



TubeDAC-11

Vacuum Tube Digital-to-Analog
Converter, Headphone Amplifier
And Passive Pre-amp

www.grantfidelity.com

"High End, Not High Priced"

Thank you for purchasing Grant Fidelity
TubeDAC-11.

Note that your TubeDAC-11 is dual voltage,
please make sure you have set the voltage
switch on the back of the unit to the voltage
suitable for your country prior to use.

We strongly suggest you to read the following documents in its entirety to ensure safe and successful operating of the product.

Please keep this document for future reference.

Operations:

The following operations procedures should be followed to ensure optimal performance and avoid damages to your music play back system.

The Grant Fidelity TubeDAC-11 is easy to use. You just need to connect your music source to one of the (5) inputs, connect one of the output to your pre-amplifier (section) or simply plug in a pair of headphones – you are good to go.

- ❖ Place the TubeDAC-11 on a flat surface, use felt pads to level feet if needed on surface.
- ❖ Before the DAC is properly connected, please DO NOT plug in the unit and power it on. All interconnects and headphone amplification cables should only be connected while the unit is Power OFF. Plugging or unplugging signal cables or headphones during Power ON may cause damage to the product and your headphones. Use caution please.
- ❖ If your RCA inputs / outputs connectors are severely oxidized, the sound quality

will greatly suffer. Regular cleaning of these parts with proper materials or solutions is highly recommended to ensure the product's best performance.

- ❖ How to connect headphones? - The headphone output on the front panel is a standard 6.5mm connection. You may use a 6.5mm-to-3.5mm adaptor to use other type of headphones. Alternatively, you can use a Stereo RCA to Headphone adapter to convert the Tube Out at the rear panel to headphone jack then plug your headphones in. This way, you are enjoying the DAC-11 as a tube headphone amp through the 6N11 tube output stage.

- ❖ How to connect with power amplifier? - When using the Line Out or Tube Out as your output connection, this product can be used as a passive preamp to connect to power amplifiers. Use the DAC-11 volume control as your main volume control.

- ❖ How to Power ON the product? - When all is connected and you have set the dual voltage selector switch on the rear, you should power on your source components (such as DVD/CD players or tuners) first, then DAC-11, the last one is the amplifier. When turning the system off, the sequence should reverse, i.e. power off amplifier first, then

TubeDAC-11, then the source components.

- ❖ Where to set the volume control when power ON? - Before turning on the product for the first time, you should set the volume to minimum. Once the unit is turned on, vacuum tube will takes about 20 seconds to warm up to working condition, then gradually adjust the volume control to desired loudness. After you have set the volume to the desired level, you can leave it there for on and off.
- ❖ You may use the volume control to adjust the pre-amplification signal in this product, hence to control the loudness of the headphone or amplifier. Whenever changing sources, you should turn the volume to minimum to ensure safe operation. When using the TubeDAC-11 with an integrated amp or pre-amp, the nominal volume level is approximately half volume (5 to 10 on a scale of 10). When you plug in a pair of headphones to the front headphone jack, sound will be automatically cut off from the speakers. Volume nominal range is much lower, from 0 to 6 on a scale of 10.
- ❖ USB Operation – Plug in USB 2.0 Audio device, select USB input on the TubeDAC-11. If using a computer for your source, select Grant Fidelity

TubeDAC output on your computer as your soundcard and set your computer speaker volume to full – this way you will get the proper signal input level to your DAC-11. In your Audio Manager set the TubeDAC-11 to 24bit/96kHz for best results.

- ❖ Optical Operation – Please remove dust caps from the ends of optical cables. Leave dust caps in place when not in use. If you find the signal is on and off from time to time, try to adjust the optical cable to as straight as possible. Some device (such as certain brands of computers) may have a lower optical signal output which can cause information drops or no information at all. In this case, try another input or adjust the volume. This is not a defect of the TubeDAC-11; it's just a mismatch between input signal strength and the TubeDAC-11.
- ❖ Extremely loud volume can cause damage to your loudspeakers your headphones and/or ears. Please avoid operating the product at extreme volumes.
- ❖ If you are not familiar with the dynamics of the music you are playing, please keep the volume moderate to avoid damages to your speakers, headphones and/or ear.

- ❖ 6N11 Tubes usually have a 5000-10000 life expectancy. If you find all other output works fine but tube output is not working properly, check the tubes to see if it still lights up. If not, gently press the tubes tight to its socket. If this still doesn't fix the problem, contact us for tube replacement or purchase an equivalent tube model from after-market to replace the stock tube. An inferior quality tube could introduce noise to the playback system – please use a good quality tube from reputable vendor to ensure safety and quality.

Caution:

- ❖ Please check the voltage setting at first use to ensure it matches your local power supply.
- ❖ Do not pinch the power cord. Only plug or unplug by holding the terminals, not the cord.
- ❖ Do not use this product in damp locations such as bathrooms or around kitchen sinks.
- ❖ Please allow sufficient ventilation around the product while in use. Do not install

the product to an enclosed shelf which may prevent heat dissipation.

- ❖ Do not use chemicals to clean this product. Only use dry soft fabric to clean the surface.
- ❖ Do not drop metal objects into the unit. If such incident happens, open the case and take out the metal object before you power on the device.
- ❖ You should unplug all electronics during thunder storms.
- ❖ If the unit smells like burnt objects or smokes coming out of the chassis, please unplug it immediately and contact a certified technician for repair.
- ❖ Changing the parts of the product without distributor authorization will void this product's warranty.
- ❖ Tube rolling (changing to other make / model tube) is at owner's own risk. If a shorted or improper tube causes damage to the device, it is not covered by warranty. Carefully remove the 8 hex screws on the sides with the supplied hex wrench to remove the cover. Unhook power before rolling tubes.

If you need warranty service, please refer www.grantfidelity.com for warranty terms and conditions and send in your request with your order number / purchase date.

Specifications, user tips etc. are located on the Grant Fidelity Website/Forum.

Thank you for your purchase of Grant Fidelity products.

Your Grant Fidelity Team