

# McIntosh®

## MSA5500 STREAMING INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER



ROOM READY



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## SINCE 1949

Sound is not just the DNA of McIntosh, it is the heartbeat that resonates within every product we bring to life, connecting music lovers to the soul-stirring power of sound. Join us on a journey to elevate your sound experience.





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## ALL-IN-ONE EFFORTLESS MUSIC STREAMING

The MSA5500 Streaming Integrated Amplifier is both a full featured music streamer and powerful integrated amplifier in one. It can serve as the cornerstone of your audio setup, whether it be your first venture into high-fidelity audio, an addition to your existing system, or to use at your office or vacation home.

Crafted to perfection and compact in size, the MSA5500 is tailor-made for modern living spaces, making it an ideal choice for those seeking premium audio in more confined environments.

The versatile MSA5500 has a wide assortment of wireless music streaming capabilities plus a variety of physical inputs to connect source components.

If all your music is cloud based digital music, a simple addition of speakers is all that's needed to be bathed in elevated sound quality.



## ENDLESS STREAMING POSSIBILITIES AWAIT

The MSA5500 is compatible with a multitude of leading streaming technologies and platforms including Apple® AirPlay®; Bluetooth®; Google Cast™ (formerly Chromecast); Spotify® Connect; and TIDAL® Connect (including TIDAL HiFi Lossless Quality).

No special control app or technical skills are needed; the easy-to-use MSA5500 invites you to simply stream your music directly from your smart device. If you've been using a lower quality wireless home sound system, then listening to your favorite tracks through the MSA5500 will be like hearing them again for the first time.

For Bluetooth streaming, the MSA5500 utilizes Bluetooth 5.0; the high bitrate Advanced Audio Coding (AAC) standard; Qualcomm® aptX™ HD for hi res audio playback; and Qualcomm aptX Adaptive, a robust solution that delivers high resolution, uninterrupted audio over Bluetooth.

Two Wi-Fi 6 antennas and one Bluetooth antenna provide stable wireless connections, while an Ethernet port is also available for wired connections.



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STREAMED MUSIC  
HAS NEVER  
SOUNDED SO GOOD

To elevate your auditory experience of your digital music, the MSA5500 employs an audiophile-grade digital-to-analog converter (DAC) to convert digital signals into the analog format needed for playback. This next generation, Quad Balanced, 8-channel, 32-bit DAC features huge dynamic range and low distortion.

Regardless the file format, you can expect a transcendent audio experience with pristine sound reproduction.

The MSA5500 has received Roon Ready certification from Roon Labs, making it an endpoint device for use with the Roon music player.

Roon brings all your music together and adds tons of data – bios, reviews, photos, lyrics, tour dates, and cross-linked credits for performers, songwriters, producers, engineers, and composers. Roon Ready network devices have Roon streaming technology built in and are certified by Roon to provide the highest level of quality and performance in network streaming.



## ALL THE CONNECTIONS YOU NEED

In addition to all its streaming capabilities, the MSA5500 also comes with 7 digital and 5 analog audio inputs to connect audio components, such as a CD player or tuner, plus a Moving Magnet phono input to connect a turntable.

The digital inputs support high resolution digital audio playback; the USB input supports native playback of DSD512 and DXD up to 384kHz, while the coax and optical inputs can decode digital music up to 24-bit/192kHz.



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## UNRIVALED TV SOUND

The inclusion of an HDMI (ARC) input lets you connect your compatible TV so you can enjoy your favorite shows and movies with a sound quality level that TV speakers or soundbars just can't provide<sup>1</sup>.

Popular multi-channel audio formats from Dolby® and DTS® will be expertly converted to two-channel audio for proper playback. The subwoofer output allows for a powered subwoofer to be added for extra punch so you can feel every bass and low-end note.

1. The HDMI (ARC) input will only play audio from a compatible TV. It will not pass video to or from a TV, or play audio from any non-TV source. TV must have an HDMI (ARC) output

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## UNCOMPROMISING MCINTOSH AMPLIFICATION

The power amplifier section of the MSA5500 proves that extraordinary sound knows no bounds. Delivering 100 Watts per channel into 8 Ohm speakers or 160 Watts per channel into 4 Ohm speakers, this amplifier ensures ample power delivery for a diverse array of speakers, such as our XR50 Bookshelf Speakers, XR100 Floorstanding Speakers, or a variety of other speakers.

Real-time power output is visualized through fast responding, dual-scale Watt meters in our trademarked McIntosh “Blue” color, affording insight into the amplifier’s performance.

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**An arsenal of other McIntosh technologies is included that will contribute to the MSA5500's longevity and reliability:**

- Power Guard® that monitors the output signal for over driving and makes real time micro adjustments to the input signal to prevent harsh sounding clipping that could potentially damage your speakers
- Our fuse-less short-circuit protection circuit Sentry Monitor™ that disengages the output stage before current exceeds safe operating levels and then resets automatically when operating conditions return to normal
- McIntosh Monogrammed Heatsinks™ which are connected to advanced high current output transistors that minimize thermal equilibrium lag (or warm-up) time and help keep the MSA5500 running cool
- Home Theater PassThru that allows for seamless integration into a home theater system
- Our patented Solid Cinch™ speaker binding posts that easily but securely attach the speaker cables to prevent them from coming loose and possibly causing a short; the binding posts are also gold-plated to prevent corrosion and ensure a quality signal is sent over your speaker cables to your speakers
- High Drive headphone amplifier with Headphone Crossfeed Director (HXD®) which can bring an added dimension to headphone listening
- Power Control to send power on/off signals to connected McIntosh components for easy system power up and shutdown

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## ACCOMMODATES YOUR CHANGING NEEDS

As your audio needs evolve, the MSA5500 can grow with you. Someday you may move into a bigger space or add a larger set of speakers and find that you need more power. If that happens, you could bypass the internal amplifier and connect a bigger external amplifier – all while continuing to use the MSA5500's familiar streaming and preamplifier sections.

You can rest assured that the MSA5500 can accommodate your changing needs and be a lifelong partner in your audio pursuits.

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EMBRACE THE  
ICONIC MCINTOSH  
EXPERIENCE

Elegantly appointed with timeless McIntosh aesthetics, including blue Watt meters, a sleek black glass front panel with aluminum end caps, rotary control knobs, an illuminated logo, and impeccable build quality, the MSA5500 epitomizes audio sophistication.

Contact your local dealer today to embark on your journey of audio discovery.





## TECH SPECS

### ELECTRONIC

**FTC Power Output Rating:**  
100 W

**Power Output per Channel:**  
100 W into 8 ohms  
160 W into 4 ohms

**Number of Channels:** 2

**Rated Power Band:**  
20Hz to 20kHz

**Total Harmonic Distortion:** 0.005%

**Dynamic Headroom:** 1.8dB

**Frequency Response +0,-0.5dB:**  
20Hz to 20kHz

**Frequency Response, +0, -3dB:**  
10Hz to 100kHz

**Sensitivity Phono  
(Moving Magnet):** 2.5mV

**Sensitivity High Level  
(Balanced / Unbalanced):**  
0.5V/0.25V

**Sensitivity (Power Amp input):** 1V

**Signal To Noise Ratio  
(Moving Magnet):** 82dB

**Signal To Noise Ratio  
(High Level):** 95dB

**Signal To Noise Ratio  
(Power Amp input):** 110dB

**Input Impedance  
(Balanced / Unbalanced):** 20K/20K

**Damping Factor:**  
8 ohms: >200 / 4 ohms: >100

**Maximum Output  
(Balanced / Unbalanced):**  
8V Unbalanced

### CONNECTIVITY

**Balanced Input:** 1

**Unbalanced Input:** 4

**Phono Input Moving Magnet:**  
1 (fixed loading)

**Upgradeable Digital  
Audio Module:** No

### Digital Inputs:

Coaxial Input: 2

Optical Input: 2

MCT Input: 1

USB Input: 1

HDMI (ARC) Input: 1

**Unbalanced Variable Output:** 1

**Headphone Output:**  
1/4" High Drive with Headphone  
Crossfeed Director (HXD®)

**Subwoofer Output:** 1

**Home Theater PassThru:** Yes

**Unbalanced Analog  
Connector Type:** Standard

**Speaker Binding Post Type:**  
Standard

**Service Port:** 1

### DIGITAL AUDIO

**Digital-to-Analog Converter  
(DAC) Type:**  
8-channel, 32-bit/384kHz PCM/  
DSD, Quad Balanced

**Digital Coaxial Input Sample  
Rate:** 24-bit/44.1kHz to 192kHz

**Digital Optical Input Sample  
Rate:** 24-bit/44.1kHz to 192kHz

**Digital MCT Input Sample Rate:**  
16-bit/44.1kHz (CD)  
DSD64 (SACD)

**Digital USB Input Sample Rate:**  
32-bit/44.1kHz to 384kHz (PCM)  
DSD64, DSD128, DSD256,  
DXD352.8kHz, DXD384kHz

### CONTROL

**Tone Controls:** Bass and Treble

**Tone Bypass and Input Assign:** Yes

**RS232 Control Input:** Yes

**Power Control Output:** 1 Main

**Rear Panel Data Port:** 2

**Rear Panel IR Sensor Input:** Yes

**Input Level Match:** Yes

### GENERAL

**Vacuum Tube or Solid  
State:** Solid State

**Output Type:** Direct Coupled

**Output Meters:** Yes

**Dual Layer Chassis:** Yes

**Chassis Finish:** Black

**McIntosh Monogrammed  
Heatsinks™:** Yes

**Standby Power Requirement:**  
<0.25 Watt

### WEIGHTS & DIMENSIONS

**Unit Dimensions (W x H x D):**  
17-1/2" (44.45cm) x 6" (15.2cm)  
(8-1/8" (20.6cm) with vertical  
antenna) x 18-3/4" (47.6cm)  
with vertical antenna (22-1/4"  
(56.5cm) with horizontal antenna)

**Unit Weight:** 38 lbs (17.2 kg)

**Shipping Weight:** 55.5 lbs (25.2 kg)

**Learn more:**  
Visit [mcintoshlabs.com](http://mcintoshlabs.com)

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## About McIntosh

McIntosh Laboratory, Inc. is the premier American designer and manufacturer of high-fidelity audio equipment.

Founded in 1949, McIntosh products are handcrafted by experts passionate about creating an unmatched sonic experience. From its factory in Binghamton, New York to all corners of the world, the McIntosh blue meters have become a symbol of quality audio and continue to own the premiere position in home audio entertainment for discerning

listeners. Powering events like President Lyndon Johnson's inauguration speech, world-renowned concert systems like Woodstock, the Grateful Dead's Wall of Sound and Despacio, McIntosh has shaped some of the most important moments in music and culture. McIntosh gives music enthusiasts the power to create their ultimate sound experience.

## For the Consumer's Protection

In order to ensure the highest level of customer satisfaction, new McIntosh products may only be purchased from an Authorized McIntosh Dealer; and, with certain limited exceptions may only be purchased over-the-counter or delivered and installed by the Authorized McIntosh Dealer. McIntosh does not warrant, in any way, products that are purchased from anyone who is not an Authorized McIntosh Dealer, or that have had their serial numbers altered or defaced.

## Learn More

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