Shopping list for an “AirCage” system

This shopping list is intended to give you some guidance. It is NOT the only way to setup such a system. It is just one way to do it and we know, that this will work.

Hardware:

- One set Manfrotto MSY0580A Dado Kit 6 Tubes
- An additional “red ball” or something similar.
- Four cubes with a 3/8” thread on each side. (e.g. Roadworx Thread Cube)
- Five male/male 3/8” thread adapters (e.g. Roadworx Thread Adapter 4)
- Six SDC hyper-cardioid microphones
- Three SDC omni microphones
- Nine XLR microphone cables. At least 10 m / 30 feet long. The longer, the better!
- If you like it more compact, you may want to check out: Two RJ45 DMX Shuttle Snake FX4 /MX 4 set consisting of XLR connectors on the one side of the box and a RJ45 connector on the other side. And then you’ll need only one more XLR microphone cable!!!
- Then you will need two CAT6E Cable 10+ m with RJ45 connectors in a XLR connector. This is NOT necessary, but more reliable in the field and if you might step onto it by accident. The cables should be CAT6E, as it has leads with a bigger diameter, which have less resistances and so they are effecting the sound even less.
- Some microphone stand extensions as listed below.
- A a pair of needle-nose pliers, a pair of combination pliers and a tape measure (3m is enough)
- **Wind protection for your microphones**. It won’t be the first and never be the last recording ruined by the wind. You may get a long with the ones usually provided with your microphones, but if your are outside, you should consider something more robust and effective. We learned, that wind protection can’t be never good enough. Of course there are units that meet highest professional standards, but they do cost these standards too. So it’s on you to find the best compromise to meet your needs.

Handheld Recorder

Please note, that we have nine microphones. So we need a recorder with at least nine XLR-inputs or two recorders that can be timely synchronized.

Such recorders could be:

- Zoom F6, F8, F8n, F8n Pro – Zoom H6 Studio / essentials, Zoom H4
- TASCAM Portacapture X8
- SoundDevices MixPre-10 II, MixPre-3 II, 888, 833, Scorpio
- ….

Important!
You should also have enough batteries with you and make sure they are freshly charged, before you leave the house. As there are so many vendors out there for this, it’s impossible to recommend something. The more „mAh“ the batteries has, the longer it will serve you.

Shopping list:

# items	Item	Price per unit	Subtotal
6	SDC microphone, hyper-cardioid incl. clamps		
3	SDC microphone, omni incl. clamps		
1	Manfrotto MSY0580A Dado Kit 6 Tubes		
9	Manfrotto Rapid Adapter 014-38		
4	Roardworkx Thread Cubes		
2	Nylon strings. ~ 4 mm, 2.5 m + tent rope tensioner		
9	Wind protection units for the microphones		
9	XLR microphone cable, at least 5 m long		
7	Male/male 3/8” thread adapter (e.g Roadworx Thread Adapter 4		
6	K&M 20002 26 cm pipe		
8	K&M 20004 50 cm pipe		
3	ULANZI MT-49 Carbon Fiber Lamp Stand		
1	Set of needle-nose and combination pliers, tape measure		
2	RJ45 DMX Shuttle Snake FX4 (XLR female)		
2	RJ45 DMX Shuttle Snake MX4 (XLR male)		
2	Cat 6e cable (at least 5m / 15 feet long)		
1	Handheld recorder with at least 4 XLR mic inputs		
1	Handheld recorder with at least 6 XLR mic inputs		
		TOTAL	

Something to mention: If you have any of the items mentioned above, you don’t have to buy them for just this setup again! Just when you need two or more setups at the same time. But maybe some friendly colleague may lend you some items you need.

It may happen, that your local store doesn’t have these items available or can get them for you.



Meanwhile we exchanged the two 100 cm long pipes by four 50 cm long pipes. It’s more convenient to carry!