MC1201
Monoblock
Power Amplifier

“the legendary MC1201—
the most powerful
McIntosh amplifier ever”

Producing a massive 1,200 watts, the MC1201 is the most powerful amplifier ever created by McIntosh Laboratory. The extraordinary quad-differential design of the MC1201 actually consists of two complete amplifier circuits, one the mirror image of the other, whose outputs are combined in the unique McIntosh Output Autoformer, resulting in totally balanced operation from input to speaker output and the cancellation of virtually all distortion.

The McIntosh Autoformer®, a hand-crafted transformer with output connections for two, four and eight ohms, creates an ideal impedance match to guard against distortion and reduction in power. A McIntosh amplifier with an Autoformer® can also safely drive multiple speakers connected in parallel, without shortening the life expectancy of the output stage. Far from exacting any performance penalty, the Autoformer®’s frequency response exceeds that of the output circuit, and extends well beyond the audible range, for almost immeasurably low distortion.

Double-Balanced Push-Pull Design
Exclusive McIntosh Output Autoformer®
Exclusive McIntosh Power Assurance System
Power Guard® Clipping Protection
Sentry Monitor® Current Protection
Thermal Cutout
DC Failure Protection
Turn-On Delay
Soft Start Inrush Protection
Illuminated Peak-Responding Wattmeter
Balanced Connections
Remote Power Control
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EXCLUSIVE MCINTOSH POWER ASSURANCE SYSTEM

A collection of technologies that enhance performance and reliability and protect the amp and the loudspeakers.

**Power Guard**
A waveform comparison circuit continuously monitors both input and output signals and dynamically adjusts the input level to insure maximum output power while preventing harsh sounding clipping distortion.

**Sentry Monitor**
continually senses the voltage and current of the output stage and confines it to a safe limit, without limiting power output.

**Thermal cutouts** protect your amp from overheating if cooling air is blocked and transistors become too hot.

**DC failure protection** guards speakers against output circuit failure. The output autoformer prevents DC from reaching the speaker.

**Turn-on delay** delays operation for about two seconds after turn-on, to silence any pops or thumps generated by other equipment.

**Soft Start** inrush protection eliminates component stress during turn-on. Thermistors in the power transformer act as a cushion against inrush current. Soft Start is one of many details that contribute to the remarkable longevity of McIntosh equipment.

**FREQUENCY RESPONSE**
20Hz to 20kHz, +0 / -0.25dB
10Hz to 100kHz, +0 / -3.0dB

**TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION**
0.005% max. at any level from 250mW to rated power output

**INTERMODULATION DISTORTION**
SMPTE 0.005% maximum if instantaneous peak output does not exceed twice the output rating

**A-WEIGHTED SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIO**
Bal.: 124dB below rated output
Unbal.: 120dB below rated output

**RMS POWER OUTPUT (8/4/2 OHMS)**
1,200W min. sine wave continuous average power output from 20Hz to 20kHz

**INPUT IMPEDANCE**
10k ohms

**OUTPUT LOAD IMPEDANCE**
Terminals for 8, 4, or 2 ohms

**INPUT SENSITIVITY**
2.45V unbalanced
4.9V balanced

**WIDE BAND DAMPING FACTOR**
100 (8 ohms)

**DYNAMIC HEADROOM**
2.1dB

**RATED POWER BAND**
20Hz to 20kHz

**POWER GUARD**
Clipping is prevented and THD does not exceed 2% with up to 14dB overdrive at 1kHz

**POWER REQUIREMENTS**
120V 50/60Hz, 15A

**DIMENSIONS (H X W X D)**
inch: 11 x 17.75 x 19.63
cm: 27.9 x 45 x 49.9
Panel clearance required in front of mounting panel is 1¼ inches (4.5 cm) for handles

**WEIGHT**
147 lbs. (66.8kg) net
172 lbs. (78.2kg) boxed

Double balanced push-pull design
1 x 1,200 watts (8/4/2 ohms)
High output current capability (> 200 amps)
Balanced and unbalanced inputs
Exclusive McIntosh output autoformer
Wide power bandwidth, ultra-low distortion
Exclusive McIntosh Power Assurance System
Illuminated peak-responding wattmeter with hold
Regulated illumination
Remote power control
Massive gold-plated five-way output binding posts
Fanless convection cooling
Modular construction with stainless steel chassis
1/2”-thick glass front panel with illuminated nomenclature