

## Grant Fidelity CD-327A Manual

Thank you for your purchase of the CD-327A Tube CD Player with selectable up-sampling.

The CD-327A will bring you many years of enjoyment of your CD music collection. It is very simple to operate and hook up.

Please use common sense in locating your CD-327A.

### **First Time Use**

Please carefully unpack your CD-327A and keep all packaging material for later use and storage. Your package includes the CD-327A, the remote control and the standard power chord. The stock 12AX7 tubes are already installed under the Plexiglas cover on the top of the unit.

The CD-327A comes with high-grade vibration isolation feet that are also used for levelling the player. These feet are spiked by design and care should be taken when moving the unit not to scratch your furniture. To level the CD player place 3 feet to the closed position and adjust the 4<sup>th</sup> either up or down until the unit is firmly seated on all 4 feet.

You do not need to purchase expensive aftermarket isolation for the CD-327A, but do suggest you have audio furniture that at least has some consideration for audio performance. Grant Fidelity includes audio furniture in our complete audio line-up.

The supplied 12AX7 tubes will last around 10,000 hours if not more. There is no need to warm up the CD-327A for long periods or always leave on. It will be ready for audiophile listening after 30 minutes of warm-up and sounds fine for background music after the 20 second pre-heat delay on power up.

Connect high quality stereo RCA interconnect cables to your playback system, plug in power cable to a high quality, designed for audio, spike protected power conditioner

The remote control and front panel controls are all standard. The two exceptions are the A-B button which is used to create a loop in a song, ideal for practising music or audiophile auditioning a passage of music. Play a song and select the A beginning and B ending loop points, the music will repeat.

You can use the coax digital output to feed a digital pre-amp or DAC directly from the high quality CD drive transport and laser pick-up, by-passing the analog tube circuits.

## Defeatable Up-sampling

The 2<sup>nd</sup> exception is one of the CD-327A most used features, besides Play and Stop. The 'Display' button is used to select the playback sampling frequency. To select the playback frequency, push Stop (this clears the DAC), then push the Display button to select the desired frequency; 44.1 kHz (16-bit), 88.2 kHz (24-bit) or 176.4 kHz (24-bit). It is common for CD-327A owners to mark their CD's as to the playback frequency that works best for their music. The CD-327A defaults to 176.4 kHz on power up. The custom programmed 24 bit DAC is tweaked at each setting to provide the most enjoyment from your CD library.

## Tube Rolling

Of course the big benefit of owning the CD-327A is that you are not limited to the sound as supplied to you. With Solid State CD players you are relying on the designer's idea of great sound and performance. With the CD-327A you are in control. The 12AX7 is one of the most popular tubes available as both New Old Stock (NOS) and New Production tubes. Prices range from \$20 to \$200 a pair with the higher range being the NOS tubes that are very rare, but desired by audiophiles. Grant Fidelity has what we believe to be the best new production tube in the TJ Full Music 12AX7 at just over \$100/pair. We suggest that be on your list as a potential tube roll.

Of course we think the CD-327A sounds great with the stock tubes, so do the reviewers and lots of our customers. We have many customers who we classify as a tube-aholics, that even go as far as having what we fondly call a 'tube spice rack' and they have been known to have a set of tubes for rock and blues, another set for Classical, another set for Jazz and vocals.

To roll tubes, turn of the power for about 5 minutes while removing the tube cover and using a glove, remove the tubes using a gentle rocking motion while lifting up out of the socket. Look at the pin configuration and place the new tubes firmly into the sockets. You can leave the cover off while testing tubes.

Note that new and new NOS tubes will require about 100 hours to burn in and sound their best. When evaluating tubes you should warm up the tubes for about half an hour prior to making you sonic comparison. Tubes are fun and quite addicting as you get to control the magic of their sound.

If you drop something inside the CD-327A while having the cover off, unplug the power immediately and wait 12 hours before opening the unit to recover the part. The high-voltage capacitors do store a charge for quite a few hours.

Only replace/roll tubes from the 12AX7 family of tubes. If you have any doubts or questions, please ask in our forum at [www.grantfidelity.com/forum](http://www.grantfidelity.com/forum) or give us a call/email.

## **Maintenance/Warranty**

There are no user serviceable parts inside your unit and the voltage inside the unit and the internal voltages are potentially lethal. Only qualified service personal should go inside the unit. Attempting any repairs or modifications will void your warranty. Tube rolling with new production tubes provided by Grant Fidelity is fine. In the event a tube roll from a tube sourced from some other supplier causes damage to your CD-327A, the warranty will be void.

Your remote comes with the battery installed, replace with the same type of battery.

If you need to ship your unit, please do so in its original packaging. We will not accept warranty returns without the original packaging, if you have lost yours you will have to pay for replacement packaging and shipping prior to return.

You have a one year non-transferable warranty on your CD-327A for parts and labour, 90 days on tube. Please contact us if you are planning on selling your CD-327A within the warranty period.

## **Specifications:**

- Tube Outputs: RCA
- Digital Outputs: Coax
- Frequency Response: 20Hz~20KHz (+-0.5dB)
- Dynamics: > 100 DB
- THD: < 0.005%
- PHILIPS SAA7824 servo system SONY laser pick up
- 2x 12AX7 Tubes Custom 24 Bit 192 kHz DAC
- Compatible Discs: CD, HDCD, CD-R, CD-RW
- Dimensions: 430 x 330 x 95 (mm) Weight: 11 KG.

## **Grant Fidelity After Sales Support:**

At Grant Fidelity we pride ourselves on providing the finest after sales support in the industry, you can contact us in many ways:

- Email – [sales@grantfidelity.com](mailto:sales@grantfidelity.com)
- Phone – 403 251-0466
- Toll free phone - (NA) 1 888 477-5379
- Forum – [www.grantfidelity.com/forum](http://www.grantfidelity.com/forum)
- Web – [www.grantfidelity.com](http://www.grantfidelity.com)

We look forward to hearing from you and truly appreciate your feedback on dealing with Grant Fidelity and our products.

The Grant Fidelity Team