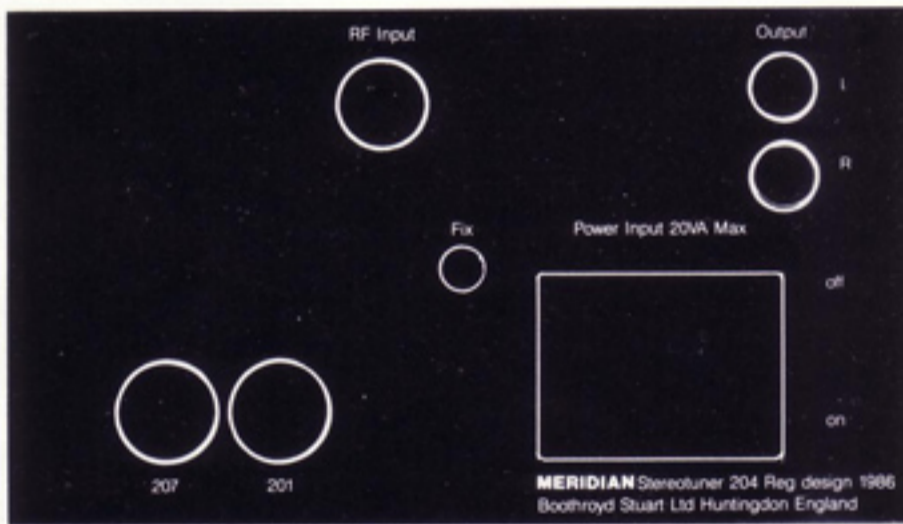
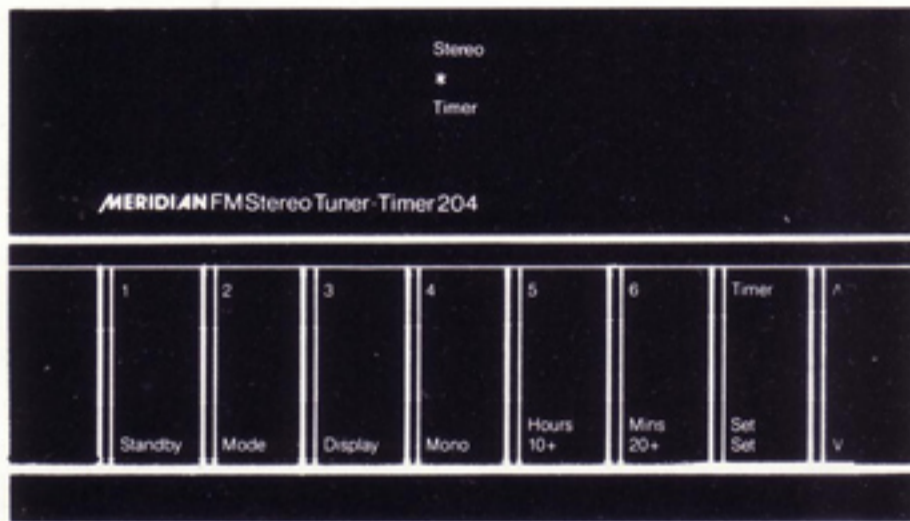


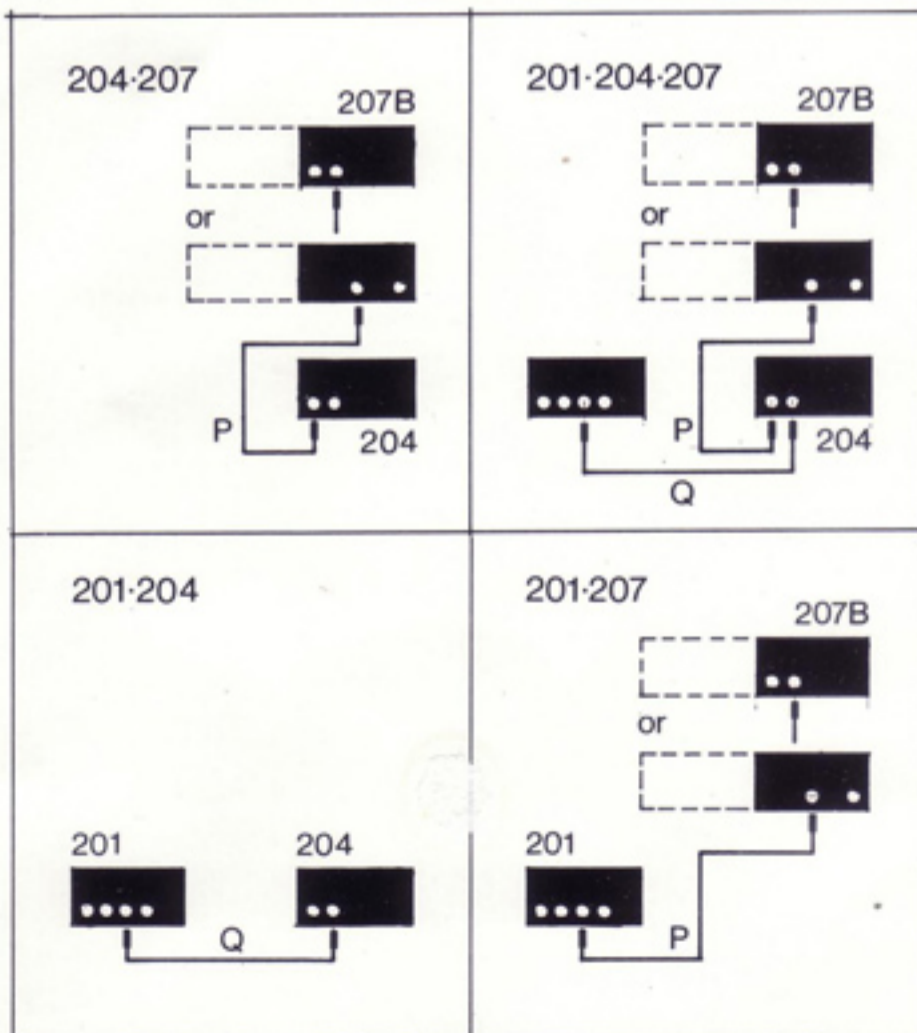
**MERIDIAN FM TUNER 204** INSTRUCTION MANUAL

BOOTHROYD STUART  
**MERIDIAN**

**Meridian 204 Front/Rear Panels**



**Meridian 200 Series Network Connections**



## MERIDIAN FM TUNER 204

### INSTRUCTION MANUAL

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#### 1 **Unpacking**

After unpacking the 204 be sure to retain the packaging for possible future transportation.

In the pack you will find:

204 FM Tuner fitted with standard Front End covering 87.5 MHz to 108 MHz unless otherwise indicated on the back of the unit.

Power cord (European version)  
OR (USA and Canada version)

Part number J 21953  
Part number J 21954

#### 2 **Accessories**

Remote Control Unit Model 209 (optional extra) and ONLY usable in installations which also include either a MERIDIAN 201 Control unit or a MERIDIAN 207 Compact Disc player or both.

Network lead 201-207  
Network lead 201-204  
Power cord for Europe  
Power cord for USA and Canada

Part number J 22207  
Part number J 22204  
Part number J 21953  
Part number J 21954

### 3 **Installation**

3.1 Do not attempt to connect to the supply until you have checked that the unit is marked with the correct voltage, to operate from your supply.

3.2 **IMPORTANT. DO NOT MAKE CONNECTIONS OR INSERT OR REMOVE PLUGS WHILE THE UNIT IS CONNECTED TO THE SUPPLY AND SWITCHED ON.**

3.3 Inside the cover is a fold-out diagram of the back of the 204 showing the connections which can be made to the unit.

3.4 A twin screened Audio lead (not supplied) with phono terminations should be connected to the output sockets of the 204 Tuner at one end and to the RADIO input of the MERIDIAN 201 Pre-amplifier or if you do not use a 201 Pre-amplifier, the LINE input of the MERIDIAN 207 CD Player. If neither the 201 nor the 207 are included in the system, an Audio lead should be connected to the appropriate input of your Pre-amplifier.

The two DIN type sockets (marked 201 and 207) are for interconnecting "network" leads when a 207 CD player or a 201 Pre-amplifier (or both) is included in the installation. These leads are needed in addition to the screened audio lead. Their function is to correlate the controls of the three units to allow remote control from the MERIDIAN 209 unit. See section 2 for part numbers of these leads.

3.6 A suitable band 2 VHF aerial must be connected. It is important to realize that an improperly installed or aligned aerial can seriously impair the performance of the tuner.

#### 3.7 **Siting**

Do not place the 204 on top of a power amplifier or near central heating radiators.

Avoid sites where the 204 would be subjected to direct sunlight.

### 4 **Setting Up and Operation**

4.1 The power switch is at the back of the unit. This switch should be left on even when the unit is not in use because the sound quality is at its best when the temperatures of the components have settled down and this process can take many hours. The **Standby** key is illuminated when the power switch is on.

4.2 To start up the 204 press

any of the six numbered keys

**1 to 6**

The display now shows the pre-set number (eg)



To shut down the 204

**Standby**

4.3 To set the clock to the right time, first start up the tuner (see 4.2) then, to set the hours

**Set \* 10+**

The display now changes from showing pre-set number to time.

Now hours can be adjusted up or down using the **green keys**

To set the minutes

**20+**

now minutes can be adjusted using the

**green keys**

Complete the time setting process

**Set**

#### 4.4 Time display

In the Standby condition, the 204 may be set so that the display is either blank (this is the normal "default" setting) or shows the time.

To show the time in Standby, shut down the tuner (4.2) then

**Display**

Repeated pressing of the **Display** key while the tuner is shut down toggles between blank display and time display.

#### 4.5 Tuning

There are three ways to change the tuning: STEP, SEARCH and PRE-SET. The most usual (and convenient) way is PRE-SET. This simply means pressing one (or two) of the numbered keys to select a pre-set frequency (station). STEP tuning is described in 4.7. SEARCH tuning is described in 4.8.

#### 4.6 Pre-set tuning must be set up on site, so that each pre-set is adjusted to receive the desired station. There are three groups of six pre-set stations: **1 to 6**, **10+ \* 1 to 10+ \* 6**, **20+ \* 1 to 20+ \* 6**.

Selection from the first group is by pressing only one key (**1, 2, 3, 4, 5** or **6**) whereas for the other two groups the numbers **1 to 6** are prefaced by either of the pre-scalers, **10+** to **20+**. It is therefore sensible to set up the most used stations on the pre-sets **1 to 6**.

#### 4.7 Setting the pre-sets

First set the display to show frequency

**Display**

Use the **green keys** to select the frequency of the desired station. When the desired frequency (station) shows,

**Mode \* 1**

Now the frequency has been stored in pre-set 1 for future recall.

Use the **green keys** to select the frequency of the next desired station.

**Mode \* 2**

Pre-set 2 has now been set. The other four pre-set numbers may be set in like manner.

To set a pre-set from either of the last two groups referred to in 4.4, use **Mode \* 10+ \* 1** etc. for the second group and **Mode \* 10+ \* 1** etc. for the third group.

#### 4.8 When a stereo transmission is being received, the yellow stereo indicator lights. The stereo transmission may be received in mono by pressing the **Mono** key which will extinguish the yellow stereo indicator.

On hissy (weakly received) stereo stations, the performance can be improved by pressing **Mono**. If this is done before storing the station (**Mode \* 1** etc), the mono state will be "remembered" along with the frequency so that this pre-set will always be present monaurally. A station so stored will cause the **Mono** key to light when it is selected.

The **Mono** key toggles between mono and stereo. To revert to stereo reception

**Mono**

4.9 SEARCH tuning is somewhat more automatic and needs no finesse or judgement. On pressing the **top green key**, the tuned frequency automatically starts to rise and continues rising until a received transmission of adequate strength (see 4.13) is encountered. The tuner automatically fastens accurately on this transmission, and the SEARCH tuning process is complete. The **bottom green key** operates in the same way except it moves to the next station down the band.

4.10 STEP tuning is so called because the tuning is altered in very small steps in frequency up or down by pressing the **top or bottom green key**. Holding down the key causes the frequency to rise or fall steadily until the key is released.

The smallest step in frequency is 50kHz. Since the smallest change which can be shown on the display is 0.1MHz, that is 100kHz, a red indicator light (starred) shows an increment of 50kHz. The red light also has another function related to the timer.

4.11 Since both STEP tuning and SEARCH tuning use the green keys, the tuner needs to be told which type of tuning is wanted. The normal "default" method is SEARCH.

To change from SEARCH to STEP tuning

**Mode \* Top green**

The top green key now toggles between STEP and SEARCH and the display shows which. When it shows STEP

**Mode**

The tuner is now set so that the green keys STEP.

To revert from STEP to SEARCH tuning

**Mode \* Top green \* Mode**

The tuner is now set so that the green keys SEARCH.

4.12 Signal Strength—Display

The signal strength of any station may be displayed

**Mode \* Display**

The display will now show the signal strength as a number between 0 and 15 for example



Note that these are relative numbers and do not correspond to any absolute units.

To revert to the previous display

**Mode**

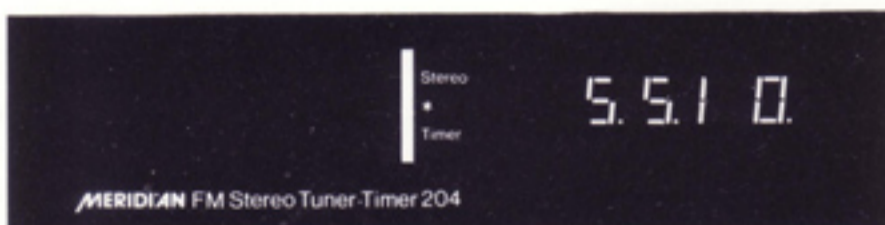
4.13 SEARCH threshold

In the SEARCH mode of tuning (4.9) we referred to a signal of "adequate" strength. On the 204 it is possible to adjust the level at which the tuner judges the signal strength to be adequate. The effect of raising this threshold level may be to reduce the number of stations in the band which will be caught and held; conversely, reducing the threshold will allow more (weaker) stations to be caught. It is for the user to decide whether he prefers a large number of stations, some of which may be received indifferently because of weak signal strength, or few strongly received stations.

To alter the SEARCH threshold signal strength

**Mode \* Bottom green**

The display will now show



where S.S. stands for Stop Signal strength, and 10 is the normal "default" threshold. The stop signal strength indications range from 0 to 15.

To raise the threshold

**Top green**

To lower the threshold

**Bottom green**

When the desired threshold level has been selected (by trial and error)

**Mode**

The new SEARCH threshold is now in the memory of the 204.

#### 4.14 Display

As we have seen the display is used to show a number of different things, for example, pre-set number, frequency, time, signal strength and stop signal strength (threshold). The clock can also be set to switch the 204 on at a prescribed time—the "alarm" time. The display can show the alarm time which is included in the basic cycle of four things controlled by the **Display** key.

Pressing the **Display** key causes the display to cycle the following four pieces of information in this order:

Pre-set number	e.g. "P. 5"
Frequency of tuner (station frequency)	e.g. "1 0 2.4"
Time	e.g. "1 8.4 0"
Alarm time	e.g. "1 9.1 5"

To distinguish Time from Alarm time, the starred red indicator light shows when Alarm time is displayed.

#### 4.15 Setting the alarm station.

Select the station to which you will wish to listen when the alarm triggers.

**Mode \* Timer**

stores this.

Setting the alarm time.

Use the **Display** key to show Alarm time (4.14).

**Set \* 10+**

Set the hours of the alarm time using the

**green keys**

**20+**

Set the minutes of the alarm time using the

**green keys**

Complete the setting with

**Set**

All that remains is to prime the alarm

**Timer**

Now the tuner is primed to switch on to the selected station at the set time. A green indicator light marked "Timer" shows that the alarm is primed.

To un-prime the alarm

**Timer**

The **Timer** key toggles the alarm prime.

Note that the tuner "remembers" the alarm settings (station and time) regardless of whether it has been primed or even switched off.

#### 4.16 Default settings.

When the 204 is used in conjunction with the MERIDIAN 201 Control Unit it can be desirable to arrange the tuner so that starting up the 201 in the RADIO mode always causes the 204 to switch on to a specific pre-determined station, so avoiding the need to make two selections.

To set the "default" pre-set, say 3, select pre-set 3, then

**Mode \* Standby**

Now when the tuner is started up by the 201, the 204 will come on to pre-set 3.

The display can show four different things (4.14), and whichever is showing when you press **Mode \* Standby** will become the "default" display. If for example, you wish to show Alarm time automatically when the tuner is switched on, use the **Display** key to cycle the display round to Alarm time before you press **Mode \* Standby**.

#### 4.17 Unlike the 201 Pre-amplifier or the 207 CD player, the 204 has a battery which allows it to remember any settings which have been made even after the power supply has been switched off or disconnected.

When used with a 201 Pre-amplifier the Network leads which co-ordinate the operation of the two or more units also allow any pre-settings made to the 201 to be remembered after **Mode \* Standby on the 201** have been pressed even if the power to the 201 is switched off.

## 5 Maintenance

### 5.1 Cleaning

The main body of the 204 is epoxy enamelled aluminium. To clean it use a cloth barely moistened with a mixture of washing-up detergent and water. Disconnect the power cord before doing this and make sure the cloth is dry enough to ensure that no water can get inside the pre-amplifier.

The top of the front of the 204 is glass. The bottom part of the panel is plastic. To clean the plastic do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents. A barely damp leather is recommended.

The audio sockets are gold plated, and where gold plated phono plugs are used there should be no need for cleaning of the contacts. For non-gold plated phono plugs, it is good practise to remove and replace the plugs at least once a year. Proprietary contact cleaners may be used to some advantage.

### 5.2 No maintenance is required.

There are no user-serviceable parts inside the 204.

## 6 **Help!**

- 6.1 In the event that no sounds can be heard, there are a number of simple checks against "finger trouble" which you can make.
- (a) Ensure that power is reaching the 204 and that an audio lead connects it with your pre-amp.
- (b) Ensure that the pre-amp is selected to RADIO (or TUNER), that the pre-amp is not in the tape monitoring mode and that the volume control is sufficiently high.
- 6.2 If the SEARCH threshold is set higher than the received signals, this can result in no sound. To lower the threshold: **Mode \* bottom green** now use **green keys** to reduce the threshold to 2, then store with **Mode**.
- 6.3 All pre-settings on the tuner can be cancelled and the tuner returned to original default settings as follows: Switch off the 204 at the back. Wait a few seconds. Hold down the **Set** key and switch on the power switch at the back.
- 6.4 If you use a MERIDIAN 201 Control unit and you do not wish to lose the pre-settings on the 201 when re-setting the 204, proceed as follows:  
Ensure that the 201 is powered up (**Standby** key illuminated).  
Unplug interconnecting Q-lead. Re-set 204 as described above (6.3). Switch th 201 out of standby (press, say **Radio**), re-connect Q-lead and then press *on the 201* **Mode \* Standby**.

## 7 **Service**

There are no user-serviceable parts inside the 204. Should the unit need service, it should be returned in the original packing to the dealer who supplied it or, in the case of difficulty write to:

Boothroyd Stuart Ltd.,  
13 Clifton Road,  
Industrial Estate,  
HUNTINGDON,  
Cambridgeshire  
PE18 7EJ

Tuners outside the UK should be returned to the importing agent for the territory. A list of our agents abroad is available from the factory.

The owner is responsible for the tuner during transit to us or our agents.

## 8 **Guarantee**

The tuner is guaranteed against defects in material and workmanship for 12 months from the date of purchase.

The guarantee is void if the tuner has been subjected to misuse, accident or negligence, or has been in any way modified without our written authorisation. Attempted servicing by unauthorised people may result in loss of guarantee.

Labour and carriage charges are not covered unless by local agreement.

When seeking service under guarantee, it is necessary to produce dated proof of purchase.

Outside UK local warranty liability is restricted to equipment purchased within the territory. Our agents abroad are only under contractual obligation to service under guarantee equipment sold through them. They are entitled to make a non-refundable charge for any service carried out on equipment not supplied through them. This guarantee does not limit your statutory rights within the UK.

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### Keys (Abbreviated operating instructions)

**1 2 3**  
**4 5 6**

These select six pre-set stations and start up the tuner.

**10+ 20+**

Shift keys used before **1** to **6** to obtain a further two lots of six pre-set stations. These also start up the tuner.

**Standby**

Switches the tuner to standby. Also used to establish default station (station to which the tuner is set when it is switched on. Select default station and then **Mode \* Standby**.

**Green keys**

Tuning keys. Top key is frequency up; bottom key is frequency down. Also used to adjust threshold (see Mode below).

**Mono**

Puts the tuner into the mono mode. Key toggles between mono and stereo. Key is lit when tuner is in mono.

**Display**

In standby, key toggles between blank display and Time. When operating, key cycles display in the following sequence:

Pre-set number \* Frequency \* Time \* Alarm time.

Signal strength can be displayed: **Mode \* Display**

**Mode**

To set pre-sets. Select desired station with **green keys** then store it within, say, pre-set 1 with **Mode \* 1**.

To change from SEARCH to STEP tuning (and back): **Mode \* Top green \* Mode**

To show signal strength: **Mode \* Display**

To revert: **Mode**

To alter SEARCH threshold: **Mode \* Bottom green**. Now use **green keys** to adjust to new threshold and store with **Mode**

To store Alarm station: Select station then **Mode \* Timer**

To alter default (station to which the tuner is set when started up by the 201): Select station then **Mode \* Standby**

**Set**

To set the clock: **Set \* 10+** adjust hours with **green keys**  
**20+** adjust minutes with **green keys**  
Complete with **Set**

To set alarm station: Select station, **Mode \* Timer**

To set alarm time: **Set \* 10+** adjust hours with **green keys**  
**20+** adjust minutes with **green keys**  
Complete with **Set**

**Timer**

To prime the alarm: **Timer**

To un-prime the alarm: **Timer**

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