

# Robert Kōda



Takumi Series  
K-10 Pre-Amplifier

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Accepting the challenge to create the ultimate preamplifier – one that could partner our K-70 or other “Super amplifiers” would lead Robert Kōda on an ambitious programme of new concept invention.

Now it is possible for both musical excellence and technical distinction to co-exist.

Our newly invented ITC circuit embraces the concepts of simplicity with dynamic stability, this being core to the Robert Kōda design technique.

Finally music’ s full spectrum of colors and landscapes can be gloriously revealed and an ultimate pre-amplifier is born.

## **The ITC circuit**

The ITC circuit; our invention and a unique arrangement of semi-conductors is central to achieving sonic perfection. Inverted Transconductance Coupling importantly provides a total freedom from “the sound of power supply” . Distortion is pushed below measurable limits yet the circuit is of an elegant simplicity that stands firm under dynamic conditions music signals present.

Excellent coupling between source component and power amplifier, with a consummately low output impedance and immense drive capability ensure the K-10 will bring out the best of the power amplifier.



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## **Innovative design meets meticulous execution**

The K-10 pre-amplifier is crafted with meticulous attention to one purpose, musical excellence. Each element is carefully engineered to deliver the highest possible performance without compromise to concerns of cost or practicality. Form truly does follow function.

Unnecessary complication is avoided at every turn to protect the precious music signal from adverse influences.

## **Simple, finely crafted mechanical controls**

The K-10 uses the finest attenuator part available for volume control. Perfectly hand assembled in Japan, this attenuator uses exotic resistors solely created for sound reproduction. Comprising of a special carbon formulation with thick gold over oxygen free copper leads, these parts are of ultimate choice.

Source selection is performed by a rotary switch built specifically for the most demanding of audio applications. Thus all manner of relays, complex support circuitry and sound destroying printed circuit board tracks have been eschewed entirely.



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## **DC Reactor power supply**

To decouple the K-10's performance from impure AC supply lines we have adopted a heavy DC Reactor type power supply that delivers valuable advantages over other types of supply. The reactor's performance is further enhanced by the use of our own designed for audio, discrete zero feedback regulator to provide the amplifier with pristine DC current.

## **Triple screened chassis**

A robust chassis creates a full copper envelope surrounding all components of the K-10 to shield them from the influences of external electromagnetic and radio frequency interference. Sensitive components within the ITC gain stage are further shielded by "double encapsulation" – a separate copper shell and a custom made mu-metal capsule within. The power supply is housed in its own "magnetic vault" made of 2mm thick soft iron plate. A sandwich floor construction with constrained layer damping and hemispherical sorbothane feet provide additional isolation from unwanted vibrations. Electrically, thermally and acoustically this lavish assembly sets an excellent operating environment for the enclosed electronics.

## **Single ended and balanced output of equal performance**

Providing single ended and balanced outputs of identical performance presents a challenge to pre-amplifier designers. The K-10 is successfully engineered to deliver both at full measure, affording a greater flexibility for system configuration.



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## Specifications

Inputs \_\_\_\_\_ SE X3 pairs True balanced X1 pair

Outputs \_\_\_\_\_ SE X 2 pairs True balanced X 1 pair

Gain \_\_\_\_\_ Plus 6dB

Output impedance \_\_\_\_\_ 75 ohm single ended, 2X 37 ohm balanced

Input impedance \_\_\_\_\_ 50K ohm single ended

Signal to noise \_\_\_\_\_ 110dB A weighted at 1V

Frequency response \_\_\_\_\_ 20Hz to 20KHz +/- 0.03dB

Distortion \_\_\_\_\_ 0.00003 % @ 1Khz at 2.5V into 100K ohm Estimated due to measurement limits.

Power consumption \_\_\_\_\_ Off – 0W On – 30W

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ 27Kg unpacked

Size \_\_\_\_\_ 380mm wide, 380mm deep and 170 high



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## **A musical result of unquestionable beauty**

The relentless work and care required to form each K-10 wins a valuable prize; accuracy and musicality are no longer independent nor contradictory. Rather one leads to the other, allowing the K-10 to achieve what it set out to do – Transport the listener into a new realm of musical appreciation.



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