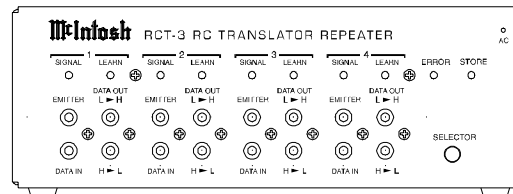




**OWNER'S  
MANUAL**

## Remote Control Translator - Repeater



**RCT-3**



## Thank You, Please Take A Moment, Customer Service and Table of Contents

### Thank You

For your decision to own this McIntosh RCT-3 Remote Control Translator - Repeater ranks you at the very top among discriminating music listeners. You now have "The Best." The McIntosh dedication to "Quality," is assurance that you will receive many years of musical enjoyment from this unit.

Please take a short time to read the information in this manual. We want you to be as familiar as possible with all the features and functions of your new McIntosh RCT-3. This will ensure that you receive all the performance

benefits this equipment can offer you, and that it will become a highly valued part of your home entertainment system.

### Please Take A Moment

The serial number, purchase date and McIntosh dealer name are important to you for possible insurance claim or future service. The serial number is located on the rear panel of the equipment. The spaces below have been provided for you to record that information:

**Thank You, Please Take A Moment,  
Customer Service and Table of Contents**

**Serial Number:**

**Purchase Date:**

**Dealer Name:**

**Customer Service**

If at any time you have questions about your RCT-3 Remote Control Translator - Repeater, please contact:

McIntosh Laboratory, Inc.  
2 Chambers Street  
Binghamton, New York 13903  
Phone: 607-723-3512  
FAX: 607-724-0549

Copyright 1997 © by McIntosh Laboratory, Inc.





**Thank You, Please Take A Moment,  
Customer Service and Table of Contents**

**Table of Contents**

Thank You .....	2	How to Perform the Learning Function .....	20
Please Take a Moment .....	2	How to Clear a Learned Function .....	23
Customer Service .....	3	How to Clear All Learned Functions .....	24
Table of Contents .....	4	Important Operation Information .....	25
Safety Instructions .....	5	Specifications .....	27
Introduction .....	10	Packing Instruction .....	27
Performance Features .....	10		
Installation .....	11		
Rear Panel Connection .....	12		
Side Panel Sensor .....	13		
How to Connect to the Front Panel .....	14		
Front Panel, Connections, Indicators and Control .....	18		

**IMPORTANT SAFETY  
INSTRUCTIONS!**

**PLEASE READ THEM BEFORE  
OPERATING THIS EQUIPMENT.**

 **WARNING SHOCK HAZARD -  
DO NOT OPEN.**  
 **AVIS RISQUE DE CHOC -  
NE PAS OUVRIR.**

**CAUTION**  
RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK  
DO NOT OPEN

**ATTENTION**  
DANGER D'ELECTROCUTION  
NE PAS OUVRIR

**NO USER-SERVICEABLE  
PARTS INSIDE. REFER  
SERVICING TO  
QUALIFIED PERSONNEL**

**General:**

- 1. Read all the safety and operating instructions, contained in this owner’s manual, before operating this equipment.
- 2. Retain this owner’s manual for future reference about safety and operating instructions.
- 3. Adhere to all warnings and operating instructions.



## Safety Instructions con't

4. Follow all operating and use instructions.
5. **Warning: To reduce risk of fire or electrical shock, do not expose this equipment to rain or moisture. This unit is capable of producing high sound pressure levels. Continued exposure to high sound pressure levels can cause permanent hearing impairment or loss. User caution is advised and ear protection is recommended when playing at high volumes.**
6. **Caution: to prevent electrical shock do not use this (polarized) plug with an extension cord, receptacle or other outlet unless the blades can be fully inserted to prevent blade exposure.**  
**Attention: pour pevenir les chocs elecriques pas utiliser cette fiche polarisee avec un prolongateur, une prise de courant ou un autre sortie de courant, sauf si les lames peuvent etre inserees afond ans en laisser aucune partie a decouvert.**
7. For added protection for this product during a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet and disconnect the antenna or cable system. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning or power line surges.
8. Do not use attachments not recommended in this owner's manual as they may cause hazards.

## Safety Instructions con't

### Installation:

9. Locate the equipment for proper ventilation. For example, the equipment should not be placed on a bed, sofa, rug, or similar surface that may block ventilation openings; or, placed in a built-in installation, such as a bookcase or cabinet, that may impede the flow of air through the ventilation openings.
10. Locate the equipment away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other appliance (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
11. Mount the equipment in a wall or cabinet only as described in this owner's manual
12. Do not use this equipment near water; for example, near

a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement or near a swimming pool, etc.

13. Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The equipment may fall, causing serious injury to a person, and serious damage to the product.

### Connection:

14. Connect this equipment only to the type of AC power source as marked on the unit.
15. Route AC power cords so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs,



## Safety Instructions con't

convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the instrument.

16. Do not defeat the inherent design features of the polarized plug. Non-polarized line cord adapters will defeat the safety provided by the polarized AC plug. If the plug should fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the grounding-type plug.
17. Do not overload wall outlets, extension cords or integral convenience receptacles as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.

### **Care of Equipment:**

18. Clean the instrument by dusting with a dry cloth.  
Unplug this equipment from the wall outlet and clean the panel with a cloth moistened with a window cleaner. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners.
19. Do not permit objects of any kind to be pushed and/or fall into the equipment through enclosure openings. Never spill liquids into the equipment through enclosure openings.
20. Unplug the power cord from the AC power outlet when left unused for a long period of time.



## Safety Instructions con't

### Repair of Equipment:

21. Unplug this equipment from the wall outlet and refer servicing to a qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
  - A. The AC power cord or the plug has been damaged,
  - B. Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled into the equipment,
  - C. The equipment has been exposed to rain or water,
  - D. The equipment does not operate normally by following the operating instructions contained within this owner's manual. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions, as an improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to its normal operation,
  - E. The equipment has been dropped or damaged in any way,
  - F. The equipment exhibits a distinct change in performance - this indicates a need for service.
22. Do not attempt to service beyond that described in the operating instructions. All other service should be referred to qualified service personnel.
23. When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by McIntosh or have the same characteristics as the



## Safety Instructions con't, Introduction and Performance Features

original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, or other hazards.

24. Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.

### Introduction

The McIntosh RCT-3 Remote Control Translator- Repeater allows other brand remote controlled products to be operated in a McIntosh system.

### Performance Features

- The RCT-3 can translate up to 22 IR (Infra-Red) commands of most other brand components. Four commands are continuous.
- Four individual translator circuits allow four other brand components to be controlled.
- Translator operates from McIntosh Remote Controls or Keypads.
- Control is possible with IR emitters or by data cables.

## Installation

- The four translator circuits are the same and can be used for almost any piece of other brand component.
- Easy learning, requires only a McIntosh Remote Control and the Remote Control of the other brand component.
- All four RCT-3 channels operate automatically as a Repeater, even though a channel(s) was setup as a Translator.

### Installation

The RCT-3 can be placed upright on a table or shelf, standing on its four feet. Cool operation ensures the longest possible operating life for any electronic instrument. Do not install the RCT-3 directly above a heat generating component such as a high powered amplifier.

Consideration should be given to allow for easy access of the RCT-3 for the Learning Operation Procedure, at least one foot of space to the left of the RCT-3 for placing the remote controls. If the RCT-3 is to be used as a repeater, the distance between the RCT-3, the other brand component(s) and the emitter device should be considered.

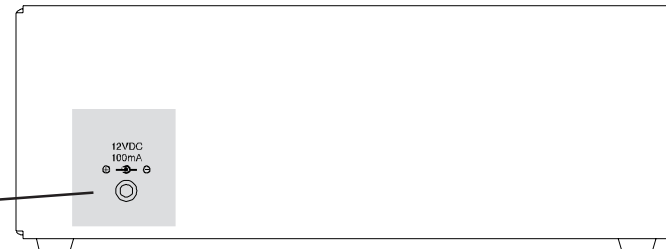


## How to Connect Rear Panel Connections

### Rear Panel Connection

Connect the RCT-3 Power Supply Adapter cable to the 12V connector on the back panel. Plug the Adapter into an AC outlet. The Front Panel green AC LED should turn on, which indicates the RCT-3 is in Run mode and ready for use.

To RCT-3 Power Supply

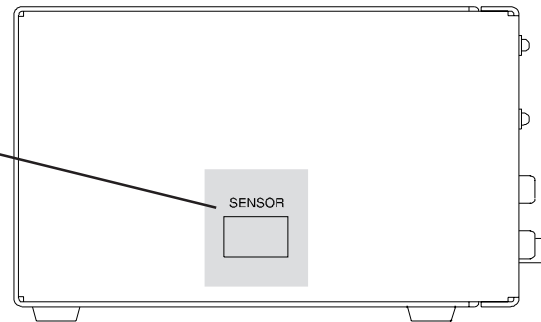


*NOTE: The RCT-3 External Power Supply must be connected to a live AC outlet*

## Side Panel Sensor

### Side Panel Sensor

Accepts IR signals from remote controls in order to perform the Translator learning process

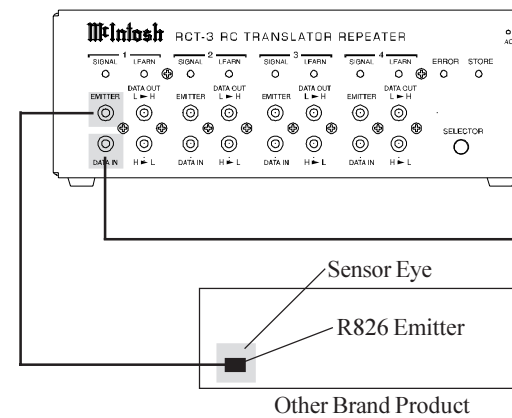




## How to Connect the Front Panel

### How to Connect the Front Panel

1. Connect a data cable from the DATA port on the McIntosh Control Center that corresponds to the component you wish to control, to any DATA IN (component 1, 2, 3 or 4) on the RCT-3.
2. Connect the cable of a McIntosh IR Emitter to the matching RCT-3 EMITTER jack. Attach the IR emitter to the component being controlled, either in front of, or near its IR sensor.



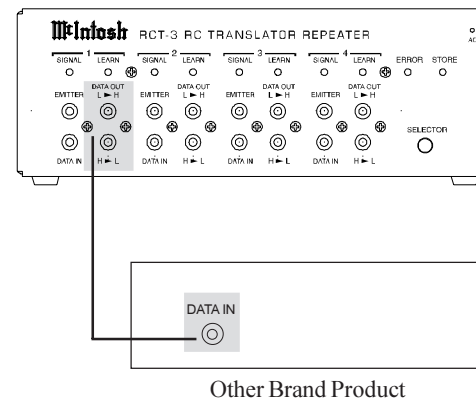




## How to Connect the Front Panel con't

### Data Output by Cable

1. Connect a Data cable from the appropriate RCT-3 DATA OUT jack to the DATA Input of the component being controlled.
2. The (L>H) DATA OUT feeds data signals consisting of positive pulses. The (H>L) DATA OUT feeds data signals consisting of negative pulses.





## How to Connect the Front Panel con't

*NOTE: Determine which DATA OUT to use by trying first one and then the other; use the one which works best. A Data cable consists of stereo or mono shielded wire with mini phone plugs on each end. Connections are to the tip (+) and sleeve (-) of the plugs. One Data cable, (McIntosh Part No. 170-202) is included with each RCT-3.*



## Front Panel Connections, Indicators and Control

Signal 1 LED flashes to indicate an adequate signal is being received to learn functions for all four components.

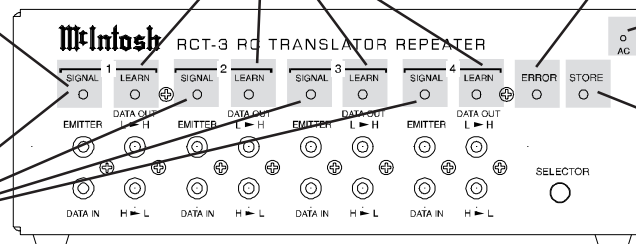
Learn LED flashes to indicate when a LEARN process is being successfully performed for each component.

Error LED flashes to indicate an unsuccessful operation has occurred in the learning process.

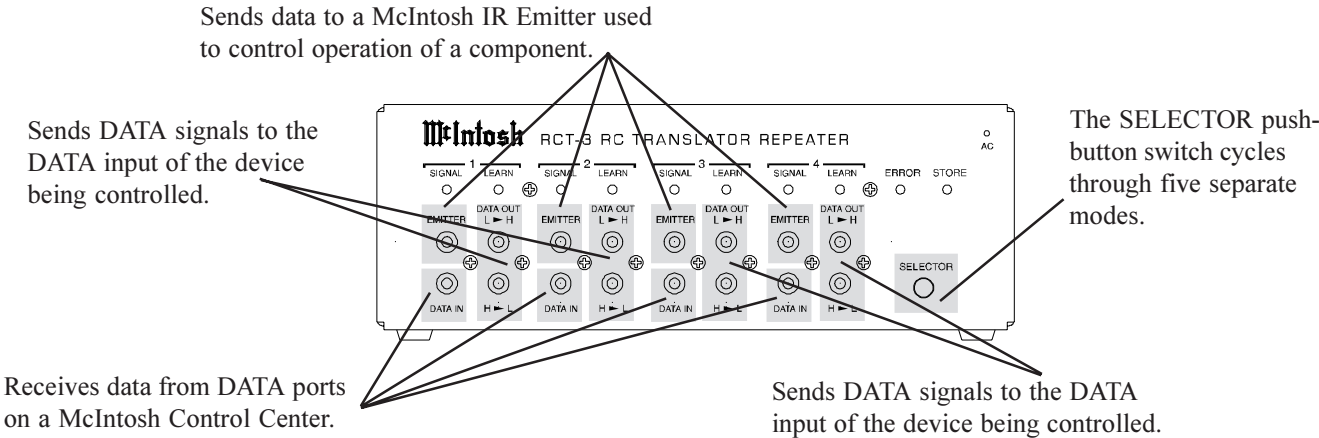
AC LED indicates that the RCT-3 is on and ready to operate.

Signal LED flashes to indicate signals are being processed to operate the component

Store LED flashes to indicate a successful learning operation has been performed.



## Front Panel Connections, Indicators and Control con't





## How to Perform the Learning Function

### How to Perform the Learning Function

A successful learning process requires an adequate IR signal from both the McIntosh and other brand remote controls. Make the following tests on all remote controls before attempting learning.

*NOTE: To properly observe the RCT-3 LED's, you must look at them straight on and not from an angle.*

1. Press the SELECTOR push-button once. This selects

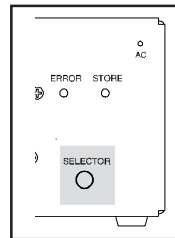


Figure 1

component 1 for both learning and testing remote control IR signal strength.

*NOTE: The component 1 LEARN LED will start flashing*

2. Position the other brand remote control pointing toward, and approximately 1 to 3 inches from, the input sensor on the left side panel of the RCT-3.
3. Press any key on the remote control to determine if it is aimed correctly and its IR output signal is adequate. The component 1 SIGNAL LED

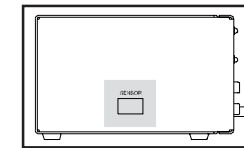


Figure 2

## How to Perform the Learning Function con't

will flash if it is receiving a good signal. If the LED does not flash, reposition the remote control until an adequate signal is received.

*NOTE: Since the remote controls must not be moved while pressing the push-buttons during learning, it will be convenient to elevate each remote control off the surface with an object such as a small magazine or book of the correct thickness to allow the remote control to lie flat and point directly at the sensor window. The RCT-3 input sensor must be receiving an adequate IR signal for the learning process to be successful.*

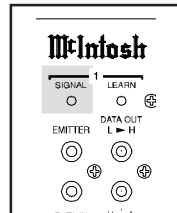


Figure 3

4. Position the McIntosh remote control in the same manner as Step 2, and perform a similar test for IR signal strength.

*NOTE: When performing the following steps 5 and 6, be sure to press a push-button only once for each learning operation.*

5. Decide which push-button on the McIntosh Remote Control you wish to use for the first learning function on the other brand component. Press and hold the Desired McIntosh push-button until the LEARN LED stops flashing and stays on continuously.



## How to Perform the Learning Function con't

*NOTE: If the push-button is pressed more than once, the STORE or ERROR LED may start flashing. If this happens, wait until the STORE or ERROR LED stops flashing, and then repeat step 5.*

6. Place the other brand remote control in position. Press the desired push-button for the control function you want the RCT-3 to learn. If the learning is SUCCESSFUL, both the LEARN 1 and STORE LED will flash on and off for a few seconds, then the STORE LED will turn off. The LEARN LED will continue to flash on and off. If the learning is NOT successful, both the LEARN 1 and ERROR LED will flash on and off for a few sec-

onds. Then the ERROR LED will turn off and the LEARN LED will continue to flash on and off.

*NOTE: If the learning is not successful, repeat steps 5 and 6.*

7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 to for the RCT-3 to learn more operating functions for component **1**.
8. Press the SELECTOR push-button to switch to components **2, 3** and **4** and repeat the learning process as DESIRED.

*NOTE: The SELECTOR push-button switch cycles through five separate modes. Press once to enter learning mode for*

## How to Clear a Learned Function

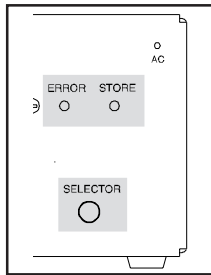


Figure 4

*component 1, each additional time you press the SELECTOR push-button, the learning mode switches in sequence to the next component. Pressing the SELECTOR push-button a fifth time, and the RCT-3 switches back to the normal mode.*

2. Position the center front edge of the McIntosh Remote Control pointing toward, and approximately 1 to 3 inches from, the input sensor on the left side panel of the RCT-3.
3. Press and hold the specific push-button on the McIntosh Remote Control for the learned function you wish to clear, until the LEARN LED stops flashing.

### How to Clear a Learned Function

1. Press the SELECTOR push-button as required to select the specific component (1, 2, 3 or 4) for which you wish to clear a learned function.



Figure 5



## How to Clear All Learned Functions

4. Press the SELECTOR push-button once, to clear the function. The ERROR and STORE LED's will flash on and off for a few seconds, then turn off. The LEARN LED will start to flash on and off again, indicating the clear operation was successful.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for any additional learned functions you wish to clear.
6. After all clear functions are complete, press the SELECTOR push-button once to exit the clear mode and return to normal mode.

## How to Clear All Learned Functions

1. Remove the RCT-3 Power Supply Adapter from the AC outlet.
2. PRESS and HOLD the SELECTOR push-button while you reconnect the RCT-3 Power Supply adapter to the AC outlet. The ERROR and STORE LED's will flash on and off for a few seconds, then both will turn off, indicating all learned functions for all components are cleared.



## Important Operation Information

### Important Operation Information

1. Any RCT-3 channel will also operate as a Repeater even though it was setup as a Translator.
2. The RCT-3 is compatible with most types of remote control products, and is designed to operate with IR system codes that contain a high frequency carrier.
3. The RCT-3 will not operate with remote control codes that are ULTRASONIC, VARIABLE FREQUENCY or MULTIPLE COMMAND.
4. If a continuous command such as (SEEK UP, SEEK DOWN, NEXT or BACK) is learned for another brand component used in the same area with the McIntosh Remote Controlled unit, the IR sensor of the other brand component must be blocked for proper operation.
5. A continuous command can be performed on only one component at a time.
6. All Learning operations for translator use are permanently stored in memory until a memory clear operation is performed.



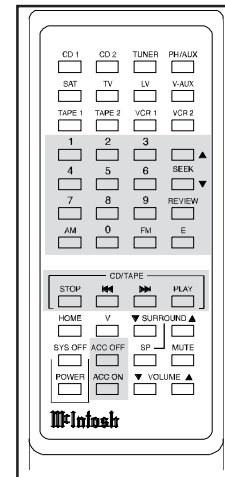
## Important Operation Information con't

Only the following McIntosh Remote Control or Keypad Push-Buttons can be used for momentary control commands with the RCT-3 (Refer to Figure 6):

*0 through 9, AM, FM, SEEK UP, SEEK DOWN, REVIEW,  
ENTER  
PLAY, STOP  
ACC ON, ACC OFF*

The following Push Buttons can be used for continuous commands:

*SEEK UP, SEEK DOWN, NEXT (▶▶), BACK(◀◀)*



*NOTE: The McIntosh Remote Control in Figure 6 may have a different arrangement of push-buttons then on the Remote Control you are using.*

Figure 6

## Specifications and Packing Instructions

### Specifications

#### Power Requirements

12 Volts, D.C. @100mA

#### Dimensions

8.5 inches (21.59cm) Wide, 3 inches (7.62cm) High, 5.05 inches (12.82cm) depth

#### Weight

3.8 pounds (1.7 Kg) net, 4.5 pounds (2 Kg) shipping.

### Packing Instructions

In the event it is necessary to repack the equipment for shipment, use the original shipping carton and interior parts only if they are all in good serviceable condition. If a shipping carton or any of the interior part(s) are needed, please call or write Customer Service Department of McIntosh Laboratory. Please see the Part List for the correct part numbers.

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	033719	Shipping carton
1	033085	Bubble Pack

**McIntosh<sup>®</sup>**

McIntosh Laboratory, Inc.  
2 Chambers Street  
Binghamton, NY 13903

McIntosh Part No. 040435