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## PM224 Installation Instructions



## General

The PM224 is a power amplifier module capable of driving an 8 Ohm or 4 Ohm load. It has a differential input, but can also be used with a single ended input. The amplifier needs an external dual voltage DC power supply and must be bolted onto a heatsink.

## Input

The input is differential. There is a 3-position terminal block on the circuit board, labeled INV-GND-NON. These are the inverting input, the ground terminal and the Non Inverting inputs. These should be hooked to the signal source. For single ended input, choose GND and either INV or NON INV. The unused terminal MUST be grounded to the GND terminal.
The inputs are AC or DC coupled. For DC coupling, install two shorting blocks on the two 2-
pin header near the input. For AC coupling remove the shorting blocks.

## Output

Connect the load to the two terminals labeled OUT-GND on the 5-position terminal block. The PM224 is designed for loads of 4 Ohm or 8 Ohm. Maximum output power depends on the value of the load and the power supply voltage. With a 8 Ohm load and a power supply voltage of $+/-65$ Volt, an output power of 200W RMS can be achieved. In a 4 Ohm load the max power will be 200 Watt using a 45 Volt power supply.

A regulated or unregulated dual power supply of nominally $+/-50$ Volt should be connected to the terminals V - and GND of the 5 -position terminal block and terminals V++ and GND of the 3position terminal block. Use stranded insulated hookup wire of 20 gauge or thicker. The terminals marked $\mathrm{V}++$ and V -- should be connected to the same supplies as $\mathrm{V}+$ and V -. In other words, connect both $\mathrm{V}+$ and $\mathrm{V}++$ to the positive supply and both $V$ - and $V$-- to the negative supply. The minimum supply voltage is $+/-25 \mathrm{~V}$, and the maximum value is $+/-80 \mathrm{~V}$. A higher value than 80 V may damage the amplifier. The current capability of the power supply depends on the load and the voltage. For a 40 volt supply and an 8Ohm load, a rating of 2.5 Amp on each side is recommended.
Alternatively, the terminals $\mathrm{V}++$ and V -- can be connected to a separate power supply with a voltage approx. 10 volt more than the main power supply. The current drain on these terminals is about 40 mA . each. Using a separate power supply for this driver section of the amp will improve efficiency of the amp by allowing an output voltage swing closer to the supply rails. The max voltage on V++ and V-- is 90 VDC.

## Heat sink

The PM224 should be bolted onto a heat sink of sufficient size to keep the amplifier cool. Use of a thermal cutout mounted on the heatsink is recommended. Use a Normally Closed thermal switch of 5 A and $70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ rating. Install this switch in the $A C$ line going to the power transformer.


## Bias current

The PM224 operates in class AB. The bias current can be set with potentiometer R51. A bias current of $\sim 45 \mathrm{~mA}$, when cold, is normal. The bias current can be observed with an Amp-Meter in the power supply, or by measuring the voltage across R51. See the section "Bias Current Adjustment". The voltage across R 45 will be 15 mV for a bias current of 45 mA . The bias current will increase or decrease slightly when the amplifier warms up. This is normal.


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## PM224 Parts List

|  |  | Resistors |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R1 | 100K | 1\% ,1/4W, Metal Film |
| R2 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R3 | 2.00K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R4 | 1.00M | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R5 | 24.9K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R6 | 100 Ohm | Trimmer Potentiometer |
| R7 |  | not used |
| R8 |  | not used |
| R9 | 1.00M | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R10 | 24.9K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R11 | 1.00M | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R12 | 2.00K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R13 | 10.0K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R14 | 10.0K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R15 | 2.00K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R16 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R17 | 49.9K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R18 | 249K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R19 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R20 | 249 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R21 | 249 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R22 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R23 | 249 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R24 | 249 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R25 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R26 |  | not used |
| R27 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R28 |  | not used |
| R29 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R30 | 249K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R31 | 2.00 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R32 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R33 | 2.00 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R34 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R35 | 2.00 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R36 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R37 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R38 | 2.00 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R39 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R40 | 2.00 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R41 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R42 | 2.00 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R43 | 100 Ohm | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R44 | 249K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R45 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |
| R46 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |
| R47 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |
| R48 | 3.48 K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R49 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R50 | 100K | 1\%, 1/4W, Metal Film |
| R51 | 20 KOhm | Trimmer Potentiometer |
| R52 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |
| R53 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |
| R54 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |

## Capacitors

| C1 | 1uF | Stacked Film |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C2 | 1uF | Stacked Film |
| C3 | 5 pF | Silver Mica |
| C4 | 5 pF | Silver Mica |
| C5 | 0.22uF,100V | Stacked Film |
| C6 | 1000uf, 16v | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C7 | 1000uf, 16v | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C8 | 1000uf, 16v | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C9 | 1000uf, 16v | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C10 | 0.22uF,100V | Stacked Film |
| C11 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C12 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C13 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C14 | 1000pF | Ceramic NPO |
| C15 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C16 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C17 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| C18 | 0.22uF,100V | Stacked Film |
| C19* | 0.22uF,100V | Stacked Film |
| C20** | 1000pF,100V | ceramic |
| * | C19 across R48 on solder side C20 across D6 on solder side |  |
| ** |  |  |

## Diodes

| D1...4 | 1N4148 | Signal Diode |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| D5 | 1N4735 | 6.2 Volt Zener Diode |
| D6 | 1N4148 | Signal Diode |
| D7 | 1N4148 | Signal Diode |
| D8 |  | LED |
| D9 | 1N4735 | 6.2 Volt Zener Diode |
| D10 |  | LED |
| D11 | 1N4735 | 6.2 Volt Zener Diode |
| D12 | 1N4148 | Signal Diode |
| D13 |  | LED |
| D14 | 1N4735 | 6.2 Volt Zener Diode |
| D15 | 1N4148 | Signal Diode |
| D16..28 | 1N5240 | 10 Volt Zener Diode |

## Transistors

| Q1 | MPSA42 | NPN small signal |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Q2* $^{*}$ | ZVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q3 $^{*}$ | ZVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q4 $^{*}$ | ZVP2120A | P-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q5* $^{*}$ | ZVP2120A | P-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q6 | MPSA42 | NPN small signal |
| Q7* | ZVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q8* $^{\text {N }}$ | ZVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q9* $^{\text {Q10* }}$ | ZVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |
| QVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |  |
| Q11* | ZVP2120A | P-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q12* | ZVP2120A | P-Channel SS MOSFET |
| Q13 | 2N2907 | PNP small signal |
| Q14 | MPSA42 | NPN small signal |
| Q15* | IRF9640 | P-Channel Power MOSFET |


| Q16* | IRF9640 | P-Channel Power MOSFET |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Q17* | IRF9640 | P-Channel Power MOSFET |
| Q18 | MJF47 | NPN power |
| Q19* | IRF640 | N-Channel Power MOSFET |
| Q20* | IRF640 | N-Channel Power MOSFET |
| Q21* | IRF640 | N-Channel Power MOSFET |
| Q22* | IRF640 | N-Channel Power MOSFET |

*NOTE ZVNL120A come as a matched set of 7
*NOTE ZVP2120 come as a matched set of 4
*NOTE Q15...Q17 come as a matched set of 3
*NOTE Q19...Q22 come as a matched set of 4

The PM224 kits contains the following parts:
Qu. Value Description

| 9 | 100 Ohm | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | 249 Ohm | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 9 | 2.00 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 2 | 10.0 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 1 | 3.48 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, , Metal Film |
| 2 | 24.9 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 1 | 49.9 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 8 | 100 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 3 | 249 K | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 3 | 1.00 M | $1 \%, 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$, Metal Film |
| 1 | 100 Ohm | Trimmer Potentiometer |
| 1 | 20 KOhm | Trimmer Potentiometer |
| 6 | 0.68 Ohm | 3W Power |

## Capacitors

| 2 | 5pF | Silver Mica |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 1000pF | ceramic disk |
| 4 | .22uF, 100V | Stacked Film |
| 2 | 1uF | Stacked Film |
| 6 | 47uF, 100V | Aluminum Electrolytic |
| 4 | 1000uf, 16v | Aluminum Electrolytic |


| 8 | 1N4148 | Signal Diode |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 12 | 1N5240 | 10 Volt Zener Diode |
| 4 | 1N4735 | 6.2 Volt Zener Diode |
| 3 |  | LED |

## Diodes

Transistors

| 6 | ZVNL120A | N-Channel SS MOSFET |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | ZVP2120A | P-Channel SS MOSFET |
| 1 | 2N2907 | PNP small signal |
| 3 | MPSA42 | NPN small signal |
| 4 | IRF640 | N-Channel Power MOSFET |
| 3 | IRF9640 | P-Channel Power MOSFET |
| 1 | MJF47 | NPN power |


|  | Mechanical |
| :--- | :--- |
| Quantity | Description |
| 3 |  |
| 2 | 3 Pos. Terminal block |
| 2 | 2 Pos. Terminal block |
| 8 | \#4 flat washer |
| 8 | $4 / 40 \times 3 / 4 "$ Machine Screw |
| 2 | $4 / 40 \times 3 / 8 "$ Machine Screw |
| 10 | $4 / 40$ Nut |
| 16 | \#4 split lockwasher |
| 8 | \#4 fiber washer |
| 8 | nylon shoulderwasher |
| 8 | Mica TO220 insulator |
| 1 | Heat Sink Bracket |
| 1 | TO92 heatsink |
| 2 | $3 "$ cable tie |
| 1 | Bag Heat Sink Compound |
| 1 | PM224 circuit board |
| 2 | 2 pin header |
| 2 | shorting block |

## Assembly Instructions

Most parts are installed in the usual way. Insert the part at the location on the circuit board as indicated by the silk screen identification and solder on the solder side of the board. Start with installing smaller parts and install large parts last. This makes installation easiest. The circuit board has plated through holes, so parts need only be soldered on the solder side of the board.

Resistors: The $1 \%$ metal film resistors are identified with colored bands in the usual way. The $1 \%$ Metal film resistors have the following markings:

| 100 Ohm | Brown- Black-Black-Black--Brown |
| :--- | :--- |
| 249 Ohm | Red-Yellow-White-Black--Brown |
| 3.92 K | Orange-Wihite-Red-Brown--Brown |
| 2.00 K | Red -Black-Black-Brown--Brown |
| 10.0 K | Brown-Black-Black-Red --Brown |
| 11.0 K | Brown-Brown-Black- Red --Brown |
| 49.9 K | Yellow-White -White-Red--Brown |
| 100 K | Brown-Black-Black-Orange--Brown |
| 249 K | Red-Yellow -White-Orange-Brown |
| 1.00 M | Brown-Black-Black-Yellow--Brown |

When placing resistors it is recommended to check each value with a DMM. When installing the power resistors R45,R46,R47, R52,R53,R54 leave a gap of about 0.1 " between the body of the resistor and the circuit board. This will improve the cooling of the resistors. The small resistors can be installed flush with the circuit board.
The multiturn trimmer resistors should be installed so that the screw is at the location indicated by the white square..

Capacitors: The Electrolytic capacitors are all radial type. Be sure to observe polarity markings when installing. The stacked film capacitors are brown and have marking 224 for .22 uF and 105 for the 1 uF part.

Diodes: Diodes are installed in the usual way. Make sure to observe polarity: the band indicated on the circuit board must coincide with the band on the device. The band indicates the cathode.

Transistors: Transistors Q1... 14 are the small black parts with the three leads. Note that the black part has a big flat side and a round side. Note that Q2 and Q3 come as a matched pair in a separate bag. Make sure to use these in the locations Q2 and Q3. Install the transistors according to the marking on the circuit board.
Transistors Q9,10,11,12 are mounted on a small heatsink. Install the heatsink onto the circuit board using two $4 / 40$ screws and nuts as shown in Figure 2. Mount the transistors so that the body of the each is between two of the three holes in the heatsink. After soldering the transistors attach them to the heatsink with some heatsink compound and a cable tie. The cable tie goes through the holes on each side and around both transistors, securing them firmly to the heatsink.
Power transistors Q15 through Q22 are installed onto the heat-sink bracket.

Apply a thin uniform layer of the white silicone compound on both side of each mica insulator. Place the mica insulator on the bottom of the transistor. Install the transistors with the $4 / 40$ screws, two split lockwashers, flat washer, nylon shoulder washer, fiber washer and nut. See Figure 1. Orient the screws so that the head of the screw is on the solder side and the nut is on the component side. Solder the three transistor pins only after all the mounting screws have been tightened.


Figure 1 Mounting of metal tab TO220 power transistors.


Figure 2

Header: Install the two 2-pin headers next to R1 and R2. The two jumper blocks are installed onto the header. Remove these for AC coupling. Leave for DC coupling. (Audio is usually AC coupled)

Terminal Blocks: Install the two 3 -pin and 5 -pin terminal blocks at the edge of the circuit board. The 5 -pin terminal block is made by joining a 2 -pin and a 3 -pin terminal block together.

Assembly is now complete. Take a few minutes to check all components and orientations. Also make sure there are no solder bridges.

## Bias current adjustment (Class AB).

The bias current of the amplifier must be adjusted by setting the potentiometer R51. First turn the potentiometer fully counterclockwise. This will set the bias current to zero. Hook the PM224 to a bipolar power supply. The supply voltage should be between $+/-30 \mathrm{~V}$ and $+/-60 \mathrm{~V}$. For doing this step it is best to use a 30 V supply. This lower voltage will reduce chance of damage to the parts if there is an error in the installation of the parts. It is best to mount the PM224 onto a large heatsink during testing.
Connect a DVM or suitable voltmeter between the leads of power resistor R45. If the DMM indicates a voltage of more than a few mV turn the power off immediately and check all parts placements. A very safe way to do this step is to use a variac to increase the power supply voltage slowly from zero to about 30 V , while observing the DMM. Now slowly adjust R51 clockwise until a reading of 15 mV is shown on the DMM. Precise adjustment is difficult. But a value between 10 mV and 20 mV is acceptable. Note that the unit will start heating up a little. The adjustment should be made when cold. When the amplifier is hot, the bias current will change a little. This is normal.

## Bias current adjustment (Class A) .

For operation in class A the bias current should be set to a higher value. Proceed as outlined above for the class $A B$ bias and confirm that the amplifier is working properly. After this adjust the bias current to the class A operating point according to Table 1.
A larger heatsink is required to keep the amplifier cool with these bias currents. The standard heatsink shown in Figure is usually not sufficient when running in class A. An alternative solution is to run in partial class A mode. Adjusting the operating levels to about half those shown in Table 1 will result in class A operation for low level signals, up to about $1 / 4$ of the power shown. At higher power levels the amp will then operate in class AB.

|  | 4 Ohm Load |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Max. <br> output <br> power | Bias <br> current | R45 <br> reading |  |  |
| 25 W | 1.8 A | 600 mV | $+/-20 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |
| 50 W | 2.4 A | 800 mV | $+/-25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |
| 100 W | 3.6 A | 1.2 V | $+/-35 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |
|  | 8 Ohm Load |  |  |  |
| 25 W | 1.2 A | 400 mV | $+/-25 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |
| 50 W | 1.8 A | 600 mV | $+/-35 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |
| 100 W | 2.5 A | 800 mV | $+/-45 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |

Table 1 Bias settings for class A


Figure 6 PM224HS. Typical heatsink for PM224. Dimensions are 5 "x6.1"x1.6"; $0.8^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$.

## Offset adjustment.

The offset voltage of the amplifier must be adjusted by setting the potentiometer R6. With no signal applied to the inputs, adjust R6 for minimum DC voltage at the outputs. A residual output voltage of a few mV is normal.

The assembly and adjustment of PM224 is now complete.

## Gain adjustment.

The gain of the amplifier can be changed by replacing the two resistors R5 and R10. These two resistors should be of equal value. It is best to use $1 \% 1 / 4 \mathrm{~W}$ metal film resistors, but other types, like $5 \%$ carbon, can also be used. The gain is given by $A=1000 / R 3$, R3 in Kohm. Use nearest available values.

| R10 = R5 | Gain |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 10 K | 100 | 40 dB |
| 15 K | 66 | 36 dB |
| 25 K | 40 | 32 dB |
| 50 K | 20 | 26 dB |
| 100 K | 10 | 20 dB |

Table 2 Gain vs. R3




[^0]:    Power supply hookup

