

# MC501 MONOBLOCK POWER AMPLIFIER



The MC501 Monoblock Power Amplifier has been designed to meet the expectations of the most demanding audiophile. Delegating an individual amplifier to each speaker eliminates any chance of interaction between channels and expanding into multi-channel formats is as easy as adding additional amplifiers.

Quad-Differential Circuitry, exclusive to McIntosh, reduces noise and distortion to their lowest possible level. While the MC501 delivers a massive 500 watts continuous power into 2, 4 or 8-Ohms and over 1200 watts of peak power into low impedances, its noise levels are 124dB below rated output. This means that the MC501 combines super-high power with record-low levels of noise...nearly an impossible combination!

The MC501 has a bold look yet is unmistakably a McIntosh. It features a 2-dimensional glass front panel containing a large peak-responding true-wattmeter, all illuminated with cool running, ultra long-life LED fiber-optic lighting. The chassis gleams in polished stainless steel and vertically mounted connectors at the back make attaching cables easier and takes up less shelf space. Both unbalanced and balanced inputs are provided along with three sets of huge, gold-plated speaker binding posts for high-performance speaker cables.

*“flawless audiophile performance and a design with the future in mind”*

Quad Balanced Design

Exclusive McIntosh Power Assurance System

High Output Current Capability

Wide Bandwidth

Fiber-Optic Illuminated 3D Glass Front Panel

## McIntosh®

LEGENDARY™



#### FREQUENCY RESPONSE

+0, -0.25dB from 20Hz to 20kHz  
+0, -3dB from 10Hz to 100kHz

#### TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION

0.005% maximum at any level from 250mW to rated power output.

#### INTERMODULATION DISTORTION

SMPTE 0.005% maximum if instantaneous peak output does not exceed twice the output rating.

#### A-WEIGHTED SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIO

Unbalanced and Balanced: 97dB  
(124dB below rated output)

#### RMS POWER OUTPUT

500W minimum sine wave continuous average power output from 20Hz to 20kHz.

#### INPUT IMPEDANCE

10,000 Ohms (unbalanced)  
20,000 Ohms (balanced)

#### INPUT SENSITIVITY

2.1 Volts unbalanced, 4.2 Volts balanced

#### WIDE BAND DAMPING FACTOR

100 @ 8-Ohms

#### DYNAMIC HEADROOM

1.8dB

#### RATED POWER BAND

20Hz to 20kHz

#### POWER GUARD®

Clipping is prevented and THD does not exceed 2% with up to 14dB overdrive at 1kHz.

#### POWER REQUIREMENTS

120V 50/60Hz, 6.6A

#### OVERALL DIMENSIONS (H x W x D)

9-7/16" (22.86cm) x 17-1/2" (44.45cm) x 14-13/16" (37.62cm) including front panel and knobs.

#### WEIGHT

91.5 lbs. (41.6 kg) net  
105.5 lbs. (48 kg) boxed

#### ADDITIONAL SPECIFICATION

DC Failure Protection  
Thermal Sensors  
Turn-on Delay  
Soft Start Inrush Protection  
Balanced and Unbalanced Inputs  
Remote Power Control  
Massive Gold Plated Output Binding Posts  
Stainless Steel Chassis w/ Super Mirror Finish

## EXCLUSIVE MCINTOSH POWER ASSURANCE SYSTEM

A collection of technologies that enhance performance and reliability while protecting the amplifier and loudspeakers.

### POWER GUARD®

A waveform comparison circuit continuously monitors both input and output signals. Power Guard dynamically adjusts the input level to avoid clipping while preventing harsh sounding distortion.

### SENTRY MONITOR®

Fuse-less short-circuit protection circuit disengages the output stage before current exceeds safe operating level – resets automatically.

### OUTPUT AUTOFORMER®

Unique McIntosh technology delivers the full rated amplifier output with the least possible distortion into loudspeaker impedances of 2, 4, or 8 Ohms; you get all the power you paid for and the freedom to choose any loudspeaker.

### WATTMETER

Swift, accurate response reveals program peaks so staying within the power limits of your loudspeakers is easy.

## FOR THE CONSUMER'S PROTECTION

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