PRICE $1.00

Assembling and Using Your...

Heathkit

WILLIAMSON TYPE AMPLIFIER

MODEL W-5M

HEATH COMPANY

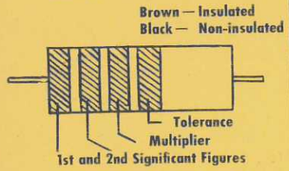
A Subsidiary of Daystrom Inc.

BENTON HARBOR, MICHIGAN

595-103

STANDARD COLOR CODE — RESISTORS AND CAPACITORS

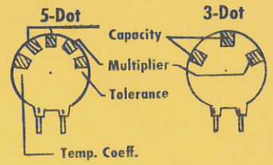
AXIAL LEAD RESISTOR



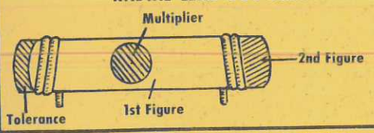
Wire wound resistors have 1st digit band double width

INSULATED UNINSULATED Color	FIRST RING BODY COLOR First Figure	SECOND RING END COLOR Second Figure	THIRD RING DOT COLOR Multiplier
BLACK	0	0	None
BROWN	1	1	0
RED	2	2	00
ORANGE	3	3	,000
YELLOW	4	4	0,000
GREEN	5	5	00,000
BLUE	6	6	000,000
VIOLET	7	7	0,000,000
GRAY	8	8	00,000,000
WHITE	9	9	000,000,000

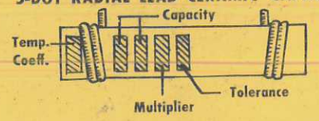
DISC CERAMIC RMA CODE



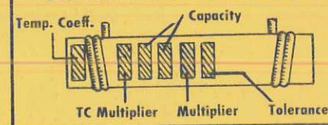
RADIAL LEAD DOT RESISTOR



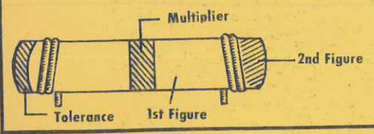
5-DOT RADIAL LEAD CERAMIC CAPACITOR



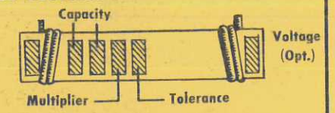
EXTENDED RANGE TC CERAMIC HICAP



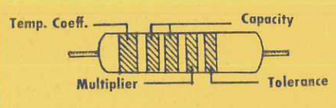
RADIAL LEAD (BAND) RESISTOR



BY-PASS COUPLING CERAMIC CAPACITOR



AXIAL LEAD CERAMIC CAPACITOR

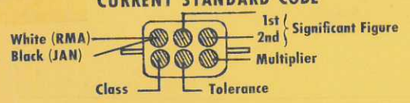


The standard color code provides all necessary information required to properly identify color coded resistors and capacitors. Refer to the color code for numerical values and the zeroes or multipliers assigned to the colors used. A fourth color band on resistors determines tolerance rating as follows: Gold = 5%, silver = 10%. Absence of the fourth band indicates a 20% tolerance rating.

The physical size of carbon resistors is determined by their wattage rating. Carbon resistors most commonly used in Heathkits are ½ watt. Higher wattage rated resistors when specified are progressively larger in physical size. Small wire wound resistors ½ watt, 1 or 2 watt may be color coded but the first band will be double width.

MOLDED MICA TYPE CAPACITORS

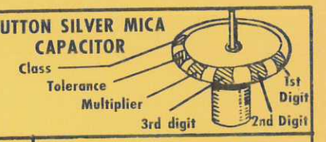
CURRENT STANDARD CODE



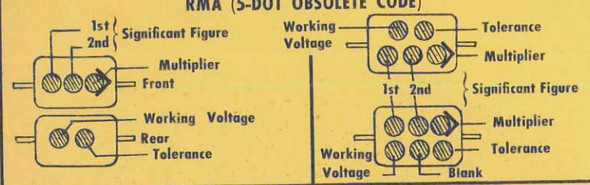
JAN & 1948 RMA CODE

RMA 3-DOT (OBSOLETE) RATED 500 W.V.D.C. ± 20% TOL.

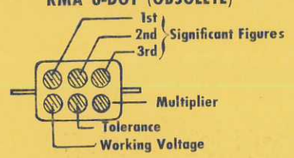
BUTTON SILVER MICA CAPACITOR



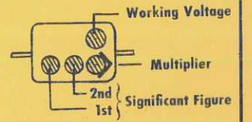
RMA (5-DOT OBSOLETE CODE)



RMA 6-DOT (OBSOLETE)

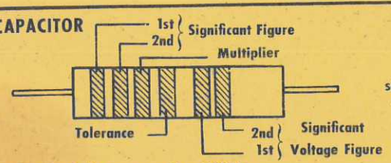


RMA 4-DOT (OBSOLETE)



MOLDED PAPER TYPE CAPACITORS

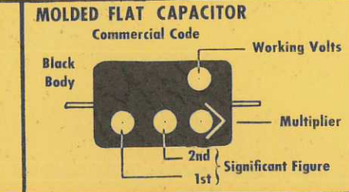
TUBULAR CAPACITOR



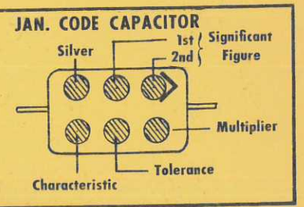
Normally stamped for value

A 2 digit voltage rating indicates more than 900 V. Add 2 zeros to end of 2 digit number.

MOLDED FLAT CAPACITOR



JAN. CODE CAPACITOR

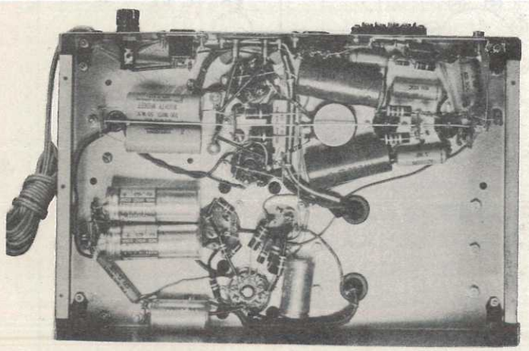


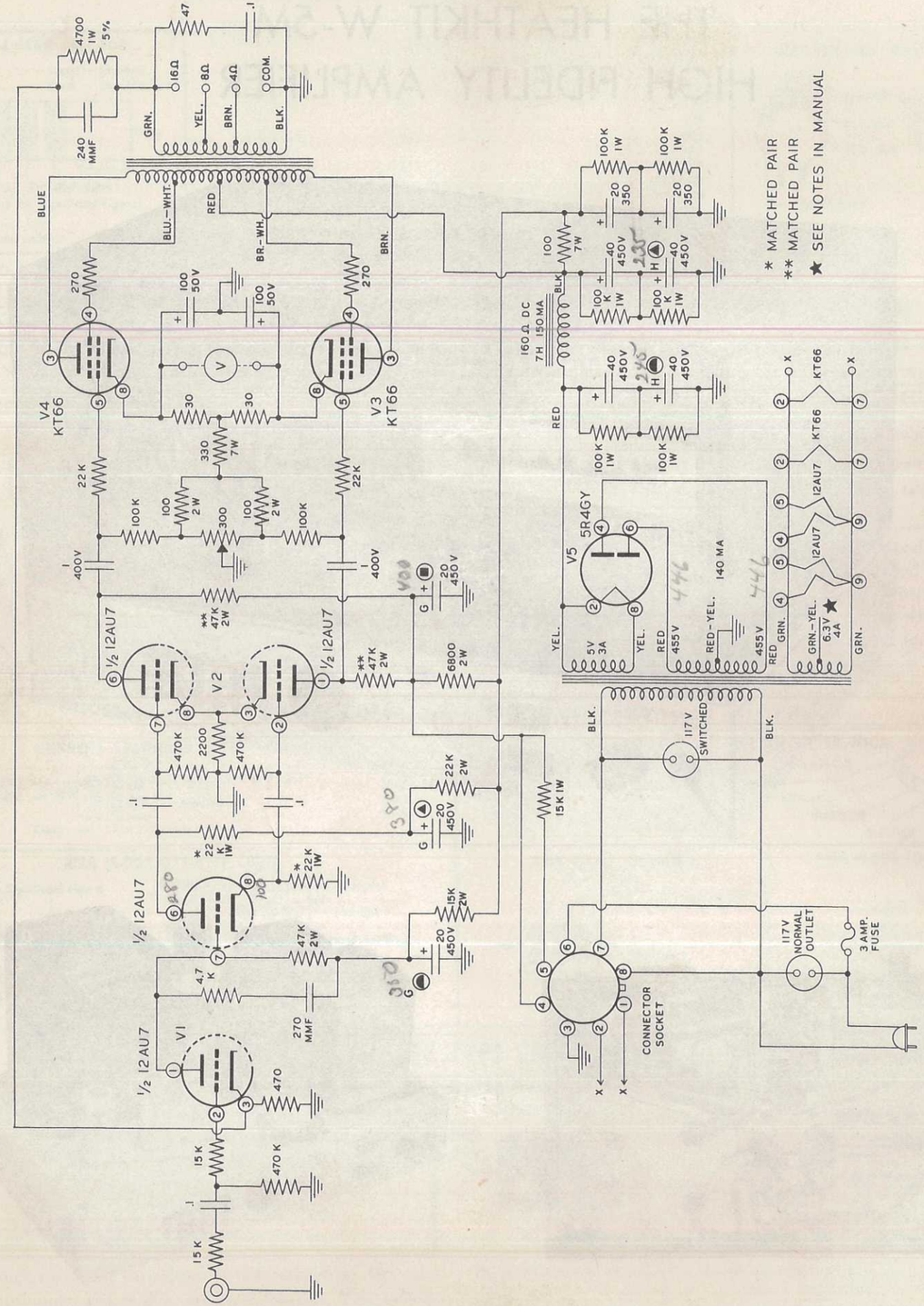
The tolerance rating of capacitors is determined by the color code. For example: red = 2%, green = 5%, etc. The voltage rating of capacitors is obtained by multiplying the color value by 100. For example: orange = 3 × 100 or 300 volts. Blue 6 × 100 or 600 volts.

In the design of Heathkits, the temperature coefficient of ceramic or mica capacitors is not generally a critical factor and therefore Heathkit manuals avoid reference to temperature coefficient specifications.

Courtesy of Centralab

THE HEATHKIT W-5M HIGH FIDELITY AMPLIFIER





THE HEATHKIT W-5M HIGH FIDELITY AMPLIFIER

SPECIFICATIONS

NOTE: There is, as yet, no general agreement for specifying amplifier performance. A cursory review of specifications may easily give a highly distorted picture of the characteristics of the amplifier. In general, it may be assumed that the most important specifications are those which are not shown.

At first glance, the specifications presented here may seem quite complex and possibly, confusing. We feel that it is necessary to provide you with complete and factual information about the Heathkit W-5M Amplifier. We urge your direct comparison of these figures against those for competitive amplifiers. It is our intention to furnish you with enough information to point up the fact that, in general, only the most optimistic technical information reaches the prospective buyer of high fidelity amplifiers.

The specifications below have been taken with the most modern and accurate test equipment available today. They are actual measurements taken on a typical amplifier, under carefully controlled conditions; not to present the most favorable advertising information, but in strict accordance with all generally accepted standard conditions. These conditions are listed at the end of this specification.

Minor variations from these specifications may be encountered in kit-assembled amplifiers. Such factors as exact lead placement, component variations and tube characteristics are possible sources of deviations. In a highly stabilized amplifier, such as the W-5M, these variables may be disregarded from a performance point of view.

POWER OUTPUT:

Rated Power..... 25 watts
Maximum Average Power.....32.5 watts
Peak Power.....47.2 watts
Power Output Related to Frequency.....See Figure 1.

Please note that on the 15, 20 and 25 watt curves, portions of the characteristic have been broken. Power measurements cannot be considered valid in this region because they were made with meters calibrated to RMS values. Waveform distortion in the broken areas was sufficient to invalidate such readings.

On the power curves, asterisks have been used to designate overload points at both low and high frequency limits.

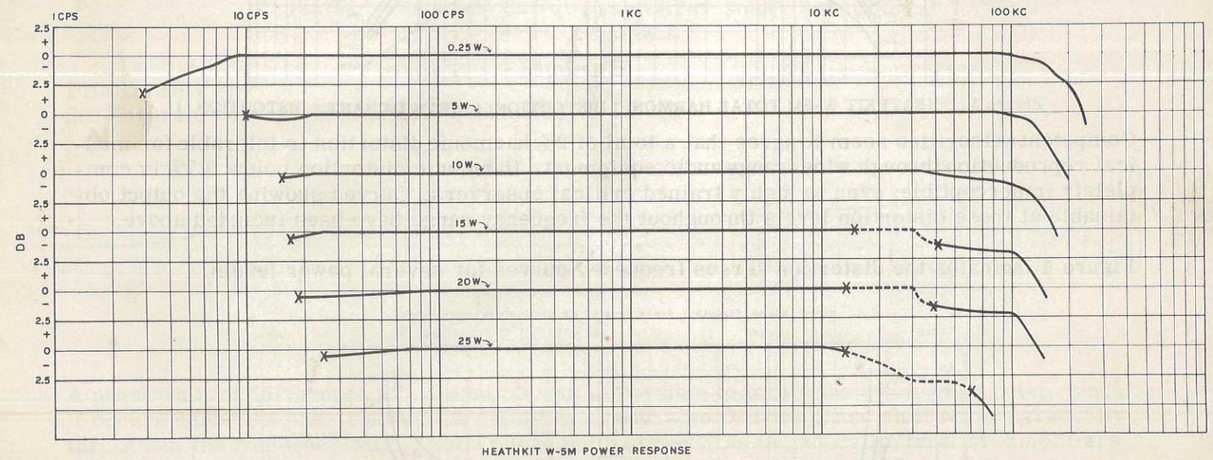


Figure 1

One of the outstanding features of the W-5M is the remarkable low frequency power response. Observe that the 0.25 watt curve extends smoothly to 3 cps and is only down 3 db at this point. Also, note that it is possible to obtain 20 watts of power at 20 cps without overloading. In conventional amplifiers, low frequency response at low levels has been sadly lacking. At high levels these amplifiers tend to go into overload and block on heavy bass passages. Because of the unique output transformer design featured in the W-5M, low frequency power response is greatly improved. Special attention has been given to the problem of overload recovery. (See "Overload Recovery" on Page 7.)

FREQUENCY RESPONSE:
See Figure 2 below. This curve was taken at 1 watt reference output and may be considered as the voltage response of the amplifier

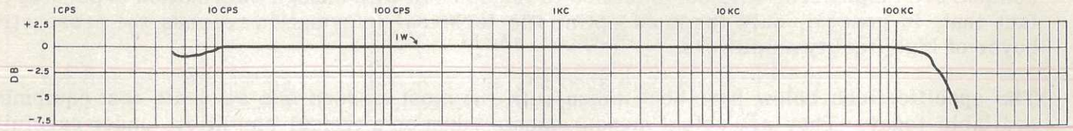


Figure 2 HEATHKIT W-5M FREQUENCY RESPONSE (1 WATT OUTPUT)

An outstanding characteristic of the W-5M amplifier is the complete absence of the rising response at the low and high limits of the pass band which has been considered a necessary evil up to the present time. Although outside the audible range, such humps add to the instability of the amplifier and tend to create distortion in the audio range. This happens when low frequency transients, such as turntable rumble, line voltage surges or tuning thumps, drive the amplifier into low-frequency overload. In the W-5M, these transients cannot create any audible distortion and no hangover or "breathing" conditions are evident.

The curve in Figure 2, taken at 1 watt output and the 5 watt curve in Figure 1, represent average room listening levels. In this amplifier, a minimum of 500% reserve power is available to accomodate heavy bass passages and to make up for the relative inefficiency of less expensive speaker systems.

HARMONIC DISTORTION:
Figure 3 below gives five curves which relate the total harmonic distortion to power output throughout the frequency range. From these curves it becomes evident that specifying total harmonic distortion at any power level without designating the test frequency can be very misleading.

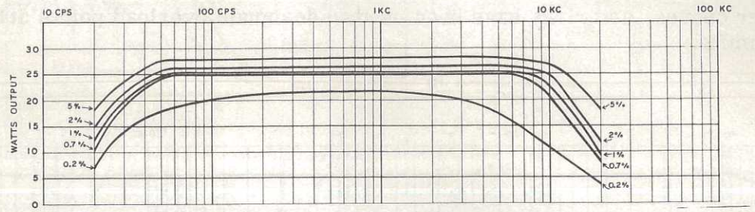


Figure 3 HEATHKIT W-5M TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION (DETERMINANT: DISTORTION)

Competent authorities seem to agree that a total of 2% harmonic distortion is tolerable for musical reproduction through wide-range audio equipment. Harmonic distortion below 0.7% is completely imperceptible, even to highly trained critical observers. Curves showing the output obtainable at these distortion levels throughout the frequency range have been included above.

Figure 4 indicates the distortion versus frequency curves for several power levels.

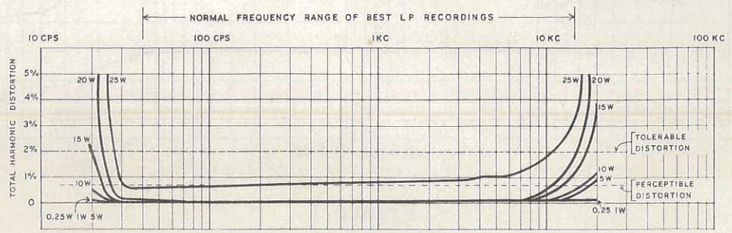


Figure 4 HEATHKIT W-5M TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION (DETERMINANT: POWER OUTPUT)

INTERMODULATION DISTORTION:
Intermodulation distortion curves for three separate test conditions are plotted in Figure 5. Please observe that, again, the generally accepted limits for "extremely high fidelity" amplifiers and "high fidelity amplifiers" have been added to the graph. The W-5M amplifier will supply over 20 watts of power under any one of the three test conditions before its intermodulation distortion exceeds the "extremely high fidelity" requirements.

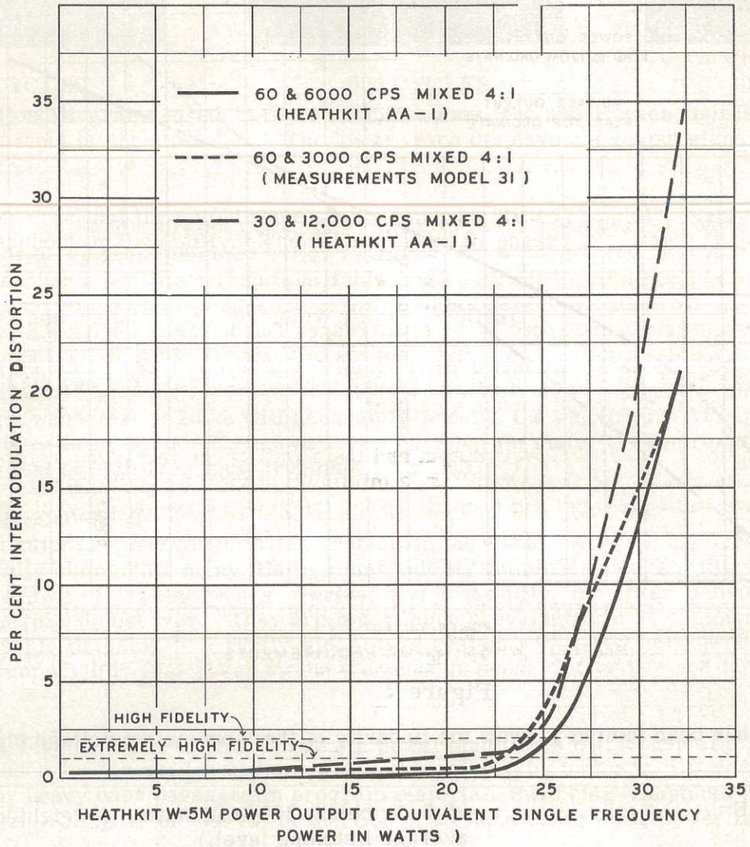


Figure 5

PHASE SHIFT:
See Figure 6 below, which is self-explanatory.

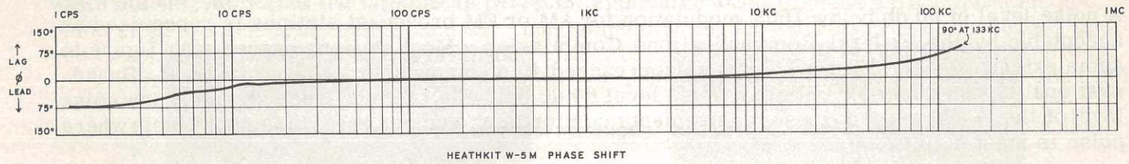


Figure 6

A phase shift of 75° occurs at 1.2 cps. It was impossible to locate the 90° leading point, since it occurs below the pass-band of the amplifier. Note also that the phase shift occurs gradually throughout the frequency range, rather than quite abruptly as is generally true of amplifiers with heavy feedback. This contributes further to the stability of the amplifier.

SENSITIVITY:
Figure 7 below indicates voltage input required to drive the amplifier through its entire output power range.

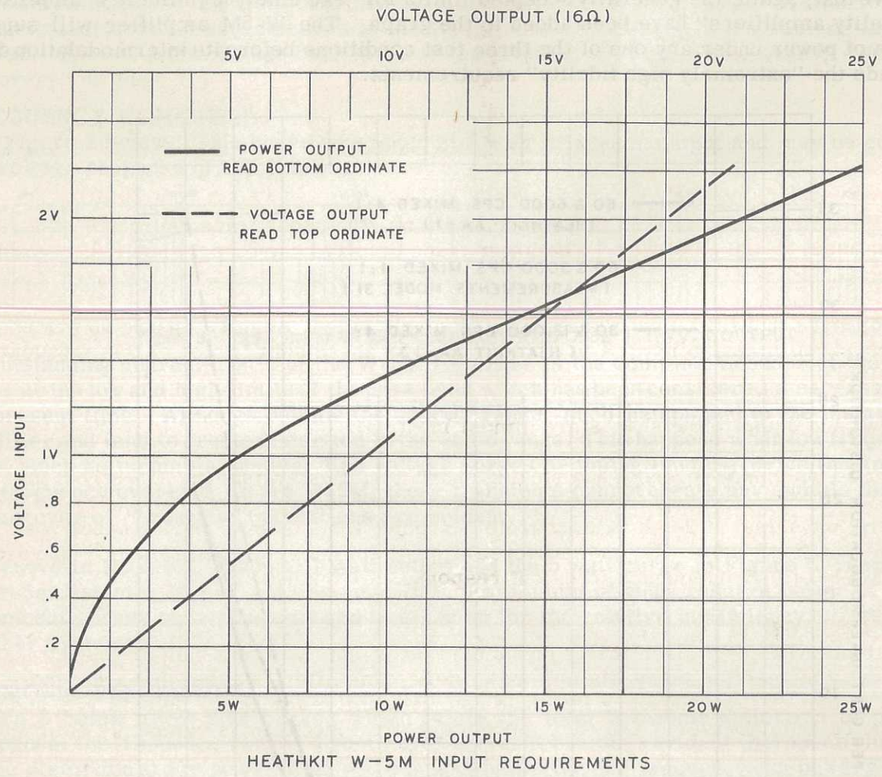


Figure 7

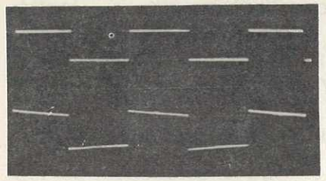
The broken line has been plotted to show the linearity of the input-output voltage characteristic of the amplifier.

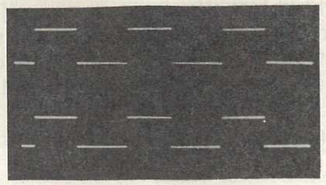
HUM AND NOISE:..... 80.2 db below 250 milliwatts, unweighted. (General average listening level.)
84.2 db below 5 watts, unweighted. (Loud average listening level.)
99 db below 25 watts, unweighted.

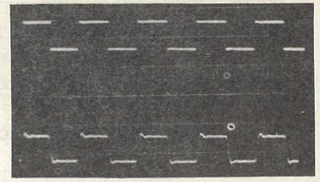
A noise level of 60 db below 100% modulation for AM or FM broadcast stations is recognized as acceptable by the Federal Communications Commission. Most stations exceed this figure to some extent. Modern LP recordings seldom exceed 40 db below average program level. Broadcast quality tape recorders attain a noise level 60 db below full output. The extremely low noise level of the W-5M exceeds these requirements comfortably, even at very low output levels where noise is most noticeable.

OUTPUT TUBE BALANCE:..... Unique "Bass-Bal" circuit, requires only simple voltmeter for indication of exact balance.
FEEDBACK FACTOR:..... 18.1 db of feedback is applied around the entire amplifier and output transformer.
OUTPUT IMPEDANCES:..... 4, 8 or 16 ohms, unbalanced.
DAMPING FACTOR:..... 40

TRANSIENT RESPONSE:..... Square-wave response characteristics of the W-5M are shown in the oscillograms below:

A 

B 

C 

50 CYCLES 500 CYCLES 20 KC

NOTE: In all oscillograms used in these specifications, the upper trace represents the signal applied to the input of the amplifier. The lower trace displays the output signal across a 16 Ω load.

In A above, observe that the output wave shape, although "tilted" slightly, shows no evidence of rounding, overshoot or instability. The tilt is caused by phase shift, which at this frequency is approximately 5°.

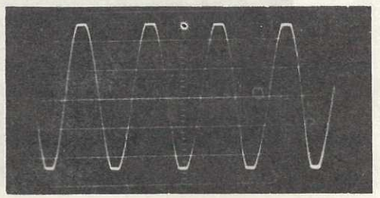
In B, the input and output wave shapes are almost identical.

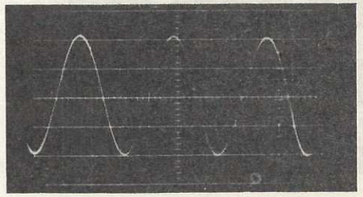
In C, made at 20,000 cps, overshoot and ringing characteristics are shown. Overshoot amounts to approximately 15%. Ringing frequency is approximately 90 kc. Bear in mind that a fundamental square wave test at 20 kc will accurately predict the amplifier performance from that frequency up to at least 200 kc. No known source of program material even remotely approaches this rigorous test of high-frequency transient response.

OVERLOAD RECOVERY:
Particular attention has been given to this problem in the W-5M. Whereas high-frequency instability is generally blamed for many ills in a high fidelity amplifier, we feel that a far more important field is that of low-frequency overload and instability, for these defects are audible, even to the untrained observer. They are much more prevalent than is commonly believed, in fact, most people listening to a really wide-range system with a stable bass response characteristic are immediately impressed by the tremendous sense of freedom and drive in the reproduced sound.

Overload is a very common condition, even in power amplifiers with considerable power output. It may be caused by the sudden voltage "thump" developed by tuning an FM receiver through a carrier, or by heavy bass passages in program material. Switching transients can develop tremendous signal voltages, as can the connection of an input cable while power is applied to the amplifier.

As a first step to correction, the amplifier must overload symmetrically at any frequency. Oscillogram D shows the overloaded or clipped output wave shape at 1 kc with approximately 28 watts output. Note that the clipping is perfectly symmetrical.

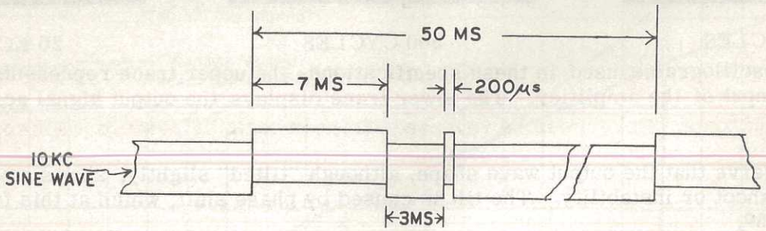
D 

E 

The amplifier must be capable of faithful reproduction of extremely low frequencies at normal power levels. Oscillogram E shows a 5 cycle sine wave output characteristic, taken at 1 watt level. No evidence of breakup or overload is present. No equipment was available to measure harmonic distortion at this frequency; distortion is obviously quite low.

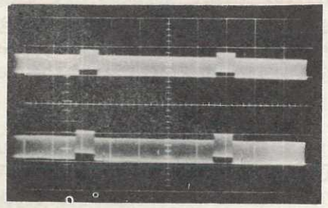
Power supply regulation, output transformer design and careful shaping of the overall frequency response curve all play very important parts in the ability of the amplifier to recover quickly when overloaded. There is no simple or easy way to specify the overload recovery capability and the problem is made more complicated by the transient nature of the condition. In order to present a meaningful specification, we have resorted to oscillograms of simulated conditions which are known to create the condition. These are shown directly below.

The test signal shown in oscillogram F is a composite of three signals as defined in the sketch below:

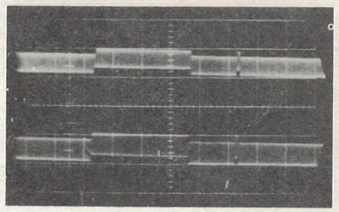


The 10 kc component represents normal mixed program material. The heavy 7 millisecond rectangular pulse simulates an overloading transient of sufficient length to show up any "ringing" or "hangover" effect following the sharp rise in signal level. The short 200 microsecond pulse follows this component after 3 milliseconds. This pulse could be placed at any point on the waveform. Its purpose was to determine if overload recovery was sufficient to faithfully present a short transient immediately following overload. The composite test signal is shown in oscillogram F. (Again, remember that the upper trace is the input signal; the lower trace is the output of the amplifier.) In order to show the critical portion of the cycle more clearly, oscillogram G is a 5 times expansion of the trace. Vertical sensitivity of the lower trace of the oscilloscope was 20 volts per centimeter or approximately 20 volts peak-to-peak. Under these conditions, the amplifier is operating safely below the overload point.

F

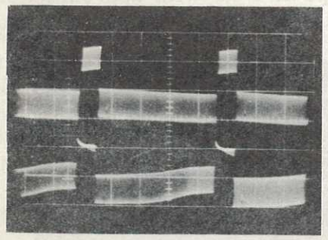


G

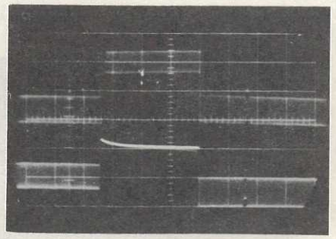


At H, the same test signal has been increased in amplitude; the amplifier is now trying to produce an output signal of some 40 volts peak-to-peak. Again, J represents a 5 times expansion of the same condition.

H



J



Observe at H, that the overloading transient has completely lost its identity because of output limitation. However, the recovery of the amplifier is smooth and gradual, without hangover or ringing. The short pulse is reproduced faithfully, even during the gradual recovery, which is particularly important. This effect is shown quite plainly at J.

STABILITY:
The W-5M may be operated with no load without damage to amplifier, output transformer or tubes. A built-in "Tweeter-Saver" prevents high-frequency oscillation under abnormal conditions, which might destroy or overheat high-frequency drivers in multiple-speaker systems.

Shunt capacities of up to 0.05 μfd across speaker line cause no tendency toward instability or oscillation.

Series inductance in speaker line causes no tendency toward instability or oscillation.

MECHANICAL PROTECTION:
Decorative top cover prevents contact to hot tube envelopes; keeps connecting cables from damage by heat; "child-proofs" normally exposed portions of the equipment. Cover may be readily removed without tools. Cover may be reversed, front to back, if desired. All controls, connectors and fuses on one apron of the chassis.

FINISH: Chassis, satin gold enamel. Cover, satin-texture black.

MOUNTING PROVISIONS:
Must be mounted with KT-66 bases down. See template for space requirements. Heavy mar-proof rubber mounting feet to protect mounting surface. Mounting bolts and T-nuts furnished; can be mounted on any surface up to 7/8" thick.
POWER REQUIREMENTS: 105-125 volts 50-60 cycles, 140 watts
WEIGHT: 26.5 lbs. net

TEST CONDITIONS:

Output Impedance	Dummy load, 16.43 Ω (cold) resistive.
Line Voltage	117 volts, 60 cycles, regulated.
Accessories	All measurements made while the amplifier was furnishing power to a Heathkit WA-P2 Preamplifier.
Generators	For harmonic distortion measurement, Krohn-Hite model 440-A, inherent distortion less than 0.1%. For frequency response measurements, Hewlett-Packard model 650-A test oscillator. For square wave tests, Tektronix type 105 square wave generator.
Distortion	Total harmonic distortion measurements, Hewlett-Packard model 330-B distortion analyzer. Intermodulation distortion; Measurements Corporation model 31 intermodulation meter, Heathkit AA-1 audio analyzer.
Power Output	Voltage measurements across 16.43 Ω resistive load, using Hewlett-Packard model 400-D vacuum tube voltmeter.
Oscillograms	Fairchild camera on Tektronix model 531 oscilloscope with type 53-C dual channel preamplifier.

INTRODUCTION

The Heathkit Amplifier model W-5M was designed to fulfill the performance requirements of the most critical audiophile, at the lowest possible cost. Up-to-the minute design techniques were used throughout to reduce distortion and at the same time, increase power output, thus allowing the connoisseur of music to enjoy a level of realism never before obtainable. The full dynamic range of all types of audio material can be handled with ease because of the high peak power handling capabilities of the W-5M.

Just a few years ago, tuners, phonograph pickups and speakers were considered as the stronger links in the audio chain and the amplifier as the weakest. The audio field has advanced tremendously in the past five years however, and now the positions are reversed. When the amplifier is constructed and adjusted in accordance with the instructions, the Heathkit model W-5M Amplifier will faithfully reproduce all program material fed to it, providing optimum performance from all other parts of the high fidelity system.

It is logical to assume that best performance will be obtained with the highest possible quality accessory components. The Heath Company cannot recommend specific components, but it is suggested that reference be made to catalogs and magazines concerned with the audio field. In general, the higher the price of the components, the higher the quality, but this is not necessarily always true. Careful shopping will usually locate very satisfactory items at a price to fit the budget.

CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The basic circuit of the W-5M amplifier is straightforward and simple. Signal from the program source is fed into the input jack, which is coupled to the grid of the input 12AU7 tube through a .1 μfd condenser. Signal amplification takes place in the first half of this tube and the output is directly coupled to the grid of the second half of the tube.

Phase splitting or signal inversion is accomplished in the second half of the first 12AU7, which is a split load type of inverter. Signal at the cathode of this stage follows the grid, while the plate voltage will swing in the opposite direction. Coupling to the grids of the second 12AU7 push-pull driver stage is through .1 μfd capacitors, one connected to the cathode and the other to the plate of the phase inverter.

Amplification of the signal takes place once again in the 12AU7 driver stage and signal is taken out through two 1 μfd condensers, one connected to each plate of the driver. The opposite end of these condensers is connected to the grids of the output tubes. Here, the signal voltage variations are converted to large current changes in the output tubes and the output transformer, which is in the plate circuit. AC current variations in the high impedance primary of the transformer are passed to the low impedance secondary and to the speaker line connected at this point.

Feedback is applied from the secondary of the output transformer back to the cathode of the input 12AU7 stage to reduce distortion and lower the output resistance of the amplifier, thus improving amplifier control over loudspeaker performance. Inverse feedback also improves the frequency range of the amplifier.

In order to reduce harmonic distortion at low frequencies it is essential that the plate current of the output tubes be balanced. An exclusive balancing circuit is incorporated in your Heathkit amplifier to make the balancing operation easier and much more accurate. Precision balanced resistors are connected in the cathode circuits of the power output tubes. When the current in each tube is balanced, the voltage drop across each precision resistor will be the same and the resultant potential will be zero if measured at both cathodes at the same time. A great advantage is gained, since the current in both tubes is measured simultaneously instead of one at a time.

A load limiting device is built into the amplifier to provide high frequency and transient stability. Rising impedance effects of speaker systems at higher frequencies will frequently cause oscillation in a feedback type amplifier, since the amplifier fails to see a reasonable load at these frequencies. To counteract this, a resistor and condenser have been installed in series across the output transformer secondary. The condenser is chosen to prevent the loading of the amplifier throughtout the audible portion of the spectrum and still provide suitable loading above these frequencies; thus assuring complete stability under all dynamic operating conditions.

Power for the amplifier is supplied by a husky power transformer and a high current ruggedized 5R4GY rectifier. Output from the 5R4GY is very well filtered in an inductance-resistance-capacity filter to keep noise and low frequency instability at a minimum. High capacity filter sections are used throughout to reduce power supply impedance at low audio frequencies. Well regulated high voltage at high current is available for the output stage, allowing high power output at very low distortion.

Only the highest possible quality components have been incorporated in the Heathkit model W-5M Amplifier. At no point have corners been cut to reduce cost at the expense of quality parts or performance. All components are conservatively rated, giving assurance of trouble-free performance for a long time. An example of the conservative rating of parts is the 5R4GY rectifier. Another type of rectifier was considered and was actually used in the original development model. While this tube was adequate for the purpose, it was operating near maximum ratings and so the decision was made to use the more expensive and rugged 5R4GY instead. A high safety factor is used in the filter section of the power supply also. The electrolytic filter condensers are connected in series with voltage balancing resistors across them, providing a maximum voltage rating of 900 volts at the first two sections of the filter, where the operating voltage is in the neighborhood of 500 volts and 700 volts at the output section, where the operating voltage is 470 volts. Special single section condensers could have been used, but it would be impossible to employ them and provide the safety factor obtained by using series units. The amplifier cover is another advantage, in that the appearance is improved and small children are protected from severe burns since they cannot touch the output tubes and rectifier, which run quite hot.

NOTES ON ASSEMBLY AND WIRING

Your Heathkit Amplifier, model W-5M represents a substantial outlay of money. In order to get the high performance return for your investment it is extremely important that you take the time to read the manual carefully before construction is started. Carefully read each step all of the way through until it is completely understood. After you are thoroughly familiar with the procedure used, construction of the kit can be started. Care exercised in construction will be rewarded with a greater sense of confidence, both in your amplifier and your own ability.

This manual is supplied to assist you in every way to complete the instrument with the least possible chance for error. The detailed instructions are specifically written to allow either the experienced or inexperienced constructor to construct the unit with a minimum of difficulty. Only a very small percentage of Heathkit assemblers encounter any difficulty whatsoever in completing kits of this kind. Large fold-in pictorial diagrams are included in the manual for your convenience and are quite helpful if attached to the wall above your work space. The diagrams are repeated in smaller form within the manual proper. We suggest that you retain the manual in your files for future reference in the use of the amplifier and its maintenance.

UNPACK THE KIT CAREFULLY AND CHECK EACH PART AGAINST THE PARTS LIST. DO NOT DISCARD ANY PACKING MATERIAL UNTIL THIS HAS BEEN DONE. In so doing, you will become acquainted with each part and the chance of accidentally throwing away some part will be eliminated. Full size sketches of each of the parts categories appear on Page 32. Use this in checking against the parts list and in identifying any questionable components.

Components with wire pigtail leads can be conveniently sorted by inserting one of the leads into the corrugated edge of the shipping carton flap. It may be helpful to mark the value of the component on the flap so the part may be readily located when needed.

Assuming that necessary provisions for power switching have been made, the following preliminary steps should be taken before the amplifier is tested.

IMPORTANT WARNING: MINIATURE TUBES CAN BE EASILY DAMAGED WHEN PLUGGING THEM INTO THEIR SOCKETS. THEREFORE, USE EXTREME CARE WHEN INSTALLING THEM. WE DO NOT GUARANTEE OR REPLACE MINIATURE TUBES BROKEN DURING INSTALLATION.

( ) Insert tubes in the sockets as follows:
Socket V1 - type 12AU7 Socket V3 - type KT66
Socket V2 - type 12AU7 Socket V4 - type KT66
Do not install the 5R4GY tube in socket V5 yet.

( ) Place tube shields over the tubes in sockets V1 and V2.

( ) Adjust the balance control D so that it is halfway between the rotation stops.

( ) Connect a load of some type to the appropriate speaker output terminals. A 4, 8 or 16 Ω resistor will do, or the line to the speaker system. It is not advisable to operate any amplifier without a load of some type on the output, although the W-5M will not be damaged if so operated.

( ) Plug the preamplifier into the power socket (if used) or connect a jumper switch between pins 6 and 7 of the socket. Make sure that the switch is turned off and plug the power cord into a 110 volt AC 50-60 cycle outlet.

CAUTION: DO NOT CONNECT THIS INSTRUMENT TO A DC (DIRECT CURRENT) LINE. SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE POWER TRANSFORMER WILL RESULT. Do not attempt to operate the amplifier on a 25 cycle source, for it will not operate and the transformer will be damaged.

( ) Turn the power switch on and observe the four vacuum tubes that have been installed. The filaments in the top center of the output tubes should show a red glow and a similar glow should be evident in each 12AU7. If a preamplifier is powered by the W-5M main amplifier, the filaments of the preamp should also be lit. If the filaments fail to light, check the steps outlined under "In Case of Difficulty."

( ) Plug the 5R4GY rectifier in socket V5 and watch it carefully. If the plates begin to show a red color or a purple glow appears inside the tube elements, shut the amplifier off immediately and check for trouble as outlined above. A soft blue glow can be expected, especially when the amplifier is first turned on and need not be cause for concern. This is caused by fluorescence of impurities in the glass envelope due to stray electron bombardment.

( ) Balance the output tubes. This is accomplished by connecting a voltmeter of practically any type across the Bass-Bal jacks provided on the chassis apron. Start with the voltmeter set on one of the higher ranges and rotate the balance control on the chassis top until the meter reads 0. Set the meter to the highest sensitivity or the lowest voltage range and adjust the control carefully until the meter reads exactly the same when plugged in and when disconnected. Zero voltage or current indicates that the current in both output tubes is exactly identical. See notes on Page 28.

( ) If the Heathkit WA-P2 or a similar preamplifier is used, drawing power from the main amplifier, adjust the hum balance control on the preamplifier for minimum hum, using a loudspeaker connected to the amplifier output as an aural indicator. A meter can be used if desired. In all cases, the instructions included with the preamplifier in question should be observed.

( ) Mount the bottom cover on the chassis bottom, using the #6 sheet metal screws furnished. See Figure 17. Make sure the ventilating holes are directly under socket V3, V4 and V5.

( ) Snap the top cover in place by lining the cover studs up with the appropriate holes in the chassis and pressing down gently on all four corners until firmly settled.

This completes the assembly and adjustment of your Heathkit Amplifier model W-5M. See Page 27 for Installation and Operation.

IN CASE OF DIFFICULTY

Recheck the wiring. Trace each lead in colored pencil on the pictorial as it is checked in the amplifier. Most cases of difficulty result from wrong connections. Often having a friend check the wiring will reveal a mistake consistently overlooked.

If possible, compare the tube socket voltages with those shown in the voltage table below. Readings within 20% of those shown may be considered as normal. If a discrepancy is noted, check the associated circuits carefully. Any component in those circuits should be suspected until proven satisfactory.

If voltages and tubes are normal, try the following procedure.

With the preamplifier output disconnected from the amplifier input, touch tube socket terminal V4-5 with one lead of a .01 μfd condenser, holding the other lead in your hand. (CAUTION: Do not touch the chassis or any other metallic body with your other hand while making this test. Dangerously high voltage is present throughout the circuit and due care should be exercised.) This should cause a hum level to be evident in the speaker, if the circuit from this point is normal. Work on forward in the circuit, touching terminals V3-5, V2-6, V2-7, V2-1, V2-2, V1-8, V1-6, V1-7, V1-1 and V1-2. The hum level should increase somewhat as you work back toward the amplifier input. At some point in the amplifier, the circuit will appear to be dead and all circuitry following that stage may be disregarded in your trouble shooting. In this way, you can easily locate the source of the trouble and expedite its correction.

VOLTAGE CHART

SOCKET TUBE TYPE	Pin 1	Pin 2	Pin 3	Pin 4	Pin 5	Pin 6	Pin 7	Pin 8	Pin 9
V1 12AU7	88	NS	2.2	Fil.		280	88	100	Fil.
V2 12AU7	255	NS	13	Fil.		255	NS	13	Fil.
V3 KT66	TP 47	Fil.	480	480	*8.3	TP 485	Fil.	50	
V4 KT66	TP 12.5	Fil.	475	475	*6.7	TP 480	Fil.	50	
V5 5R4GY	NC	**510	TP 495	455 VAC	TP 310	455 VAC	TP 240	**510	
AA POWER	Fil.	Fil.	0	400	300	110 VAC Switch Circuit			
G CONDENSER	▲ 380		■ 400		● 350				
H CONDENSER	▲ 235		● 245						

All voltages positive DC to chassis, measured with Heathkit V-7 VTVM with 11 megohm input resistance. Voltages taken with Heathkit WA-P2 Preamplifier connected.
TP - Tie point. NS - Not significant. Line voltage - 117 volts AC.
Fil. - Voltage between points so designated, 6.3 volts AC.
* Voltages so designated will vary with changes of settings of Bass-Bal control.
** Voltages between pins 8 and 2 - 5 volts AC.

UNUSUAL TROUBLES AND CORRECTIVE PROCEDURES

Amplifier oscillation is usually indicated when the performance seems "strained" or "muddy." Intermittent performance of this type is usually a definite symptom, as is sudden change in apparent output level. To check for oscillation, it is usually a good idea to connect an oscilloscope or wide range AC VTVM across the output with the normal speaker load left connected. If these instruments are not available, checks can be made with a NE-2 neon bulb or a fluorescent bulb from a desk lamp. While holding the glass envelope of the neon bulb in one hand, touch either of the leads to pin 3 of either socket V3 or V4. Keep your other hand in your pocket or behind your back when making this check, since dangerous voltages are present at this point. If the bulb glows, the amplifier is oscillating. If a fluorescent bulb is used, touch one of the pins at one end to pin 3 of either socket, touching the pins at the opposite end of the bulb with a finger. Observe this type of bulb in a dimly lit room, since the glow will be quite dull. Any type of glow indicates oscillation.

High frequency instability is usually indicative of high wiring capacity within the amplifier. Check the wiring over carefully, making sure that none of the leads are any longer than they absolutely have to be to make the connection. Special attention should be given to the output transformer leads; they must be as short as possible and dressed tightly to the chassis. The "Tweeter Saver" should be checked to make sure connections are correct and the parts are all right. This circuit consists of a .1 μfd condenser and a 47 Ω resistor connected across the outside terminals of the speaker terminal strip.

If everything within the amplifier appears to be all right, it is quite likely that there is too much capacity in the speaker or input leads. Shielded wire should never be used for speaker leads, the capacity is much too high. Best results are usually obtained with heavy duty lamp cord, obtainable in any dime store. If the leads must be quite long, it might be advisable to separate the two wires to reduce capacity. For the best frequency response and stability characteristics it is recommended that the preamplifier be connected to the main amplifier with leads just long enough to satisfactorily meet the requirements of the individual installation. Excessively long audio cables will attenuate high frequencies and the high capacity may cause oscillation. Length limits are usually specified for the preamplifier by the manufacturer.

Motorboating or low frequency instability, may be caused by high frequency oscillation and the steps outlined above should be checked. Make sure the output tubes are properly balanced and that the filter condensers in the power supply are wired correctly. In rare cases, the feedback might be marginal and it will be necessary to increase the value of the feedback resistor slightly to approximately 6800 Ω. Feedback reduction will be very slight and overall performance will remain substantially unaltered with a resultant improvement in low frequency stability.

Output tubes will not balance. This condition will be caused by one of two things; a leaky 1 μfd coupling capacitor or a seriously unbalanced pair of tubes. First the coupling condensers should be checked by connecting a high sensitivity meter such as a vacuum type voltmeter across each of the 100 KΩ grid resistors for the output tubes, V3 and V4. Any potential across this resistor indicates one of the following conditions:

(a) If the voltage appearing at the grid end is positive, either the coupling condenser is leaky or the tube is gassy.
(b) If the voltage appearing at the grid end is negative, the amplifier is probably in oscillation.

Note that the meter is connected directly across the resistor, not from grid to ground. The grid is normally positive with respect to ground.

If the tube socket potentials are normal but balance cannot be achieved, one of the output tubes can be assumed to be weak. A replacement tube balanced against each of the original tubes should allow a satisfactory pair to be located. Balance near the end of rotation of the balance control is not abnormal and need not be cause for concern. As long as the tubes can be balanced the distortion figures will meet specifications.

Low or high frequency noise in the amplifier can usually be traced to a defective resistor or a faulty tube. The troublesome point can be located quickly by removing tubes one at a time, starting with V1, then V2, etc. When a point is found where the noise disappears, the troublesome stage has been isolated. Further checks should be made at this point by swapping identical tubes or replacing them to see if the trouble will clear up. If tube replacement fails to help, one of the resistors is probably noisy or a poor connection exists somewhere in the circuit. Noisy resistors can be located by shorting out resistances connected to tube sockets V1 and V2, starting with the input stage and working back as far as pins 1 and 6 of V2. When observing this procedure, short out the resistor in question, not between each pin of the amplifier tube socket and ground. The first point at which the noise disappears isolates the defective component. Hiss or high frequency noise is usually caused by a defective tube, resistor or connection. Hum and other types of low frequency noise is frequently due to a defective tube, poor connections, excessively long leads or improper lead dress. When checking the amplifier components with the unit turned on, observe due caution at all times. Dangerously high voltages are present throughout the circuit.

INSTALLATION AND OPERATION

The Heathkit W-5M Amplifier readily lends itself to practically any type of installation. Large rubber feet are used so that the unit can be placed anywhere without danger of marring furniture and it will not slide about even if not bolted down. For permanent installations, the unit can be fastened down with the bolts and T-nuts furnished, using the furnished template to cut the two necessary holes. Use the large fiber washers under the bolt heads to prevent marring the chassis finish. Do not remove the rubber feet if the amplifier is to be bolted down, since some air space must be provided between the amplifier and the mounting board for ventilating purposes.

When the amplifier cover is first installed, it will probably fit too tightly. It should not be possible to pick the amplifier up by grasping the cover, since the amplifier might be released suddenly causing serious damage. To adjust the cover tension, insert a screwdriver blade between the springs of the catch clips and spread them slightly until satisfactory tension is obtained.

Markings on the front apron of the chassis are self-explanatory. One suggestion; when connecting the preamplifier to the W-5M, shielded cable should be used, terminating in a standard phono plug. Full instructions for preparation of this cable are included with the Heathkit WA-P2 Preamplifier kit. Brief instructions are included here, should other equipment be used.

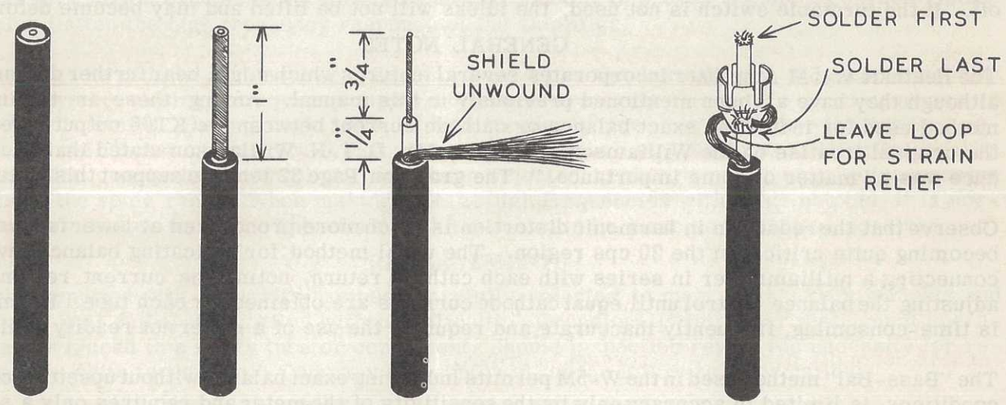


Figure 18

Follow Figure 18 above to connect the phono plug to shielded cable which has a spirally wrapped shield. Certain cables are furnished with braided shields. In such cases, unbraid the shield using a sharp pick or scribe, until sufficient conductor is available for connecting to the plug shell.

The Heath Company will promptly supply the necessary replacement. Please do not return the original component until specifically requested to do so. Do not dismantle the component in question as this will void the guarantee. If tubes are to be returned, pack them carefully to prevent breakage in shipment as broken tubes are not eligible for replacement. This replacement policy does not cover the free replacement of parts that may have been broken or damaged through carelessness on the part of the kit builder.

SERVICE

In event continued operational difficulties of the completed instrument are experienced, the facilities of the Heath Company Service Department are at your disposal. Your instrument may be returned for inspection and repair for a service charge of $5.00 plus the cost of any additional material that may be required. THIS SERVICE POLICY APPLIES ONLY TO COMPLETED INSTRUMENTS CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS AS STATED IN THE MANUAL. Instruments that are not entirely completed or instruments that are modified in design will not be accepted for repair. Instruments showing evidence of acid core solder or paste fluxes will be returned not repaired.

The Heath Company is willing to offer its full cooperation to assist you in obtaining the specified performance level in your instrument. Factory repair service is available for a period of one year from the date of purchase or you may contact the Engineering Consultation Department by mail. For information regarding the possible modification of existing kits, the current issues of technical periodicals are recommended. They can be obtained at or through your local library, as well as at any electronic outlet store. Although the Heath Company welcomes all comments and suggestions, it would be impossible to design, test, evaluate and assume responsibility for proposed circuit changes for specific purposes. Therefore, such modifications must be made at the discretion of the kit builder according to information which will be much more readily available from some local source.

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

Before returning a unit for service, be sure that all parts are securely mounted.

ATTACH A TAG TO THE INSTRUMENT GIVING NAME, ADDRESS AND TROUBLE EXPERIENCED.

Pack in a rugged container, preferably wood, using at least three inches of shredded newspaper or excelsior on all sides. DO NOT SHIP IN THE ORIGINAL KIT CARTON AS THIS CARTON IS NOT CONSIDERED ADEQUATE FOR SAFE SHIPMENT OF THE COMPLETED INSTRUMENT. Ship by prepaid express if possible. Return shipment will be made by express collect. Note that a carrier cannot be held liable for damage in transit if packing, in HIS OPINION, is insufficient.

SPECIFICATIONS

All prices are subject to change without notice. The Heath Company reserves the right to discontinue instruments and to change specifications at any time without incurring any obligation to incorporate new features in instruments previously sold.

WARRANTY

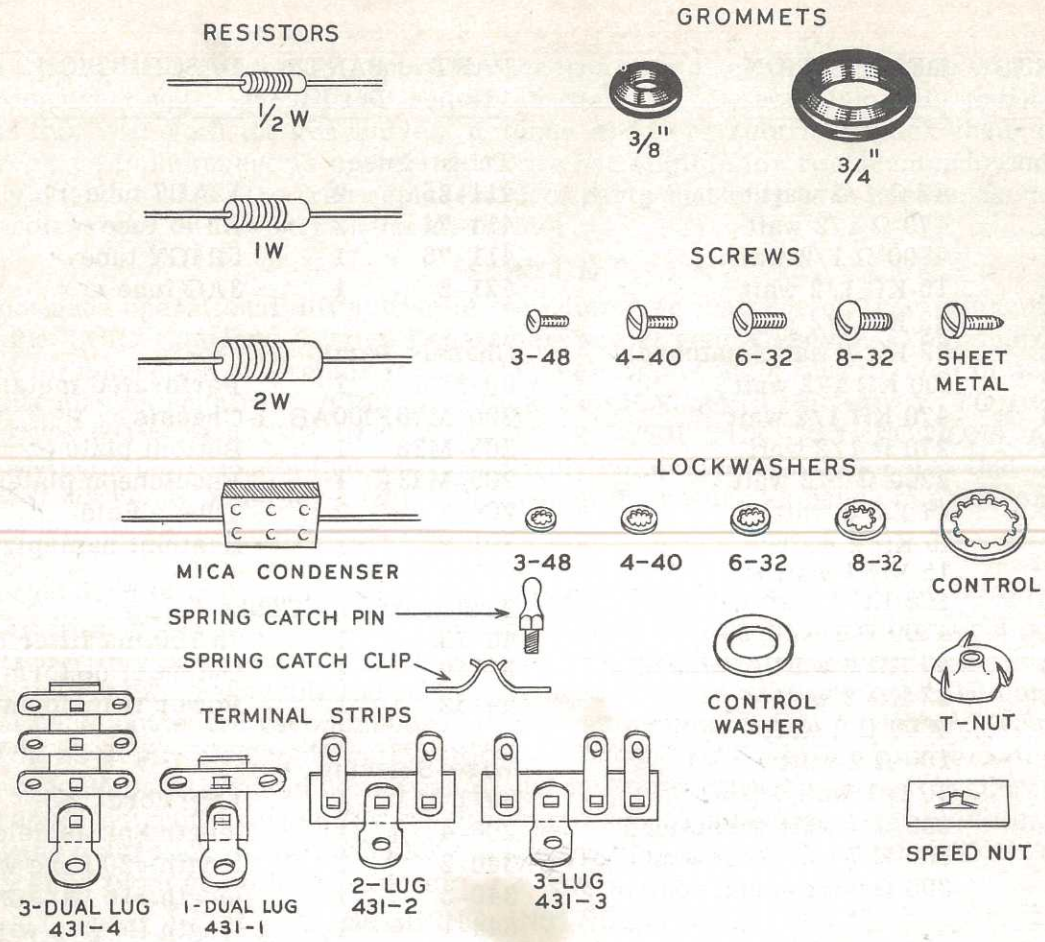
The Heath Company limits its warranty of parts supplied with any kit to a period of three (3) months from the date of purchase. Replacement will be made only when said part is returned postpaid, with prior permission and in the judgment of the Heath Company was defective at the time of sale. This warranty does not extend to any Heathkits which have been subjected to misuse, neglect, accident and improper installation or applications. Material supplied with a kit shall not be considered as defective, even though not in exact accordance with specifications, if it substantially fulfills performance requirements. This warranty is not transferable and applies only to the original purchaser. This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties and the Heath Company neither assumes nor authorizes any other person to assume for them any other liability in connection with the sale of Heathkits.

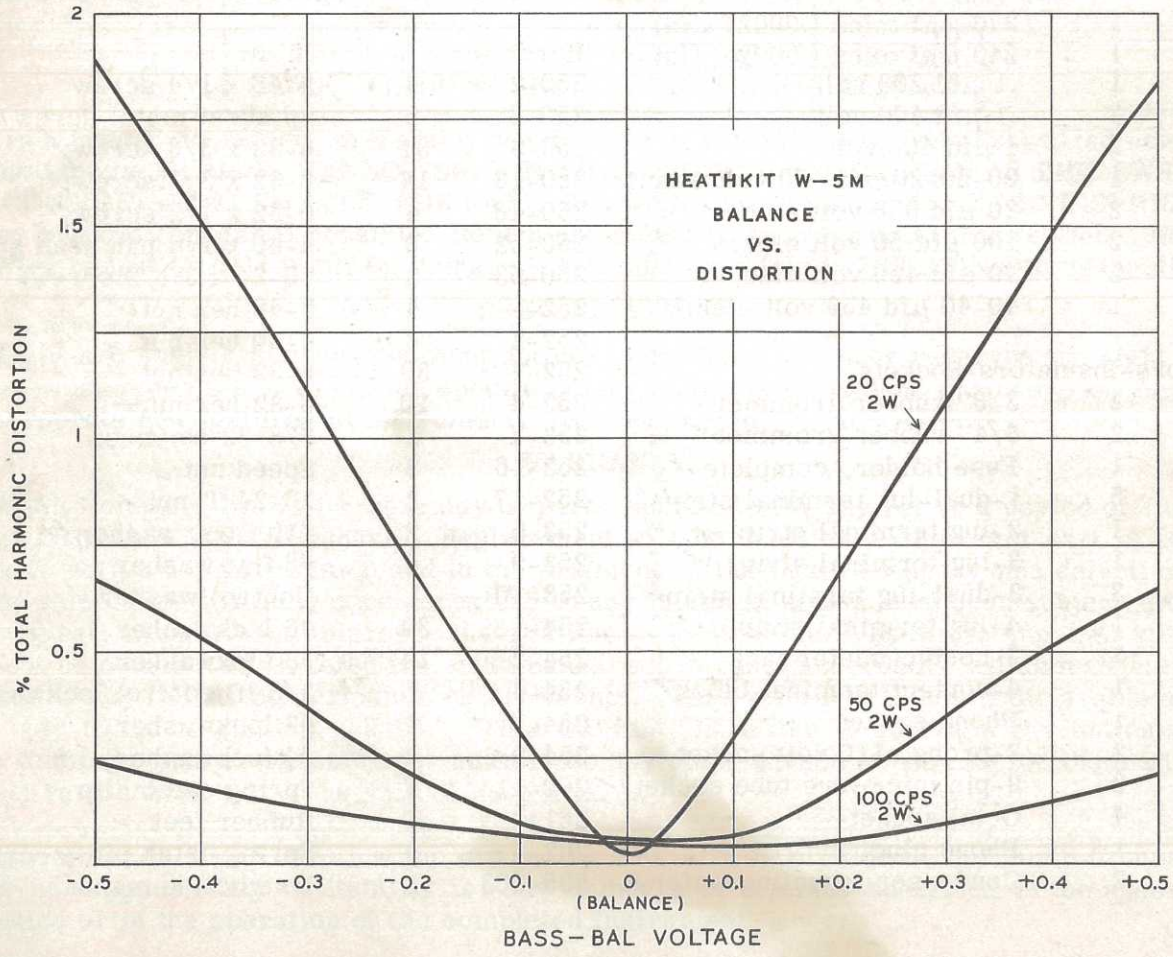
The assembler is urged to follow the instructions exactly as provided. The Heath Company assumes no responsibility or liability for any damages or injuries sustained in the assembly of the device or in the operation of the completed instrument.

HEATH COMPANY
Benton Harbor, Michigan

PART No.	PARTS Per Kit	DESCRIPTION
Resistors-Control		
1-1	1	47 Ω 1/2 watt
1-6	1	470 Ω 1/2 watt
1-16	1	4700 Ω 1/2 watt
1-21	2	15 KΩ 1/2 watt
1-22	2	22 KΩ 1/2 watt
1-5A	2	22 KΩ 1 watt (matched)
1-26	2	100 KΩ 1/2 watt
1-33	3	470 KΩ 1/2 watt
1-42	2	270 Ω 1/2 watt
1-44	1	2200 Ω 1/2 watt
1-10B	1	47 KΩ 2 watt
1-4B	1	15 KΩ 2 watt
1-26A	1	15 KΩ 1 watt
1-28A	6	100 KΩ 1 watt
1-48A	1	4700 Ω 1 watt 5%
1-10B	2	47 KΩ 2 watt (matched)
1-11B	1	22 KΩ 2 watt
1-17B	1	6800 Ω 2 watt
1-20B	2	100 Ω 2 watt
2-6A	2	30 Ω 1 watt 1/2%
3-9G	1	100 Ω 7 watt wirewound
3-6G	1	330 Ω 7 watt wirewound
11-23	1	300 Ω wirewound control
Condensers		
20-4	1	270 μμf mica (.00027 μfd)
20-49	1	240 μμf mica (.00024 μfd)
23-28	1	.1 μfd 200 volt
23-53	3	.1 μfd 400 volt
23-66	2	1 μfd 400 volt
25-10	1	20-20-20 μfd 450 volt elec.
25-16	2	20 μfd 350 volt elec.
25-28	2	100 μfd 50 volt elec.
25-36	2	40 μfd 450 volt elec.
25-37	1	40-40 μfd 450 volt elec.
Connectors-Insulators-Sockets		
73-1	2	3/8" rubber grommet
73-2	2	3/4" rubber grommet
423-1	1	Fuse holder, complete
431-1	5	1-dual-lug terminal strip
431-2	1	2-lug terminal strip
431-3	1	3-lug terminal strip
431-4	3	3-dual-lug terminal strip
431-5	1	4-lug terminal strip
431-18	1	2-contact meter jack
431-21	1	4-contact terminal block
434-42	1	Phono socket
434-20	2	2-prong, 110 volt socket
434-43	2	9-pin miniature tube socket
434-58	4	Octal socket
438-4	1	Phono plug
481-3	2	Condenser mounting wafer

PART No.	PARTS Per Kit	DESCRIPTION
Tubes-Fuse		
411-25	2	12AU7 tube
411-74	2	KT66 tube
411-76	1	5R4GY tube
421-2	1	3AG fuse
Chassis Parts		
90-36	1	Perforated metal cover
200-M76F100AB	1	Chassis
205-M38	1	Bottom plate
205-M43F	1	Escutcheon plate
206-3	2	Tube shield
391-2	1	Heathkit nameplate
Transformers-Choke		
46-12	1	7h 150 ma filter choke
51-19	1	Output transformer
54-32	1	Power transformer
Wire-Sleeving		
89-1	1	Line cord
206-4	1	length Spirashield
340-2	1	length #20 bare wire
340-3	1	length #16 bare wire
344-1	1	length Hookup wire
346-1	1	length Insulated Sleeving
Hardware		
250-2	4	3-48 x 1/4 screw
250-8	6	#6 sheet metal screw
250-9	31	6-32 x 3/8 screw
250-18	14	8-32 x 3/8 screw
250-48	4	6-32 x 1/2 screw
250-52	8	4-40 x 1/4 pan head screw
250-53	2	10-24 x 3 1/2 screw
252-1	4	3-48 hex nut
252-2	8	4-40 hex nut
252-3	39	6-32 hex nut
252-4	10	8-32 hex nut
252-7	1	3/8-32 hex nut
252-16	2	Speed nut
252-17	2	10-24 T-nut
253-6	2	#10 fiber washer
253-9	4	#8 flat washer
253-10	1	Control washer
254-1	39	#6 lockwasher
254-2	14	#8 lockwasher
254-4	1	3/8 ID control lockwasher
254-7	4	#3 lockwasher
254-9	8	#4 lockwasher
260-11	4	Spring catch clip
261-6	4	Rubber feet
262-4	4	Spring catch pin
595-103	1	Instruction manual


RESISTORS
1/2 W
1W
2W
GROMMETS
3/8"
3/4"
SCREWS
3-48
4-40
6-32
8-32
SHEET METAL
LOCKWASHERS
3-48
4-40
6-32
8-32
CONTROL
MICA CONDENSER
SPRING CATCH PIN
SPRING CATCH CLIP
CONTROL WASHER
T-NUT
TERMINAL STRIPS
SPEED NUT
3-DUAL LUG 431-4
1-DUAL LUG 431-1
2-LUG 431-2
3-LUG 431-3


HEATHKIT W-5M
BALANCE
VS.
DISTORTION
20 CPS 2W
50 CPS 2W
100 CPS 2W
% TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION
2
1.5
1
0.5
-0.5
-0.4
-0.3
-0.2
-0.1
0
+0.1
+0.2
+0.3
+0.4
+0.5
(BALANCE)
BASS-BAL VOLTAGE