# RCAJ2 Installation



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### **Section 1: About This Manual**

This manual covers the replacement of the RCA jacks in Dynaco's Stereo 120 and Stereo 80 power amplifiers. This kit, RCAJ2, replaces the original RCAJ kit.

Some would ask if we really need a manual for something so straightforward? Probably not, but a few pictures will definitely increase your confidence and decrease the time needed for a successful installation.

# Who Should Attempt this Project?

You can build this kit if you can:

- 1. solder (using normal rosin core solder and a soldering iron).
- 2. use simple hand tools like screwdrivers, wire cutters, and pliers.
- 3. make basic voltmeter measurements
- 4. read and follow directions.

#### It helps if you:

- 1. know a bit about electronics, or
- 2. have a friend who knows a bit about electronics

# Important Safety Notes

By purchasing this kit, you have agreed to hold AkitikA, LLC harmless for any injuries you may receive in its assembly and/or use. To prevent injuries:

- Wear safety glasses when soldering to prevent eye injuries.
- Always unplug the power before working on the amplifier.
- Large capacitors hold lots of energy for a long time. Before you put your hands into the amplifier:
  - o Pull the AC plug!
  - Wait 1 full minute for the capacitors to discharge!
- Remove jewelry and rings from your hands and wrists, or anything that might dangle into the amplifier. Remove loose objects from your shirt-pockets that might fall into the amplifier.
- If working in the amplifier, keep one hand in your pocket, especially if you're near the power supply or power supply wires. This can prevent serious shocks.
- Build with a buddy nearby. If you've ignored all the previous advice, they can dial 911 or get you to the hospital.

# **Section 2: Preliminaries**

#### Safety First

Power down and unplug any equipment before you work on it. Allow 3 minutes for the charge on internal capacitors to dissipate.

### Assembling the RCAJ2

Assemble the RCA Jack and grounding lug to the PCB: Ideally, you'll have a nut driver and a pair of pliers to tighten the connector.

- 1. Make sure that the plier jaws only contact the RCA jack shoulder that sits closest to the PCB. If you're extra careful, you could line the jaws with a piece of masking tape to prevent scratches.
- 2. It's easiest to bend the ground lug a bit before assembly. Keep the bend far enough from the large center hole so that you won't be fighting with the bend as you assemble the jack.
- 3. Notice the orientation of the signal lug in the center of the RCA jack, facing up so gravity will help with soldering.
- 4. The ground lug could be on either side of the assembly, the idea is to keep it from interfering with the mounting holes.
- 5. You will make two such assemblies:
  - a. Red insulator RCA jack for the Right Channel
  - b. White insulator RCA jack for the Left Channel

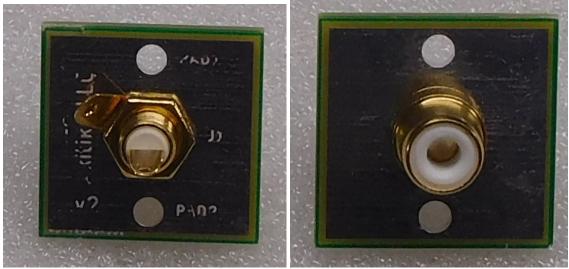


Figure 1-Front and Back of the RCA jack assembly

# Removing the Old Jacks

Often the old jacks were installed with 4-40 screws and nuts. That's the easy scenario. In this case, you will:

- 1. Disconnect and label the RCA jack wires, noting left, right, signal and ground.
- 2. Remove the old 4-40 hardware. It will not be re-used.

In some cases the jacks were installed with rivets. In that case, you'll have to drill the rivets out to remove the old jacks. Be careful that the fragments of the rivets are accounted for so they won't end up causing short circuits on the circuit boards.

#### Installation into the ST80 or ST120

The following picture show installation into the left channel of a Stereo 80 power amplifier. The installation is similar for the right channel, and for the Stereo 120 power

amplifier.



Figure 2-Installing the left channel jack in a Stereo 80