huemen

Mark Levinson

Legacy Website Designs

Popular Products

№ 519

Audio Player

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№ 5805

Integrated Amplifier for Digital and Analog sources

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№ 526

Dual-Monaural Preamplifier for Digital and Analog Sources

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Players

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Amplifiers

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Integrated Amplifiers

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Nº536

Fully Discrete Monaural Amplifier

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Nº5302

Bridgeable Dual-Monaural Amplifier

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Nº534

Dual-Monaural Amplifier

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Nº534

N0534

Dual-Monaural Amplifier

Dual-Monaural Amplifier

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Features & Videos Specs & Support

Nº534

The pursuit of perfect amplification is a well-known theme in high-end audio. New technologies present new approaches, while looking to the past provides inspiration for the future. It was in that spirit that the Mark Levinson® Nº 534 amplifier was developed: a design advised by the traditions and art of classic Mark Levinson amplifier designs, and with a specific target sound: a deep, expansive soundstage, accurate image placement, extended low bass response with good pitch definition, and detailed high frequencies free from "etching." To that end, the Mark Levinson engineering team started with the following requirements:

- Harmonic distortion <0.02% at 1kHz and <0.2% at 20kHz - Bandwidth extending from 0.2Hz to 120kHz, and beyond if possible - Critically damped square wave response, with leading and trailing edges free of any slewing artifacts, and a slew rate of at least 100V/µs - Maximized open-loop linearity and bandwidth, with global negative feedback in the range of 12-20dB and without nested feedback loops

This fully differential, fully discrete, dual-monaural Pure Path amplifier drives virtually any loudspeaker effortlessly for impeccable imaging, musicality, and openness. A direct-coupled signal path; a highly linear, low-feedback design; and voltage gain and drive stages operating in class A, are joined by the modern system integration capabilities provided by Ethernet, RS-232, and USB for monitoring and network control. Housed in a 6000-series aluminum chassis, like all Mark Levinson equipment, the Nº 534 is designed and handcrafted in the USA.

Mark Levinson Pure Path Circuit Design

Since 1972, Mark Levinson has been dedicated to the uncompromising art of sound, with the guiding principle of musical purity above all else. To achieve that goal like never before, Mark Levinson engineers scoured company archives, ultimately developing a circuit-design philosophy called Pure Path. On a conceptual level, its hallmark principles include a discrete, direct-coupled, fully balanced, dual-monaural signal path that delivers unrestricted, uncompromised sonic purity. Far from merely arranging high quality components in an intelligent manner, Pure Path is the meeting of science and art: Mark Levinson engineers are tasked to create the best possible measured AND subjective performance. To quote Albert Einstein: "Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler." Pure Path highlights in the Nº 534 include Folded Cascodes, an extremely high bias current, and usage of very little negative feedback.

The Folded Cascode

Mark Levinson components are designed around a Pure Path amplifier circuit concept that makes heavy use of a circuit design element called a cascode. Originally created for improving the bandwidth of vacuum tube circuits in radios, Mark Levinson engineers deploy cascodes in Pure Path circuit designs to both improve bandwidth and enhance linearity. A cascode combines two transistors so that they operate as a single composite device that functions like a single transistor, using the wanted characteristics of each component transistor, and rejecting the unwanted characteristics.

Mark Levinson engineers began their design of the gain stage with pairs of JFETs (junction field-effect transistors), chosen for their low noise and high gain. JFETs achieve these characteristics in part by being large, and with their large size comes nonlinear gain – or distortion. To mitigate this, BJTs (bipolar junction transistors) were added to the circuit. The BJTs exhibit very low input impedance and very high output impedance, which translates to excellent bandwidth and linearity. By creating a cascode of the JFETs and BJTs, they created a design with the best characteristics of both sets of devices.

Engineers then connected the output of the cascode to another transistor of the opposite "gender." Current flows through it in the opposite direction to "turn around" the direction of the signal current. This special connection is called a Folded Cascode and it is a hallmark of the Pure Path circuit: high gain with low noise, wide bandwidth, and excellent linearity.

Gain Structure

The audio circuitry in the Nº 534 has been optimized for the best possible open-loop performance. As a result, very little negative feedback is necessary, and the amount employed could be adjusted to achieve certain subjective or objective results. The open-loop gain and bandwidth of the circuit were painstakingly set using precision resistors and compensation capacitors, and additional precision resistors were employed to compose the feedback network.

Military Grade Components

All Mark Levinson equipment employs electronic components carefully chosen for their specific task. Gain-stage JFET pairs have high gain, low noise, low distortion, and because they are encapsulated in the same package, the two devices operate under nearly identical conditions. Capacitors used in critical filtering locations are film types, noted for their consistent performance regardless of temperature and frequency. Finally, resistors in critical gain-setting and feedback locations use tantalum nitride thin-film elements. An extremely costly material, tantalum nitride typically finds use in sensitive military equipment because it is unusually stable with respect to temperature, exhibits very low noise, and is unaffected by magnetic fields. In fine audio equipment, those characteristics make the sound even more revealing and effortless, free of the low-level nonlinearities caused by lesser resistive materials as they heat and cool under dynamic conditions. Housed in an aircraft-grade 6063-T5 extruded aluminum chassis, the Nº 534 features extremely high build precision, to exceedingly low tolerances.

Completing the Signal Path

The Nº 534 offers balanced and single-ended inputs for use with virtually any preamplifier or source player with variable output. For connection to loudspeakers without needing tools for a secure link, the Nº 534 features four pairs of gold-plated binding posts with Mark Levinson Hurricane terminal knobs to support either standard or bi-wired loudspeaker connections. Speaker cables terminating in banana plugs can be used in the USA and other non-European countries. System-integration connectivity includes Ethernet/IP control, RS-232, USB for monitoring and configuration via web page, plus 12V triggers.

Designed and Handcrafted in the USA

Like all Mark Levinson equipment, the Nº 534 is proudly designed and handcrafted in the USA. A dedicated Engineering Center of Excellence in Shelton, CT houses Mark Levinson engineering and product development, just a state away from small-batch production at Mack Technologies in Westford, MA by a team of craftsmen who bring all Mark Levinson equipment to life.

Highlights & Specs Documents & Downloads

Nº534 Highlights

- Pure Path discrete, direct coupled, fully balanced, dual-monaural signal path
- Expansive, fine imaging, extended low frequency response/pitch, and natural high frequencies
- Painstakingly optimized little negative feedback, bandwidth, slewing, and open-loop linearity
- Fully differential class-AB architecture, operates in class A for most listening conditions
- Rated for 250wpc into 8 ohms, 500wpc into 4 ohms, with 2-ohm stability
- 6000-series aluminum chassis, extremely high precision, exceedingly low tolerances
- System-integration connectivity: Ethernet, IP, RS-232, triggers, web monitoring and control
- Designed and handcrafted in the USA

General Specifications

Height (with feet)	7.75" (19.7cm) Height (without feet) 7" (17.8cm) Width 17.75" (45.1cm) Depth 20" (50.8cm)
Weight	Net weight 107 lbs (48.5kg) Shipping weight 124 lbs (56.3kg)

Audio Specifications

Input Connectors	One pair balanced, one pair single-ended
Speaker Connectors	Four pairs of Hurricane loudspeaker outputs, banana-plug sockets per channel, except on 230 VAC version
Control I/O	Ethernet, RS-232, Trigger In and Out, USB-A, Mini USB
Rated Output Power	250 wpc RMS @ 8Ω, 20Hz to 20kHz @ <0.3% THD, full output from 2.83VRMS
Frequency Response	10Hz to 20kHz ±0.2dB
Signal-To-Noise Ratio	>85dB, reference level 2.83 VRMS
Input Impedance	60 kΩ balanced; 30 kΩ unbalanced
Voltage Gain	26dB
Input Sensitivity	2.83VRMS output at 142mVRMS input
Power Requirements	100V~, 120V~, 230V~, factory set for destination country, 1500W

View all Amplifiers

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Discover Audio Purity

Mark Levinson is for people who want to see sound as it truly is. For people so passionate they want to experience their music exactly as the artist imagined...To feel the very deepest tones and most subtle notes... To touch the very soul of the performance. Mark Levinson is sound for the passionate. Discover musical purity. Discover Mark Levinson.

A LEGACY OF PRECISION

In 1972, Mark Levinson cracked the code of pure audio playback with hand-built stereo components that overcame every known limitation on sound reproduction. Since then, we've created a class of our own by consistently releasing the best sounding, longest lasting, most intuitive audio/video components in the world—products that are just as gorgeous as they are meticulously crafted. That's the level of audio excellence you see in every Mark Levinson component today.

Mark Levinson Through the Years

1972

The Mark Levinson Brand is Founded

LNP-1

After working in various recording studios and, as legend has it, creating the sound mixer for the Woodstock Music Festival, Mark Levinson began hand-crafting high-end stereo components. His first product, the LNP-1, was a rack-mounted system with two large VU meters and a high performance op-amp module. And with every subsequent product, the legend grew.

1972 1973 1974 1977 1980 1984 1986 1988 1990 1991 1993 1994 1999 2001 2004 2008 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2019 2020

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MARK LEVINSON | LEXUS

A Shared Passion For Perfection

Mark Levinson was born from the soul of a passionate musician with an uncompromising devotion to audio perfection. Together with Lexus, we bring an exhilarating music experience to every passenger, in every vehicle, during each and every ride. Discover the most subtle notes and the deepest tones of your favorite music. Discover Mark Levinson in Lexus.

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LEXUS GS

LEXUS GX

LEXUS IS

LEXUS LC

LEXUS LS

LEXUS LX

LEXUS NX

LEXUS RX

LEXUS RC

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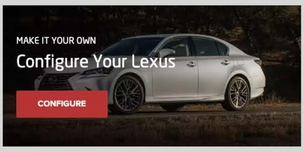
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Lexus Racing

Passion and excellence are key to the heritage of both Lexus and Mark Levinson. By competing in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, the Lexus Racing engineering team is able to refine their performance philosophies and build implement new performance standards for production F and F Sport vehicles.

Reviews

Automobile

"Included in the Touring package, the 13-speaker Mark Levinson audio system offers a fidelity of sound rare in a car...and its clarity at even high volume will is sure to bring out the best in your favorite music." - On the Lexus LC

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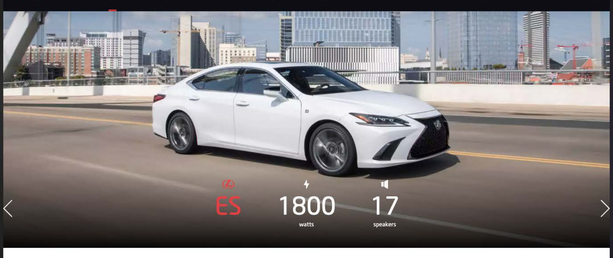


Highlights

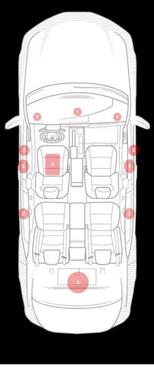
- **1800** watts amplified power
- **17** speakers
- **7.1** channel architecture
- **12** channel DPS amplifier

Lexus ES

An Adventure for the Senses

Take your senses on an unforgettable journey with the all-new Lexus ES. Boldly crafted with first-of-its-kind technology, the Mark Levinson system in the ES features a surround sound experience that transforms your behind-the-wheel experience. There is a distinct difference between listening to music and being immersed in it, and no one knows that better than Mark Levinson engineers. That's why they created PurePlay—the world's first sound system that fully envelops the listener in their music through advanced sound-stage technology. This is surround sound like you've never experienced.

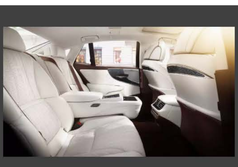
Learn more about the Lexus ES on Lexus.com



System Overview

1. Midrange Unity Extended Bandwidth Speakers
   3× Center Front

   90mm Unity Speakers combine efficient design with authentic sound, producing mid and high frequencies. These speakers are placed at shoulder height for optimal performance and minimal interference.
2. Unity Speakers
   4× Front and rear doors
3. Elliptical Woofers
   2× Front and rear doors
4. Subwoofer
   1× Rear
5. Amplifier
   1× Drivers Seat



PurePlay

There is a distinct difference between listening to music and being immersed in it, and no one knows that better than Mark Levinson engineers. That's why they created PurePlay—the world's first sound system that fully envelops the listener in their music through advanced sound-stage technology. This is surround sound like you've never experienced.

Unprecedented Design Architecture

By leveraging precision staging, world-class speaker design and placement, unparalleled tuning and state-of-the-art decompression technology, PurePlay delivers an acoustical performance that allows every facet of the music to come through in bright, colorful detail.

Precision Staging Technology

Each speaker is methodically placed throughout the cabin to enhance acoustics and deliver a consistent tonal color between all midrange speakers and tweeters. From the front seats to the rear, each and every passenger will be fully enveloped in the music.

World-Class Speakers

The 17-speaker Mark Levinson PurePlay system is comprised of two front door-mounted elliptical woofers, a rear subwoofer and seven proprietary Unity speakers that each pair a high- and mid-range speaker together for a more accurate and natural sound stage. Get ready to hear your music like never before.

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Reviews

Gear Patrol

"Audiophiles will rejoice in the quality produced by the 17-speaker package, which was carefully arranged throughout 10 different cabin locations so that tunes are optimally delivered...I was able to hear layers of favorite songs that I didn't know existed." – On the Lexus ES

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News & Reviews

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REVIEWS

Stereonet: The No5802 and 5805 are unmistakably Mark Levinson products

Stereonet Review: "Dynamics are also a highlight, with plenty of power on hand to reproduce transients."

11/5/19

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NEWS

Mark Levinson is proud to partner with Tidal to sponsor #TIDALxRockTheVote

The partnership will kick off with TIDAL X Rock The Vote, a benefit concert to raise funds and awareness for voter registration, education and rights.

10/15/19

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REVIEWS

Pursuit Perfect System Review: The Mark Levinson 585 is a special performer.

Pursuit Perfect System Review: The Mark Levinson 585 is a special performer.

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REVIEWS

hometheaterreview.com: The Mark Levinson № 526 is a five-star performer.

Pursuit Perfect System Review: The Mark Levinson 585 is a special performer.

3/27/18

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REVIEWS

Audioholics: For those of you looking for a high-end turntable, your search is over.

For those of you looking for a high end turntable, your search is over. Premium stereo component manufacturer Mark Levinson recently released their $10,000 № 515 Turntable. The № 515 turntable was designed and built in collaboration with recognized high end audio manufacturer VPI Industries. Although VPI designs and builds exceptional turntables in their own right, this is the first turntable worthy of the Mark Levinson name.

12/14/17

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REVIEWS

Bloomberg: The first turntable from hi-fi audio maker Mark Levinson is an investment-worthy deck.

Founded in 1972 and acquired in 1990 by Harman International Industries Inc., Mark Levinson is synonymous with high-end sound. Its eponymous founder, an aspiring musician said to have built a stage mixer at Woodstock, jump-started the craze for premium home audio equipment. To commemorate its 45th anniversary this year, the brand teamed up with another top-rated manufacturer, turntable maker VPI Industries Inc., to create its first record player, the No. 515.

11/15/17

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Reviews

Stereonet: The No5802 and 5805 are unmistakably Mark Levinson products

11/5/19

"The No5805 didn't sonically favor any particular digital input. All inputs operated faultlessly and remained stable, with an almost instant digital lock, indicating good design."

Read the entire review here.

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Support

Surround Sound Preamplifiers

VIEW SURROUND SOUND PREAMPLIFIERS (7)

Integrated Amplifiers

VIEW INTEGRATED AMPLIFIERS (1)

Amplifiers

VIEW AMPLIFIERS (12)

Disc Players

VIEW DISC PLAYERS (3)

Digital Processors

VIEW DIGITAL PROCESSORS (5)

Audio Players

VIEW AUDIO PLAYERS (2)

In Lexus

For questions or issues with Mark Levinson systems in Lexus, please contact Lexus customer service at automotive_inquiry@harman.com or call 1.315.445.7777

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Effective date: [illegible]

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1. DEFINITIONS

"Affiliate" means any entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, Harman. "Control" means ownership of or the right to control more than 50% of the voting securities of a company.

"Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, association, or other legal entity that is organized or operated for the profit or financial benefit of its shareholders or other owners, that collects personal information about consumers, and that satisfies one or more of the following thresholds: (1) has annual gross revenues in excess of $25 million; (2) alone or in combination, annually buys or receives for the business's commercial purposes or sells or shares personal information of 50,000 or more consumers, households, or devices; or (3) derives 50% or more of its annual revenues from selling or sharing personal information.

"Business Purpose" means the use of personal information for the business's or a service provider's operational purposes, or other notified purposes, provided that the use of personal information shall be reasonably necessary and proportionate to achieve the operational purpose for which the personal information was collected or processed or another operational purpose that is compatible with the context in which the personal information was collected.

"Consumer" means a natural person who is a California resident, however identified, including by any unique identifier.

"Personal Information" means information that identifies, relates to, describes, is capable of being associated with, or could reasonably be linked, directly or indirectly, with a particular consumer or household.

"Sale" means selling, renting, releasing, disclosing, disseminating, making available, transferring, or otherwise communicating orally, in writing, or by electronic or other means, a consumer's personal information by the business to a third party for monetary or other valuable consideration.

"Sharing" means sharing, renting, releasing, disclosing, disseminating, making available, transferring, or otherwise communicating orally, in writing, or by electronic or other means, a consumer's personal information by the business to a third party for cross-context behavioral advertising, whether or not for monetary or other valuable consideration, including transactions between a business and a third party for cross-context behavioral advertising for the benefit of a business in which no money is exchanged.

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2. WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION WE COLLECT AND HOW WE USE IT

We collect personal information from you when you visit our website, when you use our products or services, when you contact us, when you visit our premises, when you participate in our events, when you apply for a job with us, when you are our business partner, when you are our vendor, when you are our customer, when you are our shareholder, when you are our investor, when you are our job applicant, when you are our employee, when you are our former employee, when you are our family member, when you are our emergency contact, when you are our beneficiary, when you are our dependent, when you are our former employee, when you are our former job applicant, when you are our former customer, when you are our former vendor, when you are our former business partner, when you are our former shareholder, when you are our former investor, when you are our former family member, when you are our former emergency contact, when you are our former beneficiary, when you are our former