

VAC VINTAGE LINE AMPLIFIER Mk II

Operating Instructions

DO NOT OPEN THIS UNIT - THERE ARE NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. DO NOT TOUCH TUBES UNTIL UNIT HAS BEEN SWITCHED OFF FOR 5 MINUTES. TUBES BECOME HOT IN USE. DO NOT EXPOSE THIS UNIT TO MOISTURE. DO NOT PLUG INTO AN AC SOURCE UNTIL ALL CONNECTIONS ARE COMPLETED.

Introduction

The Vintage Line Amplifier is a zero-global-feedback, Class A, triode line amplifier & controller. It is to be operated from the voltage visible on the configuration card, visible under the fuse. The fuse is a slow blow type of the size labelled on the back of the unit.

Connection

1. Complete all connections before connecting the AC cord to the wall outlet.
2. At turn on, the volume control should be full counter-clockwise and the mode switch should be set to MUTE. Also, to prevent possible damage to speakers and power amplifiers, always MUTE the preamp before switching off power.
3. Allow 30 seconds for warm up before leaving MUTE.
4. The Vintage Line Stage inverts phase from all inputs to the main outputs. To correct for this reverse the speaker connections in both channels. Output to the tape jacks does not invert.
5. In normal operation no signal is present at the tape output jacks. This is done to ensure that no degradation of sound occurs due to input non-linearities or loading effects of the tape recorder. To record, select the record enable position ("TAPE ON") of the TAPE MONITOR switch. If you wish to monitor the output from the recorder's monitor head (if so equipped) select the monitor position ("MON"). It is recommended that this switch not be cycled during important recordings.
6. Tube compliment is:

V1	12AU7A/E82CC	amplifying triode
V2	12AX7A/E83CC	impedance translator triode
7. Tube shields are provided, but their use is recommended only in those rare installations with rf or emf interference.

8. XLR balanced outputs (optional) follow the EIA standard convention, where the positive phase signal is carried on pin 2 and the inverted phase is carried on pin 3. Many manufacturers fail to follow the standard.

Tube Types

Golden Dragon tubes are generally recommended and have been used extensively during the development of this amplifier. Other brands will yield differing sonic character. In addition, AC power cord polarity and grounding can influence the sound. Please feel free to contact VAC if you require additional information or advice.

About Microphony

Every amplifying device, be it tube or transistor, produces some output with mechanical stimulation (microphony). In fact, even cables possess microphony. In the Vintage Line Stage, V1 will emit a sound through the speakers if it is directly struck. This is a normal situation. The exact amount of sound depends on the tube type, its location in the circuit, and slight random variations in tube manufacture. When the chassis itself is struck sharply there may be either no sound or a slight sound emitted from the speaker, but it should die away rapidly. Again, this is normal and not representative of the mechanical or acoustic stimulation encountered when the unit is properly installed and playing music.

It is best not to subject the tubes to tapping or the chassis to repeated mechanical jars, as this may damage the precision of the tubes and cause them to become more microphonic.

About Noise

Every amplifying device produces some amount of noise. In fact, even a resistor produces noise in the presence of current flow. Acceptability is not a question of whether this characteristic is present but rather the degree to which it is present.

The most likely source of noise is tube V1. The audibility of noise produced in the Vintage Line Stage is not affected by the volume control setting, and is determined by the sensitivity of the power amplifier and the efficiency of the speakers. With a speaker of extremely high efficiency (for example, a Klipschorn) the preamplifier itself may be modified by VAC for more appropriate noise and output levels. Noise should be insignificant with speakers in the typical efficiency range.

Need Help?

Please call us with any questions you may have. It is better to ask than to guess.

Warranty

This amplifier is warranted for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of purchase. In addition, if the registration card(s) is received by VAC *along with a copy of your sales receipt* from an authorized VAC dealer within this thirty days, a service contract will be extended to cover your equipment for two (2) years (except tubes which are covered for 90 days). Receipt of your registration card will be confirmed in writing by VAC.

This warranty applies only to units sold to and operated by private individuals in the United States of America through authorized VAC dealers. For warranty information outside of the U.S. contact the importer of VAC equipment for your country. Units sold outside of the U.S. should still be registered with VAC.

Mail this form along with a copy of your sales receipt as soon as possible to:

REGISTRATION FORM

Vintage Line Stage Mk II

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ - _____ - _____

Dealer name _____ Salesperson _____

" address _____

Purchase date _____ Serial Number _____

How did you first learn of VAC products? _____

Please provide any comments on VAC products or your dealer _____

NOTE

Tube shield cans are provided with your VAC, but their use is only recommended for those rare installations where there is interference from radio transmitters or nearby electro-magnetic fields (power transformers, turntable motors, etc.). Your VAC component typically will sound more open and sweet without the shields.