



861 Reference Surround System

RS232 Control Information

861 System RS232 Commands

This document provides relevant RS232 commands for the Meridian 861 Surround Processor. All basic commands take the form of two ASCII characters followed by a carriage return to execute. Once a basic command is sent, the 861 provides a twenty character feedback of what is displayed on the processor itself.

The physical connection to the 861 Reference System consists of a Null Modem / RS232C cable.

RS232 Port Settings:

Baud Rate – 9600, Data Bits – 8, Stop Bits – 1, Parity – None, Flow Control – None

Source Commands:

RS232 Command	Description	Feedback		
CD	Selects CD Source	CD	Trifield	65
RD	Selects Radio	Radio	Music	65
DV	Selects DVD	DVD	Cinema	65
AX	Selects Aux	Aux	Discrete	65
DC	Selects Disc	Disc	Music	65
TA	Selects Tape	Tape	Music	65
TV	Selects TV	TV	TV Logic	65
CB	Selects Cable	Cable	Pro Logic	65
SA	Selects Satellite	Sat	Trifield	65
V1	Selects VCR1	VCR1	Pro Logic	65
V2	Selects VCR2	VCR2	Pro Logic	65
GA	Selects Game	Game	THX Cinema	65

Volume Commands:

RS232 Command	Description	Feedback		
VP	Volume +	CD	Trifield	66
VM	Volume -	CD	Trifield	64
VNnn	Goto Volume (1-99)	CD	Trifield	87
MU	Mute	Mute		



861 Reference Surround System

RS232 Control Information

General Commands:

RS232 Command	Description	Feedback		
SB	Standby		.	
MR	Menu Right	CD	Centre	+0dB
ML	Menu Left	CD	Balance	<0>
MP	Menu Plus (Up)	CD	Balance	<1
MM	Menu Minus (Down)	CD	Balance	1>
PNnn	Goto Preset	CD	Trifield	65

Additional Source Commands:

RS232 Command	Description	RS232 Command	Description
PL	Play	rp	AB Repeat
ST	Stop	AB	AB Repeat
PS	Pause	PH	Phase
RP	Repeat	TB	T (MSR 3)
NE	Next	#B	# Button
PR	Previous	CH	Chapter (MSR 3)
DI	Display	SE	Setup
SR	Store	ME	Menu
CL	Clear	RT	Return
DP	Decimal Point	EN	Enter
FF	Fast Forward	TM	Top Menu
FB	Fast Back	NP	Next Page
N0 – N9	Number Keys 0 – 9	PP	Previous Page
OP	Open	cl	Function + Clear
MO	Mono	sr	Function + Store
SL	Slow	di	Function + Display
BA	Band	mu	Function + Mute
AU	Audio	mp	Function + Menu Up
SU	Subtitle On / Off	mm	Function + Menu Down
su	Subtitle Choice	ml	Function + Menu Left
OS	OSD	mr	Function + Menu Right
RC	Record / Copy	vp	Function + Volume Up
AN	Angle	vm	Function + Volume DN



861 Reference Surround System

RS232 Control Information

DSP Preset Commands:

RS232 Command	Description	RS232 Command	Description
PN0	Direct	PN11	PLIIX Music
PN1	Music	PN12	PLIIX Movie
PN2	Trifield	PN13	PLIIX THX
PN3	Ambisonics	PN14	Discrete
PN4	Super	PN15	Cinema
PN5	Stereo	PN16	PLIIX Music6
PN6	Music Logic	PN17	PLIIX Movie6
PN7	n/a	PN18	THX
PN8	n/a	PN19	THX EX
PN9	Mono	PN20	THX Ultra Cinema
PN10	TV Logic	PN21	THX Music



861 Reference Surround System

RS232 Control Information

Direct Access Commands:

These commands allow for direct control of certain options within the 861 Surround Processor. Commands are not viable at all times dependent on incoming audio stream and DSP preset selected (see restrictions section for details).

The command string uses the following syntax: APnnxx

Where 'nn' selects the menu option and 'xx' sets the value. Both values are represented by hexadecimal numbers.

Example: AP0102 would set the treble to +1dB

AP0103 would set the treble to +1.5dB

Menu	Hex	Steps	Min.	Hex	Max	Hex	Restrictions
Preset	00	1	0	00	See Above	-	
RC Preset	32	-	0	00	12	-	Only for presets within MRC
Treble	01	0.5dB	-10dB	EC	+10dB	14	
Bass	02	0.5dB	-5dB	F6	+5dB	0A	
Phase	03	-	Off	00	On	01	
LR Balance	04	-	10L	F6	10R	0A	
Lipsync	1D	0.5ms	0ms	00	30ms	3C	
Rear Level	05	-	30R	E2	10F	0A	
Centre Level	09	0.5dB	-3dB	FA	3dB	06	
Centre Delay	0A	0.5ms	-2.5ms	FB	5ms	0A	
Centre EQ	0B	-	0	00	3	03	
Rear Delay	06	0.5ms	0ms	0	30ms	3C	Music Modes & Discrete
Rear Delay	2C	0.5ms	0ms	00	30ms	3C	5.1 Modes & PLII Music
Rear Delay	44	0.5ms	10ms	14	25ms	32	PLII Movie & PLII THX
Rear Filter	07	-	0	00	3	03	Music Modes & Cinema
Rear Filter	12	-	0	00	3	03	Ambisonics & Super Stereo
Side Level	19	1dB	-30dB	E2	+10dB	0A	
Side Delay	1A	0.5ms	0	00	30ms	3C	Music modes only
Side Delay	2D	0.5ms	0	00	30ms	3C	5.1 Modes & PLII Music
Side Delay	45	0.5ms	10ms	14	25ms	32	PLII Movie & PLII THX
Side Filter	16	-	0	00	3	03	Ambisonics & Super Stereo
Side Filter	1B	-	0	00	3	03	Music Modes & Cinema



861 Reference Surround System

RS232 Control Information

Menu	Hex	Steps	Min.	Hex	Max	Hex	Restrictions
Axis Control	3C	1dB	-2	FE	+3	03	DSP Speakers Only
HS Out	37	-	Off	00	On	01	
Width	0E	0.1	0	00	1.5	0F	Trifield Only
Width	0F	0.1	0	00	1.0	0A	Super Stereo Only
PLII Width	40	-	0	00	7	07	PLII Music Only
Dimension	3D	-	0	00	6	06	PLII Music Only
Panorama	3E	-	Off	00	On	01	PLII Music Only
PLII Steering	43	-	0	00	2	02	7-Ch Logic Modes Only
Prologic Legacy	3F	-	Off	00	On	01	PLII Movie & PLII THX
Party Mode	28	-	Off	00	On	01	Mono Only
Academy Filter	13	-	Off	00	On	01	Mono Only
No. of Surrounds	1E	-	0	00	2	02	Music Modes & Cinema
No. of Surrounds	24	-	0	00	2	02	5.1 Modes Only (Not Discrete)
Compression	29	-	0	00	5	05	5.1 Modes Only
Contrast	2E	-	0	00	15	0F	
Brightness	2F	-	0	00	15	0F	
Position	11	-	M	00	A	06	Ambisonics Only
Roll	14	-	0	00	3	03	TV Logic Only
Yaw	15	-	0	00	3	03	TV Logic Only
Mono Input	0D	-	0	00	3	03	Mono Only
2+2+2	46	-	0	00	4	04	Discrete Only
LFE Level	4A	1dB	-18dB	01	+10dB	1D	5.1 Modes Only

Current Status Commands:

These commands provide feedback via the RS232 port as to the current state of the 861 when in use.

RS232 Command	Description	Feedback
CS1	Source, DSP Mode & Volume	CD Trifield 65
CS2	Source, DSP Mode & Gain	CD Trifield -22
CS3	Source, Incoming Audio & Rate	CD PCM 2-ch 44K