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Nobsound XZ-E6

Nobsound E6 Direct Heated Vacuum Tube Preamp User Manual

Model: XZ-E6

1. Introduction

The Nobsound E6 is a direct heated vacuum tube pre-amplifier designed to enhance your audio experience by providing a warm, sweet, and detailed sound. This Class A stereo audio pre-amplifier is engineered to filter out digital harshness from audio sources, making it an ideal companion for headphone amplifiers, power amplifiers, or active speakers.

Important Note: This device is a tube preamp and not a headphone amplifier. It requires an external 5V DC power supply (not included), which can be provided by a phone charger, power bank, or computer USB port.



Figure 1: Nobsound E6 Direct Heated Vacuum Tube Preamp. This image shows the compact design with two visible vacuum tubes and a gold-colored volume knob on the front panel.

Key Features:

- **Direct Heated Tubes:** Utilizes direct heated vacuum tubes for superior sound quality, characterized by low distortion, transparent sound, and minimal background noise.
- **Pluggable 2J27S Vacuum Tube:** Features military-grade 2J27S tubes with pure ceramic sockets for optimal insulation and easy replacement.
- **Standard RCA Connectors:** Equipped with standard stereo L/R RCA input and output for broad compatibility with various audio sources and amplification devices.
- **Compact and Durable Design:** Mini size with a metal case and thickened golden panels for effective shielding and an exquisite appearance.
- **Integrated Control:** Power switch and volume control are combined into a single knob for convenient operation.

2. Setup Guide

Follow these steps to set up your Nobsound E6 Preamp:

2.1 Tube Installation

1. Carefully unpack the E6 Tube Preamp and the vacuum tubes.

2. Identify the two pins on each vacuum tube that have black dots. These pins are designed to align with specific holes in the protruding sockets on the preamp.
3. Gently insert the vacuum tubes into their respective sockets, ensuring the pins with black dots align with the designated holes. Apply light, even pressure until the tubes are fully seated. **Incorrect insertion can cause damage to the tubes or the preamp.**



Figure 2: Close-up of the 2J27S vacuum tubes. This image highlights the vintage and pluggable nature of the tubes, emphasizing their quality and ceramic sockets.

2.2 Connecting Audio Sources and Output Devices

1. Connect your audio source (e.g., phone, MP3 player, CD/DVD player, computer) to the **RCA Input** ports on the Nobsound E6 using standard L/R RCA cables. The input ports are typically labeled "IN".
2. Connect your audio output device (e.g., power amplifier, active speakers, headphone amplifier) to the **RCA Output** ports on the Nobsound E6 using standard L/R RCA cables. The output ports are typically labeled "OUT".



Figure 3: Connection diagram for the Nobsound E6. This image illustrates how to connect various audio sources to the RCA input and output devices to the RCA output, along with the DC 5V power input.

2.3 Power Connection

1. Locate the DC 5V power input port on the rear of the Nobsound E6.
2. Connect the provided USB to DC cable to this port.
3. Plug the USB end of the cable into a compatible 5V DC power source, such as a phone charger, power bank, or computer USB port. Ensure the power source can provide at least 350mA.
4. **Caution:** The anode supply voltage is DC 105V when powered. Do not touch the tube sockets or internal components when the E6 is powered on.

3. Operating Instructions

Once all connections are made, you can begin using your Nobsound E6 Preamp.

3.1 Powering On/Off and Volume Control

- The power switch and volume control are integrated into a single knob on the front panel.
- To power on the device, rotate the knob clockwise until you hear a click. The tubes will begin to glow, indicating

the unit is powered.

- Continue rotating the knob clockwise to increase the volume. Rotate counter-clockwise to decrease the volume.
- To power off the device, rotate the knob counter-clockwise until you hear a click and the tubes' glow diminishes.

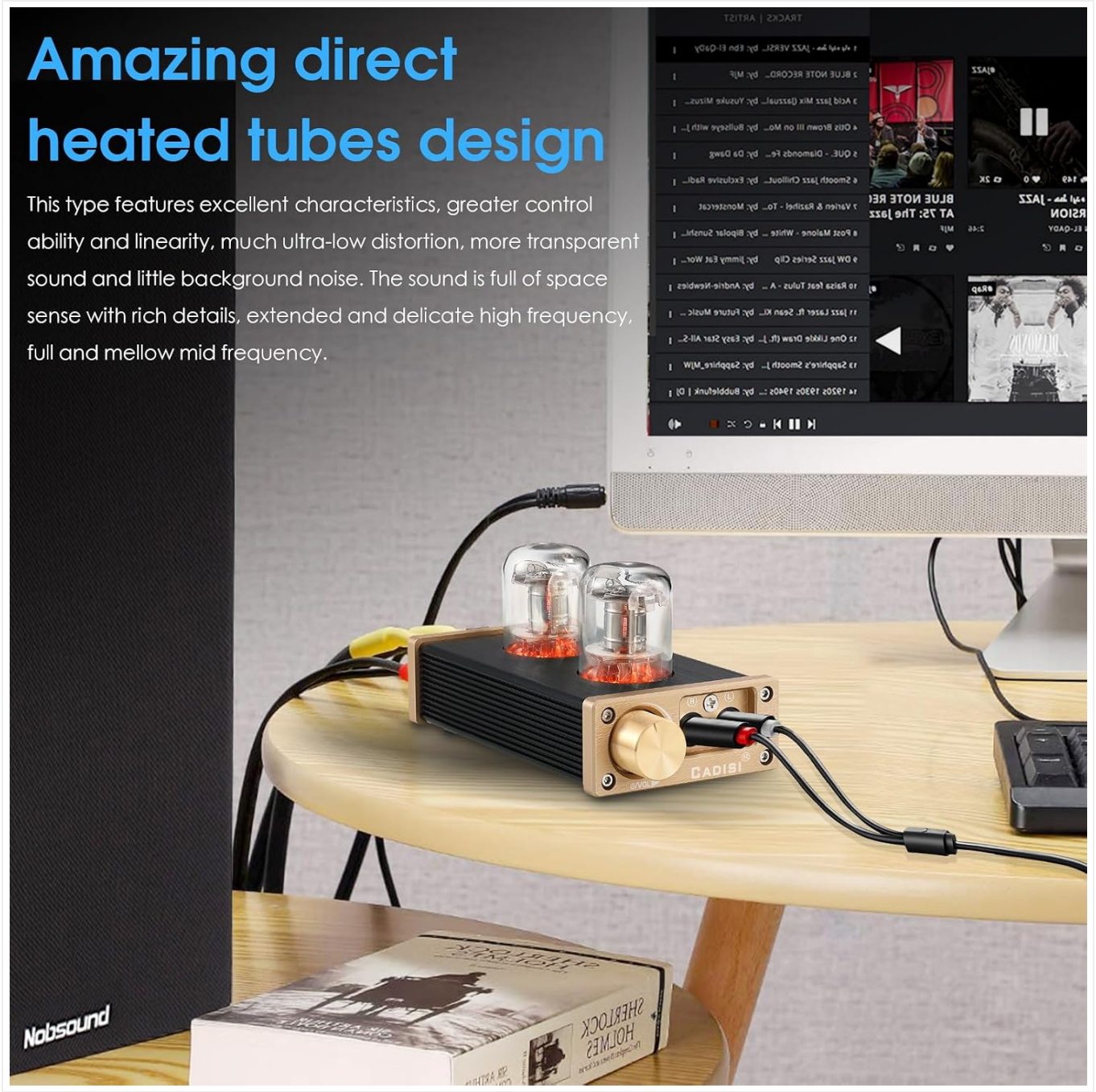

Figure 4: Nobsound E6 connected to a computer and external speakers. This image demonstrates a typical setup where the preamp is integrated into a desktop audio system.

3.2 Audio Playback

- Ensure your audio source is playing and its volume is set to a moderate level.
- Adjust the volume on the Nobsound E6 to your desired listening level.
- The E6 will process the audio signal, providing the characteristic warm and rich sound of direct heated vacuum tubes.

4. Maintenance

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Nobsound E6 Preamp.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the exterior of the unit. Avoid using liquid cleaners or abrasive materials, as they may damage the finish.
- **Tube Handling:** If you need to remove or replace the vacuum tubes, ensure the unit is powered off and unplugged. Allow the tubes to cool down before handling. Always grasp the tube by its base, not the glass, to avoid damage.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure the preamp is placed in a well-ventilated area to prevent overheating, especially during extended use.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, store the preamp in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and excessive dust.

5. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your Nobsound E6 Preamp, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound output	Unit not powered on. Incorrect cable connections. Volume knob set to minimum. Audio source not playing or volume too low. Tubes not properly seated.	Ensure the power/volume knob is rotated clockwise to turn on. Verify all RCA input and output cables are securely connected to the correct ports. Increase the volume using the front knob. Check your audio source and ensure it is playing and its volume is adequate. Power off and unplug the unit, then re-seat the vacuum tubes firmly.
Distorted or poor sound quality	Loose or faulty cables. Improper tube installation. Interference from other electronic devices. Faulty audio source.	Check and replace any loose or damaged audio cables. Ensure tubes are correctly and fully inserted. Move the preamp away from other electronic devices that may cause interference. Test with a different audio source to rule out source issues.
Humming or buzzing noise	Ground loop issue. Poorly shielded cables. Proximity to power cables or transformers.	Try plugging the preamp and connected devices into the same power strip. Use higher quality, shielded RCA cables. Re-route power cables away from audio cables.

6. Specifications

Parameter	Value
Audio Input	Standard stereo L/R RCA
Audio Output	Standard stereo L/R RCA
Voltage Amplification	About 6 times (15.6dB)

Parameter	Value
Anode Supply Voltage	DC 105V
Filament Cathode Supply Voltage	DC 2.2V
Frequency Response	20Hz-30KHz
Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR)	≥90DB
Input Voltage	DC 5V-5.5mm*2.5mm (>350mA)
Dimensions (W*D*H)	68*116*65mm / 2.68*4.57*2.56in (including tubes)
Net Weight	260g / 0.57lb
Package Weight	400g / 0.88lb
Model Number	XZ-E6
ASIN	B0BBV3KH7L
Manufacturer	Nobsound



Figure 5: Dimensions and package contents of the Nobsound E6. This image provides a visual representation of the preamp's size and lists the included items.

7. Packing List

The following items are included in the product package:

- 1 * E6 Tube Preamp
- 1 * USB to DC Cable
- 1 * User Manual

8. Warranty and Support

Specific warranty information for the Nobsound E6 Preamp is not provided in this manual. For warranty details, technical support, or service inquiries, please contact the manufacturer, Nobsound, or your point of purchase. Retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

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