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Carmina PA Requirements

This list is our ideal for a typical Band 6/7/8-piece gig.

If a smaller Line-up is appearing just delete the unnecessary Instrument/s

We realise that this may stretch the resources of a small venue.

Don't panic — we can compromise.

General

A PA with good sound quality capable of filling your venue at high (but not outrageous rock'n roll) volume without distortion.

Front of House mixing desk.

Decent mics - especially for lead vocals, percussion and mandola. Shure SM-58 will do for lead vocal. We won't complain if you have better!

Line Up

Lead Vocal, (also plays Sax, Whistles etc)	2 mics		
Lead Sax (Tenor + Soprano)	2 mics		
Guitar (2 Acoustic Guitars) (DI) + Mandola (mic) + Bodhran (mic)	1 mic	2 DI	
Keyboards (Piano (1 DI) + Synth (2DI's or 1 for mono use)	1 mic	3 DI or 2 DI	Mains
Double bass (XLR out from combo)		1 DI	Mains
Drums + percussion	6 mics		
Uilleann Pipes	2 mics		
Violin + Mandolin		2 DI	
Total	Up to 14 mics	Up to 10 DI	

Effects

At least a good quality reverb. Ideally a delay/echo as well

Variations and Compromises

Compromise 1	Guitarist can get away with just one DI (at the cost of some lead swapping during the show). Saves 1 DI
Compromise 2	Cut down on the drum kit (see drum variations below). Maybe save 2 mics.
Compromise 3	Lead sax manages with one mic (and moves it around). Saves 1 mic.
Compromise 4	Mono synth. Saves 1 DI (but see keyboard variations below).

If we make all these compromises, we save 2 DIs and 3 mics.

Variations

Variation 1 - piano	Sometimes the venue has a real piano. When this happens we like to use it (by arrangement). Usually needs 2 mics instead of one DI.
Variation 2 - drums & percussion	How many mics on the drum kit depends on the venue. Typically we mic Kick, snare, 2 bongos and 2 overheads. In a very large venue, extra mics on the toms & hi-hat will help (call for drum kit details). In a small venue we might save 1 on the bongos and 1 overhead. Even in a small room we don't like to go below this minimum of 4 mics — we are aiming to punch a nice tone through the other instruments, not outrageous volume! Also, the <u>overhead</u> mic(s) are important - they are needed to pick up all kinds of hand percussion.

Monitors

Ideally, of course, a full monitor mix with separate mix for each player. Small monitors on stands close to the players often work better than floor wedges. However, lets get realistic here! We usually survive with 2, 3 or 4 speakers, two different mixes if possible. Of course, it all depends on the stage size and setting

Carmina Stage Layout

Drums/Percussion
6 mics

Double Bass
1 DI
&
Mains Power

Keyboards
3 DI 1 mic
&
Mains Power

Guit./Mandola/Bodhran
2 DI 2 mics

Lead Vocal/Sax
2 mics

Pipes and/or Guest Sax
2 mics/Violin & Mandolin
2 DI



Audience