STEREO SHOP TALK

FALL/WINTER 1991

Free McIntosh Amplifier Clinic

Why Amplifier Clinics Are Important To You

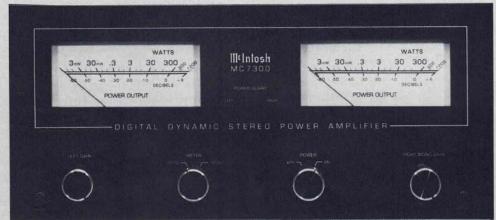
The 1991 McIntosh Amplifier Clinic is designed to evaluate your amplifier through two tests: a general condition test for amplifier output, distortion and frequency response, and a Spectral Fidelity test to determine how the amplifier reacts under stress (preamps will be tested for distortion, frequency response and signal-to-noise). Mr. Dave O'Brien from McIntosh Laboratory, Inc. will be on hand with a complete test bench setup to test ANY BRAND power amplifier, integrated amplifier or receiver brought into the clinic.

You'll be able to watch your unit being tested as well as discuss its performance strengths and weaknesses with Mr. O'Brien. You will be presented with a written report and a graph of your test results.

Many listeners are not familiar with the relationship between amplifier power and music, and misleading claims by some manufacturers only create confusion. A visit to the clinic will greatly enhance your understanding of this relationship, how your present amplifier performs under stress that could result from musical transients, and what steps you may take to achieve the performance you need.

YOU WILL RECEIVE A PRINT-OUT WITH YOUR TEST RESULTS

OWNER MUST BE PRESENT WHILE AMP IS TESTED



McIntosh MC 7300 - 300 Watts Per Channel



CLINIC SPECIAL:

ALL McINTOSH PURCHASED DURING THE CLINIC WILL RECEIVE A 5 YEAR SERVICE CONTRACT INCLUDING PARTS AND LABOR

FRIDAY OCTOBER 18

12 NOON TO 6 PM



Mr. Dave O'Brien of McIntosh Laboratory conducts the Amplifier and Preamplifier Clinic.

Units Are Tested For:

- Power Output
- Harmonic Distortion
- Frequency Response
- Spectral Fidelity Intermodulation Distortion

All Brands Are Invited!

- Basic Power Amplifiers
- Integrated Amplifiers
- Receivers (Power Amp and Pre-Amp Sections Will Be Tested)
- · Sorry, No Tuners

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THIS OFFER WILL NOT BE REPEATED THIS YEAR

STEREO MADNESS - BUYING A SYSTEM

For most people, the idea of buying stereo equipment can be very daunting. It means wading through a labyrinth of components they have in many cases never heard of, only to be confronted with fast-talking sales people with jargon-filled vocabularies pressuring them into buying equipment they know little about and may not need.

The process begins with your own evaluation of what you need or want. You may already have a system you want to upgrade with only one or two components. You may want to entirely replace a system you have outgrown. Or you may be buying a system for the very first time.

The kind of music you listen to is important in choosing particular components. Good speakers should be able to reproduce different kinds of music with accuracy. Classical music and rock should both sound good on the same speakers, but large, conventional "box" speakers are generally better able to deliver the deep bass found in today's popular music. On the other extreme, light, airy music like New Age or chamber music is best served with electrostatic, or "ribbon" speakers. The room the system is in is very important in determining the kind of sound you need: rooms heavy with curtains, carpets, drapes and overstuffed furniture will absorb sound and sound very warm, while bare rooms with few furnishings and no carpeting will sound cold and hard.

Amplifiers are either tube or transistor, and accordingly have different "sounds". Tube amps have a warmer sound and provide the most lifelike reproduction of vocals. Transistor amps deliver more punch and sound crisper. Most amplifiers today are transistor, but there are a few companies that still make tube amplifiers that many listeners continue to love.

A good stereo dealer knows these things and should be able to ask you about the kind of music you listen to, and what kind of room you have. Unfortunately, there are many consumer mass-market chain stores which sell microwave ovens and air conditioners as well as audio and video. The Stereo Shop is staffed by music lovers who are able to take the time to spend hours with you. Our sales people are your personal guides to deciding for yourself what it is you should be looking for in stereo.

A decent system can cost as little as \$1,000, while a wealthy audiophile reaching for the absolute state-of-the-art could spend as much as \$200,000. It has been generally agreed among the audio community that a truly accurate system can be purchased for a minimum of around \$5,000. When buying good equipment, it's important to remember the need for good service. Discounters can't provide the personal attention of a specialty retailer.

When shopping, bring your own records, compact discs or tapes. That way, you'll know how the music you listen to will sound on various equipment. It's easy for some dealers to put on only specially recorded music that will make any system sound good.

A basic custom-designed system usually has a compact disc player or turntable, tuner,



preamplifier, amplifier and speakers. Especially sophisticated systems have more components, like digital processors, surround sound processors, video monitors, extra speakers and more. In fact, you can even explore multi-source, multi-room systems that allow you to listen to compact discs in the living room while someone else in the house watches a movie with surround sound in the den.

Above all, you should know how much you want to spend, but be prepared to spend a little more. A little extra can make a big difference in sound quality.

Your journey through the electronic jungle can be a very enjoyable and rewarding learning experience. But it takes two very important people to make it so. You, and your audio dealer.

The Stereo Shop has always been a place where you can learn about music and entertainment systems without being pressured or made to feel stupid. We are here to share our knowledge and experience with you at all times, and are especially happy to answer your questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Serio

Mc7300 Power Amplifier



The McIntosh "Always In Style"

TIMELESS LOOKS
PEAK PERFORMANCE
OPTIMUM DEPENDABILITY
CLASSIC DESIGN

The classic appearance of a McIntosh amplifier complements any home decorative scheme. Each component is selected for durability, as well as aesthetics.

Consider the construction and materials used in the front panel and knobs. Reverse silk-screened with thermal setting epoxy screen inks, the glass panels are meticulously hand inspected and are free from bubbles, flow marks and other faults. Anodizing, an electro-chemical process that leaves a color dyed and hardened surface impervious to attack from common household cleaning fluids, oils and acids from the skin, is used on the panel frame and aluminum knobs to maximize their resistance to wear.

This handsome combination of glass, anodized aluminum, and thermal setting epoxy inks requires very little maintenance to keep the MC 7300 looking brand new. Its subtle yet sophisticated styling will remain in good taste throughout the years.



McIntosh Quality Begins With Careful Design For Cool Operation

An amplifier's life can be cut short without the proper ventilation for cool operation. In fact, as little as one degree centigrade rise in temperature can reduce the life of an amplifier by 10%. McIntosh has designed its amplifiers to maximize trouble-free cool operation.

Output stages are mounted on super-sized heat sinks that have maximum surface areas of cooling capability. The sinks are placed in an air tunnel chassis that occupies the amplifier space from top to bottom. Cooling air, which flows through the air tunnel, dissipates life-limiting heat. This heat dissipation capability is coupled with a chassis construction that encourages ventilation. A McIntosh designed and manufactured autotransformer matches the transistor output circuit to the loudspeakers.

The McIntosh output circuit uses 20 metal cased bipolar epitaxial power transistors and 4 metal cased driver transistors. The output transistors feature high f_T (gain - frequency product) and large SOA

(safe operating area). The power transistor characteristics, the power supply voltage used, and the output autoformer ratio have been matched for high efficiency, maximum power output with low distortion, and reliable long life operation.

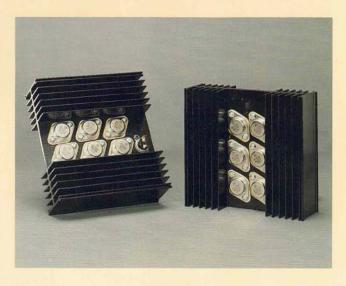
Versatile McIntosh Power Amplifiers Deliver Full Power — Always

The McIntosh output circuit, superior in its performance, demands a superior method of coupling the amplifier output to the loudspeaker load. A McIntosh designed and manufactured autotransformer ensures peak performance and protection, as well as outstanding compatibility between amplifier and speaker.

The McIntosh autotransformer offers these benefits:

- Transistors, used in amplifier output circuits, are designed to work into an optimum low impedance load. Variations in frequency, or the use of multiple speakers (which modify the impedance as seen by the output of the amplifier), often compromise an amplifier's performance. The McIntosh autotransformer prevents these variables from causing restricted performance, output transistor heating, and/or circuit failure.
- In the event of an output circuit failure, the McIntosh autotransformer conducts the speakerdamaging DC (direct current) directly to ground, thus protecting expensive loudspeakers from potential damage.
- The McIntosh autotransformer contributes a flexibility in loudspeaker connecting capability not otherwise possible. Here's how:

Ordinary amplifier output circuits are usually restricted to operating in 4 or 8 ohms. In stereo, the McIntosh autotransformer perfectly matches the output circuit to 2, 4, or 8 ohms. In mono the MC 7300 autotransformers provide matching into 1, 2, 4, 8 or 16 ohms. In addition, the autotransformer can provide either a 25 volt or a 70.7 volt output that can feed multiple loudspeakers for background music applications.



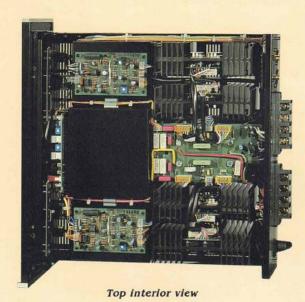
Heat sinks

The McIntosh autotransformer is, quite simply, an engineering advance that enhances amplifier performance while maintaining technical and performance integrity.

McIntosh's Exclusive Power Guard™ Music Protection Circuit

Improved recording techniques have imposed higher power demands on today's amplifiers. Other amplifier designs, of which there are many, can present music listeners with unpleasant distortion due to amplifier overload (hard clipping).

Clipping, which looks and acts like non-musical square waves (music produces rounded waves), is caused when the amplifier is required to produce more power output (with low distortion) than it is designed to deliver. Amplifiers, when driven to clipping, can deliver up to 40% harmonic distortion—distortion that significantly decreases listening enjoyment, and increases listening fatigue. A clipped



signal also produces extra distortion energy, which

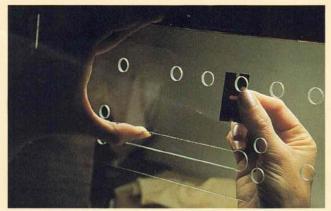
can damage speakers.

McIntosh precision engineering has developed the Power Guard circuit* to prevent amplifiers from being overdriven into hard clipping; ensure that the amplifier produces its maximum output without increased distortion; and protect the speaker from excessive heating.

(*Power Guard is a patented McIntosh design, U.S. patent #4048573)

Compact discs have a higher 'dynamic range' over records and audio cassettes. Most compact discs claim a dynamic range in excess of 90 decibels. In numerical ratio this is greater than 1000 times the ratio of popular commercial analog records.

For equipment to be digital ready it must handle overdrive without breaking up or grossly distorting the sound. Virtually all power amplifiers today are incapable of accepting 10 decibels of overdrive without gross distortion. Some amplifiers totally collapse under this punishment. McIntosh has devised a test which shows an amplifier's spectral fidelity under stress — one of the most important characteristics of an amplifier.



Every detail of the complicated panel is inspected and re-inspected.

The harmonic distortion and two-tone intermodulation measurements are important criteria in predicting the sonic performance. However, to obtain better correlation with human hearing response, we need to know not only the energy in the distortion spectrum, but also the number of discords and their frequency spacing from the desired tones. Spectral fidelity testing enlarges the scope of data and more fully clarifies its meaning.

It is no accident, then that a McIntosh amplifier is a smart investment, one that will fill your home with years of audio excitement:

- It is more reliable than other amplifiers
- It has a longer, trouble-free life than other amplifiers
- It sounds better than other amplifiers
- Its resale value is the highest of all amplifiers

McIntosh Patented Power Meters

In the past, ordinary power meters have been incapable of indicating the short interval information in a soundwave, which can have a duration of onehalf of one thousandth of a second. And even if a meter were capable of such high velocity movement, the human eye would be unable to perceive the information.

McIntosh engineering solved the dilemma by developing an electronic circuit that power meters can respond to with an accuracy of 98%. These circuits are time-stretched, which allows the meter pointer position to register in such a way that the human eye can register its high-speed motion.

The patented peak-reading, peak-locking meter circuit included in the MC7300 is yet another McIntosh electronic design feature that maximizes your audio pleasure...and makes the MC7300 a sound investment.

If good enough will do, there are dozens of brands to choose from.

But if the best is what you need, there is only one to consider:

The McIntosh MC 7300.

Performance Guarantee

Performance Limits are the maximum deviation from perfection permitted for a McIntosh instrument. We promise you that when you purchase a new MC 7300 from a McIntosh franchised dealer, it will be capable of or can be made capable of performance at or exceeding these limits or you can return the unit and get your money back. McIntosh is the only manufacturer that makes this statement.

Performance

McIntosh audio power ratings are in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission Regulation of November 4, 1974 concerning power output claims for amplifiers used in home entertainment products.

Power Output

Stereo

500 watts minimum sine wave continuous average power output, per channel, both channels operating into 2 ohms, 4 ohms, or 8 ohms load impedance, which is:

24.5 volts RMS across 2 ohms

34.6 volts RMS across 4 ohms

49.0 volts RMS across 8 ohms

Mono

600 watts minimum sine wave continuous average power output into 4 ohms, 8 ohms, or 16 ohms load impedance, which is:

24.5 volts RMS across 1 ohm

34.6 volts RMS across 2 ohms

49.0 volts RMS across 4 ohms

69.3 volts RMS across 8 ohms

98.0 volts RMS across 16 ohms

Output Load Impedance

Stereo

2 ohms, 4 ohms, and 8 ohms; separate terminals are provided for each output.

Mond

16, 8, 4, 2 or 1 ohms by connecting to proper output terminals.

Rated Power Band

20Hz to 20,000Hz

Total Harmonic Distortion

Stereo

0.005% maximum harmonic distortion at any power level from 250 milliwatts to 300 watts per channel from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz, both channels operating.

Mono

0.005% maximum harmonic distortion at any power level from 250 milliwatts to 600 watts from 20Hz to 20.000Hz.

Franchised Dealer:

Intermodulation Distortion

0.005% maximum if instantaneous peak power output does not exceed twice the output rating for any combination of frequencies from 20Hz to 20.000Hz.

Frequency Response (at one watt output)

20Hz to 20,000Hz +0 -0.25dB 10Hz to 100,000Hz +0 -3dB

Noise and Hum (A-Weighted)

105dB below rated output.

Ratings

IHF Dynamic Headroom

1.9dB

Damping Factor

Greater than 40

Input Impedance

20,000 ohms Unbalanced 40,000 ohms Balanced

Input Sensitivity

Switchable for either 1.4 or 2.5 volts

Power Guard

Clipping is prevented and THD does not exceed 2% with up to 14dB overdrive at 1kHz

General Information

Power Requirements

120 volts, 50/60Hz, 0.6 to 13 amperes

Mechanical Information

Size

16 3/16 inches wide (41.1 cm) by 7 1/8 inches high (18.1 cm) by 15 9/16 inches deep (40.0 cm), including connectors. Knob clearance required is 1 inch (2.54 cm) in front of mounting panel.

Finish

The front panel is a combination of glass and black anodized aluminum. The chassis is black.

Weight

79 pounds (35.8 kg) net, 97 pounds (44 kg) in shipping carton.

The continuous improvement of its products is the policy of McIntosh Laboratory Incorporated who reserve the right to improve design without notice.



McINTOSH LABORATORY INC.
2 CHAMBERS ST., BINGHAMTON, NY 13903-2699
607-723-3512

LET THE STEREO SHOP PLAY SANTA FOR YOUR STEREOPHILE

Looking for the perfect gift for your favorite stereophile? The Stereo Shop will personally assist you in making a choice that will provide years of enjoyment.

From something small, like a blank tape or compact disc to something big, like a custominstalled complete media room with 10' screen, we can help you bring glorious music to someone's holiday season.



Stereo Shop accessories help make a system better. Choose from among CD cleaners, interconnect cables, speaker wire, CD playback treatments, FM antenna boosters, or AC current filters. If you're looking to keep your stereophile's turntable in good condition in the digital age, we can replace their worn stylus and calibrate their "analog" audio source.



Terk Antenna

Our components and complete systems are sure to please. Surprise your stereophile with a new receiver. Our NAD line of receivers are not only the best we've heard at the price, but are extremely affordable. Check out their compact disc players, too.



NAD 7225PE

New speakers are probably the most dramatic improvement for any system. Right now is a great time to pick up an inexpensive pair of the highly rated **Boston** Acoustics speakers, from the tiny HD5 bookshelf systems to the big tower T-1030s. These speakers are a good choice for adding to a start-up surround sound system, too.



Boston Acoustic HD-5

Adding a subwoofer to any system easily makes a huge difference. They also make good coffee tables! The **Velodyne** subwoofers are especially awesome.



Velodyne ULD-12

For someone who is trying to squeeze the utmost from a state-of-the-art compact disc player, consider a **Theta** digital processor to make CD playback more natural than possible before.



Fosgate DSL-2

Turn a stereo system into a home theater with simple additions, starting with an excellent video monitor by JVC or Optonica. You may also want to consider a separate Dolby Pro Logic surround sound decoder by Fosgate, or make the heart of an audio/video system an Elite by Pioneer surround sound receiver.



Stereo Shop staff can assist you in planning and designing a full-blown media room with giant screens and TV projector and thunderous surround sound.



Vidicron TGS-100

If you are especially interested in going all-out, we can install multiroom remote control audio systems in a someone's home. Now there's a gift no one could ever forget!



California Audio Labs Icon

Finally, you may want to consider giving a high-end component like a McIntosh amp or preamp, a Conrad-Johnson amp or California Audio Labs compact disc player. Or Apogee or McIntosh speakers. Start or complete someone's lifelong dream.

Whatever your ideas for your stereophile, The Stereo Shop can help you from start to finish. We are always happy to answer all your questions and to provide personal service after the sale.

Happy Holidays!

Nick Perfito

STEREO SHOP CUSTOM MATCHED SYSTEMS



SYSTEM 1

NAD's acclaimed 7225PE 25-watt per channel receiver actually delivers up to 85 watts per channel on demand depending on the dynamic requirements of the music. This is the NAD "power envelope" technology, to provide power when it is actually needed, and allowing the receiver to generally run cool, assuring longer life and greater reliability.

The top-rated **Boston Acoustics HD-8** "high definition" speakers house a two-way system with an 8" woofer and the liquid-cooled CFT 1" tweeter, providing smooth, peak-free response up to 25,000 cycles.

A high-value compact disc player with "1-bit technology, the new NAD 5425 provides eminently musical transcription of today's demanding CDs. In true NAD fashion, construction philosophy emphasizes quality engineering over dubious bells and whistles in the creation of an excellent low-cost CD player. With remote.

THE COMPLETE SYSTEM \$850.00



SYSTEM 2

The power envelope amplifier in the **NAD 7240PE** receiver provides a boggling 200 watts per channel on demand while sporting a "normal" rating of "only" 40 watts per channel. Preamp and tuner sections are also extremely refined, making the 7240PE a real wolf in sheep's clothing.

A B&W tour de force, the bookshelf **B&W DM310** loudspeaker has an allnew construction 8" woofer and the world famous 801 tweeter. Internal cabinet bracing has been augmented for this unit, a facet of speaker construction B&W is unusually concerned with in their quest to reduce coloration to insignificance.

The new NAD 5425 is a sophisticated compact disc player for those who can tell the sonic difference. With "1-Bit" technology, 8X oversampling and all the usual convenience features. With remote.

THE COMPLETE SYSTEM \$1250.00





SYSTEM 3

NAD 7000 Monitor Series Receiver with Remote is a flexible, quality receiver with NAD power envelope technology and remote control for a sophisticated and powerful music control center. With 200 watts per channel on demand, nominal output of 40 watts per channel.

The new Boston Acoustics HD-9 speaker system takes up less space than some bookshelf speakers, but delivers extraordinary performance from a 8" passive radiator, 6"woofer/midrange, and CFT 1" liquid-cooled tweeter. In walnut veneer or black woodgrain laminate, with gold-plated connectors.

NAD's best compact disc player. New MASH "1-bit" technology puts the NAD 5000 compact disc player up in "esoteric" territory.

THE COMPLETE SYSTEM \$1,395.00

STEREO SHOP CUSTOM MATCHED SYSTEMS



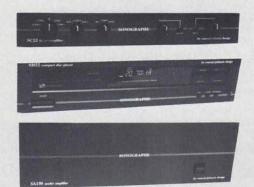
SYSTEM 4

The remote control **NAD 1600** is an affordable preamp tuner of high quality, comparing favorably with much more expensive units, with very transparent sound for its class. With 50 watts per channel, and peak power of 200 watts per channel, you'll have no problem powering any speaker system around with the **NAD 2100** power amp. Also an excellent sounding component in the NAD tradition.

The B&W DM630 loudspeakers are floor standing "small tower" loudspeakers with two 8" bass/midrange drivers and a 1" tweeter. The bass performance is augmented by a rear facing port, into which "port tubes" can be inserted to adjust the bass response.

One of the best compact disc players around, rivaling players costing three times as much, is the **NAD 5000**, with the new MASH (Multi-stage Noise Shaping) chip set, part of the new "1-bit" technology.

THE COMPLETE SYSTEM \$2,595.00

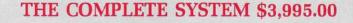


SYSTEM 5

The **Sonographe SC-22** preamp and **SA-150** power amp provide truly "high end" sound at a budget price. This is the affordable line produced by Conrad-Johnson, maker of some of the world's best audio equipment. The SA-150 power amp produces 135 watts per channel.

The **Sonographe SD-22** compact disc player is ultra refined for true musical compact disc reproduction. Matches the other Sonographe components in appearance and quality.

The **Apogee Centaur Minor** is brand new. With the famous ribbon midrange/tweeter and 6½" die-cast polypropylene cone woofer, you will hear greater detail than ever before with deep bass at an affordable price. The marriage of Apogee ribbon technology and dynamic driver is a devastating combination!





SYSTEM 6

Here is the "no-holds-barred" **Adcom system: the GFA-555** tuner, the GFA-565 preamp, and a pair of the incredible GFA-565 monoblocks, providing amplifier power of over 370 watts per channel!

The **Apogee Centaur Major** is an awesome new system standing over 5 feet tall, yet with a small ''foot print'' for flexible placement. The classic midrange/tweeter ribbon design is mated to a long-throw 10" woofer for exquisite dynamic sound of the highest order.

California Audio Labs, the maker of more American compact disc players than anyone else, is renowned for ultra-high technology and construction. The Icon compact disc player rounds out this great system with its "high-end" performance.



THE COMPLETE SYSTEM \$6,995.00

REMEMBER

McIntosh
Spectral Fidelity
Amplifier Clinic
Friday
October 18th
Noon to 6 PM

THE STEREO SHOP, INC. 505 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105



OR CURRENT RESIDENT

FIVE YEAR EXCLUSIVE GUARANTEE

	The state of the s	RI	eo Shop PROTECTION PLAN
9/30/91		Name Street City	Reynolds Onderdonk State Zp
McIntosh MC-7300 Apogee Centaur Major	Serial Number EC1735 DF 3491 - (2) 4423/4 EN1250	FREE. Five Year Protection	FOR FIVE FULL YEARS from the date of purchase, upon greatertailors of the component to our service libroration; we will replace or recess, but the original covers, objections described by the property of the component of the date of the component of the property of the component of the date
		FREE Two Year Protection	FOR TWO FILE. YEARS from the date of purchase, poor presentation of the correct experient for our review labeled or, we will replace or vigal from the original conject, directive electronic parts, excluding laser product for compact disc player, when the cell is due to faulty workmandate. There will be NO CHRACE for later excluding installat- of later privacy for compact disc player, during this period for replacement of in working parts.
505 FARMINGTON AVENUE, HARTFORE) CT 06105 (203/621-7250	FREE One Year Protestion	FOR CINE FUEL YEAR from the date of policitiste, upon presentation of the compone ecuprent to our selvice aboratory we will replace or repair for the original invites, defection secured plays: hap received, compost this objective and CFI metabhesis existing the leafs of the properties of the propert

FREE value added protection plan for your peace of mind when you buy at The Stereo Shop. All service performed in our service department. This guarantee is for real, and we'll be here to back it up as we have for over 33 years. No other stereo store can make it happen or keep it happening like The Stereo Shop can.

FORGET THE REST...
DEAL WITH THE BEST!

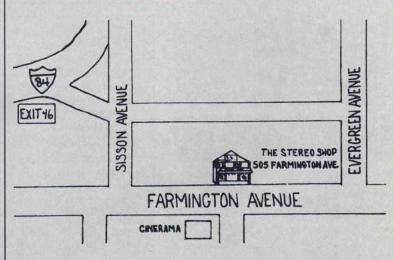
ALL THE CREDIT YOU'LL EVER NEED



Long Term Financing Available or Use Our Convenient Layaway Plan HOURS

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WE'RE EASY TO GET TO



THE STEREO SHOP MAKES THE DIFFERENCE