Mapleshade

CLEARVIEW AC POWER CORD KIT VERSION OWNER'S MANUAL

PERFORMANCE AND DESIGN

In the course of ten years of continuous experimentation in wire design, we have found that good speaker cable configurations invariably translate, with minor modifications, into good AC power cords. Given how pleased we were with the first-rate sound of the Golden Double Helix Speaker Cable, converting it to a power cord was an obvious next step. The results were a resounding success, more than we had hoped for.

The conductors of the Clearview AC Power Cord are identical to the speaker cable; the field canceling double helix configuration is also the same. The grounding scheme is a modified version of the speaker cable's approach.

The IEC connector is a new design, produced for us to our specification. The design minimizes the dielectric absorption. The dielectric is an unusually good-sounding one, selected after extensive comparative listening tests. The resulting IEC plug has, by a surprising margin, the best sonics we've heard. Similarly, the AC wall plug we use was selected by ear. It sounds better than any of the standard audiophile "hospital grade" plugs, all of which have far too much mass of bad-sounding insulation.

You have a real good-sounding CD player, amp, turntable or recorder. You just know it could sound *great* with a first-rate AC cord. No dice, the piece doesn't have a removable cord. Cheer up! Since this comes up so often, we've developed a kit to change your cord easily—without diving into the bowels of your gear wielding a soldering iron. Couldn't be simpler. You get a MKI or a MKII Clearview Double Helix Power Cord Kit. It comes with prepared and marked bare wire ends plus insulated copper butt splices that you simply squeeze on with pliers—no soldering. Just cut your component's captive cord 3 inches from the box and scrape bare the conductors at the cut end, slip on the butt splices and squeeze. By the way, it'll sound better than if you'd paid somebody $100 to cut a

hole in the back of your chassis and hard-wire in an IEC jack (all that extra IEC jack and mating plug is a lot of bad-sounding dielectric).

INSTALLATION TIPS

DO NOT USE ANY BREAK-IN DEVICES OF ANY KIND ON OUR WIRES! They will seriously degrade the sound. Use only music to break in our wires.

1. For unterminated Clearview Power Cords: gold tape marks the unterminated end of the hot wire. The other twisted pair is the neutral power wire. The green bridging wire between the two twisted pairs is the ground.
2. Cut off the captive power cord on your equipment three inches outside the equipment enclosure. Remove at least half an inch of insulation on all the wire ends. If you have a two-wire captive cord, connect the hot wire bare end (color-coded black) to the hot unterminated end of our wire (either by soldering or twisting together or using a crimped butt splice; for twisted together wires use an electrician's wire nut). Then do the same for the Clearview neutral wire and the neutral bare end of the captive cord (color coded white). Leave the green bridging wire loose and unconnected, and make sure any bare spots are wrapped with clear polypropylene tape.
3. If you have a three wire captive cord, then connect the bare end of the captive ground wire (color-coded green) to the center of the green bridging wire. Make sure 1/4″ of the center of the green wire has been scraped bare of insulation. Either solder this connection or twist on the bare captive ground tightly and wrap with clear polypropylene tape.
4. To get absolute maximum sonic benefit, it is worthwhile to try reversing the captive cord's hot and the neutral connection to the Clearview Cord before permanently crimping the power wires together (just twist the bare ends together and wrap temporarily with clean polypropylene tape). One of the two orientations will sound much better than the other.
5. If you're attaching the unterminated Clearview cord inside your equipment enclosure, use the same connections as above and solder each termination. Make sure that wherever the wire passes through the chassis,

each strand of the Clearview is wrapped with plenty of clear polypropylene tape to make sure that no metal edge of the chassis can cut through the thin insulation of the Clearview.

6. Install with the two strands of the Double Helix at least 6 inches apart over most of the wire run, preferably one or two feet apart. We usually use thread, string or tape to suspend and separate the strands.

7. Never lay this (or any other wire in your system) on a carpeted or plastic tile floor—nor along any plastic molding or plastic wall covering. The proximity of bad-sounding plastic dielectric will seriously degrade even the best cables.

8. DO NOT PLACE THIS POWER CORD WHERE IT WILL BE WALKED ON. DO NOT EXPOSE THE CORD TO ABRASION FROM SHARP METAL EDGES. INTEGRAL TO THE GOOD-SOUNDING DESIGN OF THIS CORD IS THE USE OF EVERY THIN DIELECTRIC COATING ON THE CONDUCTORS AND A THIN POLYMER PROTECTIVE SLEEVE. THESE DIELECTRICS HAVE MORE THAN ADEQUATE SAFETY MARGIN TO WITHSTAND POWER COMPANY VOLTAGE SURGES. THEY ARE NOT DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND REPEATED ABRASION FROM BEING WALKED ON OR FROM RUBBING ON SHARP METAL EDGES.

9. For Mark II versions of Power Cord, make sure the “outrigger” ground wires are spread at least 6 inches to the left and to the right of the double helix power conductors.