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▶ **Primare PRE30 Preamplifier User Guide**

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Dangerous voltages inside. Do not open the cabinet. There are no user serviceable parts inside. Repairs should be carried out by qualified service personnel only.

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# ► Introduction

**Welcome to the Primare PRE30 Preamplifier! This chapter introduces you to its features, and explains how you can take advantage of its superb sound as the key component in your hi-fi system.**

## WELCOME TO THE PRE30 PREAMPLIFIER

The PRE30 is a high-quality two-channel preamplifier with a tape output, and a special surround bypass feature.

### **Flexible inputs**

The PRE30 provides seven inputs for sound sources such as a CD player, radio tuner, and tape recorder. You can adjust the sensitivity of each input to allow for differences in the output level produced by each source. An optional RIAA preamplifier is available if your system includes an analogue record player.

### **Fully balanced**

The PRE30 provides balanced outputs and two balanced inputs, giving an entirely balanced signal chain when used in conjunction with a balanced power amplifier, such as the Primare A30.2, and a source that provides balanced outputs, such as the Primare D30.2 CD Player.

### **Tape output**

You can record a source by switching it through to the tape output, and this is totally independent of the source you are currently listening to.

### **Surround bypass**

A special surround bypass switch allows you to use the PRE30 in conjunction with a surround decoder that includes its own volume control.

## **Intuitive user interface**

In keeping with the philosophy of the Primare range of systems, the PRE30 can be controlled through a very simple and intuitive set of front panel controls.

Alternatively all the functions can be controlled by the C20 Remote Control supplied with the PRE30, along with the other Primare components in your system.

## USING THE PRE30 WITH OTHER PRIMARE PRODUCTS

Although the PRE30 is flexible enough to work with virtually any other equipment you have in your system, it is ideal for use with the other products in the Primare range, such as the Primare D30.2 CD Player and Primare A30.2 Amplifier. A particular benefit of using the PRE30 with other Primare sources is that you can control your entire system with a single remote control, to give you a fully integrated system with the simplest possible user interface.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Balanced inputs	560mV
Line inputs	280mV
Sensitivity adjustment	-20dB to +20dB
Tape outputs	280mV
Gain	16dB
Frequency response	DC to 100kHz $\pm$ 0.1dB
THD	<0.01%
Signal-to-noise ratio	-118dB
Crosstalk	-113dB
Mains	100/115/230V
Dimensions (WxDxH)	430 x 410 x 100mm
Weight	9.5kg

# ► Using the PRE30 Preamplifier

This chapter explains how to operate the PRE30 Preamplifier, using either the front panel controls or the C20 Remote Control.

## FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

All the functions of the PRE30 Preamplifier can be accessed using the six front panel controls, and information about its operation is displayed on the discreet front panel indicators:

- (A) The source switch selects one of the seven sources.
- (B) The **TAPE OUT** button allows you to select the source to record using the source switch.
- (C) The **LEVEL** button allows you to adjust the sensitivity of the current source with the **VOLUME** control.
- (D) The **SURR** button selects surround bypass.
- (E) The **VOLUME** control changes the volume.
- (F) The display shows the current volume or level setting.
- (G) The **STANDBY** control switches the PRE30 to standby, or switches it on.



## SWITCHING ON AND OFF

### To switch on

- Use the switch under the left-hand edge of the front panel.

During normal operation you can leave the PRE30 switched on and in standby.

### To switch to standby

- Turn the **STANDBY** control on the front panel to **STANDBY**, or press the **STBY** button on the C20 Remote Control.

### To switch on from standby

- Turn the **STANDBY** control on the front panel to **OPERATE**, or press the **PRE** button and then the **STBY** button on the remote control.

## SELECTING A SOURCE

The PRE30 Preamplifier provides a choice of seven inputs, labelled: B1, B2, CD, TU, TA, AU, and AV.

### To select a source

- Turn the source switch until the source is indicated on the front panel display.
- Alternatively, press the ▲ or ▼ buttons on the C20 Remote Control to step between sources.

## CHANGING THE VOLUME

The PRE30 allows you to vary the volume from 0 (silence) to 85 (maximum volume).

### To change the volume

- Rotate the **VOLUME** control on the front panel, or press the ◀ or ▶ buttons on the C20 Remote Control.

The current volume setting is shown on the front panel.

## CHANGING THE BALANCE

You can change the balance of the sound between the left and right channels to shift the position of the stereo image.

### To change the balance

- Press the ◀/BAL button on the C20 Remote Control.

The front panel display shows the current balance setting, where -85 corresponds to the leftmost position, 0 corresponds to centre, and 85 corresponds to the rightmost position.

- Press the ◀ and ▶ buttons on the remote control to adjust the balance.
- Press the ◀/BAL button again to revert to the normal volume display.

Alternatively the normal display will revert automatically after four seconds.



## MAKING RECORDINGS

The PRE30 Preamplifier allows you to make a recording of any source to the tape output. If your tape recorder provides a monitor output you can compare the recording to the original source (A-B monitoring).

### To make a recording

- Connect the TAPE OUT sockets to your recorder inputs.
- Press the **TAPE OUT** button on the front panel, or the **ST/REC** button on the C20 Remote Control.

The **TAPE OUT** indicator will be illuminated.

- Use the source switch to select the source you want to record.
- Alternatively, press the ▲ and ▼ buttons to step between input sources on the C20 Remote Control.

You cannot record from the TA input, to avoid the possibility of feedback.

- Press the **TAPE OUT** or **ST/REC** button again.

### To monitor the recording

- Connect the tape recorder monitor output to the TAPE INPUT sockets.
- Use the source switch to switch between the TA input, to monitor the recording, and the original source.

## USING THE PRE30 WITH A SURROUND DECODER

You can use the PRE30 in conjunction with a surround decoder, to allow you to use your main left and right channels as part of a surround system, as well as using them with your other sources, such as CD.

- Connect the main left and right line outputs from your surround decoder to the AV inputs on the PRE30.
- Press and hold down the **SURR** button on the front panel, or the **MODE** button on the C20 Remote Control, until the **SURR** indicator is illuminated.

The AV input will automatically be selected, and the PRE30 **VOLUME** control will be bypassed so you can control the volume of the surround source using the surround decoder.

**Note:** If you are using the AV input as an additional conventional source the **SURR** button should be left off.

## ADJUSTING THE SENSITIVITY OF THE INPUTS

You can adjust the sensitivity of each input, to allow for differences in the output level of each source, so that when you switch between sources the level stays consistent.

- Use the source switch to select the source you want to adjust.
- Press the **LEVEL** button on the front panel, or the **MENU** button on the C20 Remote Control.

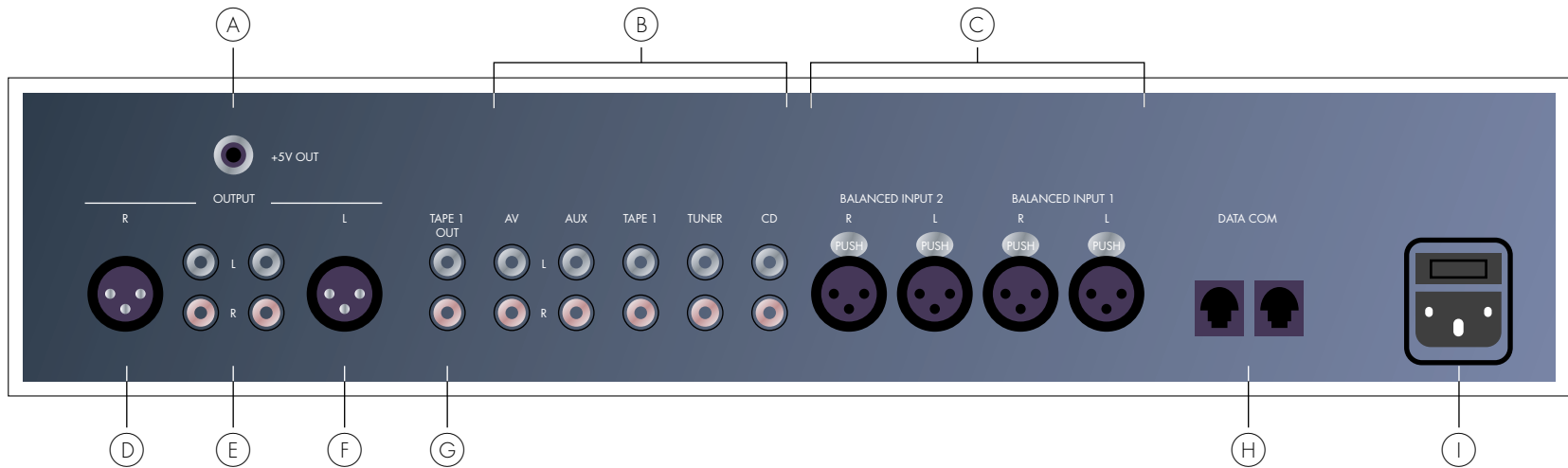
The **LEVEL** indicator will be illuminated, and the display will now show the relative level of the source in dB, as a number between -20 (quieter) and +20 (louder).

- Use the **VOLUME** control, or the ◀ and ▶ buttons on the C20 Remote Control, to adjust the relative level of the source.
- Select any other sources you want to adjust, and repeat the same procedure.
- Wait for five seconds to allow the new level settings to be stored.
- Press the **LEVEL** button on the front panel, or the **MENU** button on the C20 Remote Control, to return to normal operation.

# ▶ Connecting the PRE30 Preamplifier

This chapter explains how to connect the PRE30 to the other components in your system, using the connections on the back panel.

## BACK PANEL CONNECTIONS



(A) 5V output for remote link.

(B) Line RCA inputs.

(C) Balanced XLR inputs.

(D) Right balanced XLR output.

(E) Line RCA/outputs.

(F) Left balanced XLR output.

(G) Tape 1 outputs.

(H) Data Com connections (for future expansion).

(I) Mains power input and fuse.

## POWER CONNECTION

**Warning:** Before connecting power check that the required supply voltage, indicated on the back panel, corresponds to your local AC supply. If a different voltage is stated on the type plate do not connect the amplifier to the mains power, and seek advice from your dealer.

Connect the mains power using the enclosed mains cable.

**Note:** Always disconnect the amplifier from the mains power before connecting or disconnecting any of the cables.

## OUTPUTS

### Preamplifier outputs

The PRE30 provides two pairs of phono outputs and one pair of balanced outputs, for connection to a suitable power amplifier such as the Primare A30.2.

### Tape outputs

The TAPE 1 OUT sockets provide a fixed level copy of the source selected by the **TAPE** switch, suitable for connecting to a tape recorder.

## INPUTS

### Source inputs

Connect balanced sources to the balanced inputs, using XLR connectors.

Connect phono sources to the appropriate phono inputs, connecting the right channel to the red socket and the left channel to the white socket.

To connect an analogue turntable with a moving magnet or moving coil cartridge you will need an additional phono RIAA preamplifier such as the Primare R20. The output of the turntable is connected to the R20, and the output of the R20 should be connected to a spare input on the PRE30, such as AUX.

If you have a surround decoder, connect the main left and right line-level outputs to the AV inputs, and press the **SURR** button on the front panel to select surround bypass.

## REMOTE LINK

If you are using the PRE30 in conjunction with a Primare power amplifier, such as the A30.2, you can power the amplifier on and off from the PRE30 by connecting the +5V OUT socket to one of the REMOTE LINK sockets on the amplifier, using a twin core cable terminated in 3.5mm jack plugs.

**Note:** Ensure that the PRE30 is switched off before connecting it to the amplifier with a remote link cable.

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