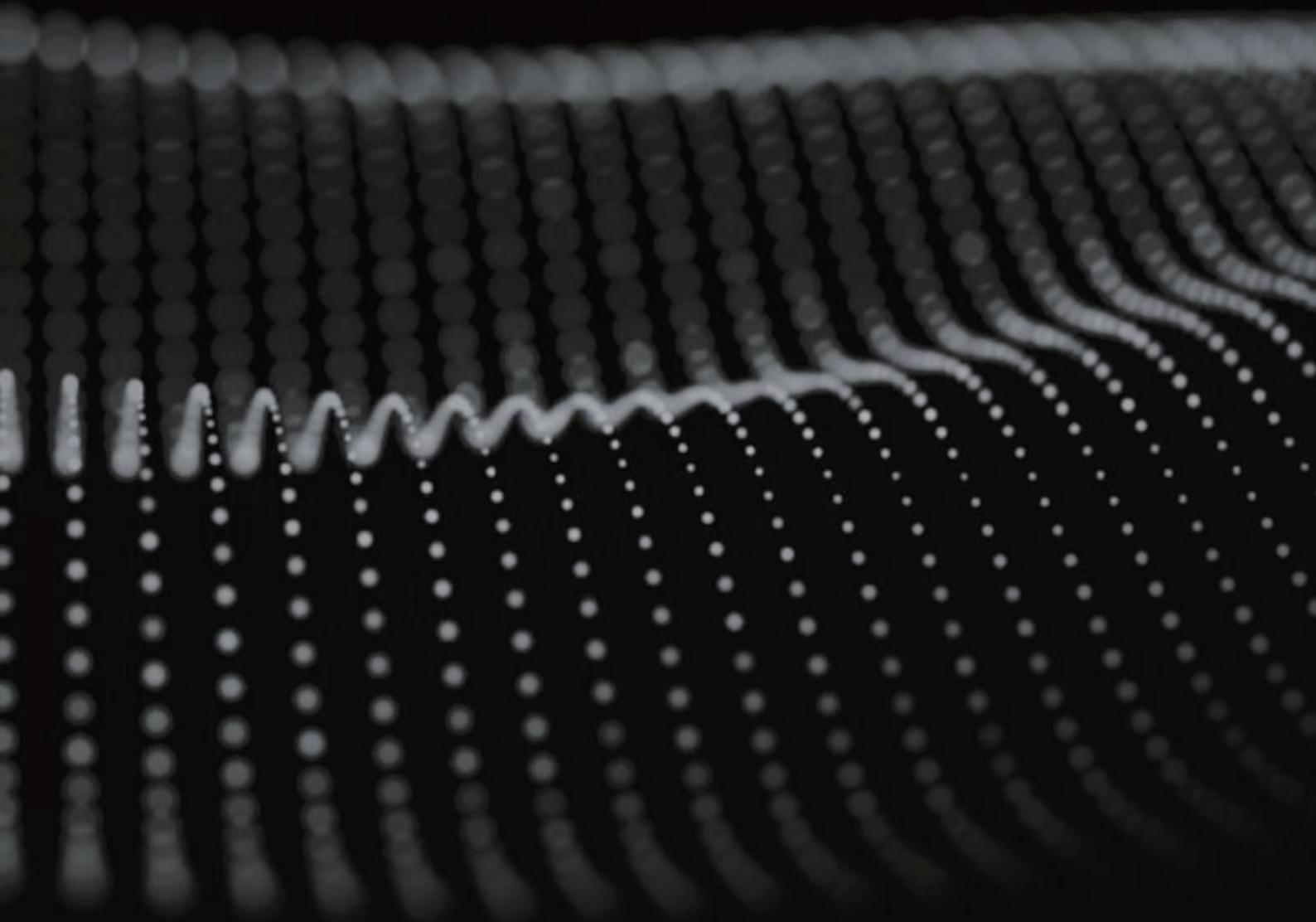


DENAFRIPS

ATHENA PREAMP

OWNER'S MANUAL



INSTALLATION & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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INSTALLATION & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

This PREAMP is designed and built to provide trouble-free performance, but as with all electronic devices it is necessary to observe a few precautions:

1. Unpack the PREAMP carefully.
2. Position the PREAMP on a stable, horizontal surface, i.e. sturdy rack.
3. The PREAMP supports voltage 115–230VAC worldwide voltage. Please connect the AC power cord with earth(ground) pin unless it is absolutely required to reduce hum from the ground loops of the connected devices.
4. Always ensure that when disconnecting and reconnecting your audio equipment the mains supply is turned off.
5. Position the power cord and signal interconnects where they are not likely cause trip and fall hazard.
6. Do not use the PREAMP near water, or place water-filled containers on the PREAMP. Entry of liquid into the PREAMP is hazardous and may cause electric shock and/or fire hazard.

INSTALLATION & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

7. Do not place the unit under direct sunlight or heat source.
8. Do not remove any covers or try to gain access to the inside. There are no user adjustments or fuses to change without qualification.
9. Clean regularly with a damp soft cloth. Do not use any cleaning agents as it might damage the surface finishing.
10. The electronics in modern hi-fi equipment is complex and may, therefore, be adversely affected or damaged by lightning. For protection of the audio system during electrical storms, disconnect the mains plugs.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the DENAFRIPS ATHENA PREAMP.

The ATHENA PREAMP is our flagship full sized, True Balanced, Class-A biased preamplifier making its debut as the high-end linestage.

Equipped with the advanced microprocessor CPLD discrete relay based 60 steps volume control, coupled with current drive Darlington arrays network and the precision matched Military-specs Metal Film Resistors, yielded perfect channel balance, ultra-low distortion THD+N at 0.000120%.

The full discrete Class A output stage not only does it sounds full body, it reproduces transparent and spaciously sounding, literally the best of both worlds.



OPERATING INSTRUCTION

3.1 Quick Start Guide

Package Contents

1. ATHENA PREAMP
2. Remote Control — CR2032 battery is required

Connection

1. Power: Use a proper AC power cord, connect it to the PREAMP power socket.
2. Inputs: The PREAMP comes with 4 switchable inputs (XLR1/XLR2/XLR3/RCA), and 1 volume controlled non-switchable input (XLR4). If you only have a single source, you may use XLR4 for purest sound quality.
3. Output: All outputs are active simultaneously. Connect the output to the power amplifier

WARNING

1. Please power off all equipment prior connection/disconnection of cables.

OPERATING INSTRUCTION

3.2 Front Panel



Figure 1. Front Panel

(1) Standby Button

Press the button once to switch on the PREAMP, vice versa, press once to put the PREAMP into standby mode. The DISPLAY (3) shall be on when the PREAMP is in operating mode. The PREAMP takes about 3 seconds to start-up.

(2) Inputs Selection

Press the button to select the desired input XLR1/XLR2/XLR3/RCA. Please note that XLR4 is a volume-controlled direct non-switchable input. Should XLR4 input is connected and the source music playing, the music signal will output regardless of Input Selection

OPERATING INSTRUCTION

3.2 Front Panel



Figure 1. Front Panel

(3) Display

The LED display the current selected Input and Volume from 0–60

(4) Volume Control

Volume Control from 0(min, $-\infty$ – 70dB) to 60(max, 0dB). Each step is about 1–1.5dB. The ATHENA is a unity gain PREAMP with relays switching. There will be ‘click’ sound from the PREAMP as the relays switch on/off during volume adjustment.

OPERATING INSTRUCTION

3.3 Rear Panel



Figure 2. Read Panel

Description:

(1) AC Power Supply

CAUTION! ATHENA supports worldwide AC mains, range from 115–230VAC. Please use a good quality power cord with earth/ground pin connected

(2) Analog Inputs

Connect the input sources cable to the desire input XLR1/XLR2/XLR3/RCA. XLR4 is recommended for user with one source, i.e. DENAFRIPS DAC. The ATHENA is a true balanced PREAMP with XLR (Pin 2 Hot, Pin 3 Cold, Pin 1 Gnd).

(3) Analog Outputs

All outputs are active at the same time. Connect desire output to the power amplifier. When use with single-ended input source, the XLR outputs are active. Note: For the best fit and to avoid any risk of damaging the RCA socket, we recommend using RCA cables with an inner pin diameter not exceeding 3.2 mm

OPERATING INSTRUCTION

3.4 Remote Control



- Power → Turn on/standby the PREAMP
- Vol +- → Volume Control
- Analog Source → Source Selection
- Mute → Mute
- Time → Dim Display

Note:

1. The remote control is an optional accessory.
2. A CR2032 button battery is required.
3. Due to logistics reasons, such detachable batteries are prohibited from being included in transportation. Therefore, the remote control will be shipped without a battery. Please prepare a CR2032 3V button battery by yourself.

SPECIFICATIONS

Description	Parameters
Highlight	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pure Class-A, True Balanced, Fully Discrete Flagship Line Stage 2. 60 Steps Microprocessor Controlled Relay Based Stepped Attenuator 3. Precision Matched Military-Specs Metal Film Resistors & Components with Perfect Channel Balance and Low Distortion 4. Remote Controlled
Input	IN1-XLR IN2 –XLR IN3-XLR IN4-RCA
Input Impedance	Single-Ended 12.2K Ohms Balanced – 60K Ohms
Output	RCA at 2.0Vrms XLR at 4.0Vrms
Output Impedance	Single-Ended 200 Ohms Balanced – 400 Ohms

SPECIFICATIONS

Description	Parameters
AC Power Requirement	115–230VAC, 50/60Hz (Worldwide Voltage)
Power Consumption	1W(Idl)e),25W(Operational)
Frequency Response	10–85k(0.3dB)
THD+N	0.00012%
S/N Ratio	127dB
Dynamic Range	>121dB
Product Dimensions	433WX385DX110H mm (including feet)

After sales Service

1. Thank you very much for choosing DENAFRIPS products. This product comes with a three-year free warranty. During the warranty period, if the product malfunctions due to non-human factors, we will provide free repair or replacement services. Please provide the serial number on the warranty card when contacting customer support.

1. Within Warranty Period: Within three year from the date of purchase, under normal use and non-human damage, if there are any product quality or functional issues.
Learn More: <https://www.denafrips.com/blank-6>

DENAFRIPS provides free repair or replacement of parts and covers the round-trip shipping costs.

2. Within the Warranty Period: Within three year from the date of purchase, if any product quality or functional issues occur due to human-caused damage.

The specific charges will be determined based on the actual fault and the cost of replacing parts. Please contact our after-sales service center for a detailed repair quote. The customer is responsible for the round-trip shipping costs.

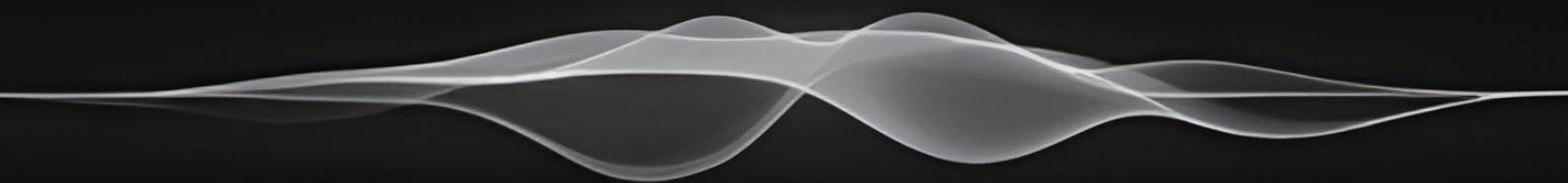
3. After the Warranty Period: Paid repair service will be available after the warranty period expires. We will continue to provide repair services for a fee.

Specific charges will be determined based on the actual fault condition and the cost of replacement parts. Please contact our after-sales service center for a detailed repair quote. The customer is responsible for the round-trip shipping costs.

After sales Service

- 2. The product will not be eligible for free warranty service under any of the following conditions:**
 - a. The product has exceeded the specified warranty period from the date of purchase.
 - b. The product does not match the model, barcode, or purchase date listed on the warranty card.
 - c. Unauthorized modification or repair of circuits or components by anyone other than DENAFRIPS technicians.
 - d. Damage caused by human factors (such as dropping, impact, water exposure, fire, etc.).
 - e. Damage caused by irresistible natural forces (such as earthquakes, floods, lightning strikes, etc.).
 - f. Damage caused by exceeding the allowed operating environment.
 - g. Damage caused by improper use or storage (including but not limited to: circuit or component burnout due to excessive voltage; damage to the casing or internal components due to impact; damage caused by excessive dust; product oxidation or corrosion, etc.).
- 3. This warranty policy applies only to customers who purchase products from the official website. For products purchased from distributors, the warranty terms will be governed by the warranty policy established by the seller.**

DENAFRIPS



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