

F25 REMOTE CONTROL STEREO PREAMPLIFIER

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Thank you for purchasing the Musical Fidelity F25 Preamplifier. Used properly and carefully, it should give you many years of outstanding musical reproduction.

The F25 is the result of many years painstaking research and development and is designed for ultra-high definition performance. The F25 is equipped with full remote control facilities.

The F25 operates in Class A. It has sound quality equal to, or better than any preamplifier currently available. We hope you will be delighted with your purchase.

Dust regularly with a soft duster or soft brush but do not use cleaning or polishing agents - they may harm the surface finish.

If you have any questions about anything in your audio system, please consult your dealer who is there to help and advise you.



IMPORTANT!

This unit is supplied in the UK with a mains lead fitted with a moulded 13 amp plug. If, for any reason, you need to cut off this plug, please observe the following safety precautions. Please dispose of the cut-off plug safely. It ***must not*** be plugged into a mains power supply.

The wires in the mains lead supplied with this appliance are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Green and yellow.....Earth
Blue.....Neutral
Brown.....Live

WARNING - This appliance must be earthed

As the colours of the wires of the mains lead of this appliance may not correspond with the coloured markings identifying the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows:

- The wire which is coloured green-and-yellow must be connected to the terminal in the plug which is marked with the letter E or coloured green or green-and-yellow, or by the earth symbol  .
- The wire which is coloured brown must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter L or coloured red.
- The wire which is coloured blue must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter N or coloured black.
- If connecting to a BS1363 plug, a 10 amp fuse must be used.

WARNING - Radio Frequency Interference (RFI)

This hi-fi product has been tested to ensure that its operation will not be adversely affected by normal background levels of RFI. It is possible that if this product is subjected to abnormally high levels of RFI the unit may be susceptible and not perform as expected. In the unlikely event of this happening on a regular basis, please contact Musical Fidelity's service department.

The unit has also been tested to ensure that it does not radiate excessive levels of RFI that could affect other pieces of electronic or electrical equipment.

The electronics in modern hi-fi equipment is complex and hence may be damaged by lightning. It is possible that during electrical storms the operation of some equipment may be adversely affected. For complete protection of your hi-fi system during such storms, mains plugs should be removed from sockets and aerial leads disconnected.

Always ensure that when disconnecting and reconnecting your hi-fi equipment the mains supply is switched off.

INSTALLATION PRECAUTIONS

Your new F25 is designed and built to provide trouble-free performance but it is necessary to observe a few precautions. Please ensure that you have complied with them before you connect any AC power to your amplifier. Retain this guide for future reference.

- ☑ **Heed all warnings on the back of the unit.**
- ☑ **Place your F25 where there is adequate ventilation.**
- ☑ **Only connect the unit to a power supply of the type marked on the back of the unit.**
- ☑ **Position the power supply lead and signal interconnect leads where they are not likely to be walked on or tripped by items placed on them.**
- ☑ **Fit 2 x “AA” size batteries into the remote control. These must be alkaline types. Please observe the correct polarity of + and - when fitting.**
- ☒ **Do not use near water.**
- ☒ **Do not place the preamplifier near direct heat sources such as radiators or other equipment that produces heat.**
- ☒ **Do not remove any covers or try to gain access to the inside. The warranty will be invalid if the unit has been tampered with. There are no user adjustments within. Refer all service work to an authorised Musical Fidelity agent.**
- ☒ **There are 3 fuses in the F25. In the unlikely event that one blows, take your F25 to your audio dealer. Do NOT try to replace the fuse yourself or you will invalidate the warranty.**

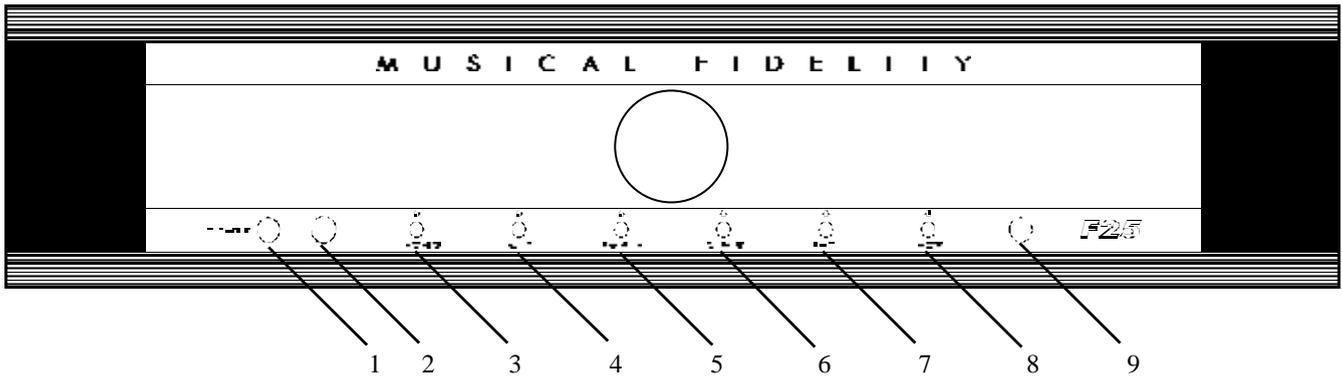
BEFORE YOU SWITCH ON

You should make all connections to the F25 before switching on.

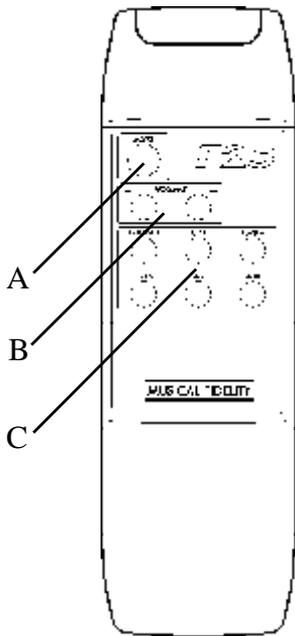
Follow this routine before you listen for the first time, and each time you change any connections.

- 1 Check all the inputs and outputs to the F25.
- 2 Then check again.
- 3 Turn the volume control to nil.
- 4 Now you can switch on the power and carefully advance the volume to the level you want and enjoy the music.

CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES



FRONT PANEL



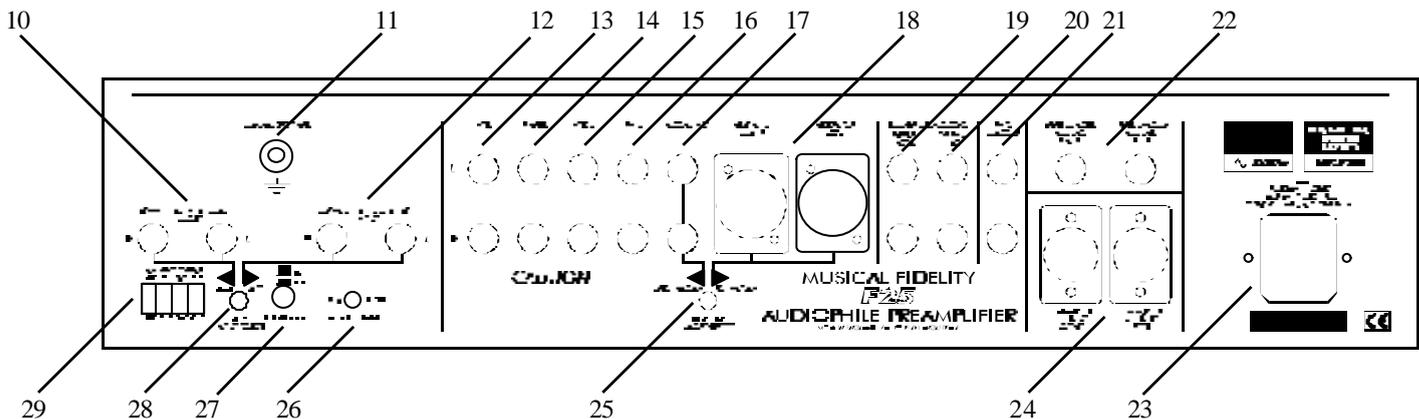
REMOTE CONTROL

- A Mute button
- B Volume Up/Down buttons
- C Source selector buttons

- 1 Power indicator LED
- 2 Power on/off switch
- 3 Phono input selector
- 4 CD input selector
- 5 Tuner input selector
- 6 CDV input selector
- 7 Tape input selector
- 8 Aux input selector
- 9 Remote receiver lens

BACKPANEL

- 10 Moving Magnet (MM) Phono input
- 11 Phono/Chassis Earth
- 12 Moving Coil (MC) Phono input
- 13 CD input
- 14 Tuner input
- 15 CDV input
- 16 Tape input
- 17 Auxiliary unbalanced (RCA/phono) input
- 18 Auxiliary balanced (XLR/Canon) input
- 19 Processor loop - input from processor
- 20 Processor loop - output to processor
- 21 Tape record output
- 22 Unbalanced (RCA/phono) main outputs
- 23 IEC mains inlet/ fuseholder
- 24 Balanced (XLR/Canon) main outputs
- 25 Auxiliary input type selector
- 26 MC loading switch
- 27 RIAA/IEC Equalisation curve selector
- 28 Phono input select MM/MC
- 29 MM loading dip switches



FOR THE BEST RESULTS:

We strongly recommend that you use the F16 or F19 power amplifiers manufactured by Musical Fidelity.

These are designed for perfect electrical and sonic compatibility with the F25. When paired, they produce truly extraordinary results which afford an unprecedented level of musical communication, articulation and dynamics.

One of the design aims of the F25 was that it should be relatively insensitive to the effects of interconnect cables. Although it is important that you use low impedance, low capacitance cables, the exact make and model are not too important. Similarly, a lot of fuss is made about different types of plugs and sockets; once again, the F25 is very insensitive to these differences.

A large amount of time, effort, money and energy has been expended to ensure that your F25 will produce optimal results with almost any cables or connectors. We hope that this makes your installation and listening easier and more enjoyable.

CONNECTIONS

All connections should be made with the power off. The F25 has six inputs. These are all clearly labelled on the back panel. The F25 also has a tape record output. This should be connected to the input of a tape deck.

PHONO STAGE OPTIONS and SWITCHES

The phono input select toggle switch is used to select moving coil or moving magnet input.

The push button marked equalisation is used to select the bass filtering of the input. The original RIAA curve was modified some years ago by the IEC to include an earlier bass roll-off, which prevents excessive cone movement with some speaker systems. Ultimately, the choice of curve is up to you.

The toggle switch marked MC input loading is to select the impedance seen by the moving coil cartridge, either 10 or 100 Ohms. MC cartridges are not particularly sensitive to loading but you may find that one or the other setting suits your cartridge.

The dip switches are used to select the capacitive loading on moving magnet cartridges. This should be set by ear, as the total capacitance seen by the cartridge will be dependent on the arm leads etc. Basically, up to a point, the higher the capacitance, the smoother the sound. The left hand switch selects either 47KOhms or 68KOhms impedance. (47K normally)

LINE INPUTS

The five line inputs on the F25 are at the same level. The CD, tuner, CDV, tape and aux. are all interchangeable, and any source with an output level in the The F25 must be connected to a power amplifier, such as the Musical Fidelity F16 or F19. There are two pairs of sockets which can be used to output the signal from the preamp

to a power amp. One of these pairs are normal RCA type sockets. These are the unbalanced outputs sometimes known as single ended outputs. The other pair of sockets are the XLR balanced outputs. When the latter is used with a power amplifier with balanced XLR inputs, benefits in terms of noise and dynamic range should be apparent.

OPERATION

All operational functions of the F25, with the exception of the power on and off, can be controlled via the supplied remote control.

To select any input, simply press the appropriate button on the remote control. The volume control is motorised, so that when you press '+' or '-' on the remote, the control will rotate in the required direction.

The LED in the volume control knob indicates the current setting of the control. To temporarily turn off the sound, in order to answer the telephone for instance, press the MUTE button on the remote control. The LED will change colour to red, indicating the muted state.

It is advisable to acquire the habit of turning down the volume to zero before switch off.

EXTERNAL PROCESSOR CONNECTIONS

The F25 is fitted with external processor 'out to' and external processor 'in from' sockets. As supplied, these will be connected by two shorting links. These can easily be removed by simply pulling them out.

Note: When you do this the pre-amplifier and power-amplifier stages will be separated, thus if no connection is made from 'out to' to 'in from' via a processor for instance no sound will be heard.

The most likely use of these sockets, would be to add a sound processor of some kind to your system. This would be connected with its output to 'input from' on the F25, and its input to 'output to'. This device would then be permanently in the circuit, and would affect the sound on all inputs.

Sound processors which are possible candidates for insertion are:-

- Surround Sound units.
- Digital Sound Processors (DSP)
- Graphic or Parametric Equalisers
- Impulse Noise Reduction Systems.

Please be aware that the potential to change the sound from that intended by the producer of the recording is quite great with all of these devices, and that their presence in the circuit will degrade the sound quality of the system. The extent to which this occurs will depend on the quality of the processor.

REMOTE CONTROL

The battery powered handheld remote control will perform the following functions:

- a. Mute
- b. Volume control +/-
- c. Input selection

The mute control operates the output relay. When this control is used, the output is muted and the dual colour LED in the volume control knob turns red. When the mute button is pressed again, the output is unmuted and the LED turns back to green.

The select and volume function buttons are self explanatory.

F25 LEDES

The F25 has three types of LED on the front panel:

- a. Mains on/off (green)
- b. Input indicator (red)
- c. Status indicator (dual colour: red and green)

The on/off indicator is self explanatory. When the unit is switched on, the LED is on.

The input status indicator similarly. The LED above the input selected illuminates.

The dual colour LED in the volume control knob is slightly more complex. It has two functions. When switched on, it indicates the output relay status. Red for a few seconds, then when the relay is open it turns green. There will be no output from the F25 until this LED is green. The second function of the dual colour LED in the volume control knob is to indicate mute status. When you press the mute button on the remote control the F25 will mute and the LED will change to red. It will remain this way until you press the mute button again when it turns back to green.

BALANCED/SINGLE ENDED OUTPUT MODE

The F25 can provide a balanced or a single ended out put. Simply plug your leads into the XLR sockets for balanced operation, or plug your RCA phono leads into the RCA phono sockets for single ended operation.

MUTE FUNCTION

The F25 remote control has a mute function. This cuts the output from the F25. If, by mistake, you touch the mute button, there will be no output from the F25 and you might think it has gone wrong. It hasn't! Just press the mute button again until the status LED turns green.

Basic troubleshooting of an amplifier is similar to troubleshooting of any other electrical or electronic equipment. Always check the most obvious possible causes first. To give you a few ideas of what to look for, check the following:

<i>Problem</i>	<i>Probable Cause</i>	<i>Remedy</i>
No power when POWER is pressed	Mains plug not inserted correctly	<i>Plug in securely</i>
Hum when listening to turntable	Incorrect earthing of pickup arm cable	<i>Either connect or disconnect the pick-up arm earth wire to the earth terminal on back panel</i>
No sound	Volume control is set to minimum "Mute" pressed on remote control Power amplifier is not connected Speakers are not connected Wrong input is selected	<i>Turn up the volume</i> <i>Press "mute" again</i> <i>Check cables and power amplifier</i> <i>Check speaker cables</i> <i>Check input selection</i>
Sound is not precise, lacking in bass and stereo image	Speakers are connected out of phase	<i>Make sure that both speakers are connected correctly</i>
Remote control operation is not possible	Amplifier's power switch is set to off Batteries not inserted in remote control unit	<i>Set switch to on</i> <i>Insert batteries</i>

If none of these actions effect a cure, please contact your dealer, or an authorised Musical Fidelity service agent. Remember, never open the case of the F25 yourself, as this will invalidate the guarantee.

F25 REMOTE CONTROL PREAMPLIFIER

THD	< 0.01%
Frequency response	20Hz - 20kHz +/- 1dB
Inputs	4 Line, Tape, Phono (MM/MC)
Input sensitivity Line (for 775mV out)	200mV
Input sensitivity Phono (for 775mV out)	MM 3mV, MC 300mV
S/N Ratio : Line	>85dB
: Phono MM	>75dB
: Phono MC	>60dB
Tape output	Dependent on input level
Power consumption	10 Watts
Power requirements	100/115/230 Volts, AC 50/60Hz (Factory Preset for country)
Dimensions	480 x 120 x 340mm (W x H x D) Height includes feet
Weight	7.4 kgs. (unpacked) 9.5 kgs. (packed)
Standard accessories	Remote Control Unit Battery 2 x (SUM-4, "AA", "R03")



*Improvements may result in specification or feature changes without notice.
Photos and illustrations may differ slightly from production models.*