



G96

DVD Transport



Meridian's G Series line of high performance digital & analogue consumer audio components feature a stylish cabinet design in traditional black or a sleek silver finish. Designed to be either free-standing or rack-mounted, G Series components build on their predecessors, the multi-award-winning 500 and our flagship 800 Series, and include entirely new circuitry developed specifically for the G Series.

Multi-layer boards reduce system noise and improve performance. In products which include video capabilities, broadcast-quality, wide-bandwidth video components are employed for maximum image integrity. G Series units are easy to use. Where appropriate, a knob is included to control volume. The positive-action front-panel keys are software-defined: their legends are presented in the vacuum fluorescent display and change intelligently according to context.

Full installation configuration of many G Series components is achieved by running a special setup program on a Windows computer, connected to the G Series unit via a serial link, or direct from the front panel.

G Series products also include serial ports for remote operation and configuration, along with infra-red sensor input and trigger capabilities, plus Meridian communications ports. A comprehensive back-lit learning/programmable remote is included with products other than amplifiers.

Virtually every piece of home entertainment equipment has its own, characteristic sound. But at Meridian, our intention is to represent the original acoustic or studio event as accurately as possible. The ideal characteristic sound of Meridian, therefore, is clear: it's the real thing.

We achieve this sound in many ways, including careful choice of the right components, the right signal processing, multi-layer PC boards, the shortest possible analogue chain, precision digital design and the lowest jitter. Then there are the little things, like using gold-plated connectors throughout.

The G96 DVD Transport is no exception to this rule: and its video performance is also second-to-none. The G96 plays audio CDs, MP3 CDs, Video CDs and DVD-Video discs, including the DVD side of DualDiscs. It can decode Dolby Digital, DTS, MPEG and MP3 data streams to PCM for stereo playback. And it can output Dolby Digital, DTS, and MPEG bitstreams.

The G96 offers digital interfacing and provides fixed-level multichannel or two-channel audio outputs. It is designed for use with a surround controller with multichannel digital inputs such as Meridian's G68 or G61R. Alternatively, it can be connected to a pair of DSP loudspeakers to create a complete high-quality two-channel DVD system.

Product highlights

Video scaling/resolution enhancement allows a single, high quality path to the display

Slot-loading DVD-ROM drive reads data with maximum accuracy

Powerful multi-format video processor with HDMI/DVI

Unique MHR SmartLink connects high-resolution digital signals to Meridian systems

Decodes film soundtracks, enabling external upsampling to 24/96

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The G96 includes a powerful video processor and scaler incorporating both Meridian and Faroudja Video Optimization technology, which can simultaneously provide composite and S-video outputs, plus progressive component video and up to 1080p on an HDMI audio/video interface.

Two composite video, one component video and three S-video inputs are provided, all of which can be routed to any of the video outputs with appropriate scaling to suit the display.

At the heart of the G96 is a high-speed, robust, slot-loading computer-style DVD-ROM drive – the best type of drive to use to ensure accurate data recovery from all types of disc.

In addition to regular CDs (including MP3 CD-ROMS) and DVDs, the player can also play most hybrid varieties. The G96 can handle DVD-Video discs, decoding Dolby Digital or DTS data streams and extracting or downmixing them to stereo if required.

The drive normally operates at standard speed; however it is capable of recovering

data a great deal faster when required, enabling it to make successive attempts to recover accurate data from a problem disc. Thus the drive can perfectly recover the information from almost any disc.

Unlike other players that use a mechanical approach to try to lower jitter by minimising drive vibration, the G96 employs a triple buffering system to minimise jitter, maximizing HF transparency and sound stage imaging precision and stability. The result of this sophisticated effort is that the player delivers ultra-low jitter, with sound and picture quality second only to Meridian's 800 Reference DVD/CD Player.

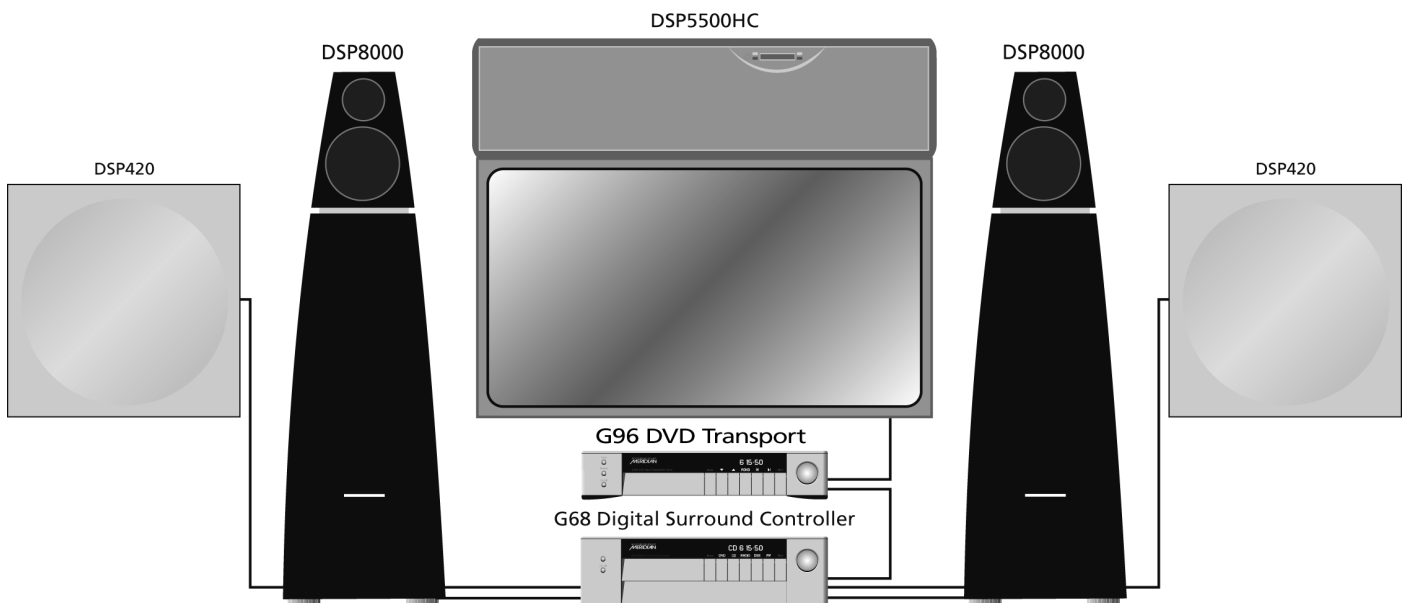
The digital electronics as a whole are driven by a unique high-stability clocking system which further reduces jitter and ensures that the highest level of detail is recovered from a disc. All digital data is accurately re-clocked, while multiple power supplies ensure that digital and analogue circuitry are kept separate.

The G96 DVD transport includes a comprehensive front-panel user interface which allows access to all the features of the unit, including configuration.

The player can be reset to a standard setting which configures all the required parameters as appropriate for a particular application. In addition, an on-screen display (OSD) allows you to configure specific settings individually.

The player employs Flash ROM memory for the operating system, so software updates can be downloaded from the Internet and installed via a PC connected to the serial port on the rear panel. The serial port also allows full remote control and configuration of the unit.

The G96 provides three principal S/PDIF coax outputs designated L/R, L/R Surround, and C/LFE. These typically connect to Meridian processors, or feed a stereo signal to a pair of Meridian DSP loudspeakers. If configured for MHR SmartLink they, or the adjacent combined 15-way D-type connector, carry high-sample rate encrypted data from DVD discs for the highest fidelity of decoding and reproduction. The SmartLink also informs a downstream Meridian processor of the signal source, so that it can switch processing modes automatically.



The G96 DVD Transport is an ideal source for, and with the G68 Digital Surround Controller forms the basis of, a stunning Meridian Digital Theatre system. The units are shown here connected to a pair of Meridian's top-of-the-line DSP8000 speakers for left and right, coupled with a pair of DSP420 in-walls for the surrounds (not to scale) and a DSP5500HC for the centre front channel. Virtually any kind of video display device can be supported, whether composite, S-Video, Component (progressive or interlaced) or even the latest interfaces such as HDMI or DVI. Different video inputs are converted to all formats, so there is only need for one display connection.

G96 rear panel



The unit also provides an additional S/PDIF digital output which delivers a stereo downmix or bitstream signal.

On the video side, advanced video circuit designs, matched phase video filters, and a broadcast-quality video encoder are employed to deliver low-noise images of outstanding colour depth and resolution.

Separate ultra-low jitter master video and audio oscillators allow picture and sound to be independently optimized, ensuring that the G96 delivers breathtakingly clear pictures.

The G96's unique high-resolution video processor/scaler can receive composite,

S-video, and interlaced component, and convert between the formats, or to the high-density multimedia interface (HDMI) standard, to provide a single video output for all the video sources in the system. A bypass function allows progressive or high definition component video to be routed directly to the component output only.

The HDMI port supports a wide range of high quality digital video options including 480p, 576p, 720p, 1080i and 1080p. Analogue component out is available at 480p and 576p. The HDMI interface also carries high-resolution digital audio, either two channels of PCM at up to 24-bit, 96kHz or a 5.1 encoded bitstream.

Built-in broadcast-quality circuitry delivers the most advanced, high-quality video available today.

The video processor includes picture controls, available via the MSR+ and front-panel display. For the internal DVD and external video inputs you can adjust the horizontal and vertical picture position. In addition, for the video inputs you can adjust the brightness, contrast, colour, and hue (NTSC inputs only).

The HDMI output can be connected to a DVI input if the device supports HDCP copy protection, using a suitable adaptor cable.

Outline Specifications

Formats

- DVD-Video, DVD-R; Video CD (VCD), CVCD, MP3; CD Audio (CD-DA), CD-R and hybrids such as SACD (CD layer only) and DualDisc (DVD layer only).

Audio outputs

- 3 x digital coax main outputs with MHR Smart Link, plus 15-pin 'D' type connector. 1 x digital coax auxiliary output. HDMI v1.1 6-channel 24-bit/96kHz and bitstream audio (and video)

Video features

- Automatic PAL or NTSC encoding on Composite and S-Video outputs.
- NTSC black-level setup adjustable as 0 or 7.5IRE.
- 16:9 and 4:3 displays supported

On-Screen Display

- Switchable custom On-Screen Display allows instant review of disc status.
- Screen saver with user timeout options.
- Logo screen with PLUGE bars enables set-up of display device

Panel Display

- Multi-character dot-matrix graphic Vacuum Fluorescent Display (VFD)

Video Processor

- Two composite video inputs, one component input, three S-Video inputs
- Composite, S-Video, component and HDMI outputs (DVI-compatible, HDMI also carries 2-ch audio), outputs all simultaneously active
- Selected video input is converted to all formats at valid resolutions (except non-interlaced component input which bypasses processor).
- Faroudja Video Optimization scaling and de-interlacing technology.
- HDMI port supports 480p, 576p, 720p, and 1080i.
- Analogue component out at 480p and 576p

Controls

- Front-panel soft key functions include Play, Stop, Pause, Previous, Next, plus Home and More keys.
- Off, Display and Open/Close buttons. Off gently illuminated when off; keys back-illuminated when on

Comms

- Full RS232 control and status enables custom integration or automation.
- Meridian Comms (2 x DIN plus BNC)

Trigger

- 12v trigger output allows control of power amps, etc

Dimensions

- Width: 440mm (17.32in); Depth: 350mm (13.78in) plus connectors; Height: 90mm (3.54in)

Rack Mounting

- Kit available from Meridian authorized dealers

Weight

- 9kg (19.8lbs)

Power

- Universal supply 100–240V, 50–60Hz, 25W



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G96 front panel



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