## Talk Electronics User Manual

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## Hurricane User Manual

#### INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing a Talk Electronics Hurricane pre-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**

Pre-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 HURRICANE PRE-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 Hurricane 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. 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 decide to upgrade or add a *Whirlwind* power supply, the packaging will be required to protect the Hurricane and ensure it arrives undamaged at the factory or your distributor.

#### **ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS**

The Hurricane comes 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 the mains plug, please fit only the correct replacement types. This is a standard 5A.

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  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) Blue wire connects to NEUTRAL (N)

Brown wire connects to LIVE (L)

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

#### **POWER CONNECTIONS**

#### FOR MAINS POWERED UNITS

The Hurricane's mains switch is fitted on the left of the rear panel, when viewed from the rear. Use this to switch off the pre-amplifier completely. Below it is an IEC socket into which the supplied mains lead fits. The fuse in the mains plug is a 5A standard type. Again, if you need to replace it use an identical type rated at 5A. If the fuses keep blowing return the preamplifier to your dealer.

#### FOR UNITS USING A WHIRLWIND OUTBOARD POWER SUPPLY

This should be connected in accordance with the instructions supplied with your Whirlwind.

#### **REAR PANEL**

The Hurricane's mains switch is fitted on the left of the rear panel, when viewed from the rear. Use this to switch off the pre-amplifier completely. Below it is an IEC socket into which the supplied mains lead fits. The fuse in the mains plug is a 5A standard type. Again, if you need to replace it use an identical type rated at 5A. If the fuses keep blowing return the preamplifier to your dealer. All signal connections are RCA phono sockets which are clearly identified. The uppermost row is for the left channel and the lower row is for the right channel.

#### **SIGNAL CONNECTIONS**

The Hurricane Series was 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.

All signal connections for the Hurricane 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.

On units equipped with a phono stage an earth post is provided for use with the turntable tone-arm's grounding lead.

#### SWITCHING YOUR AMPLIFIER ON AND OFF

The rear panel switch on the Hurricane connects mains power to the pre-amplifier. We suggest that during normal use you leave this switch in the "on" position and silence the pre-amplifier with the mute button situated on the lower left hand corner of the front panel or use the hand set. This ensures that the Hurricane 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. When first powered up the preamplifier remains in a muted/standby state, to listen just select the input required.

If you are going on holiday you can use the rear panel switch to power down the pre-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 Hurricane 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 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.

**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/Phono:** select this button to listen to your turntable (if fitted) or any line-level source you have connected to the Aux input.

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

**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.

**Mode:** select this button (a red LED illuminates) and then select the input that you wish to record (a red LED will illuminate above the selected input). Press the record button again (the red LED will extinguish and the green one illuminate) and select the input you wish to listen to (a green LED above the selected input will illuminate).

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

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

### OPTIONAL 6 CHANNEL AV BUFFER INPUT / OUTPUT

The Hurricane 2.1/3.1 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 Hurricane 2.1/3.1 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 loose vital information which as a result makes the sound flat and boring at lower listening levels -

\*All trade marks acknowledged.

#### **REMOTE CONTROL OPERATION**

The Hurricane'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. It should be noted that direct sunlight or the use of spotlights may affect the operation of your pre-amplifier. The handset duplicates all the control functions of the amplifier's front panel.

| SPECIFICATIONS                  |  | HURRICANE 2.1            | HURRICANE 3.1         |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Maximum Output Voltage          |  | >10V                     | >10V                  |
| Input Impedance – Line Input    |  | 22k ohms                 | 22k ohms              |
| Phono Input MM (optional)       |  | 47k ohms                 | 47k ohms              |
| MC (optional)                   |  | 100 ohms                 | 100 ohms              |
| Distortion 20 - 20kHz 1v out    |  | <0.005%                  | <0.005%               |
| Signal - to - Noise Awtd 1v out |  |                          |                       |
| Line Input                      |  | -90dB                    | -90dB                 |
| Mains Voltage                   |  | 230V /115V/100V AC ± 10% | 230V/115V/100V AC±10% |
| Dimensions                      | width                                  | 430mm                    | 430mm                 |
|                                 | height                                 | 90mm                     | 90mm                  |
|                                 | depth                                  | 300mm                    | 300mm                 |
|                                 | (allow at least 400mm for connections) |                          |                       |
| Weight per unit                 | unpacked                               | 4.6kg                    | 4.6kg                 |
|                                 | packed                                 | 6.0kg                    | 6.0kg                 |

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

The Hurricane 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 Hurricane 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 pre-amplifier is guaranteed against manufacturing and component defects for a period of 3 years. The guarantee does not cover: damage caused by accident, misuse, neglect or through incorrect installation, adjustment or repair by unauthorised personnel, the cost of collecting the Hurricane from you and returning it to the dealer. The above does not effect your statutory rights as a consumer.

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