

*Burmester*

**OWNER'S MANUAL**

956 MK2 POWER AMPLIFIER



CLASSIC LINE



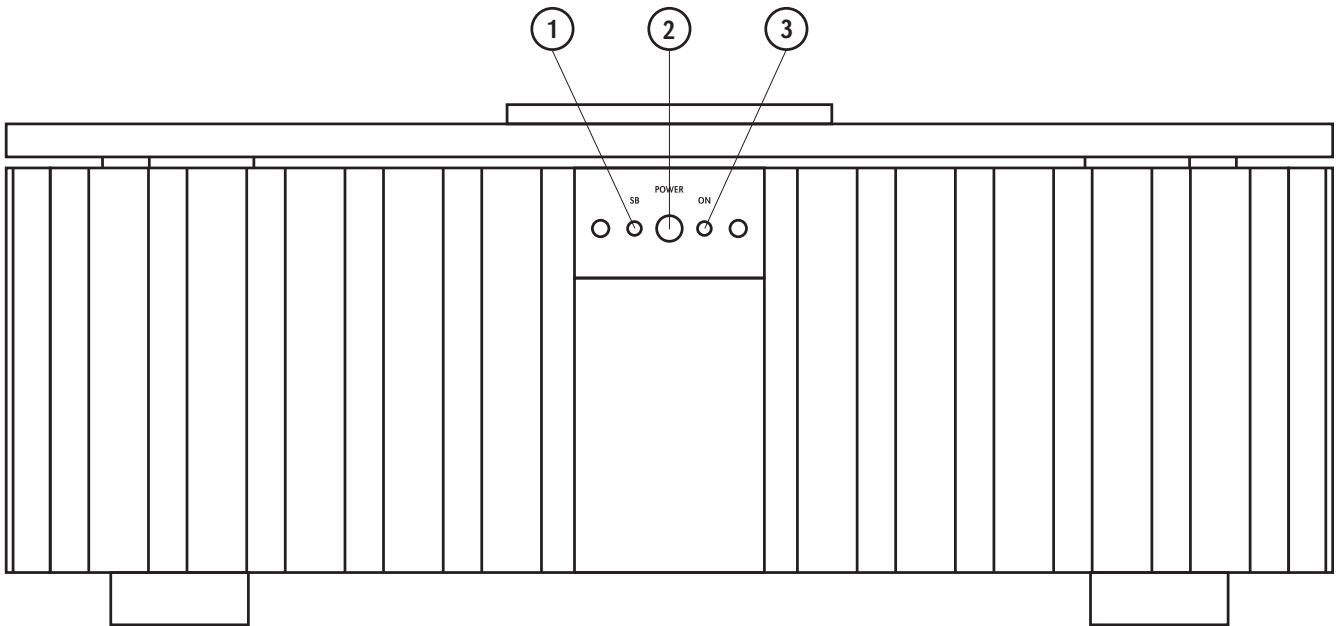
Dear Audiophile,

Thank you for choosing this Burmester audio component. We sincerely appreciate your trust in us. You have purchased a POWER AMP which excels in musical fidelity and combines uncompromising manufacturing quality with technical innovation and the highest degree of operating flexibility.

We urge you to read this user manual in its entirety before setting up the 956 MK 2 for the first time. It will enable you to make full use of all capabilities of this outstanding audiophile instrument. For any further questions, please contact your dealer or us directly.

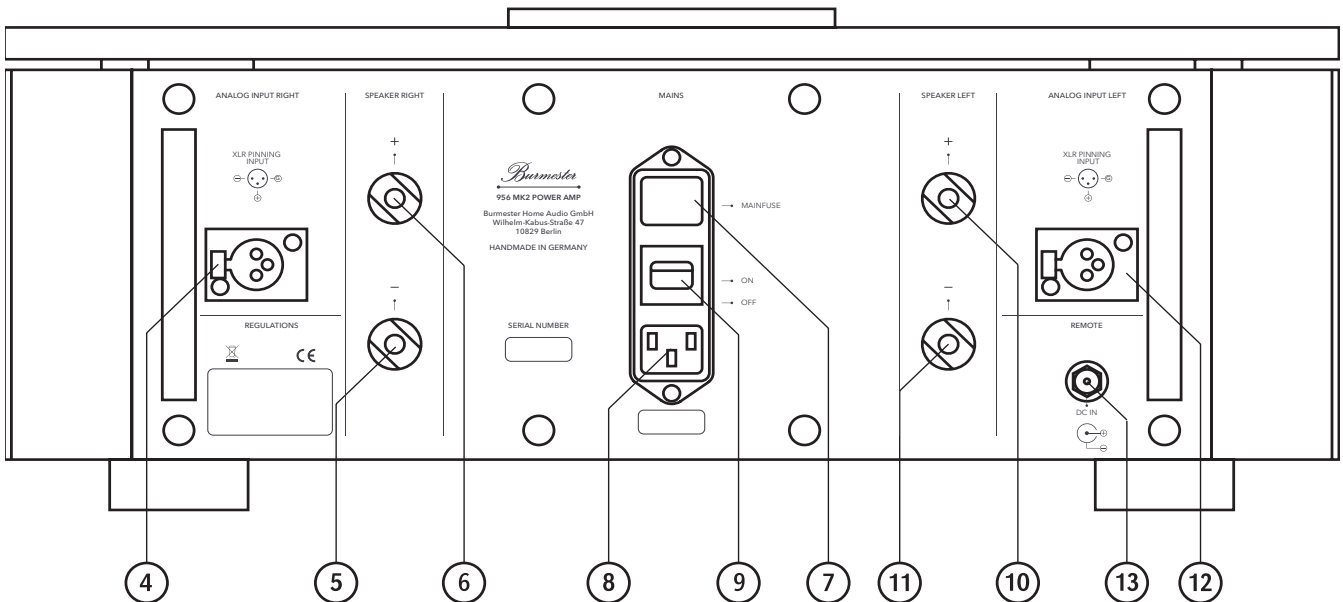
Enjoy your enhanced listening pleasure.

Your Burmester-Team



- (1) **STAND BY - LED**
- (2) **POWER - button**

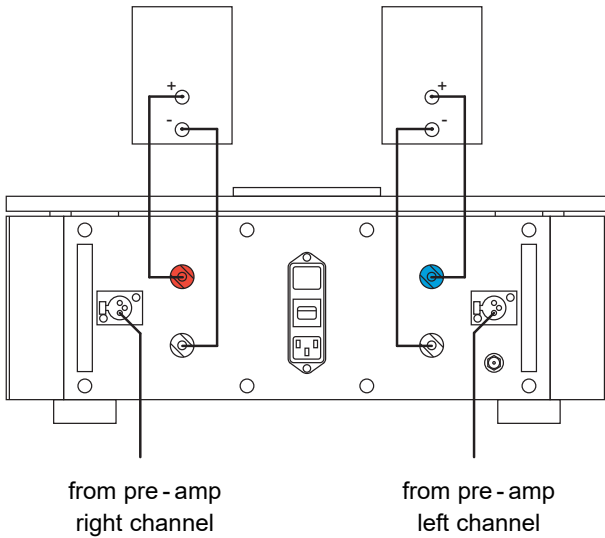
- (3) **POWER LED**



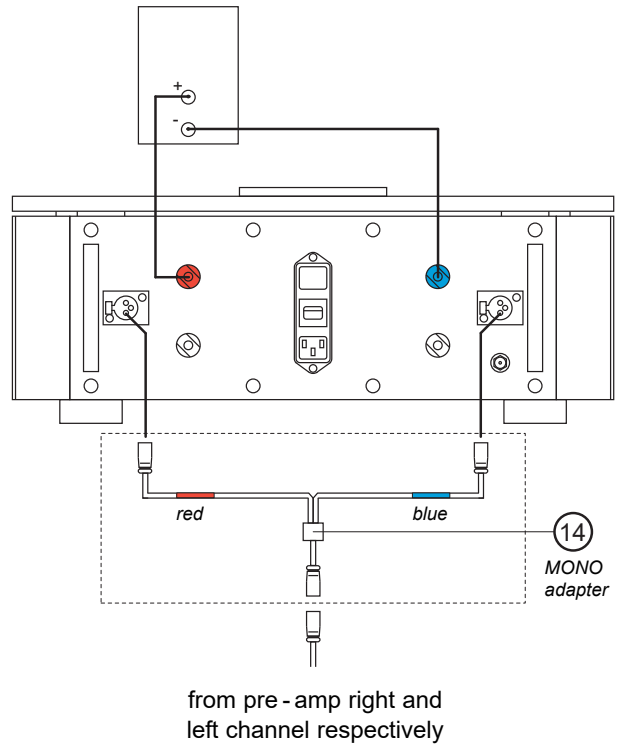
- (4) **Input, right channel**
- (5) **Output, right channel, negative**
- (6) **Output, right channel, positive**
- (7) **AC voltage selector / fuse box**
- (8) **AC input**

- ( 9) **AC mains switch**
- (10) **Output, left channel, positive**
- (11) **Output, left channel, negative**
- (12) **Input, left channel**
- (13) **REMOTE - IN terminal**

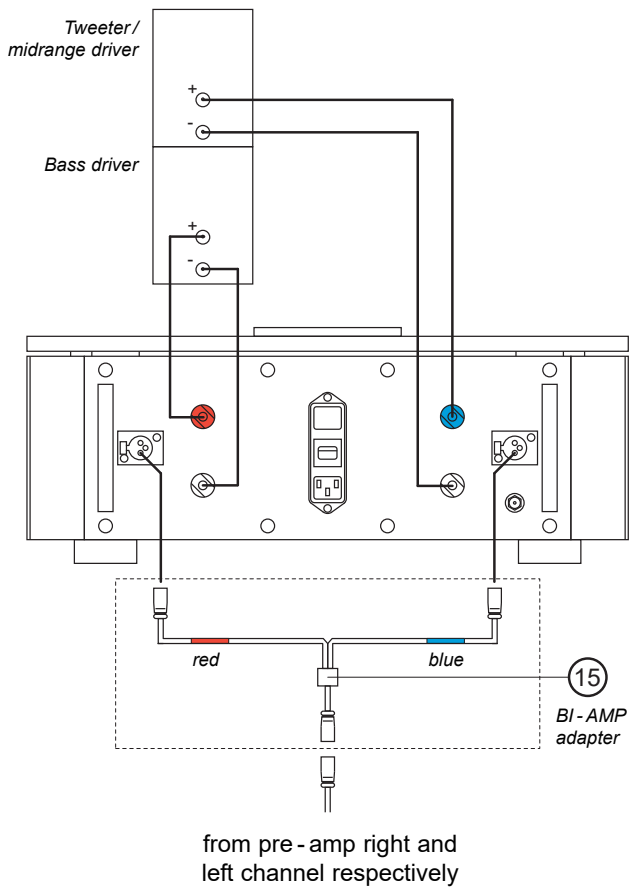
**WIRING DIAGRAM FOR STEREO OPERATION**



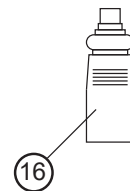
**WIRING DIAGRAM FOR MONO OPERATION (bridged)**



**WIRING DIAGRAM FOR BI-AMPING**  
with a split passiv frequency - crossover  
built into the speaker



**ACCESSORIES**



adapter plugs  
XLR - RCA

necessary to connect unbalanced cables  
to the balanced input terminals

supplied as standard

## START - UP PROCEDURE

- Content of box** Besides the power amp 956 MK2 the shipping carton contains the following:
- 1 power amplifier 956 MK 2
  - 1 owner's manual
  - 1 power cord
  - **2 adapter plugs (16)**
  - 1 remote cable
- Packaging** We recommend keeping the original packaging for use in a future move or shipping.
- Setting up** Carefully remove the unit from the shipping carton and set it up in an appropriate location. In particular, make sure that there is sufficient air circulation around the amp.
- ### Connecting the amplifier
- Before hooking the unit up, make sure that the AC mains switch (7) is set to “OFF” and the AC plug has not been plugged in.**
- To avoid mistakes, we strongly recommend closely adhering to the following sequence of steps to connect the 956 MK 2.**
- AC voltage** The **AC voltage switch (9)** is located at the rear of the housing. Before connecting the 956 MK 2 you must check if the switch has been set correctly:  
In position 230 V it is set for an AC voltage of 220 V to 240 V.  
In position 115 V it is set for an AC voltage of 110 V to 120 V.  
If you are unsure about the correct AC voltage in your area please contact your local utility.
- Remote** This input offers the possibility of remotely switching the 956 MK 2 on and off from your preamplifier or the D/A converter. In order to do this the **REMOTE IN terminal (13)** of the 956 MK 2 must be connected to the REMOTE OUT terminal of the preamp or D/A converter using the enclosed remote cable.
- Inputs** The 956 MK 2 offers two balanced inputs, **(4)** and **(12)**, which can be converted to unbalanced mode by using the supplied adapter plugs. However, we strongly recommend using balanced connections to take full advantage of the extraordinary sound quality of this amp.
- Outputs** To connect the speaker cables the amp offers four sturdy binding posts **(5)**, **(6)**, **(10)** and **(11)**. To ensure a flawless flow of current we recommend terminating your speaker cables with copper spade lugs. We are not in favor of using banana plugs of any kind. Before connecting your speaker cables to the outputs of the 956 MK 2 please make absolutely sure that they have been hooked up correctly to the speakers.
- CAUTION:** **Under full load the speaker outputs of a power amp like the 956 MK 2 may carry enough current to be dangerous to touch.**
- AC terminal** Make sure that the **AC mains switch (7)** is set to OFF. Connect the power cord with the **AC input (8)** and plug it into the wall outlet.

## OPERATING THE AMPLIFIER

- AC mains switch** The **AC mains switch (7)** is located at the rear of the housing. It disconnects the 956 MK 2 from the AC supply. When it is set to OFF the unit is completely disconnected, the LEDs on the front panel remain dark. Switching to ON activates the stand - by mode and the left **STAND BY - LED (1)** on the front panel illuminates.
- POWER - button** The **POWER - button (2)** on the front panel switches the 956 MK 2 into operating mode or back into stand - by mode. In operating mode **STAND BY - LED (1)** and **POWER LED (3)** are illuminated. In stand - by mode only **STAND BY - LED (1)** lights up. After switching to operating mode the monitoring system of the 956 MK 2 takes a few seconds to check all circuits before enabling the speaker outputs.

## HOOK - UP OPTIONS

- STEREO operation** To use the 956 MK 2 in STEREO mode make the following connections:
- (4) input right channel
  - (6) speaker terminal right channel positive
  - (5) speaker terminal right channel negative
  - (12) input left channel
  - (10) speaker terminal left channel positive
  - (11) speaker terminal left channel negative
- MONO operation** To use the 956 MK 2 in MONO mode make the following connections:
- (4) **MONO - ADAPTER (14)**, red marking
  - (6) speaker terminal positive
  - (5) must not be connected
  - (12) **MONO - ADAPTER (14)**, blue marking
  - (10) speaker terminal negative
  - (11) must not be connected
- BI - AMPING** To use the 956 MK 2 in **BI - AMPING** mode make the following connections:
- (4) **BI - AMP - ADAPTER (15)**, red marking
  - (6) speaker terminal positive for mid- to high-range drivers
  - (5) speaker terminal negative for mid- to high-range drivers
  - (12) **BI - AMP - ADAPTER (15)**, blue marking
  - (10) speaker terminal positive for bass driver
  - (11) speaker terminal negative for bass driver

## THE MONITORING SYSTEM

The monitoring system of the 956 MK 2 functions outside of the signal path. When the amp is on, this watchdog circuit constantly checks for errors with respect to temperature, DC offset and voltage overloads.

- Temperature** In the event that one or both channels of the amplifier exceed their maximum allowable temperature the overheat protection switches the output relays off and the **POWER LED (3)** goes out. The unit is switched into stand-by mode. As a precaution, we recommend turning the volume down and waiting awhile before turning the 956 MK 2 back on by pressing the **POWER - button (2)**. The 956 MK 2 can only be switched back on after the temperature has fallen below the allowable limit.
- DC offset** If the DC component at the speaker terminals of the 956 MK 2 exceeds the allowable limit, the speaker relays are switched off. When this happens we recommend lowering the volume level. The 956 MK 2 will re-enable the speaker outputs automatically as soon as DC offset falls within the allowable limits.
- Overload** If the current at the speaker outputs of the 956 MK 2 exceeds the allowable maximum the speaker outputs are automatically switched off. If this happens we recommend lowering the volume and waiting. The 956 MK 2 will re-enable the speaker outputs as soon as the current falls below the upper limit.

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- CAUTION:** Before opening the housing cover the AC cord must be unplugged. Danger of an electric shock!
- Lightning strikes** During the summer months, malfunctions often occur due to voltage spikes in the power lines after lightning strikes. Completely unplugging the power cord offers the only effective protection. Merely switching the 956 MK 2 off using the **AC mains switch (7)** does not suffice since voltage spikes are able to arc over separated contacts.
- Interconnect cables** We supply custom - made balanced as well as unbalanced interconnect cables of any length to ensure the best sound quality of the power amp 956 MK 2. The impedance of our cables is ideally matched with all BURMESTER audio components. For the cleanest power supply we recommend our triple - shielded power cord BURMESTER - POWER.
- Fuses** The fuses are located behind the safety lid of the **AC voltage selector (9)**. They should be changed by an expert only.
- CAUTION:** Before opening the safety lid of the AC voltage switch the AC cord must be unplugged. Danger of electric shock!
- Optional accessories** **MONO adapter cables (14)** for MONO operation of the 956 MK 2  
**BI - AMP adapter cables (15)** for BI - AMPING operation of the 956 MK 2



**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Dimensions (WxHxD)	482 mm x 191 mm x 482 mm
Weight	ca. 30kg (66lbs.)
Output power	stereo: 2x240 W/ 4 Ω, mono: 1x500 W/ 4 Ω
Damping factor	>2000
SNR	>88 dB
Input sensitivity	730 mV
frequency range	0-200kHz (-3dB)
Mains fuse 115 V / 230 V	2x T 6,3 AH / 2x 3,15 AH
Power consumption STBY / ON / MAX	3 W / 90 W / 600 W
Voltage ranges:	
956 MK2 - 100	100 V; 50/60 Hz; 600 W
956 MK2 - 120	110 - 120 V; 50/60 Hz; 600 W
956 MK2 - 230	220 - 230 V; 50/60 Hz; 600 W

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The specifications do not take into account the space needed for connecting plugs.

We reserve the right to make changes due to technological advances without prior notice.



If the unit and its accessories is to be put out of operation definitively, take it to a local recycling plant for a disposal which is not harmful to the environment.







**BA\_956MK2\_en\_2-6\_2204**

Burmester Home Audio GmbH  
Wilhelm-Kabus Straße 47 · 10829 Berlin, Germany  
[www.burmester.de](http://www.burmester.de)