

■ | MA 800  
MCD 850



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## MA 800 - Stereo amplifier tube pre-amplifier MCD 850 - Tube Super-Audio-CD-player

- 1 | **The connector panels on the MA 800 and MCD 850 are clearly organized and tidy.**
- 2 | **Tube pre-amplifier of MCD 850.**
- 3 | **All functions may be controlled with the elegant full-metal remote control.**
- 4 | **A brushed eight millimetre thick aluminium front panel rounds off the design on both components.**

The development of separate audio components allows our design team to focus on achieving the best possible sound quality free of the constraints of size and issues of internal interference. The products can be conceived and realised without unnecessary compromises. This is apparent in the Magnat 800 Series. Both units, a full stereo amplifier and a Super Audio CD player, were designed and developed in Germany by an experienced team. The central approach was first to focus purely on the quality of sound and then on flexibility of use. It was achieved through a process of carefully considered design and well implemented manufacturing techniques which incorporate the use of premium quality materials and components. The two units possess a robust mechanical design with low-resonance properties. Tubes (vacuum tubes) are employed in all areas that are particularly critical to sound quality.

The MA 800 is a full amplifier with separate MC and MM phono inputs, a dual mono, tube pre-amplifier coupled to a power amplifiers using discrete transistor circuitry. Input selection is achieved via high-precision encapsulated relays with the switching being located directly behind the gold-plated RCA input sockets. The sophisticated phono stage was designed by analogue specialist, Walter Fuchs. Two separate inputs are available for the phono stage, one for the 'moving magnet' (MM) pick-up and one for the 'moving coil' pick-up (MC). This means that two different cartridges may be connected simultaneously and selected using the remote control. Audiophile low-noise operational amplifiers and closely toleranced passive components have been used in the design of this phono stage. The separate power supply is fitted next to the phono stage. This extraordinarily sophisticated design is characterised by excellent channel separation and very high signal-to-noise ratio. The selected input source is displayed on the front mounted dot matrix display, which may be switched off entirely or whose luminance may be adjusted to three levels of intensity.

The heart of the MA 800 is the tube operated line stage that amplifies the selected input signal. An ECC82 (12AU7) is used for each channel. These tubes are manufactured in Russia and are burnt-in for 60 hours and then selected in pairs before use. The double triode uses an SRPP-type circuit and thus delivers extremely linear results with vanishing small levels of distortion. The power is supplied through a separate power supply.

The generously dimensioned output stage delivers the required power. It is configured using discrete circuitry and incorporates high-performance power transistors from Japan. A total of 110 watts continuous output is available to each channel, while up to 400 watts is available for short bursts of power. Thanks to the high damping factor, difficult low impedance loudspeakers may be used without difficulty. A sophisticated protective circuit will, in extreme cases, prevent damage to amplifiers and loudspeakers. Twin power supplies, which separately feed the left and right output channels, also contribute to the amplifier's excellent channel separation and dynamic properties.

# MA 800 MCD 850

Each of the 6 power supplies within the MA800 derives its stability from the massive toroidal transformer whose design also minimises the possibility of interference from stray fields. Despite the MA800's considerable specification it is not an old fashioned, power hungry, device. It has a stand by mode which, thanks to a special power-saving circuit, allows it to only consume a single watt when not in use. The volume is controlled by a solid aluminium knob that is coupled to a high-precision ALPS motor-driven potentiometer. As a result, adjustments to the listening level may also be made with the elegant, anod metal remote control handset. The large loudspeaker connectors are gold plated to ensure a good quality connection over time and are encapsulated in acrylic insulation. They allow very secure connections to be made even when attaching very heavy gauge loudspeaker cable. Two pairs of connectors are provided for each channel so that bi-wiring is easily possible.

The MCD 850 is a CD player with Super Audio CD mechanism, a tube output stage and a sophisticated power supply. The appearance of the MCD 850 SACD player has been chosen to compliment that of the MA 800 and so it also features the finest mechanical and electronic components. The outward appearance impresses with its clean and elegant front panel. The controls, the display and the CD/SACD drawer have been arranged in such a way as to create a highly sophisticated appearance while simultaneously allowing simple & intuitive operation. The 16-digit alphanumeric display provides users with all the information they might require. As with the MA 800, its luminance may be adjusted in three levels or the display may be switched off entirely.

The technical design is based focuses completely on the need for maximum performance. The entire audio section, including the power supply, has been fitted on a single circuit board. The mechanism and micro-controller's power supply has been fitted on a second separate circuit board. This prevents the sensitive digital to analogue converters and subsequent amplification stages from suffering any adverse effects.

A precision mechanism with Sanyo laser unit has been employed as the drive. It is additionally screened from external interference by a metal cover. The smooth-running and vibration immunity of this mechanism are truly excellent. The data stream generated is transformed into an analogue signal by the latest generation Burr Brown D/A converter which retains the full dynamic potential of SACD. The dual mono filter stage is fitted with exceptionally low noise operational amplifiers and thus guarantees a wide and linear frequency range far in excess of 40 kHz.

The sonic highlight of this unusual SACD player is the tube output stage. A selected low-noise CC88 double triode has been employed in each channel. This circuit guarantees exceptionally linear and low-distortion signal transmission. As with all Magnat tube systems, the MCD 850 only uses burnt-in and selected tubes manufactured in Russia. These are coupled to the outside world via two high-quality, gold-plated, RCA sockets. The audio signal for the separate headphone amplifier is taken before it reaches the tube stage. The volume may be easily adjusted with the remote control while the output level at the RCA sockets remains unchanged. Two digital outputs (optical and coaxial) are available for digital storage media. The two separate power supplies are fed by an R-core transformer with good regulation and minimal radiated stray fields. The MA 850 also has a stand-by facility to save energy when not in use.

An elegant remote control is supplied with the two systems so that all functions on the MA 800 and MCD 850 may be readily controlled from the listening position. It has been made entirely from aluminium and is characterized by its ease of use. This remote control may also be used to adjust the volume and mute functions on the Magnat RV1 tube-operated full amplifier.

Intuitive operation, a precise design utilising the finest materials and performance to satisfy any audiophile characterize both components and guarantee the ultimate listening pleasure.

- 1 | **The dot matrix display may be deactivated or set at one of three levels of brightness. The knobs on the front of the MA 800 have been machined from solid aluminium and fitted with highly precise motor-driven potentiometers.**
- 2 | **The components possess a technical design that is absolutely clean and that right down to the final detail has been conceived to produce audiophile sound.**



- 1 | The ECC 82 valves have been carefully burnt-in and hand selected before use.
- 2 | Detail of the separate MM and MC phono input section.



### MA 800

<b>Principle</b>	Tube amplifier
<b>Output power</b>	
Nominal power	2 x 110 W 2 x 75 W
Peak power	2 x 200 W
<b>W x H x D</b>	430 mm x 125 mm x 330 mm
<b>Colour</b>	Silver, black

### MCD 850

<b>Principle</b>	Tube SACD-player
<b>Frequency response</b>	
CD	5 Hz – 20 kHz (± 0.5 dB)
SACD	5 Hz – 40 kHz (± 0.5 dB)
<b>Playable formats</b>	CD-Audio, SACD, SACD-Hybrid, CD-R, CD-RW
<b>W x H x D</b>	430 mm x 90 mm x 330 mm
<b>Colour</b>	Silver, black

MA 800



MCD 850

