

GAT

Triode Preamplifier

The GAT Preamplifier embodies conrad-johnson's latest advances in line-stage preamplifier technology. We believe that it will quickly be recognized as the new industry-wide reference standard for line-stage preamplifier performance, a role filled for more than a decade by its legendary predecessor, the ART preamplifier. Like the ART, the GAT Preamplifier will be available in a numbered, limited edition of 250 units which will be sold through selected conrad-johnson dealers.

The GAT Preamplifier is a vacuum-tube, line-stage preamplifier that looks as good as it sounds. It is also notable for convenience and ease of use. The unit features input selection and level adjustment by microprocessor-controlled relays. Level and balance can be adjusted in 100 steps of approximately .7 dB per step. All functions can be controlled by the hand-held wireless remote control.

conrad-johnson It just sounds right.





The circuitry of the GAT Preamplifier is elegant in its simplicity. The audio circuit consists of a single amplifier stage incorporating one composite triode comprised of paralleled sections of a high-transconductance miniature dual triode vacuum tube. This amplifier stage is coupled to the preamplifier outputs through a high-current MOSFET buffer, which achieves a very low output impedance, making the GAT extremely flexible in the choice of interconnect cables and amplifiers. Each channel is supplied DC by its own discrete regulated power supply to isolate the audio circuits for each channel from the ac power line and from each other. Infrasonic noise is minimized by operating the tube filaments (heaters) on a dc voltage supplied by another discrete regulated power supply.

Considerable care and attention have been paid to the physical aspects of the design as well. Microprocessor controlled relays, used for selecting sources and level setting, are located right at the input connectors, keeping signal paths short to minimize crosstalk between channels and inputs. The vacuum-tubes are isolated by a suspension system designed to minimize microphonics. The dramatic casework features attractive

clear Lucite tube guards outside the chassis, allowing for easy access for tube replacement.

At conrad-johnson we have long appreciated that the full potential of any circuit can only be realized by using the finest available parts. Each part for the GAT has been selected on the basis of both sonic performance and durability. The audio circuit (including the level control) is executed entirely with precision metal foil resistors and proprietary CJD Teflon capacitors. Tubes have been carefully hand selected for minimum noise and microphonics. The dc regulated power supplies use the same quality resistors as the audio circuits. Capacitors for the power supplies are exclusively polypropylene and Teflon – there are no electrolytic capacitors in the audio circuits or their related power supplies. All signal switching is done by special relays designed for signal applications. These relays are sealed and have gold plated silver contacts. Input and output connectors are machined from oxygen free copper, and are gold plated. The GAT is built without compromise to achieve a new standard in musical performance, and it is built to last.

Specifications:

Gain: 25 dB
 Maximum Output: 20 Vrms
 Output Impedance: 100 Ohms
 Distortion: less than .15% at 1Vrms output
 Frequency Response:
 2 Hz to more than 100 kHz

Hum and Noise:
 100 dB below 2.5 Vrms output
 Tube Complement: 2 x 6922
 Dimensions: 15.375D x 19W x 4.81H inches
 Total Weight: 35 lbs.

Every conrad-johnson GAT Line-Stage Preamplifier is patiently and carefully hand assembled, then individually inspected and its performance verified by an experienced audio technician. The owner is protected by our three year limited warranty covering labor and parts except vacuum-tubes. Service is a top priority at conrad-johnson. In the event that a product does require service, it will be handled promptly and efficiently.

conrad-johnson design, inc.

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