



McIntosh Laboratory, Inc. 2 Chambers Street Binghamton, New York 13903-2699 Phone: 607-723-3512 [www.mcintoshlabs.com](http://www.mcintoshlabs.com)

D150  
Digital Preamplifier  
Owner's Manual



The lightning flash with arrowhead, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated “dangerous voltage” within the product’s enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

**WARNING - TO REDUCE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRICAL SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS EQUIPMENT TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.**

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS!

### PLEASE READ THEM BEFORE OPERATING THIS EQUIPMENT.

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with a dry cloth.
7. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a



**AVIS** RISQUE DE CHOC ELECTRIQUE - NE PAS OUVRIR.

**NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.**

third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.

10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
11. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
12. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

**To prevent the risk of electric shock, do not remove cover or back. No user-serviceable parts inside.**

supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

15. Do not expose this equipment to dripping or splashing and ensure that no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, are placed on the equipment.
16. To completely disconnect this equipment from the a.c. mains, disconnect the power supply cord plug from the a.c. receptacle.
17. The mains plug of the power supply cord shall remain readily operable.
18. Do not expose batteries to excessive heat such as sunshine, fire or the like.
19. Connect mains power supply cord only to a mains socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.

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## Thank You

Your decision to own this McIntosh D150 Digital Pre-amplifier ranks you at the very top among discriminating music listeners. You now have “The Best.” The McIntosh dedication to “Quality,” is assurance that you will receive many years of musical enjoyment from this unit.

Please take a short time to read the information in this manual. We want you to be as familiar as possible with all the features and functions of your new McIntosh.

## Please Take A Moment

The serial number, purchase date and McIntosh Dealer name are important to you for possible insurance claim or future service. The spaces below have been provided for you to record that information:

Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Technical Assistance

If at any time you have questions about your McIntosh product, contact your McIntosh Dealer who is familiar with your McIntosh equipment and any other brands that may be part of your system. If you or your Dealer wish additional help concerning a suspected problem, you can receive technical assistance for all McIntosh products at:

McIntosh Laboratory, Inc.  
2 Chambers Street  
Binghamton, New York 13903  
Phone: 607-723-3512  
Fax: 607-724-0549

## Customer Service

If it is determined that your McIntosh product is in need of repair, you can return it to your Dealer. You can also return it to the McIntosh Laboratory Service Department. For assistance on factory repair return procedure, contact the McIntosh Service Department at:

McIntosh Laboratory, Inc.  
2 Chambers Street  
Binghamton, New York 13903  
Phone: 607-723-3515  
Fax: 607-723-1917

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### General Information

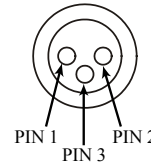
1. For additional connection information, refer to the owner's manual(s) for any component(s) connected to the D150 Digital Preamplifier.
2. The Main AC Power going to the D150 and any other McIntosh Component(s) should not be applied until all the system components are connected together. Failure to do so could result in malfunctioning of some or all of the system's normal operations. When the D150 and other McIntosh Components are in their Standby Power Off Mode, the Microprocessor's Circuitry inside each component is active and communication is occurring between them.
3. The Fixed Balanced/Unbalanced Outputs and the variable Balanced/Unbalanced Outputs can be used simultaneously.
4. The D150 internal Digital to Analog Converter Circuitry is designed to decode 2-channel PCM (Pulse Code Modulation) and DSD (Direct Stream Digital) Digital Signals present at the Coaxial, Optical and USB Digital Inputs. Other Digital Audio Signal Format Types will cause the Audio Outputs of the D150 to be muted.
5. The IR Input, with 1/8 inch mini phone jack, is configured for non-McIntosh IR sensors such as a Xantech Model HL85BK Kit.
6. When discarding the unit, comply with local rules or regulations. Batteries should never be thrown away or incinerated but disposed of in accordance with the local regulations concerning battery disposal. 
7. For additional information on the D150 and other McIntosh Products please visit the McIntosh Web Site at [www.mcintoshlabs.com](http://www.mcintoshlabs.com).

### Connector and Cable Information

#### XLR Connectors

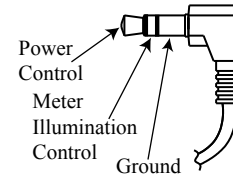
Below is the Pin configuration for the XLR Balanced Output Connectors on the D150. Refer to the diagram for connections:

- PIN 1: Shield/Ground
- PIN 2: + Output
- PIN 3: - Output



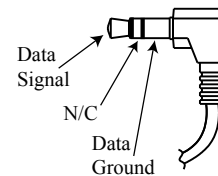
#### Power Control

The D150 Power Control In receives and the Power Control Out sends Power On/Off Signals (+12 volt/0 volt) when connected to other McIntosh Components. An additional connection is for controlling the illumination of the Power Output Meters on McIntosh Power Amplifiers. A 1/8 inch stereo mini phone plug is used for connection to the Power Control

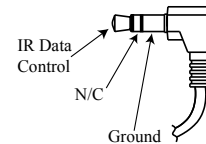


#### Data Input and IR IN Port Connectors

The D150 Data In Port receives Remote Control Signals from McIntosh Preamplifiers and A/V Control Centers. A 1/8 inch stereo mini phone plug is used for connection.



The IR IN Port also uses a 1/8 inch stereo mini phone plug and allows the connection of other brand IR Receivers to the D150.



### Introduction

The McIntosh D150 Digital Preamplifier is one of the finest Preamplifiers ever created with connections for digital sources. The D150 Outputs have the ability to drive multiple components. The D150 reproduction is sonically transparent and absolutely accurate. The McIntosh Sound is “The Sound of the Music Itself.”

### Performance Features

#### • Dual Function

Use the D150 as the Preamplifier together with McIntosh Source Components and Power Amplifier to form a complete Audio System. Connect the D150 to an existing McIntosh Analog Audio System to provide the latest in Digital-to-Analog Conversion from digital audio sources.

#### • Electronic Input Switching

Electronic Input Switching on all Inputs provides reliable, noiseless, distortion free switching.

#### • Digital Audio Inputs

The D150 has Coaxial, Optical, DIN and USB Digital Inputs to Decode PCM and DSD Signals from an external source. The Coaxial and Optical Inputs process Digital Signals up to 192kHz with 24-Bit resolution. The Digital DIN connection allows for streaming of high bandwidth digital signals (DSD, PCM) directly into the D150 from external sources. The USB Input processes Digital Signals up to 192kHz with 32Bit resolution, decodes DSD128 Digital Signals and DXD 24Bit with a sampling rate of 352.8 (or 384).

#### • Quad Balanced Digital to Analog Converter

The 8 channel 32-bit, 192kHz Digital to Analog Converter is used in a Stereo Quad Balanced Mode,

assuring the music is reproduced with a wide dynamic range and extremely low distortion, for both Disc and external sources.

#### • Balanced Outputs

The Balanced Outputs allow the connection of long cable lengths without a loss in sound quality.

#### • Precision Tracking Volume Control

Volume levels are controlled by a new Precision Digitally Controlled Attenuator System with a tracking accuracy of 0.5dB.

#### • Alphanumeric Fluorescent Display

The Front Panel Information Display indicates the Source Selection, Sampling Frequency, Volume Level and Setup Mode Selections. The display intensity is adjustable.

#### • Remote Control with External Sensor Input

The Remote Control provides control of the D150 operating functions and allows enjoyment of your McIntosh System from another room in your home by connecting an external sensor.

#### • Power Control Input and Output

A Power Control connection for convenient Turn-On of McIntosh Power Amplifiers, Source Components and Accessories is included.

#### • Special Power Supply

Fully regulated Power Supplies and a special R-Core Power Transformer ensure stable noise free operation even though the power line varies.

#### • Gold Plated Connectors

The Input and Output Connectors contacts are gold plated for superior corrosion resistance and high electrical conductivity.

#### • Fiber Optic Solid State Front Panel Illumination

The even Illumination of the Front Panel is accomplished by the combination of custom designed Fiber Optic Light Diffusers and extra long life Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs).

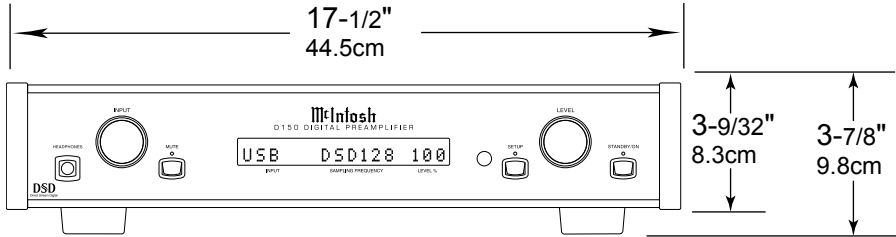
#### • Glass Front Panel

The famous McIntosh Illuminated Glass Front Panel ensures the pristine beauty of the D150 will be retained for many years.

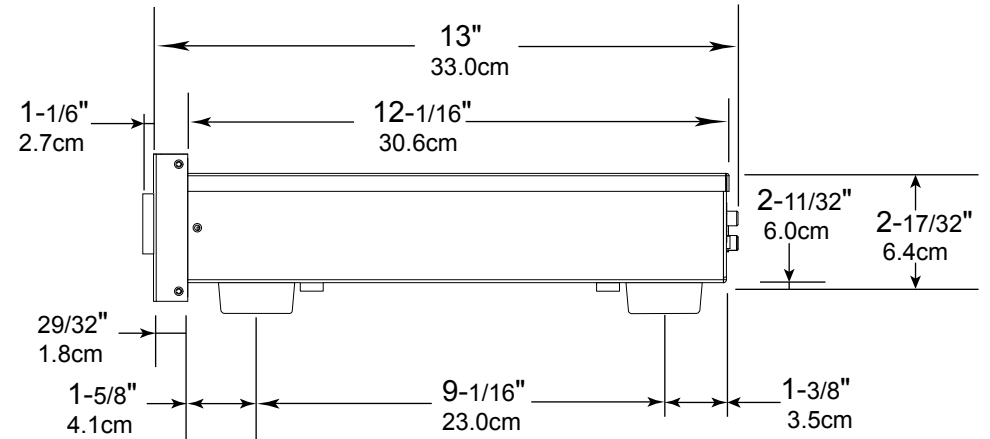
**Dimensions**

The following dimensions can assist in determining the best location for your D150. There is additional information on the next page pertaining to installing the D150 into cabinets.

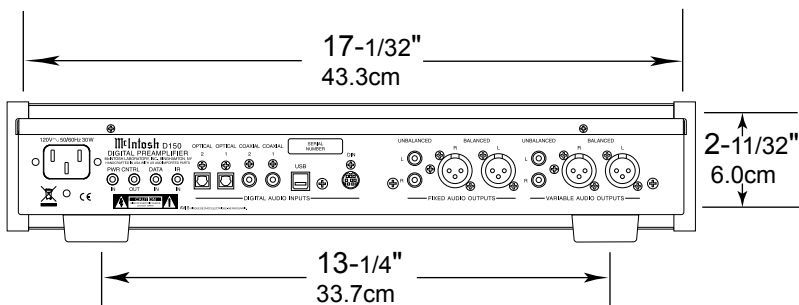
**Front View of the D150**



**Side View of the D150**



**Rear View of the D150**



## Installation

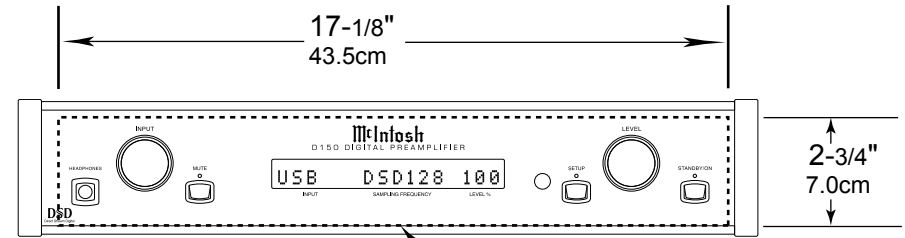
The D150 can be placed upright on a table or shelf, standing on its four feet. It also can be custom installed in a piece of furniture or cabinet of your choice. The four feet may be removed from the bottom of the D150 when it is custom installed as outlined below. The four feet together with the mounting screws should be retained for possible future use if the D150 is removed from the custom installation and used free standing. The required panel cutout, ventilation cutout and unit dimensions are shown.

Always provide adequate ventilation for your D150. Cool operation ensures the longest possible operating life for any electronic instrument. Do not install the D150 directly above a heat generating component such as a high powered amplifier. If all the components are installed in a single cabinet, a quiet running ventilation fan can be a definite asset in maintaining all the system components at the coolest possible operating temperature.

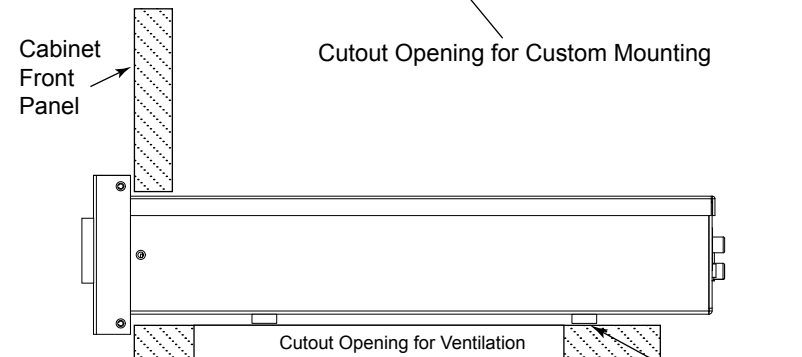
A custom cabinet installation should provide the following minimum spacing dimensions for cool operation.

Allow at least 2 inches (5.08cm) above the top, 2 inches (5.08cm) below the bottom and 1 inch (2.54cm) on each side of the Preamplifier, so that airflow is not obstructed. Allow 15 inches (38.1cm) depth behind the front panel. Allow 1-7/16 inch (3.66cm) in front of the mounting panel for knob clearance. Be sure to cut out a ventilation hole in the mounting shelf according to the dimensions in the drawing.

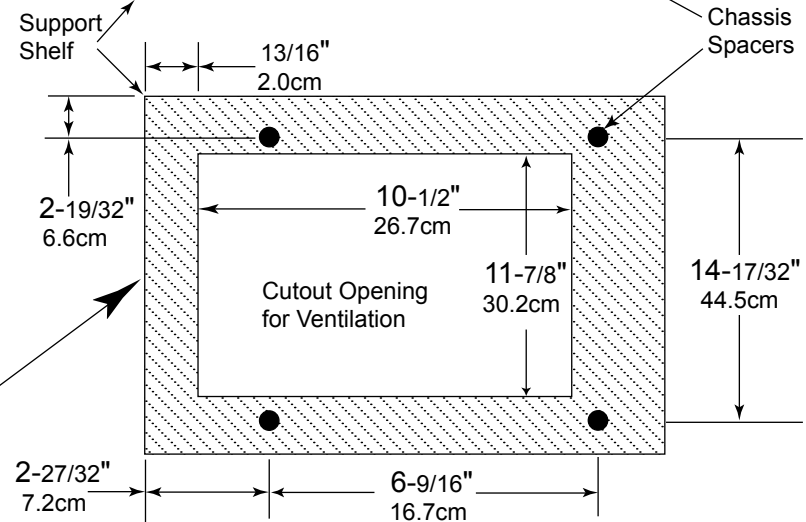
**D150 Front Panel  
Custom Cabinet Cutout**



**D150 Side View  
in Custom Cabinet**



**D150 Bottom View  
in Custom Cabinet**



*Note: Center the cutout Horizontally on the unit.  
For purposes of clarity, the above illustration is not drawn to scale.*



Connect the D150 power cord to a live AC outlet. Refer to information on the back panel of your D150 to determine the correct voltage for your unit

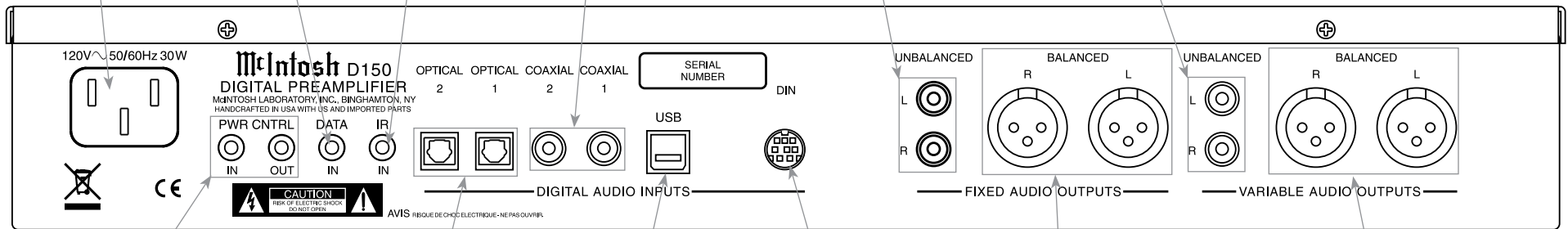
IR Input for signals from a compatible IR Room Sensor

FIXED AUDIO OUTPUTS UNBALANCED analog audio output signals to a Preamplifier or A/V Control Center

DATA IN receives control data from a McIntosh Preamplifier or A/V Control Center

DIGITAL AUDIO INPUTS COAXIAL Inputs 2 and 1 for components with a Digital Audio Coaxial Output

VARIABLE AUDIO OUTPUTS UNBALANCED analog audio output signals to a Power Amplifier



POWER CONTROL IN receives turn-on signals from a McIntosh component. POWER CONTROL OUT sends turn-on signals on to another McIntosh Component.

USB DIGITAL AUDIO INPUT with control signal for connection to a computer

FIXED AUDIO OUTPUTS BALANCED analog audio output signals to a Preamplifier or A/V Control Center

DIGITAL AUDIO INPUTS OPTICAL INPUTS 2 and 1 for components with a Digital Audio Optical Output

DIN DIGITAL AUDIO INPUT for streaming high bandwidth digital signals from SACD/CD Transport Components

VARIABLE AUDIO OUTPUTS BALANCED analog audio output signals to a Power Amplifier



## Connecting to a Power Amplifier

There are two different ways the D150 may be operated in an audio system. The first way as the Main Audio Preamplifier connected directly to a Power Amplifier, instructions on this page. The second way as a Digital to Analog Converter with Input Switching connecting to an Analog Preamplifier, instructions on the next page.

The D150 has the ability to automatically switch power On/Off to Source Components via the Power Control connections. The Data Port Connections allow for the remote operation of basic functions using the D150 Remote Control. With an external sensor connected to the D150, remote control operation of the system is possible from another room and/or when the D150 is located in a cabinet with the doors closed.

The connection instructions below, together with the D150 Connection Diagram located on the separate folded sheet “Mc1A”, is an example of a typical audio system. Your system may vary from this, however the actual components would be connected in a similar manner. For additional information refer to “Connector and Cable Information” on page 4.

*Note: The Power Amplifier may be connected to the D150 Balanced or Unbalanced Outputs.*

### **Power Control Connections:**

1. Connect a Control Cable from the D150 POWER CONTROL OUT Jack to the Power Control In on the SACD/CD Transport.
2. Connect a Control Cable from the SACD/CD Transport Power Control Out Jack to the Tuner Power Control In Jack.
3. Connect a Control Cable from the Tuner Power Control Out Jack to the SACD/CD Player Power Control In Jack.

4. Connect a Control Cable from the SACD/CD Player Power Control Out Jack to the Power Amplifier Power Control In Jack.

*Note: If two Power Amplifiers are used, connect the Power Control Output of the first Amplifier to the Power Control Input on the second Amplifier.*

5. Connect any additional Components in a similar manner, as outlined in steps 1 thru 4.

### **Sensor Connection:**

6. Optionally, connect the external Sensor to the D150 IR Input Connector.

### **Audio Connections:**

7. Connect balanced audio cables from the D150 VARIABLE AUDIO OUTPUT (R&L) connectors to the balanced Input connectors on the Power Amplifier.

*Note: If two Power Amplifiers are used, connect the unbalanced VARIABLE AUDIO OUTPUT (L&R) to the unbalanced Inputs on the second Amplifier.*

### **Digital Audio Connections:**

8. Connect a Digital DIN Cable from the D150 DIGITAL DIN INPUT Jack to the SACD/CD Transport Digital Audio DIN Output Jack.
9. Connect a Digital Coaxial Cable from the D150 DIGITAL AUDIO COAXIAL IN 1 Jack to the Tuner Digital Coaxial Output Jack.
10. Connect a Digital Optical Cable from the D150 DIGITAL AUDIO OPTICAL IN 1 Jack to the SACD/CD Player Digital Optical Output Jack.

11. Connect a USB cable with (type A to type B) connectors from the D150 DIGITAL AUDIO INPUT USB to the Computer USB connector.
12. Connect any additional Components in a similar manner, as outlined in steps 8 thru 11.

### **AC Power Cords Connections:**

13. Connect the D150 and any remaining components' AC Power Cords to a live AC outlet as illustrated.



### Connecting to an Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center

The D150 has the ability to automatically switch Power On/Off with the Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center via the Power Control connection. The Data Port Connections allow for the remote operation of basic D150 functions using the Analog Preamp Remote Control.

The connection instructions below, together with the D150 Connection Diagram located on the separate folded sheet "Mc1B", is an example of a typical audio system. Your system may vary from this, however the actual components would be connected in a similar manner. For additional information refer to "Connector and Cable Information" on page 4.

*Note: The Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center Power may be connected to the D150 Balanced or Unbalanced Outputs.*

#### **Power Control Connections:**

1. Connect a Control Cable from the Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center to the D150 POWER CONTROL IN Jack.
2. Connect a Control Cable from the D150 POWER CONTROL OUT Jack to the SACD/CD Transport Power Control In Jack.
3. Connect a Control Cable from the SACD/CD Transport Power Control Out Jack to the Tuner Power Control In Jack.
4. Connect a Control Cable from the Tuner Power Control Out Jack to the SACD/CD Player Power Control In Jack.
5. Connect any additional Components in a similar manner, as outlined in steps 2 and 3.

#### **Data Connection:**

6. Connect a Control Cable from the D150 DATA IN Jack to the Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center DVD or VIDEO Data Port Input.

#### **Sensor Connection:**

7. Optionally, connect the external Sensor to the Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center IR Input Connector to the external Sensor.

#### **Audio Connections:**

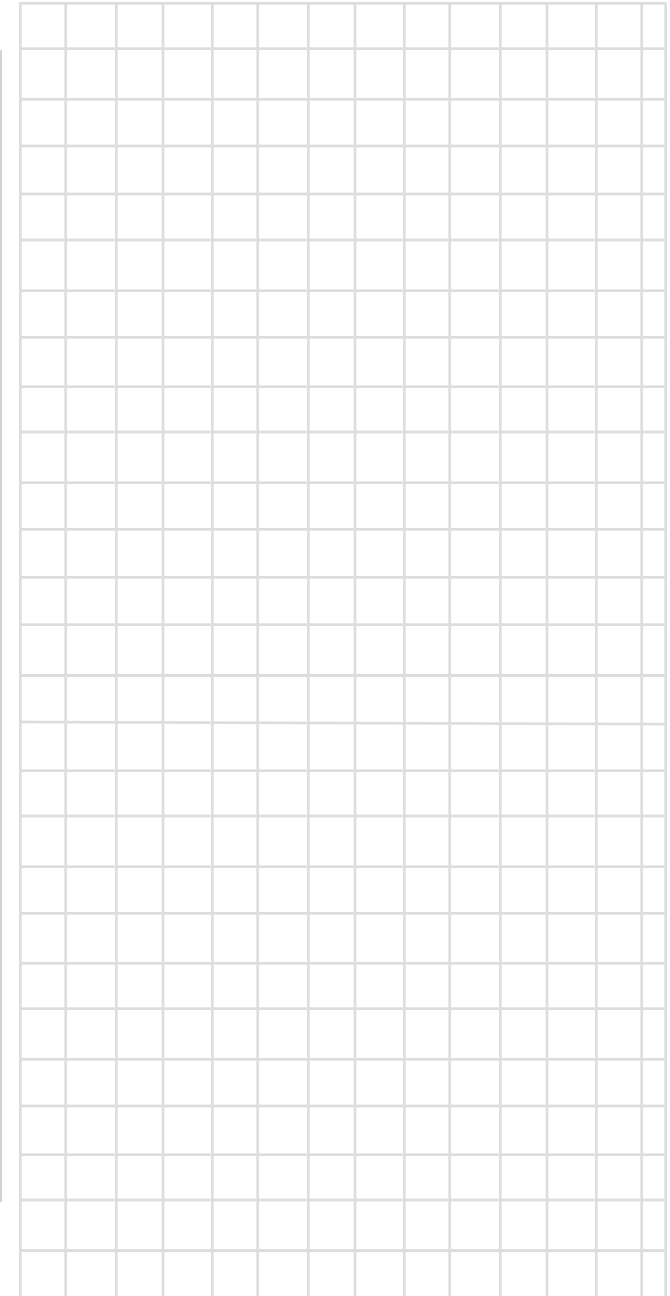
8. Connect balanced audio cables from the D150 FIXED AUDIO OUTPUT (R&L) connectors to the balanced Input connectors on the Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center DVD or VIDEO Input.

#### **Digital Audio Connections:**

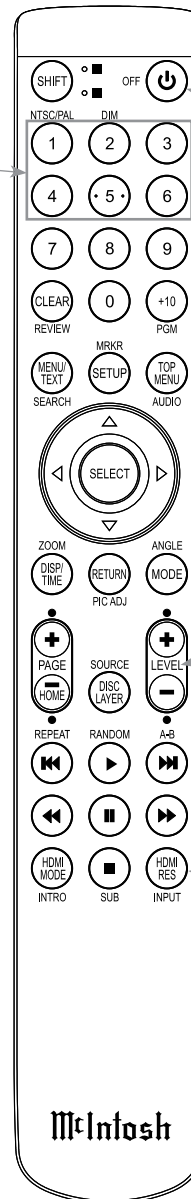
9. Connect a Digital DIN Cable from the D150 DIGITAL DIN INPUT Jack to the SACD/CD Transport Digital Audio DIN Output Jack.
10. Connect a Digital Coaxial Cable from the D150 DIGITAL AUDIO COAXIAL IN 1 Jack to the Tuner Digital Coaxial Output Jack.
11. Connect a Digital Optical Cable from the D150 DIGITAL AUDIO OPTICAL IN 1 Jack to the SACD/CD Player Digital Optical Output Jack.
12. Connect a USB cable with (type A to type B) connectors from the D150 DIGITAL AUDIO INPUT USB to the Computer USB connector.
13. Connect any additional Components in a similar manner, as outlined in steps 8 thru 11.


#### **AC Power Cords Connections:**

14. Connect the D150, Analog Preamp or A/V Control Center and any remaining components' AC Power Cords to a live AC outlet as illustrated.



Direct access to the Digital Input (1 - 6) by using the Front Panel Indicated Input Number for source selection



Press the  area of the push-button to switch power On or Off to the D150

Press the LEVEL Push-button to adjust the Volume Level Up or Down at the D150 Variable Outputs Connections

Steps thru the Digital Inputs (1 - 6) for source selection

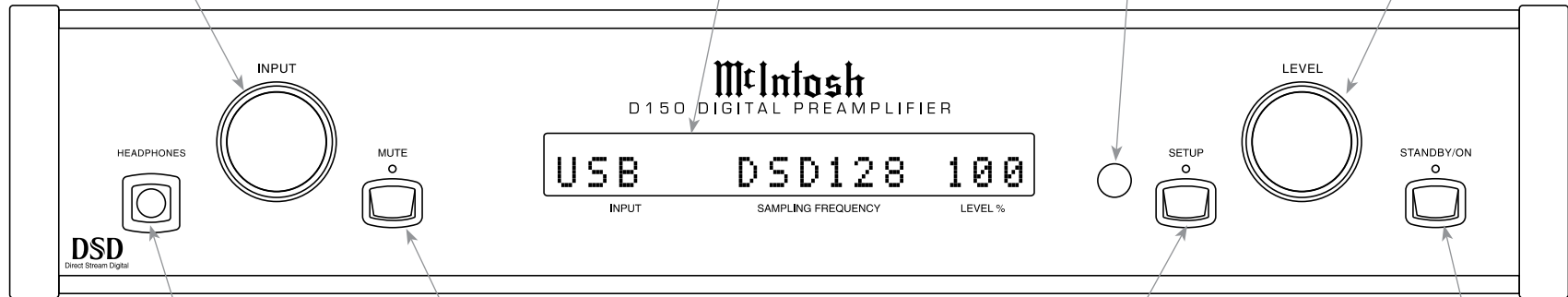
*Note: Push-buttons whose function is not identified above are for use with other McIntosh Products.*

INPUT Control allows the selection of digital sources (1 - 6) for listening

IR Sensor receives commands from a Remote Control

INFORMATION DISPLAY indicates the Source, Volume Level, Sampling Frequency, Operational Functions and Setup Mode Settings

LEVEL Control allows adjustment of the listening level for both channels



Connection for low impedance dynamic headphones, for private listening

MUTE Push-button with indicator, mutes the audio from the Loudspeakers


SETUP Push-button with indicator, activates the Setup Mode for changing operational settings

STANDBY/ON Push-button with indicator, switches the D150 ON or OFF (Standby) and resets the microprocessors

## How to Operate the Setup Mode

Your McIntosh D150 has been factory configured allowing for immediate enjoyment of superb audio. If you wish to make changes to the factory default settings, a Setup Feature is provided to customize the operation by using the Front Panel Information Display. Refer to the D150 Front Panel Illustration on the previous page while performing the following steps.

*Note: If the D150 is currently On, proceed to step 2.*

1. Press the STANDBY/ON Push-button on the Front Panel or press the  (Power) Push-button on the Remote Control to switch On the D150. The D150 will go through a brief startup initialization with the Front Panel Information Display indicating the last used Input Source and Volume Level. Refer to figure 1.

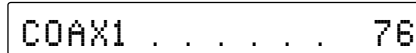


Figure 1

2. Press the SETUP Push-button repeatedly until the Front Panel Information Display indicates “Firmware V1.00” or higher. Refer to figure 2.



Figure 2

3. Press the SETUP Push-button to exit from the Setup Mode. The LED above the SETUP Push-button will extinguish and the Front Panel Display will revert back to its normal display.

## Default Settings

The Default Settings Chart that follows indicates the Function Name, Default Setting and the Page Number for additional information.

Default Settings		
Function Name	Setting	Page No.
AUTO POWER OFF	ENABLED	13
BRIGHTNESS (Display)	HIGH	13
FIRMWARE	V_ _ _ _	13

## Auto Power Off

The D150 incorporates an Auto Power Off Feature, which can automatically place the Digital Preamplifier into the Power Saving Standby/Off Mode. This occurs approximately 30 minutes after there has been an absence of a Digital Audio Signal on the currently selected D150 Input. If it is desirable to change the current Auto Off Setting (Disabled or Enabled) perform the following steps:

1. Press the SETUP Push-button.
2. The Front Panel Display will momentarily indicate “Auto Power Off”. Refer to figure 4.



Figure 4

3. The display will then indicate the current setting, either Disabled or Enabled. Refer to figures 5 and 6.



Figure 5



Figure 6

4. Rotate the LEVEL Control either clockwise or counterclockwise to change the current setting.
5. Press the SETUP Push-button repeatedly until the LED above the SETUP Push-button is extin-

guished and the Front Panel Information Display indicates the currently selected digital source Input.

## Brightness

The Front Panel Information Display Brightness may be changed from the default setting. The D150 will remember the brightness preference, High (default setting) or Low Illumination. Follow the steps below to reduce the Display Brightness:

1. Repeatedly press the SETUP Push-button until “BRIGHTNESS HIGH” is indicated on the Front Panel Information Display. Refer to figure 7.




Figure 7

2. Rotate the LEVEL Control to change the Brightness to the Low Setting. Refer to figure 8.



Figure 8

3. Press the SETUP Push-button repeatedly until the LED above the SETUP Push-button is extinguished and the Front Panel Information Display indicates the currently selected digital source Input.

## Firmware Version



The D150 functionality is controlled by internal software known as “Firmware”. The current Version of the Firmware can be identified by utilizing the Setup Mode.

1. Repeatedly press the SETUP Push-button until “FIRMWARE V\_ \_ \_ \_” is indicated on the Front Panel Information Display. Refer to figure 2.
2. Press the SETUP Push-button until the LED above the SETUP Push-button is extinguished.



## How to Operate the D150

### Power On and Off

The Red LED above the STANDBY/ON Push-button lights to indicate the D150 is in Standby mode. To switch ON the D150, press the STANDBY/ON Push-button on the Front Panel or the  (Power On) Push-button on the Remote Control. The D150 will go through a brief startup initialization with the Front Panel Information Display indicating the Level Percentage (Volume) and then the last used Input Source. Refer to figures 50, 51, and 52. To switch OFF the D150 press the STANDBY/ON Push-button on the Front Panel or the  (Power Off) Push-button on the Remote Control.

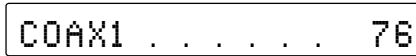


Figure 51

### Source Selection

Rotate the INPUT Control to select the desired source or press the appropriate push-button on the Remote Control. Refer to figures 50, 52 and 53.

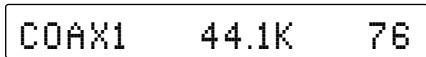


Figure 52

### Level Control

Rotate the Front Panel LEVEL Control (Volume) or use the LEVEL + (Up) or - (Down) Push-buttons on

the Remote Control for the desired listening level. Refer to figures 50 and 53.

### Mute

Press the MUTE Push-button on the D150 Front Panel to mute the Audio in all outputs except the HEADPHONES Output Jack. Pressing the Mute Push-button a second time will un-mute the D150.

### Headphones Jack

Connect a pair of dynamic headphones to the Headphones Jack with a 1/4" (0.635cm) stereo phone type plug for private listening. Press MUTE Push-button to mute the Loudspeakers.

*Note: The Headphone Output is optimized for impedances ranging from 20 to 600 ohms.*

### USB Input Operation and Driver Installation

The D150 USB Input provides the capability to playback music from a computer, when the computer is connected to the rear panel USB connector.

*Note: The USB Input is for direct connection to a computer only. To playback music from a USB Drive, connect the USB Drive to another USB Port on the computer and select the USB Drive with the Media Playback Program.*

The D150 USB Input is compatible with PC Computers using Microsoft®, Windows 7 (SP1) and Windows 8.1. It is also compatible with Apple® Macintosh® Computers using OS-10.6.8 or later.

When using a PC Computer with Windows, a special McIntosh USB Audio Software Driver needs to be installed on the PC Computer. The driver needs to be installed before connecting the D150 USB Input to the USB Port on the computer.

*Note: If an Apple Macintosh computer is used with the D150, no additional driver is required.*

The McIntosh USB Audio Windows Driver is available for download from the McIntosh Web Site:

<http://www.mcintoshlabs.com/us/Support/Pages/Manuals.aspx>

Under "PRODUCT CATEGORY" select "Preamplifiers" then under "MODEL NUMBER" select "D150". Click on "SEARCH" then select "McIntosh-HD USB Audio Windows Drive C v1.0 and download the PC Windows Driver. Follow the instructions below to install the McIntosh D150 Driver:

**Purpose:** To Install the McIntosh USB Audio Windows Driver for use with McIntosh Products with an USB-Digital Audio Input.

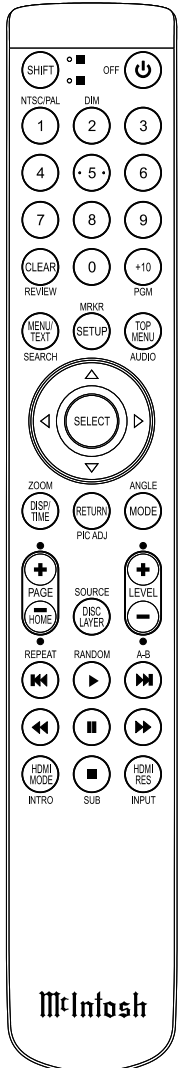


Figure 53

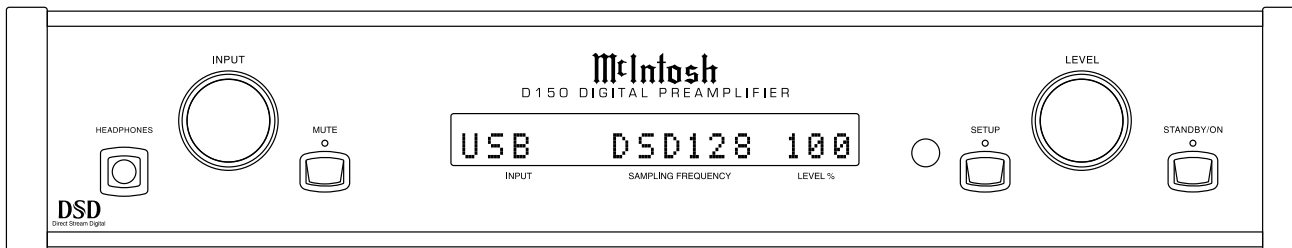


Figure 50

- Requirements:**
1. A PC Computer with a functioning USB Port.
  2. Windows 7 (SP1 or greater) or Windows 8 (8.1) Operating System.
  3. An USB Cable with Type A to Type B Connectors.

**Installing the Software**

It is important to first install the downloaded software on your computer before connecting the McIntosh Product to the computer. The USB Driver is included in the downloaded software package.

*Note: Before installing this software, please check to see if the McIntosh Product(s) with the USB-Digital Audio Input has the latest firmware version, if not update the firmware first.*

1. Unzip the downloaded McIntosh Windows USB Driver Software Package.
2. Run “McIntoshHDSwPkgSetup.msi”. Refer to figures 71 thru 76.
3. When the Windows Security window appears check the *Always trust software from “Savitech Corp.”* box and then the Install button. When the software has been installed it is necessary to reboot the computer. Refer to figures 76 thru 79.

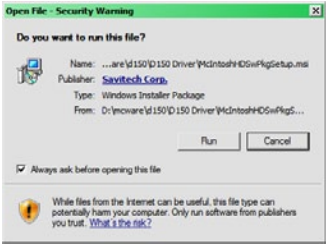


Figure 71



Figure 72

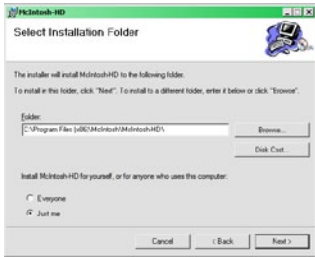


Figure 73

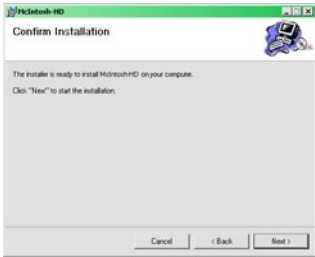


Figure 74

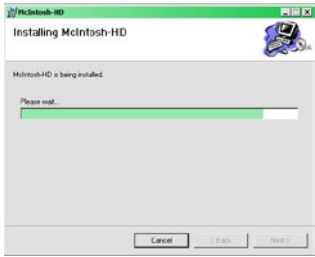


Figure 75



Figure 76

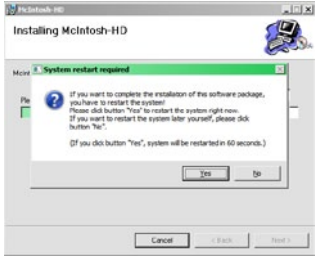


Figure 77

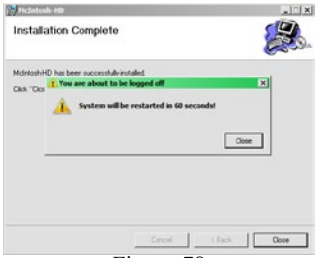


Figure 78

After rebooting, a McIntosh-HD icon will appear on the desktop. Refer to figure 79.



Figure 79

**USB Connection**

Connect the USB Cable with Type A to Type B connectors between the PC Computer and the McIntosh Product with the USB-Digital Audio Input. An Icon will appear On-Screen indicating Windows has found

new hardware. Refer to figure 80.

Upon completion of installing the driver, figure 81 will appear.

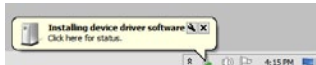


Figure 80



Figure 81

**Windows Sound Settings**

For proper operation of the McIntosh Product via the Computer USB Connection, it is required to make changes to Windows Sound Settings:

1. From the Windows START button, click on “CONTROL PANEL” followed by selecting “SOUND”. Refer to figure 82.
2. Referring to figure 83, first select “McIntosh-HD HS USB Audio” and then click on the “Set Default” button.

*Notes: 1. When the McIntosh USB Audio Product is not connected to your computer, the previous default Audio Device will be selected.*

*2. If other McIntosh Products with USB Audio Connections are also connected to the computer, an additional “McIntosh USB Audio” playback device will appear in the listing. Make sure to select the*



Figure 82



Figure 83



## How to Operate the D150, con't

*“McIntosh-HD HS USB Audio” from available playback devices listed when using this McIntosh Product for USB Audio.*

### Control Panel Settings

To activate the McIntosh-HD USB Audio Control Panel Click on the “McIntosh Icon” (located in the Windows notification area on the right side of the taskbar) or click on the Windows “Show hidden icons”, then select the “McIntosh Icon”. Refer to figures 84 and 85.

*Notes: 1. It is not necessary for the McIntosh-HD USB Audio Control Panel to be running, unless it is desired to make changes to the default settings.*

*2. The McIntosh-HD USB Audio Control Panel displays the current Sampling Rate, Bit-Rate and Buffer Size for the music streaming from the computer into the D150.*

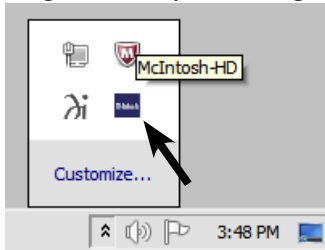


Figure 84

*3. When the Media Stream Program on the computer is set to output in the “ASIO” format the McIntosh -HD USB Audio Control Panel allows for changing the settings parameters on the fly.*

### USB Music Playback

When the USB Input is selected on the McIntosh D150, the Front Panel Display indicates the Sampling Rate (refer to figures 86 and 87 for PCM Signals).



Figure 86



Figure 87

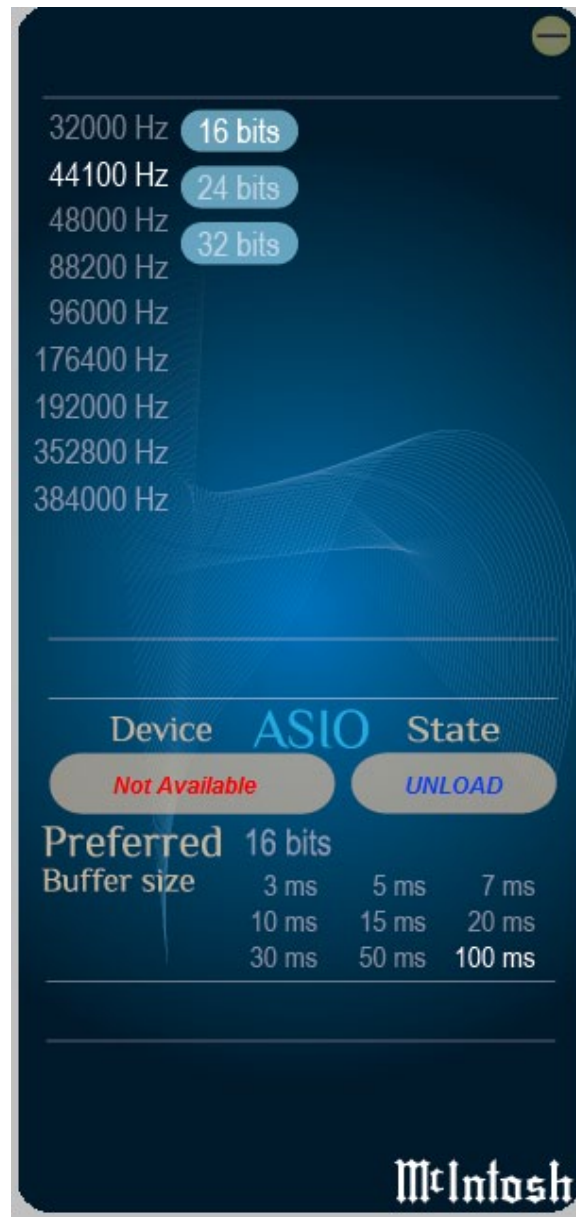


Figure 85

Figures 88 and 89 indicate a Sampling Rate of 64 or 128 times the Sampling Rate of a CD Disc for the incoming DSD Digital Audio Signal.



Figure 88



Figure 89

The Sampling Rate and the Bit Rate is determined by the original recording, the Application Output Format (when available) and the McIntosh-HD Control Panel Settings.

*Note: In general, when the original music is recorded at a higher Sampling Rate, the result is usually more detail in the music. However, this higher rate results in consuming larger amounts of storage space. The Sample Rate usually should be set to match the Sample Rate of the music recording being played back.*

There are many third party Applications (besides Applications like Windows Media Player) for streaming music from the computer to McIntosh D150 USB Input. An example of just one of the available applications is “JRiver Media Center”.



**Reset of Microprocessors**

In the unlikely event the controls of the D150 stop functioning while On or the D150 will not switch On, the microprocessors can be reset by performing the following:

- 1. Simultaneously press and hold in the MUTE and SETUP Push-buttons until the LED indicator above the STANDBY/ON Push-button is extinguished.
- 2. To switch the D150 back on, press STANDBY/ON Push-button.





### Audio Specifications

#### Frequency Response

+/-0.5dB from 4Hz to 20,000Hz  
+0.5/-3dB from 4Hz to 68,000Hz (Source dependent)

#### Total Harmonic Distortion

0.0015%

#### Fixed Output level

2.0Vrms Unbalanced  
4.0Vrms Balanced

#### Variable Output level

0 - 8.0Vrms Unbalanced  
0- 16.0Vrms Balanced

#### Signal To Noise Ratio (A-Weighted)

110dB

#### Dynamic Range

100dB

#### Output Impedance

600 ohms Unbalanced and Balanced

#### Headphone Load Impedance

20 to 600 ohms

### Digital Audio Specifications

#### Digital Input Signal Format

Coaxial and Optical Inputs - SPDIF (PCM<sup>1</sup>)  
USB Input - PCM<sup>1</sup>, DSD

#### Digital Input Sample Rate

Coaxial and Optical: 44.1kHz to 192kHz, 24-Bit  
USB: 44.1kHz to 384kHz, 32-Bit (PCM)  
DSD64, DSD128, DXD352.8kHz, DXD384kHz

#### Digital Inputs

Coaxial 1 and 2: 0.5V p-p/75 ohms  
Optical 1 and 2: - 15dbm to -21dbm (TOS Link)  
USB: USB Type B Connector

<sup>1</sup> PCM (Pulse Code Modulation) Digital Signal type used for CD Discs, etc.

### General Specifications

#### Power Control

12VDC, 25mA

#### Power Requirements

*Field AC Voltage conversion of the D150 is not possible. The D150 is factory configured for one of the following AC Voltages:*

100 Volts, 50/60Hz at 30 watts  
110 Volts, 50/60Hz at 30 watts  
120 Volts, 50/60Hz at 30 watts  
220 Volts, 50/60Hz at 30 watts  
230 Volts, 50/60Hz at 30 watts  
240 Volts, 50/60Hz at 30 watts  
Standby Power, less than 0.25 watts

*Note: Refer to the rear panel of the D150 for the correct voltage.*

#### Overall Dimensions

Width is 17-1/2 inches (44.45cm)  
Height is 3-7/8 inches (9.8cm) including feet  
Depth is 16 inches (40.64cm) including the Front Panel, Knobs and Cables

#### Weight

13.5 pounds (6.1 kg) net, 28 pounds (12.7 kg) in shipping carton

#### Shipping Carton Dimensions

Width is 26-1/2 inches (67.3cm)  
Height is 11-3/4 inches (29.9cm)  
Depth is 24-1/4 inches (62.2cm)

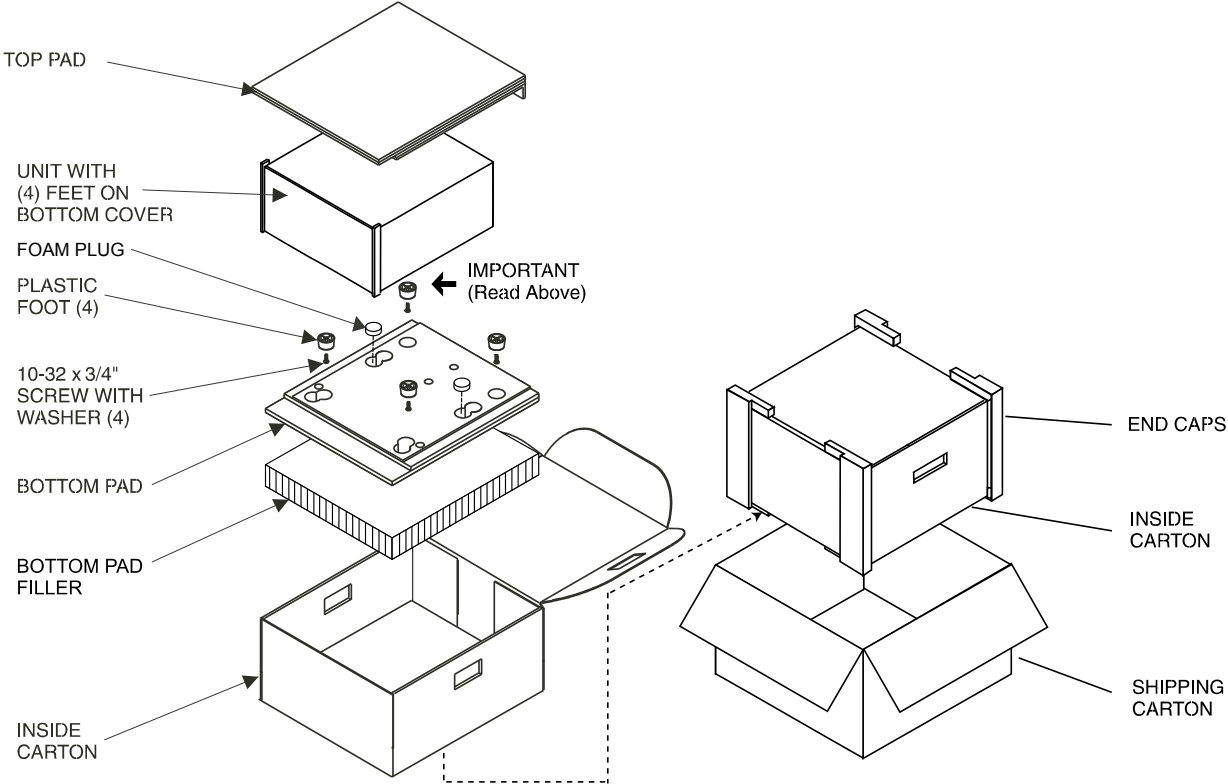
**Packing Instructions**

In the event it is necessary to repack the equipment for shipment, the equipment must be packed exactly as shown below. It is very important that the four plastic feet are attached to the bottom of the equipment.

This will ensure the proper equipment location on the bottom pad. Failure to do this will result in shipping damage.

Use the original shipping carton and interior parts only if they are all in good serviceable condition. If a shipping carton or any of the interior part(s) are needed, please call or write Customer Service Department of McIntosh Laboratory. Refer to page 4. Please see the Part List for the correct part numbers.

Quantity	Part Number	Description
1	033838	Shipping carton only
4	033837	End cap
1	033836	Inside carton only
1	033725	Top pad
1	034301	Bottom pad
1	034547	Bottom filler pad
2	034446	Foam plug
4	017937	Plastic foot
4	400159	#10-32 x 3/4" screw
4	404080	#10 Flat washer





McIntosh Laboratory, Inc.  
2 Chambers Street  
Binghamton, NY 13903  
[www.mcintoshlabs.com](http://www.mcintoshlabs.com)

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