

MC 275

STEREO POWER AMPLIFIER VERSIONS

McIntosh

The Compendium

To date (2024) McIntosh has produced 5 different versions of the Mc 275 amplifier based on electrical design, layout of the front panel and electrical specifications. Within some of those versions there are also variations - cosmetic differences.

With only a couple of exceptions, each of these versions have been known as MC275. McIntosh had a different stock number for each version and variation, but from a branded aspect, all are known as MC275.

Along the way there became a need to differentiate the various iterations of the amplifier. One way or another, these were given the unofficial "Mark" designation. However, the early use of this system was different than what has been settled on later. So, some of the older information about a particular "MK" unit may no longer be valid.



MC275: (1961 ~ 1970) Chromed steel chassis. Point-to-point wiring.

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, **12AX7**, 2-**12AU7**, 2-**12AZ7**, 2-**12BH7**. S/N: 10,001~10,147 AND 100E1~572E9

Specifications: 16-40kHz (+0,-0.1dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -90 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 67 and 600 ohms.

MC275 "Spotting features": **1.** Octal output on front angled panel. **2.** Terminal strips are vertical. **3.** Gain controls. **4.** Balance control. **5.** Stereo/Twin Amp/Mono switch. **6.** Power cord is on the vertical front panel and fuse is on the angled front. **7.** 117/125V Line Voltage switch. **8.** Stereo, Twin and Mono audio inputs. **9.** Convenience outlet on vertical front panel.

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MC275 CE (*Gordon Gow Commemorative Edition*): (1993 ~ 1998)

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AZ7**. S/N: E1001~E????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.2dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -100 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 10.

MC275 CE features: **1.** Hybrid PCB/Point-to-point wiring. **2.** Chromed steel chassis. **3.** 450 V power supply.

MC275 CE "Spotting features": **1.** Side **Gordon Gow Commemorative Edition** badge. **2.** Gain controls. **3.** Unbalanced inputs on far right-hand side of the vertical front. **4.** Power cord and fuse are on the vertical front. **5.** Convenience outlet on vertical front panel.

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MC275 SS [MK III]: (1997 ~ 1998) Stainless steel chassis. Same design as CE.

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AZ7**. S/N: ??1001~?????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.2dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -100 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 10.

MC275 [MK III] features: 1. Hybrid PCB/Point-to-point wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis. 3. 450 V power supply. 4. Same design as CE.

MC275 [MK III] "Spotting features": 1. No **Gordon Gow Commemorative Edition** badge. 2. Gain controls. 3. Unbalanced inputs on far right-hand side of the vertical front. 4. Power cord and fuse are on the vertical front. 5. Convenience outlet on vertical front panel.

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MC275G: (1998 ~ 1999) Titanium gold stainless steel chassis. Same design as CE.

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AZ7**. S/N: MC275G-01~MC275G-71

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.2dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -100 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 10.

MC275G features: 1. Hybrid PCB/Point-to-point wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis with gold finish. 3. 450 V power supply.

MC275G "Spotting features": 1. Gold finish. 2. Gain controls. 3. Unbalanced inputs on far right-hand side of the vertical front. 4. Power cord and fuse are on the vertical front. 5. Convenience outlet on vertical front panel.

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MC275 [MK IV]: (2004 ~ 2006) **Changes:** Power on/off switch added. Convenience outlet eliminated. Power cord moved to a socket in the rear. Changes to the vertical and angled front panels.

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AT7**. S/N: VN1001~VN????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.2dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -100 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 14.

MC275 [MK IV] features: 1. PCB wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis. 3. 450 V power supply.

MC275 [MK IV] "Spotting features": 1. Power on-off switch. 2. Gain controls. 3. Unbalanced inputs right-center on the vertical front. 4. Power cord socket and fuse are on the rear panel.

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MC275 GOLD [MK IV]: (200? ~ 200?) Stainless steel chassis with gold finish. Same design as **MC 275 [MK IV]**.

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AT7**. S/N: VR1001~VR????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.2dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -100 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 14.

MC275 [MK IV] GOLD features: 1. PCB wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis with gold finish. 3. 450 V power supply. Same design as **MC275 [MK IV]**.

MC275 [MK IV] GOLD "Spotting features": 1. Power on-off switch. 2. Gain controls. 3. Unbalanced inputs right-center on the vertical front. 4. Power cord receptacle and fuse are on the rear panel. 5. Gold finish.

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MC275 [MK V]: (2009 ~ 2012) **Changes:** RoHS. Gain controls eliminated. Early small 5-way plastic binding posts changed to gold metal in later production. Changes to the vertical and angled front panels.

(450 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AT7**. S/N: WM1001~WM????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.5dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -100 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 14.

MC275 [MK V] features: 1. PCB wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis. 3. 450 V power supply. 4. RoHS.

MC275 [MK V] "Spotting features": 1. No gain controls. 3. Unbalanced inputs on far right-hand side of the slanted front panel. 4. 5-way speaker binding posts. 5. Power cord socket and fuse are on the rear panel.

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MC275 50th Anniversary: (2012 ~ 2016) Stainless steel chassis with gold finish. **Changes:** Large WBT gold metal speaker binding posts. New design – new output transformers. Small tube light-up feature added. Feedback taken from the speaker side of the output autoformer (all previous versions the feedback is from the amp side of the output transformer). Changes to the vertical and angled front panels. Power control added. Power indicator light added.

(490 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AT7**. S/N: ABH1001~ABH????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.5dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -105 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 22.

MC275 50TH ANNIVERSARY features: 1. PCB wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis with gold finish. 3. New design and 490 V power supply. 4. Sentry Monitor sequential testing/lighted bases for small tubes.

MC275 50TH ANNIVERSARY "Spotting features": 1. **McIntosh 275 50th Anniversary** badge. 2. Large 5-way speaker binding posts on angled front panel. 3. All other connectors and controls are on the vertical front panel. 3. Unbalanced inputs on the right of the vertical front. 4. Power cord socket and fuse are on the rear panel. 5. Stainless Steel chassis with gold finish. 6. Output tubes are recessed. 7. Sentry Monitor sequential testing/lighted bases for small tubes. 8. Power Control In/Out. 9. Power-on indicator.

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MC275 [MK VI]: (2012 ~ Current) Stainless steel chassis. Same design as the **MC275 50th Anniversary** unit.

(490 V power supply). Tubes: 4-**KT88/6550** output, 3-**12AX7A**, 4-**12AT7**. S/N: ABP1001~ABP????

Specifications: 20-20kHz (+0,-0.5dB). Distortion: 0.5%. Noise & Hum: -105 dB. Output impedance: 4, 8, 16 ohms. Damping factor greater than 22.

MC275 [MK VI] features: 1. PCB wiring. 2. Stainless steel chassis. 3. New design and 490 V power supply (same design as 50th Anniversary model). 4. Small tube light-up feature.

MC275 [MK VI] "Spotting features": 1. Large 5-way speaker binding posts on angled front panel. 2. All other connectors and controls are on the vertical front panel. 3. Unbalanced inputs on the right of the vertical front. 4. Power cord receptacle and fuse are on the rear panel. 5. Output tubes are recessed. 6. Sentry Monitor sequential testing/lighted bases for small tubes. 7. Stainless steel chassis. 8. Power Control In/Out. 9. Power-on indicator.

**Comparison of front panel controls and connections
on next 3 pages**

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Panel Differences

MK I – (1961 ~ 1970)



MK II CE – (1993 ~ 1998)



MK III – (1997 ~ 1998)



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MK III G – (1998 ~ 1999)



MK IV – (2004 ~ 2006)



MK IV GOLD – (200? ~ 200?)



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MK V – (2009 ~ 2012)



MK VI 50th Anniversary – (2012 ~ 2016)



MK VI – (2012 ~ Current)

