



## TK audio DP3 Dual Class A Preamp Instructions

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### TK audio DP3 Dual Class A Preamp



### Introduction

Our flagship preamp, DP2, has been replaced by the all new DP3. The DP3 is a unique hybrid design including both vintage and modern circuits. The midrange crunch of the germanium sound of the mid 60's, the low mid punch and thick sound associated with British class-A from the early 70's as well as the more modern tone from the 80's and 90's. It contains not just our well proven input stage and germanium circuit, we have also incorporated a new saturation circuit that together with the vintage class-A stage gives you lots of character choices. The input stage is designed around a high quality Swedish Lundahl transformer and a hi-gain stage followed by selectable saturation and germanium circuits for more color and harmonics. Instead of switching

output stages as it was done in our previous models the class-A stage is now inserted in front of the output level control letting you drive the transformer harder without overloading your A/D converters. This also make the output less sensitive to different load impedance.

The class-A stage uses a heavy custom made Carnhill transformer that produces a fat and punchy sound with mid-range character and a warm top end. The Hi-Z instrument input has a separate activating switch so that you can let your instrument stay connected all the time. The Hi-Z direct mode function bypass the input transformer and input stage and send the instrument signal direct to the HPF and the selectable saturation and germanium circuits. Direct mode gain is +14dB which is perfect for bass recording together with the class-A stage. The sweepable HPF goes from 30Hz to 400Hz which allows precision crafting of the low end.

### **Key Features:**

- Hi-gain input stage with up to 80dB of gain
- Selectable vintage class-A stage
- Lundahl and Carnhill transformers
- Selectable germanium and saturation circuits for more color and harmonics
- Sweepable high-pass filter, 30-400Hz, 12dB/octave
- Instrument input with 2 Mohm impedance
- Output level placed after class-A stage
- Headroom meter with eight LED's

### **Specifications:**

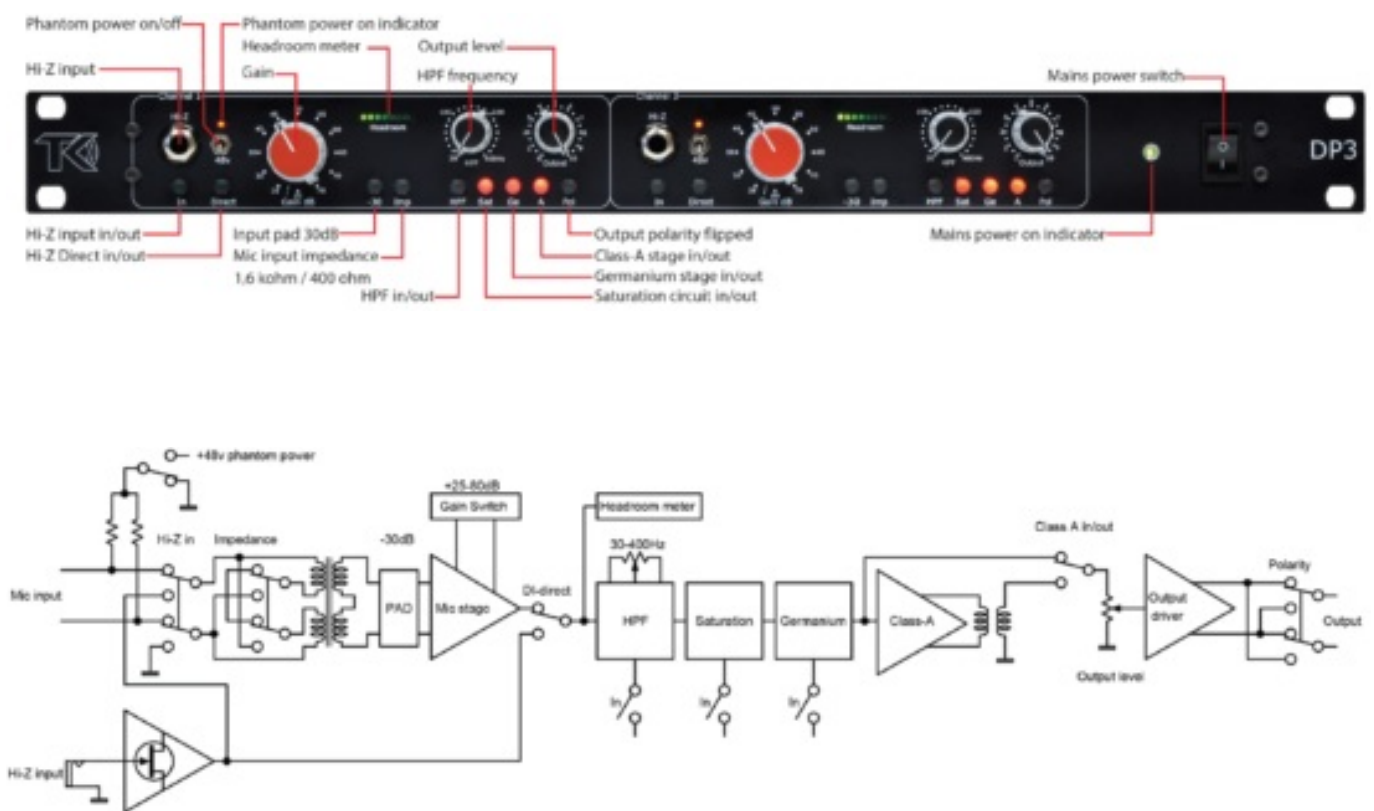
- Input impedance: 1600 ohm / 400 ohm
- Instrument input impedance: 2 Mohm
- Max output level: +26dBu
- Balanced output impedance: 50ohm
- DI-direct gain: +14dB
- Frequency response electronic balanced: -0,2dB @ 80kHz
- Frequency response class A inserted: -0,5dB @ 20kHz
- THD+N @ +20dBu: 0,007%
- THD+N @ +20dBu, class-A inserted: 0,01%
- THD+N @ +20dBu, saturation stage active: >0,3%
- THD+N @ +20dBu, germanium stage active: >1%
- Power requirement: 115v or 230v internally selectable
- Power consumption: 15VA

### **Features:**

- Hi-Z input: High impedance instrument input with 2 Mohm input impedance
- In: activates the instrument input
- Direct: bypasses the mic input stage and feeds the Hi-Z input stage directly to the HPF
- 48v phantom power switch with separate LED indicator
- Gain switch in 5dB steps: -25 to -80dB, +5dB to -25 with -30dB pad selected
- Headroom meter: This LED-meter is a headroom meter and NOT a VU-meter. It is connected before the output

level control to show the internal headroom even if you have lowered the output level. With the level at max the meter indicates clip at +25dB.

- -30dB: pads the input signal -30dB (for best signal to noise ratio, avoid the 30dB pad if not needed)
- Impedance: mic input impedance normally 1600ohm, 400ohm when engaged
- Sweepable high pass filter: 30-400Hz, 12dB/octave
- Saturation: inserts a saturation stage for extra harmonics after the HPF
- Germanium: inserts a germanium stage after the HPF (for more color, select higher gain and back off a little with the output level control)
- Selectable vintage class-A stage
- Output level control: adjusts the output level after the class-A stage if inserted
- Polarity switch: flips the output polarity
- Illuminated switches (except for the phantom toggle switch which has a separate LED) Specifications and components may be changed or updated without further notice.



## EU – Declaration of conformity

### Product DP3

115v – 200mA, anti surge fuse (slow)

230v – 100mA, anti surge fuse (slow)

### Manufacturer

Musikverkstan i Halmstad AB / TK Audio  
Falkenbergsgatan 10  
30233 Halmstad  
Sweden.

### Declaration of conformity

declare under my sole responsibility that this product, to which this declaration relates, is in conformity with the following standards: EN55013, EN55020:2002, EN61000-3-2, EN61000-4-2 and EN60065 Following the provision of 73/23/EEC, 89/336/EEC and 93/68/EEC.

## Documents / Resources

[illegible]

## References

- User Manual

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