

Lightning Boy Audio

1401 Stereo Microphone Amp

Users Guide 2014

Congratulations on an excellent purchase! This guide was put together to help you get the most out of your investment.

The 1401 Stereo Microphone Amp (AKA 1401 Preamp) was designed to serve as the output amplifier for the LBA 1401 Analog Plate Reverb. Though it's features are specifically designed to serve this purpose, the 1401 Preamp also works exceptionally well as a stand-alone mic preamp for dynamic microphones and vacuum tube powered condenser mics. By adding on the LBA Ghost Box, the 1401 Preamp can be used as a preamp for any microphone.

Getting Started:

Carefully unpack the 1401 Preamp. Be aware that there is glass in the package, so proceed with caution. You will find 3 metal tube shields, and small boxes containing the vacuum tubes. Carefully remove the vacuum tubes from their boxes. Align the pins of the vacuum tubes with their respective sockets on the back of the 1401 Preamp and insert it into their sockets. Next, the tube shields will need to be attached. Slide them over their respective vacuum tubes and rotate into their locked position. There are little nubs on the tube sockets to lock the shields in place. You can then plug in the power cable and rack mount the 1401 Preamp.

Powering Up:

The power switch is located on the front panel. Once engaged, it will take about 30 seconds for the tubes to warm up enough to pass audio. While the 1401 Preamp will start working within 30 seconds, it will require at least 10 minutes of warm up time to sound its best. To power down, just turn it off. Nothing fancy here.

Controls:

The Front panel offers independent controls for Gain and Treble for two channels. The Gain control comes before the amplifier stage in the circuitry. The Amp is configured to run at 100% gain all the time, while the gain control allows for the input signal to be attenuated before hitting the amplifier.

The Treble control is a feature particularly useful when using the 1401 Preamp as the output amplifier for the 1401 Analog Plate Reverb. This control is a passive shelving EQ circuit, which allows one to subtract high frequencies from the signal. With the treble control turned all the clockwise, the treble EQ circuit is bypassed. This control is designed to allow the user to darken the sound of their plate reverb if so desired.

Technical Information:

- Mic Input Impedance: 1.2K ohms
- Line input Impedance: ~10K ohms
- Output Impedance: 600 ohms
- 40dB total gain per channel
- Noise floor -80dB
- Vacuum tube compliment: Matched and Balanced pair of 12AT7 twin triodes, 6X4WA rectifier.
- .75A slow blow fuse

Warnings:

DO NOT TAKE THE COVER OFF – Risk of extremely permanent Death! High voltages are stored inside the capacitors in the 1401 Stereo Microphone Amp and they can hold very dangerous charges for weeks without being powered up.

Servicing/Questions:

If you have any questions or comments or if your unit needs servicing, please email sales@lightningboyaudio.com