

VTL Amplifiers, Inc.
4774 Murietta Street, Suite 10
Chino, California 91710
USA



Tel (909) 627-5944
Fax (909) 627-6988
e-mail mail@vtl.com
<http://www.vtl.com/>

S-200 Balanced Stereo Signature Amplifier



VTL's legendary Signature series has long been valued by music lovers who seek outstanding sound at a fair price. The new S-200 takes that proposition to a new level by including VTL's latest technology in a space saving single chassis design. All the features and functionality of the renowned MB-450 and MB-185 Series III Signature monoblocks are built in, but in a package costing significantly less. With top quality parts, a fully balanced design, and innovative engineering, the S200 offers a listening experience unparalleled at this price.

This 200 watts/channel stereo amplifier is packed with technology VTL has spent years developing. A fully balanced differential input stage drives a differential phase splitter and a lower impedance push-pull output stage with a custom made, fully balanced, interleaved and coupled output transformer. Like its stable mates, the amplifier incorporates VTL's SmartTube technology with automatic bias adjustment and fault sensing, making this amplifier especially welcome to music lovers who value ease of use. With the S-200, there's no need to guess when or if a tube may need to be replaced.

To keep the output tube operating point constant and stabilize the critical power supplies, even under AC and main power supply fluctuations, the S-200 deploys adjustable precision-regulated bias and screen supplies, yielding tonal stability and sonic integrity especially during complex, dynamic signal conditions.

The S-200 also features a user adjustable Damping Factor feedback control that allows the user to adjust the amplifier's output impedance by varying the amount of negative feedback. Impedance can now

be precisely set to suit the listener's taste, and to improve control of the loudspeaker loads to deliver best performance. The 3 possible settings are:

1. LOW -- Lowest damping factor, good loudspeaker control, most natural sound.
2. MED -- Better loudspeaker control, with some impact on sound quality
3. HI -- Best loudspeaker control, with a little more impact on sound quality, but on speakers that need the control the sonic improvement is clear



The S-200 bears a similar sonic signature to its bigger brother, the MB-450 Series III Signature monoblocks. The mid bass authority and control is excellent while the midrange and top end reflect natural timbres and instrument colors effortlessly. The amplifier's agility and speed, its very low noise floor, and its ability to drive a wide range of speakers are distinct features that few other tube amplifiers in this price category can offer. Pair it with VTL's TL5.5 Series II preamplifier for one of the most compelling and seductive sounds available anywhere close to the price.

Feature List:

1. Fully balanced differential circuit – even single-ended signal produces balanced signal at output
2. Fully balanced differential input and driver stages for increased signal swing, bandwidth and stability
3. Zero global Negative Feedback
4. Shorter, faster feedback loop for greater tonal control without phase shift.
5. Superior handling of loudspeaker loads for greater signal stability.
6. The amplifier is unconditionally stable, without the need for capacitor compensation.
7. Tube-like JFET type current source maintains sonic integrity in single-ended mode
8. Low impedance output stage for better loudspeaker control
9. Proprietary designed interleaving and coupling in the balanced VTL Signature output transformer, for wider bandwidth and zero ringing
10. Variable user-adjustable DF feedback control to vary output impedance and damping factor for optimal matching to speaker load
11. Software microprocessor controlled
 - Tetrode/Triode Switchable
 - Auto Bias, Fault Sensing
 - Current in-rush limiting
 - Standby Mute function; with reduced tube current for increased tube life
12. 200 watts per channel in tetrode; 100 watts per channel in triode
13. Uses eight 6550 or KT-88 tubes
Adjustable regulated screen supply for stable operating point; discrete regulated input and driver supply for greater signal resolution and tonality
14. Adjustable precision-regulated bias supply for greater signal resolution

- and noise rejection and improved isolation from mains supply variations; output operating point does not change with AC power fluctuations
15. Autobias and fault sensing system to operate in fully balanced differential mode; amplifier is fully protected against output tube failure; no need for precision matching of output tubes
 16. Film bypass of power supply caps for greater HF resolution
 17. Extruded aluminum front panel with luxurious, modern look – black and silver options available
 18. Rack mountable
 19. Rigid construction and ventilation designed for lower operating temperature

Specifications

S-200 Signature Stereo Amplifier Data Specification

Vacuum Tube Complement	8 x 6550 or KT-88, 2 x 12AT7, 2 x 12BH7
Output Power	Tetrode = 200 watts Triode = 100 Watts
20 Hz – 20 kHz <2.5% THD	Into 5 ohms
Input Sensitivity	Variable between 700mV and 1.6V, depending upon DF setting
Input Impedance	45K Ohms
Load setting	5 ohms
Optimum Load Range	4 - 8 ohms
S/N Ratio	-110dB, 120 Hz
Power Consumption	Idle = 330 W Full Power = 1000 W
Primary Mains Fuse Rating	100/120V = 15A Ceramic Slo Blo 220/ 240V = 8A Ceramic Slo Blo
Input Fuse	100/120V = 1A Ceramic Slo Blo 220/240V = 1A Ceramic Slo Blo
Logic Fuse	100/120V = 1A Ceramic Slo Blo 220/240V = 1A Ceramic Slo Blo
B+ Fuse Rating	Plate Fuse – 1.0A fast acting 600V
Dimensions W x D x H	18.5 x 18 x 9 inches (47 x 45.7 x 23 cm)
Weight	105 lbs (47.6Kg) per monoblock unpacked 120 lbs (54 Kg) packed