



# Talk Electronics

## User Manual

# Cyclone User Manual

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing a Talk Electronics Cyclone Integrated amplifier. We are confident that it will provide you with many years of musical enjoyment and reliable service. However, please take the time to read this guide thoroughly before using the amplifier. It explains how to install and connect it, and suggests how to ensure that you always enjoy its optimum performance.

## UNPACKING LIST

- Integrated amplifier
- Instruction manual
- AC power cord
- Remote control handset
- Guarantee card

**NOTE:** We recommend that the supplied AC power cord is replaced with a high quality Merlin Cables power cord for best results. Please be aware that this unit is not supplied with interconnects and we recommend the use of the Merlin series of interconnect cables.

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### HOW TO SITE AND CONNECT YOUR CYCLONE INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER FOR BEST PERFORMANCE AND SAFE OPERATION

Please unpack your amplifier carefully and position it on a stable, level surface close to a mains socket. Before attempting to connect it into your system please read this manual carefully.

The Cyclone will perform well placed on a coffee table or bookshelf but if you wish to achieve the best performance we suggest you place it on a specialist hi-fi support. There are many suitable designs available, which your dealer will be happy to advise you about.

Position the amplifier so that it will not be subjected to high ambient temperatures: avoid sites where it will be in direct sunlight or close to a central heating radiator. For your own safety – and your amplifier's well-being — do not allow it to come into contact

with water. Keep it away from potted plants to avoid those all-too-common watering accidents! To clean the amplifier's case disconnect it from the wall socket and wipe it with a barely damp, lint-free cloth or chamois leather, stubborn marks may be removed using 'White spirit' however be careful not to remove the screen printing. If you suspect that water has entered the casework, return the amplifier to your dealer so that he can examine it.

Once you have installed the amplifier **please do not throw away its packaging**. If you move home or need to return the unit to your dealer, the original packaging will protect it and ensure it arrives undamaged.

## ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

The Cyclone's come with a ready assembled mains lead and we suggest that you use this to connect it to the mains supply. We strongly recommend that you connect the lead directly to a wall socket and do not use extension blocks, which degrade sound quality. For the same reason we also advise against "line filters" and "mains conditioners". If your mains supply is noisy or you have household appliances that generate clicks and pops that can be heard through your hi-fi system, have an electrician correct the problem at its source. We do however recommend the use of 'Merlin Cables' power chords which do not interfere with the current flow and offer a significant performance improvement

Should you need to replace the fuse in your mains plug (if appropriate), please fit only the correct replacement types. If for any reason the blue LED on the left bottom corner of the front panel will not illuminate, it is possible that one of the internal protection fuses may have blown, these should only be replaced by a qualified person.

If, for any reason, you wish to replace the plug or cable, please note that the lead must be connected as follows. **NOTE:** These instructions apply in the United Kingdom only – consult your dealer about wiring conventions in other countries.

Green and yellow wire connects to EARTH (E or symbol  $\perp$ )

Blue wire connects to NEUTRAL (N)

Brown wire connects to LIVE (L)

**Please ensure that the replacement lead contains a 5A fuse in the UK.**

## SIGNAL CONNECTIONS

The Cyclone integrated amplifiers were developed using high quality interconnects and speaker cables from Merlin Cables, these allow the amplifiers to operate as intended and deliver their optimum performance. We strongly recommend that you use these cables for all connections. You can obtain these from your dealer or distributor

## SWITCHING YOUR AMPLIFIER ON AND OFF

To avoid "switch-on thumps" being transmitted to your loudspeakers when you switch on your system, we have implemented a highly sophisticated relay based protection system which is de-activated by selecting any source. However, if your amplifier is already switched on and un-muted when you turn on the ancillary source it is possible that you may hear a 'thump' through your speakers. To avoid this we advise that you should always switch on your amplifier last. Start by powering your source components, then switch on your integrated amplifier. When you've finished listening, turn off or mute the amplifier first, then switch off your sources.

The rear panel switch on the Cyclone connects mains power to the amplifier. We suggest that during normal use you leave this switch in the "on" position and silence the amplifier with the mute/ standby button situated on the lower left hand corner of the front panel. This ensures that the Cyclone will always deliver its best performance as soon as you begin listening. A blue LED indicates that power is on and the red LED indicates that the output is functional.

If you are going on holiday you can use the rear panel switch to power down the amplifier completely. For absolute safety, disconnect the mains lead from the wall socket. We also advise that you do this during thunderstorms to avoid damage from power line surges.

## FRONT PANEL

### USING THE FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

**Mute:** this button mutes the amplifier's output. It does not disconnect the Cyclone from the mains supply. Push it once to silence the amplifier and push it again to restore the audio output.

The blue LED above this button will illuminate when the amplifier is connected to the mains supply and switched on via the rear panel rocker switch. The red LED indicates whether the amplifier's output is operational: if it is glowing the amplifier's output is connected; if it is not the amplifier's audio circuits are muted. If for any reason the blue LED is illuminated but the red LED will not come on when the mute button, or any input button, is pressed then your amplifier is in protection mode and should be returned to your dealer for examination.

**CD:** select this button to listen to your CD player or any other source you have connected to the CD input.

**Tuner:** select this button to listen to your tuner or any other source you have connected to the Tuner input.

**Aux:** select this button to listen to any line level source you may have connected to it.

**AV:** select this button to listen to your VCR, Laserdisc player or any other line level source you have connected to the AV input. See also section on Optional 6 Channel AV Buffer

**Tape 1:** select this button to listen to your cassette deck or any other source you have connected to the Tape 1 input.

**Tape 2:** select this button to listen to your cassette deck or any other source you have connected to the Tape 2 input.

**Monitor:** On Cyclone 1.1 models only. You can only monitor Tape 1. When tape monitor is selected the LED above the Monitor button will glow green. To deselect the monitor function simply press the Monitor button again.

**Mode:** On Cyclone 2.1 models only. When pressed this allows access to the 'Record' mode; and allows independent selection of the source that is sent to the Tape 1 record output. A green LED will illuminate above the selected source. To cancel, select the Tape 1 button and then press the mode button for a second time to return to 'Listen' mode. Whilst this will allow you to record one source whilst listening you may hear some interference (crosstalk) in this mode and we recommend that for serious listening it is left cancelled.

**Note:** when switching inputs the mute light will flash momentarily as the switching software mutes the output to avoid clicks and bangs.

**Volume:** this rotary control, not surprisingly, adjusts the amplifier's audio output.

## MAKING TAPE RECORDINGS

The Cyclone 1.1's tape circuits are set to record from the currently selected input. So, if you are listening to your tuner input, that is the signal that is being sent to the amplifier's record outputs. You cannot listen to one source while recording from another. To record from any input simply select it on the amplifier and switch your cassette deck to "Record". Use the Monitor button, whose function is described above, to monitor from suitably equipped cassette decks. The Cyclone 2.1's tape circuits are different in that the input you are listening to is only sent to the Tape 2's outputs. The signal that is sent to the Tape 1 outputs is selectable as described in the 'Mode' section above.

To copy from one cassette or tape deck to another on the Cyclone 1.1 integrated amplifier, you must use Tape 2 / Aux as the source (play) deck and Tape 1 as the destination (record) deck. With the 2.1 you may use either tape input and simply select listen on

one and record on the other. Whilst Tape 1's output is permanently connected to Tape 2's record out sockets you will need to select Tape 2 in the record mode to send the output of tape 2 to the record sockets of Tape 1.

## REMOTE CONTROL OPERATION.

The Cyclone's remote control window is situated at the bottom of the front panel just to the left of the volume control. The remote control handset must have an unobstructed view of this window in order to pass instructions to the amplifier.

The handset duplicates all the control functions of the amplifier's front panel and is RC5 compatible .

## REAR PANEL

### POWER CONNECTIONS

The Cyclone's mains switch is fitted on the right of the rear panel, when viewed from the rear. Use this to switch off the amplifier completely. Below or to the side of it is an IEC socket into which the supplied mains lead fits. If an internal fuse should blow i.e. the blue LED will not illuminate when the amplifier is not hot but plugged in and switched on, then the amplifier should be returned to your dealer for examination. Any replacement should only be of an identical type.

### SIGNAL CONNECTIONS

All signal connections for the Cyclone use RCA phono sockets, which are clearly identified by legends on the rear panel. The uppermost connectors are for the left channel, and the lower ones for the right.

### TURNTABLE SIGNAL CONNECTIONS

Phono equipped units leave our factory set up for use with moving coil cartridges. They can, however, be easily reconfigured to work with moving magnet cartridges. This involves no more than altering jumper settings on the amplifier's circuit board.

If you do not feel confident about doing this yourself please return the amplifier to your dealer.

To change from the default (moving coil) setting to moving magnet setting:

Move the six red jumpers from the pins marked **C** to the corresponding pins marked **M**

Failure to position the jumpers correctly will cause no harm but will prevent the phono stage from operating properly.

### SPEAKER CABLE CONNECTIONS

Cyclone amplifiers use gold-plated European safety sockets. These are both designed to be touch proof and to be secure, good-sounding connections for speaker cables. These should be soldered for the best long term performance.

The output sockets are marked LEFT and RIGHT to indicate which channel is which. Each channel's red terminal is its positive connection and the black terminal is the negative. There are two sets of each to facilitate bi-wiring.

Cyclone amplifiers are suitable for use with most current loudspeaker systems with an impedance rating between 4 and 16 Ohms. Contact your dealer if you have a particularly unusual loudspeaker system and are uncertain about how your amplifier might react to it. Under all normal circumstances the amplifier is well protected against encounters with demanding speakers: it has thermal protection, voltage and current limiting and DC offset protection.

## BI-WIRING

If you intend to bi-wire - or tri-wire - your loudspeakers, we recommend that you use cables fitted with the correct plugs.

## EXTERNAL DC CONNECTION.

The Cyclone 2.1 integrated amplifier is equipped with an external DC socket, this allows the connection of an out board 'Whirlwind' DC power supply. This powers all of the pre-amplifier and micro-processor circuits and will lift the overall performance attainable from your amplifier, with better dynamics and stereo space. In order for this to work you will need to move the internal BLUE jumpers on the main PCB to the External position and then connect the Whirlwind to the DC socket. Once connected you should turn on the Whirlwind on first - to prevent switch on thumps, and then preferably leave it on and then use your Cyclone as usual.

Do not attempt this unless you are confident about what you are doing, your dealer will be happy to do this for you.

## OPTIONAL 6 CHANNEL AV BUFFER INPUT / OUTPUT

The Cyclone 2.1 has provision for an internal AV buffer board to be fitted. This allows master volume control over all 6 channels required for AV home theatre applications. So if you have a DVD player with an internal Dolby AC3\* processor you can connect this directly to your Cyclone 2.1 and simply add a Tornado AV3 power amplifier. It can also be used if you have a separate stand alone processor which has digital control over volume, just set it to maximum output and connect it in the same way. NOTE:- digital volume controls work by reducing the number of 'bits' used to describe the level, this means that at lower listening levels from maximum you lose vital information which as a result makes the sound flat and boring at lower listening levels -

\*All trade marks acknowledged.

## SPECIFICATION

Power output 20-20K 8 Ohms  
Distortion 1KHz 10W 8Ohms  
S/N Ratio  
Residual noise  
Frequency response 5-100KHz  
Dimensions H.W.D in mm excluding connections  
Weight                   packed  
                                  un-packed

## CYCLONE 1.1

70W  
<=0.01%  
<= -80dB A weighted  
<= -62dB unweighted  
+/- 3dB  
93x430x300  
8.90kg  
7.50kg

## CYCLONE 2.1

100W  
<=0.008%  
<= -80dB A weighted  
<= -62dB unweighted  
+/- 3dB  
93x430x300  
8.90kg  
7.50kg

Talk Electronics' policy of continued research and development means that the above specification may change without notice.

The Cyclone has been manufactured to conform with the protection requirements of the EC Council directive 89/336/EEC relating to EMC by application of the following standards:

EN50081-1 1992 Emissions Standard

EN50082-1 1992 Immunity Standard

and also the requirements of the EC low voltage directive relating to electrical safety by application of the following standard  
BSEN60065: 1994 Safety standard

For the purposes of testing the Cyclone was used with the mains cables and high quality interconnects supplied by Merlin Cables. Compliance with the above standards can only be made if the unit is installed as per this manual and using the correct cables.

Guarantee: 3 Years return to dealer.

To help us provide you with the most efficient service please return your guarantee card promptly. Your integrated amplifier is guaranteed against manufacturing and component defects for a period of 3 years. The guarantee does not cover and damage caused by accident, misuse, neglect or through incorrect installation, adjustment or repair by unauthorised personnel or the cost of collecting the Cyclone from you and returning it to the dealer. The above does not effect your statutory rights as a consumer. E & OE



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