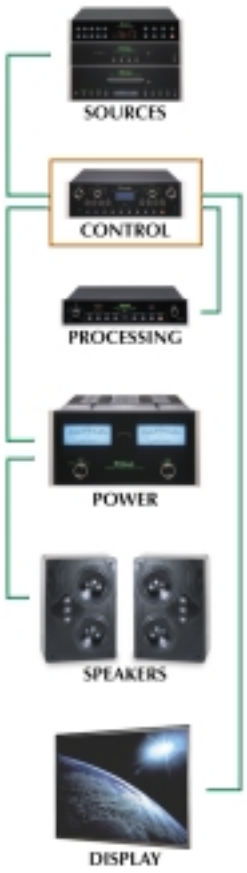
McIntosh®

THE GREAT AMERICAN POWERHOUSE

FIFTY-YEAR 50 ANNIVERSARY


# C42 Audio Control Center




*See "SYSTEMS ENGINEERING" in main brochure for more on McIntosh system architectures.*

# C42

## Audio Control Center

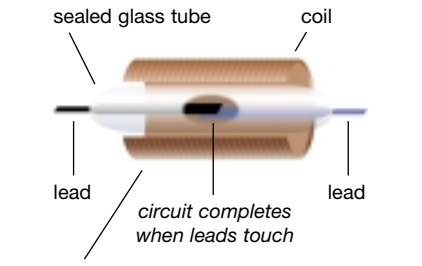

How much better will the next recording format be? And the one after that? More to the point, will you be able to appreciate the improvement? The C42 is for discriminating listeners who delight in the nuances revealed only by the most exceptional audio equipment. Generously appointed, the C42 heralds a new standard for audio purity.

## Featured Technologies

**SILENT ELECTROMAGNETIC SWITCHING.** In a conventional preamp, an input signal travels to a switch, and then travels to the input circuitry. Unfortunately, the farther a signal must travel, the more distorted it becomes. And this says nothing of what detritus a dirty switch can add to the signal. McIntosh Silent Electromagnetic Switching literally brings the switch to the input. The distortion-free switch consists of a glass tube containing oxygen-free gas and two signal leads separated by mere thousandths of an inch. The tube sits in a multilayer copper coil and the entire assembly is encased in shock-absorbent plastic. When DC voltage is applied to the coil in response to a switching command, current flow creates a magnetic field that causes the leads to bend and contact one another, completing the circuit. The inert gas eliminates corrosion of the contacts, ensuring a low-resistance, distortion-free switch that never needs cleaning. Another benefit is that non-selected inputs are truly "off," eliminating potential sources of interference.

**PRECISION, OPTICALLY REGULATED VOLUME CONTROL.** If McIntosh electromagnetic switching brings the switch to the input, then the C42's volume control brings the *attenuator* to the input. The volume knob actually operates an optical rotary encoder with 128 steps; it sends instructions at the speed of light to the digitally controlled attenuator located near the inputs. Together they provide 0.5dB resolution with 0.05dB accuracy.


The input selectors on McIntosh Control Centers actually control state-of-the-art silent electromagnetic switches.



## About the C42 Companion Products

The McIntosh products shown at right are logical companions for the C42. Separate literature is available. Check with your McIntosh dealer for any late additions. McIntosh speaker systems are also covered in detail in separate literature.

**MC352 Power Amplifier, MDA700 D/A Converter, and MCD751 CD Transport.** The double-balanced MC352 is designed to complement the C42. Add the MDA700 converter with balanced output plus the MCD751 transport for a balanced audio system and a profound musical experience.

**MR7084 AM/FM Tuner.** A natural companion, the MR7084 tuner is a thoroughly engineered broadcast monitor that reveals the upper limits of AM and FM performance.

**RCT3 Remote Translator.** The Translator allows non-McIntosh components to be operated with a McIntosh handheld remote or keypad controller. It connects to the data outputs on the C42.

**PC4 AC Power Controller.** The PC4 provides five AC outlets (four switched) for turning non-McIntosh components on and off automatically when it is connected to the power control output of a Control Center or Integrated Amplifier.

**R649 IR Sensor.** With switching for two power amps and a connector for an external sensor, the C42 can supply music to a second zone with remote operation via the R649 wall-mount sensor.

MC352 POWER AMPLIFIER

MDA700 D/A CONVERTER

MCD751 CD TRANSPORT

MR7084 AM/FM TUNER

As seen on the inside surface of this demonstration piece, the screening process for a McIntosh glass panel entails as many as 12 individual layers.

The glass panels are cut using a computer-controlled high-pressure water jet.

## Featured Technologies (cont'd.)

**EXCLUSIVE MCINTOSH 8-BAND EQUALIZER.** The equalizer provides 12dB of boost or cut at center frequencies of 20, 35, 70, 150, 300, 600, 1200, and 4000Hz. Notice that the center frequencies are clustered at the lower end of the spectrum where room correction is most often needed. When an equalizer control is in the center or flat position, its circuit components are *completely* removed from the signal path.

**PROGRAMMABLE SOURCE TRIM.** A traditional McIntosh feature that allows matching the output levels of different source components, source trim in the C42 establishes new standards for audio purity and operating convenience. Instead of adjusting individual potentiometers, the trim for each input is stored electronically as a volume offset, using the tuner level as the standard.

**CONTROL DATA OUTPUTS.** To facilitate system integration, the C42 outputs control data for source components. This allows remote operation of non-McIntosh components either by direct connection to compatible data inputs or via a McIntosh Remote Translator, a "learning" device that makes it possible to operate virtually any component with the C42's remote.

**BALANCED CONNECTIONS.** A premium feature not usually found in consumer audio gear, balanced connections guard against induced noise and allow long cable runs without compromising sound quality. A balanced connection between the C42 and the MC352 Power Amp provides 40dB more noise protection than would an unbalanced ("single-ended") connection.

**REMOTE POWER CONTROL.** The C42 has four separate remote power jacks (main, accessory, switched 1, switched 2) that enable it to turn connected power amps on/off.

RCT3 REMOTE TRANSLATOR

PC4 AC POWER CONTROLLER

R649 IR SENSOR

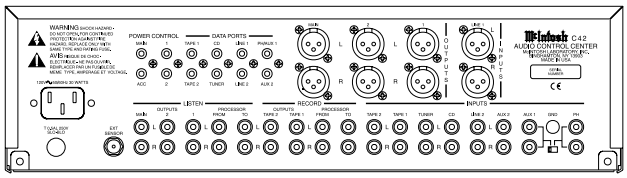

Most consumer electronics products are necessarily viewed as short-term investments because either they don't last or they quickly become obsolete in some way. *Coincidentally*, manufacturers supply a steady stream of "new-and-improved" products that you can buy. *Again*.

Behind every McIntosh is a fifty-year heritage of excellence, proudly carried forward by every employee. No production lines, no "price-point" engineering, no planned obsolescence. McIntosh equipment is made to sound better and last longer.

When McIntosh products are presented to customers, the criteria they have been conditioned to overlook – reliability, longevity, craftsmanship, ease-of-use, adaptability, pride of ownership – suddenly leap to the top of their list.

The choice becomes clear: ***There is nothing like a McIntosh.***

# C42 Audio Control Center



## FEATURES

Extra-wide dynamic range
Ultra-low distortion
Exclusive McIntosh 8-band equalizer
Silent electromagnetic switching
Precision, optically regulated volume control with digital readout in decibels or percent
Programmable source trim
9 source selections including MM phono
Balanced input
3 balanced outputs (Main, Line 1, Line 2)
Independent listen and record selection
Dual processor loops
Control data output for source components
Remote power control (1 main, 1 accessory, 2 switched)
Separate electronic regulators for each preamplifier section
Polyester coupling capacitors
Low-noise 1% metal film resistors throughout
Ultra-precision (.5%) metal film resistors and 1% polypropylene capacitors for phono equalization
Gold-plated input and output jacks
Modular construction with steel chassis
Glass front panel with illuminated nomenclature
Infrared remote control
Connector for external IR sensor
Headphone jack

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Frequency Response**
20Hz to 20kHz, +0 / -0.5dB

**Rated Voltage Output**
2.5Vrms (balanced and unbalanced)

**Maximum Voltage Output**
10Vrms

**Output Impedance**
240 ohms

**Total Harmonic Distortion**
0.002% maximum from 20Hz to 20KHz

**Input Sensitivity**
Phono: 4.5mV for rated output
High level: 450mV for rated output

**Maximum Input Signal**
MM phono: 50mV
High level: 5V

**A-Weighted Signal-to-Noise Ratio**
Phono: 86dB
High level: 97dB

**Input Impedance**
Phono: 47k ohms, 65pf
High level: 22k ohms

**Voltage Gain**
Phono to tape: 40dB
High level to tape: 0dB
High level to main: 15dB

**Power Requirements**
100V 50/60Hz, 30W
110V 50/60Hz, 30W
120V 50/60Hz, 30W
220V 50/60Hz, 30W
230V 50/60Hz, 30W
240V 50/60Hz, 30W

**Dimensions (h x w x d)**
inch: 5.375 x 17.5 x 17.5
cm: 13.7 x 44.5 x 44.5
includes clearance for connectors

**Weight**
25.5 lbs. (11.6kg) net
40 lbs. (18.2kg) shipping



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