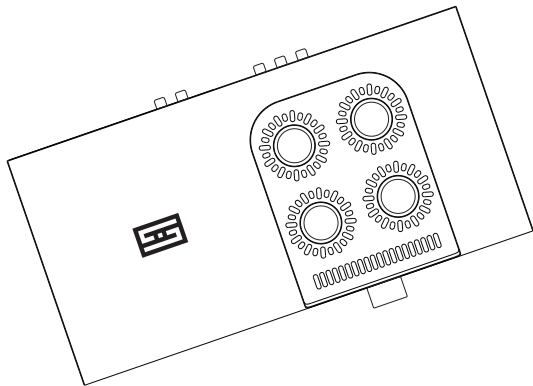




# FREYA 2

BALANCED DIFFERENTIAL  
TUBE OR SOLID STATE PREAMP

Freya 2 offers pure Class A, zero-feed-back 100%-triode tube architecture—combined with the option to go partially or fully solid-state. Or, maybe you want to go fully passive. Freya 2 provides that option, too.

Combined with the unparalleled control and integration of Forkbeard, as well as cost-no-object features such as a high-precision relay-switched attenuator with zero-component balance control, and a 100% linear power supply with full DC regulated heaters, Freya 2 is a preamp without peer.

Go ahead. Enjoy full tube, half tube (only input or output tubes active), or no tubes at all. In all cases, Freya 2 delivers unprecedented performance without compromise.



The following is required by the roughly 9,542 government agencies and regulations we have to comply with. If you have some common sense, they should seem pretty straightforward. In any case, read these instructions before proceeding farther, follow all instructions, and heed all warnings. Or else!

1. If you don't know how to install audio devices, get a qualified professional to help.
2. Never use this device near water, and clean only with a dry cloth.
3. Assure adequate ventilation, do not block any ventilation openings, or place near heat sources.
4. Use only the supplied power cord or suitable replacement. Route cords away from traffic areas and protect them from being pinched. Unplug the cord from the outlet if the apparatus is unused for a long period of time.
5. To prevent electric shock, do not use the plug with an extension cord, receptacle, or outlet unless blades can be fully inserted.
6. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Service is required when the device has been damaged, including cord or plug damage, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the device, the device has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.



**WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS DEVICE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.**

## CAUTION! High voltages inside!

1. When you insert the tubes, carefully align the key in the tube base to the



NOTCH

notch in the tube socket for each tube. It doesn't matter which tube goes where—all tubes in Freya 2 are the same type.

**Note:** the front tubes on Freya 2 are for the voltage gain stage, and the rear tubes are for the buffer stage. Changing tubes in the voltage gain stage usually offers more sonic differences.

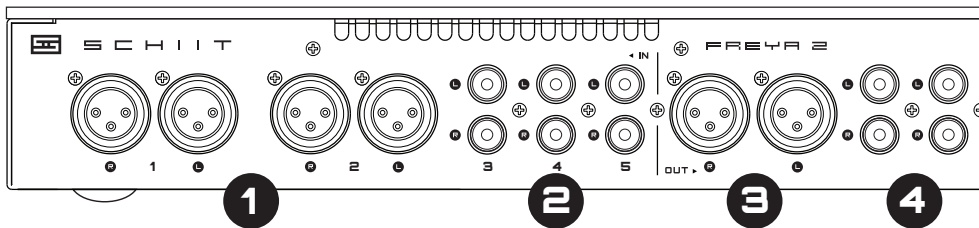
2. Ensure tubes are well-seated. Push down firmly until the tube is seated in the socket.
3. Connect your sources. Connect up to 5 sources to Freya 2's XLR and RCA inputs.
4. Connect the output. Connect Freya's output to your amp using XLR or RCA cables.
5. Ensure the volume is turned down. You don't want any big surprises!

6. Plug Freya 2 in and turn it on. You can select to run tubes in the voltage gain stage, the buffer stage, or both stages. Stages running in tube mode have orange indicator lights. Otherwise the lights are white.

**Note:** Freya 2 only turns on the tubes you are using. Otherwise the tubes are turned off to preserve tube life.

## REPLACING TUBES

1. Turn off and unplug Freya 2. Wait a while for the tube to cool.
  2. Carefully extract the tube by gently rocking it back and forth and pulling up.
  3. Carefully insert the replacement tube. Align the key to the notch and press down firmly until the tube is seated.
  4. Plug Freya 2 back in and turn it on.
- Freya 2 accommodates any 6SN7, 6N8S, or 5692 tube type. CV181 tubes are not recommended.



### 1 Balanced Inputs

Freya 2 provides two pairs of XLR balanced inputs. Connect to any of your balanced-output components using XLR cables.

### 2 Single-ended Inputs

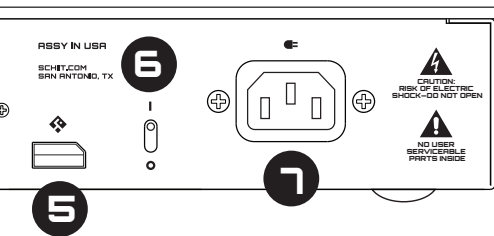
Freya 2 also provides three RCA single-ended inputs. Connect these to any SE sources with RCA cables. We recommend you keep these cables short (3m or less) for best noise performance. Single-ended cables don't reject environmental noise like balanced XLR cables. These inputs are transformed into balanced outputs when Freya 2 is not in passive mode.

### 3 Balanced Outputs

Connect to your amp (or amps) using XLR cables. Long runs to your amp are fine; perfect if you're using monoblocks near your speakers. Balanced and single-ended outputs are all live at the same time.

### 4 Single-ended Outputs

Connect to your amp (or amps) that have single-ended inputs using RCA cables. As with all SE connections, we recommend you keep these cables as short as possible. We've provided a pair of single-ended outputs for convenience. These are both live at the same time.

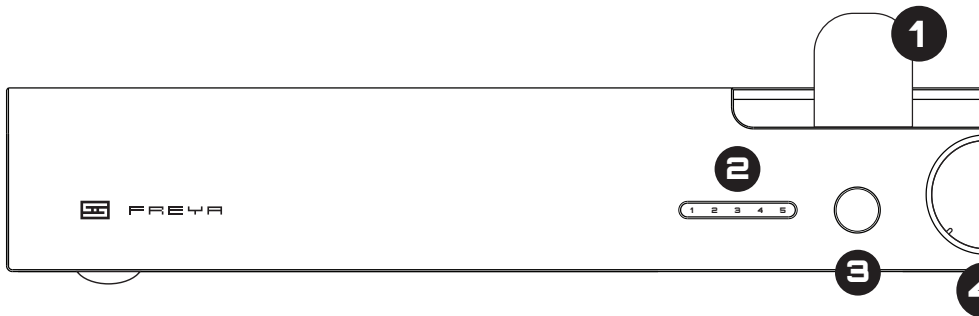


**5 Forkbeard port.** Plug in the supplied Forkbeard module for full unified remote control, access to balance control, standby control, tube health monitoring, integration with a full Schiit system for advanced features such as Visual Volume, and more.

**Note:** balance control is not accessible via the front panel or the IR remote due to the way it is implemented. Balance control actually changes the settings for each channel in the relay attenuator ladder—by far the best way to do this, because it doesn't require a potentiometer or other circuitry in the signal path. It also allows repeatable balance control in 0.625dB increments. This means we really need to display this on a screen. So Forkbeard it is.

**6 Power switch.** Up is on, down is off. Sound only comes out when it's on. Running the preamp in Standby mode (via Forkbeard) will reduce power consumption to under 1W. Standby mode turns off tubes, disables the solid state output, sets all relays to off, and basically only powers the microprocessor oversight.

**7 AC input.** Connect the supplied AC cord here, or you won't get any sound even if the power switch is on. You can even use a fancy power cord if you like.



### 1 Hot Tubes

When using the tubes, Freya 2's tubes get hot. We don't recommend touching them or letting your pets sleep on them.

### 2 Input Indicator

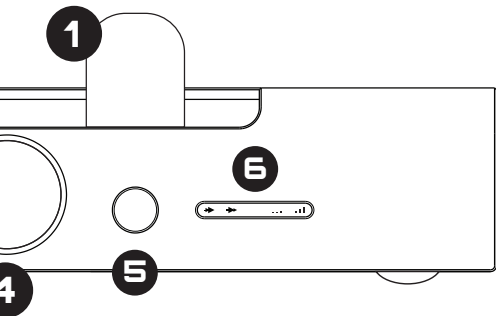
Shows which input is being used. The selected input glows white. Inputs 1 and 2 are balanced inputs. Inputs 3, 4, and 5 are single-ended inputs.

### 3 Input Select

Press this button to select the input you want to listen to. Press and hold for 2 seconds to mute or unmute. The selected input will light on the Input Indicator, or flash when muted.

### 4 Volume Control

Turn up to make it louder, turn down to make it softer. Unless you were born after the turn of the century, you know how this works. The volume knob will turn to match the volume set by IR or Forkbeard.



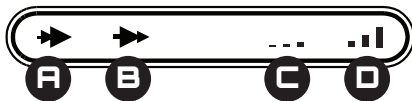
### 5 Mode Select

Press to step through operating modes: passive, all solid state, tube in and solid state out, solid state in and tube out, all tube. Press and hold for 2 seconds to change gain from low to high or vice-versa. Direct access to all modes is available in Forkbeard.

**Note:** There's a delay when selecting tube stages to allow for power-up and stabilization. The mode light flashes during this time.

### 6 Mode Indicator

Indicates which mode you are in. See below:



**A: Voltage gain.** Orange = tube, white = solid state

**B: Current gain.** Orange = tube, white = solid state

**C: Low gain.** About 0dB gain.

**D: High gain.** About 12dB gain.

**Note:** all LEDs off on Mode indicator bar = passive mode

## REMOTE

Although Forkbeard is much more intuitive and offers more overall control, Freya 2 also includes an IR remote.

**1 Mode.** Press this button to cycle through the modes: passive, solid state, tube in, tube out, and all tube.

**2 Gain.** Press this button to change between low and high gain and vice-versa.

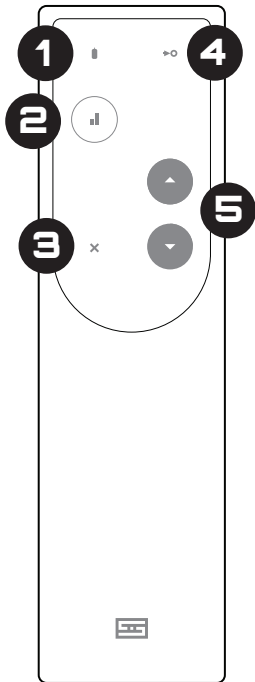
**3 Mute.** Press to mute all outputs.

**4 Input.** Press to select the inputs, 1-5. Missed your input? Keep pressing. It'll come around again.

**5 Volume.** Press the up arrow to increase volume, press the down arrow to decrease it.

### Changing the Battery

1. Flip the remote over to reveal a single hole on the back.
2. Push the remote open by inserting the end of an open paper clip into the hole in the back and pushing firmly. It's held together with magnets.
3. Replace the battery inside with one of the same type.
4. Reassemble the remote by first inserting the clear LED in the front, then dropping the panel down onto the matching magnets. Press down gently to pop the panel in place.



**Is there a Standby mode?**

Yes, selectable via Forkbeard. In Standby mode, all lights on the front of the preamp are off. Pressing any front panel button or using the IR remote wakes it. Or, of course, you can wake Freya 2 from Forkbeard.

**How do I reset Forkbeard?**

Turn off the preamp, then press and hold the Input Select button while you turn it on. The LEDs will all flash to indicate a factory reset. This reset will clear all saved states, including balance control.

**What's with the clicking noises when I turn the volume?**

That's the sound of the mechanical relays in the relay-switched stepped attenuator. Also normal.

**I have the volume all the way down and still hear faint music.**

Yes, that is normal with a relay attenuator. If it's bothersome, hit the Mute button to completely mute the preamp.

**The mode light flashes when I change operational modes.**

Yes, this is normal. Freya 2 only powers up the tubes that are in use, and tubes take a while to warm up and stabilize.

**Can I use both outputs at the same time?**

Most of the time, yes. If you have products that short their inputs when turned off, then that can cause distortion.

**I hear hum, what do I do?**

A small amount of hum when using tube gain may occur with some tubes. Try other tubes. The noise should not be audible from the listening position in most systems.

**No, I mean, I have a LOT of hum!**

You may have a ground loop. Try a ground loop isolator or a safe AC ground loop breaker to eliminate the ground loop.

**It doesn't turn on, what do I do?**

Plug it in to a different AC socket. Ensure you are not currently in a blackout. Then email us if it still doesn't work.

## WARRANTY

Schiit Audio warrants to the original purchaser that this product shall be free from defects in material and workmanship for five (5) years from the date of purchase. Tubes are excepted, and covered with a 90 day tube warranty. If a defect covered by this warranty occurs during this period, Schiit Audio will repair the defective product, free of charge. Date of purchase will be based on customer receipts, otherwise date of manufacturing will be used.

If you believe you need warranty service, contact us first. Schiit Audio products sent back to us without a Return Authorization (RA) will be returned to the sender without repair. To contact us and obtain an RA, email [info@schitt.com](mailto:info@schitt.com).

**Warranty Limitations.** This warranty shall not apply if a product: (a) is modified or tampered with; (b) is damaged by negligence, accident, unreasonable use, or other causes unrelated to defective materials or workmanship, or (c) has had the serial number altered or removed.

Any implied warranties, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are hereby limited in duration to the warranty period of 5 years. In no event shall Schiit Audio be liable for consequential or incidental damages resulting from the breach of any implied or expressed warranties. Some states do not allow these limitations, so they may not apply to you. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state or province to province.



## IN THE BOX

- (1) Freya 2
- (1) Tube set
- (1) Power cord
- (1) IR Remote control
- (1) Forkbeard module
- (Various) Stickers and stuff
- (Infinite) Appreciation from the Schiit crew



FORKBEARD  
ENABLED



This product is in compliance with standards  
and regulations of the European Community.

SCHIIT.COM  
INFO@SCHIIT.COM

