

# Black Cube

Phono Preamp



## The classic on the pulse of time

The Black Cube is the classic among the phono preamps: since its product launch in 1995 it has enjoyed cult status with a vast number of record lovers, causing a sensation in the specialised press with its compact dimensions and marvellous sound. Since 2006 the audio pc board has been on the market in a new and greatly improved version.

### Quality with tradition

Right from the start, the Black Cube has enabled a new encounter with beloved music classics: owing to its excellent components and sophisticated circuit design, the sound is faithfully reproduced and with plenty of ardour, despite its tiny dimensions. The high-grade input stages of the latest generation ensure a low-noise reproduction. The custom-designed power supply provides a high headroom.

Virtually all common pickup systems from high-output MM to MC may be connected to the Black Cube. A free slot for a custom impedance offers a matching termination even for demanding MC systems. And we have also provided an extra hardwired plug-in location per channel for an immediate and direct action with no switch. Likewise, the versatile nature of the Black Cube becomes apparent when mounting the device: you can easily place it very close to the tonearm of your turntable drive. This is enabled by the long cable between power supply and audio section and also by the compact dimensions of this phono stage.

### Highlights

#### Features

- low noise design
- four different gain settings, compatible with all common MM and MC cartridges
- precise passive RIAA equalization network for perfect transient response and channel balance
- custom impedance sockets
- additional hardwire sockets
- non-magnetic aluminium housing with mechanically dampened top cover to avoid microphony and resonances
- RCA connectors with gold plated contacts
- shielded cable to the power supply

#### Accessories (optional)

- turns into a Black Cube SE with the PWX power supply

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Made in Germany

# Tech Info

|                                                                                         | MM                                                                     | MC            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Sensitivity for output level</b><br>775 mV/0 dB<br>(with activated high gain jumper) | 3.8 mV/1 kHz                                                           | 0.38 mV/1 kHz |
| <b>Gain 1 kHz</b>                                                                       | 46 dB                                                                  | 66 dB         |
| <b>Maximum input level 1 kHz</b>                                                        | 45 mV                                                                  | 4.5 mV        |
| <b>Signal to noise ratio</b><br>(RMS unweighted)                                        | 71 dB                                                                  | 63 dB         |
| <b>Gain</b>                                                                             | 36 dB, 46 dB, 56 dB, 66 dB                                             |               |
| <b>Channel separation</b>                                                               | > 85 dB at 10 kHz                                                      |               |
| <b>Input impedance</b>                                                                  | 47 kohms, 1 kohm, 100 ohms<br>• 1 x custom load<br>• 1 x hardwire slot |               |
| <b>Output impedance</b>                                                                 | 47 ohms                                                                |               |

|                                   |                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Input capacitance</b>          | 100 pF                                                                                       |
| <b>Channel mismatch</b>           | typ. 0.5 dB                                                                                  |
| <b>Bass filter</b>                | 50 Hz, 6 dB/oct.                                                                             |
| <b>Power consumption</b>          | < 3 W                                                                                        |
| <b>Outer dimensions W x D x H</b> | • Audio section: 113 mm x 108 mm x 45 mm<br>• Power supply: 92 mm x 232 mm x 45 mm           |
| <b>Weight</b>                     | • Audio section incl. cable to power supply:<br>0.4 kg netto<br>• Power supply: 1.0 kg netto |

Version: July 2014. Subject to change without prior notice.

## Press Commentaries

### Hi-FiChoice

„As soon as the needle hits the groove I can hear that the Lehmannaudio is able to conjure an expansive and open soundstage. But it's not just the size of the sonic landscape it paints which is of merit, where its strengths also lie is in how it lets instruments and voices work together as a cohesive whole, which really brings the music to life.“

Hi-FiChoice/01 2015



„The Black Cube, though still a new kid in the block, can be easily considered a „classic“, a challenge for every HiFi manufacturer. (...) Any serious analogue-addict should listen to it before buying anything else.“

TNT AUDIO/01 2001

### Enjoy the Music.com

„After the obligatory 10-day burn-in time it was sounding absolutely incredible! In fact it was the undisputed best phono stage my ears have heard for under \$1,500 and the Black Cube would retail for about half that!“

Enjoy the music.com/11 1999



„I found the performance to be superb. Talking about the more obvious characteristics, the noise levels are extremely low. (...) The near-total absence of electronic noise unmasked detail I had not been aware of before. (...) A high-quality phono stage for the serious LP enthusiast.“

Australian hi-fi/08 1999

## Awards



Best of LP – 10 years  
LP/2014



1<sup>st</sup> place  
stereoplay Highlights/2007



Best of 2001 Award  
enjoythemusic.com/2001



Reviewers' Choice  
SoundStage! Network/1998