

HP 500 SE



SPECIAL EDITION MODEL LIMITED TO 100 UNITS

HP 500 SE PREAMPLIFIER



Our perennial preamplifier, the HP 500, has been around for almost as long as OCTAVE and was in many ways responsible for defining our approach to building amplifiers. For over 15 years, this preamplifier has been a byword for consistently good sound quality and state-of-the-art tube technology. During this time, it has maintained its leading position thanks to regular design updates from OCTAVE.

OCTAVE recently developed the SE Version (Special Edition) to mark the 25th anniversary of Stereoplay magazine. It brings the HP 500 back once more to the current state of the art. The use of two Siemens D3A (EF 184) pentodes provides the output stage of the latest HP 500 with a significantly greater bandwidth (0.2 Hz to 2.3 MHz, 6 dB). The extremely low cut-off frequency is responsible for the clearer and more tightly defined bass, which provides the foundation for a clean low frequency register and a thrilling midrange performance. The improved upper cut-off frequency

enables the HP 500 SE to accurately portray the most complex tonal colours of a recording. Also new is the HP 500 SE's switchable gain feature. The gain circuit allows you to alter the volume control's adjustment range to suit to the particular power amplifier and speakers you are using.

OCTAVE has also further refined the out-board power supply. MOSFET transistors regulate the high-voltage supply. Increased reservoir capacity, improved rectification with Schottky diodes, and end-to-end electronic stabilization all ensure a virtually noise-free supply voltage with a noise component of less than 300 μ V. These measures contribute to the exceptionally high signal-to-noise ratio of 103 dB.

The HP 500 SE is being made available in a limited edition of 100 units. Unlike the purely line level version, the HP 500 SE Phono MM/MC is equipped with separate MM and MC inputs, a subsonic filter and precision impedance matching.



OCTAVE

HP 500 SE



...The music really does sound even better than with the original, truly superb HP 500. Bass with the SE version is tighter, more fluent, and has greater articulation. Coupled with a greater sense of ease and airiness in the high-frequency range and a more vivid range of tonal colours, I would not expect anyone who hears this preamp ever to be satisfied with anything less.

Stereoplay 05/2003 (25th anniversary edition)

FEATURES

- Two-stage tube preamplifier with overall negative feedback
- NEW** ■ Two wide-bandwidth pentodes (EF 184), type Siemens D 3A in the output stage (class-A operation)
- Balanced outputs (XLR) with transformer coupling for excellent isolation of ground currents and perfectly out-of-phase signals with no group delay distortion.
- NEW** ■ Switchable gain setting for matching with power amplifiers and speakers
- NEW** ■ End-to-end electronic stabilization in power supply
- NEW** ■ Improved signal-to-noise ratio (103 dB)
- Power management with Soft Start (ramping up of the heating and supply voltages) for a tube life expectancy of up to 10 years
- Phono MM/MC (optional) with separate inputs for MM and MC, switchable subsonic filter and variable MC input impedance (37-500 Ohm)
- Infrared remote control (volume)

SPECIFICATION

Tube complement

Input stage 1 x ECC 82
Output stage 2 x EF 184 (Siemens D 3A)

Measurements

Frequency response 3 Hz – 500 kHz (1.5 dB)
Signal-to-noise ratio –92 dB (RCA phono)
–103 dB (XLR)
Output impedance 100 ohms (RCA phono) /
2 x 50 ohms (XLR)

Connections

Inputs 4 Line level (RCA phono)
Phono MM/MC (optional)
Outputs (tape) 1 x
Outputs (preamp) 2 x RCA phono / 2 x XLR

Dimensions

Preamplifier (W x H x D) 435 x 147 x 393 mm
Power supply (W x H x D) 180 x 100 x 280 mm

Weight

Preamp / Power supply 10 kg / 4 kg

Finishes

brushed, anodized aluminium
(silver or black)

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