

CLASSÉ AUDIO

15

POWER AMPLIFIER

15

OWNER'S MANUAL

CLASSÉ DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

1. REPEATED LISTENING DESIGN SESSIONS:

Fine tuning of sound by exchanging and mixing of parts (transistors, capacitors, wiring, PCB boards etc.), and adjusting many specific operating voltages within proper engineering ranges, producing an overall sonic recipe giving the most natural harmonic realism of music typical of instruments in a live performance.

2. UPGRADABLE SINGLE CIRCUIT DESIGNS:

All Classé products (all preamps and all amps) share exactly the same circuit (excluding moving coil and moving magnet phono circuits). This means all amplifiers and all high level circuits of the preamps are the same. The same circuit is tailored to different power levels etc. Differences between less expensive models and more expensive models are parts quality and compliment, power supply extravagance and the amount of filtering etc., as well as features and packaging. This means that for years Classé has been constantly fine tuning and upgrading this circuit and its application, thus reaching a very high level of understanding and musical achievement which benefits all models - least expensive, most expensive, preamps and amplifiers alike.

3. EXTREME LONG LIFE IN REAL WORLD CONDITIONS:

Choosing the best attainable quality parts and materials combined with the advantages of the two above-mentioned areas provides Classé owners with years of proven trouble free reliability and musical enjoyment.

OWNER'S MANUAL

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UNPACKING & SET-UP

Your CLASSÉ **15** power amplifier is packed in high density, semi-rigid foam placed in a special cardboard box. To remove the unit, open and spread all the top flaps of the box and by its sides, lift out the entire unit and put it on a large flat surface. Take it out of the plastic bag 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) Allen key for top plate
- 3) Nut driver for CLASSÉ output bolts

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

Place the **15** at or near its final set-up position, allowing 8 inches at the rear for tightening the speaker output connectors. For optimum sonic performance, we recommend the optional CLASSÉ REFERENCE A.C. LINECORD. Consult your dealer regarding this accessory.

The power transformer in the **15** is located at the front-center of the unit. Ideally, a few feet should separate this area from components which potentially could pick up hum. These include preamplifiers, turntables, and interconnect cables. 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.

Check the Serial Number sticker on the back of the unit for the correct operating voltage. The **15** has only one fuse, the rating of which should be as follows:

<u>LINE VOLTAGE</u>	<u>FUSE RATING</u>	
100 or 120 V.A.C.	12 AMP SLOW BLOW	125 or 250 volts
220 or 240 V.A.C.	6 AMP SLOW BLOW	250 volts

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.

CAUTION: SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

DISCONNECT AC LINE CABLE WHILE MAKING ALL CONNECTIONS. "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 15 WARRANTY SECTION OF THIS OWNER'S MANUAL.

STEREO

Check the setting on the STEREO/MONO toggle switch, located above the input jacks on the back of the unit. The lever should be closest to the position marked STEREO.

Input and output connectors are clearly marked on the back of the amplifier. Left/Right connections are oriented from the front of the unit. Stereo output connections are marked above the connectors.

Use only high quality interconnect and loudspeaker cables, 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 nut driver supplied, placing the wire or lug between the washer and large chassis nut. Observe correct phasing of the loudspeaker connections.

MONO

Firstly, please read through the previous Stereo section for general notes on securing good connections, and safety tips. If the unit has been previously used in stereo, make sure it is OFF, and remove all connections. The STEREO/MONO switch is located on the back panel above the input jacks. The lever should be closest to the 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 **15** to be used for the other channel.

Please remember that the negative output connection 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 CLASSÉ **15** power amplifier is equipped with both regular and balanced inputs. Either one may be used SEPARATELY 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 **15**.

REGULAR INPUTS

Remove the amplifier top and make sure the REGULAR/BALANCED toggle lever on the main PCB circuit board is pointed to the position marked "REGULAR". Replace top. (The amplifier is factory set for regular use.) Connect the regular interconnects to the RCA input jacks on the rear panels of the **15**. The balanced connectors are automatically disabled.

BALANCED INPUTS

Remove the amplifier top and make sure the REGULAR/BALANCED toggle lever on the main PCB circuit board is pointed closest to the position marked "BALANCED". Replace top. A balanced preamplifier and balanced interconnects are also required. For use with balanced preamplifiers other than Classé, the wiring of the 3-pin XLR connectors must be matched to that of the CLASSÉ **15** which are 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 **15**. (To remove the connectors, press the tab above the connector.) Disconnect the **15** from the A.C. line. Make sure the toggle switch lever is switched from the REGULAR to the BALANCED position. This activates the balanced inputs and disables the regular inputs.

CLASSÉ 15 LIMITED FACTORY WARRANTY (North America only).

Classé Audio Inc. warrants this amplifier to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of FOUR YEARS from the date of purchase by the original owner, provided that any claim in virtue of this warranty be made in writing within such period.

Subject to all of the conditions stated herein, A LIMITED FACTORY LIFETIME WARRANTY IS EXTENDED ONLY TO THE ORIGINAL OWNER WHO PURCHASED THE AMPLIFIER IN NORTH AMERICA AND WHO CLAIMS UNDER THIS WARRANTY IN NORTH AMERICA.

IMPORTANT: WARRANTY REGISTRATION, 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, resulting from defects in materials and workmanship, Classé Audio Inc. will repair, recalibrate, or at its discretion, replace the unit providing that all the conditions 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 TO THE CLASSÉ FACTORY. For units coming from outside Canada, contact the factory for our 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.

The warranty shall be void and of no effect in the event of any of the following:

- 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;
- 4) Shipping without the complete factory packaging;
- 5) Transfer or sale of this amplifier by the original owner;
- 6) Non-compliance with any of the other conditions hereof.

CLASSÉ AUDIO INC. SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES ARISING FROM OR RELATING TO THE SET-UP, OPERATION, FAILURE, TROUBLESHOOTING, OR REPAIR OF THE AMPLIFIER AND/OR ANY OTHER EQUIPMENT USED THEREWITH.

THIS WARRANTY, ALL CLAIMS MADE IN VIRTUE HEREOF, AND ALL ISSUES RELATING TO ANY SUCH CLAIM SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC.

WARRANTY REGISTRATION

You must fill out and return the form below, along with a copy of the authorized dealer bill of sale, to the factory within twenty (20) days of purchase. This will allow us to provide expedient service, information regarding updates and new products, and validate the Classé warranty.

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15 SERIAL NUMBER _____ PURCHASE DATE _____
AUTHORIZED DEALER _____
PURCHASER'S NAME _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE/PROV. _____
COUNTRY _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____
I BECAME AWARE OF THIS PRODUCT BY: _____
(DEALER, MAGAZINE, FRIEND, ETC.)

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SEND TO: CLASSÉ AUDIO INC.
Product Registration
5070 François Cusson
Lachine, Quebec, Canada
H8T 1B3

CLASSÉ 15
STEREO BALANCED POWER AMPLIFIER

SPECIFICATIONS SHEET

15 SPECIFICATIONS:

Frequency Response:	20 Hz to 20 KHz +/- 0.1dB
Sensitivity:	1.6 VOLT in for rated output
Input Impedance:	70 KOhms
S/N Ratio:	100 dB
Rated output: 8 Ohms:	175 Watts Stereo 700 Watts Mono
4 Ohms:	350 Watts Stereo 1100 Watts Mono
Dimensions: Gross:	24 1/2" x 24 1/2" x 12 1/2"
Net:	19" x 17 1/4" x 7 1/4"
Weight: Gross:	60 lbs
Net:	55 lbs