



Padma

Stereo Control Preamplifier

Owner's Manual

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Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Padma to be a part of your high performance music listening system. Each Padma is handcrafted, using the very latest, no compromise, cutting edge technology and componentry. This ensures the best possible sound reproduction currently available and guarantees many years of listening enjoyment.

We understand that you are eager to begin listening; however, please take a few minutes to read through this guide for useful information concerning the operation of your new preamplifier. OAD Ultrafidelity equipment takes a considerable time to run in before it performs at its best. The duration varies, but under some conditions the sound may continue to improve for over a month. Better and more consistent performance will be achieved if the system is left switched on for long periods. It is worth remembering however that equipment left connected to the mains can be damaged by lightning.

After reading this manual, if you have any further questions regarding your preamplifier, contact your dealer or OAD Ultrafidelity customer service – they will be happy to help you to make the most of your new component.

Happy Listening!

Warnings

- To prevent fire, or shock hazard, do not expose your Padma to rain or moisture.
- Do not place objects containing water on top of this unit.
- This unit contains voltages which can cause serious injury or death.
- Do not operate with covers removed. Refer servicing to your authorized OAD Ultrafidelity dealer or service personnel.
- A power cord is shipped with your Padma that meets the required safety standards. It is important for both safety and performance that the standard cable supplied is not modified.
- A switch at the rear of the Padma must be accessible in case of emergency power disconnect. The power button on the front touch display panel of this unit, when off, does not disconnect all power from this unit. This unit is in standby mode when not on. For continued protection against fire hazard, replace the fuse only with the same type and rating (see page 8 for fuse information).
- Your hi-fi system, including the Padma, can be damaged by lightning and should be turned off and disconnected from the mains when there is risk of lightning strike.
- We recommend that all connections to the Padma are made with either the mains power cord disconnected or the rear mains switch left in the '0' (OFF) position. When all connections are made and checked, move the rear mains switch to '1' (ON) position.

Ventilation

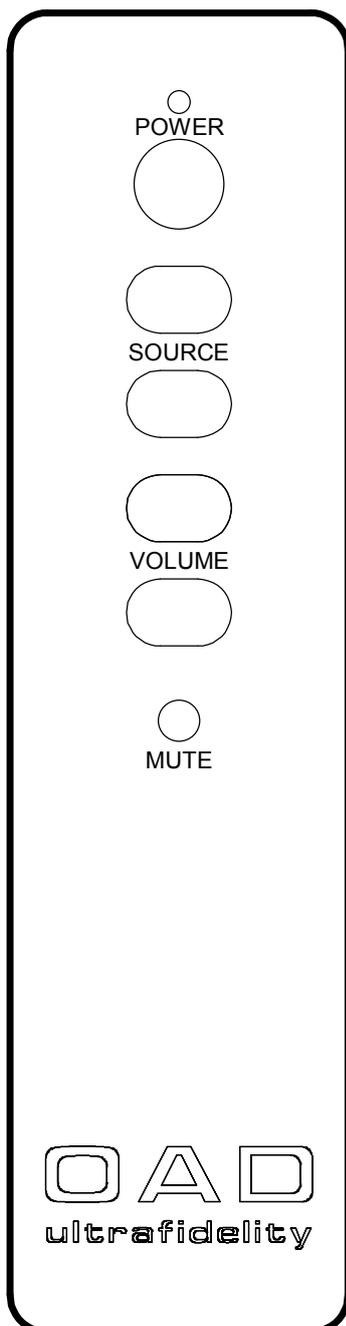
Due to its highly sophisticated numerous power supplies, the Padma will run slightly warm when not in standby. You must allow for this in installation, by providing for free air circulation around the product. Never block any ventilation openings. Allow at least 50 mm of clearance around these products for proper ventilation. Electronics should not be subjected to sources of excessive radiant heat. Excessive heat can shorten the life of the product.

Packaging

Save all packaging in a dry place away from fire hazard. Your Padma is a precision electronic instrument and should be properly boxed any time shipment is made. It is very unlikely that you will have to return your unit to the factory for service, but if that should prove necessary, the original packaging will protect your Padma from unnecessary damage or delay.

Interconnect Cables

XLR(Balanced) & RCA(Phono) Interconnect plugs and sockets should be kept clean and free from corrosion. The Padma is fitted with gold plated input and output sockets that may tarnish over time. If you wish to clean the connectors, switch off the equipment, pull the plugs out of their sockets, and push them back in again. Contact cleaners and “enhancers” should not be used as the film they deposit may leave a deposit and degrade the sound.



IR Remote Control Operation

When operating the remote control the RED LED will blink repeatedly to show that an IR signal has been sent. If the LED does not light when any of the buttons are pressed then the battery will need to be replaced by unscrewing the lower two screws on the remote control rear.

Powering Up and Down

So long as mains power is applied the remote control can be used to power up or down the Padma. The last preset you have used will be engaged (as indicated by the LED above the button).

Selecting an Input Source

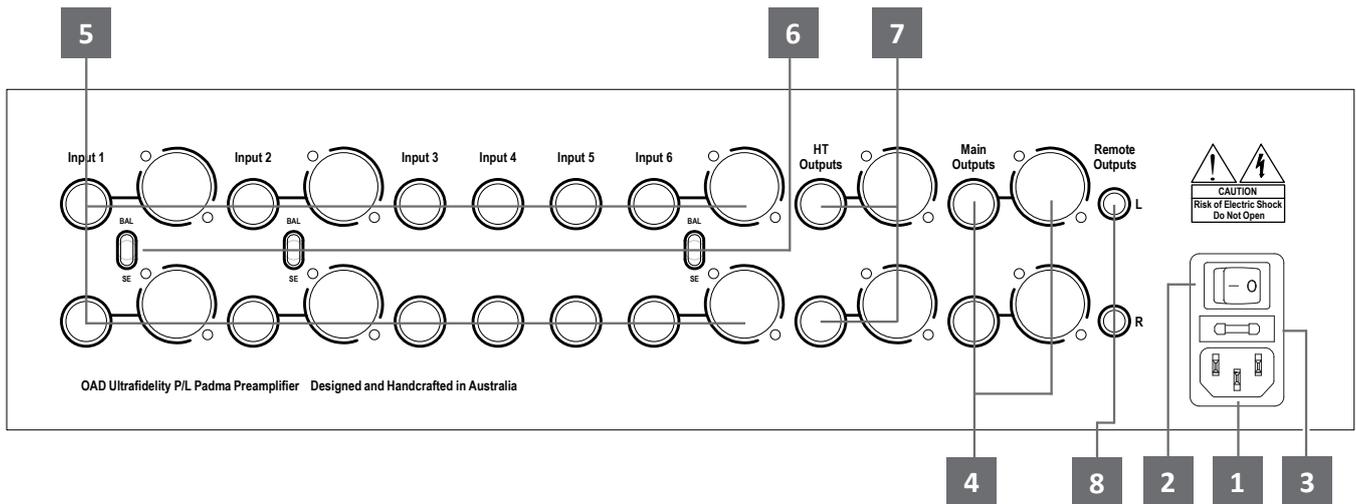
The group of six source input buttons on the front panel can be selected using the remote control buttons. Pushing the source up or down button will engage the associated input.

Adjusting Volume

The volume up/down buttons operate as they do anywhere else. The LED on the volume knob will come on to provide easy visual feedback of the volume setting. Volume steps in 0.5dB steps.

Mute

The bottom button toggles the mute function. In mute mode the volume knob LED will flash every 3 seconds.



1 AC MAINS INPUT

- The Padma comes supplied with a detachable mains power cord. Connect corresponding end of the mains power cord to the AC mains input of Padma and the plug connected to a mains power source.
- Always disconnect the mains power plug from the mains power source first, before disconnecting the cable from the Padma’s AC Mains input socket.

2 POWER SWITCH

- Supplies the AC mains power to the Padma.
- When the POWER switch is set to ON (1) position, the Padma will run through its calibration procedure and within 60 sec will be ready to play.
- If you do not intend to use the Padma for long periods of time (such as when on holidays), switch off (0) the POWER switch. With POWER switched off, the remote control’s power button cannot activate the Padma.

3 FUSE HOLDER

- Your Padma is fitted with a fuse. If it needs to be replaced you must use the same type and rating. Installing an incorrect fuse may cause damage and this will void the warranty of your Padma.

4 AUDIO OUT

- The main outputs that connects the Padma to the corresponding audio inputs of external power amplifiers. Both single-ended (SE) and balanced (BAL) outputs are provided.

5 AUDIO IN

- Use single-ended or balanced analog audio input for sources (CD Player, tuner, DAC or other applicable devices). Inputs 1, 2 and 6 have SE and BAL options, whereas Inputs 3, 4 and 5 have only SE inputs.

6 SE & BAL SELECTION

- Depending on whether you choose SE or BAL, set the toggle switch to the corresponding input.

7 HOME THEATRE OUTPUTS

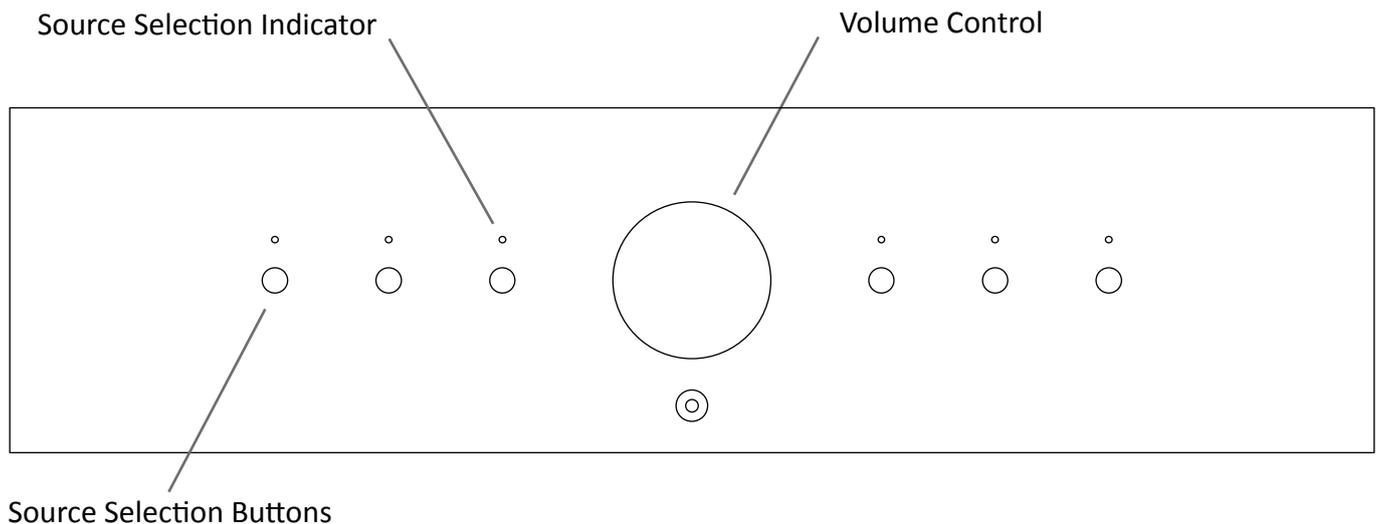
- Connect a source that you wish to use for both your Stereo and Home Theatre to Input 6. Either SE or BAL inputs are accepted. Connect the HT Outputs, either SE or BAL to your corresponding Home Theatre amplifier inputs. When the Padma is in operation the HT Outputs are disconnected. When the Padma is placed into standby the HT Outputs will connect the source inputs at Input 6 to your Home Theatre amplifier.

8 REMOTE OUTPUTS

- The two trigger outputs can be used for various purposes. The most obvious one is making the power amplifier (stereo or mono) turn on and off with your preamplifier. Any standard 3.5mm jack/jack cable will do (mono or stereo). The factory setting is to make both outputs come on as soon as the preamplifier is turned on.

Identification of Connections & Controls

FRONT PANEL



Description

Mains power on

At power on the amplifier enters a one-time calibration and self-test routine. During this process none of the front panel LEDs are illuminated. The calibration and self-tests are for the volume knob mechanism. The first part finds the position of the minimum and maximum end-stops and checks the range of motion. The second part traverses the complete range of motion and calibrates the volume knob position sensor. The third part rotates the volume knob to the maximum volume position and then visits each volume position performing a check on the sensor calibration.

Should the power-on diagnostics fail the knob will be powered off and all the front panel LED's will flash. At the end of power on self-test the volume knob will be at the minimum volume position and the amplifier will come out of standby, powering up the power supplies, connecting input sources. The power-up process takes approximately 30 seconds and when complete the front panel LED for channel 1 will be illuminated. At this point the amplifier is ready for use with input channel 1 selected at minimum volume level and is in operating mode.

Operating mode

In operating mode, the owner can use the amplifier as intended, enter standby mode or balance control mode.

The input audio channel can be selected by either pressing the front panel input button or by using the channel up/down buttons on the remote control. The current input channel will be indicated by the front panel channel LED. The input channel change from the remote requires one button press at a time to increase or decrease the input channel. The channel change does not have an auto-repeat function. When the input channel is 1 pressing channel down on the remote will not change the input to channel 6, i.e., it does not wrap round. The same is true when input channel 6 is selected and channel up is pressed.

Operating mode cont.

Volume control can be performed by either moving the physical volume knob by hand or by using the volume up/down buttons on the remote control. A single press of the volume up/down button will increase or decrease the volume by 0.5dB. Pressing and holding the volume buttons will initially change the volume by 0.5dB and after holding the button for greater than 1 second will cause the volume to continuously increase or decrease for as long as the button is held down. Volume change by hand or by IR will cause the indicator LED in the knob to light for 1.2 seconds.

The volume knob has detents at each of the 144 volume positions. The detents are performed in software. The volume can be muted using the mute button on the remote control. Each button press toggles mute on and off. There is no provision for applying mute from the front panel. When mute is active the knob LED flashes briefly once every 3 seconds. In mute the IR volume change is inhibited however the volume can be changed by physically moving the knob and when exiting mute, the volume will correspond to the physical knob position.

Standby mode

Standby mode is activated by pressing the power button on the remote control. In standby mode the front panel LEDs are turned off, input relays disconnected and power supplies turned off. In standby mode the unit does not respond to any IR commands other than the power button. The front panel channel select buttons are also inactive. The volume knob can still be moved by hand in standby mode and if it is, when the amplifier comes out of standby the volume level will be whatever corresponds to the position of the volume knob. The state of mute is remembered and the mute state is remembered and restored on exit from mute.

Standby mode is exited by pressing the IR power button. This will start the power up sequence which takes a while. During the power up sequence all front panel LED are on until operating mode is reached.

Balance mode

Balance setting mode is activated by pressing and holding the CURRENT selected input channel button for 3 seconds. During balance setting mode the volume knob becomes the balance setting indicator. The knob will rotate to the position corresponding to the current balance setting. 12'oclock is centre balance. 6dB left is at 9'ockock. 6dB right is at 3'oclock.

When the knob has reached the current balance position the knob LED will illuminate and remain on.

Balance can be changed by manually moving the volume knob. Detents at each balance position are provided by software. Should the knob be moved past the 9'oclock to 3'oclock position no more detents will be felt and the knob will apply a continuous torque back to the 3'oclock or 9'oclock positions.

IR CHUP/CHDN change the balance in 0.5dB steps. VOLUP/VOLDN change the volume in 0.5dB increments and holding down the volume button for more than 1 second will activate volume autorepeat. A change in balance or volume will be indicated by the knob LED flashing off briefly. During volume autorepeat the LED remains off for the duration.

IR mute applies mute. When muted, IR volume up/down is inactive. In mute the knob LED blinks off briefly every 3 seconds.

Any front panel button or IR POW will exit balance mode back to operating mode.

At exit of balance mode the balance setting is stored in EEPROM so the setting is remembered across power cycles.

Line Stage Specifications

Input Sensitivity: 80mV

Main Output Level (SE): 0.775V

Main Output Level (BAL): 1.55V

Maximum Output: >20V RMS or 28.2 dBu

Frequency Response: 0 - 650kHz -3dB @ 1.8VRMS Output

0 - 280kHz -3dB @ 20VRMS Output

Input impedance: 20k Ohms

Output impedance: (SE) < 47 Ohms and (BAL) < 100 Ohms

Total Harmonic Distortion: < 0.001% @ 100mV output 20Hz -20kHz

Signal to Noise Ratio: >110dB A-weighted input shorted

Overload Margins: 40dB (all inputs all audio frequencies)

Gain Range: -62dB to +10dB

Gain Resolution: 0.5dB

Mains Fuse: Model 220-240V 1A/250V anti surge (T) M205

Model 100-120V 2A/250V anti surge (T) M205

Weight 13 kg (15.5 lbs)

Shipping Weight 14.6kg (18.96 lbs)

Dimensions 126(H) x 438(W) x 353(D)mm (4.96" x 17.25" x 13.9")

Shipping Dimensions 235 (H) x 570 (W) x 500 (D) mm (9.25" x 22.44" x 19.68")

Mains Supply 110-120V or 220-240V, 50/60Hz

All technical specifications are subject to change without prior notification.

Warranty

OAD Ultrafidelity products are covered by a 3-Year Limited Warranty. This Limited Warranty initiates from the date of purchase, and is limited to the original purchaser. Outside Australia, the authorized importing retailer or distributor has accepted the responsibility for warranty of OAD Ultrafidelity products sold by them. The specific terms and remedies for fulfilment of the Limited Warranty may vary from country to country. Warranty service should normally be obtained from the importing retailer or distributor from whom the product was purchased. In the unlikely event that technical service beyond the ability of the importer is required, OAD Ultrafidelity will fulfil the terms and conditions of the Limited Warranty. Such product must be returned at the purchaser's expense to the OAD Ultrafidelity factory, along with a photocopy of the dated purchase receipt for the product, a written description of the problem(s) encountered, and any information necessary for return shipment. The cost of return shipment is the responsibility of the purchaser.

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