

Installation

The Masterclass pre-amplifier is suitable for freestanding on a shelf or in a cabinet. Do not stand the unit in direct sunlight or obstruct the ventilation holes on the top plate.

Accessories Supplied in the Carton

- IEC straight connector with moulded mains plug. This should be suitable for your country. To check that the pre-amplifier is the correct voltage examine the carton, the assembly ticket attached to rear of the unit and the legend on the rear of the unit.
- Remote control handset supplied with two AAA batteries.
- Guarantee card (please complete and return)

Connecting your Pre-amplifier to the Mains Supply

Use the IEC power chord supplied, as this has been properly tested and EC approved to be used with your pre-amplifier. The mains input socket is located at the rear of the unit and is clearly marked 'Power on/off mains input & fuse'. The mains input socket also houses the power on/off switch. It is normal to leave the Pre-amplifier mains power on unless being left unattended for a long period of time.

Connecting your Pre-amplifier to a Power Amplifier

The Masterclass pre-amplifier has two pairs of phono sockets and one pair of XLR sockets. The phono sockets are standard type RCA connectors of high quality with Teflon inserts and gold plated contacts. It is advisable to make sure your interconnect leads have similar quality plugs that fit securely. We recommend WBT type connectors preferably the locking type. These offer the best possible connection. The two sets of phono sockets are clearly marked right (red) and left (black) for identical connection to your power amplifier. If you are using two power amplifiers the second set of phono sockets should be used.

The XLR output sockets are for connection to an amplifier with a balanced input like the Sugden range of Masterclass Power amplifiers. Running balanced cables offers a better performance than single ended phono's and is Sugdens' preferred method of connecting high quality audio equipment. Once balanced cables are connected the phono output sockets cannot be used at the same time. An advantage of using the pre-amplifier in balanced mode is the ability to use long interconnect leads if required, without signal degradation.

Connecting your Source to the Pre-amplifier

All input sockets are clearly marked on the back panel of the pre-amplifier. There are seven stereo inputs in total.

- One XLR Balanced input
- Four Phono line level inputs marked INPUT 1-4
- Two Phono tape inputs/outputs

The inputs are clearly marked left and right for identical connection to your source component. All inputs are for equipment with a line level output except the balanced input that is for equipment with a balanced output.

Operating your Masterclass Pre-amplifier (see Diagram1.)

There are six rotary controls on the Masterclass front Panel and these operate all the pre-amplifier functions:

Input Selector Switch

The Input selector switch is located at the far left of the front panel and controls which input is to be selected. The large knob has an indicator that corresponds with the input legend. The input selector switch is a precision component and requires the minimum of effort to rotate. Never force the switch as this could result in damage or loosening of the control knob. The

pre-amplifier circuit uses gold contact relays which cause the signal to cut off when moving between inputs. This is normal and avoids any possibility of noise such as clicks or pops.

Standby Switch and Indicator

The standby switch is the second control knob from the left and switches the pre-amplifier from a standby situation into full operation. It will not operate unless the mains switch on the rear of the unit is on. It is recommended that the pre-amplifier should be switched into standby mode when not in use. When in standby the switch is rotated fully anti clockwise and the red standby indicator will go out.

Source/Tape Switch

The Source tape switch is the third rotary control knob from the left. With the selector switch in the source position all seven inputs can be selected using the input selector switch. When tape is selected it is possible to replay or monitor the two tape inputs.

Tape Selector Switch

The tape selector switch is the fourth rotary control knob from the left. It enables tape monitoring for both tape inputs on three-headed tape machines or digital recorders with monitoring facilities. The Source/Tape selector switch must be in the Tape position then, simply select either Tape1 or Tape2 on the tape selector switch.

Making a Recording

- Select the input you wish to record (Balanced, Line 1-4)
- Set the Source/Tape switch to Source
- Set the Record button to on (the led indicator should be off)

Recording from Tape to Tape

- To copy a recording from Tape 1 to Tape 2
- Select Tape 1 on the input selector switch
- Select Source on the Source Tape switch

Monitoring a Tape to Tape Recording

- To monitor a recording from Tape 1 to Tape 2
- Set the Source/Tape switch to Tape
- Set the Tape switch to Tape 2

Volume Control

The volume control is positioned at the far right of the front panel. At fully anti-clockwise or six o'clock the volume control is at minimum. The volume control can also be operated by the supplied remote control. The RC5 handset is a system remote control and can also be used to operate a tuner, C.D. player and amplifier if compatible with RC5 commands. **The volume control of your Masterclass pre-amplifier has been set to operate from the C.D. function on your handset as this is most commonly used.**

Replacing Fuses

There are four power supply fuses in the Masterclass Pre-amplifier; these are to protect the unit in case of a failure. If a fuse does require replacing, this is usually an indication that a fault exists. However, it is not always an indication that the pre-amplifier is at fault so it is important to determine the cause before replacing and fuses. Please consult your dealer for advice.

- Always replace fuses with the same type and rating
- Fuse type used in the Masterclass Pre-amplifier
- 1.25Amp Fast Blow

Looking After Your Masterclass

The case construction of your Masterclass is made from durable traditional materials carefully chosen for their none intrusive electrical properties. The front plate is solid machined aluminium that has been carefully anodised to a very high finish. The legend is ink based and as with the rear panel, this should not be cleaned with any type of solvent. The rest of the case is powder coated and should only be cleaned with a soft slightly damp cloth.

Technical Specifications Masterclass Pre-Amplifier	
Frequency Response	1 Volt Output +/-0dB 15Hz - 30kHz
Input Sensitivity	100mV For 1 Volt Output
Maximum Output	(To Clip) 10 Volts
Stereo Separation	(Weighted) >90dB
Signal to Noise	>90dB
Distortion	1kHz @ 1Volt Output 0.006% 10kHz @ 1Volt Output 0.006%
Dimensions	70 x 430 x 320mm

DIAGRAM 1 MASTERCLASS FRONT PANEL

- **1 Input selector switch**
- **2 Standby switch**
- **3 Standby switch on/off indicator**
- **4 Source/Tape selector switch**
- **5 Remote control receiver**
- **6 Tape1/Tape2 selector switch**
- **7 Record on/off indicator**
- **8 Record on/off switch**
- **9 Volume control**

DIAGRAM 2 MASTERCLASS BACK PANEL

- **10 Balanced input XLR sockets**
- **11 Line level input sockets**
- **12 Tape input sockets**
- **13 Tape output sockets**
- **14 Line level output sockets**
- **15 Balanced output XLR sockets**
- **16 Mains on/off switch**
- **17 Mains input socket**

