The FG-800 recreates the sound of one of the most popular modern tube mics, known for being the go-to choice for pop and hip hop vocalists. It's extremely bright and airy, but with a warm bottom end. Using this mic on vocals will give you an instant polished 'pop' sound. However, this mic also sounds great on overheads and acoustic guitar.

FG-251

The FG-251 recreates the sound of one of the most sought-after vintage tube mics in the industry. It's one of the most in-demand lead vocal mics on the planet, known for being crisp, warm and flattering on a variety of voices. The FG-251 also sounds great on drums, guitars, acoustics, and just about anything else you put it on!

FG-800M

The FG-800M emulates an older Japanese tube mic, and is slightly fatter and darker than the stock FG-800. If you love the FG-800 but wish it was a tad less sibilant and bright, you're gonna love this!

FG-269

The FG-269 emulates an extremely rare German classic that shares much of the same circuit as the 67, but with a different tube that makes it more open and clear. This is one of the best-sounding vocal mics we've ever heard.

FG-269

The FG-12 emulates an Austrian classic known for being incredibly smooth and rich-sounding. We chose an absolutely incredible version of this mic to model – it's the perfect representation of this famous tone.

FG-67

The FG-67 emulates a vintage German classic known for being slightly dark, bold and thick. This mic is amazing on vocals, rooms, horns and piano, and it's a favorite on toms!

Getting to Know the Preamps

FG-73

The FG-73 preamp module is modeled after one of the most famous discrete solid state preamps in the industry, made in Britain and used on countless recordings. It has a bold, present and warm sound that works great on any audio source – even full mixes.

FG-76

The FG-76 preamp module is modeled after a vintage German tube preamp that has been used on many classic recordings. It has a thick and colorful tone that can make tracks and mixes sound more 'alive'. The bottom-end saturates in a very unique and musical way, making it a great module for bass guitar and kick drum tracks.