



McCORMACK

**LINE DRIVE
TLC-1**

Stereo Preamplifier





McCORMACK

AUDIO CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA

Thank you for purchasing the Line Drive TLC-1. TLC stands for "transparent line control," and names the central feature of this component's natural musicality. This preamplifier is hand crafted with top quality, highly reliable components. We are confident that you will be well satisfied with its sonic performance and find pleasure in its functional beauty. Before you enjoy these experiences, however, please take a few minutes to read this Owner's Manual and acquaint yourself with the instructions for optimal operation. This will ensure your listening pleasure today, and for many years to come.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

UNPACKING - Be sure to save the TLC-1's box and packing materials for future use in case you need to transport or ship the TLC-1. Store them in a dry environment.

INSTALLATION - Place the TLC-1 as close as possible to its final installation location, while leaving yourself access to the rear panel.

- » **NOTE:** The TLC-1 has no ON-OFF switch, having been designed to be on at all times with minimal power consumption. Connect the 3-wire grounded AC power cord into the TLC-1, but do not plug the other end into an AC wall socket yet.
- » Check to be certain that the VOLUME knob is turned down all the way, fully counterclockwise.
- » Set the tape and mute front panel switches to the DEFEAT and MUTE positions, respectively.
- » Set the BALANCE control to the center position marked 0.

ABOUT INTERCONNECT CABLES... The TLC-1 uses high quality RCA phono jacks for input and output connections; selecting high quality cables for use with this revealing component will result in superior sonic performance from your system. Your McCormack dealer will guide you in making this important component choice.

- » There are 5 identical inputs on the rear panel labeled CD, TUNER, VIDEO, TAPE, and AUX for your convenience. Connect your line level sources (CD, DCC, R-DAT, Mini-Disc, VCR, tuner, cassette deck, phono preamplifier, etc.) to the inputs of your choice.

- » **TAPE CONNECTIONS:** Connect your tape decks (or R-DAT, DCC, Mini-Disc, etc.) to TAPE 1 and TAPE 2 inputs and outputs, as indicated on the rear panel. The TAPE IN jacks receive the signal from the deck; the TAPE OUT jacks send the signal (chosen with the input selector switch) to your deck(s).
- » There are 2 sets of main outputs: BUFFERED and PASSIVE. The BUFFERED output is driven by the active buffer stage. The PASSIVE output is connected directly to the volume control. When using the PASSIVE output, be certain that the total cable capacitance of the cables is less than 1000 picofarads per channel.
- » Be certain your power amplifier is turned OFF, then connect it to the TLC-1 output of your choice. If you wish, both outputs may be used at the same time to connect two power amplifiers to the TLC-1 simultaneously.
- » Place the TLC-1 in its permanent location. Check that all RCA plugs are fully inserted, making a tight connection. Make sure that the VOLUME knob is turned fully counterclockwise, all the way down.
- » Connect the power cord of the TLC-1 to a wall socket. The green LED in the lower center of the front panel will light up.

CONTROLS

INPUT SELECTOR - Use this 5-position control to choose the source you wish to use. Sources selected by the input selector control are automatically routed to both tape outputs when the tape switch is in the TAPE position.

SOURCE/TAPE/CHANNEL SELECTOR - This selector is a multifunction control. To listen to a tape deck connected to either the TAPE 1 or TAPE 2 inputs on the back panel, set the mode selector to the appropriate position. If you need to check right and left channels independently, select either the RIGHT or LEFT switch setting. Each setting will play only the selected channel, while muting the other.

BALANCE CONTROL: The stepped-attenuator balance control allows precise and easily repeatable balance changes between the 2 channels. There are 5 attenuation settings (-0.5, -1.0, -1.5, -2.0 and -3.0 dB) on either side of 0.

VOLUME KNOB - Use this continuous control to adjust the sound level.

TAPE SWITCH - Use this 2-position switch to engage or defeat the tape outputs. When in the DEFEAT position, it completely disconnects the tape output buffer circuitry from the audio path, preventing any adverse effects on the TLC-1's performance. It must be in the TAPE position to enable recordings to be made.

MUTE SWITCH - Use this 2-position switch to listen to or mute the signal.

TAPING: The TLC-1 provides monitoring and recording facilities for 2 tape decks. The tape outputs are fed by an active buffer amplifier which provides the constant, low impedance drive and the high degree of isolation between taping and preamplifier circuitry that are essential for best performance. The switching arrangement allows you to monitor either the SOURCE or tape deck (TAPE 1 or TAPE 2) while taping. In addition, the front panel tape switch allows you to disconnect the entire tape output circuit when you are not taping, for optimum sonic performance. Just select the DEFEAT position when you are not taping, and the TAPE position when you wish to make a recording.

BREAK-IN PERIOD

Your TLC-1 has already been burned in at the factory. However, like all high quality components, it will still require a break-in period of approximately 100 hours before it will sound its best. Your TLC-1 will be left on all the time, but be certain to turn the VOLUME control down all the way and engage the MUTE switch between listening sessions.

SPECIFICATIONS

Input impedance: approx. 13 kohm

Buffered output impedance: 250 ohm

Passive output impedance: varies with volume setting, drops as volume increases, 0 at maximum volume

Tape output impedance: 100 ohm

Absolute polarity: non-inverting

Dimensions: 19"W, 2 5/8"H, 11 3/4"D

Shipping weight: 11 lbs.

FUSE - Below the power cable connector on the back of the TLC-1 is a small tray which is divided into 2 sections, front and back. The back section holds the active AC line fuse; the front section holds a spare fuse.

To open this tray, disconnect the power cord from the ac wall socket, and remove the power cord from the TLC-1. Insert a small screwdriver in the slot at the top of the drawer and pull out. The correct fuse value for each ac mains voltage standard is listed directly below this module.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience loss of power or signal, check your cable connections and AC power cord carefully. Test your AC outlet to make sure it is supplying power. Check the AC line fuse located on the rear panel to make sure it is intact. You must first remove the AC power cord to gain access to the fuse tray, which is part of the power input socket. Slide it out using a medium blade screwdriver to open it. If the fuse has blown, replace it once with the correct replacement fuse, as indicated on the rear panel. Check for proper operation. If it blows again, STOP!

There are no user serviceable parts in the TLC-1 other than the AC line fuse. Contact your McCormack Dealer for service options.