

MERIDIAN HI FIDELITY PRODUCT INFORMATION

MERIDIAN ARGENT 2 USER MANUAL

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1 Introduction

The Argent 2 (A2) integrates with any high-quality music system and of course is ideally suited to the *Meridian* 200-Series of products and Multi-room installations.

In purchasing a pair of *Meridian* A2s, you have acquired refined equipment which will continue to bring you listening pleasure for many years. This manual will enable you to get the most from them.

If you have any queries regarding the A2 remember that your *Meridian* dealer is selected for his expertise and you should refer to him in the first instance.

2 General description

The *Meridian* A2 is a two way design, employing bass reflex loading to optimise the conflicting parameters of mid range linearity, bass extension, power handling and sensitivity. Bookshelf location is permissible while the full development of its exceptional ability in terms of stereo staging is assured by free space location.

A2 employs a custom built 7" bass-mid driver fitted with a Kevlar matrix fibre cone, uniquely reinforced by a proprietary formula of hand applied resins. An oversize 1.57" dia edge-wound voice coil drives this transducer, and has excellent thermal and power handling characteristics. Bi-wired with top quality gold plated binding posts, the crossover employs selected polypropylene film capacitors and high dynamic range pure iron dust inductor cores.

Within its 100W peak programme capacity, which is suited to amplifiers from 25W per channel upwards, the A2 is designed to produce an excellent stereo performance. Depth, focus and transparency were primary objectives. Tonal and timbral accuracy as well as exceptional dynamic response were also taken very seriously, right down to the limit of effective bass output.

3 Unpacking

Be sure to retain the packaging for possible future transportation.

WARNING Take great care when unpacking or re-packing the A2 that you do not put any pressure on the front area of the loudspeaker. The tweeter dome is very close to the grille cloth and will be damaged if pressed. Hold the cabinets only by the sides or top and bottom. When re-packing make sure that the packing material that protects the tweeter dome is placed against the grille.

NOTE Do not use the front port-tube as a handle! Unpack the speakers. In the pack you should find:

- 2 A2 speakers complete with grilles
- A2 User Manual
- Hex wrench 3mm

4 Installation

A pair of A2s must be placed in suitable positions to get the best acoustic result.

For stereo ideally the two speakers are placed equidistant from the main listening position, and the same distance apart.

A2 has good treble dispersion and it will usually be located for best appearances perpendicular to a back wall. Try to achieve the following:

- If possible have the most acoustically absorbent wall behind the speakers. This could be an open bookcase, curtained window or each side of a bow-window.
- If possible have each A2 at least 50cm from a corner.
- If possible have each A2 at least 20cm from the back wall.
- If possible locate the listening position so that your head is at least 60cm from the wall behind you (unless it is acoustically absorbent).

4.1 Connecting

All connections should be made with your system powered down. Only switch on when all connections have been securely made.

The terminals on the A2 are designed to accept 4mm 'banana plugs', 6mm spade connectors and bare wire. They are identified as positive and negative by red and black rings around the base of the terminal.

When using bare wire connections ensure that the strands of the cable are twisted tightly together and that the terminal is screwed down securely with no loose strands.

For other types of connection always choose a good quality connector that fits snugly and in the case of a spade connector ensure the terminal is tightened sufficiently.

Good connections are very important and we therefore recommend that you inspect and clean them occasionally. For bare wire connections it is best to remake the termination of the cable to expose fresh wire.

A2s are supplied with shorting links fitted between the tweeter and bass terminals for normal operation. If you wish to use bi-wiring or bi-amplification techniques it will be necessary to remove these links.

4.2 Bi-wiring

This technique is used to help separate the high and low frequency sections of the loudspeaker. It involves using two sets of wires from your amplifier to the tweeter and bass inputs of the loudspeaker.

4.3 Bi-amplification

To further separate the high and low frequency sections of the loudspeaker it is possible to use separate amplifiers for the tweeter and bass sections. These then need to be wired independently which also results in greater flexibility.

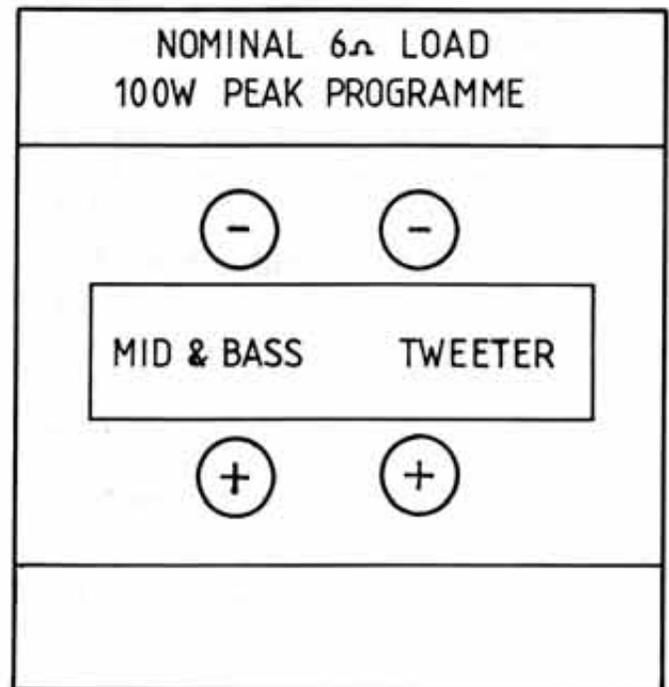


Fig 1
Terminal panel layout

5 Maintenance

5.1 Cleaning

The cabinet is constructed from MDF with a fine veneer coated in a thin layer of polyurethane. You may protect and treat this wooden finish in the normal ways with polish or wax. Do not oil this surface.

The grille should not be cleaned. If it becomes dusty a very gentle vacuum cleaning may be possible. To remove the grille hold it in the centre of each side and gently pull away from the cabinet. It may help to ease it off the restraints.

DO NOT pull the grille away from the top or it may break!

One or two days after installation check the tightness of the screws retaining the drivers. These screws may loosen in shipping or with extremes of temperature or humidity, and the speaker will not sound at its best if these are loose. Care and common sense must be employed when tightening these to ensure that they are not over-tightened. These screws should be checked every few months particularly if the speakers are played loud for extended periods of time.

6 Service

There are no user-serviceable parts inside the A2. Should the unit need service, contact the dealer who supplied it or, in case of difficulty write to:

- In the UK, Boothroyd Stuart Ltd
13 Clifton Road, Huntingdon,
Cambridgeshire, PE18 7EJ.
- In the USA, Meridian America Inc.
14120-K Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly, VA 22021
Tel (703) 818 3028, Fax (703) 830 7825
- Outside the UK, contact the importing agent for the territory. A list of *Meridian* agents abroad is available from the above addresses.

The owner is responsible for the Product during transit therefore we recommend that you retain the original packing.

7 Guarantee

The A2 is guaranteed against defects in material and workmanship for five years from the date of purchase.

The guarantee is void if the product has been subject to misuse, accident or negligence, or has been in any way modified without Boothroyd Stuart Ltd. written authorisation. Attempted servicing by unauthorised people may result in loss of guarantee.

Labour and carriage charges are not covered unless by local agreement.

When seeking service under guarantee, it is necessary to produce dated proof of purchase.

Outside the UK local warranty liability is restricted to equipment purchased within the territory. Our agents abroad are only under contractual obligation to service under guarantee equipment sold through them. They are entitled to make a non-refundable charge for any service carried out on equipment not supplied through them.

This guarantee does not limit your statutory rights within the UK.

8 Help!

8.1 No sound

- Check interconnections are correct.
- Check AC supply to other units of system.
- Check correct source is selected and that the source itself is running and producing music.

8.2 Sound from one channel only

- Check interconnects and speaker wiring
- Check balance control (if any).

9 Specification

Sensitivity

89dB/W (2.83V)

Power capacity

100W peak programme

Impedance

6 ohm nominal

Frequency response

± 2.5dB 65Hz to 20kHz -6dB @ 45Hz

Loading

High volume velocity flared port

Construction

Heavy multi braced MDF

Wiring

Single or bi-wired

HF

Boothroyd Stuart 25mm piston, AL dome, silver coil

LF

Special Short coil LF/MF flared Kevlar cone with high Q/m

Internal volume

18 litres

Size

49cm (H) X 21cm (W) X 30cm (D)

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