

MERIDIAN M20 ACTIVE LOUDSPEAKER

Meridian have been designing and building the finest music systems for nearly a decade, and this small English company has earned the reputation of the world's best and most experienced designers of active loudspeaker systems.

The M20 is the first model in Meridian's new third generation of active loudspeakers.

Unlike the more usual arrangement in which 'passive' loudspeakers are driven from a separate power amplifier, the Meridian M20 'active' loudspeakers contain electronics, and can be driven directly from a preamplifier or directly from the CD player.

Inside each M20 loudspeaker there is a generous power supply and two separate power amplifiers, arranged to individually power the driver units at the front. The signals for each of these power amplifiers are produced by a precision electronic crossover unit. This crossover defines the role of each driver in the loudspeaker much more accurately and consistently than is possible in a passive system. The M20 active loudspeakers provide detailed, precise and articulate sound reproduction, and are particularly good at separating out very low-level sounds which contribute so much to the realism and ambience in the music.

At Meridian we believe that high quality sounds can best come from a small loudspeaker. This is somewhat at variance with other views. The reasons are that a smaller loudspeaker, apart from being easier to install, radiates sound in a more 'familiar' way—more like a speaking person—and this results in an easily interpreted sound, producing solid stereo images, reduced from effects, and the illusion of being at the performance. A smaller loudspeaker also gives less colouration due to cabinet vibration. The Meridian M20 is constructed from the finest veneered plywood, for optimum performance.

Of course normally a small loudspeaker is deficient in either efficiency or bass response. This is not the case with the M20; here the advantages of built-in electronics really score in producing large efficiency improvements and better bass. The interactive bass system developed by Meridian achieves bass performance equal to a passive sealed loudspeaker of eight times the volume, with the result that the M20 plays down three octaves below middle C.

The new generation of active loudspeakers from Meridian have user-switchable features including music turn-on from standby, and a range of response selections to allow the speakers to be adjusted for room acoustics or to operate close to a wall or on a bookshelf.

They feature switchable balanced/unbalanced inputs, including a new multiway connection intended to carry data in future networked systems.

The M20 defines the state of the art for active loudspeakers.

SPECIFICATIONS

Frequency response	35Hz - 20kHz $\pm$ 3dB
Maximum output	109dB spl
Sensitivity	0dBm (775mV) over 22k (bal or unbal, internally adjustable to -20dBm, 78mV)
Power amplifiers	70W bass system 35W tweeter system
Noise	<20dB spl @ 1m
Distortion	<0.01% 38Hz - 20kHz all power levels
Connections	RCA phono socket 2X 6-way audio and data
Music Sensing	The electronics detect the start of a sequence of music, and automatically activate the loudspeaker system. About 25 minutes after the end of the music the system reverts to standby mode. In standby the electronics of the crossover and other sensitive signal-carrying parts are kept at running temperature for optimum sound quality; the power amplifiers are allowed to cool. Music sensing may be switched off. This feature does away with the need for power switching at the loudspeaker.
Controls	via 8-way DIL switch on bal panel: Music sensing on/off Input balanced or unbalanced Electronics grounded or floating Bookshelf equalisation 16 response settings for room acoustics matching
Power requirements	Switchable 115V/230V 50/60Hz Internal for 100V/260V
Consumption	Max 200VA, Idle 30VA, Standby 6VA
Protection	Internal fuse. Thermal detectors mute system and revert to standby.
Indicator	Two-colour led at front shows green standby, red operating.
Drivers	2 X 110mm plastic-coned bass/mid 1 X 35mm soft-dome ferrofluid-damped tweeter
Cabinet	Constructed from 19mm panels, finished in highest quality veneers. Black ash and walnut standard, others to order.
Dimensions (WHD)	18X50X38cm (7X15X20in)
Weight with stand	18Kg

M20 is supplied complete with connecting cables and stands.

Each M20 contains a novel double-filtered 135VA power supply, a sophisticated electronics crossover and two class AA non-switching power amplifiers, each enhanced with dc-servo controls for stable sound and excellent high-level performance.

BOOTHROYD STUART LIMITED

13 CLIFTON ROAD
HUNTINGDON, CAMBS PE18 7EJ
TEL (0480) 57339
TELEX 32577 MERIDN