Model 3800 Stereo Control Console

Handbook of Instructions

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Model 3800 Stereo Control Console

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To achieve maximum performance and enjoyment from your Model 3800 Stereo Control Console, please study these instructions carefully. Follow the step-by-step procedures until thoroughly familiar with Stereo Control Console operation.

This handbook is divided into two parts. The first part covers installation and operation in simple, non-technical language. The second part covers the Model 3800 in more detail with a functional description of circuit operation.

For quick identification, references to the Model 3800 controls and connections are printed in **BOLDFACE TYPE**.

AFTER UNPACKING

It is advisable to retain all original packing material to prevent damage should you wish to transport or ship the Model 3800 (refer to page 22 for repacking and shipping instructions). Be careful that you do not inadvertently throw away or lose the parts packed with the unit.

Please inspect your Model 3800 Stereo Control Console carefully for any signs of shipping damage. Our very strict quality control and professional pride ensure that each Model 3800 left the factory in perfect condition. If the unit is damaged or fails to operate, immediately notify your dealer. If the unit was shipped to your directly, notify the transportation company without delay. Only you, the consignee, may institute a claim against the carrier for shipping damage. Save the carton and all packing material as evidence of damage for their inspection. Should assistance be required, the Marantz Company will cooperate fully in assisting your claim.

To validate your warranty, fill out and mail the Warranty Registration Card within ten days of purchase.

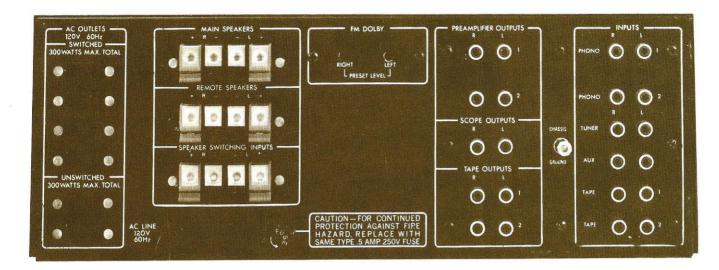


Figure 1. Rear Panel

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Your Model 3800 Stereo Control Console is the heart of your stereo system, the controlling point at which the program source is selected and processed for listening or recording. As you read this manual, you will realize that the Model 3800 is an extremely versatile instrument offering unparalleled flexibility. In addition to normal preamp functions, the Model 3800 features a full-process Dolby Noise Reduction System, variable-frequency turnover tone controls, and inputs for two turntables, three tape recorders, and two microphones. The 3800 can even make tape-to-tape copies while you listen to an entirely different program.

Along with innovative design, the Model 3800 features Marantz state-of-the-art technology. All electronic components used in the Model 3800 are precision devices selected for their close operating tolerances and long operating life. Your Stereo Control Console is thereby guaranteed to provide continuous high-quality low distortion performance.

PREPARATION FOR USE

Figure 1 shows the location of the input and output jacks on the rear panel. These jacks are for "permanent" connections. Front panel jacks and their use will be discussed later.

All connections to the rear panel should be made with the power to the entire system turned off. The rear panel signal connections are arranged in stereo pairs. With the exception of loudspeakers, all signal connections to the Model 3800 should be made with shielded audio cables. To avoid confusion, connect one cable at a time between the 3800 and the other components of your system. This is the safest way to avoid cross-connecting channels or confusing signal source outputs with inputs.

PHONO INPUTS

The two sets of **PHONO** jacks are intended for use with turntables having magnetic phono cartridges. Connect the turntable as shown in Figure 2.

If a hum is heard when playing records, this is an indication that the record player or its connections are inadequately grounded. Connect a separate ground wire from the turntable or record changer frame to the **CHASSIS GROUND** binding post of the Model 3800. If this is ineffective, try reversing the polarity of the turntable's power plug.

If hum persists, consult the instruction booklets for the turntable and/or phono cartridge.

NOTE: The supplied shorting plugs should be inserted into the R and L PHONO input jacks when no turntable is connected. The high gain and high impedance of the phono amplifier may introduce noise into the system if the jacks are not shorted with the plugs.

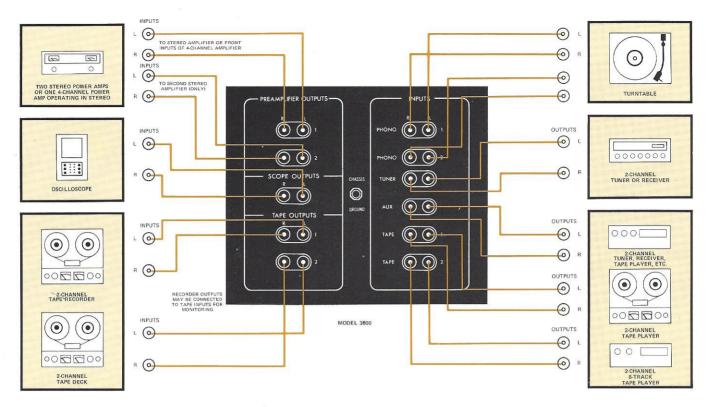


Figure 2. Typical Input/Output Connections

TUNER INPUTS

The **TUNER** input jacks are used for connecting the line outputs of a stereo or monaural AM or FM tuner to the Model 3800. Connect the tuner as shown in Figure 2.

AUX INPUTS

The AUX (auxiliary) input jacks permit connecting miscellaneous high-level program sources such as tape players with built-in preamplifiers, record players with RIAA equalized line outputs, or additional tuners or receivers.

TAPE INPUTS

These jacks are the inputs to the tape monitoring sections of the Model 3800. They permit a tape recorder, tape player, or any high-level source to be played through the Model 3800. (See "Tape Monitoring", page 8).

PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS

The Model 3800 uses dual PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS for the right and left (R and L) channels and has the capability to drive two

stereo power amplifiers simultaneously. When only one stereo power amplifier is used, its inputs may be connected to either set of PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUT jacks. The second pair of PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUT jacks may also be connected to a tape recorder so that the Model 3800 noise filters and tone controls may be used to improve the signal before recording. When recordings are made using this method, stereo headphones should be connected to the recorder for tape monitoring purposes. (See "Making Modified Tape Recordings", page 11.)

SCOPE OUTPUTS

If you have a Marantz tuner with a built-in oscilloscope, connect the SCOPE OUTPUTS from the 3800 to the scope inputs on the tuner. You may then use the oscilloscope to evaluate the phasing, balance, and channel separation of any program source.

TAPE OUTPUTS

These jacks feed the source signal, as selected by the program selector pushswitches, to the line inputs of each tape recorder for recording purposes. (See "Making Tape Recordings", page 8).

SPEAKER CONNECTIONS

These terminals are used for connecting two sets of speakers to a power amplifier having only one set of outputs.

Using ordinary #18 gauge stranded two-conductor lamp cord, connect the outputs of the power amplifier directly to the SPEAKER SWITCHING INPUTS on the Model 3800 as shown in Figure 3. Then, connect the speakers to the MAIN and REMOTE terminals as shown in Figure 4, observing correct phasing (polarity) throughout. If the total length from amplifier to speaker for either channel exceeds 30 feet, use #16 gauge wire or heavier. The terminals operate as shown in Figure 5.

CAUTION: Ensure that the total power output connected to the SPEAKER SWITCH-ING INPUTS does not exceed 250 watts RMS per channel, continuous power.

AC POWER CONNECTIONS

With the front panel POWER pushswitch "OUT", plug the AC LINE cord into an electrical outlet supplying the proper voltage.

AC OUTLETS

Six AC OUTLETS on the rear panel supply power to associated components of the stereo system, including power amplifiers, tuners, tape recorders, and turntables. The four SWITCHED outlets are controlled by the Model 3800 POWER switch. The two UNSWITCHED outlets are not controlled by the POWER switch and can be used to supply power to any component having its own on-off switch.

CAUTION: Do not exceed the maximum total power ratings of the AC outlets. The POWER switch and other circuitry in the 3800 may suffer damage if forced to conduct excessive current.

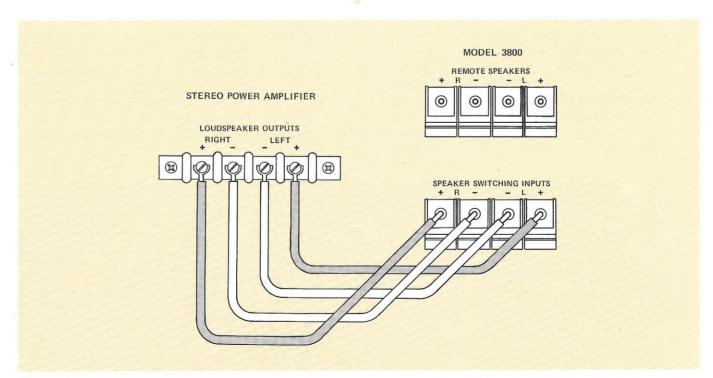


Figure 3. Speaker Switching Inputs Connections

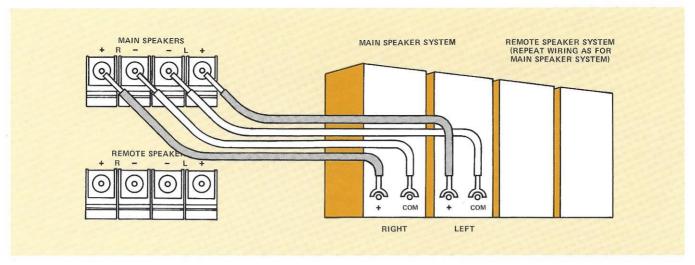


Figure 4. Speaker Connections

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

When operating the Model 3800 for the first time, follow the step-by-step instructions as described in the Preliminary Procedure that follows. After becoming familiar with the Stereo Control Console, you may take full advantage of its many features and operating versatility.

PRELIMINARY PROCEDURE

Connect the program source, power amplifier, and speakers as described in the section on "PREPAR-ATION FOR USE". Then, set the controls and switches as follows:

POWER Switch
VOLUME Control

Out (off) Minimum (Fully Counterclockwise)

DOLBY SYSTEM Switch Program Selector Pushswitches MODE Selector Switch ounterclockwise) OFF Desired Program Source STEREO TAPE MONITOR Switch
TAPE REC-EQ Switch
Out (off)
TONE DEFEAT Switch
TONE Controls
BALANCE Control
MAIN SPEAKERS Switch
SOURCE
Out (off)
Mid Position
Mid Position
In (on)

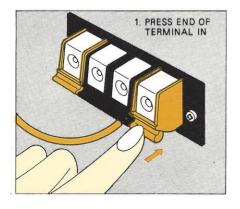
After setting the controls and switches, proceed as follows:

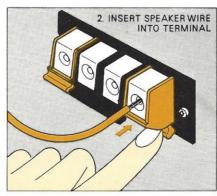
1. Depress the **POWER** switch. The pilot light will illuminate indicating that the unit power is on.

NOTE: A time delay relay will momentarily mute the preamplifier output until all circuits have stabilized.

Wait for the relay to "click in" before turning up the VOLUME.

- 2. Play the desired program source.
- Rotate the VOLUME control to the desired listening level.





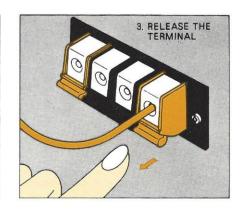


Figure 5. Speaker Wire Connection

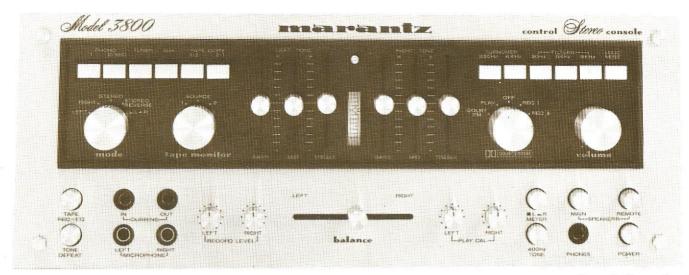


Figure 6. Front Panel

MAIN CONTROLS AND SWITCHES

The following section will explain the front panel controls (see Figure 6). The controls will be discussed in order of usage, with the most commonly used controls discussed first.

POWER SWITCH

The **POWER** switch, when depressed, supplies AC power to the Model 3800 and to the SWITCHED outlets on its rear panel.

PROGRAM SELECTOR PUSHSWITCHES

The program selector pushswitches select any one of six program sources for listening or recording: PHONO 1, PHONO 2/MIC, TUNER, AUX, TAPE 1, or TAPE 2.

The PHONO 2/MIC pushswitch selects a turntable connected to the rear panel. However, if microphones are plugged into the front panel jacks, they will pre-empt the turntable and become the source input instead.

For information on the TAPE COPY pushswitches, see "How to Make Tape-to-Tape Copies," page 8.

TAPE MONITOR SWITCH

The three-position TAPE MONITOR switch selects TAPE 1, the program SOURCE, or TAPE 2. When the TAPE MONITOR switch is set to position 1 or 2, the signal applied to the TAPE 1 or TAPE 2 input jacks will be heard, respectively. When the TAPE MONITOR switch is set to the SOURCE position, the program source selected by the program selector switches will be heard. For tape recording, refer to "TAPE RECORDERS AND THE MODEL 3800", page 8.

VOLUME CONTROL

The VOLUME control simultaneously adjusts the signal level of both channels while maintaining stereo balance. The VOLUME control does not affect the signal level available at the TAPE, DUBBING, or SCOPE output jacks.

BALANCE CONTROL

This control alters the level of either output channel in situations where it is necessary to correct unbalanced programs sometimes encountered in older stereo recordings or in stereo broadcasts. As it is moved from its center position, it decreases the level in one output channel while maintaining the level in the other channel.

MODE SWITCH

The five-position MODE Selector switch chooses the mode or manner in which program source signals are reproduced by the stereo system.

With the switch set to LEFT, the left channel signal of the program source is applied to the left and right channel outputs. When set to RIGHT, the right channel signal of the program source is applied to the left and right channel outputs. These MODE switch positions are useful in evaluating stereo separation.

When set to **STEREO**, the left channel signal of the program source is applied to the left channel outputs and the right channel signal of the program source is applied to the right channel outputs.

When set to **STEREO REVERSE**, the left and right channels of the program source are transposed, reversing the apparent left-right placement of the stereo program.

When set to L+R, the left and right channel signals of the program source are combined, and the combination (a monaural equivalent of the stereo program) is applied to the left and right preamplifier outputs.

TONE CONTROLS (LEFT AND RIGHT)

Three TONE controls for each output channel, BASS, MID, and TREBLE, adjust the normally "flat" frequency response of the Model 3800 to suit individual listening preference.

The BASS control adjusts the low frequency tones, the MID control adjusts the middle frequency tones, and the TREBLE control adjusts the high frequency tones.

These controls may be adjusted to compensate for unbalanced room acoustics or any other tonal difference between the left and right channels of the stereo program. The TONE controls have no effect on the signals present at the TAPE 1 or TAPE 2 output jacks, unless the TAPE REC-EQ pushswitch is depressed. (See "Making Modified Tape Recordings," page 11).

TONE CONTROL TURNOVER SWITCHES

Two TURNOVER switches are provided to vary the effect of the BASS and TREBLE tone controls.

When the **250 Hz TURNOVER** switch is depressed to the on (in) position, the frequency at which the **BASS** tone controls become effective is shifted from 1 kHz to 250 Hz. When the **4 KHz TURNOVER** switch is depressed to the on (in) position, the frequency at which the **TREBLE** tone controls become effective is shifted from 1 kHz to 4 kHz.

The TURNOVER switches are useful for altering the frequency response at the extreme ends of the audio spectrum without affecting the midrange. For example, the bass response may be boosted without causing the midrange to become "boomy".

FILTER SWITCHES

Three FILTER switches permit suppressing lowor high-frequency noise that may originate at the program source.

The 30 Hz FILTER pushswitch activates a low frequency filter which reduces signal levels at or below 30 Hz (see Figure 16). The filter has little or no adverse effect on the system's overall frequency response, because frequencies of 30 Hz and lower are below the range of most program material. The filter will, however, substantially improve system performance when you play phonograph records at a high volume level. A high quality phono cartridge will faithfully reproduce turntable rumble, record cutting lathe rumble, and even the slight warp of a new record in the form of a low frequency (0.5 Hz to 20 Hz) noise. If this noise is allowed to pass through the preamp and amplifier, it will cause the speaker's woofers to "flutter" or pulsate. The pulsations produce extremely high intermodulation distortion throughout the bass and lower midrange of the program material. The amplifier power required to reproduce this noise will wastefully contribute to the overheating and possible failure of the woofers.

When the 5 KHz or 9 KHz FILTER switch is depressed, high frequency noise, such as the hiss associated with noisy FM, poorly recorded tapes, or scratchy phonograph records, will be reduced sharply. The 5 KHz FILTER should only be used under extreme conditions, because it reduces high frequency response appreciably. (See Figure 16.)

LOUDNESS SWITCH

The **LOUDNESS** switch compensates for human hearing characteristics by boosting the bass and treble response at low volume levels to achieve a more pleasing tonal balance.

MAIN AND REMOTE SPEAKER SWITCHES

When the outputs of a power amplifier are connected to the rear panel SPEAKER SWITCHING INPUTS, these pushswitches will select the speaker terminals to which audio power is applied. The MAIN and REMOTE speakers may be operated separately or simultaneously. With both speaker pushswitches set to their off (out) positions, all speakers are disconnected, allowing "private listening" through stereo headphones.

CAUTION: We strongly recommend that the VOLUME be reduced before switching speaker systems to prevent possible damage to your loudspeakers.

PHONES JACK

This jack accepts headphones utilizing a standard binaural three conductor, quarter-inch phone plug (see Figure 7). It is internally connected to the power amplifier section through isolation resistors to provide adequate sound level with popular low impedance headphones as well as with high impedance units. Two or more sets of headphones may be used with the aid of "Y" connectors. However, output level will drop as additional headphones are added. The headphone jack output is not affected by the MAIN or REMOTE SPEAKER switches.

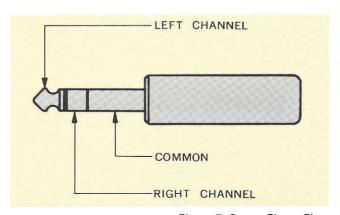


Figure 7. Stereo Phone Plug

TAPE REC-EO SWITCH

See "Making Modified Tape Recordings," page 11.

MICROPHONE JACKS

The LEFT and RIGHT MICROPHONE input jacks are intended for use with low level (one millivolt) microphones wired for unbalanced line operation. Microphone impedance may be either high or low.

When a two conductor microphone plug is inserted into the jack, the rear panel PHONO 2 INPUTS are automatically disconnected.

TONE DEFEAT SWITCH

The TONE DEFEAT switch, when depressed, causes the audio signals to bypass the tone control circuitry in the 3800, thereby assuring a precision "flat" frequency response (assuming no filters are activated). Without having to change the position of the TONE controls, their effect can thereby be weighed against the true flat signal.

DOLBY SYSTEM CONTROLS AND SWITCHES

For an explanation of the controls and switches listed below see "Dolby System," page 11.

DOLBY SYSTEM SWITCH
PLAY CAL CONTROLS
400 Hz TONE SWITCH
DOLBY LEVEL METER
RECORD LEVEL CONTROLS
LR METER SWITCH

USING TAPE RECORDERSWITH YOUR MODEL 3800

The Model 3800 provides three sets of inputs and outputs for tape recorders: TAPE 1, TAPE 2, and DUBBING (In and Out). To simplify this discussion, the tape recorder connected to the TAPE 1 jacks will be referred to as the "MAIN" recorder; the tape recorder connected to TAPE 2 will be referred to as the "SECONDARY" recorder; the recorder connected to the DUBBING facilities on the front panel will be referred to as the "EXTERNAL" recorder.

DUBBING JACKS

The DUBBING IN jack is the front panel equivalent to the rear panel TAPE 2 INPUT jacks. To connect an "EXTERNAL" tape recorder, it is necessary to use a patch cord having a standard, three-conductor stereo phone plug on one end (Figure 7). Connect the patch cord from the tape recorder line outputs to the Model 3800 DUBBING IN jack as shown in Figure 9. When the stereo phone plug is inserted into the DUBBING IN jack, the "EXTERNAL" tape recorder pre-empts the "SECONDARY" tape recorder by automatically disconnecting the rear panel TAPE 2 input jacks.

The DUBBING OUT jack is the front panel equivalent to the rear panel TAPE 2 OUTPUT jacks and is permanently connected in parallel with the TAPE 2 OUTPUT jacks. Therefore, any source material available at the rear panel output jacks, except that from the TAPE 2 INPUTS (when DUBBING IN is connected), is simultaneously available at the DUBBING OUT jack. The line inputs of the "EXTERNAL" tape recorder are connected to the DUBBING OUT jack using the same type of patch cord described in the preceding paragraph.

MAKING TAPE RECORDINGS

The Program Selector Pushswitches determine the source input for tape recording. When PHONO 1, PHONO 2/MIC, TUNER, or AUX are chosen, the source input can be recorded on to the "MAIN", "SECONDARY", and "EXTERNAL" tape recorders individually or simultaneously. See Figures 8 through 12 for typical tape recorder connections.

TAPE MONITORING

Notice that the **TAPE MONITOR** switch operates independently of the Program Selector Push-switches. Thus, any tape recorder can be monitored regardless of which input is chosen as a source. Monitoring the recorders may be accomplished as follows:

"MAIN" recorder — Switch the **TAPE MONITOR** to **1**.

"SECONDARY" recorder — Switch the TAPE MONITOR to 2.

"EXTERNAL" recorder — Switch the TAPE MONITOR to 2, and plug the "EXTERNAL" recorder into the DUBBING IN jack.

HOW TO MAKE TAPE-TO-TAPE COPIES

The tape copying feature on the Model 3800 functions independently of the Program Selector Pushswitches and the TAPE MONITOR switch. This means that tapes can be copied while listening to an entirely different program source. Operation is as follows: To make a dub (tape copy) from the "MAIN" recorder onto the "SECONDARY" and/or "EXTERNAL" recorders, depress the TAPE COPY 1-2 switch. The "MAIN" tape recorder then becomes the tape copy source. When this is the case, the TAPE 1 OUT jacks are muted to prevent feedback oscillations that would occur if the "MAIN" recorder were inadvertently placed in the record mode.

To make a dub from the "SECONDARY" or "EXTERNAL" recorder on to the "MAIN" recorder, depress the TAPE COPY 2-1 switch. The "SECONDARY" recorder then becomes the tape copy source.

If the "EXTERNAL" tape recorder is connected to the **DUBBING IN** jack, then it pre-empts the "SECONDARY" recorder and becomes the tape copy source instead. The **TAPE 2 OUT** and **DUBBING OUT** jacks are muted to prevent feedback oscillations. Therefore, dubs to the "MAIN" recorder may only be made from one of these two recorders at a time.

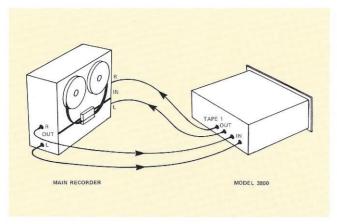


Figure 8. Typical Connection for "Main" Recorder

EXTERNAL RECORDER MODEL 3800

Figure 9. Typical Connection for "External" Recorder

The Dolby system can be used during the tape copying function to encode or decode any tape being copied. When either one of the TAPE COPY pushswitches is depressed, the action of the Dolby circuitry, as determined by the DOLBY SYSTEM switch, is applied to the tape copy function. Use the Dolby System in the same manner as usual. (Refer to "Using the Dolby System", page 11).

NOTE: The DOLBY FM position on the DOLBY SYSTEM switch defeats all other program source inputs. Therefore, do not use this switch setting while making tape-to-tape copies.

To cue up the tapes for copying, to set recording levels and the Dolby controls, or to check the progress of the copying operation, switch the **TAPE MONITOR** to 1 or 2.

To listen to a different program (such as a tuner or phonograph) during the time a tape is being copied, switch the TAPE MONITOR to SOURCE. Select the source material by means of the Program Selector pushswitches and play it as usual.

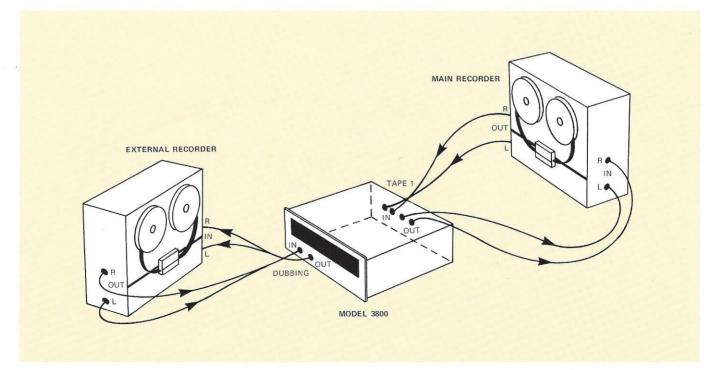


Figure 10. Typical Connection for "Main" and "External" Recorders

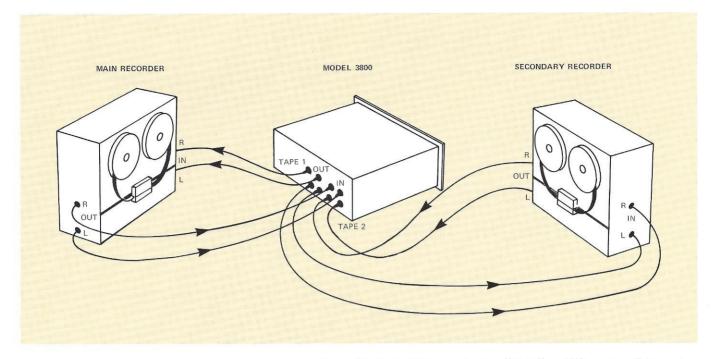


Figure 11. Typical Connection for "Main" and "Secondary" Recorders

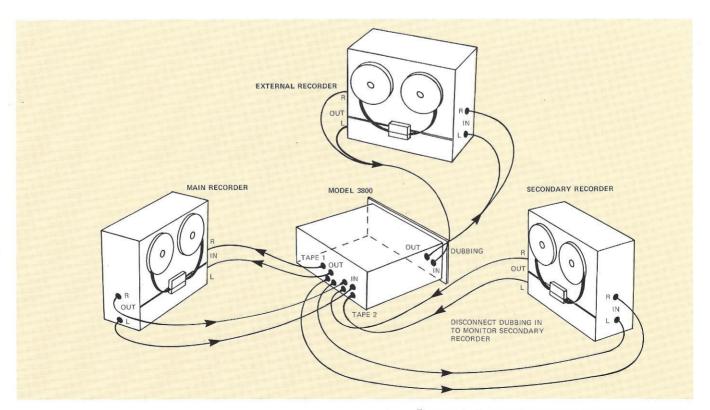


Figure 12. Typical Connection for Three Recorders

MAKING MODIFIED TAPE RECORDINGS

An outstanding unique feature of the Model 3800 is the TAPE REC-EQ (recorder equalization) switch. When this switch is depressed, it connects the tone control and turnover circuits to TAPE OUTPUTS 1 and 2. The tonal quality of a normally "flat" program source may then be enhanced by the BASS, MID, and TREBLE TONE controls prior to recording.

This feature is particularly useful in the following areas:

When recording live music through microphones connected to the front panel MICROPHONE jacks, the tone controls can bring out the highlights in certain musical instruments or voices. For example, you may wish to brighten the sound of an acoustical guitar by increasing the treble response. Experiment with the TURNOVER and TONE controls to discover their effects on various instruments.

The TAPE REC-EQ feature can be used to correct noisy program conditions before they are recorded on to the tape. "Boominess," ambient noise, and FM hiss can be reduced.

Special effects are possible when recording through the tone control circuits. For example, simulated "telephone" conversations can be made by fully boosting the midrange and reducing the bass and treble response.

To operate this feature, first listen to the source signal with the TAPE REC-EQ button "out". Adjust the TONE controls for the desired effect. Next, depress the TAPE REC-EQ button. Then, switch the TAPE MONITOR to TAPE 1 or 2 to hear the modified signal, and to SOURCE to hear the original "flat" signal.

Modified tape copies can be made by combining the tape copy feature with the recorder equalization feature. Depress the appropriate TAPE COPY pushswitch and the TAPE REC-EQ pushswitch, and record as usual.

DOLBY SYSTEM

BASIC DOLBY PROCESS

The Model 3800 contains a "full-process" Dolby Noise Reduction System. This means that Dolby encoding and decoding can be performed simultaneously. Thus, an incoming "flat" signal can be Dolby encoded, recorded onto tape, monitored from the tape, and Dolby decoded in one operation, allowing the end result to be immediately compared to the original source signal.

The Dolby system increases the amplitude of low level mid- and high- frequency signals during recording and reduces the amplitude of these signals by an identical amount during playback. As a result, the playback signal is identical to the original source signal, but the level of background noise generated by the tape recorder is greatly reduced. A Dolby FM broadcast is subjected to the first phase of the noise reduction process before being transmitted. When these signals pass through the Dolby playback circuitry, the mid- and high-frequency noise is greatly reduced.

The following section explains the operating procedures for the Dolby System in the Model 3800. However, before the Dolby System can be operated effectively, it must be calibrated. Please refer to the "Dolby Calibration" procedures on page 12.

USING THE DOLBY SYSTEM

The Model 3800 is capable of processing signals from a tape recorder or from any other signal source.

NOTE: The Dolby system can be used with most types of tape recorders. However, it cannot be used with a recorder utilizing one set of level controls which govern both record and playback levels nor with a recorder utilizing an Automatic Level Control (A.L.C.) system.

DOLBY SYSTEM SWITCH

The DOLBY SYSTEM switch is the main control for the Dolby circuitry in the Model 3800. It allows any input signal to be Dolby encoded or decoded. The five settings available route the signal through the Dolby Noise Reduction circuitry to the PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS and TAPE OUTPUTS as follows:

1. DOLBY FM:

This position is used for listening to Dolby FM broadcasts and defeats all other program source inputs. The PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS receive the de-processed Dolby signal; the TAPE OUTPUTS receive Dolby-encoded signals so that a Dolby recording can be made.

2. PLAY:

This position is used for playing back any Dolby-encoded source except FM. The PRE-AMPLIFIER OUTPUTS jacks receive de-processed Dolby signals. The TAPE OUTPUTS deliver Dolby-encoded signals so that Dolby recordings can be made.

3. OFF:

In this position, the Dolby circuitry is bypassed, and the input signals are directly applied to the TAPE and PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS.

4. RECORD I:

This position is used for making a Dolby-encoded recording of a "flat" (non-Dolby) signal source. The TAPE OUTPUTS receive Dolby-encoded signals. The PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS receive flat signals.

NOTE: By using the TAPE MONITOR switch, the original flat source signal can be immediately compared to the fully Dolby-processed signal from the tape.

5. RECORD II:

This position is used for making a "flat" (Dolby-decoded) recording from an incoming Dolby-encoded signal. Both the amplifier and the TAPE OUTPUTS jacks receive "flat" signals.

The DOLBY SYSTEM switch also controls the Dolby Level Meter located between the TONE controls. Whenever the Dolby circuits are activated, the meter illuminates and displays the relative "Dolby level" in decibels.

For further details on the use of the DOLBY SYSTEM switch, refer to the Dolby Processing Chart on page 15.

DOLBY CALIBRATION

HOW OFTEN CALIBRATION IS NECESSARY

It is necessary to check the Dolby playback calibration to suit each source being played. When recording on tape, recalibrating the entire system is required whenever a change in tape speed has been made or whenever a different type or brand of tape is used.

The following sections will outline methods for playback and record calibrations:

- 1. Turn on the Model 3800 and your recorder.
- 2. Set the DOLBY SYSTEM switch to PLAY.
- 3. If your recorder has a tape/source monitor switch, set it to "tape".
- 4. Load a Dolby NR Standard Alignment Tape (see "NOTE" below).
- 5. Play the tape.
- 6. If your recorder does not have playback level controls, proceed to Step 9.
- 7. If your recorder has playback level controls and meters, adjust the controls for a meter indication of 0 VU. Then proceed to Step 9.
- 8. If Step 7 does not apply to your recorder, set the playback level controls to about two-thirds of full output.
- Adjust the PLAY CAL controls for a Dolby meter indication of 0 VU (Dolby Level) for both channels. To calibrate the right channel, depress the METER L R switch to R (in) position and rotate the RIGHT PLAY CAL control. Release the switch to L (out) position and rotate the LEFT PLAY CAL control.
- You have now calibrated the Dolby NR playback level. From here on, do not change your recorder playback level controls nor the Model 3800 PLAY CAL controls.

Since the calibration is extremely stable and should not have to be repeated (except to periodically check it), we suggest that you mark the settings of your recorder's output level controls with a felt-tipped pen. Doing so will enable you to easily reset the controls if they are inadvertently moved.

NOTE: It is possible to use the Dolby system for recording and playing back tapes through your system using a homemade standard alignment tape.

HOW TO MAKE A DOLBY ALIGNMENT TAPE

- Thread a blank tape onto your recorder (or insert a cassette).
- 2. Set the DOLBY SYSTEM switch to PLAY.
- 3. Depress the 400 Hz TONE switch.
- 4. Set your recorder tape/source monitor switch to the "source" position.
- 5. Adjust the controls for 0 VU reading on the recording level meter.
- Commence recording. Record about 30 seconds of the tone. The tape you have just made is used to calibrate the Model 3800 Dolby Noise Reduction circuit with the recorder.
- 7. Depress and release the 400 Hz TONE switch.

You may wish to record about 30 seconds of the 400 Hz tone onto the beginning of every tape that will be used for Dolby-processed recording. By using this method, you can check (and, if necessary, adjust) the playback calibration settings without having to fumble with a separate alignment tape.

Dolby-processed tape recordings made with the alignment tape you have just recorded may not necessarily be compatible with the Dolby NR circuits in different recorders or systems. For universal compatibility, Marantz offers a standard alignment tape which is available from your local Marantz dealer.

PROCEDURE FOR RECORD CALIBRATION

NOTE: Before proceeding with the record calibration, ensure that playback adjustments have been performed. Do not change the positions of the recorder playback level controls (if any) or the Model 3800's PLAY CAL control.

For Recorders With Three Heads

- Thread a blank tape onto your recorder (or insert a cassette).
- Set the Model 3800 DOLBY SYSTEM switch to PLAY.
- 3. Set both the Model 3800's and the recorder's MONITOR switches in the TAPE position.
- 4. Depress the **400 Hz TONE** switch to the on (in) position.
- 5. Commence recording.
- 6. Adjust the recorder's record level controls so that the Model 3800's Dolby Meter indicates 0 VU (Dolby Level).
- 7. Release the 400 Hz TONE switch.

For Recorders With Two Heads

- 1. Thread a blank tape onto your recorder (or insert a cassette).
- 2. Set the Model 3800 DOLBY SYSTEM switch to PLAY.
- 3. Depress the **400 Hz TONE** switch to the on (in) position.
- 4. Commence recording.
- 5. Adjust the record level controls of your recorder for a VU meter indication of 0 VU.
- 6. Record the tone for about 30 seconds.
- Stop the recorder and rewind the tape to the beginning of the tone recording. Release the 400 Hz TONE switch.
- 8. Play back the tape.
- 9. Observe the Dolby Meter and note the value. To check the right channel level, depress the METER LR switch to the R (in) position. To check the left channel level, release the METER LR switch to the L (out) position.
- 10. If the Dolby Meter indicated 0 VU for both channels, calibration is completed.
- 11. If the Dolby Meter indicates other than 0 VU, readjustment is necessary, as follows. The object is to adjust the recorder's record level controls so the playback level achieved indicates 0 VU on the Dolby Meter.
 - a. If the Dolby Meter indication is more than 0 VU, repeat Steps 2 through 10, but decrease the record level in Step 5 to slightly below 0 VU on the recorder VU meters.
 - b. If the Dolby Meter indication is less than 0 VU, repeat Steps 2 through 10, but increase the record level in Step 5 to slightly above 0 VU on the recorder VU meters.

For All Recorders

After the 0 VU has been achieved on the Dolby Level Meter, DO NOT change the recorder's input or output level controls or the 3800's PLAY CAL controls.

CHANGING THE RECORD OR PLAYBACK LEVELS OF YOUR RECORDER OR THE MODEL 3800's PLAY CAL CONTROLS WILL NECESSITATE REPEATING THE DOLBY CALIBRATION PROCEDURE.

Mark the calibration positions of the recorder's record and playback level controls to avoid the necessity of recalibrating after making a non-Dolby recording.

To adjust the recording level during Dolby-processed recording, use the RECORD LEVEL controls on the Model 3800 rather than the tape recorder's record level control. The recorder's VU meters will indicate the recording level.

When the Dolby process is not desired on a recording, record in the normal manner—adjusting the record levels with the recorder's record level controls. DO NOT change the Model 3800's PLAY CAL controls.

USE OF THE DOLBY SYSTEM AS A DYNAMIC NOISE FILTER

As stated previously the Basic Dolby Process increases the amplitude of low level mid- and high-frequency signals during recording and reduces the amplitude of these signals by an identical amount during playback. High level, high frequency signals pass through unchanged in both phases of the Dolby Process. As the level decreases, however, more and more filtering action (during playback) occurs until the signals are 35 dB or more below the level determined by the PLAY CAL controls at which point the maximum filtering effect takes place. The Dolby playback (decode) circuitry is, in effect, a variable or "dynamic" noise filter.

In this regard, the Dolby playback circuitry can be used as a substitute for a high filter. But unlike a regular high filter whose effect on treble response is constant at all loudness levels, the Dolby-derived "filter" activates itself only when needed, that is only during soft passages where background noise becomes noticeable. To use the Dolby playback circuit as a dynamic noise filter, set the DOLBY SYSTEM switch to PLAY. The amount of filtering action is determined by the setting of the PLAY CAL controls. For normal programs, adjust the PLAY CAL controls on each channel so that the average program level, as indicated on the Dolby Level Meter, indicates approximately 0 VU.

USING THE DOLBY SYSTEM ON FM BROADCASTS

Most FM broadcasts do not currently use the Dolby Noise Reduction system. To receive these broadcasts, leave the DOLBY SYSTEM switch in the OFF position. However, if a local station is broadcasting a Dolby FM signal, full advantage of the increase in signal-to-noise ratio may be obtained by putting the DOLBY SYSTEM switch in the DOLBY FM position.

The Dolby FM level has been pre-adjusted at the factory and should not normally need to be readjusted. However, should the Dolby FM level require recalibration, adjustment potentiometers are located on the rear panel (DOLBY FM PRE-SET LEVEL) and can be adjusted to the proper Dolby level by using the Dolby reference tone transmitted by the FM station at the beginning of the broadcast.

NOTE: Tuner should have proper 25 microsecond de-emphasis. A 25 microsecond FM de-emphasis circuit is built into the Marantz Model 112, 125, and 150 Tuners and should be activated when listening to Dolby FM broadcasts through your Model 3800. If your present tuner does not have such a circuit, an outboard FM de-emphasis adaptor is available from Switchcraft. Please consult your dealer regarding this adaptor.

DOLBY PROCESSING CHART

This chart, Figure 13, indicates the correct **DOLBY SYSTEM** switch positions for various types of input material. The input format is indicated in the left column and the appropriate **DOLBY SYSTEM** switch position is shown under the desired mode of operation.

Notes:	Manufacturers of pre-recorded tape indicate when the material has been recorded in a Dolbyized	should also be clearly marked as to format to ensure correct playback mode.	Tuner must apply 25 µsec de-emphasis	
to record without Dolby, set the DOLBY SYSTEM switch to	OFF	REC II	REC II	OFF
to record with Dolby, set the DOLBY SYSTEM switch to	REC I	PLAY	DOLBY FM	REC I
to listen, set the DOLBY SYSTEM switch to	OFF or REC 1	PLAY or REC II	DOLBY FM	OFF
If the and you want is	a non-Dolby Source (Phono, Tape, Aux, AM Tuner)	a Dolby-encoded source (except FM)	FM (with Dolby)	FM (Normal)

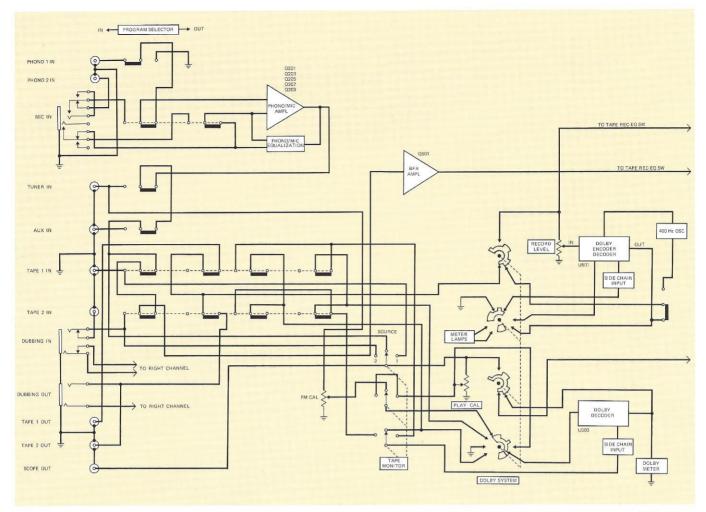


Figure 14. Functional Block Diagram

FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION

TECHNICAL SECTION

The following pages will explain the Model 3800 from a more technical standpoint. This section contains a block diagram with an explanation of system operation, a description of some of the outstanding technical features of the Model 3800, graphs depicting typical filter and tone control characteristics, and a complete list of technical specifications.

SYSTEM OPERATION

Figure 14 is a Functional Block Diagram of the Model 3800 left audio channel, showing the principal circuit elements and signal flow paths. Since the left and right channels are identical, and process audio signals simultaneously, only the left channel will be discussed in the following paragraphs.

High- and low-level inputs (program sources) are selected by the Program Selector Pushswitches and routed in accordance with signal level. When low-level sources are selected (PHONO or MIC), the Selector Pushswitch routes the input signal to the Phono/Mic Amplifier circuit and selects the proper equalization, RIAA or Mic. The output of the Phono/Mic Amplifier is then returned to the Selector Pushswitches where it is handled as another high-level input.

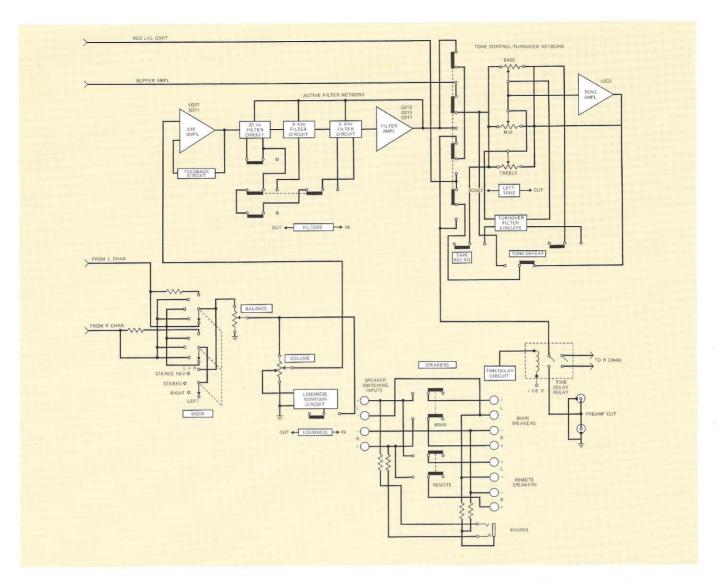


Figure 14. Functional Block Diagram

High-level input signals (TUNER, AUX, TAPE 1, TAPE 2 or the output of the Phono/Mic Amplifier) are routed through the TAPE REC-EQ and **DOLBY SYSTEM** Switches to the Dolby encoder/ decoder. The input level to the encoder/decoder is regulated by the RECORD LEVEL Controls. The output of the Dolby encoder/decoder is applied to the TAPE OUTPUTS and DUBBING OUT jacks. With the DOLBY SYSTEM Switch set to OFF, the encoder/decoder is bypassed and the high-level input signals are applied directly to the TAPE OUTPUT and DUBBING OUT jacks. The Dolby encoder/decoder functions as a flat amplifier, an encoder, or a decoder depending on the position of the DOLBY SYSTEM Switch (Figure 14).

The high-level input signals are concurrently applied to the SCOPE OUTPUTS and to the Dolby decoder, through the TAPE MONITOR Switch and PLAY CAL Controls. The decoder functions as a flat amplifier, or a decoder, depending on the position of the DOLBY SYSTEM Switch, the TAPE MONITOR Switch, and the TAPE COPY Switches (Figure 14). The output signal of the decoder is monitored by the Dolby Level Meter and applied to the MODE Selector Switch.

The MODE Switch determines the manner in which the left- and right-channel signals of the program source are presented to the Model 3800: LEFT channel only, RIGHT channel only, two-channel STEREO, STEREO REVERSE, or L + R (left and right channels combined). The signal selected by the MODE Switch is then applied to the BALANCE Control. The BALANCE Control adjusts the relative signal level of the left and right channels by attenuating the level of one channel while maintaining the level of the other. From the BALANCE Control, the signal is applied to the VOLUME Control, which varies the level of the output signal available at the PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS. The signal is also applied to a Loudness Contour Circuit which, when activated, boosts low and high frequencies at low listening levels so that all frequencies appear to have equal loudness. The Loudness Contour Circuit adjusts the frequency response of the Model 3800 to approximate the Fletcher-Munson loudness curves (Figure 15). The signal from the VOLUME Control is then applied to the input of the Times-Ten (X10) Amplifier Circuit.

The X10 Amplifier increases the signal level to that required to drive power amplifiers. The output of the X10 Amplifier is applied to an Active Filter Network comprised of three filter circuits (30Hz, 5KHz and 9KHz) and a Filter Amplifier. The Active Filter Network sharply reduces low- and/or high-frequency noise that may originate at the program source. The output of the Filter Amplifier is then applied to the Tone Control/Turnover Network comprised of the BASS, MID and TREBLE Tone Controls, the 250Hz and the 4KHz TURNOVER

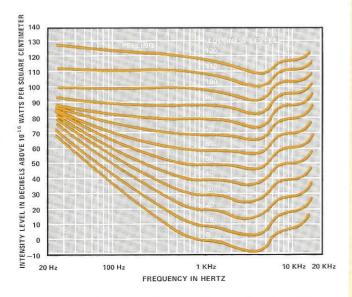


Figure 15. Fletcher-Munson Loudness Curves

circuitry, and a Tone Amplifier stage. The output of the Filter Amplifier is also applied to the **TONE** Switch.

The Tone Control/Turnover Network performs a dual function: the tone control portion of the network boosts or attenuates low, middle and high frequencies; the turnover portion of the network, when activated, decreases the point at which low frequencies are affected by the BASS Control (250Hz) and increases the point at which high frequencies are affected by the TREBLE Control (4KHz). The TONE Switch selects either the flat output of the Filter Amplifier (bypassing the tone controls) or the tone-control-altered output of the Tone Amplifier. From the TONE Switch, the signal is applied to the Time Delay Relay.

From the relay contacts the signal is applied to the PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS to drive an external power amplifier. The power amplifier outputs are connected to the SPEAKER SWITCHING INPUTS Terminals and the signal is applied to the stereo PHONES jacks. The power amplifier signal is also applied to the MAIN and/or REMOTE SPEAKER Terminals by the corresponding SPEAKERS Switch.

TECHNICAL HIGHLIGHTS

PHONO AMPLIFIER

The Model 3800 phono amplifier is a user-oriented design. Its greatest virtue is its excellent ability to interface with a phono cartridge during actual playing conditions.

For example, most phono amplifier circuits are optimized to have good noise characteristics on the test bench when using a 1 kohm resistor as a source impedance. But in actuality, the source impedance offered by a phono cartridge may vary from 500 ohms to as much as 50 kohms, depending on what frequency is being reproduced, and a circuit designed around a 1 kohm source impedance would become noisier during actual playing conditions. The optimum source impedance range of the Model 3800 phono amplifier, though, has been expanded to accept the wide

range of source impedances that a cartridge would normally present. The result is that noise is appreciably reduced.

Distortion at 20 Hz has been minimized by specially tailoring the open loop gain of the amplifier. The phono amplifier is thereby able to maintain its **THD** specification throughout the entire audio range. Also, careful component selection and design have minimized the low frequency random transistor noise known as "1/f" noise.

The input overload capability of the phono amplifier is 100 mV. Since most phono cartridges produce a maximum of 10 to 20 mV, the phono amplifier has plenty of headroom.

The overall effect is that phonograph records played through the Model 3800 sound amazingly clean.

ACTIVE FILTER NETWORKS

The design of the active filter networks is based on the philosophy that an audio noise filter should eliminate as much noise as possible without adversely affecting the desired program material. To that end, the filters in the Model 3800 provide a sharp roll-off at relatively unobtrusive points in the frequency spectrum. The active filter networks consist of cascaded filter components at the input of a non-inverting unity gain amplifier with a constant current source in the output. Associated switches connect appropriate filter components in the amplifier feedback circuit for a 12 dB per octave roll-off at 30 Hz and/or 5 kHz or 9 kHz. Characteristic curves for the active filter networks are shown in Figure 16. Frequency response through the network is flat when the filters are deactivated.

TIME DELAY RELAY

The circuit associated with the Time Delay Relay holds the relay contacts open for approximately five seconds after power is applied to the Model 3800. After the power supply circuits have stabilized, the relay contacts close. Audible "pops" that may arise from power supply transients are thereby eliminated.

TONE CONTROL/TURNOVER NETWORK

The band of audio frequencies to which the human ear is most sensitive is the midrange.

Conveniently enough, most speaker systems and most listening environments faithfully reproduce midrange frequencies. On the other hand, the reproduction of the low bass and high treble regions are considerably influenced by room acoustics and speaker design.

To provide flexibility in coping with these conditions, the TURNOVER switches shift the frequency locus (turnover points) for the BASS and TREBLE controls. This allows the bass and treble response to be adjusted with minimum influence on the critical midrange frequencies (see Figure 17). The turnover frequency designations (250 Hz and 4 kHz) refer to the lower and upper limits of the band of midrange frequencies which would not be effected by the BASS or TREBLE controls.

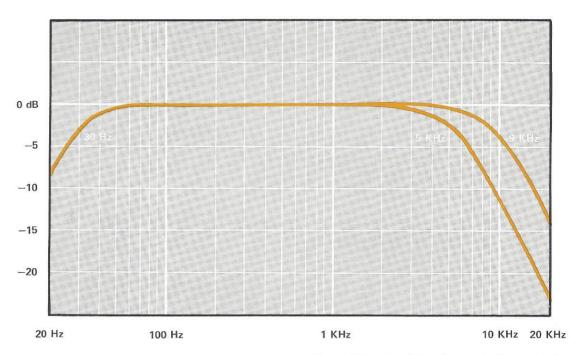


Figure 16. Active Filter Network Characteristics

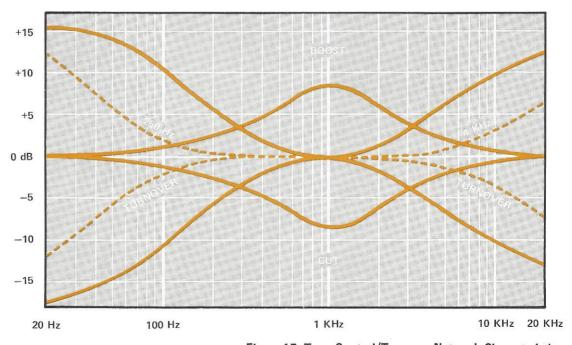


Figure 17. Tone Control/Turnover Network Characteristics

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Note: DOLBY circuit OFF

RATED OUTPUT LEVEL

Preamp Output Phono Amplifier at Scope Output

Phono*/Mic to Preamp Output Phono*/Mic to Recording Output High Level Input to Preamp Output

INPUT IMPEDANCE

Phono Mic High Level

INPUT SENSITIVITY

Phono*/Mic High Level

FREQUENCY RESPONSE

Phono

High Level

SLEWING RATE

TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION

Phono[†]

High Level

INTERMODULATION DISTORTION

Phono

High Level

HUM AND NOISE

(Noise Bandwidth: 20 Hz to 20 kHz)

Phono

High Level

CHANNEL SEPARATION

VOLUME TRACKING

PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUT DATA

Maximum output before overload: 10 V RMS

Preamp can drive loads as low as 2 kohms

Output Stability: Preamp is stable driving long cables and capacitive loads with no evidence of ringing or overshoot.

Overload Recovery: Less than 100 nanoseconds for 10 dB overdrive. No DC instability.

DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT Width

> Height Depth

Weight (Model 3800 only) (Packed for shipment)

OPERATING POWER REQUIREMENTS

ACCESSORIES

120 V AC, 60 Hz, 10 Watts (Voltage Operating Range: 100 volts to 130 volts.)

15-3/8 inches 5-3/4 inches

9-1/4 inches 16 pounds

21 pounds

Walnut Cabinet, Model WC-2U

Rack Adaptor, 19-inch rack, Model RA-2

*at 1 kHz

3.0 V RMS 3.0 V RMS

60 dB

40 dB

20 dB

47 k ohms 8 k ohms

11 k ohms

1 mV to equal 1 volt at Preamp Output 100 mV to equal 1 volt at Preamp Output

± 0.5 dB maximum variation from RIAA standard

Typical variation is \pm 0.2 dB.

± 0.25 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz

± 1 dB, 5 Hz to 60 kHz into 10 kohm load

or standard IHF load

Greater than 5V/uSec

Less than 0.02% at Recording Output Typical value: 0.01%

Less than 0.02% at Preamp Output

Typical value: 0.01%

0.012% maximum at 6 V RMS into IHF load

Typical value: 0.005% at rated output 0.01% maximum at 8 V RMS into IHF load

Typical value: 0.003% at rated output

Less than 0.78 uV equivalent input noise, input terminated into 600 ohms.

S/N greater than 82 dB below 10 mV input

100 dB below rated output, input terminated into

600 ohms,

Total output noise, worst case: less than 30 uV.

Greater than 40 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz

± 1.5 dB

SERVICE NOTES

Because the Model 3800 Stereo Control Console is completely solid state, replacement of parts should rarely be required. If a pilot lamp or meter lamp fails, have your servicemen replace it.

FUSE REPLACEMENT

The Model 3800 is protected by a 0.5 amp fuse. If the fuse blows out, replace it ONLY with a fuse of the same type and rating. Replacement with a fuse of higher rating will not protect the instrument and will void the warranty.

CLEANING

Your Model 3800 Stereo Control Console has a very durable finish. The front panel and knobs are gold anodized for lasting beauty. You may clean the panel and knobs with a soft cloth dampened with a mild solution of liquid detergent and water. Never use scouring powder or any abrasive cleaner.

REPAIRS

Only the most competent and qualified service technicians should service the Model 3800 Stereo Control Console. The Marantz Company and its factory-trained warranty station personnel have the knowledge and special equipment needed for repair and calibration of this precision instrument.

For service or repair refer to the list of Authorized Marantz Service Stations packed with your Model 3800, or write directly to the Marantz Technical Service Department, P.O. Box 99, Sun Valley, California, 91352, for the name and address of the service facility nearest your home or business. Include the model and serial number of your unit and a description of what you feel is abnormal about its operation.

REPACKING FOR SHIPMENT

Should your Model 3800 require repacking for shipment to an authorized service station, to the factory, or elsewhere, observe the following precautions:

- Do not ship your unit to the factory without an Authorized Return Label, which the Marantz Company will supply if the description of difficulties appear to warrant factory service.
- 2. Do not ship the unit installed in its walnut cabinet; remove the unit from the cabinet before packing.
- 3. Pack the unit carefully, using the original material as shown in Figure 18.

 NOTE: If you have discarded, lost or damaged the packing material, new packing material may be obtained by writing to the Marantz Technical Services Department. The carton, its filler, and packing instructions will be returned to you at a nominal charge.
- 4. Ship by a reputable carrier (do not use Parcel Post) and obtain a shipping receipt from the carrier.
- 5. Insure the unit for its full value.
- 6. Be sure to include your return address on the shipping label.

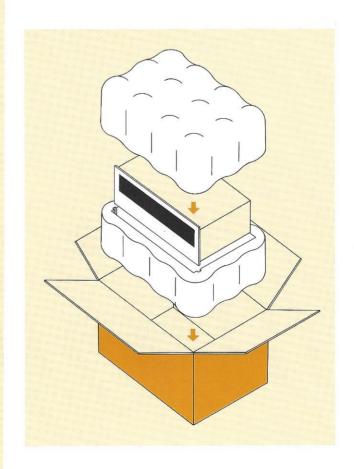


Figure 18. Repacking Illustration

The Sound of Marantz
is the compelling warmth of a Stradivarius.
It is a dancing flute, a haughty bassoon
and the plaintive call of a lone French horn.
The Sound of Marantz is the sound of beauty,
and Marantz equipment is designed to bring you
the subtle joy of its delight.
Wonderful adventures in sound await you
when you discover that the Sound of Marantz
is the sound of music at its very best.

marantz

WARRANTY

Marantz Company, Inc., warrants to the original registered owner that all Marantz electronic components will be free of manufacturing defects in material and workmanship and will perform within published Marantz specifications for a period of three years from purchase date, except oscilloscope tubes, which are guaranteed for ninety days.

The following are guaranteed against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship only, for the periods listed: Speakers and cabinets, 5 years; Headphones and other accessories, 3 years.

TO VALIDATE YOUR WARRANTY, YOU MUST FILL OUT AND MAIL THE WARRANTY REGISTRATION CARD TO MARANTZ COMPANY, INC., P.O. BOX 99, SUN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 91352, WITHIN TEN DAYS FOLLOWING DATE OF PURCHASE.

This Warranty shall be valid only if the purchase was made within the United States of America. It is the owner's responsibility to establish the date and place of purchase by acceptable evidence, at the time service is sought. The Warranty shall not apply unless shipment is made by the purchaser to an AUTHORIZED MARANTZ Service Station. All shipping charges must be prepaid. Marantz will pay return shipping charges, provided that such return shipment is to be made to an address located within the United States.

This Warranty is void if the serial number has been altered or removed; if the product is modified or repaired in any manner which Marantz believes may affect the reliability of the product; If the product is not operated in accordance with the instruction manual; if the product is not properly maintained as set forth in the instruction manual.

This Warranty does not include maintenance, cleaning, or periodic check-up.

Marantz shall have no liability whatsoever for consequential damages. The sole responsibility of Marantz Company, Inc., under this Warranty shall be limited to the repair of the product, or replacement thereof, in the sole discretion of Marantz Company, Inc.

EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT APPLICABLE LAW PRECLUDES A DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY, THERE IS NO IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS WITH RESPECT TO THIS PRODUCT, NOR ARE THERE ANY OTHER WARRANTIES WHICH EXTEND BEYOND THE PROVISIONS OF THIS WARRANTY.

REGISTRATION FOR MARANTZ PERFORMANCE, PARTS, AND LABOR WARRANTY

modern marantz moder occo	
Serial No	
Purchaser's Name	_
Purchased From (Name)	
Address	
Price Paid \$ Date Purchased	

The above information becomes your permanent record of a valuable purchase. It should be promptly filled in at the same time that you fill in and mail the warranty registration reply card to Marantz. This information provides a valuable insurance record and must also be referred to should you

have any correspondence with Marantz.

Date Warranty Reply Card Mailed _

Model: Marantz Model 3800

PURCHASER'S RECORD ▶

WARNING

TO PREVENT FIRE OR SHOCK HAZARD, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS INSTRUMENT TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

