

# **ABSOLARE Preamplifier**

## **User Manual**





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## 1. General Description

The Absolare Preamplifier is a single chassis line stage preamplifier with an all tube signal path and point-to-point construction. Inside the chassis, mains transformers and DC regulators are isolated from the signal section by an internal partition, to further reduce noise and hum. Balanced (XLR) and Single-Ended (RCA) versions are available. The balanced version has 4 input channels and unbalanced version has 3 input channels.

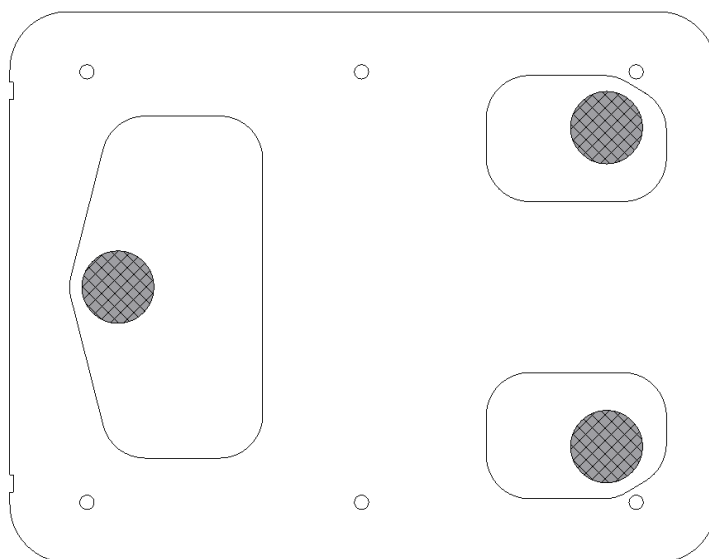
## 2. Safety Issues and Warnings

- Ensure the voltage setting of the unit matches the voltage of the available AC power. Operating voltage is fixed and must only be changed by an authorized service agent.
- Do not touch tubes while operating. Tubes are extremely hot devices and also contain very high voltages.
- There are no user serviceable parts inside the chassis. Do not open bottom covers.

## 3. Unpacking and Placement

After opening the top cover of the box, remove the upper layer of hard foam material. You can then lift the unit from the box using the cloth underneath the chassis.

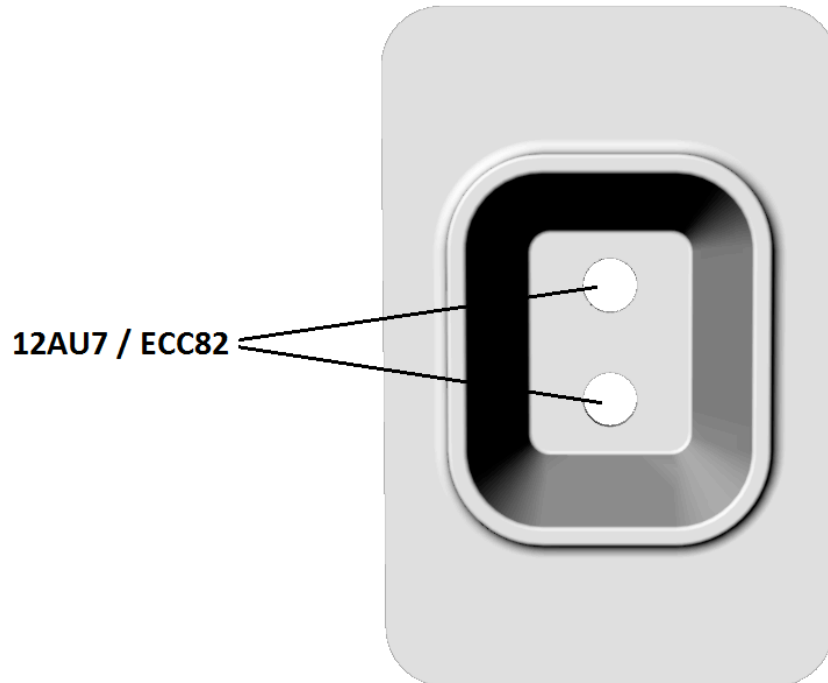
Feet can affect the sound quality significantly. Feet should be placed directly under the aluminum base plate, not the MDF/leather plate. There are three areas where the aluminum base plate is exposed through openings in the bottom MDF/leather plate. These areas are where feet should be placed. You can use either three or four feet. Adjusting their position will also affect the sound to varying degrees, depending on the type of rack, location or interaction with other equipment. For most situations the arrangement as shown in the diagram below is a good starting point.



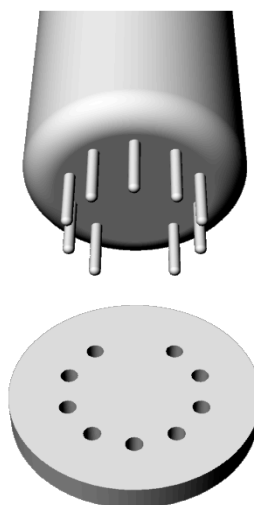


## 4. Installing the Tubes

There are two tubes in the Preamplifier. 12AU7 / ECC82 is the standard tube, but you can also use E80CC in Signature and Altius versions.



12AU7 / ECC82 tubes have one missing pin acting as a correct positioning key. Align missing pin with the missing hole in the tube socket while inserting.



## **5. Connecting the Cables**

### **5.1. Power cable**

AC power input is via a standard IEC socket. Operating voltage must only be changed by an authorized service agent.

The quality of the power cable used will affect the sound quality.

### **5.2. Signal Cables**

You can connect 3 unbalanced or 4 balanced source devices at the same time. The selector knob on the left hand side switches between the input channels. Output is single-ended RCA or transformer balanced XLR depending on the version.

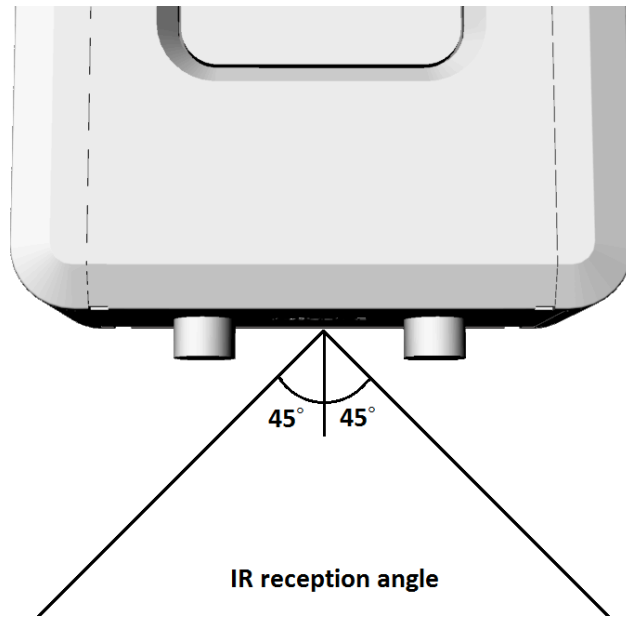
## **6. Operating the Unit**

Absolare Preamplifier will be ready to operate seconds after turning on the power, but attaining full performance may take 15 to 30 minutes.

Signal ground and chassis/power ground is separate inside the Signal Stage and they are connected by a high pass filter to reduce hum and noise. The outside parts of the RCA connectors are connected to signal ground. Balanced (XLR) version has transformer balanced input and output on pins 2 and 3; pin 1 is connected to chassis ground.

There are no adjustments for the preamp.

With the motorized remote control option you can change the volume setting with the IR remote control. Operating angle is approximately 45°.





## 7. Troubleshooting and Maintenance

Surface of the unit is dirty.	- Clean with a slightly damp cloth.
No power indicator light.	- Check AC line voltage, check the fuse.
Both indicator lights are on, tube heaters are glowing, but no sound.	- Check the input selector position. - Check input and output cables.
Noise / hum in the sound.	- Check grounding of input cables.
Input selector does not work.	- Check all DC power cords.

***If the problem is persistent, contact your nearest ABSOLARE dealer.***

## 8. Technical Specifications

- All tube signal section, Single-Ended architecture in both models.
- Bandwidth: 10 Hz – 45 KHz +/- 1.0dB
- Input Sensitivity: Single-Ended version 2 Volts (Balanced version 8 Volts)
- Tubes: 2 x 12AU7 (ECC82) (or 2 x E80CC interchangeable in the Signature and Altius models).
- Inputs: 3 x RCA with Single-Ended model / 4 x XLR with Balanced version.
- Input Impedance: 100 kohm
- Output: 2 x RCA with Single-Ended / 2 x XLR with Balanced version.
- 48 step or 64-step attenuator - remote control optional
- Output impedance: 750 ohms
- Gain: 18 dB
- Dimensions: 38.2 x 54.5 x 14.6 cm (W x D x H), excluding feet.
- Weight: 18.9 kg

## **ABSOLARE USA LLC**

40 Pemberton Road, Nashua New Hampshire, 03063

Phone: +212-229-1842

E-mail: [info@absolare.com](mailto:info@absolare.com)

## **ABSOLARE SERVICE EUROPE**

Mozartstraat 157, 1962AL Heemskerk, Netherlands

Phone: +31 61 399 3049

E-mail: [info@absolare.nl](mailto:info@absolare.nl)