

Reference Series - Phono Preamplifier

Reference Quality RIAA Moving Magnet Cartridge Amplifier



The Reference Series Phono Preamplifier is a high quality moving magnet cartridge amplifier, offering low noise & extremely low distortion, with variable cartridge loading & adjustable gain for a superb reference quality vinyl set up.

Every phono preamplifier is made to order personally for each customer, each one being completely hand built with attention to every detail & personalised with a specific build code unique to that individual amplifier, for future reference this tells us precisely when the amplifier was made.

This is a phono preamplifier which will appeal to the serious vinyl enthusiast, who is looking for not only optimum sound quality from any moving magnet cartridge, but also for those that appreciate a quality item being not only of British design, but also personally hand built using some of the finest components for optimum performance & long term reliability.



The phono preamplifier is a worthy addition to our "Reference Series" & is an amplifier we are very proud of.

Hand built & crafted to the highest standards...

Every single process is performed in our purpose built workshop, this unique way of working means that we have complete control over every single aspect of the design & build process of each amplifier.

Every single front panel, volume knob, feet etc, are all crafted from high grade aluminium bar stock to a precise quality of finish, with the final stage being our printing process with legends that will never wear or rub off even after many years of use.

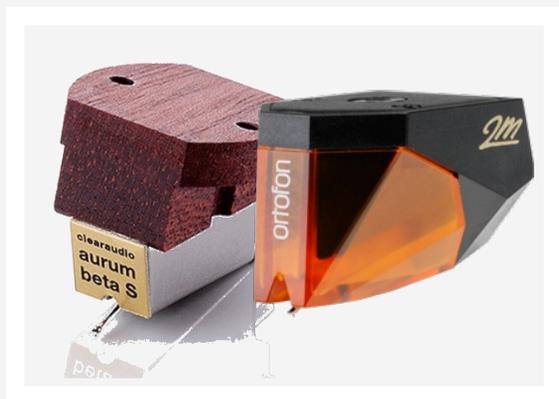


Suitable for use with moving magnet cartridges...

The phono preamplifier has been designed for use with all moving magnet cartridges on the market today.

Due to the different requirements of moving magnet vs moving coil, we chose to design around one type of cartridge rather than designing a unit which could accept both, this way the preamplifier can be optimised far better to suit the type of cartridge being used.

While this has been designed with moving magnet in mind, due to the introduction of high output moving coil cartridges, these are also compatible due to the same requirements by the cartridge.



Quality components for performance & reliability...

Inside every phono preamplifier you will find the very highest quality components from respected manufacturers, such as the military grade precision resistors & 1% audio grade polystyrene capacitors.

Since we have put so much work into the design & build of these, (much more than most would ever realise), we see absolutely no reason whatsoever to then sacrifice performance & reliability by using cheaper components, in order to save a little on component cost.



Variable capacitance cartridge loading...

Rather than designing based around the usual fixed 100-200pF of capacitance that is commonly used, we thought it far better to give you the choice, since this has a direct effect on sound quality.

While cartridge manufacturers will recommend a certain loading, many people find they prefer something entirely different, with the phono preamplifier you have complete control over this.

The front switch features six positions, from a low 22pF to 330pF which will allow you to fine tune the sound to your own cartridge.



Three gain positions for even greater control...

As well as the variable capacitance cartridge loading switch, we have also incorporated into the design a three position gain switch, which allows you to control the overall gain of the amplifier.

Due to the way in which we designed the amplifier, regardless of which gain setting is used it will not compromise at all the accuracy of the RIAA equalisation stage.

This is a very useful feature when introducing the phono preamplifier into a Hi-Fi setup where for example a power amplifier may require low gain, while a headphone amplifier may need a little higher.



Supplied with a high quality external transformer...

The main low noise linear power supply for the phono preamplifier is located inside the amplifier chassis while the mains transformer has the advantage of being an external item. The transformer uses a high quality professional grade 3 pin mini connector with a replaceable mains lead.

Rather than making the transformer available as an after market "upgrade" it is supplied with every amplifier as standard so no upgrades or additional purchases are required.



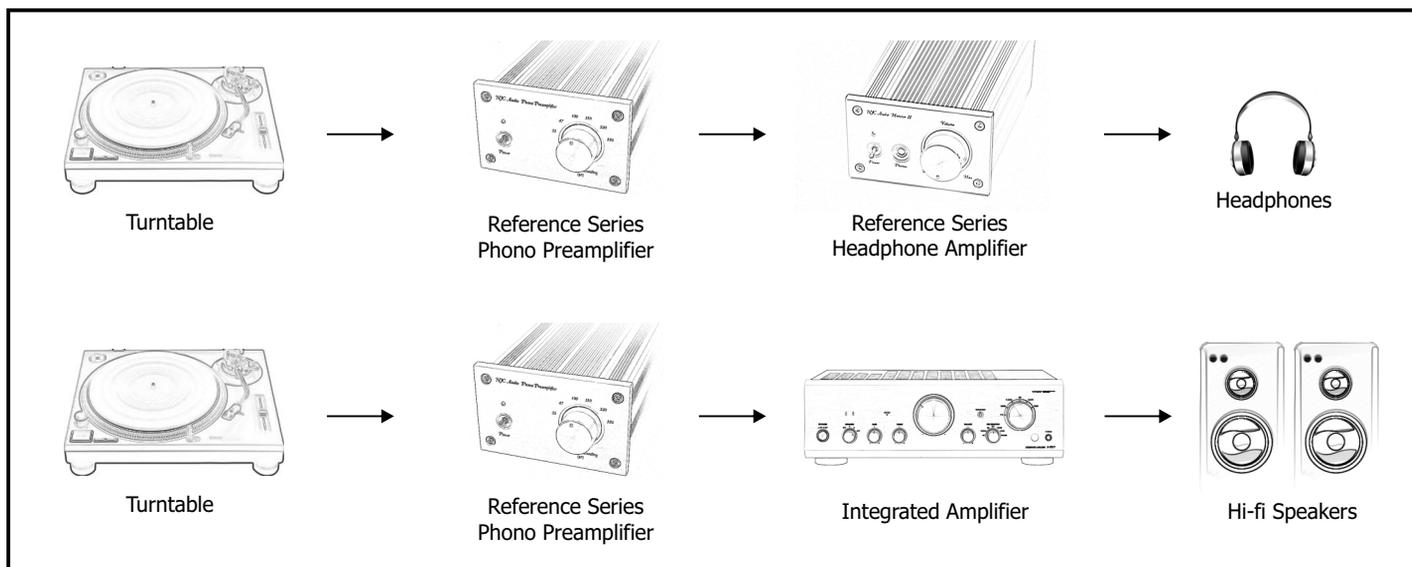
Connections...

At the rear of the phono preamplifier are two pairs of high quality Neutrik gold plated RCA connections, one pair consisting of the "Phono In" for connecting to any moving magnet cartridge, with another pair for the "Line Out" which connects to another piece of Hi-Fi, such as our reference headphone amplifier, or perhaps an integrated amplifier for speaker listening.

Also at the rear of the amplifier is a grounding post for the turntable, as well as the three position adjustable gain.

The "Phono In" can accept any moving magnet cartridge, ranging from the commonly available 3mV to 5mV range, due to the way in which high output type moving coil cartridges are designed, these can also be connected, the only cartridge which is not compatible with the phono preamplifier are low output moving coil cartridges, since these require far more gain than what can be achieved with this design.

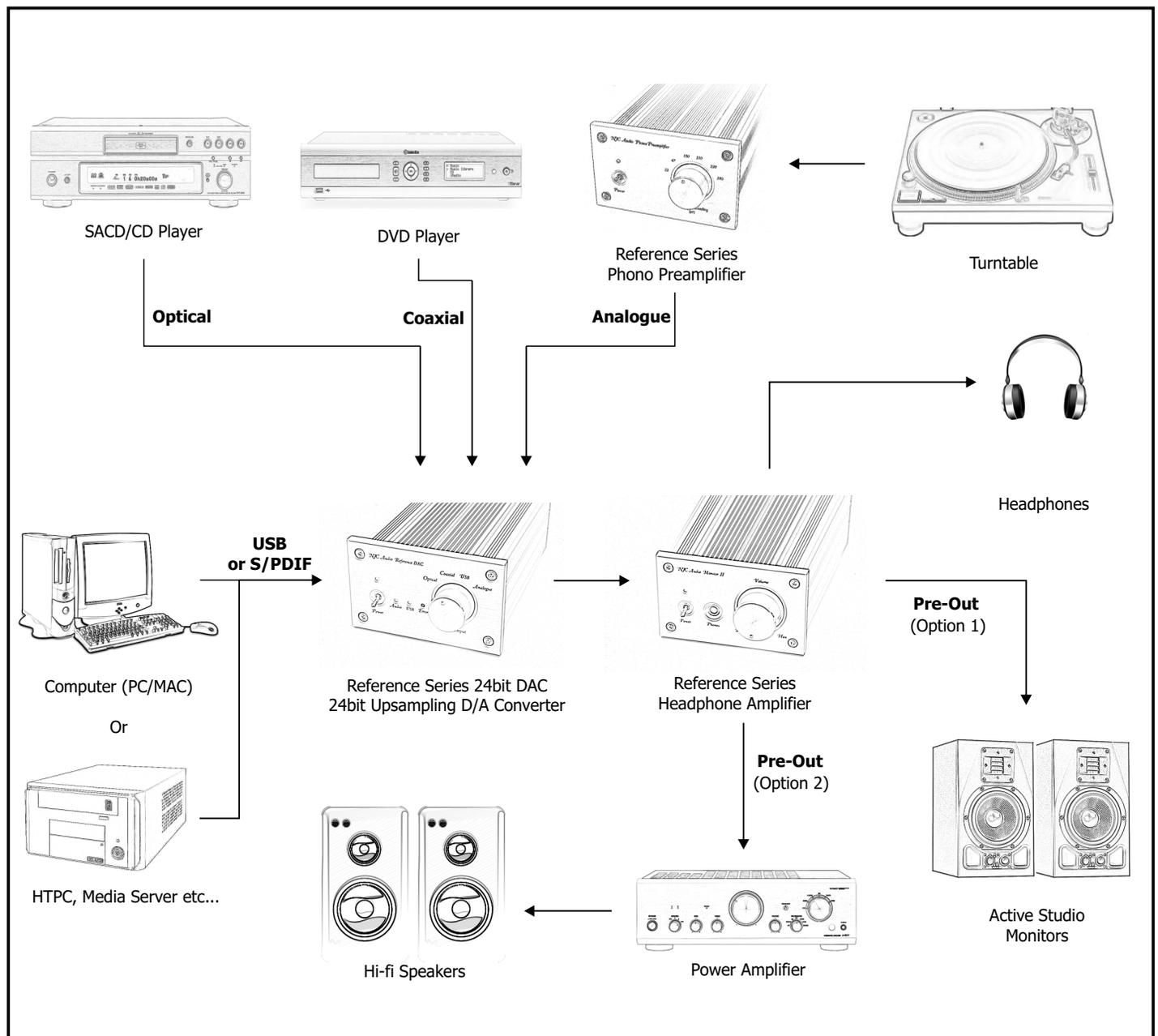
It is always best to keep connections as simple as possible, avoiding long cable runs & always using a good quality pair of interconnects to ensure a reliable connection between each piece of equipment.



Connections (continued)...

When combined with our reference headphone amplifier & reference series 24bit DAC, as well as any other equipment such as a power amplifier, speakers, CD player etc, a very high specification & elaborate Hi-Fi system can be achieved.

Shown below is an example of what can be achieved when using the reference headphone amplifier to drive headphones as well as a high quality pre-amp, combined with the 24bit Reference DAC which allows three digital inputs & one analogue, this can be used to incorporate the turntable & phono preamplifier into the entire set up.



3 Year Guarantee....

The phono preamplifier is guaranteed for 3 years which is there for peace of mind, if anything should require attention or repairing during this time (even though it would be highly unlikely), then this would be free of charge, terms & conditions are available on our website.



3 Year Warranty

Designed & built by enthusiasts, for enthusiasts.

NJC Audio - Quality British Engineered Audio Equipment
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Hand Made in England