

AUSTRALIAN Best Buys

HOME THEATRE

Presented by:

**SOUND
IMAGE**

AUSTRALIA'S
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TO HI-FI
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THEATRE

WINTER 2008

40+
PRODUCT
TESTS

YOUR ULTIMATE AV GUIDE

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REVIEWED & RATED

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\$8.95
NZ \$9.90



McIntosh

Product focus 2008

McIntosh will turn 60 years of age next year, but is showing no sign of tiring. Once encountered, the company's unique high-end designs are never forgotten: the trademark green Gothic script, backlit black-glass front panels, and inclusion of those gorgeous pale-blue VU meters all mark out McIntosh components, while their sound

quality has laid claims to the hearts of many audiophiles since Frank McIntosh's first products back in 1949.

A veritable flood of "ultimate quality" equipment from McIntosh has recently been released to Australia through distributor Castel... so many products, indeed, that we can only provide a brief overview of the highlights here — but what highlights!



Valve system

C500C controller \$8090, C500T tube preamp \$9790, MC2301 monoblock power amp \$17,790 (x2)

The no-holds-barred, fully-balanced, dual-mono McIntosh C500 preamplifier is available in valve or solid-state versions (see right for the latter), marrying outstanding audio performance with flexible user-programmability. With the C500T valve version working in tandem with the C500C controller

(centre top), inputs can be renamed or even deleted, and level matching between inputs is provided. A perfect match for a pair (or more) of the MC2301 monoblocks, which combine McIntosh's Unity Coupled and quad-differential circuit topologies for revolutionary power bandwidth and ultralow noise levels.



MS750 Music Server

Serving your digital music direct from a healthy 750GB internal hard drive, the \$9990 MS750 allows easy access to your stored music via its easy-to-navigate multilingual on-screen menus; it's also ideal for integrated system

control. The internal storage gives you enough room for more than 2700 CDs at full quality (that's around 120,000 individual songs), while the MS750 can also create its own discs using the built-in CD burner.

MA7000 integrated amp

The most powerful integrated amplifier McIntosh has ever offered, the \$11,690 MA7000 is designed to deliver a continuous 250W per channel. An ultra-low distortion preamp section supports two balanced and four single-ended inputs, plus mm phono input, while two sets of preamplifier outputs allow later expansion — if you should ever need it!

The power section comprises a highly linear, two-stage input circuit feeding a high-current-capable output stage which is terminated in the company's patented Output Autoformer, all supported by the suite of McIntosh Power Assurance technologies, enhancing performance and reliability while protecting the amplifier and loudspeakers.

Solid-state system

C500C controller \$8090
C500P solid-state preamp \$9790
MC402 stereo power amp \$9990
With the C500 preamplifier in its solid-state version, again with the C500C controller unit (see also valve system, left), power can be provided by the award-winning MC402 power amp, rated to deliver a hefty 400W per channel in stereo or 800W in mono, using quad-differential design from four complete amplifier circuits. Check that supporting table — it weighs 50kg...



MCINTOSH: MORE INFO

For more info on the full McIntosh range, contact the Australian distributors:

Contact: Castel Electronics
1800 505 051
www.castel.com.au





McIntosh

MC12K POWER AMPLIFIER



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