

COMPANION

PREAMPLIFIER

Owner's Manual



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Please read this manual thoroughly before connecting the preamplifier to your audio system.

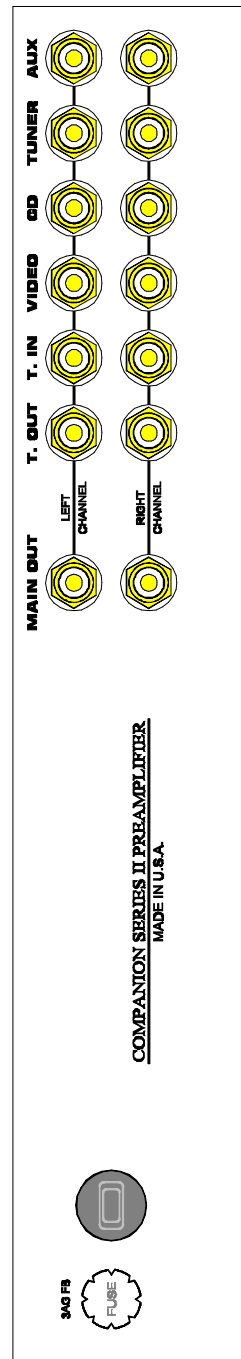
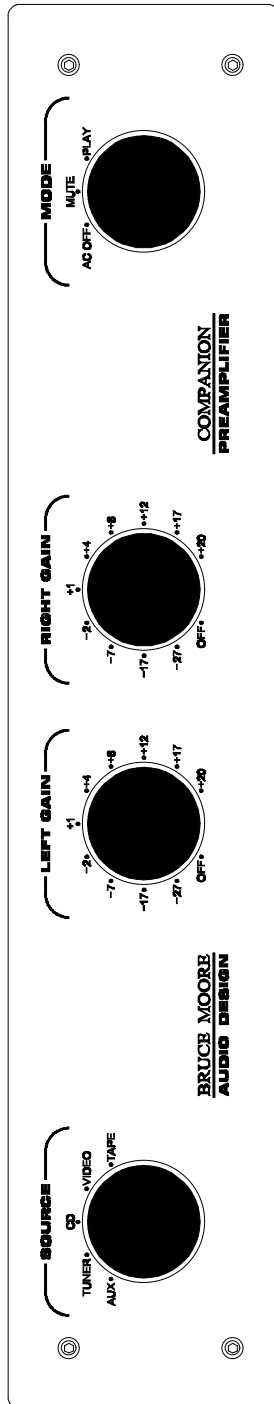
Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of the **COMPANION** preamplifier. We are confident that you will enjoy many years of unsurpassed listening pleasure with this product.

Your **COMPANION** preamplifier was designed and built entirely in the USA. It uses all premium grade components and was constructed to the highest quality standards employed in the audio industry.

Bruce Moore Audio Design has been actively manufacturing vacuum tube audiophile equipment for more than 20 years - and enjoys offering these products to a growing worldwide market.





COMPANION Preamplifier

Installation Checklist

- ___ 1) During unpacking, inspect the unit for any damage.
- ___ 2) Ensure that all tubes are fully seated into their sockets.
- ___ 3) Place the preamplifier away from any strong magnetic fields, such as those coming from other power transformers, etc.
- ___ 4) Allow adequate ventilation on all sides of the preamplifier. Do not stack other components on top of the preamp as the tubes require convection cooling to prevent overheating. This practice also helps to ensure longer component life.
- ___ 5) Ensure that the MODE switch is turned fully counter-clockwise to the AC OFF position before proceeding. Also check to see that the GAIN knobs are turned fully counter-clockwise to their OFF positions.
- ___ 6) Connect the interconnect cables coming from and going to other components. ***Do not connect interconnect cables at any time when the preamplifier is turned on.***
- ___ 7) Turn the MODE switch to the MUTE position and wait 2 minutes for the initial warm-up period.
- ___ 8) Turn the SOURCE knob to the desired signal source for listening.
- ___ 9) Turn the MODE switch to the PLAY position. Then slowly turn the GAIN knobs clockwise until the desired listening level is achieved. If you do not hear sound from your signal source by the time the knobs are turned to the -17dB levels, turn the mode switch back to AC OFF and re-check your interconnect cables for proper hookup.

Rear Panel Connections



VIDEO / CD / TUNER / AUX
 These are standard inputs, accepting any signals larger than 50mV.



TAPE INPUT
 High level inputs connecting to the tape deck's (play) line outputs.

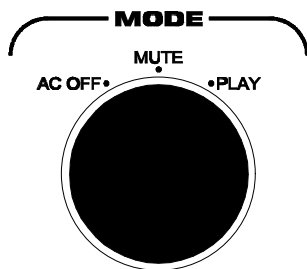


TAPE OUTPUT
 These outputs connect to your tape deck's (record) line inputs.

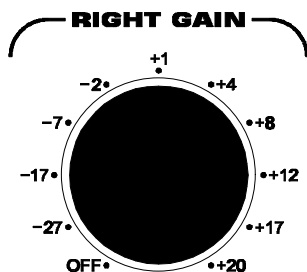


MAIN OUT
 These outputs go directly to the input of your power amplifier.

Front Panel Controls

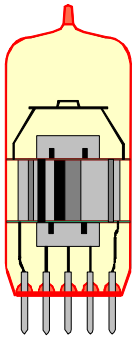


AC OFF / MUTE / PLAY
 Besides being the preamplifier's main AC power ON/OFF switch, the MUTE position can be used to keep the preamplifier fully warmed up between times of actual use.
 When the MUTE position is selected, the pre-amplifier is "ON" but the Main Outputs are connected (shorted) to ground. Use this position during the preamp warm-up period so that "turn-on pulses" are not passed to the power amplifier(s).
 The MUTE position also allows the user the advantage of not having to reset the dual Gain Controls each time a CD or record is changed, or when listening is interrupted by phone calls, etc.



LEFT AND RIGHT GAIN
 These "volume" controls are shown with front panel calibration markings. The 0db points (between the -2dB and the +1dB markings) represent the points where the preamplifier output signal is equal in amplitude to its associated source (input) signal, for each channel.

Tube Substitution and Replacement



CAUTION: Before removing and/or inserting any tubes, always be sure that the MODE switch is in the AC OFF position and that a 3-minute voltage discharge period is allowed. Under no circumstances should you attempt to touch any circuit element or bare wire within the preamp because DC voltages remain active for various lengths of time due to charged capacitors. Wearing gloves while changing tubes is a reasonable safety precaution.

If a noise problem develops in your preamp, 99% of the time it is found to be caused by a faulty tube. This noise can be “hissing”, “squealing”, “tics”, poor or dull sound quality, etc. Do not assume that the preamplifier itself has a problem unless you have checked the most likely cause - a faulty tube.

The best way to confirm a faulty tube is to substitute for it a known good tube. This can be accomplished by swapping a tube in one channel with one from the same position in the other channel. Where the noise “moves” to indicates the tube which needs to be replaced.

To remove a tube, grasp the tube socket with one hand, and the tube to be removed with the other. Move the tube slightly from side to side while simultaneously pulling outward.

The tubes shipped with the COMPANION could yield as much as 5,000 to 10,000 hours of use. However, we recommended that you replace all the tubes after no more than 2,500 hours of use. (This is equivalent to about 5 years when the preamplifier is used 10 hours per week.) Replacing the tubes as recommended here helps to ensure the preamp always performs at its full sonic potential.

When replacing tubes, it is a good idea to clean the tube pins to minimize corrosion effects. Electrical contact cleaner (available from electronic parts stores) is very good for this. Use a clean cloth to wipe the tube pins.

Troubleshooting Tips

If the indicator lamp does not light and the tubes do not glow:

- 1) Ensure that the AC cord is *fully* plugged into both the rear panel and the wall socket.
- 2) Check the AC fuse. If blown, replace only with a new 3 amp fast blow type.

If there is no output from one or both channels of the preamp, even when the lamp lights and tubes glow:

- 1) Turn the MODE switch to AC OFF.
- 2) Check that all input and output interconnect cables are going to the correct places, that they are not damaged*, and that they are fully plugged in, (including your speaker connections.)
- 3) Inspect to see that all tubes are fully plugged into their sockets.
- 4) After waiting through the warm-up period (with the MODE switch in MUTE), turn the MODE switch to PLAY. Then:
 - a) Verify that the SOURCE switch is in the correct position is operating properly. (Compare using an alternate signal source, if necessary.)
 - b) Check that the power amp and/or active crossover are switched ON.

* To test interconnect cables, first turn OFF all system equipment.

Use an ohm meter or other continuity tester to:

Check for "opens": Ensure there **is** conductivity from the signal conductor (inner wire or connector part) on one end of a cable to the matching place on the other end of that cable. Also check that there is conductivity from the ground conductor (shield or outer connector part) on one end of a cable to the matching place on the other end of that cable.

Check for "shorts": Ensure that there **is no** conductivity between any signal conductor and any ground conductor.

Specifications

Gain:	20dB
Frequency Response:	1 Hz to 200 kHz +0, -1dB
Maximum Output:	25V RMS
THD:	< .05% @ 2V RMS out
Input Impedance:	100K ohm
Output Impedance:	1000 ohms
Noise:	-97dB below 2V RMS output
Absolute Phase:	Inverting
Tube Complement:	2ea 6DJ8/6922
Power Requirements:	117VAC 50-60Hz 230VAC 50-60Hz (export models) 100VAC 50-60Hz (Japan only)
Power Consumption:	15 watts
Dimensions:	height, 3.1" (79 mm) width, 15.0" (381mm) depth, 9.5" (241mm)
Shipping Weight:	12 lbs.

Warranty

Bruce Moore Audio Design products are sold with a three-year factory warranty.

If any damage has occurred during shipping, please contact your dealer immediately.

Be sure to save your shipping carton and all packing materials. If a damage claim is filed by your dealer, the carrier will want to inspect the shipping carton.

When returning equipment, a copy of your sales receipt should be included with the shipment for warranty verification.

U.S. Distributor: **R.B. Audio** (925) 875-1055
5492 Linden Street, Dublin, California
bergner@pacbell.net