



BRYSTON .5B PREAMPLIFIER OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS





The Bryston Model .5B is a basic signal preamplifier with switching facilities for a simple, high quality sound system, including phono, tuner, tape deck and CD/auxiliary. The included diagram will illustrate the switching functions of the Bryston Model .5B preamplifier.

TAPE MONITOR FUNCTION

The tape monitor switch (labelled "Tape"), allows monitoring, through the main outputs, of whatever appears at the tape inputs. Thus, if a tape recorder has a third, playback head, this will allow the audition of a tape recording as it is being made. Simply plug the output from the playback head to the "Tape Input" jacks. Pressing the switch activates the monitor function.

LOW FILTER

The inflection point of the rumble filter has been chosen at 31.7Hz to correspond to the lowest signal frequencies likely to be found in recorded music, and to a suggested revision to the RIAA recording curve for LP discs. For these reasons, and for the more important reason of avoiding low frequency transient overshoot, ringing and phase misalignment, the low filter is a "minimum" type, with a 6dB/octave slope below cutoff. This is guite effective in reducing subsonic wooferwobble and its attendant intermodulation effects, however, since the most problematic turntable and warp-induced rumble frequencies, in the area of 2-5Hz, are reduced an average of about 20dB or a factor of 100 in terms of power demand. The low filter switch is active in the 'In' position, and affects only the phono inputs.

records, cueing the stylus manually to a particular song, cleaning the stylus with a brush, etc. The mute switch is active in the 'In' position and affects only the main outputs without disturbing the tape outputs.

MONO FUNCTION

Occasionally a system will display some offset in gain favouring one channel over the other due to slight differences in speaker efficiency, differences in room loading, or a somewhat off-center listening position dictated by room decor. Thus it is convenient to "mono" the signal to obtain the most unambiguous center image, convenient to adjusting the balance control. For reasons of simplicity, rather than having a separate switch for this function, the "Mute" switch also connects the two channels in Mono. Obviously, the listener may wish to advance the volume control to provide sufficient level for establishing center image. Do not forget to reduce the volume control again before deactivating the mute switch in this case, or you may be startled by the sudden increase in sound level. The balance control is a tailored inflection type which has very gradual action near the center of rotation for fine adjustments to the left-right balance of the stereo image.

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TAPE LOOP

The tape switch also allows for external processor looping. A noise reduction unit, equalizer or other audio accessory is fed from the "Tape Output' jacks, (which exit prior to the volume control). The processed output from the accessory is fed back into the tape inputs. The tape switch then allows the inclusion of the processor in the signal path when pressed, or its exclusion from the signal path when left in the 'Out' position.

MUTE SWITCH

The listener often is called momentarily away from critical listening, to answer the phone for example, and wishes to reduce the gain for a short time without disturbing the volume control setting. The mute switch reduces preamp gain by 20dB. Thus the music may still be heard, but at a background level. This is also useful for changing

ACCESSORY OUTLETS.

The .5B includes two 3-prong grounded, 120 volt receptacles on the rear panel, one switched, one unswitched. Please observe the caution printed below the receptables regarding maximum power draw from these outlets. Large power amplifiers, especially including the Bryston models 3B and 4B should not be plugged into these receptacles. To do so may damage the preamp's power switch. It is permissible to plug the Bryston 2B-LP into these outlets, however, or any class AB amplifier up to 50, (or class A amplifier up to 15) watts per channel. In general, it is inadvisable to switch large power amplifiers on and off by the switch in a preamplifier, for the above reason, and also

because it is likely to cause a fluctuating voltage-drop on the preamplifier's line cord, which in worst case conditions can become an audible problem.

TURN ON DELAY

The Model .5B contains an output shunting relay with an approximate 3-second delay at turnon, to allow any transient thumps to settle. The relay opens instantly when the preamp is switched off to prevent any power-supply decay artifacts from appearing at the outputs. The relay has multiple gold contact faces per channel for maximum long term reliability, and does not appear in the signal path when the preamp is operating.

The Point-Five-B has been designed from a rational, function-oriented ideal of maximum musical accuracy, with an absolute minimum of uselsss gadgetry or extraneous controls. The signalhandling circuit is novel and fundamentally correct, both electronically, and more important, sonically. We believe you will find a renewed sense of awareness of the musical enjoyment in your music collection, played through your Bryston preamplifier. Even your tuner will sound cleaner more and musically transparent than you may have exprienced before. Please do not hesitate to write us if you have any questions or comments about any of our products. Your opinion is important to us.



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