

MERIDIAN 605 USER MANUAL

Contents

- 1 Introduction, 1
- 2 About this manual, 1
 - 2.1 Symbols used in this manual, 1
- 3 About the 600-Series, 1
- 4 Unpacking your 605, 1
- 5 Accessories, 1
- 6 Installing the 605, 1
 - 6.1 General precautions, 1
 - 6.2 Connections, 1
 - 6.3 Meridian 208 CD Player, 1
 - 6.4 Meridian 601 Preamplifier, 2
 - 6.5 Meridian 603 Controller, 2
 - 6.6 Meridian 201 Preamplifier, 2
 - 6.7 No other Meridian equipment, 2
 - 6.8 Loudspeakers, 2
 - 6.9 Fuse, 2
- 7 Siting, 2
- 8 Setting up the 605, 2
 - 8.1 Checking, 2
 - 8.2 If all is well, 2
 - 8.3 If this is not the case, 2
 - 8.4 Standby, 2
- 9 Operation, 3
 - 9.1 Protection, 3
- 10 Help, 3
 - 10.1 No sound, 3
 - 10.2 Sound from one channel only, 3
- 11 Maintenance & Service, 3
- 12 Guarantee, 3
- 13 Specification, 4

MERIDIAN 605 USER MANUAL

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Contents

1	Introduction, 1
2	About this manual, 1
2.1	Conventions used in this manual, 1
3	About the 600-Series, 1
4	Unpacking your 605, 1
5	Accessories, 1
6	Installing the 605, 1
6.1	General precautions, 1
6.2	Connections, 1
6.3	Meridian 208 CD Player, 1
6.4	Meridian 601 Preamplifier, 2
6.5	Meridian 603 Controller, 2
6.6	Meridian 201 Preamplifier, 2
6.7	No other Meridian equipment, 2
6.8	Loudspeakers, 2
6.9	Fuse, 2
7	Siting, 2
8	Setting up the 605, 2
8.1	Checking, 2
8.2	If all is well, 2
8.3	If this is not the case, 2
8.4	Standby, 2
9	Operation, 3
9.1	Protection, 3
10	Help, 3
10.1	No sound, 3
10.2	Sound from one channel only, 3
11	Maintenance & Service, 3
12	Guarantee, 3
13	Specification, 4

4 Unpacking your 605

On opening the carton, you should have found the following parts:

- Meridian 605 Amplifier
- Power cord
- Moulding plug
- This manual

If any of these items are missing, please contact your dealer immediately. We suggest that you wrap the 605 as it is designed to offer the best protection whilst in transit. Although the 600-Series components have been designed to be robust, they should obviously be well protected if they are being transported.

5 Accessories

The 605 will operate with any preamplifier or control and has been specifically designed to work with other items in the Meridian 600-Series and 200-Series, such as the following:

- Meridian 201 Preamplifier
- Meridian 202 Preamplifier
- Meridian 6023 CD transport & controller
- Meridian 208 CD Player

6 Installing the 605

6.1 General precautions

Before carrying out any installation, you should first ensure that the Amplifier is marked with the correct voltage for your local AC supply. If there is any doubt, do not proceed with these instructions, but contact your dealer instead.

You should not make or check any connections to the Amplifier, or to any other component in your system, whilst the AC power supply is connected.

6.2 Connections

You will need to connect the 605 Amplifier to your preamplifier, or Meridian CD Player, with a twin-screened audio cable or a pair of single-screened audio cables. These can have a considerable effect on the quality of the sound, and we advise you to seek your dealer's advice on the best type for your system.

The connections you make will depend on other components in the system.

6.3 Meridian 208 CD Player

Connect the sockets marked Variable Out on the rear of the 208 to the socket marked Input on the rear of each 605. Be sure to observe the correct channel orientation.

1 Introduction

The *Meridian* 605 Amplifier is part of the 600-Series of advanced high fidelity equipment. Used with other components in the range, it can offer the music lover very high quality audio.

In purchasing a *Meridian* 605 Amplifier, you have acquired an advanced piece of equipment which will continue to bring you listening pleasure for many years. This text will enable you to get the most from it.

2 About this manual

This manual deals with the installation and day-to-day operation of the 605 Amplifier. Once you have installed the Amplifier, you will find that you do not need to refer to these instructions very often.

In any manual of this nature, some technical terms must be used. We will explain these when we first introduce them. We shall try not to assume any prior knowledge on your part.

2.1 Conventions used in this manual

A number in the range 200-220 refers to a component in the *Meridian* 200-Series of audio equipment, unless otherwise indicated, for example 'the socket marked 201'. A number in the range 600-620 refers to a component in the *Meridian* 600-Series range of audio equipment.

3 About the 600-Series

The *Meridian* 600-Series of high fidelity equipment is probably the most sophisticated family of hi fi products currently available. It has been developed to operate at a variety of levels, from the simplest conventional hi fi to a whole-house music-management system. The range of components in the 600-Series ensures that a *Meridian* system will satisfy the needs of any user.

The 605's circuitry has been carefully optimised to provide the highest quality sound available, coupled with low distortion and noise.

Despite its high performance, each piece of equipment in the 600-Series has been designed for ease of use. Great attention has been paid to the appearance of the units, and much care has been taken in the selection of the materials used, to ensure that your *Meridian* 600-Series equipment will look as good in years to come as it does now.

4 Unpacking your 605

On opening the carton, you should have found the following parts:

- *Meridian* 605 Amplifier
- power cord
- shorting plug
- this manual

If any of these items are missing, please contact your dealer immediately. We suggest that you retain the packing as it is designed to offer the unit maximum protection whilst in transit. Although all 600-Series components have been designed to be robust, they should obviously be well protected when they are being transported.

5 Accessories

The 605 will operate with any preamplifier or control unit but has been specifically designed to work with other items in the *Meridian* 600-Series and 200-Series, such as the following:

- *Meridian* 601 Preamplifier
- *Meridian* 201 Preamplifier
- *Meridian* 602/3 CD transport & controller
- *Meridian* 208 CD Player

6 Installing the 605

6.1 General precautions

Before carrying out any installation, you should first ensure that the Amplifier is marked with the correct voltage for your local AC supply. If this is not the case, do not proceed with these instructions, but contact your dealer instead.

You should not make or break any connections to the Amplifier, or to any other component in your system, whilst the AC power supply is connected.

6.2 Connections

You will need to connect the 605 Amplifiers to your preamplifier, or *Meridian* CD Player, with a twin-screened audio cable or a pair of single-screened audio cables. These can have a considerable effect on the quality of the sound, and we advise you to seek your dealer's advice on the best type for your system.

The connections you make will depend on other components in the system.

6.3 *Meridian* 208 CD Player

Connect the sockets marked Variable Out on the rear of the 208 to the socket marked Input on the rear of each 605. Be sure to observe the correct channel orientation.

6.4 Meridian 601 Preamplifier

Connect the balanced XLR sockets marked L and R on the rear of the 601 to the XLR sockets marked Balanced Input on the rear of the 605s. Be sure to observe the correct channel orientation. The phono input should be shorted (i.e. the inner and outer contacts connected together) when using the balanced input. A shorting phono connector has been supplied. The use of the balanced connection will ensure the best possible performance.

6.5 Meridian 603 Controller

Connect the balanced phono sockets marked Variable Out Balanced on the rear of the 603 to the XLR sockets marked Balanced Input on the rear of the 605s. Be sure to observe the correct channel orientation. The phono input should be shorted (i.e. the inner and outer contacts connected together) when using the balanced input. A shorting phono connector has been supplied. The use of the balanced connection will ensure the best possible performance, consult your dealer for advice.

Alternatively for unbalanced connection connect the positive outputs of the 603 to the phono input of the 605

6.6 Meridian 201 Preamplifier

Connect the sockets marked Output on the rear of the 201 to the sockets marked Input on the rear of the 605s. Be sure to observe the correct channel orientation.

6.7 No other Meridian equipment

Connect the sockets marked Input on the rear of the 605s to an appropriate output on your preamplifier. Connect your sources to the appropriate input on the preamplifier.

6.8 Loudspeakers

The loudspeaker terminals on the rear of the 605 are gold-plated brass. Polarisation is indicated by the red or black marking. Ensure that you observe polarity when connecting your loudspeakers to the 605.

Dual terminals are provided to enable the speakers to be bi-wired.

As with the interconnects between the 605s and your preamplifier, your choice of loudspeaker cable will affect the quality of sound. Seek your dealer's advice on the best type for use with your installation.

6.9 Fuse

The 605 is fitted with a fuse that is located in the mains inlet. If you suspect this fuse has blown disconnect the unit from the supply and pull open the drawer of the mains inlet. The fuse drawer contains the working fuse and a spare. Before replacing the working fuse check your system thoroughly. If the second fuse blows consult your dealer.

7 Siting

The 605s should be positioned so that there is an unobstructed flow of air around the units, particularly the cooling fins. We recommend that you do not place anything on top of your 605s. Do not stack your 605s as this will increase their idle temperature.

You should avoid sites where:

- they would be subjected to direct sunlight.
- they are near a heat source, for example a central heating radiator.
- they could be subjected to strong magnetic radiation, for example close to a television
- where the flow of air is restricted i.e. in a cupboard
- connecting cables may be subject to interference.

The 605 should not be placed on carpet as this will obstruct the flow of air through the heat sink.

Try to keep all mains cables and Meridian communications leads away from signal cables, which includes audio, aerial and loudspeaker cables. Some time spent laying out the cables carefully will repay you with the best possible performance later.

8 Setting up the 605

8.1 Checking

Before turning on the power, check once again that you have made all the connections correctly and that you have not disturbed any existing connections in the process. Ensure the volume on your preamp is low to start with as the 605 is very sensitive.

8.2 If all is well

Turn on the power switch at the rear of the unit. A small light will illuminate on the front of the 605.

8.3 If this is not the case

Switch off the power and check the power cord is firmly connected and any fuses in the supply are good. If the light is still not illuminated, when switched on, and the rest of your system is functioning, contact your dealer for help.

8.4 Standby

The entire 600-Series is designed to be left connected to AC power at all times.

This standby state ensures that the components operate at maximum efficiency from the moment you start listening. It is perfectly safe and consumes approximately the same power as a 60W light bulb. The 605 will be warm to the touch even in standby, this is normal so do not be concerned. However, when you are not going to use your system for an extended period, for example when you are going on holiday, we would advise you to disconnect it from the AC power supply.

9 Operation

Your 605s will operate without any intervention on your part. Use your preamplifier's controls in the normal way to regulate the sound.

9.1 Protection

The 605 does not have fuses to protect the loudspeakers, as these cause signal degradation, but uses a power circuit-breaker instead. If a fault triggers this protection, the black button on the rear of the 605 will jump out, and the light on the amplifier front panel will go out.

It is vital that you find and rectify the cause of the problem before you attempt to reset the 605. Once the fault has been cleared, press in the black button(s) to reset the 605s.

The protection can be triggered by a number of problems, including shorting of your loudspeaker cables, lightning or an internal power fault in the 605. It can also occasionally be caused by using the amplifier at high volume for an extended period of time. In this instance, allow the unit to cool for some time before attempting to reset it.

WARNING Under no circumstances reset the 605 any more than three times in an hour.

10 Help

The wide range of facilities available from the *Meridian* 600-Series can occasionally mean that even the most experienced user can run into 'finger trouble'. This section is designed to help you when things do not appear to be working normally.

10.1 No sound

If no sound can be heard from your loudspeaker, the most likely causes are:

- The 605 protection has fired, see section 9.1.
- No power is reaching the 605s or the entire system.
- The audio cable between the 605s and your preamplifier has become disconnected.
- The interconnects between the 605s and your loudspeakers have become disconnected.
- The Amplifiers are not turned on.
- The volume control on your preamplifier is set to its minimum or is in 'mute' condition.

10.2 Sound from one channel only

- Check connections to the preamplifier and the loudspeakers.

11 Maintenance & Service

The *Meridian* 600-Series of hi fi components have been carefully designed to give years of untroubled service. There are no user-serviceable parts inside the case, nor do the units require any form of maintenance.

In the unlikely event that one of your 605 Amplifiers fails to function correctly it should be returned, in its original packing, to your *Meridian* dealer.

In case of difficulty, please write:

- In the UK: Boothroyd/Stuart Ltd,
13 Clifton Road, Huntingdon,
Cambridgeshire, PE18 7EJ
- In the USA: Meridian America Inc.
14120-K Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly VA 22021
Tel (703) 818-3028, Fax (703) 830-7825
- Customers outside the United Kingdom should contact their *Meridian* agent, whose address can be obtained from the factory.

No responsibility can be accepted for the 605 whilst in transit to the factory or an agent, and customers are, therefore, advised to insure the unit.

12 Guarantee

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

The guarantee is void if the Amplifier has been subjected to misuse, accident or negligence, or has been in any way modified without the written authorisation of Boothroyd Stuart Ltd. Attempted servicing by unauthorised people may also invalidate this guarantee.

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

When seeking service under guarantee, proof of the date of purchase will be required.

Outside the 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 other equipment.

This guarantee does not limit your statutory rights within the United Kingdom.

