

CD-101
COMPACT DISC PLAYER
INSTRUCTION MANUAL

PLINIUS
THE HEART OF MUSIC



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All operational, technical and descriptive material in this publication is subject to change at any time without notice. For further product information or queries, please contact your Plinius dealer.

Plinius products are designed and manufactured by
Plinius Audio Limited, New Zealand.

Introduction

Congratulations on your decision to become the proud owner of this Plinius CD-101 Compact Disc player.

This manual has been prepared to help you understand the operation of your CD player, and to provide information about its design and the variety of ways it may be used.

We have designed and manufactured this CD player to reproduce your favourite music faithfully and accurately. With a little care and a full understanding of the operating recommendations in this manual, your Plinius CD-101 Compact Disc player will provide years of high-quality, trouble-free performance.

Please take the time to read this manual thoroughly before using your CD player.

SERIAL NUMBER _____

FINAL TEST CERTIFIED BY _____

Design Philosophy

From a distance you can see that the design of the Plinius products is more than an applied styling exercise to the front panel. We have started from the ground up to produce a casing for our electronics that is unrivalled in its physical strength and visual simplicity.

Wherever possible we have reduced the number of parts needed and then invested massively in refining and producing the remaining parts to the highest quality achievable with state of the art computer controlled machines allied with expert craftsman. Examples of this approach include the hydraulically formed corners on the amplifiers giving much greater strength and the one piece housing for the remote control that looks, feels and genuinely is robust.

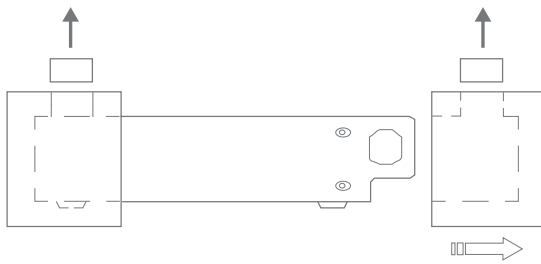
As with music that you are not familiar with, truly innovative new designs can take time to understand and enjoy. How often have you heard music that you were first unsure of, that over repeated listening, has become a firm favourite?

Our designs are fundamentally different to many other companies, and we hope that you will take the time to explore their unique character and qualities because we have not made them different simply to be different. We genuinely believe that their visual and tactile qualities do improve the experience of listening to music and that is our design goal!

A stylized, handwritten-style logo for 'ROSS.S'. The letters are bold and black, with a thick, dark brushstroke underline that sweeps from left to right, ending under the 'S'.

Ross Stevens
DESIGN DIRECTOR

Unpacking



Open the box from the top and remove the accessories from the foam end caps. You may now proceed to lift the unit from the box. Once the unit is removed you can proceed with the removal of the foam end caps. These caps are designed to fit on the front and back of the unit for maximum protection. Retain the packaging for future transportation of this unit.

Placement & Ventilation

This Plinius product may operate at a moderately high temperature, especially during extended listening sessions. With this in mind, we recommend the following guidelines for placement and ventilation:

- The ideal location is upon a rigid stand, away from direct contact with any temperature sensitive materials, furniture or deep pile carpets.
- Ventilation through and around the amplifier should be kept unimpeded.
- Ensure heat vents (slots in the base and lid) are not covered or restricted in any way.
- Equipment racks should be of an open type with no closed side panels and no closed front or rear panels. Ensure a minimum of 100mm clearance on all sides of your Plinius unit to other equipment and the shelf above. If the unit is in an enclosed cabinet, the clearance should be greater than 200mm on all sides. Ensure the space between the chassis and shelf below the unit is unobstructed at all times.
- When stacking separate audio components, apply the minimum clearances above, as well as a minimum of 400mm clearance above the top unit for suitable airflow.
- NOTE: This unit has been designed for use in moderate climates only, not for tropical conditions.

The design of this Plinius product incorporates a very high level of mechanical decoupling of the input and output. It can however still be influenced by acoustical feedback in the operating environment. The use of acoustic cones or a suitably spiked amplifier stand or table may further enhance the performance of this amplifier. Consult your Plinius dealer for further advice if required.

Care & Maintenance

With simple care and maintenance your Plinius product can be kept looking and operating like new for many years to come.

MAINTAINING THE CONNECTORS

Exposed connectors such as the RCA connectors will be subject to environmental factors, and over time the surface may degrade. This can be greatly reduced by fitting readily available 'RCA caps' to reduce the effects of environmental elements on the RCA connectors. These RCA caps or RCA shorting caps can also provide sonic benefits. Connector cleaning products are also available to clean the RCA and cable connectors and frequent checks and cleaning will help maintain a good signal connection.

NOTE: DO NOT use RCA shorting caps on output connectors or power amplifier input connectors. Use RCA shorting caps on unused preamplifier stage input connectors only. Standard RCA shielding caps can be used on any unused input or output connectors.

MAINTAINING THE SWITCHES

Switches should be maintained by using each various switch setting periodically. Even if a switch or a switch setting is not used, it is a good idea to toggle small switches and turn rotary switches through the full range of the switch several times in succession to keep the contacts active. Performing this simple action will promote longevity of the switch contacts.

SURFACE CLEANING

From time to time you may wish to clean the surface of your Plinius equipment to remove dust, or any material build up from the atmosphere or on commonly used controls. Your Plinius product is made up of parts that have a hard anodised or a powder coat finish and will clean easily without being damaged.

Cleaning should be carried out using a soft cleaning cloth, dry or with either a small amount of water or a very mild surface cleaner while observing the following guidelines:

- As a safety precaution, always switch the equipment off before cleaning
- Always use a cloth that is soft and clean
- Never use abrasives or polishing compounds anywhere on the unit
- Never apply liquid directly to the surface of the unit
- Use the cloth dry or with mild surface cleaners of either liquid or foaming type
- Apply only small amounts of cleaner to the cloth
- DO NOT rub the surface but wipe clean only. Excessive rubbing may dull powder coat or wear the screen printed text.

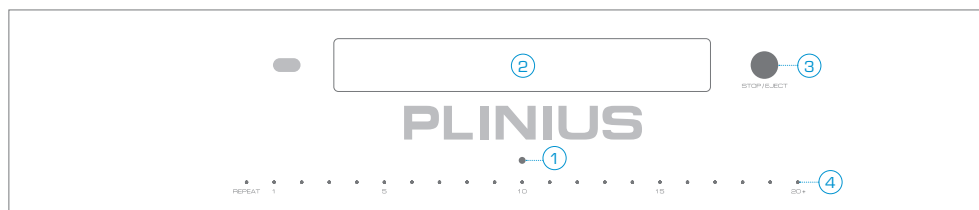
Precautions



PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS
BEFORE OPERATING YOUR NEW COMPACT DISC PLAYER.

- This Compact Disc player operates at hazardous voltage levels. We recommend that any work requiring removal of the lid be referred to a suitably qualified and experienced service technician.
- DO NOT earth any output terminals or connect any of these terminals together without following the instructions in this manual or seeking qualified assistance.
- DO NOT place this Compact Disc player in any position where liquids or any foreign material may accidentally enter it.
- DO NOT connect any voltage source, short circuit, earth/ground or appliance (other than suitable audio preamplifiers) to the Compact Disc player output terminals.
- DO NOT use discs that are scratched or damaged. This may lead to unintended operation or malfunction.
- DO NOT expose the unit to dripping or splashing.
- DO NOT place objects filled with liquids on the unit, e.g. vases.
- DO NOT place sources of naked flame on the unit, e.g. candles.

Front Panel Functions



1. POWER LED

A blue LED on the centre front panel indicates that the power is on. When first switched on, the LED will vary in brightness until the initialisation sequence is completed, after which the LED remains lit.

2. COMPACT DISC DRAWER

The CD is inserted in this drawer, which is controlled by the Stop/Eject button.

3. STOP/EJECT BUTTON

Used to open and close the Compact Disc drawer and to stop a CD from playing.

4. DISPLAY LED'S

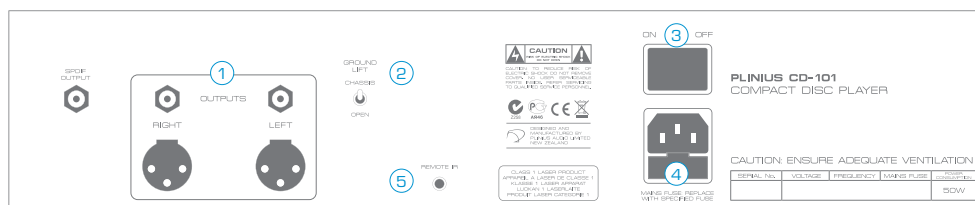
These small white LED's communicate the activities of the Compact Disc player.

- When the Compact Disc drawer is empty all display LED's will be off.
- After inserting a CD and closing the drawer, LED 1 will illuminate and flash showing that the CD is being read.
- To identify the number of tracks on a CD, a series of LED's will illuminate to display the 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th and/or 20+ tracks. Illuminating every fifth track assists for easy identification of track numbers from a distance.
 - A CD with less than 20 tracks will illuminate the first & every fifth LED leading up to & including the final track number. E.g. a 13 track CD will light LED's 1, 5, 10 and 13.
 - A CD with more than 20 tracks will illuminate the first and every fifth LED up to and including the 20+ LED. The final track number of the additional tracks past 20+ is also illuminated. E.g. a 32 track CD will light LED's 1, 5, 10, 15 and 20+. Past track 20, LED's 1, 5, 10 and 12 will illuminate to indicate tracks 21, 25, 30 and 32.
- To identify the track number playing on a CD, the corresponding LED number will illuminate and be brighter in comparison to other LED's and will vary in brightness while the track is playing.
 - When a track number higher than 20 is being played, the 20+ LED will vary in brightness as well as an additional LED to indicate the track number. Eg for track 23, the 20+ LED will light as well as the 3 LED (20+ and 3 = 23).
 - When a track higher than 40 plays, all display LED's will go out except for 20+, which will flash on and off.
- When the Repeat function is activated the Repeat LED will illuminate.
- When a CD track is paused the corresponding track number LED will flash.

Rear Panel Functions

The rear panel incorporates all the terminals for connecting the output signal to your preamplifier, AV receiver or integrated amplifier and mains supply.

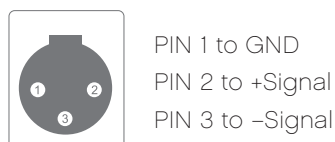
Please remember that your Plinius CD-101 Compact Disc player is a high quality electronic instrument capable of an exceptional level of performance. Be sure that you understand your system's requirements fully before you make any connection to this Compact Disc player.



1. OUTPUT TERMINALS

Connections for preamplifiers or integrated amplifiers are provided on the rear panel. Connections are available for analog single ended RCA, and balanced XLR cables, as well as SPDIF digital output. Note that the only time the analog outputs are 'live' is when the Compact Disc player is playing a track. The SPDIF output is live any time the Compact Disc player is switched on.

The XLR output pin configuration used in all Plinius products is:



NOTE: Because of the way balanced XLR outputs are configured it is not recommended to connect both XLR and RCA at the same time.

2. GROUND LIFT SWITCH

This switch allows the signal ground to be disconnected from the chassis. In some installations a hum loop may exist due to duplicate ground paths from different equipment. Use this switch to remove the connection from 0V to ground thus allowing some flexibility in your particular set-up.

3. MAINS SWITCH

The heavy-duty rocker switch turns the Mains/Line Power to the amplifier ON or OFF. The amplifier draws a moderately high current when switched on, so it is not good practice to rapidly turn the Mains switch on and off repeatedly.

4. MAINS POWER CORD IEC SOCKET

This connector is where the mains supply cable from your wall connects to the Compact Disc player. A fuse holder is mounted within this connection, and it holds a mains fuse to provide surge and overload protection for your Compact Disc player.

5. REMOTE IR SOCKET

This socket is for connecting to an external remote control sender. Some companies manufacture these devices to enable multi-room remote control. Please see your Plinius dealer for further advice.

Remote Control Functions

The CD-101 features a full function remote to control all actions of the unit. This section details the buttons of the CD-101 remote and how they are used.

1. REPEAT

Press this button and the repeat light on the front panel will light up. The CD-101 will now play all tracks on the CD as normal, and then repeat all tracks from track 1 in an endless loop. It does not repeat one track only, it repeats the entire contents of the CD.

2. DISPLAY

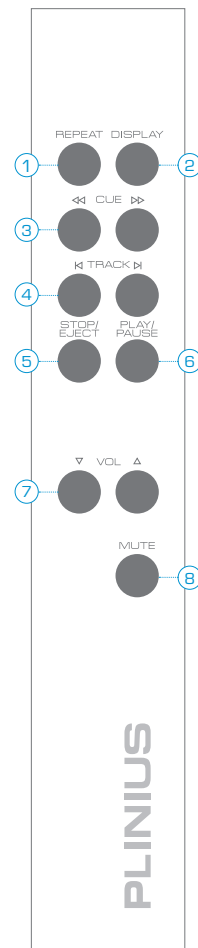
The display button on the remote enables you to quickly adjust the display brightness. Use this button to toggle between high, low, and off settings. Note that whenever the Compact Disc drawer is ejected to change a CD, the display will automatically revert to full brightness.

3. CUE BUTTONS

Use these two buttons to cue through the track you are listening to. Press and hold the right side button to cue forward through the track, or press and hold the left side button to cue backwards through the track. Once the start or end of the track is reached, Cue will continue into the next track.

4. TRACK BUTTONS

Use these two buttons to go forward (right side button) or back (left side button) through the tracks on the CD. Press the button once to skip to the next track on the CD, or hold down to skip through multiple tracks. The track currently selected will be brightly lit. When playing a CD, press the back button once to revert to the start of the current track. Pressing the back button again will skip back to the previous track.



5. STOP/EJECT

If the Compact Disc player is playing a CD, pressing this button will stop play and return to track 1. Pressing the button again will open the Compact Disc drawer so the CD can be changed.

6. PLAY/PAUSE

Press the Play button to begin playing the CD at the track selected. The display LED corresponding to the track that is being played will vary in brightness. Press the Play button again, and the track will pause, designated by the LED flashing. If the Compact Disc drawer is open, pressing play will shut the drawer and start playing the CD from track 1.

7. VOLUME CONTROL


Use these two buttons to control the volume level of a Plinius integrated amplifier or preamplifier. The right side button increases volume, while the left side button decreases the volume. Briefly press either button to make fine adjustments to the volume level. Hold down either button to continually adjust the volume level. Note that these buttons do not control the CD-101 Compact Disc player, and are included only to remove the need for two remotes, if more than one Plinius product is in your system.

8. MUTE

Pressing this button toggles a Plinius integrated amplifier or preamplifier in and out of mute. Note that this button does not control the CD-101 Compact Disc player, and is included only to remove the need for two remotes, if more than one Plinius product is in your system.

Installation & Operation



WARNING: RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK. TERMINALS MARKED WITH  SHOULD BE CONSIDERED HAZARDOUS LIVE AT ALL TIMES.

This Compact Disc player operates at hazardous voltage levels. We recommend that any work requiring removal of the lid be referred to a suitably qualified and experienced service technician. DO NOT place this Compact Disc player in any position where liquids or any foreign material may accidentally enter it.



PLEASE READ & UNDERSTAND THE PRECAUTIONS WITHIN THIS MANUAL FOR PLACEMENT & OPERATION OF THIS PRODUCT.

CONNECTIONS

Connections to your Plinius CD-101 should be made in the same order as they are listed in this section. DO NOT attempt to connect your Plinius CD-101 until you have read and fully understood these instructions.

Although these instructions refer to the connection of the CD-101 to a Preamplifier, the CD-101 can also be safely installed into multimedia systems by following the same installation guidelines. Should you require further assistance, please contact your Plinius dealer.

OUTPUT TERMINALS

The connection of the outputs of the Plinius CD-101 must be made by an 'instructed person' or by suitable ready made interconnect cables only. Connections for preamplifiers or integrated amplifiers are provided to the left of the rear panel. Connections are available for analogue single ended RCA, and balanced XLR cables, as well as SPDIF digital output.

If using single-ended RCA outputs, connect your CD-101 to the RCA inputs on the back of the preamplifier. Make sure you connect the red coded cable to the red RIGHT RCA output, and the black (or white) cable to the black LEFT RCA output. Also make sure the RCA connectors are a snug fit and are inserted all the way in.

For XLR connection, make sure you connect the RIGHT XLR output and LEFT XLR output of the CD-101 to the right and left inputs of your Preamplifier respectively. Also make sure the XLR connectors click into place.

NOTE: The only time the analogue outputs are 'live' is when the Compact Disc player is playing a track. The SPDIF output is live at any time while the unit is switched on. DO NOT connect XLR and RCA at the same time, use only one or the other.

TERMINATION QUALITY

Quality of the connections must be examined to ensure that high-performance, trouble-free operation is enjoyed. Check that all interconnection cables are snug fitting and inserted all the way in. In the case of balanced XLR sockets, ensure that they click in positively.

CONNECTING THE MAINS SUPPLY

Firstly, check that the mains supply voltage printed on the rear of this unit is similar to the mains supply voltage in your area. If in doubt, please consult your Plinius dealer. Mains supply power connection is via the plug-in lead supplied with your Plinius CD-101 Compact Disc player. Where possible, check the wall outlet is switched OFF, then connect the local mains plug end of the lead to the wall outlet. Check the unit is switched OFF, and connect the IEC end of the cable to the IEC socket at the back of the CD-101. With the cord fully connected, switch the wall outlet ON.

Now that your CD-101 is configured correctly, switch the power switch on the rear panel to ON. The display LED will cycle in brightness for approximately ten seconds as the internal circuitry stabilises. You can now enjoy your new Plinius CD-101 Compact Disc player.

NOTE: This unit must be connected to a mains socket outlet with a protective earthing connection. The wall outlet socket or mains switch must be accessible at all times in case of emergency.

WARM-UP PERIOD

You will find that the Plinius CD-101 will become noticeably 'purer' in sound after being on for a period of time. We usually recommend waiting at least 24 hours before expecting the best quality of sound reproduction.

Product Features

REMOTE CONTROL

Provided with your Plinius CD-101 is an 11 function remote control. Two AAA batteries power the remote, and these are replaced by removing the two screws on the base of the remote that hold the battery compartment in place. The bottom end of the remote is now free to slide out for access to the batteries. Replace the two batteries, taking care to refit the new ones with correct polarity.

DISPLAY STANDBY

The display has a time out feature, which will cause the display to shut down after 10 minutes once the CD has stopped. The display will reactivate when any function is next used.

MAINS/LINE FUSE

A Mains/Line fuse is fitted within the IEC socket on the rear of the Compact Disc player. A small drawer at the bottom of this socket may be removed (after the IEC plug is removed) by levering it out with a flat blade screwdriver. The fuse fitted should be rated at no greater than that specified on the rear panel.



IMPORTANT: DO NOT FIT A FUSE WITH A HIGHER RATING.

NOTE: Fuse failure may indicate a severe problem. Should the Compact Disc player continue to exhibit mains fuse failure contact your Plinius dealer.

INTERNAL FUSES

The CD-101 features internal fuse links for each of the circuits powered by a separate voltage from the transformer. These fuse links are designed to fail in the unlikely event of an error in any individual sub-circuit. If you suspect internal fuse failure, please contact your Plinius dealer.

COPY PROTECTED COMPACT DISCS

Please understand that the CD-101 has been designed to meet the standards as laid out in the Redbook CD specification. Copy protected CD's do not conform to this standard, and are manufactured with deliberately introduced errors in an attempt to frustrate those who may want to make digital copies. These schemes also compromise the audio potential of the compact disc format.

The firmware in the CD-101 has been designed to enable most copy protected CD's to be played. However it is possible that if a non-standard CD is inserted, it may be unreadable or create errors. If this occurs the power LED will be the only LED lit after the CD initialisation sequence. Take the CD out of the Compact Disc player to remedy the error condition. Any issues of this nature should be made known to the

retailer the disc was purchased from, and to the record company.

NOTE: Scratched or damaged discs can adversely affect the performance and function of your CD-101 Compact Disc player. Should you experience problems in playing standard Redbook discs, please inspect the condition of the disc surface.

Troubleshooting

NO SOUND FROM THE UNIT

If the unit is not reproducing audio take the following steps:

- Check the unit is correctly connected to an appropriate input on the Preamplifier or Integrated Amplifier. Refer to the Installation & Operation section on page 11.
- Check the CD is playing, and not paused. The track LED will be varying in brightness when playing, or flashing when paused
- Check the Preamplifier or Integrated Amplifier is set to the input that is connected to the unit.
- Check the volume on the Preamplifier or Integrated Amplifier is at a point just below the normal listening level. DO NOT turn the volume up to maximum in case the sound begins to come through the speakers.
- Try another CD or a track you are familiar with. This will help ensure it is not a silent passage at the start or within the current track.

POWER FAILURE/NO POWER LED

The unit may have suffered mains fuse failure or internal protection fuse failure.

- Mains fuse failure: Check the mains fuse and replace if needed. Refer to the Product Features section on page 13 for further information. NOTE: If the unit immediately or repeatedly suffers mains fuse failure, there may be a major problem and you should contact your Plinius dealer.
- Internal fuse failure: This must be checked by a technician. If you suspect an internal fuse has activated, contact your Plinius dealer.

NO DISPLAY LED'S

The display features a time out function which will switch all display LED's off 10 minutes after the disc has finished playing. Using any CD-101 function will return the display to operation.

Specifications

FREQUENCY RESPONSE

20Hz to 20kHz \pm 0.2dB

DISTORTION

<0.01% THD at rated input level

HUM & NOISE

-100dB at rated input level,
A Weighted

MAXIMUM OUTPUT LEVEL

2V RMS into 10k ohms or higher

OUTPUT SOURCE IMPEDANCE

Typically 100 ohms

DIGITAL OUTPUT IMPEDANCE

75 ohms

POWER/CURRENT CONSUMPTION

50VA

0.1A (23W) Idle/Standby

DIMENSIONS

Height: 105mm (4")

Width: 450mm (17.75")

Depth: 400mm (15.75")

Weight: 10kg (22lbs)

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