

Congratulations on your purchase of the Motif MP11 phono equalization preamplifier. You have acquired one of the finest pieces of music reproduction equipment available today. The result of more than fifteen years of research by conrad-johnson design into the application of solid-state devices to the reproduction of recorded music, together with the companion MC10 line level preamplifier, the MP11 was designed to establish the reference standard among phono preamplifiers for reproducing the dynamics, tonalities, textures and ambience of a live musical performance. The design and materials have been carefully selected to yield years of unvarying excellence.

Please take a few minutes to read this manual so that you will better understand the features and capabilities of your MP11.

LIMITED WARRANTY FOR THE MOTIF MP11

1. conrad-johnson design, inc. warrants to the original purchaser that the MP11 will be free of defects in materials and workmanship for a period of three years from the date of original purchase.

2. conrad-johnson will repair defective units without charge for labor or parts subject to the following conditions:

- a) The unit must not have been altered or damaged through misuse, abuse, negligence, accident, or improper operation.
- b) The purchaser must provide evidence of purchase at the time service is requested.
- c) All repairs must be undertaken at the factory or other service center designated by conrad-johnson design, inc. Units submitted for warranty repairs must be shipped in the factory packing carton to conrad-johnson design or its designated service center, freight and insurance prepaid by the owner, and will be returned to the owner, freight and insurance prepaid by conrad-johnson design. Replacement cartons are available from the factory.
- d) Normal wear and maintenance are not covered by this warranty.

3. Where permitted by law, conrad-johnson design's liability shall be limited to that set forth in this warranty. No other warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, is made by conrad-johnson design, inc., and all implied warranties, including merchantability and fitness for a particular "purpose", which exceed the obligations and time limits set forth herein are hereby disclaimed. conrad-johnson design, inc. shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you.

4. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. Questions about warranty service should be addressed to:

Service Department
conrad-johnson design, inc.
2733 Merrilee Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031

REGISTERING THE WARRANTY

Please return the enclosed card to the factory within 30 days of purchase to register the warranty. Proper registration of the warranty is important! It will enable us to inform you of any alterations in the design of a given model and of any new products we offer which are likely to be of interest to you.

I ***INSTALLATION***

Because the MP11 dissipates very little heat (less than 15 watts) ventilation is not an important consideration, allowing greater flexibility for custom or built-in installations. Of course, reasonable judgement must be exercised to see that the MP11 does not obstruct ventilation required by amplifiers or other equipment in the system. In custom installations, the unit may be mounted either horizontally or vertically.

To minimize hum pickup, keep the unit well away from the power amplifier, and route power cords away from input cables.

The MP11 requires an ac power line providing between 90 and 130 volts at 50 to 60 Hz. Alternatively, the MP11 is optionally available for operation on 220 and 240 volt power lines.

CONNECTION

Phono1, Phono2, Phono3: These three phono inputs are electrically equivalent. The load presented to each input is determined by the front panel load switch.

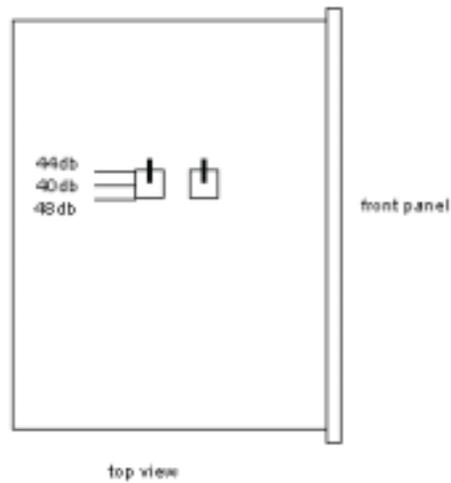
Output: Connect the outputs to the aux/phono input of the MC10, or any line level input of your preamplifier.

CONTROLS

SOURCE SELECTOR: PHONO1, PHONO2, PHONO3: This selector switch is used to choose an input for listening.

LOAD SELECTOR: This selector switch offers eleven alternative load impedances to match a variety of moving coil and moving magnet phono cartridges. The 47K load will be best suited to most cartridges.

GAIN SELECTOR: The MP11 offers three different gain settings, 40, 44, and 48 dB, selected by switches inside the unit. The factory setting is 40 dB. If more gain is required (eg. for a low output moving coil cartridge), unplug the MP11, and remove the cover. Consult the diagram below for the desired switch setting. Be sure to set both switches. Replace cover. **Do not operate the unit with the cover off.**



***G*ETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR MP11**

The motif MP11 offers an unparalleled level of sophistication and refinement in music reproduction, but it cannot transform an inferior stereo system. It will require the highest quality line level preamplifier (we recommend the companion MC10), amplifiers and loudspeaker systems to fully reveal the capabilities of this precision instrument.

Given a system of high quality components, there remain a number of important details which must be attended to.

ABSOLUTE PHASE

Musical notes are heard through the ear's response to waves of alternating rise and fall of air pressure. Musical transients are exclusively positive: that is, the initial effect is a rise in pressure. The ear is capable of distinguishing these positive transients from the musically unnatural alternative of a negative transient (an initial fall in air pressure). In terms of your stereo system, these transients are created by your loudspeakers. If the speakers respond to musical transients by first moving out, they are creating a rise in pressure, and the system is said to be "phase correct". If they respond by moving in, they create a fall in pressure and the system is said to be phase inverting.

Each component in the stereo system is either phase correct or phase inverting (including the source and speakers-these are normally phase correct). It is of no consequence if an individual component is phase inverting, as long as the system as a whole is phase correct. This will be the case as long as the number of phase inversions is even (or zero). **THE MP11 IS PHASE CORRECT.** If your system has an odd number of inversions, then you must add one phase inversion. **THIS IS CONVENIENTLY DONE BY REVERSING THE POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE CONNECTIONS TO YOUR SPEAKERS** (be sure to reverse both channels).

If you are not sure about the phase of every piece in your system, you can establish correct absolute phase by careful listening. When the system is in correct phase, transients will be noticeably cleaner and more sharply defined. The effect is especially apparent on plucked string sounds. A final warning-not all recordings are phase correct (including

some "audiophile" recordings), so listen to several before concluding your investigation of absolute phase.

THE IMPORTANCE OF WIRES

Interconnect and speaker wires are an important element in your stereo system. Interconnects are available which will permit a reference quality system to blossom and fulfill its promise of musical reality. Others will strangle the system to the point where it becomes no better than average. To complicate matters, our experience suggests that the choice of interconnects will be system dependent- those that are ranked first on a given system may be a poor choice for a different system. Consult your conrad-johnson dealer for recommendations for your specific system.

TIP

Warm up the MP11 before listening: The sonic performance of the MP11 improves noticeably as the unit warms up. The midrange becomes more lucid, the highs smoother, and the soundstage expands. The warm up period can be expected to last several hours. Consequently, we recommend that the MP11 be left on at all times. The low power consumption of the unit makes this practical.

Questions: If you have questions about the installation or function of your MP11 do not hesitate to call Customer Service at (703) 698-8581.

MP11 SPECIFICATIONS

Gain: 40, 44, 48 dB, selectable
Maximum Output: 10V
RIAA Equalization: within .25 dB
Hum and noise: 88dB below 10 mV input
Phase: phase correct
Output impedance: less than 200 ohms

Mechanical:

Dimensions: 19"W x 3.5"H x 12.25"D
Net Weight: 11 lbs.

SERVICE

In the event your motif MP11 stereo preamplifier requires service, repack it in the original packing material and ship via United Parcel Service (UPS) to:

Service Department
conrad-johnson design, inc.
2733 Merrilee Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031

Be sure to include a copy of your sales receipt from the original purchase, along with a note explaining the problem you are having in as much detail as possible. If the problem is intermittent, please indicate. If you do not have the original packing material, replacements are available from conrad-johnson design for a nominal charge.