

Knif V804 Pre Amp

The Knif V804 microphone pre amp is a truly unique piece of equipment. It combines utmost simplicity with the highest objective qualities obtainable from the minimalistic topology employed.

72 dB:s of gain is quite rare amongst tube pre amps, and in a two stage design it is very difficult to reach. It is even more difficult to do this while retaining superb linearity, high output levels and even frequency response. Yet this has now been done. It requires perfect symbiosis between the components. Simple but challenging.

V804 in use

Input impedance is a comfortable 1 kOhm, so there are no problems interfacing the pre with anything in your studio, including line level gear. The pad is automatically switched on for the 0-20 dB gain positions. You can also use the amp to give a nice character to previously recorded tracks. Use it in passive summing. Experiment – whatever you do, you can not damage it.

Models made after about 2014 require output tube bias adjustment every now and then. There are measuring points and a trimmer on the back.

Specifications

Tubes:	2*EF804s and 2*C3g
Gain	0-72 dB in 4 dB steps
Frequency response 0/-1 dB @ 20-60 dB gain, 50 Ohm source	better than 5 Hz - 45 kHz
Frequency response 0/-1 dB, any gain, 150 Ohm source	better than 10 Hz - 25 kHz
Noise (EIN) @ 60 dB gain, 50 Ohm source	A-weighted -133 dBu
Maximum output level into 10 kOhms	+33 dBu
Maximum output level into 600 Ohms	+26 dBu
THD+N @ 22dBu out, 10 k load, 100 Hz-20 kHz, 30-60 dB	< 0.10%
THD+N @ 22dBu out, 10 k load, 50 Hz-20 kHz, any gain	< 0.15%
THD+N @ 22dBu out, 600 Ohms load, 50 Hz-20 kHz, 0-60 dB	< 0.25%
Channel balance, 0-64dB gain	better than 0.15dB
Xtalk, any gain, @ 100 Hz, 1 kHz, 10 kHz	better than -105 dB, -100 dB, -80 dB
Output impedance	< 150 Ohms
Input impedance	1 kOhm
Input Impedance DI	2 MOhm, 15pF