



Congratulations on your purchase of the Audio Note Meishu Line Integrated Amplifier. The Meishu is a Pure Class A Singled Ended valve amplifier that uses the highly regarded 300B direct heated triode valve. The Meishu produces a level of performance that is radically superior to current designs and was specifically designed for sonic performance rather than technical specifications. It also fulfills all Level 3 criteria.

- Pure Class A operation.
- Zero Negative Feedback.
- Single Ended Output Stage.
- Valve Rectification.
- Directly Heated Triode.
- Materials and component quality.

This Level 3 amplifier features Audio Note Silver wire and Audio Note signal capacitors.

UNPACKING AND INSTALLATION

The amplifier is shipped without the 3 large valves installed. It is necessary to install the valves first. It is essential that the valves are installed correctly or *serious damage that is not covered by the warranty will result*. We recommend that your dealer does this for you if you are unsure.

Please take the time now to fill out and send in your warranty card. This will serve as proof of purchase and ensure that all warranty work if ever needed is completed in a timely fashion.

Installing the valves

Please take care when unpacking the amplifier as it is very heavy and place on a suitable clean space (table or floor). We recommend that you store the packaging materials in case the unit requires shipping at a later date.

Use a No.2 pozidrive® screwdriver to remove the top cover of the amplifier, 6 x screws for the top and 7 x screws for each side. Now remove the 3 valves that are packed inside the amplifier. Also inspect the inside of the amplifier to check that nothing has become damaged during transit including the remaining 9 smaller valves.

Carefully unwrap the 3 valves. You will find 2 x 300B and 1 x 5U4G valve.

It is absolutely vital that these valves are fitted correctly.

Looking from the front of the amplifier install the 300B valves first. Inspect a 300B valve base and you will notice that two of the pins are larger than the other two. This is to help ensure that the valve can only be inserted one way.

(1) The larger pins must face each other when fitted to their valve bases on the central board.

(2) The sticker on the valve base must also line up with the sticker on the central circuit board., ie., A to A, B to B etc., or 1 to 1, 2 to 2. and so on.

(3) Also note the diagram on the output transformer also showing correct way of fitting. Please make sure that both (1), (2) and (3) are correct and with gentle but firm pressure insert the valve into its socket.

Check again that all valves are fully inserted in the correct way to their respective valve sockets.

Looking from the front of the amplifier, the next valve to plug in is the 5U4G valve which goes into the last empty valve base on the right front board.

Locate the rib or pip on the central pin on the bottom center of the valve and align with the valve base (the locating pin can only go in one way round due to a locating rib) and with gentle but firm pressure insert the valve.

Check again that all valves are correctly fitted and the top cover may now be replaced.

Installation

Select a suitable location for the unit ensuring that adequate ventilation clearance is provided allowing at least 30cm. of space above the unit. This is an important consideration as the amplifier generates substantial heat during normal operation. Be sure not to install the amplifier into a cabinet with restricted air flow or onto a thick pile carpet.

In the interest of safe, reliable operation situate the amplifier away from dampness or direct sunlight. Site the unit on a flat and firm surface capable of sustaining the amplifiers weight. Worthwhile sonic improvements may be obtained by locating the amplifier on a purposely designed audio support system.

CONNECTIONS – Inputs

Phono Inputs - The phono inputs are designed for use with the majority of MM (moving magnet) type cartridges. MM cartridges typically have an output from 2.5mV to 10mV. Connect the Right and Left outputs from your turntable to the respective phono inputs. Some turntables have a separate ground wire. This should be connected to the main ground terminal on the back of the Meishu.

Line Inputs - Five line inputs are available for connection to CD, Tuner, Tape In, Aux and AV. VCRs & DVDs may be connected to the AV input. Connect the Rec-Out sockets to the “Tape In” or “Line In” sockets of your Tape Recorder.

Pre-Out - The Preamplifier output sockets are available for use with an extra power amplifier such as the Audio Note P3. They should remain unterminated if no P3 or other amplifier is being used.

Ground Post - A ground post is provided for connection to those source components that also use a separate ground terminal.

CONNECTIONS – Speakers

Each channel is equipped with 3 colour coded binding posts for connection to your speakers. Looking from the front of the amplifier, the 3 binding posts to the left are for the left channel and the 3 binding posts to the right are for the right channel.

Connect the amplifiers black speaker output binding post marked as “0” to the black terminal (also marked “-”) on the speaker.

Connect the amplifiers red speaker output binding post marked “8 Ohm” to the red terminal (also marked “+”) on the speaker.

The other red speaker output binding post is marked “4 Ohm” and may be used with 4 Ohm speakers. If you are uncertain whether your speaker system is of 4 or 8 Ohm type, try the following test once all other connections are made and the amplifier is operational. Compare the sound quality using a familiar recording with the speakers connected to the 8 ohm connections and then the 4 Ohm connections respectively. The selection that produces the best frequency balance and maximum dynamics should be used.

CONNECTIONS – Mains

The Meishu utilizes an IEC 320 mains inlet socket. Use the supplied mains cable to connect the unit to the local mains supply. The mains fuse and a spare is located in the inlet socket fuse drawer.

Special Note – Make sure that all connection are tight and clean. For best results use good quality audio interlinks. Although several companies make good quality interlinks, those manufactured by Audio Note give the best performance with Audio Note Amplifiers.

USING THE AMPLIFIERS

Once all the connections are completed and checked, ensure that the volume control is at the minimum setting (rotated all the way left)

Turn on the amplifier by using the rocker switch located on the rear top right of the back panel just above mains inlet socket. The red front panel light should now be lit. The amplifier requires approximately two minutes to initialize before it is ready for operation.

Function Selector - Turn the selector to the input you wish to hear music from.

Record Selector - This feature allows you to record a different music source to the one you are listening to.

For example, if you would like to record a CD and at the same time rather listen to the Tuner instead, set the Record selector to CD and the input selector to Tuner.

For maximum performance during normal playback set the record selector to off, when no recording is required.

Volume Control – This control adjusts the listening level or loudness, set as desired.

Balance Control – This control adjusts the relative left/right levels. Use this control if necessary to equalize the loudness from each speaker.

BEDDING IN

The new amplifier requires about 200 hours of initial use (called “bedding in”) before the circuitry becomes stable and optimum performance is realized. As the amplifier “beds in” the sound will become increasingly smoother, detailed and open. Once the amplifier has “bedded in” a warm up time of approximately 30 to 45 minutes is required each time the amplifiers are switched on before optimum sonic performance is reached.

AFTER CARE

No special maintenance is required for the amplifiers. Cleaning is best made with a soft cloth or soft brush. Use a soft cloth dampened in mild, warm and weak soapy solution to remove grease or oily substances. Strong or alcohol based solvents may damage the finish of the amplifiers. Do not clean the amplifier while the unit is switched on.

UPGRADING THE MEISHU

A feature of Audio Note amplifiers is upgradeability so that you can upgrade your amplifier to a Signature and Silver status without replacing it. Upgrading some of the valves is also beneficial eg:- Western Electric 300B (expensive but excellent). Ask us or your dealer for details

TUBE REPLACEMENTS

The valves used in the amplifiers should provide approximately 6000 hours of operation. These valves are specially selected and carefully matched by Audio Note for use with the Meishu and should only be replaced with matched pairs. Please consult your Audio Note dealer should the performance of the amplifiers deteriorate so that arrangements for valve replacements can be made.

WARRANTY AND SERVICING

Audio Note warrants this product free from defects in materials and workmanship for 1 year from original date of purchase from an appointed Audio Note dealer. The valves are warranted for 3 months. In the event that your Audio Note product requires servicing, please contact your Audio Note dealer. If the equipment needs to be shipped, please use the original packaging and include a copy of the sales purchase, with a note, explaining in as much detail as possible, the problems that you are experiencing with the unit.

Any modification not authorized by Audio Note will invalidate this warranty.

If you require technical support, new valves or have any questions, please direct them to your Audio Note dealer first or contact us directly.

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SPECIFICATIONS

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|-------------------|--|
| Weight | 27.5 kgs |
| Dimensions | 220(h) x 460(w) x 530(d) (mm) |
| Fuse Ratings | 3.15A Anti Surge (110V/120V Supply) 1.2A Anti Surge (200/240V Supply) |
| Input Impedance | 100k ohm, line in, 47K ohm, phono in |
| Input Sensitivity | 450mV for full output |
| Maximum Output | 8 watts RMS per channel into 4 or 8 ohm loads |
| Channel Balance | +/- 0.3dB |
| Valve Compliment | 1 x 5U4G, 2 x 300B, 2 x 6X5, 2 x 5687, 2 x ECC83, 2 x ECC82, 1 x 62N7 |
| Power Consumption | 200 watts |

Note: Due to Audio Note's desire to continually improve its products, specifications are subject to change without notice.

THIS PRODUCT COMPLIES WITH CE STANDARDS