

CLASSÉ AUDIO
DR-9
POWER AMPLIFIER

DR-9
OWNER'S MANUAL

DR-9

OWNER'S MANUAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DESIGNER'S INTRODUCTION.....	3
UNPACKING & SET-UP.....	4
GENERAL CONNECTIONS.....	6
REGULAR OR BALANCED CONNECTIONS.....	8
WARRANTY.....	10
WARRANTY REGISTRATION.....	11

DESIGNER'S INTRODUCTION

The DR-9 is the first high power amplifier from Classé Audio. All too often we have observed that high power amplifiers invariably display sonic tradeoffs for the sake of that power. This is something we simply refused to do. So we conducted exhaustive technical research and countless "late-night" listening sessions. Our sonic references were the Classé DR-3B and DR-3-VHC Pure Class A units. We simply wanted more of the same!

Many of our proven amplifier techniques have been employed, but we also developed new ones to successfully meet the power challenge while strictly maintaining our sonic standards.

In any given product category, we expect you, the purchaser, to expect the best from Classé. An inspection of the DR-9 will reveal a relentless selection of the finest components available, hand crafted and tested by Classé personnel who take great pride in their work. We are confident you will find the DR-9 succeeds in providing musical excellence with power to spare.



Dave Reich,
Designer & President

UNPACKING & SET-UP

Your DR-9 power amplifier is packed in high density, semi-rigid foam placed in double cardboard boxes. To remove the unit, open and spread all the top flaps of the outer box and remove the cardboard piece. By its sides, lift out the entire unit and put it on a large flat surface. Remove the plastic wrap and inspect the unit for any concealed damage. Apart from this owner's manual, please ensure the following has also been included:

- 1) Detachable linecord
- 2) 7/16 in. Nutdriver for Classé output bolts
- 3) 1/8 in. Allen key for top plate

Please report any damage or missing parts to your dealer as soon as possible.

The DR-9 has more heat sinking than most 200 Watt/Channel amplifiers. As such, it will become only moderately warm even when playing systems at high levels for extended periods of time. Very low impedance loudspeakers (less than 2 ohms) may cause the amplifier to run hotter, which it can do continuously. In terms of providing adequate airspace for cooling, a good rule of thumb is to allow 6 inches above and 3 inches on each side of the unit.

GENERAL CONNECTIONS

A.C. LINE

Making sure the Power Switch is in the off position, insert the linecord into the A.C. receptacle on the rear of the unit. For optimum sonic performance, you should consider the optional CLASSÉ REFERENCE A.C. LINECORD. Consult your dealer regarding this accessory. In either case, "floating the ground" and "linecord orientation" will also improve sonic performance. Consult your dealer, or you may contact the factory regarding these procedures.

CAUTION: "FLOATING THE GROUND", OR DEFEATING THE GROUND ON A 3-PRONG LINECORD MAY CREATE A SHOCK HAZARD. CONNECT ALL INTERCONNECT CABLES BETWEEN THE ELECTRONICS BEFORE CONNECTING THE A.C. LINECORDS TO THE WALL OUTLETS. THIS WILL REDUCE THE POTENTIAL SHOCK HAZARD. SEE ALSO THE DR-9 WARRANTY SECTION OF THIS OWNER'S MANUAL.

STEREO

Check the settings on the recessed STEREO/MONO switch, located above the input jacks. All three (3) white levers should be in the upper position, marked STEREO.

Input and output connectors are clearly marked on the back of the amplifier. (Connections are oriented from the front of the unit.) Stereo output connections are marked ABOVE the connectors.

Use only high quality interconnect cables and loudspeaker wires, and make all connections tight. If the input plugs are loose, remove them and pinch down the ground leaves slightly with

pliers. Tighten the output bolts with the nutdriver supplied, placing the wire or lug UNDER the washer. Observe correct phasing of the loudspeaker connections.

MONO

Firstly, please read through the previous Stereo section for general notes on securing good connections.

If the unit has been previously used in stereo, make sure it is OFF, and remove all connections. The STEREO/MONO switch, slightly recessed, is located on the back panel above the input jacks. With a small, slotted screwdriver, switch all three (3) white levers into the lower position, marked MONO.

The MONO input is the left channel input, as marked. (The unused right channel input, is automatically disconnected.)

The output connections are marked BELOW the connectors. (The MONO positive is the left positive, the MONO negative is the right positive.)

Repeat the above MONO settings and connections on the second DR-9 to be used for the other channel.

Please remember that the negative output of a bridged amplifier is not a "ground". Do not use a "common-ground" or switchbox set-up. Do not use with electronic crossovers which have a common ground.

CONNECTIONS FOR REGULAR OR BALANCED INPUTS

The DR-9 power amplifier is now equipped with both regular and balanced inputs. Either one may be used SEPERATELY BUT NOT SIMULTANEOUSLY. The balanced inputs must be connected to a preamplifier which has balanced main outputs, and balanced interconnects with "XLR" connectors are also required. Regardless of the amplifier inputs used, stereo or mono operation is still possible on the DR-9.

REGULAR INPUTS

The amplifier is factory set for regular use. Simply connect the regular interconnects to the RCA input jacks on the rear panel of the DR-9. (The balanced "XLR" input connectors are automatically disabled.)

BALANCED INPUTS

A balanced preamplifier and balanced interconnects are also required. Balanced Class \bar{e} interconnects can be ordered from your authorized dealer. For use with balanced preamplifiers other than Class \bar{e} , the wiring of the 3-pin XLR connectors must be matched to that of the DR-9. The DR-9 is wired as follows:

PIN 1: GROUND

PIN 2: POSITIVE (NON-INVERTED) SIGNAL

PIN 3: NEGATIVE (INVERTED) SIGNAL

If the pin configuration on the preamplifier differs from above, the balanced interconnects must be modified to accommodate the different preamp.

Having confirmed the correct connections, plug the XLR connectors of the balanced interconnects into the locking XLR connectors on the rear panel of the DR-9. (To remove the connectors, press the tab above the connector.) **A SWITCH INSIDE THE DR-9 MUST ALSO BE ACTUATED:** Disconnect the DR-9 from the A.C. line and remove the top plate (Allen key supplied). Locate a small circuit board mounted to the bottom plate, positioned at the right rear of the amplifier near all the input connectors. A small toggle switch is mounted directly on the circuit board. As marked on the circuit board, switch the toggle from REGULAR to BALANCED. This activates the balanced inputs and disables the regular inputs. Replace the top plate, and check all connections before turning the DR-9 on.

MONO (BRIDGED) OPERATION

As stated before, regular or balanced inputs can be utilized in stereo or mono. Connect a single interconnect (be it regular or balanced) to the left channel input of each amplifier. See the "MONO" section above for complete details.

DR-9 WARRANTY

Classé Audio Inc. warrants this amplifier to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of FOUR YEARS from date of original owner purchase.

A LIFETIME WARRANTY IS EXTENDED TO THE ORIGINAL OWNER ONLY, SUBJECT TO ALL STATED CONDITIONS. IMPORTANT: WARRANTY REGISTRATION (following section), AND A COPY OF THE "AUTHORIZED DEALER BILL OF SALE", MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE CLASSÉ FACTORY (address below) WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF PURCHASE, TO VALIDATE THIS WARRANTY.

In the event of failure of this amplifier, Classé Audio Inc. will repair, recalibrate, or at our discretion, replace the unit in accordance with and providing that all the clauses contained in this warranty are met.

In order to initiate service of any kind, it is necessary to OBTAIN PRIOR FACTORY AUTHORIZATION, AND SHIP THE UNIT PREPAID. For units coming from the U.S., contact the factory for our U.S. forwarding address. Units shipped directly to our Canadian address from outside the country will be stopped at the border, causing extensive delays or return of the unit to the sender.

Any of the following conditions shall void the warranty:

- 1) Operation not in accordance with this manual
- 2) Accident, abuse, tampering, or unauthorized modification, as determined by Classé Audio Inc.
- 3) Removal, defacing, or falsifying the serial number plate.