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## TL-5.5 Series II Preamplifier Data Specification

Since its introduction in 1997, the TL-5.5 has earned a reputation for outstanding performance at an economical price. Now, VTL has significantly upgraded this preamp, using many of the technological innovations derived from the flagship TL-7.5 preamplifier. The result is a modern full-featured preamplifier that outperforms in every way, making it one of the top values of any tube preamplifier in its category.

The fundamental qualities that made the original TL-5.5 special—its all-tube design, the optional retrofittable phono stage, and its superb sonic characteristics—are unchanged. What's new is the application of advanced audio technology sourced from VTL's TL-7.5 Reference and TL-6.5 Signature preamplifiers. This technology uses a simple circuit topology with low negative feedback and a high current/low impedance output stage in a low-noise microprocessor-based design. Top quality parts, fully balanced operation, and precision-regulated and shielded power supplies yield a full yet neutral sound with high resolution, transparency, speed and powerful dynamics.

Much of the engineering prowess inherent in these world-class preamps has been transferred to the TL5.5 Series II. Fully regulated power supplies are similar to those of its bigger siblings and the unit is fully balanced, for inputs as well as outputs. Similarly, VTL's latest thinking from the acclaimed TP-6.5 Signature phono stage is applied to the optional MC phono stage, which can be easily retrofitted internally. It offers 68dB of gain and a balanced output, with a JFET/12AU7 high current MC stage, split-pole passive RIAA stage with a dual 12AX7 MM stage for maximum headroom voltage swing. Triple-precision power supply regulation and full gain and load setting with RIAA enhanced and rumble cut functions translate to a clean and quiet yet dynamic sound that brings vinyl to life!

VTL has delivered on its goal of bringing advanced engineering and modern functionality to the TL-5.5 Series II preamplifier. With the same highly intuitive user interface of the renowned TL-7.5 and 6.5, and a full-function remote, the TL-5.5 II is a pleasure to use. A rigid, well-shielded chassis yields quiet operation while bi-directional RS-232 serial interface allows for seamless integration into any audio system. A luxurious cosmetic makeover includes a sleek and visually striking precision-milled faceplate similar to those used on its much more expensive

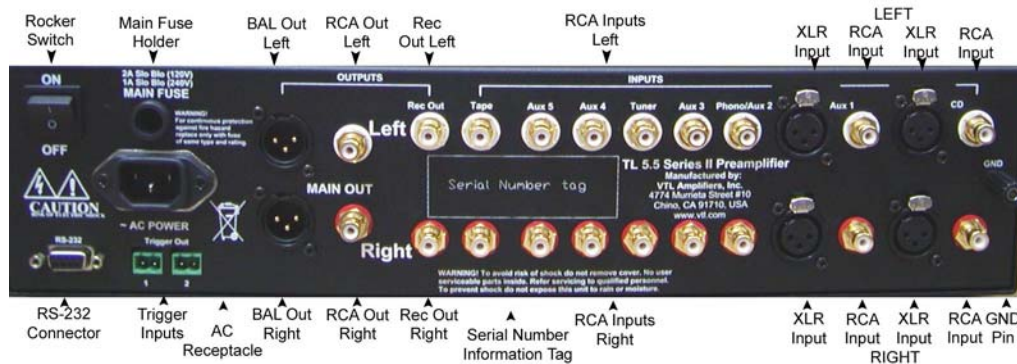
brethren. For a well-priced, high-performance all-tube preamplifier, the TL-5.5 is a truly fine addition to any system.

### Main Features:

- Almost half the price of the TL-6.5 Signature Preamplifier
- Renewed cosmetics to match with Reference and Signature models
- Fully balanced differential linestage with increased functionality
- Optional internally retrofittable phono stage, with user adjustable cartridge loading and gain options
- Engineering from TL/TP-6.5 applied to power supply and circuitry: Precision-regulated B+ and B- supplies
- Tube life extender circuit with B+ delay and soft filament ramp on power on
- Balanced design, low-radiation power transformer
- Quiet logic: Microprocessor sleep mode, quiet non-matrixing LED display with latching shift registers

Line Stage: All-tube, with lower gain high current 12AU7 circuit and 12AT7 buffer, minimal negative feedback

- 2 balanced /single-ended inputs, 5 single-ended inputs, 1 tape in, 1 bal / Single-ended out, 1 buffered record out
- Soft-touch relay input select
- 128-step chip-based differential volume control, with 3-digit display
- Higher resolution via single higher-resolution attenuator, and software control for balance and offset
- Switchable gain between normal and low gain
- Mono control on front panel
- Fully bi-directional RS-232 control: programmable input offset, any input programmable as pass-through, and input disable, tape monitor and Mono control on front panel
- Two programmable trigger outputs
- Full function aluminum metal remote
- TP-6.5 chassis size with all precision machined aluminum cosmetic



Phono stage: JFET/parallel 12AU7 design from TP-6.5: 68dB gain balanced (23dB MC, 45dB MM)

- Split-pole Passive RIAA with paralleled 12AX7 and 12AT7 gain stage
- MM / MC select via jumper
- MC Gain settings via jumper: 3 steps of 6dB: 68dB, 62dB, 56dB.
- Loading: MM 47k $\Omega$ , MC: 100 $\Omega$ , 220 $\Omega$ , 470 $\Omega$ , 1k $\Omega$ , 47k $\Omega$
- Enhanced RIAA (selectable via jumper)
- Rumble filter setting via front panel
- Selectable bal/ S/E output via jumper
- Dual-use buttons on front panel for phono-only functions
- MC and MM gain trims

# TL-5.5II Specifications

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Vacuum Tube Complement          | 2 x 12AU7, 4 x 12AT7 (line stage)   |
| Inputs                          | 2 pair balanced/XLR or RCA single-ended<br>6 pairs single-ended/RCA   |
| Outputs                         | 1 pair balanced out<br><br>1 pair single-ended RCA out<br><br>1 pair single-ended RCA buffered Record Out   |
| Remote Control Functions        | Power<br>Source Select<br>Volume up/down<br>Mute, Fade<br><br>Balance Control, Phase Reverse  |
| Gain                            | Normal Gain --11 dB single ended, 17dB balanced<br><br>Switchable to Low Gain – 6 dB SE, 11 dB balanced   |
| Output Impedance                | 150 Ohms (Max 400 ohms at 10Hz)   |
| Input Impedance                 | 35K Ohms  |
| Frequency response + 0 - 1 dB   | 1 Hz - 200KHz +0 –1dB   |
| Maximum Output Voltage < 1% THD | 30 Volts 10Hz – 200kHz, 1.75V into 600 ohms at 1%THD  |
| Channel Separation              | > 100 dB @ 1KHz (>80 dB @ 20kHz)  |
| Power Consumption               | 60 Watts (Line Stage)<br><br>130 Watts (with Phono stage)   |
| Weight and Dimensions           | 40 lbs (18.12 Kg) Fully packed in one box<br><br>Unpacked weight: 30 lbs (13.6 Kg)<br><br>Unit Dimensions: 17.5 x 17.5x 4.75 in<br><br>(44.45 x 44.45 x 12.06 cm) |

## *TL5.5 II Phono Stage*

|                 | <b>MM</b>           | <b>MC</b>   |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| Tube Complement | 2x12AX7,<br>2x12AT7 | 2x12AT7, 2x12AX7, 2x12AU7   |
| Load            | 47K $\Omega$        | Selectable 100 $\Omega$ , 220 $\Omega$ , 470 $\Omega$ ,<br>1K $\Omega$ , 47K $\Omega$ |
| Gain            | 40 dB               | Selectable 54dB, 60dB, 66dB   |