Subject: Pre-amp
Posted by Lewis on Mon, 26 Jan 2004 17:36:30 GMT
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I was told I needed a pre amp in order to use my old Technics SL-QD33 turntable with my new Sony STR-DE695 Receiver. So I got a Recoton SP-2 preamp, but the sound is tinny. Suggestions?

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 27 Jan 2004 04:24:22 GMT
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I don't know anything about the Recoton SP-2, but I do have questions that may be important to you. Does it have RIAA equalization built-in? Do you know if it is perhaps an option? Do you know if your cartridge uses a moving magnet or a moving coil? Does the phono amp have a selector for cartridge type?

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by Lewis on Tue, 27 Jan 2004 12:15:15 GMT
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Wayne - I don't know the answers to your questions, but I'll try to find out. Thanks for your assistance.

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by DRCope on Tue, 03 Feb 2004 13:32:21 GMT
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The SP-2 is an RIAA stage, 99% likely to be moving magnet only at the price.The DD turntable and Sony receiver are both leaning toward the lean side. He didn't say what cartridge, cables, speakers round out the system, so I'm wondering how the system as a whole balances out. I haven't heard the Recoton, but I'd guess it also leans toward the lean side.

Subject: Re: Pre-amp

Posted by lon on Sat, 07 Feb 2004 04:02:04 GMT
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Maybe it's a bit too late for this but audioXpress mag didan article on the low end phono preamps. The battery-drivenones were preferred and a get-by one that I thought of gettingmyself is a special order from Radio Shack online. Cost is$25 on the RS. Next jump up is about $50 and assembly required.The Radio Shack part number is 970-1018. The Hagerman Bugle is $50in kit form and can be seen at www.hagtech.com. The Recoton is reviewed as the TCC TC-400/Recoton SP2.

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 07 Feb 2004 05:59:15 GMT
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I remember that little Radio Shack phono amp from the seventies. They sold it as a magnetic-to-ceramic level converter, in that it was intended for use as a way to facilitate an upgrade from ceramic cartridges to magnetics. If I remember correctly, those units did not include built-in RIAA equalization because of this. Ceramic phono inputs have RIAA EQ already, so the converter wouldn't need to provide the curve.I'm surprised that Radio Shack still sells those converters. Do they now have an RIAA filter, maybe with a selector switch underneath or something? Does the article mention anything about this?

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by Dave Martin on Tue, 02 Mar 2004 04:45:49 GMT
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I just purchased one of the Radio Shack Stereo Phono Preamps to add my old Technics SL-QD33 turntable to a new Harmon Kardon A/V receiver and it works fine with magnetic cartridges. It uses a 9 volt battery and has an on/off switch. Documentation notes "designed for low noise, with RIAA compensation". Hope this helps!

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 02 Mar 2004 06:47:08 GMT
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Well, there you go! Thanks for the input, now we know for sure.

Subject: Re: Pre-amp
Posted by Oldtechie on Fri, 12 Mar 2004 21:14:37 GMT
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Just a note, whenever you hook a magnetic cartridge turntable up to a reciever you will need a Phono pre-amp, the ceramic needle output don't require one, the magnetic cartridges output is so low you need an "amp" to be able to pre-boost the signal before going into the line level inputs of a reciever.The trick is in getting a "clean" amp to boost the signal, a low noise to signal ratio. I use an A/C type and even with isolation you still can detect a slight 60 hz a/c hum in the background, it is very low but still it is there. So I would imagine that your battery powered one would be the best choice:)There is tons of techincal jargon related to this subject but this is the basic facts, 30+ years servicing these products professionally and learning from others has helped me, I hope this helps you:):)