

# PH-1 PHONO PRE-AMPLIFIER OWNER'S MANUAL



## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your purchase!! The Nerve Audio PH-1 represents our statement about the quality-versus-value cross point. We feel the PH-1 will match performance against phono stages costing many times more.

The Nerve Audio PH-1 is a moving magnet phono preamplifier with RIAA equalization that amplifies the output signal of a moving magnet phono cartridge up to a nominal "line level" for use with any pre-amplifier, integrated amplifier, or receiver. The PH-1 was designed by Jeff Boccaccio and features solid construction, minimalist circuit topology, and low profile design. Designed for the custom installer and budget conscious audio enthusiast, the black, slimline, brushed aluminum case can be easily hidden behind a theater system for seamless integration, but is a handsome addition to any audio system. We sincerely hope you enjoy the attention and detail that have been given to the design and construction of the PH-1

Please thoroughly read these operating instructions for the PH-1 before installing and connecting it to your audio system.

## INSTALLATION

The PH-1's small size and low-profile design mean it can be installed just about anywhere, but there are a few things to consider when choosing where to place your PH-1. The installation site should not be exposed to high heat or moisture, and adequate space should be provided for ventilation on all sides and the top of the unit. Most importantly, the unit should be placed well away from strong magnetic fields or other potential sources of noise, such as motors, transformers, and video displays.

## CONNECTIONS

**CAUTION!!** Before making any connections, please be certain that the outboard power supply is NOT plugged into an AC outlet.

**PHONO INPUT:** Connect the left and right RCA phono cables from your turntable to the corresponding inputs on the PH-1 (Figure 1).



Figure 1

**OUTPUT:** Connect an audio interconnect cable from the left and right outputs of the PH-1 to the left and right high-level ('line' level) inputs on your preamplifier, integrated

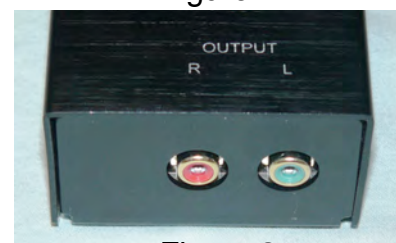


Figure 2

amplifier, or receiver (Aux, Tuner, Tape, etc.) (Figure 2). **CAUTION!!** Do not connect the output cables from the PH-1 (or any other high-level device) to the phono inputs on a pre-amp, integrated amp, or receiver.

**GROUND:** If your turntable has a ground wire, use a small Phillips screwdriver to loosen one of the chassis screws located on the side of the unit (Figure 3). Insert the ground lug or wire under the screw head and tighten the chassis screw. Be careful not to over-tighten.



Figure 3

**POWER SUPPLY**

The PH-1 uses a wall-adaptor power supply. To minimize the risk of unwanted noise, the power supply adaptor should be located as far away from the PH-1 as possible.

Connect the power supply cord to the PH-1. Be sure the power supply connector is fully seated (Figure 4). If the power supply connector is not fully inserted (Figure 5), the PH-1 will not power on.

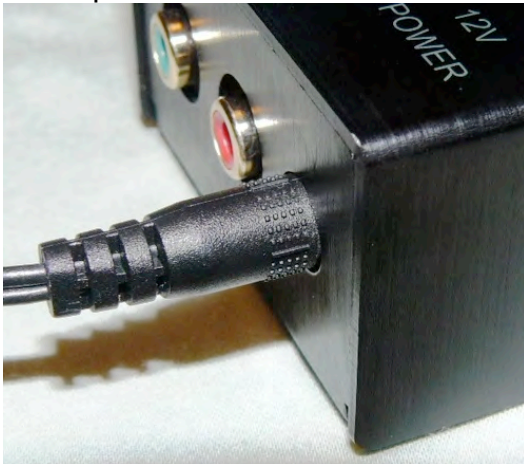


Figure 4

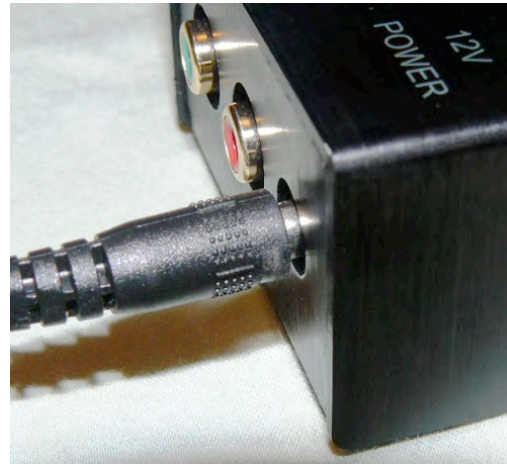


Figure 5

Finally, connect the wall adaptor to an AC outlet. Your PH-1 is now ready to use.

**TROUBLE-SHOOTING**

Problem	Solution
No sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ensure power supply connector is firmly seated.</li> <li>➤ Make sure wall adaptor is connected and power to outlet is on.</li> <li>➤ Check RCA cable connections.</li> <li>➤ Check that power to your other components is on and the volume control is turned up.</li> </ul>

Sound is distorted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Be sure output of the PH-1 is connected to a high-level input on your pre-amp or receiver.</li> </ul> <p>*** Please note: it is not usual to have to turn the volume up higher when playing a record to get the same relative volume level as when playing a CD or other high-level source. This is perfectly normal.</p>
Audible hum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Relocate the PH-1 away from sources of noise.</li> <li>➤ Disconnect the ground wire from the side of the PH-1</li> <li>➤ Relocate the wall adaptor to a different outlet.</li> <li>➤ Replace RCA interconnects with good quality, shielded cables.</li> <li>➤ Unplug the wall adaptor, rotate 180-degrees, and reinstall.</li> </ul>

**SPECIFICATIONS**

- RIAA equalization
- 1.5 volts out with 5mv input
- THD 20 Hz - 20 kHz: <0.05%
- Signal to Noise Ratio: 80 dB unweighted
- Gain: 40 dB
- Crosstalk: better than 80 dB (only noise can measured)
- Dimensions: 2.5" wide, 1.5" high, 4.5" Long

**WARRANTY**

This unit is fully warranted against failure for a period of 1 year from the date of purchase. Your original sales receipt is used as your proof of purchase date. Damage due to improper use, modifications, or acts of nature are not covered under this warranty. This warranty covers parts and labor only. We do not assume any liability for any damage to any other component in the system due to a failure of the PH-1. If you believe your PH-1 is malfunctioning, please contact the dealer where you purchased the unit; or contact:

Nerve Audio  
c/o Audiophile Answers  
822 SW 75<sup>th</sup> Way  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
Telephone: (404) 585-1129  
Email: [nerveaudio@gmail.com](mailto:nerveaudio@gmail.com)

If the unit is returned for repair, contact Nerve Audio at the above number and you will be issued a Return Authorization (RA) number. You must send the unit (packed in its original box) back pre-paid to Nerve Audio.

Nerve Audio reserves the right to alter the design and specification of this product at any time without notice.  
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