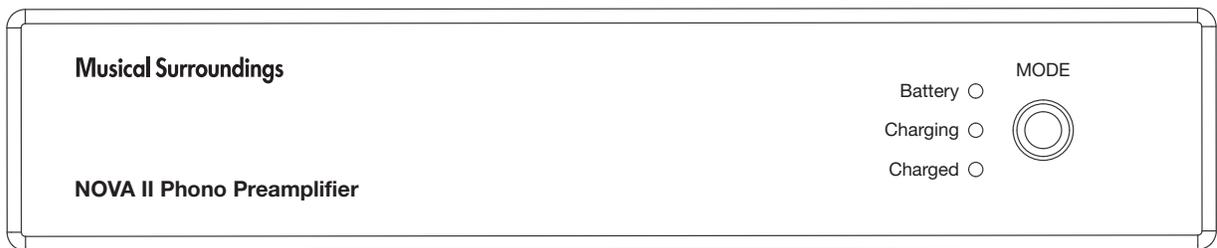


MUSICAL SURROUNDINGS

NOVA II

PHONO PREAMPLIFIER



OWNER'S MANUAL

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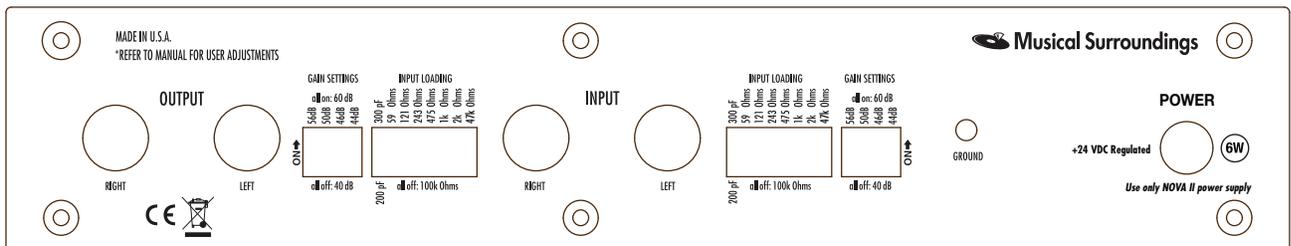
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1.0) INTRODUCTION

The Nova II is a complete phonograph preamplifier with RIAA equalization that amplifies the output signal of a phono cartridge, either moving coil or moving magnet, up to a nominal "line level". The Nova II may be used with a receiver or an integrated amplifier. If you use separate components, a line level control unit (preamp) is required before the power amp, since there is no built-in volume control for the Nova II. The Nova II's power supply is internal and connects to the wall with the supplied wall mount transformer.

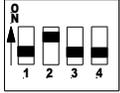
The Installation of the Nova II is quite simple and involves:

- a.) Setting the two rear panel configuration settings (one for each channel) for Gain and Input Loading (see section 2).
- b.) Placing the unit (see section 3).
- c.) Connecting the power source (see section 4).
- d.) Connecting the Audio Inputs and Outputs (see section 5).



2.0) EXTERNAL CONFIGURATION SETTINGS

2.1) BASIC GAIN SETTINGS



GAIN SWITCHES

To set the gain, there are two sets of dip switches located on the Nova II's back panel. The two sets of four switches set the gain for the left and right channels. Refer to your phono cartridge's instruction manual for the suggested gain setting. Factory settings are always 40dB for gain. Lower gain settings (40 and 44dB) are intended for moving magnet cartridges or very high output moving coil cartridges (>2.0 mV). Medium gain settings (46 and 50dB) are ideal for medium-output moving-coils (.9-1.5mV). High gain settings work well with low-output moving-coil cartridges. Using a non-metallic object, push the switches UP for the ON position.

2.1) GAIN SETTINGS CHART

SWITCH #	1	2	3	4
GAIN (dB)				
40	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
44	OFF	OFF	OFF	ON
46	OFF	OFF	ON	OFF
48	OFF	OFF	ON	ON
50	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF
51.5	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
52.7	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
53.7	OFF	ON	ON	ON
56	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
57.5	ON	OFF	ON	ON
58.4	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
59.4	ON	ON	ON	OFF
60	ON	ON	ON	ON

Always let the unit settle for 60 seconds after any configuration changes are made before listening. Slowly raise the volume control after making any changes, as this insures that the unit is stable and will not damage your system if the configuration is not set correctly.

3.0) AUDIO CHASSIS PLACEMENT

The Nova II may be placed near your turntable if space allows, on a separate shelf in your audio rack, or on top of another source or line-level component. Please make sure that ventilation to the unit is not restricted, and that the unit is away from magnetic fields or noise from other components' motors, transformers or displays.

4.0) POWER SUPPLY and BATTERY MODES

The Nova II contains an internal power supply that allows a user to effectively disconnect from the AC power grid during listening sessions. The power supply uses state-of-the-art NiMH battery technology to allow large energy storage and a short recharge period. New units should be charged overnight initially. It will take a few charge/discharge cycles for the batteries to reach their full capacity. After this break-in period the Nova II will charge quickly – a one-hour charge is good for three hours of play – and the user can expect good life from the batteries.

The Nova II connects to a wall outlet or power strip with the supplied wall-mount transformer. A three-way button on the front panel is used to switch the unit between power supply states. The switch has three settings:

- BATTERY (green): Indicates the unit is operating on battery power.
- CHARGING (red): Indicates that the unit is in charging mode.
- CHARGED (amber): Indicates the unit is operating on AC wall power

When the unit is set to battery mode, the batteries (and the unit itself) are disconnected from the wall outlet via a relay. The unit will sound best in this mode. Charging mode may be entered at anytime by pressing the selector button on the front panel. When switching from battery to charging mode, the unit will stay in charging mode for a short period even if fully charged. When the charging cycle is complete and the unit is fully charged, the unit will switch to charged mode. The unit can be switched to battery power from charging mode or charged mode by pressing the selector button on the front panel. The Nova II may be used for listening while in any of the three modes.

An internal circuit will monitor the state of the battery and will switch to charging mode if battery power gets too low.

CAUTION: There may be a slight transient when switching from battery power to charging mode; you may want to reduce the volume or mute the system.

The Nova II will NOT operate without the wall-mount transformer plugged into an outlet.

5.0) AUDIO INPUTS AND OUTPUTS

Please make sure that the volume control on your receiver, integrated amp, or pre-amp is turned completely down before plugging in the audio connections. Connect the phono cables of your turntable to the inputs of the Nova II, noting proper left and right connections. Attach the turntable's ground lead to the ground lug on the rear panel of the Nova II.

Using a high-quality interconnect cable, connect the outputs of your Nova II unit to a line-level input of your receiver, integrated amplifier, or pre-amp, again noting proper left and right channels. **DO NOT PLUG THE NOVA II'S OUTPUT INTO ANOTHER COMPONENT'S "PHONO" INPUT.** Some line-level pre-amps have an input labeled "phono" for convenience but which does not contain phono circuitry. Please check your pre-amp's owner's manual if you have concerns.

6.0) USING YOUR NOVA II

If you have followed the above instructions, your Nova II is ready to play music. Simply cue down your cartridge on a favorite record, select the correct input on your receiver, integrated amp or pre-amp, and slowly bring up the volume level. Then sit back and enjoy the music.

7.0) WARRANTY INFORMATION

This product is automatically warranted for 90 days from date of original purchase, extended to 3 full years with the return of this form and a copy of your sales receipt. These forms must be received within 30 days of the date of original purchase. Items not covered include improper installation, improper handling, accidental damage, shipping damage or acts of nature. Warranty is valid only for the original owner and is non-transferable.

We do not assume any liability for any damage to any other component in the system due to a failure in the Nova II. If you believe your Nova II is malfunctioning, please contact the dealer where you purchased the unit, or contact:

Musical Surroundings
5662 Shattuck Ave
Oakland, CA 94609 USA
Telephone: (510) 547-5006 (x-101)
Fax: (510) 547-5009
Email: service@musicalsurrroundings.com

If the unit needs to be sent in for repair, contact Musical Surroundings at the above number and you will be issued you a Return Authorization (RA) number. You must then send the unit (packed in its original box) back to Musical Surroundings.