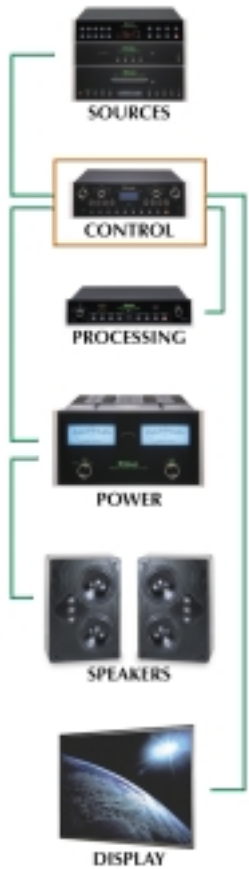


**McIntosh**<sup>®</sup>  
THE GREAT AMERICAN POWERHOUSE



C15 Preamplifier



# C15 Preamplifier



Nothing about the performance and features of the C15 suggest that it is the most affordable McIntosh Control Center. The C15's extensive capabilities make it the ideal centerpiece for what may begin as a pure stereo system and evolve into a multizone audio/video system.

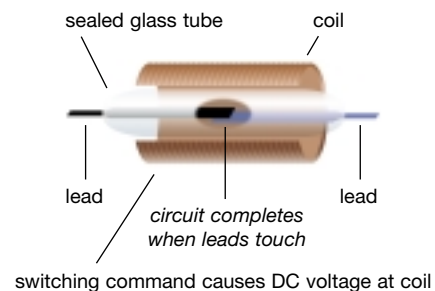
See "SYSTEMS ENGINEERING" in main brochure for more on McIntosh system architectures.

## 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.



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



## About the C15 Companion Products

The McIntosh products shown at right are logical companions for the C15. Separate literature is available. Check with your McIntosh dealer for any late additions. McIntosh speaker systems are also covered in detail in separate literature.

**MC162 Power Amplifier.** In terms of power and flexibility, the MC162 is a smart choice for a C15-based system that's expected to grow. If power needs go up, the MC162 can be bridged, upping power to 500W from 160W (4 $\Omega$ ). And its affordability makes it a reasonable choice to also power a second music zone via the C15's additional switched output.

**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.

**MVS3 A/V Selector.** The MVS3 connects to the C15's VIDEO data output and accommodates five additional A/V sources, resulting in a very capable A/V Control Center.

**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 C15 or the MVS3.

**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.

**HC1 Home Controller.** The HC1 connects to the C15's HOME data output and allows operation of other home devices such as lights and movie screens via a McIntosh handheld remote or keypad controller.

**WK2 Keypad Controller or R649 IR Sensor.** With switching for two power amplifiers and a connector for an external IR sensor, the C15 can supply music to a second zone, with operation via keypad or IR sensor.



MC162 POWER AMPLIFIER



MR7084 AM/FM TUNER



MVS3 A/V SELECTOR



RCT3 REMOTE TRANSLATOR



PC4 AC POWER CONTROLLER



HC1 HOME CONTROLLER



WK2 KEYPAD CONTROLLER



R649 IR SENSOR



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.)

**PRECISION-TRIMMED VOLUME CONTROL.** Level differences among channels in a stereo or surround system compromise sound imaging. The left and right sections of the C15's volume control are electronically trimmed for superior tracking.

**EXCLUSIVE MCINTOSH TONE CONTROLS.** Judicious use of well-designed bass and treble controls can compensate for acoustical irregularities. The C15's tone controls offer  $\pm 12$ dB adjustments with fine resolution, yet in the "flat" position are *completely* removed from the signal path.

**CONTROL DATA OUTPUTS.** To facilitate system integration, the C15 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 C15's remote.

**REMOTE POWER CONTROL.** This enables the C15 to turn connected power amps on/off.



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*.

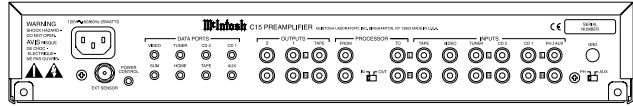
Behind every McIntosh is a fifty-year heritage of excellence, proudly carried forward by every employee. No production

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.***

# C15 Preamplifier



## FEATURES

- Ultra-low distortion
- Silent electromagnetic switching
- Precision-trimmed volume control
- 6 source selections including MM phono
- 2 switched main outputs
- Processor loop
- Control data output for source components
- Remote operation of lights, screens, and drapes with McIntosh HC1 Home Controller
- Remote power control
- Accommodates more sources with McIntosh MVS3 A/V Selector
- Exclusive McIntosh tone controls
- Switchable loudness compensation
- Electronically regulated power supply with double-shielded transformer
- 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 or keypad controller
- Headphone jack

## SPECIFICATIONS

### Frequency Response

20Hz to 20kHz, +0 / -0.5dB

### Maximum Voltage Output

Phono: 90mV  
High level: 10V

### Output Impedance

600 ohms

### Total Harmonic Distortion

0.002% maximum from 20Hz to 20KHz

### Input Sensitivity

Phono: 2.5mV for 2.5V rated output (0.5mV IHF)  
High level: 250mV for 2.5V rated output (50mV IHF)

### Maximum Input Signal

Phono: 90mV  
High level: 10V

### Signal-to-Noise Ratio

Phono: 84dB IHF (90dB below a 10mV input)  
High level: 95dB IHF (105dB below rated output)

### 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: 20dB

### Tone Controls

Bass @ 20Hz:  $\pm 12$ dB  
Treble @ 10kHz:  $\pm 12$ dB

### Power Requirements

100V 50/60Hz, 25W  
110V 50/60Hz, 25W  
120V 50/60Hz, 25W  
220V 50/60Hz, 25W  
230V 50/60Hz, 25W  
240V 50/60Hz, 25W

### Dimensions (h x w x d)

inch: 4.125 x 17.5 x 17.5  
cm: 10.5 x 44.5 x 44.5  
includes clearance for connectors

### Weight

14.5 lbs. (6.6kg) net  
29.5 lbs. (13.4kg) shipping

