

MERIDIAN 206 USER MANUAL

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1 Introduction

The *Meridian* 206 Compact Disc Player is part of the 200-Series of advanced high fidelity equipment. Used in conjunction with other components in the range, it can offer the music lover much more than just very high quality digital sound.

Because the 206 is such a sophisticated device, you are advised to read through this whole manual before using it for the first time, particularly if you are using it with other 200-Series components, or the *Meridian* D600 Digital Loudspeakers. However, we have given a lot of attention to making the operation of the unit as intuitive as possible, so that those of you who are familiar with high fidelity equipment and who cannot wait to get your 206 working will be able to get immediate results.

In purchasing a *Meridian* 206 Compact Disc Player, you have acquired a refined piece of equipment which will continue to bring you listening pleasure for many years. This manual will enable you to get the most from it.

2 About this manual

A number such as 201 refers to a component in the *Meridian* 200-Series of audio equipment, unless otherwise indicated, e.g. 'the socket marked 200 COMMS'.

Whenever a key name is printed in **bold** typeface, it means that you *should* press this key. When a series of key strokes are required, e.g. press **Next** then press **Previous**, the key names will be separated by a hyphen, i.e. **Next - Previous**. If the key name is not in bold type, it indicates that the course of action is not required at present, e.g. 'if you want to change the display, press Display' means you can do this, but it is not essential as part of the operation currently being discussed.

In some instances, a key and the status of the equipment share the same name, e.g. the Standby key and the *standby* state. For absolute clarity, the key name will always start with a capital letter and the status will always be indicated by the use of italic type.

3 About the 200-Series

The *Meridian* 200-Series of high fidelity equipment is probably the most sophisticated family of hi-fi products available. It has been developed to operate at a variety of levels, from the simplest conventional single-room hi-fi to a whole-house music-management system. The range of components in the 200-Series ensure that a *Meridian* system will satisfy the needs of any user. In addition, the system can be further enhanced by the use of one or more pairs of *Meridian* D600 Digital Loudspeakers.

The 206 Compact Disc Player is a very advanced machine. Its circuitry has been carefully optimised to provide the highest quality of sound available from the Compact Disc medium. In particular, considerable attention has been paid to designing the error-correction circuits in order to ensure maximum fidelity to the original recorded signal and high playability.

Despite its high performance, each piece of equipment in the 200-Series has been planned for ease of use, with microprocessor control being applied throughout the range to simplify operation. We have also paid great attention to the appearance of the units, and much care has been taken in the selection of the materials used in the construction of the components to ensure that your *Meridian* 200-Series equipment will look and sound as good in the years to come as it does now.

4 Unpacking the 206

On opening the carton, you should have found the following parts:

- *Meridian* 206 Compact Disc Player
- Remote Control unit
- 3 AAA batteries for Remote Control unit
- Power cord
- Network lead, labelled 'A'
- This manual

If any of these items are missing, please contact your dealer. We suggest that you retain the packing carefully as it provides maximum protection for the unit in transit.

5 Accessories

The following accessories are available from your dealer:

- Power cord (Europe)
 - Power cord (USA & Canada)
- In case of difficulty, they can also be ordered directly from Boothroyd | Stuart whose address is on the title page of this manual.

One other accessory may be of interest to you. The 209 Remote Control offers some additional facilities over those available from the smaller handset supplied with the 206, but is only of significant benefit if you will be using the 206 as part of a *Meridian* 200-Series installation. The 209 is also available from your *Meridian* dealer.

6 Installing your 206

6.1 General precautions

Before carrying out any installation, you should first ensure that the 206 is marked with the correct voltage for your local AC supply. If this is not the case, do not proceed with these instructions, but contact your dealer.

As a general rule, you should not make any connections to the 206, or to any other component in your system, whilst the AC power supply is connected and switched on.

6.2 Transit collar

The 206 is fitted with a locking device to secure and protect the laser mechanism whilst the unit is in transit. Before using the 206 for the first time you must remove the collar. To do this:

- Carefully lift the 206 up. On the underside of the drawer mechanism, you will see a plastic collar held in place by a screw.
- Remove this screw and the collar.
- Put the 206 down. Gently open the drawer by hand and then return it to the closed position.

NOTE It is essential that you perform this operation before connecting the 206 to the AC power for the first time.

You should store the screw and collar in a safe place and always refit it, by reversing the above procedure, before transporting the 206.

6.3 Connections

The *Meridian* 206 can connect to your audio system using conventional analogue audio leads. However, if you are using the *Meridian* D600 Digital Audio Loudspeakers you should use the digital output of the 206 as this will result in a considerably improved performance from the system.

Assuming that you are using an analogue audio system, you will need to connect the 206 to your amplifier with either a twin screened-audio cable or a pair of single screened-audio cables. These interconnects can have a considerable effect on the quality of the sound, and we advise you to seek your dealer's advice on the best type for your system.

The connections you make will depend on other components in your system.

6.4 If you have a 201 Preamp

- Connect the sockets marked 'Output L/R' on the rear of the 206 to the CD input on the rear of the 201.
- Connect the socket marked 200 COMMS on the rear of the 206 to the socket marked 200 COMMS on the rear of the 201 using the A-lead supplied.

6.5 If you have 201 and a 204 Tuner

- Connect the sockets marked 'Output L/R' on the rear of the 206 to the CD input on the rear of the 201.

- Connect the socket marked 201 on the rear of the Tuner to the socket marked 200 COMMS on the rear of the Preamp using the Q-Lead supplied with the 204, and the socket marked 207 on the rear of the 204 to the socket marked 200 COMMS on the rear of the 206 using the A-lead supplied.

6.6 If you are using D600 Loudspeakers

- Connect the digital output from the rear of the 206 to the M-lead supplied with the D600s. Follow the instructions in the D600 manual, treating 206 as a 207. The D600s are fully-programmable and you should consult your manual before deciding which input to use. If you have any doubts, your dealer will be able to assist you.

Wherever possible, we would advise that you use optical interconnections for the digital signal as these result in superior audio performance. Additionally, optical digital cables do not generate any radio-frequency interference, nor are they susceptible to such interference.

Suitable cables are available from your *Meridian* dealer.

6.7 If you have no other Meridian

- Connect the sockets marked 'Output L/R' on the rear of the 206 to an appropriate input on your preamp.

You should consult the manufacturer's manual to determine which input to use, but generally it will be labelled 'CD' or 'AUX'.

DO NOT, under any circumstances, connect anything to the socket marked 200 COMMS on the rear of the 206.

7 Siting

The 206 should not be placed on top of a power amplifier, but it can be stacked on the 201 Preamp and the 204 Tuner, if you have these items in your system.

You should avoid sites where it would be subjected to direct sunlight or where it is near a heat source, e.g. a central heating radiator, or where the equipment could be subjected to strong magnetic radiation, e.g. very close to a television, or where connecting cables may be subject to, or cause, interference.

In common with all Compact Disc players, the 206 emits some radio-frequency signals. For this reason, try to keep all mains cables and network leads away from signal cables, which includes audio, antenna and loudspeaker cables. Some time spent laying out the cables carefully will repay you with the best possible performance later.

8 Setting up the 206

8.1 Checking

Before turning on the power, check once again that you have made all the connections correctly and that you have not disturbed any existing connections in the process.

8.2 Switching on

- turn on the power switch at the rear of the unit

The Standby key and a small point on the display should now be illuminated. [.]

8.3 If there are no lights

Check the integrity of your power connections, including any fuses in your supply. If the Standby key is still not illuminated and the rest of your system is functioning, contact your dealer for help.

8.4 Standby

The entire 200-Series is designed to be left connected to AC power at all times.

This *standby* state ensures that the components operate at maximum efficiency from the moment you start listening. It is perfectly safe and consumes a negligible amount of power. However, when you are not going to use your system for an extended period of time, e.g. when you are going on holiday, we would advise you to disconnect it from the AC power supply.

An additional benefit is that the Continue key will allow you to continue listening to a disc from the exact point at which you left off if you use the Standby key to shut your system down, and do not switch off the AC power.

8.5 Before using the Remote Control

- Fit the batteries provided.

To do this:

- Slide the cover on the underside of the unit in the direction indicated and remove it.
- Push the batteries into the unit, observing the polarity marked on the holder.

FAILURE TO OBSERVE CORRECT POLARITY WILL DAMAGE THE UNIT.

- Replace the cover.

When renewing the batteries, you are advised to use only high-quality leak-proof batteries from a reputable manufacturer.

If you are not going to use the Remote Control unit for an extended period of time, you should remove the batteries from it.

9 Basic operation of 206

Before discussing the operation of playing a Compact Disc, there are three keys on the front panel of the 206 which need to be explained.

9.1 Display

Pressing this key will cycle the display on the 206 through its four states:

- Track (Index) number
- Elapsed time for the current track
- Elapsed time for the entire disc
- Remaining time for entire disc

The track number display will generally consist of one or two digits, for example, [11].

However, when a disc contains index points in addition to the tracks, the display will change to show the current index number, e.g. a display which reads [11.3] would indicate that track 11, index 3 was currently being played. You should note that the 206 will not display the first index point, e.g. you will not normally see the display [11.1] but when the second index point is reached, the display will change, e.g. [11.2].

When a disc has ended, the display will show the total number of tracks if the track display is selected, or the total playing time if any of the time displays are selected.

9.2 Open Close

This key opens the disc drawer if it is *closed*, or closes it if it is *open*.

9.3 Standby

When you press this key, you will shut down the 206. If a disc is playing at the time, it will stop, and if the 206 is connected to other components of a *Meridian* 200-Series installation, it will also cause the other components to revert to *standby* state.

This method of shutting the 206 down is perfectly safe, and the disc will not be damaged by leaving it in the player.

To remove the disc before shutting down the system.:

- Press **Open**. This will stop the disc and open the drawer
- Remove the disc
- Press **Standby**, this will close the drawer and shut the system down.

Because the 206 is controlled by a micro-processor, using this 'shorthand' approach is perfectly safe, as the player will interpret the 'open' command as 'stop the disc then open the drawer', and it will interpret the 'standby' command as 'close the drawer then go into standby state'.

9.4 To load and play a disc

- press **Open**

This will turn on the 206 and open the drawer. If the 206 is part of a *Meridian* 200-Series installation, it will also bring the entire system out of *standby*. If you are not using other *Meridian* equipment, you will need to switch on the rest of your system manually.

- Insert the disc in the drawer, label side up, ensuring that the disc is properly seated on the player's hub.
- Press **Play**

The drawer will close, the 206 will read the catalogue information (directory) stored on the disc, displaying the message [dir.], and it will then play the disc.

9.5 To load disc at a particular track

- Press **Open**
- Insert the disc as above
- press **Previous** or **Next** until the required track number is displayed. During this operation, the display changes to show 'S.', for select, followed by the track number, e.g. [S. 21]
- press **Play**

The disc will commence playing at the track number you have selected and will continue to play until the end.

9.6 To move to a different track

- press **Previous** or **Next** until the required track number is displayed, then
- press **Play**

9.7 To move to the next track

- press **Play**

9.8 To restart the current track

- press **Previous** – **Next** – **Play**

9.9 To pause the disc

- press **Pause**

The **Pause** key will illuminate and, if a time display is selected, it will freeze.

When you want to continue playing the disc again

- press **Pause** a second time.

9.10 To stop the music

- press **Stop**

When you are ready, you can resume playing the disc from the exact point at which you stopped it by:

- pressing **Continue**.

This will work, even if you have placed the system in *standby* in the interim, as the 206 retains the location of the point on the disc at which **Stop** was pressed. Note that if you turn off the power or press **Open**, the data necessary for this to work will be lost.

9.11 To play a disc from standby

A disc should be already loaded. If you wish to play it from the start

- press **Play**

If you wish to play it from the point at which it was stopped

- press **Continue**

9.12 To scan through a disc

- press << or >> until you reach the point you are seeking.

Note that, as the 206 mutes audio output during this operation, it helps you assess the position in the track to select one of the time displays first.

9.13 To continuously repeat a disc

- press **Repeat**

The **Repeat** key will illuminate and the disc will restart after each playing until you press **Standby**, **Stop** or **Open**. You can also cancel this operation by pressing **Repeat** a second time.

10 Using the remote control

Most of the functions of the *Meridian* 206 are available with the supplied Remote Control unit.

Obviously it will first be necessary to load a disc, then the Remote Control unit can be used as follows.

10.1 To play a disc

- press **Play**

The 206 will read the catalogue information stored on the disc and then begin to play the disc.

10.2 To play a particular track

either

- press **Previous** or **Next** until the correct track number is displayed
- press **Play**

or

- press one or more of the **Number Keys** until the correct track number is displayed. (See 9.5).
- press **Play**

The disc will commence playing at the track number you have selected and will play until the end.

10.3 To move to a different track

either

- press **Previous** or **Next** until the required track number is displayed
- press **Play**

or

- press one or more of the **Number Keys** until the required track number is displayed.

- press **Play**

10.4 To move to the next track

- press **Play**

10.5 To replay the current track

either

- press the required **Number Key(s) – Play**

or

- press **Previous – Next – Play**

10.6 To pause the disc

- press **Pause**

The **Pause** key will illuminate. When you want to continue playing the disc again

- press **Pause** a second time.

10.7 To stop the music

- press **Stop**

10.8 To scan through a disc

- press **<<** or **>>** until you reach the point you are seeking.

Remember it helps you to assess the position in the track to select one of the time displays first.

11 Using a 209 Remote Control

If you have a 209 as part of your 200-Series installation, it can be used in place of the unit supplied with the 206.

In general, operation of the 209 is identical to the descriptions given above, but the **Track** button should be pressed before selecting a track number for the first time. After this first operation, it is not necessary to press **Track** repeatedly, but doing so ensures correct operation of the 206, and the instructions in this manual will, therefore, usually advise you to press **Track**. The following additional functions are available.

11.1 To restart the current track

- press **Track – Play**

11.2 To repeat a disc continuously

- press **Repeat**.

The **Repeat** key will illuminate and the disc will restart after each playing until you press **Stop**, or **Repeat** a second time.

12 More advanced operation

As already mentioned, the *Meridian* 206 can access index points where these are provided on a disc.

12.1 To move to a particular index point

- press **Previous** or **Next** until the required track number is displayed, the display will change to show 'S.' (for select), followed by the track number, e.g. [S. 3].
- press **Previous Index** or **Next Index** until the required index number is displayed, the display will now show the track and index number, separated by a small point, e.g. [S. 3.2].
- press **Play**

12.2 Programming

The 206 allows you to select your own program of music from any disc. You can play the tracks in any order you like, and can repeat one or more tracks several times in your personal program.

Please note that you cannot sequence more than 25 tracks. If you try to enter additional tracks, you will observe that the display continues to show [C. xx], where 'xx' is the number of the track that you have just tried to program.

The 'C' stands for cancel, once you have programmed a track, the display will change to 'P'. Any tracks marked 'C' will not play.

To enter a program:

- select the first track required by pressing **Previous** or **Next** until the correct number is displayed
- press **Store**

Repeat this operation for all the tracks you wish to include in your program, then

- press **Play**

If you press **Stop** twice, or **Open**, you will cancel any program you have entered, and the display will momentarily change to [C.P.].

You can review your program while the disc is playing by pressing **Previous** or **Next**. Tracks that will not play will display a 'C' prefix to the track number.

It is not possible to program index points, the 206 will only allow you to create a program of selected tracks.

Note, it is possible to program the 206 while the disc is playing.

12.3 Cancel programming

The 206 offers an extra facility to make life a little easier for you. In many instances, you will wish to play the majority of the tracks on a disc, skipping, perhaps, only one or two.

Of course, you can program the entire disc with the exception of the tracks you do not want, but there is a faster method:

- select the first track not desired by pressing **Previous** or **Next** until the correct number is displayed
- press **Cancel**

Repeat this operation for all the tracks you wish to exclude from your program, then

- press **Play**

If you exclude tracks in this way, you will only be able to play the disc in normal, numerical, order.

12.4 Pause play

The Pause key can be used to 'action' a selection from *stop*. To start a disc up *paused* at the beginning of a track:

- press **Previous** or **Next** until the required track number is displayed
- press **Pause**

Then to hear the music with instant access:

- press **Pause**

13 Advanced remote operation

Index points cannot be accessed using the Remote Control unit supplied with the 206. However, if you have a 209 Remote Control unit you can access index points where these are provided on a disc.

13.1 To move to a particular index point

either

- press **Previous** or **Next** until the required track number is displayed
- press * then **Previous** or **Next** until the required index number is displayed
- press **Play**

or

- press **Track – Number Key(s)** to select the track
- press * – **Number Key(s)** to select the index point
- press **Play**

13.2 To enter a program

either

- select the first track required by pressing **Previous** or **Next** until the correct number is displayed
- press **Store** if using a 209 or **Progr** if using the Remote Control unit supplied with the 206.

Repeat this operation for all the tracks you wish to include in your program, then

- press **Play**

or

- select the first track required by pressing a **Number Key** (or keys) until the correct number is displayed. (Remember that you may need to press **Track** first if using the 209).
- press **Store** if using a 209 or **Progr** on the Remote Control unit supplied with the 206.

Repeat this operation for all the tracks you wish to include in your program, then

- press **Play**

If you press **Stop** twice, or **Open**, you will cancel any program you have entered.

13.3 Programming cancelled tracks

You cannot program cancelled tracks, as described at 12.3, using the Remote Control unit supplied with the 206. However, if you have a *Meridian* 209, this facility is available to you. *Either*:

- select the first track not required by pressing **Previous** or **Next** until the correct number is displayed
- press **Cancel**

Repeat this operation for all the tracks you wish to exclude from your program, then

- press **Play**

or

- select the first track not required by pressing **Track – Number Key(s)** until the correct number is displayed
- press **Cancel**

Repeat this operation for all the tracks you wish to exclude in your program, then

- press **Play**

If you exclude tracks in this way, you will only be able to play the disc in normal, numerical, order.