

SX-980

**HI-FI ECONOMY —
A FULL-FLEDGED
PIONEER DC POWER-AMP STEREO RECEIVER
WITH 80 WATTS PER CHANNEL,
0.05% THD**



PIONEER
HIGH FIDELITY
AM/FM STEREO RECEIVER
SX-980

Despite the attractive price of the SX-980, it shares the same powerful capabilities and advantages of Pioneer's exciting "DC with a Difference" amplifier design found in our more expensive models. There are no capacitors in the negative feedback loop to cause annoying slow downs in musical response, for instance. The music lover needn't understand all the technicalities in our amp design to appreciate what this means to better audio reproduction — the proof is in the listening. But the technical advantages are there, nonetheless, and yours to enjoy over long years of operation. You'll find them in the FM/AM tuner section of this versatile stereo receiver, too. Such as the three Pioneer-exclusive ICs — the very same as in the best separate tuner we make — to effectively tame overstrong signals and pull in the weaker ones, all to result in monitor-quality reproduction. For the newly-designed phono equalizer we use another IC to help ensure the very lowest noise, lowest distortion performance in any receiver at this price. And on the front panel of the SX-980 are two direct-readout power meters for quick visual checking of exactly how many watts you're feeding to connected speaker systems, from a tiny 0.01 watt up to and beyond the rated per channel power output of the SX-980: 80 watts continuous, 8 ohms, 0.05% THD, over the entire 20 — 20,000Hz audio spectrum. Here are some of the highlights.

Pioneer's "DC with a Difference" Power Amplifier: Musical Transients Are Never Compromised

How is the Pioneer DC design different? There are several key points to consider before we can answer that. First is the fact that today's music is being recorded with studio techniques and record-pressing equipment that offer far more dynamic range than ever before. Especially in the very low frequencies. Today's speaker systems, too, have extraordinarily wide capabilities. But conventional AC-type amplifiers cannot handle the wide range because they use capacitors in their negative feedback (NFB) loops — the systems which help cancel or correct distortion components in the signal you want to hear. Those NFB capacitors cause tiny phase delays. So the signals that reach your speakers are followed, split seconds later, by out-of-phase "echos" of themselves. The results are not so serious if you're willing to settle for constricted frequency range, poor transient response and increased TIM or Transient Intermodulation distortion. But with today's superior musical program sources, who's willing to make

yesterday's compromises when it comes to good listening? Pioneer isn't. That's why we've removed those phase-delay-causing NFB-loop capacitors. But we leave in the capacitors at the input so that there's no danger of a DC or Direct Current signal ever burning out your speaker systems' voice coils. The Pioneer SX-980 has this "DC with a Difference" power amp, and the difference is clearly heard over the widest possible frequency range. The practical advantages are many:

- (1) Connected speakers are protected from DC-caused breakdown.
- (2) Tonal quality is not harmed by DC in any way.
- (3) Our use of selected input capacitors ensures that tonal quality is maximized at all times.
- (4) Low-frequency transient current, generated inside the preamp section when the unit is turned on and off, is eliminated. Noise is entirely avoided.
- (5) Musical quality is never threatened when you play warped records, because the Pioneer design automatically cuts out the subsonic "rumble" on such discs.

\$449



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