

Balanced Audio Technology

# VK-3

Balanced Line  
Preamplifier



*Balanced design* ▲

*Sonic purity* ▲

*Remarkable value* ▲

*Emotional involvement* ▲

A work that aspires,  
however humbly, to  
the condition of art  
should carry its  
justification in every  
line.

—Joseph Conrad



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## VK-3 Specifications

### Inputs:

5 XLR line-level inputs  
(optional XLR-to-RCA adapters available)

### Outputs:

3 (2 main and 1 tape) XLR outputs  
(optional XLR-to-RCA adapters available)

### Gain:

18 dB

### Frequency response @ -3 dB:

2 Hz to 300 kHz (volume control at 9 o'clock)

### Input impedance:

100 k $\Omega$  minimum each phase

### Noise:

Better than -100 dB unweighted

### Distortion:

0.02% at 2 V RMS output

### Channel-to-channel crosstalk:

Better than -85 dB at 10 kHz

### Maximum output signal:

40 V RMS

### Minimum power amplifier input impedance:

10 k $\Omega$

### Absolute polarity:

Noninverting

### Tube complement:

Four 6922s and two 6V6s

### Power consumption:

100 VA maximum

### Dimensions:

19" W x 5.75" H x 15.5" D  
(48 cm W x 15 cm H x 40 cm D)

### Weight:

24 lb. (11 kg) unpackaged

Measurements reflect typical performance in balanced mode.

The Balanced Audio Technology VK-3 offers an unmatched combination of performance and value in a fully balanced line stage. This six-tube zero-feedback design features vacuum-tube current regulation, continuously adjustable shunt volume control, custom encapsulated oil-filled signal capacitors, and the same Unistage™ circuit topology used throughout the BAT series of line stage preamplifiers.

### ▲ *Balanced design*

The VK-3 is a fully balanced design from input to output. Competing units often simply add XLR jacks to a single-ended internal circuit. The benefits of fully differential signal handling are lost in such designs. The VK-3's purist approach to balanced signal transmission preserves the performance benefits of truly balanced source components and power amplifiers. At the same time, the VK-3 is completely compatible with single-ended systems via BAT's high-quality plug-in adapters.

### ▲ *Sonic purity*

The VK-3's Unistage™ design employs a single gain stage to amplify the signal. The stage-to-stage coupling distortions inherent in complex buffer or follower circuits are eliminated altogether. This single-stage design works together with the VK-3's shunt volume control and custom encapsulated oil-filled signal capacitors to convey the pace, excitement, and nuance of a fine recording.

### ▲ *Remarkable value*

Excellence in engineering reflects the ability to attain ever-higher performance at a given price. In this regard, the Balanced Audio Technology VK-3 represents the highest standard of design achievement. The VK-3's fully balanced design is a demanding union of purist circuit topology, vacuum tube current regulation, and premium parts selection that offers a sound previously unavailable at this price.

### ▲ *Emotional involvement*

Whether used with solid-state or vacuum-tube power amplifiers, balanced or single-ended sources, digital or analog recordings, the VK-3 imparts a special magic to the reproduction of music. It provides a direct emotional connection to the performance. Whatever your system, we encourage you to visit your BAT audio specialist and experience this magic for yourself.

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