

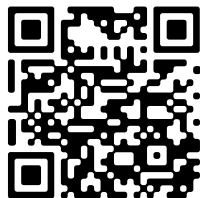
ROCKVILLE

PPA53

PRO 1U RACK MOUNT PRE-AMPLIFIER
w/BLUETOOTH, USB, & COMPUTER INTERFACE

OWNER'S MANUAL

ATTENTION: WATCH THIS VIDEO BEFORE FIRST USE!



Who reads manuals?

Scan the **QR code** or go to **rockvillesupport.com/ppa53** to access how-to video(s), the owner's manual, and other important information you may need to get the most out of your item.

If you prefer written instructions, please read ahead!

With Rockville you get many options.

Missing items? If you ordered a bundle that includes more than one product and you are missing part of your bundle then it just means your order shipped from two different warehouses. You will receive the remaining items very soon. If you have any concerns or inquiries, feel free to call our customer support center at 1-646-758-0144, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

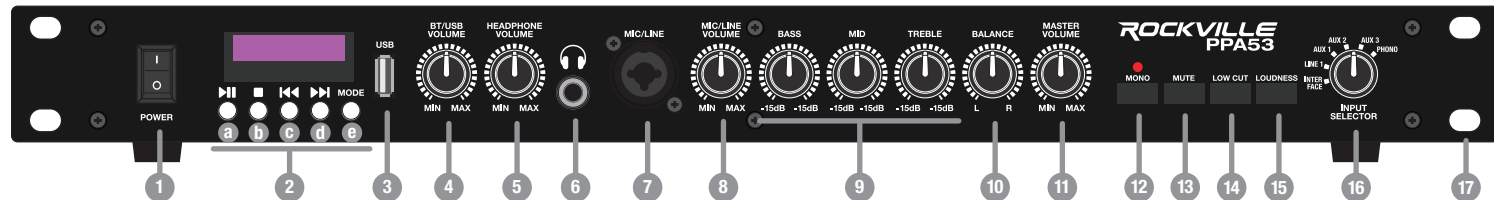
Thank you for purchasing this Rockville PPA53 Rack Mount Pre-Amplifier. Please read this installation guide carefully for proper use of your PPA53. Should you need assistance, please call our technical help line at 1-646-758-0144, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



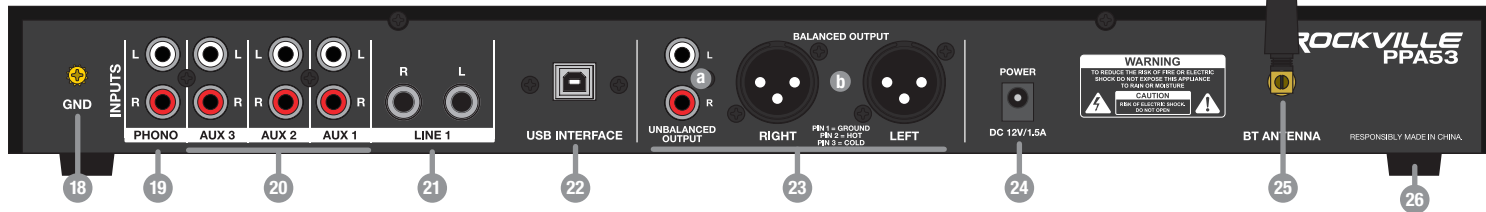
- To reduce risk of electric shock, never open the unit. There are no serviceable parts; refer service to the Rockville service center.
- Do not expose this unit to any kind of moisture.
- Please ensure that the unit is situated in a properly ventilated area.
- Make sure the unit is placed on a level and stable surface.

Functions



1. Power switch
2. BT/USB Player:
 - a. **Play/Pause:** press to begin audio playback. During playback, press to pause and press again to resume.
 - b. **Stop:** press to stop playback. Goes back to the beginning of current track (USB only).
 - c. **Previous:** press to go to the previous track. Press and hold to decrease volume.
 - d. **Next:** press to go to the next track. Press and hold to increase volume.
 - e. **Mode:** use to switch between USB and Bluetooth input
3. USB input (MP3, WMA, and WAV files. Drives must be formatted as FAT or FAT 32)
4. BT/USB volume: adjusts volume of USB or Bluetooth input.
5. Headphone volume control: adjusts volume of the headphone output.
6. 1/4" Headphone output
7. XLR and 1/4" Combo Mic/Line input
8. Mic/Line volume: adjust the volume of the mic/line input.
9. 3-band EQ: used to adjust the relative level of low, mid, and high frequencies.
10. Balance: adjusts the level of the left and right channels. The 12 o'clock position is the point of equal balance.
11. Master volume: controls the overall volume of the unit (only from inputs listed on the Input Selector knob).
12. Mono/Stereo: when the unit is in Mono mode (LED will be lit) the two stereo channels are blended together to produce monophonic sound. This blend minimizes rumble and surface noise in old monophonic records. Push the button a second time (LED goes out) to get back to stereo.

13. Mute: pushing this button reduces the volume of the amplifier output signal. Please note that muting has no effect on the Mic/Line or BT/USB input volume.
14. Low cut: allows you to cut off frequencies below 100Hz.
15. Loudness: controls the loudness compensation circuit, which at low-to-medium volume boosts the bass and treble response. This gives the audio a full, richer sound when playing at low volume for minimal loss of clarity or bass response.
16. Input selector: allows user to select between INTERFACE, LINE 1, AUX1, AUX2, AUX3, and PHONO inputs.
17. Rack ears: allows for unit rack mount using four attaching screws and washers (not included).
18. Ground point: use in conjunction with phono input.



19. (1) RCA PHONO input
20. (3) RCA AUX inputs
21. L/R 1/4" Line inputs
22. USB Interface: used to connect to a computer.
23. Master Outputs
 - a. Unbalanced RCA Stereo output
 - b. Balanced L/R XLR outputs
24. DC 12V power input
25. Bluetooth antenna
26. Removable feet: Use a Phillips head screw driver to remove the retaining screw. The rubber foot will come away with the screw. Be sure to store in a safe place for future use.

Operation

Bluetooth Pairing and Operation

1. Press the MODE button until you see “bt” flashing on the display. The unit will automatically enter into pairing mode.
2. Ensure that your device is in Bluetooth mode and discoverable.
3. Find “ROCKVILLE” on your device’s list of available Bluetooth connections and select it.
4. Once successfully paired, the word “bt” will stop flashing and remain solid.
5. Control play/pause and track selection from your device or the MP3 module.
6. There are three stages of volume control **which work independently of each other**. You can set the volume from your device, the MP3 module’s Previous/Next buttons (refer to page 4, item 2, c and d), or the BT/USB volume knob (page 4, item 4).

Please note: input from the USB port will override Bluetooth input. Make sure the BT antenna is connected and properly positioned. To attach the antenna, screw it onto the threaded output (at the right side of the rear panel) marked “BT”. Tighten the nut (using a small wrench if necessary) until it is secure. Do not overtighten. Now adjust the angle of the antenna as needed.

USB Interface

The PPA53 features a USB computer interface. It will work with any DAW such as Pro Tools or Ableton live. You can record the final mix into one stereo channel or record discrete left and right channels (split mono) in Pro Tools or any other DAW. Anything being played through the pre-amp will be recorded including the microphone input, as well as any source you are playing (either from BT/USB or the input selector knob). It will be summed to one stereo channel in your DAW or separate the left and right channels into split mono. You can also use Ableton live or any other software to play music as an input device on the preamp. So the interface is 2-way and you can use it as an input playback device or as an output recording device.

To engage the interface, set the input selector switch to the desired input source. If you are doing a live event, you can record the mixed output to your DAW. If you want to record guitar or vocals, you can connect your mic or instrument to the combo jack and then the interface to your computer. There are a couple of options when doing this, depending on what the input selector is set to. When the input is set to the USB interface, the PPA53 will record your instrument/voice in addition to whatever is playing from your DAW. It will be summed to one stereo track or split mono. You should note that if you want to monitor your mix, you will need to plug your headphones into your laptop or use external monitors. Alternatively, you can set the input source to an input that is inactive, and you will be able to record your instrument/voice onto its own separate track. Another really cool thing

you can do is play a song using aux or Bluetooth and plug a mic or instrument into the combo jack and record the final mixed track into your DAW in real time!

USB Operation

1. Inserting a USB flash drive into the USB port will set the PPA53 to USB mode and it will automatically begin to play music. The unit accepts MP3, WMA, and WAV files only. Drives must be formatted as FAT or FAT 32.
2. Playback functions are controlled via the MP3 module.
3. There are two stages of volume control **which work independently of each other**. You can set the volume from the MP3 module's Previous/Next buttons (refer to page 4, item 2, c and d) or the BT/USB volume knob (page 4, item 4).

Features

- Rockville PPA53 Preamp Pro 1U Rack Pre-Amplifier w/Bluetooth/USB/PC Interface
- Top of the line professional preamp with low noise and high sound quality
- Built in reliable Bluetooth audio playback with long range thanks to the external antenna
- Built in USB/computer interface allows you to record the master output to your DAW or to play songs from your favorite software on your computer
- Built in USB MP3 player
- (3) RCA aux inputs
- (1) RCA Phono Input for turntable use
- (1) Grounding terminal for turntable use
- (1) RCA output
- (1) XLR and 1/4" Combo jack front mic/line input
- (2) 1/4" Inputs
- (2) XLR outputs
- 1U rack mount size
- Built-in 3 band Equalizer (bass, mid, treble)
- Left/Right balance adjustment

Features (continued)

- Mono/Stereo selectable
- Mute
- Low cut filter
- Headphone output for listening or monitoring
- Loudness compensation circuit which at low-to-medium volume boosts the bass and treble response
- 100-240V worldwide voltage power adaptor

Specifications

General

- Product weight: 4.43 lbs
- Product dimensions: 18.89" x 6.49" x 1.73"

Impedance

- Mic: 1mV/3k ohms
- PHONO: 3mV/47k ohms
- Pre Output: maximum 5V/1k ohms

Total Harmonic Distortion

- Mic: <0.02%
- PHONO: <0.04%
- RCA Aux: <0.01%

Signal to Noise Ratio

- Mic: >70dB
- PHONO: >90dB
- RCA Aux: >100dB

Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
No power	1. Make sure the unit is plugged in and the power switch is in the ON position. 2. Check that the power cable is plugged in tightly to the unit.
No sound	1. Check that all appropriate cables are plugged in correctly. 2. Check the unit's volume settings as well as those of the signal source device. 3. Make sure your microphone is on. 4. Make sure proper input source is selected. 5. Make sure the Mute button is depressed.
Noise	1. Unplug input device(s) to see if the sound disappears. 2. Make sure you are using the proper cables. For ¼" cables, there are 3 types: instrument, TS (unbalanced), and TRS (balanced). Check the requirements of the connected gear and make sure you are using the appropriate cable. 3. Lower the volume settings on the unit and increase volume from the input source.
Buzzing sound	1. Make sure you are using a proper cable. For ¼" cables, there are 3 types: instrument, TS (unbalanced), and TRS (balanced). Check the requirements of the connected gear and make sure you are using the appropriate cable. 2. Check that all cables are plugged in correctly.
Bluetooth pairing fails/no sound	1. Check to see that both devices are turned on and that your Bluetooth device is discoverable. 2. Turn both devices off and then on again. 3. Make sure that the Bluetooth device is within 5 feet of the unit. 4. Move both devices away from other Bluetooth devices, microwaves, wireless routers, and other electronics. 5. Make sure that the unit is not connected to a previously paired device. 6. Make sure that all volume controls are set properly. This device features two stages of volume control, via the MP3 module's Prev/Next buttons (page 4, item 2, c and d) and the BT/USB volume knob. 7. Make sure the antenna is securely connected and properly positioned.
No USB playback	1. Make sure your USB flash drive is not damaged. 2. Check that the files on the media device are not corrupt. 3. Make sure the files are properly formatted (WAV, MP3, WMA). 4. USB drive must be formatted as FAT or FAT32. 5. Make sure that all volume controls are set properly. This device features two stages of volume control, via the MP3 module's Prev/Next buttons (page 4, item 2, c and d) and the BT/USB volume knob.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

Responsible party name: Rockville

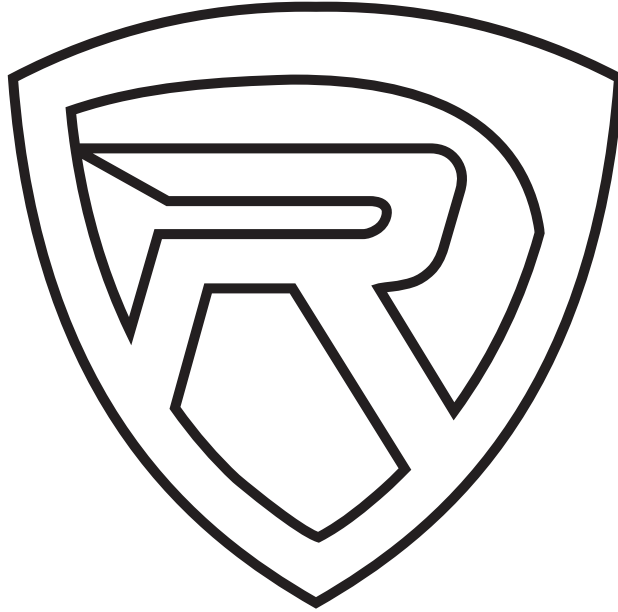
**Address: 600 Bayview Ave.
Entrance A
Inwood, NY 11096**

Hereby declares that the product PPA53 Rack Mount Pre-Amplifier complies with FCC rules as mentioned in the following paragraph:

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.



RockvilleAudio.com

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