

# Guide to Optional System Connections for Bose® 901® Direct/Reflecting® Speaker Systems

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The Bose® 901® Series I & II  
Direct/Reflecting® Speaker System



The Bose® 901® Series III & IV  
Direct/Reflecting® Speaker System



The Bose® 901® Series V  
Direct/Reflecting® Speaker System



The Bose® 901® Series VI  
Direct/Reflecting® Speaker System

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***BOSE***®

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Thank you for your continued interest in the Bose® 901® Direct/Reflecting® Speaker System. Due to its unique design, your 901 system connects to the rest of your stereo in a different manner than many conventional systems. This guide will show you connections which provide optimum flexibility from your stereo.

Your 901 system features an Active Equalizer which combines with your 901 speakers to provide the most spacious, lifelike sound possible from your compact disc, tape deck, tuner or turntable. To function properly, this Active Equalizer must be inserted in your system so it can adjust program material *before* it is amplified. In many ways, this is similar to a tape deck which takes a low-level signal from your receiver or amplifier and "hears" it with a record head before passing the signal on to be amplified. For that reason, the 901 Active Equalizer is usually connected through a tape monitor circuit on a receiver, preamplifier, or integrated amplifier.

While it may appear that you cannot connect a tape deck because your Active Equalizer is using your tape monitor circuit, this is not the case. Located on the back of the Active Equalizer is another set of inputs and outputs which allows for the connection of a tape deck.

**NOTE:** The Active Equalizer can be connected in either a tape monitor circuit or in between the preamp and the amplifier. By connecting the Active Equalizer in between the preamp and amplifier, some background noise may be introduced into the system (mostly with older electronic components). Also, please note that the Bose Active Equalizer is the last effect before amplification.

The following diagrams and instructions are designed to show different system configurations. Many of these have been requested by Bose customers, such as yourself, who have added various components to their systems in hopes of increasing their musical enjoyment. Unfortunately, there is no standard connection terminology in the audio/video industry. To help overcome this problem, the next section gives a list of terms, along with synonyms you might find on various components.

Best wishes for your continued musical enjoyment, and thank you again for your purchase of Bose 901 Direct/Reflecting® Speaker Systems.

Coming to Terms with Your Equipment

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**TERM for OUTPUTS**

**TERM for INPUTS**

TAPE MONITOR OUTPUTS.....TAPE MONITOR INPUTS  
OUT.....IN  
RECORD (REC).....PLAY (P.B.)  
TO INPUT.....TO OUTPUT  
FROM INPUT.....FROM OUTPUT  
RECORD (REC).....MONITOR

If you are connecting your Active Equalizer in between the preamp and amplifier or in between Signal Processing devices and amplifiers, you may find the following labels on your equipment.

**PREAMPLIFIER OUTPUTS**

**POWER AMPLIFIER INPUTS**

PREAMP OUT.....MAIN AMP IN  
TO POWER AMP IN.....INPUT

**SIGNAL PROCESSING OUTPUTS**

**SIGNAL PROCESSING INPUTS**

EFFECTS OUT.....EFFECTS IN  
TO MAIN AMP.....FROM PREAMP  
OUTPUT.....INPUT  
SEND.....RETURN

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**NOTE #1:** The Terminology in the following drawings is correct. The physical location of the jacks may vary. Some diagrams have changed the location of the jacks for the ease of viewing/drawing the proper connections.

**NOTE #2:** In the following diagrams, the term *receiver* is used to denote the control center of your stereo system. Except where indicated, the same explanations and connections apply if your system features a preamplifier or integrated amplifier.

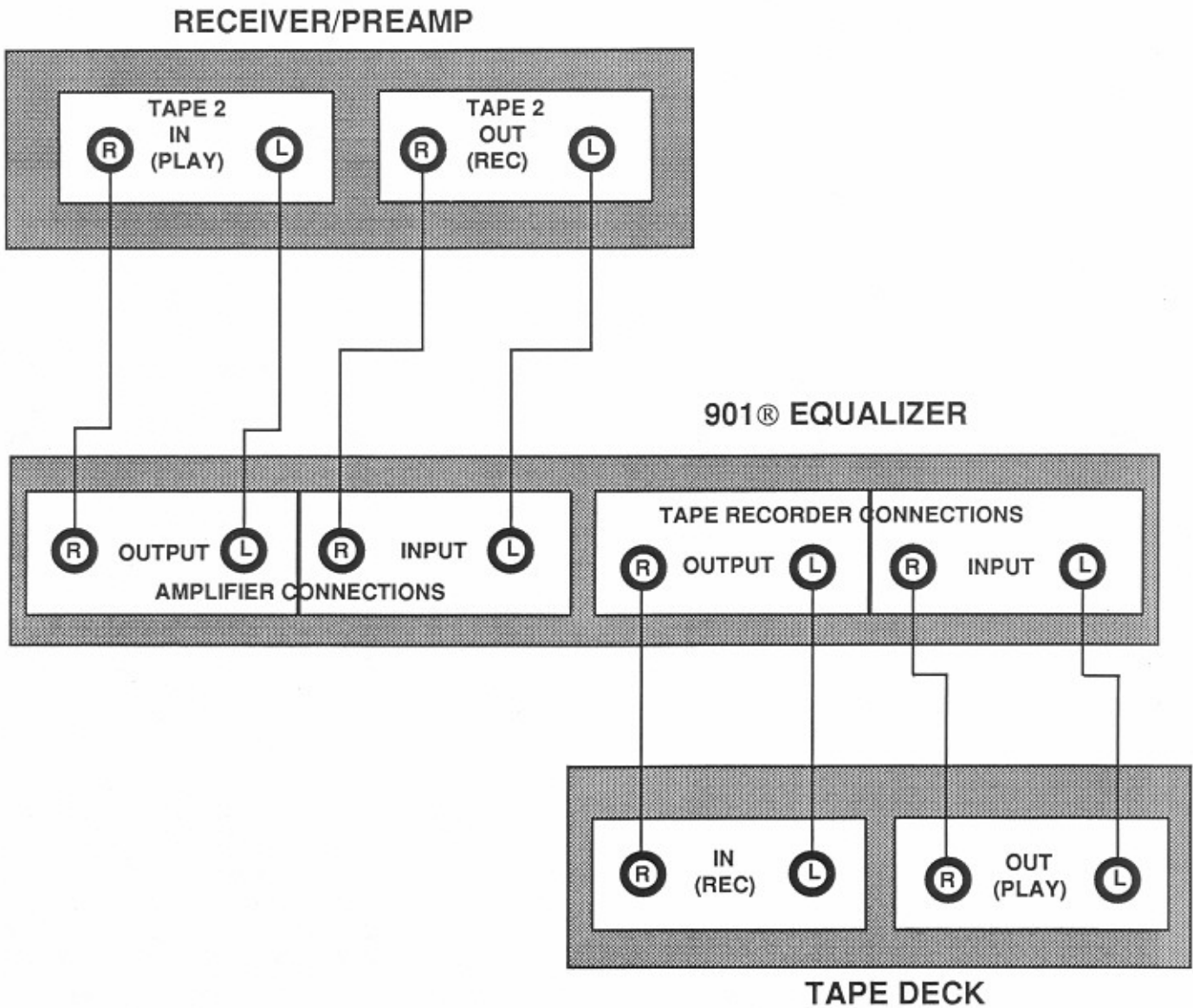
**NOTE #3:** Some receivers do not have a tape monitor button. Instead, they have a "Record Out" or "Record Select" switch. If your receiver has this format, connect the Active Equalizer to the Tape 2 circuit. Set your "Function" selector to Tape 2, and use the "Record" switch to pick your music source (CD, Tuner, Phono). This connection may negate the use of your remote control for selecting your music source. If you have the pre-out/amp in circuit, connect the Active Equalizer there and the system will operate as normal.

**NOTE #4:** When the Active Equalizer is connected in between the preamp and amplifier, there is no way to bypass the equalizer. However, a switch box (available at many electronic type stores) may be added in between the output of the equalizer and the input of the amplifier to bypass the equalizer. To explain; the Active Equalizer has two sections on the back panel. The output under "Amplifier Connections" is the 901 equalized signal and the output of the equalizer under "Tape Recorder Connections" is unequalized. By connecting the Output (under "Amplifier Connections") to Input #1 of the switch box and the Output (under "Tape Recorder Connections") to Input #2 of the switch box, you can select which signal (equalized or unequalized) is sent to the amplifier (the Output of the select box connects to the input of the amplifier).

**NOTE #5:** The Bose Active Equalizer should be the last effect before amplification. All other signal-processing devices should be before the 901® Active Equalizer.

## Receiver/Equalizer and Tape Deck

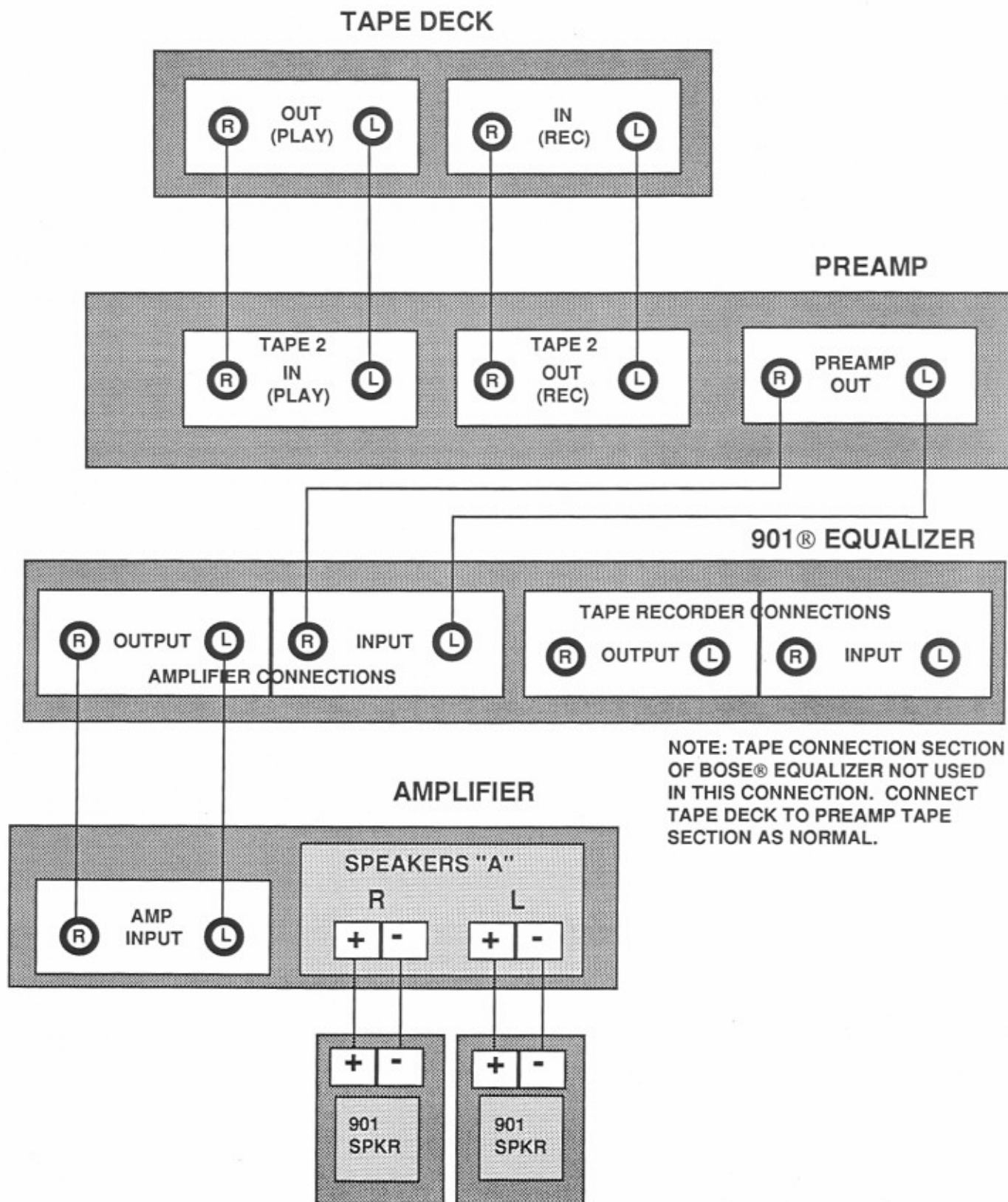
**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary. \*\***



1. Tape Monitor button of equalizer IN (Monitor) for playback of tape only. Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) position for all other sources.
2. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver engaged at all times.

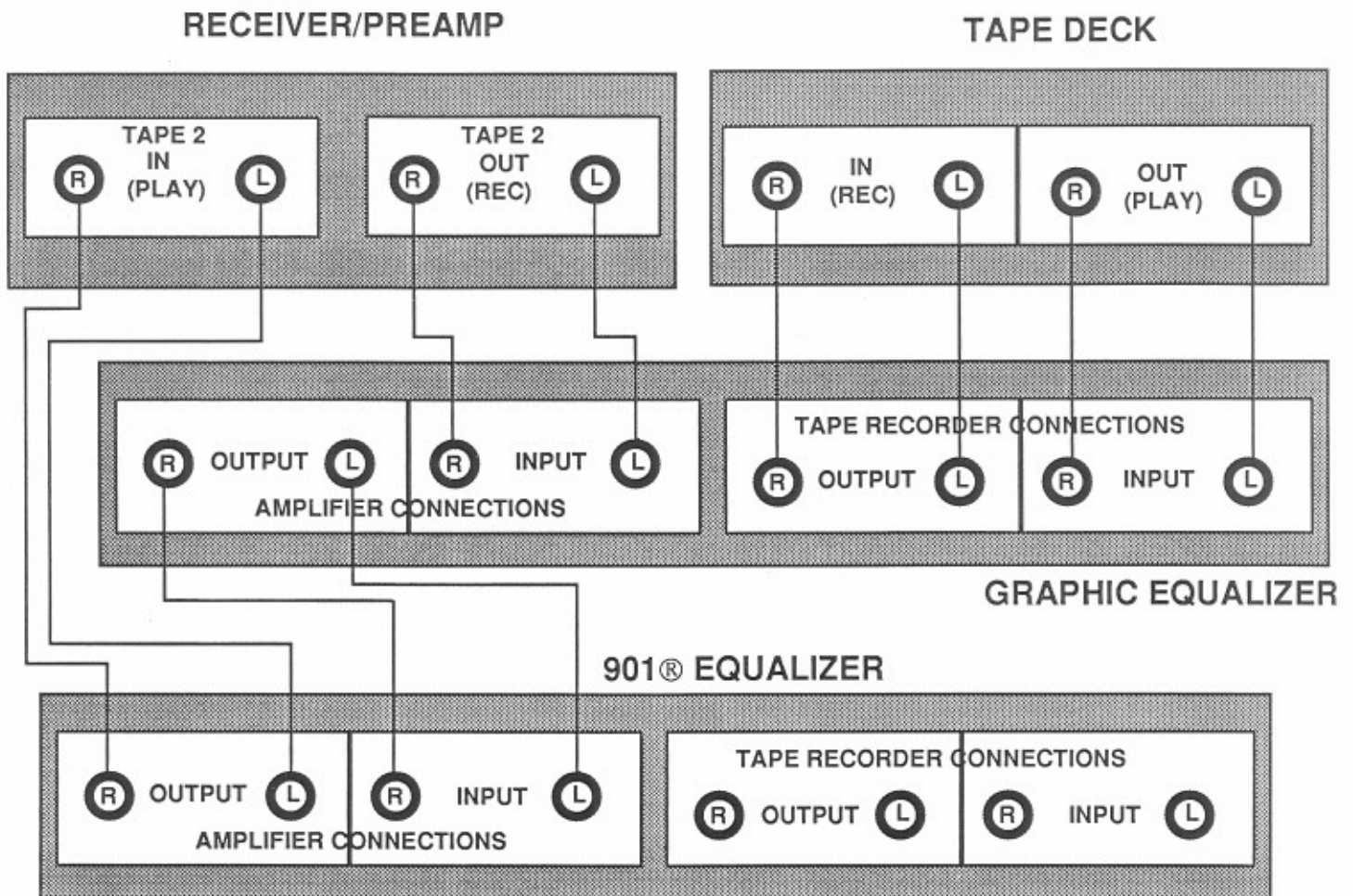
# Preamp/Tape Deck/901® Equalizer/Amplifier

\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary. \*\*



Receiver/Graphic Equalizer/Tape Deck

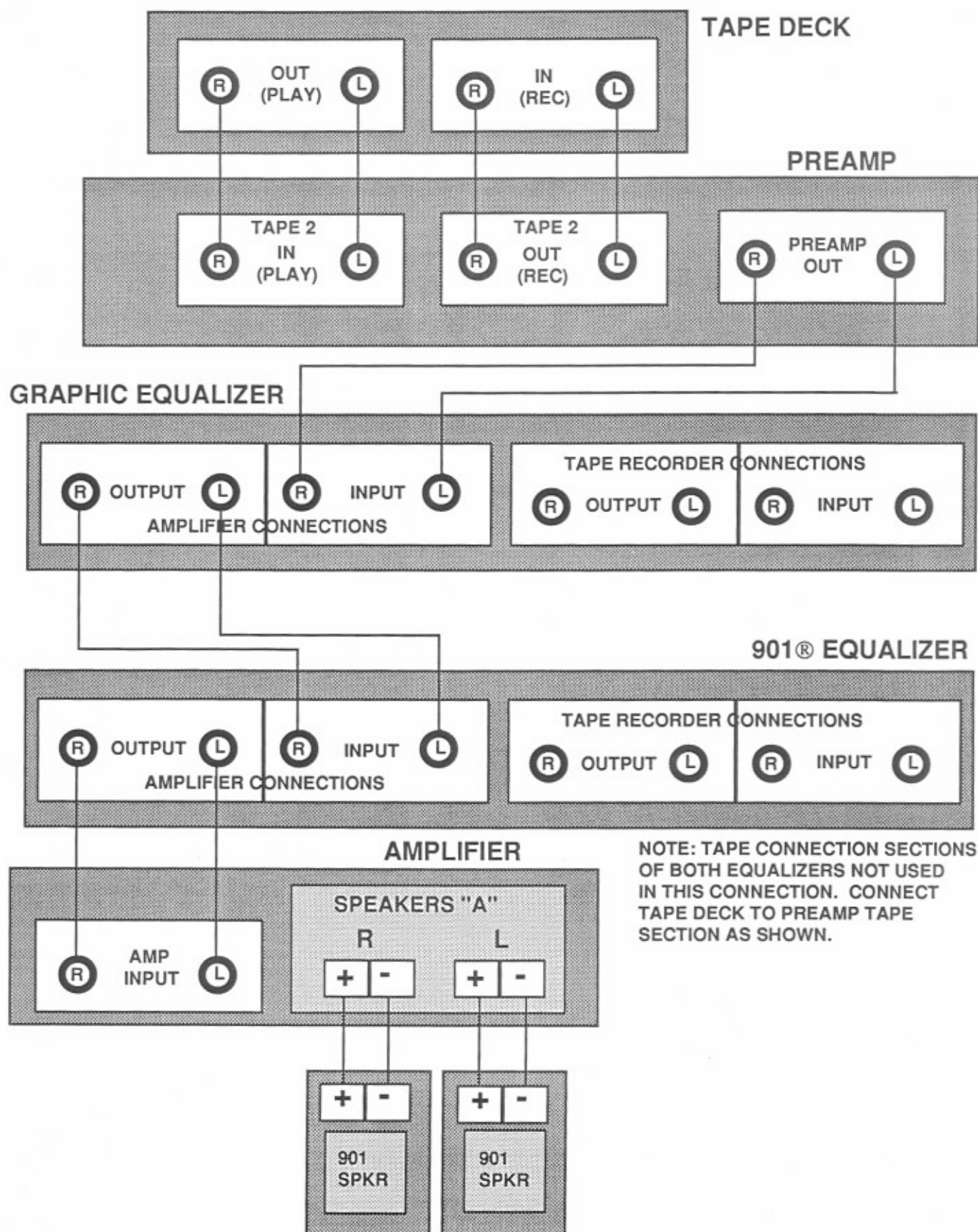
**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***



1. Tape Monitor button of GRAPHIC equalizer IN (Monitor) for playback of tape only. Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) for all other sources.
2. Tape Monitor button of Bose® equalizer always in "Source" position.
3. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver engaged at all times.

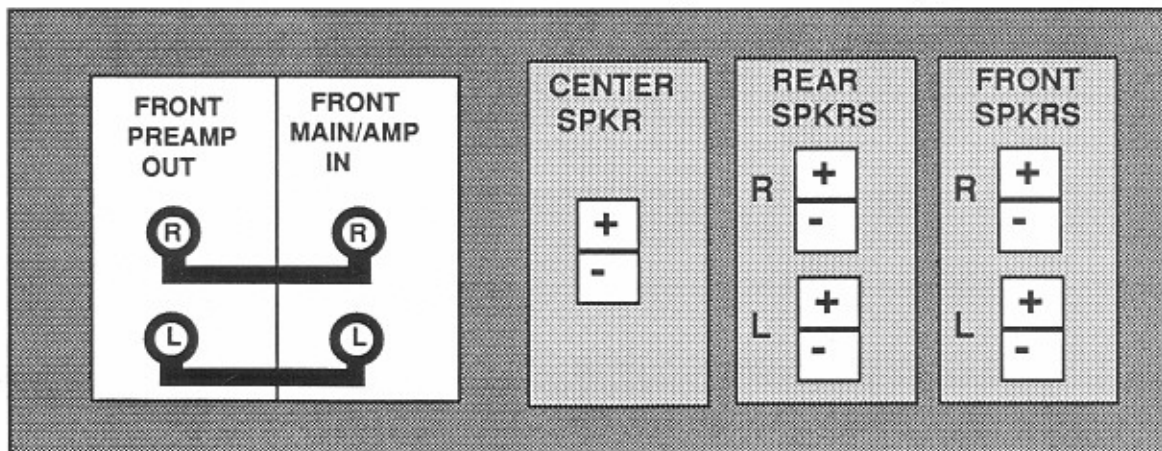
# Preamp/Tape Deck/901® Equalizer/Graphic Equalizer/Amplifier

\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary. \*\*



**901®/Surround Sound Receiver**

**SURROUND SOUND RECEIVER (Normal Set-Up)**

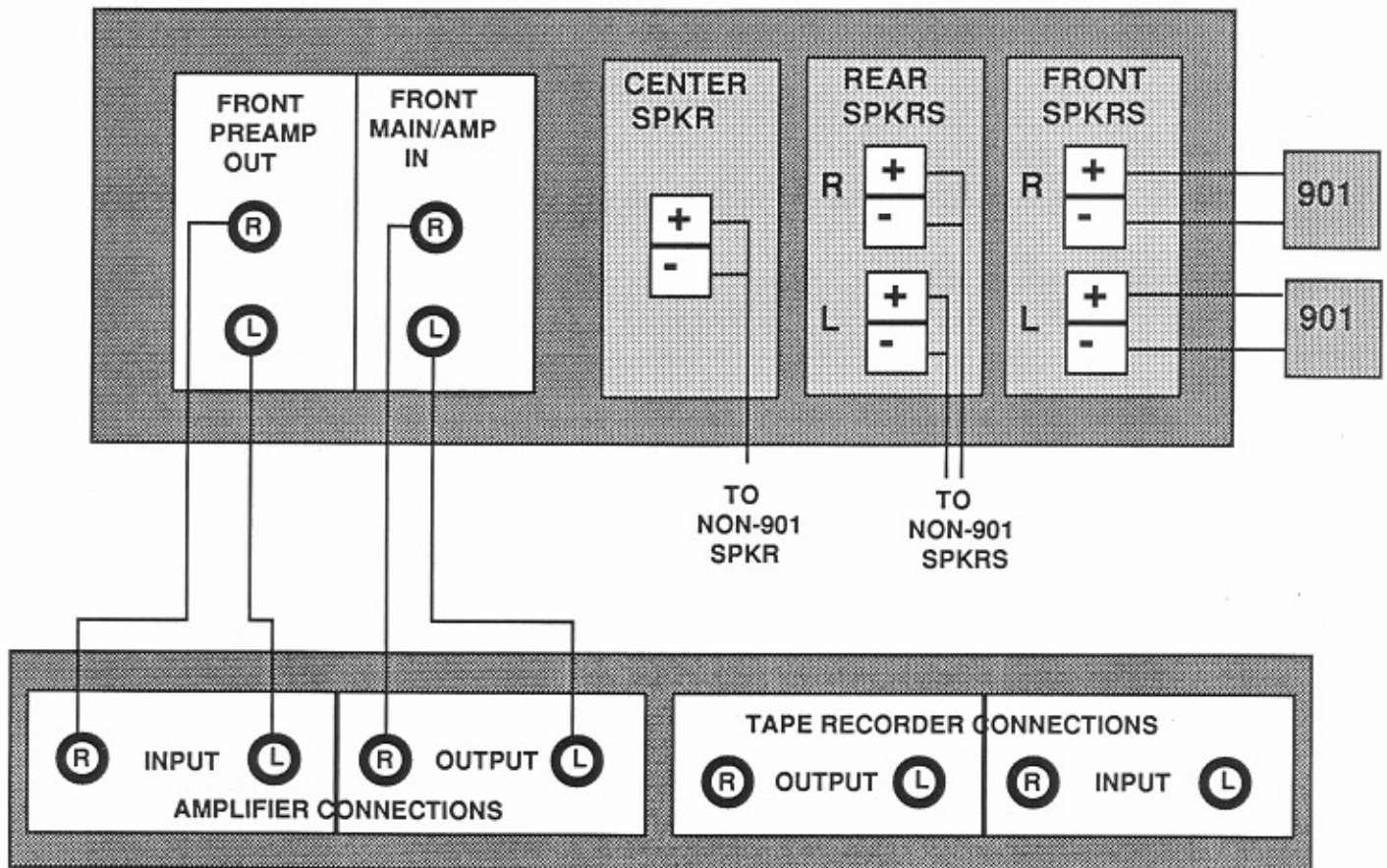


**\*\*Remove Connecting Bars For Preamp Out/Amp In. \*\***

**\*\*Connect As Shown Below.\*\***

**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

**SURROUND SOUND RECEIVER (With 901 Equalizer)**



**901 EQUALIZER**

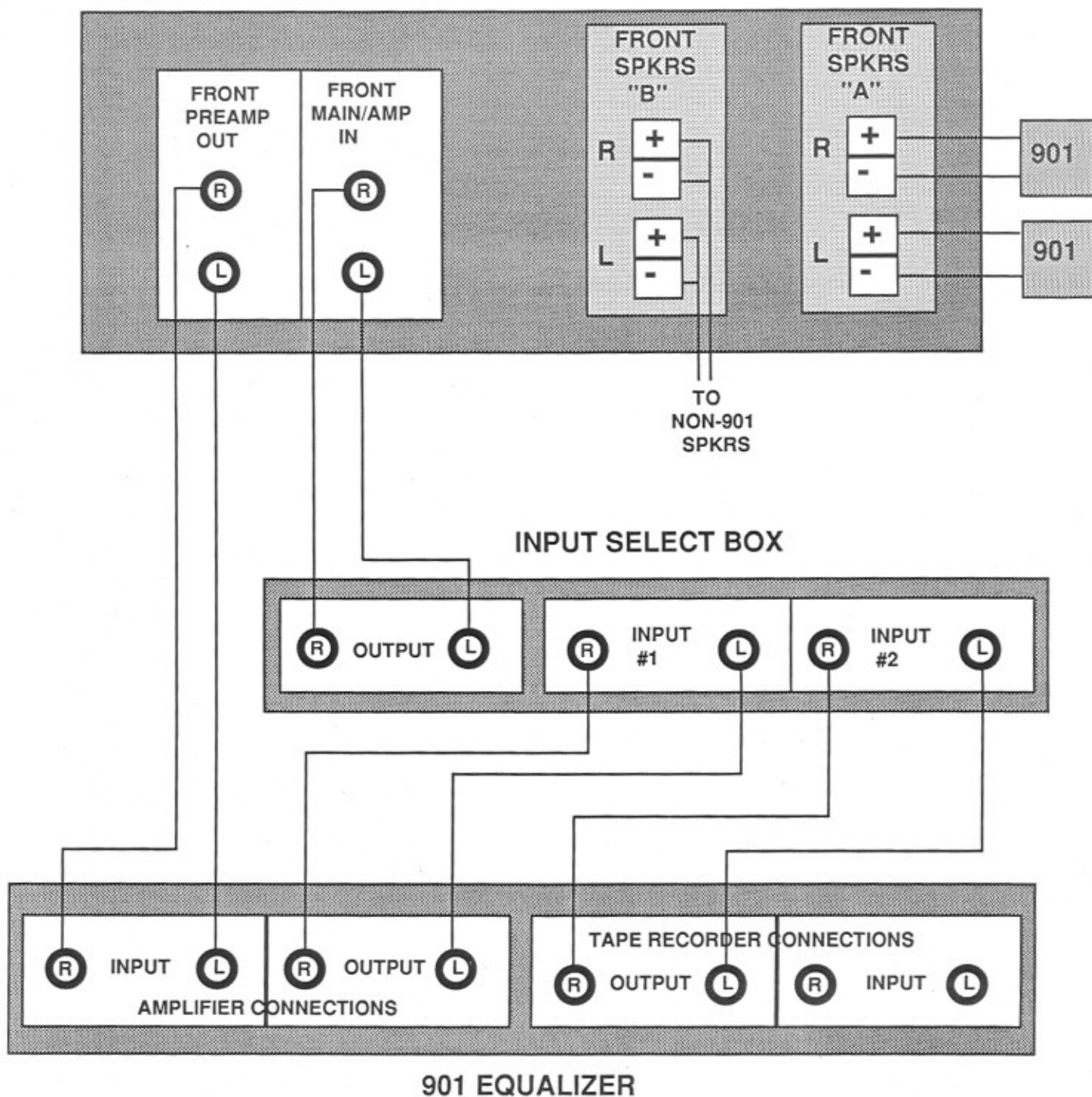
**\*\*Tape Circuit not used in this connection.\*\***

**Put Tape Deck in Tape Circuit of Receiver.**

**901®/Surround Sound Receiver (with Switch Box)**

**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

**\*\*Remove Preamp Out/In connecting bars and connect Eq as shown.\*\***

**SURROUND SOUND RECEIVER****901 EQUALIZER**

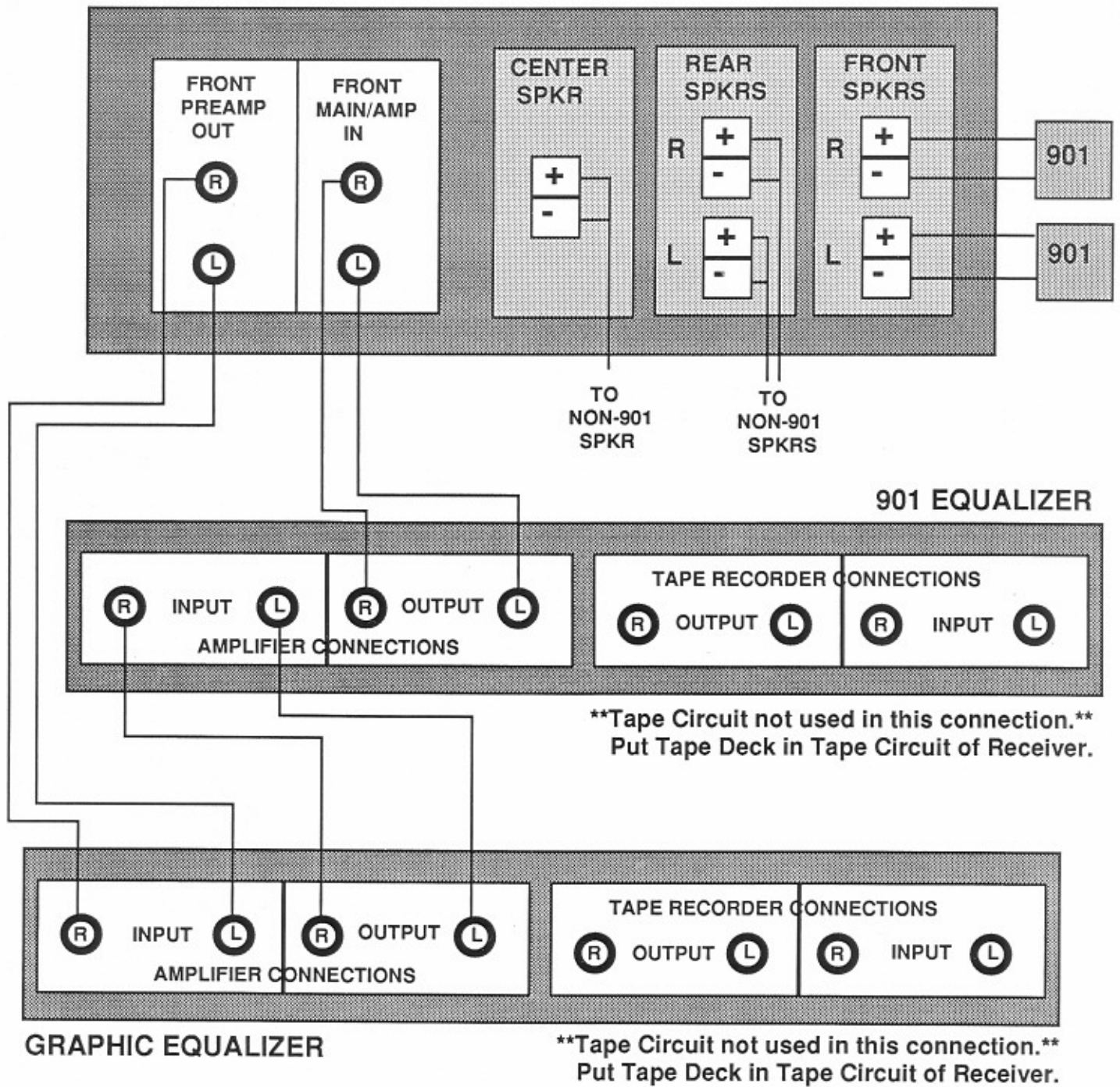
Set Input Select box to #1 for 901 - Speakers "A."

Set Input to #2 for non-901 - Speakers "B."

901 Equalizer will have no effect on Rear or Center outputs in this connection.

### 901®/Surround Sound Receiver /Graphic EQ

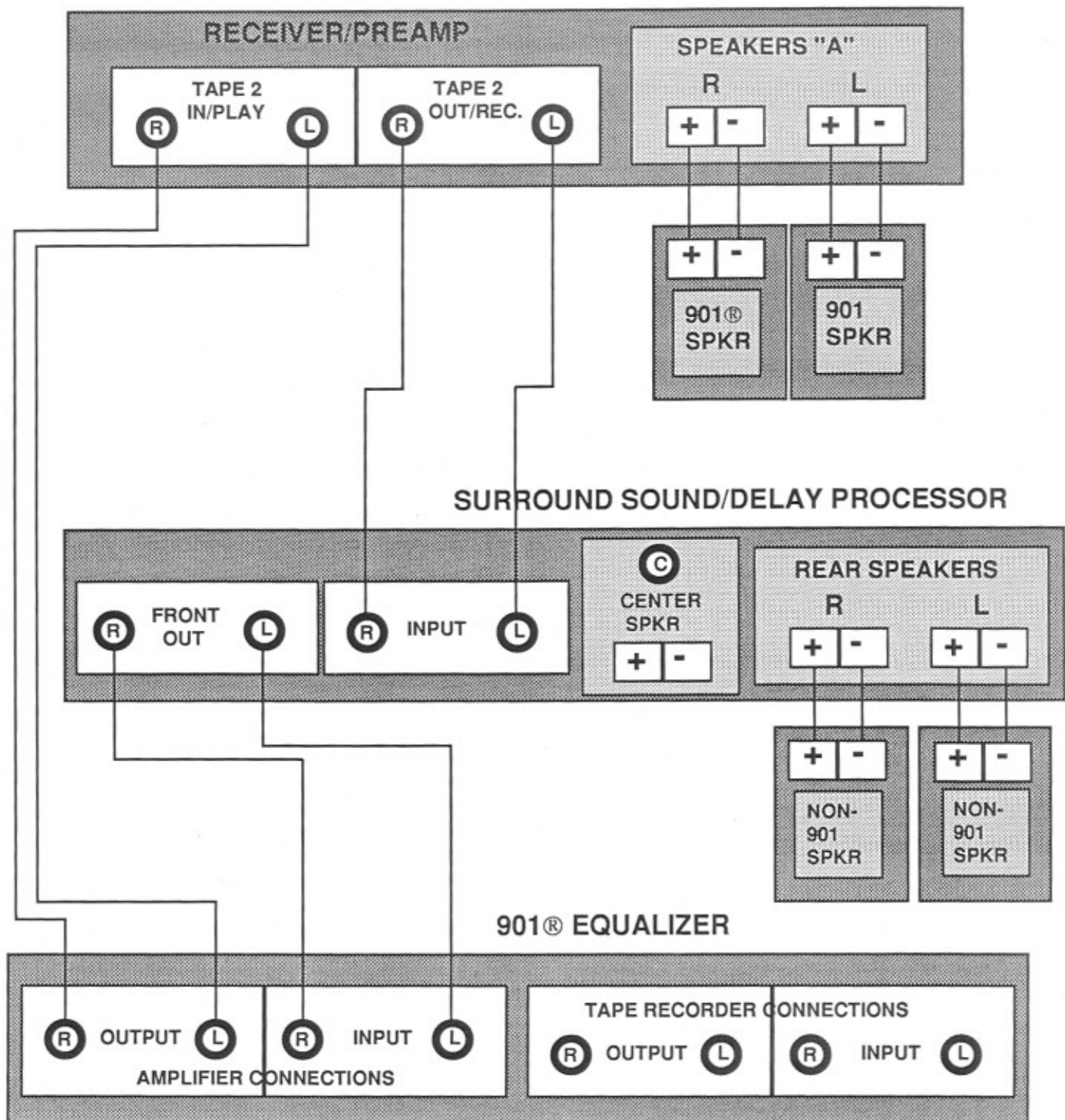
**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***



**NOTE: IF USING SWITCH BOX FOR SPEAKERS "A" AND "B" OPERATION, CONNECT "INPUT SELECT" BOX IN BETWEEN THE OUTPUT OF THE 901 EQUALIZER AND THE INPUT OF THE RECEIVER AS SHOWN ON PAGE 6.**

Receiver/External SS (tape circuit).

\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\*



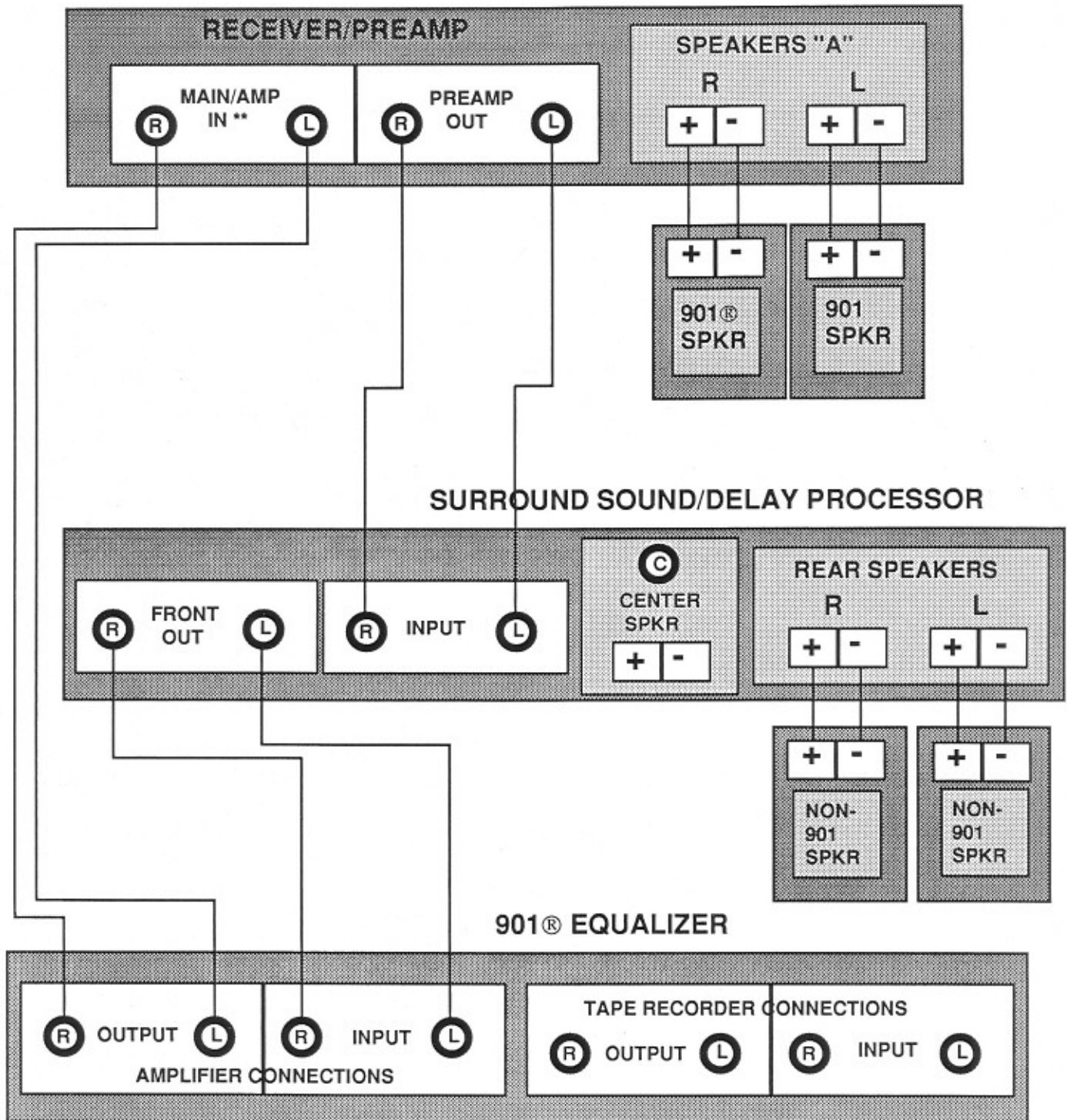
1. Bose® Tape Circuit not used in this connection. Install Tape Deck in the Tape Circuit of the Processor or Tape #1 of the Receiver.
2. Equalizer Tape Monitor button always in "Source" position
3. Receiver Tape #2 Monitor engaged at all times.

Receiver/External SS (preamp circuit).

\*\*Terminology correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\*

\*\*Remove Preamp Out/In connecting bars and connect Eq as shown.\*\*

\*\* The "Main/Amp In" can be the Input to the Receiver or the Input to a separate amplifier\*\*

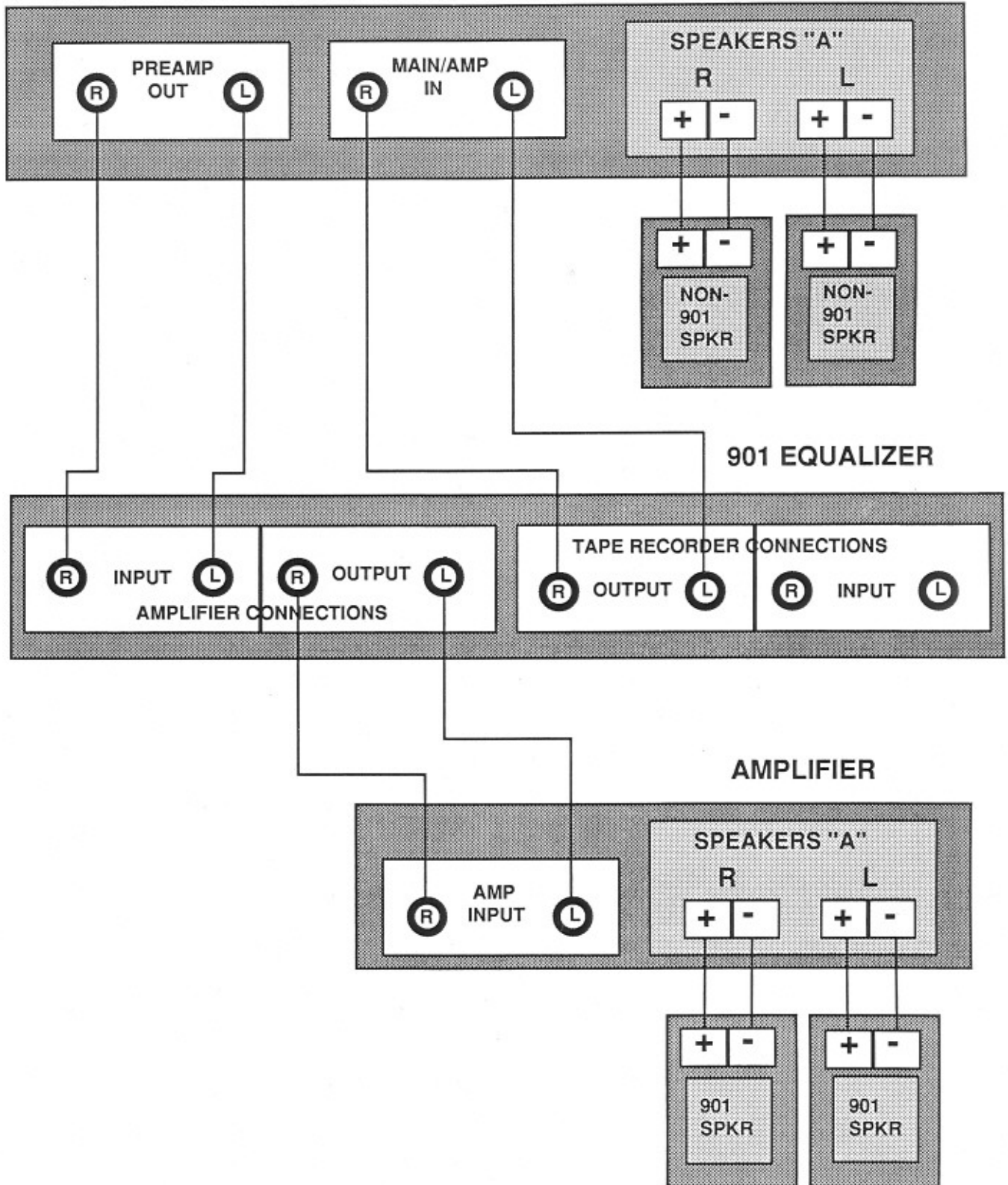


**Receiver/Equalizer/External Amp for 901® Speakers**

\*\*Terminology correct. Physical location of jacks may vary. \*\*

\*\*Remove Preamp Out/In connecting bars and connect Eq as shown.\*\*

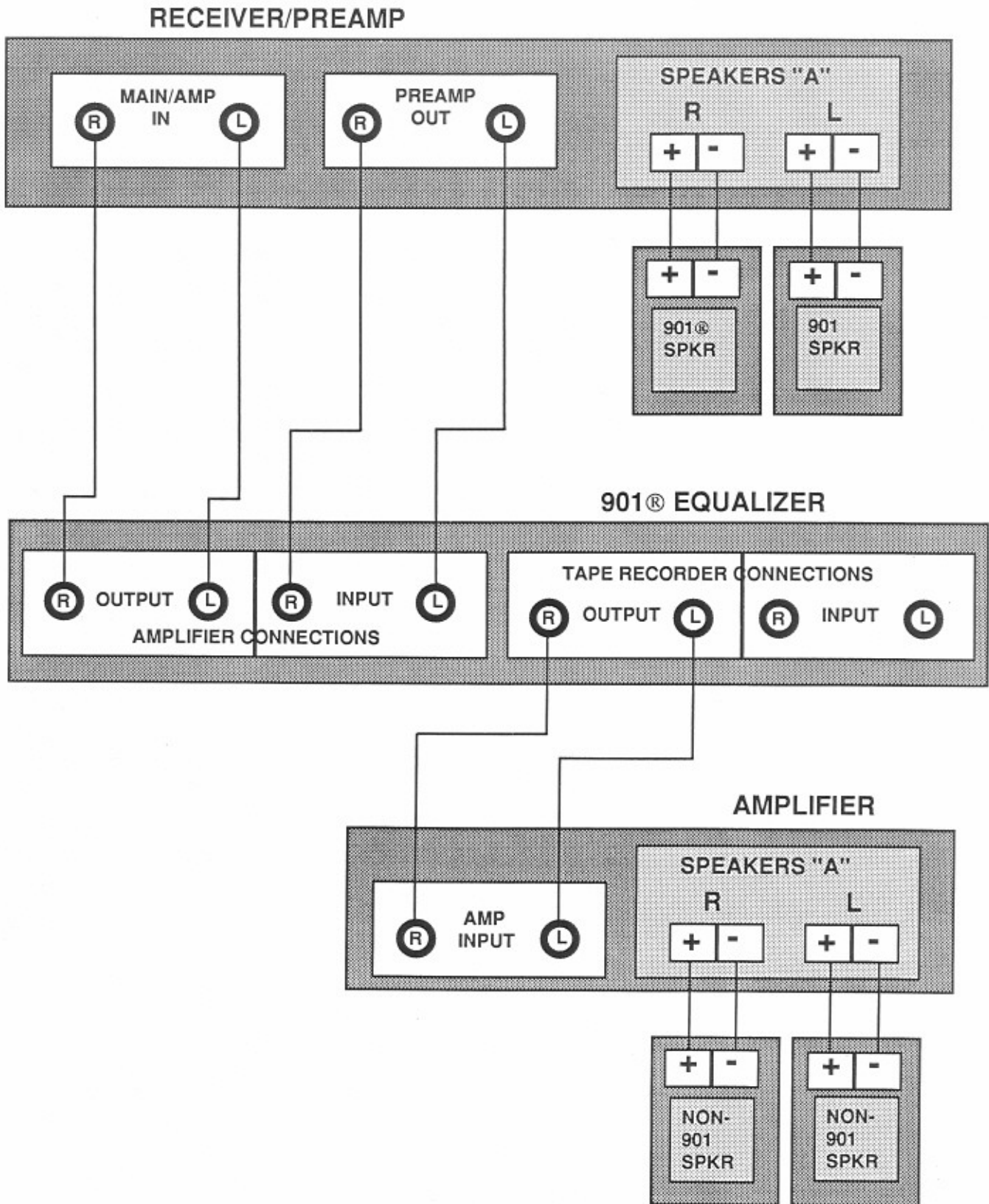
**RECEIVER/PREAMP**



### Receiver/Equalizer/External Amp for Other Speakers

**\*\*Terminology correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

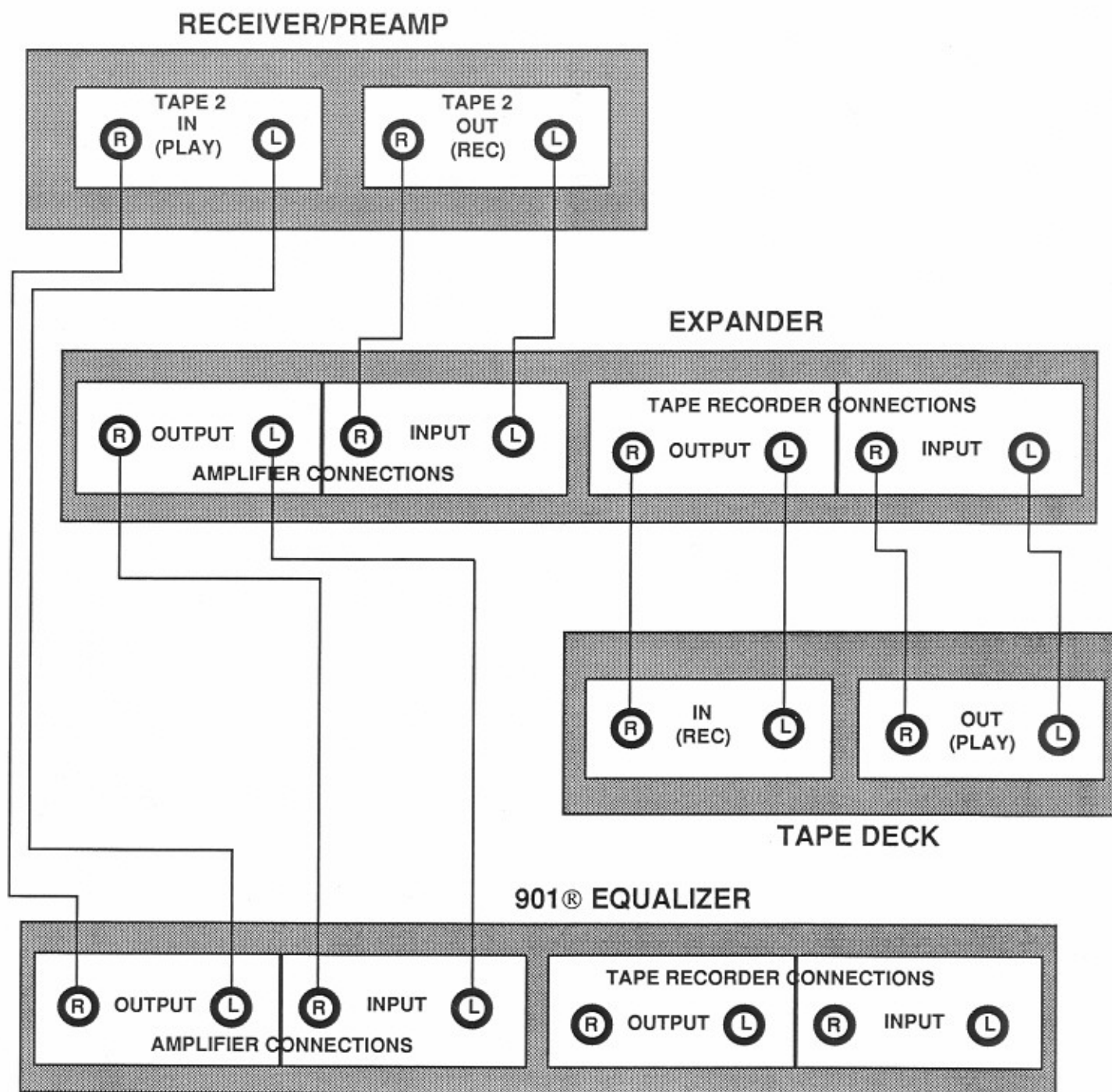
**\*\*Remove Preamp Out/In connecting bars and connect Eq as shown.\*\***



**\*\* Tape Monitor button of equalizer OUT (Source) for all sources.\*\***

**Receiver/ Expander/Tape Deck**

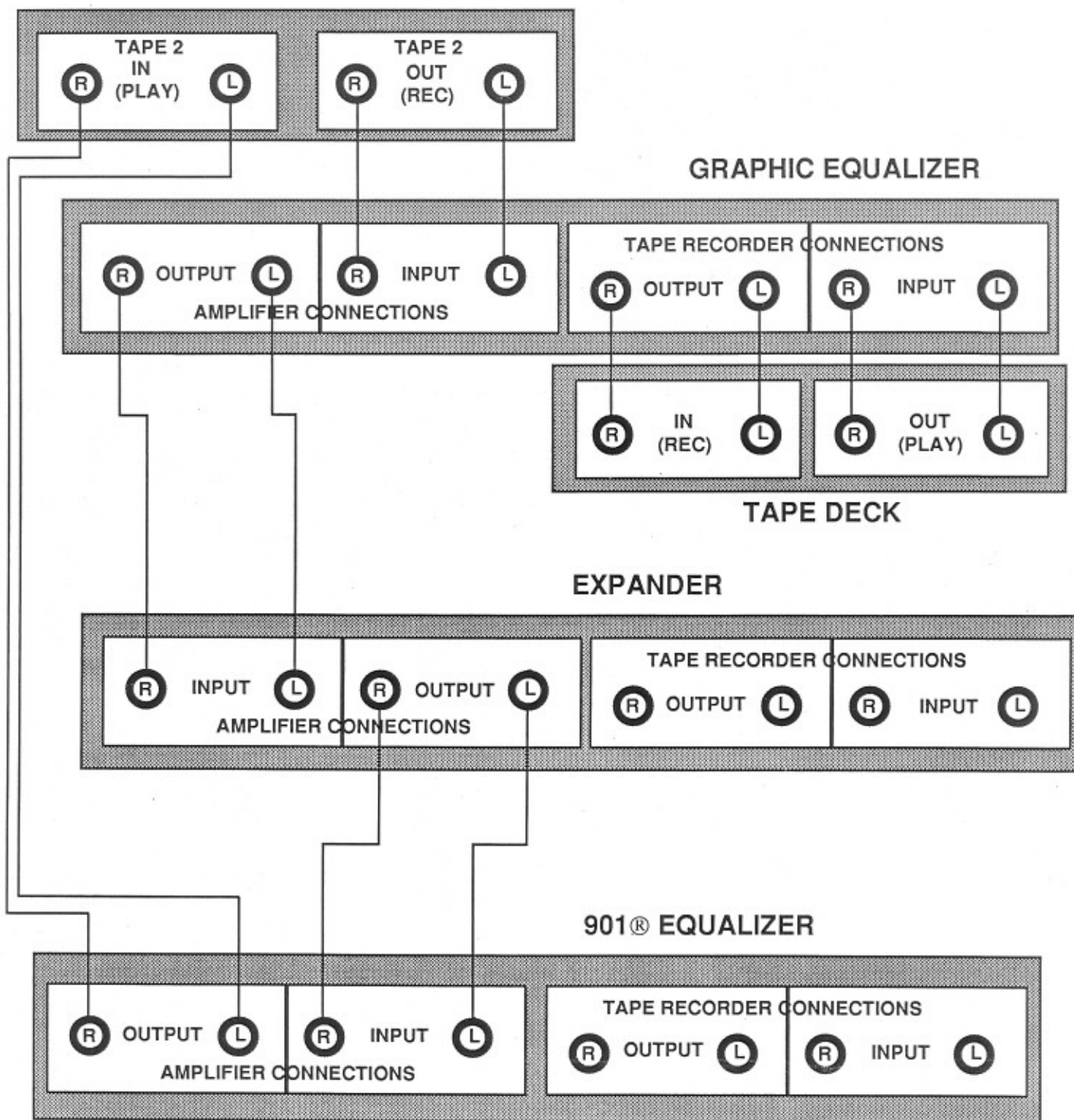
**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***



1. Tape Monitor button of Expander - IN (Monitor) for playback of tape only.  
Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) position for all other sources.
2. Tape Monitor button of Bose® equalizer always in "Source" position.
3. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver engaged at all times.

**Receiver/Graphic Eq/ Expander/Tape Deck**

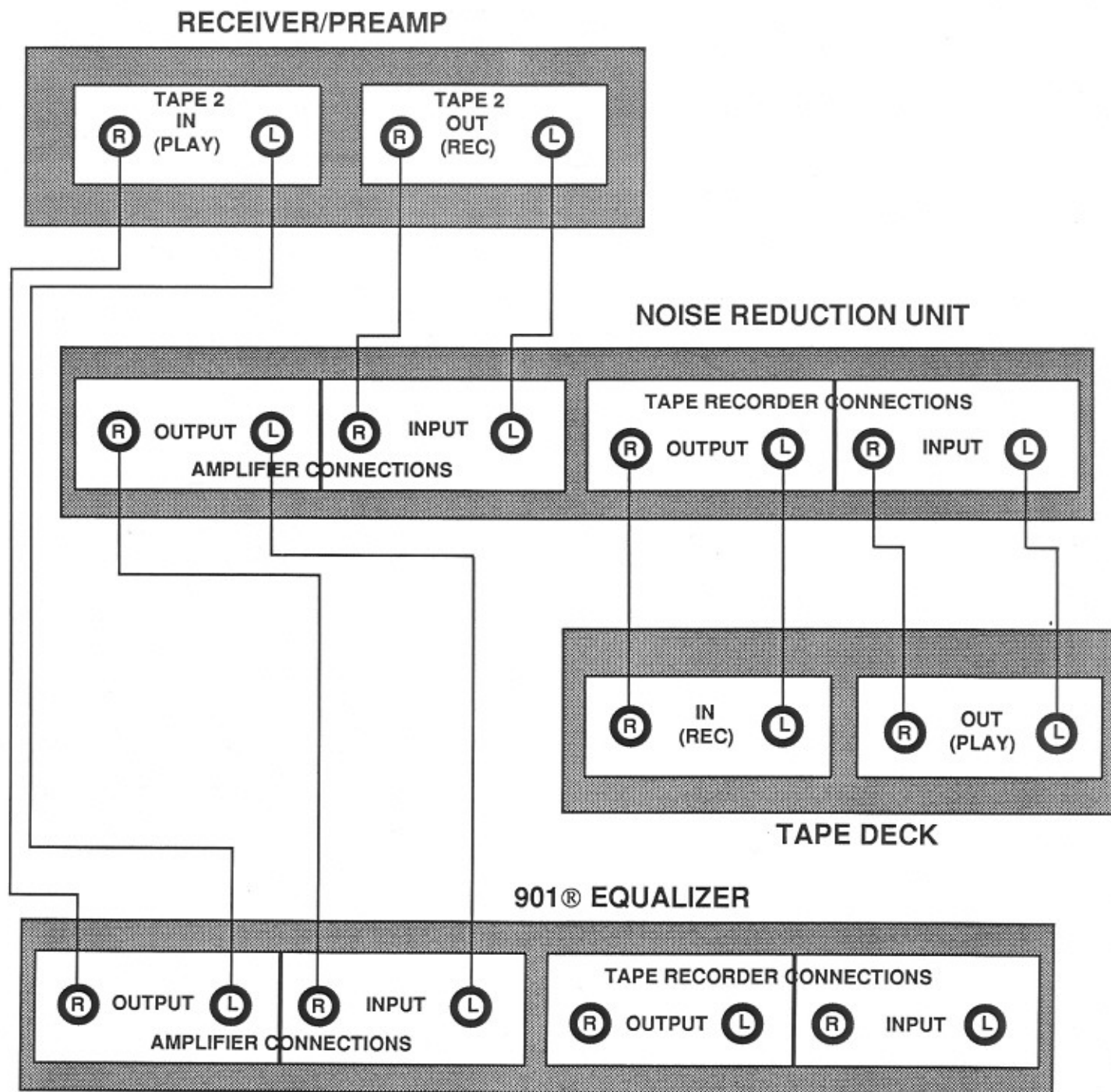
**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

**RECEIVER/PREAMP**

1. Tape Monitor button of Graphic Equalizer IN (Monitor) for playback of tape only. Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) position for all other sources.
2. Tape Monitor button of Bose® equalizer always in "Source" position.
3. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver engaged at all times.

Receiver/Noise Reduction/Tape Deck

**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

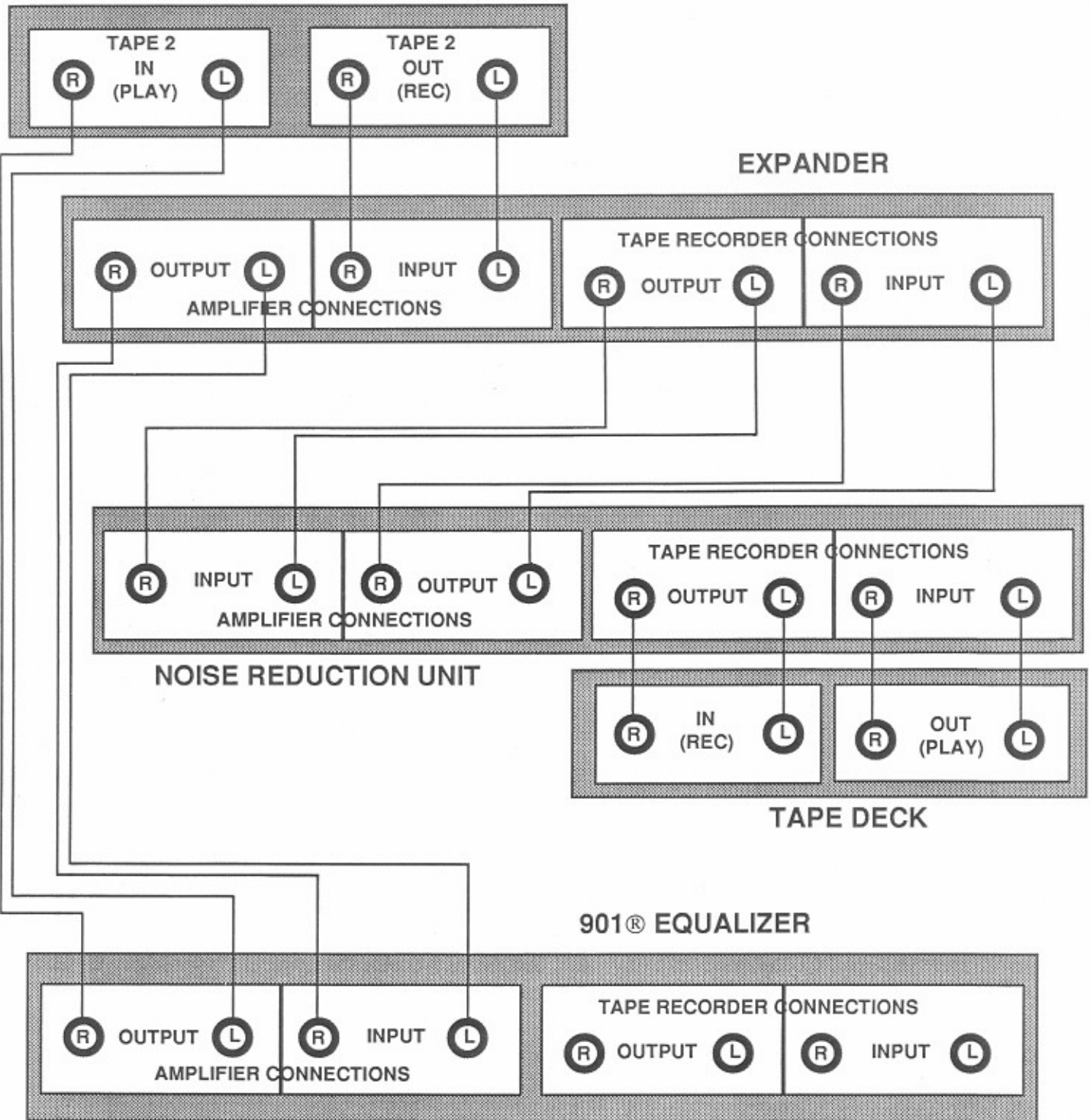


1. Tape Monitor button of Noise Reduction Unit IN (Monitor) for playback of tape only. Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) for all other sources.
2. Tape Monitor button of Bose® equalizer always in "Source" position.
3. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver engaged at all times.

**Receiver/ Expander/Noise Reduction/Tape Deck**

**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

**RECEIVER/PREAMP**

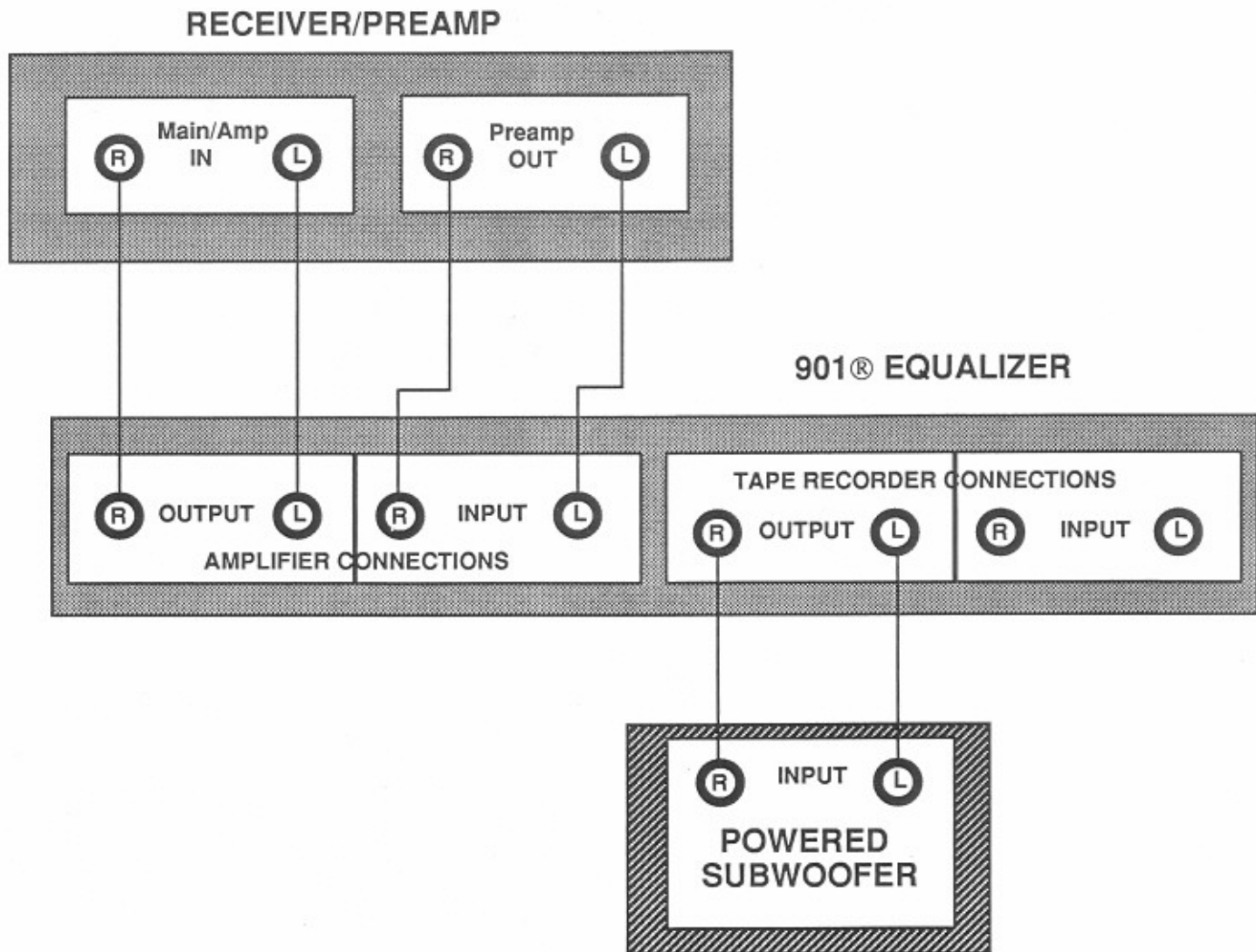


1. Tape Monitor button of Expander IN (Monitor) for playback of tape only. Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) position for all other sources.
2. Tape Monitor button of Bose® equalizer always in "Source" position.
3. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver engaged at all times.

Receiver/Equalizer/Subwoofer

**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***

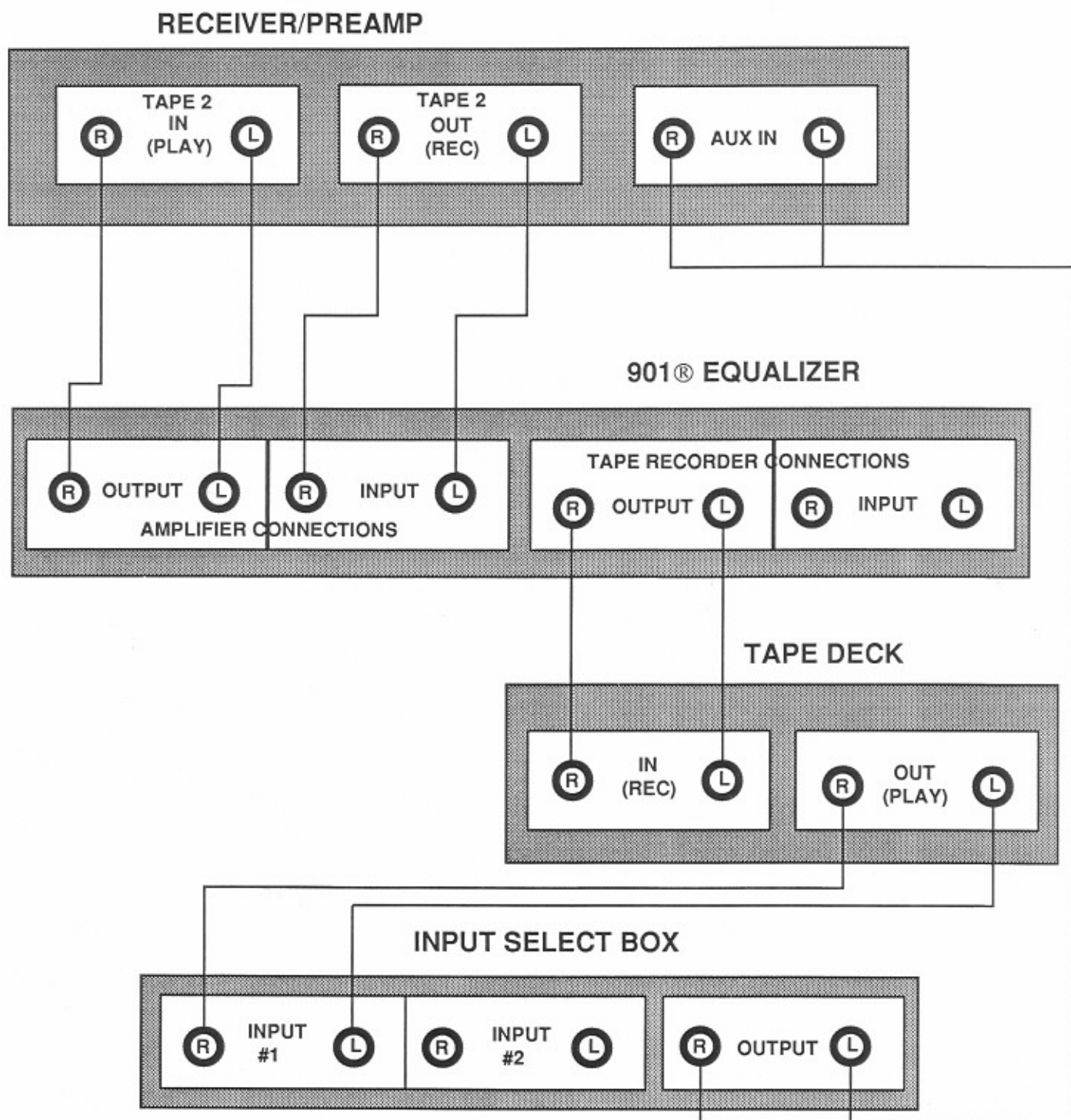
**\*\*Remove Preamp Out/In connecting bars and connect Eq as shown.\*\***



The Output under "Amplifier Connections" is equalized.  
 The Output under "Tape Recorder Connections" is not equalized.  
 Tape Monitor button of equalizer always in "Source" position.

## Receiver/Equalizer and Tape Deck (Switch Box for Headphones)

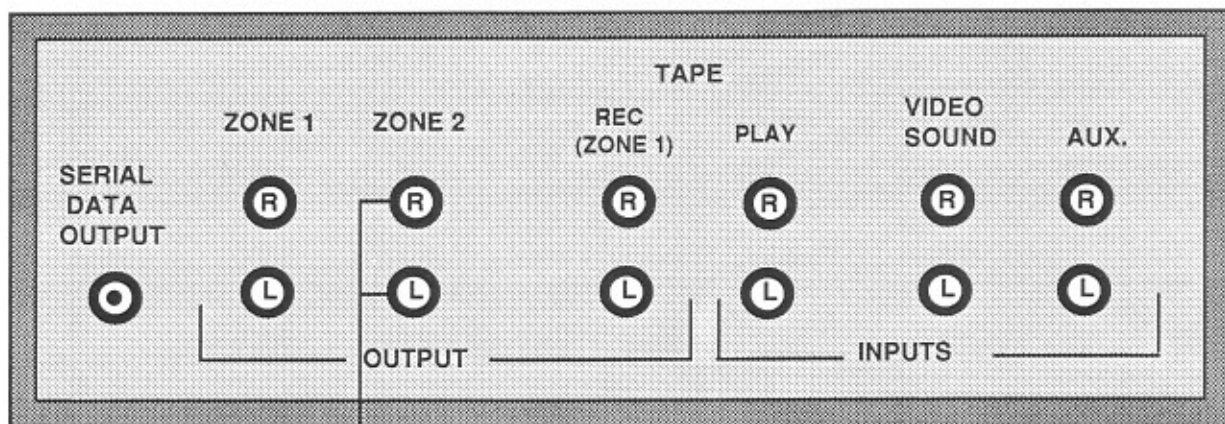
**\*\*Terminology is correct. Physical location of jacks may vary.\*\***



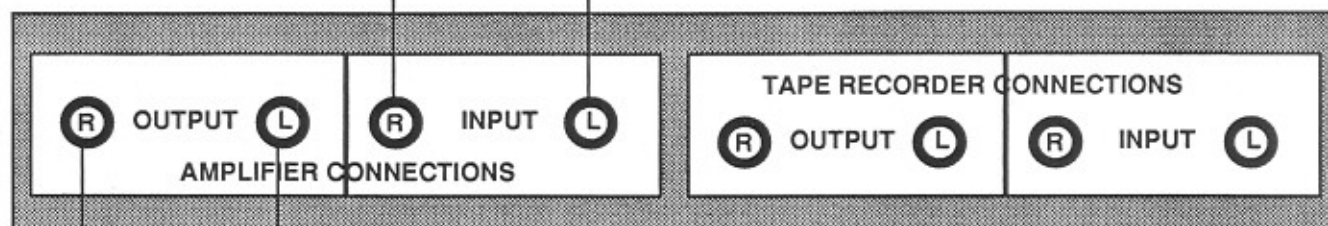
1. Engage Aux to Play Tape.
2. Tape Monitor button in OUT (Source) position at all times.
3. Tape 2 Monitor button of receiver IN for 901® use, OUT for Headphones
4. CD or other component can be connected to Input Box Input #2.

## Lifestyle® Music System/901® Loudspeakers

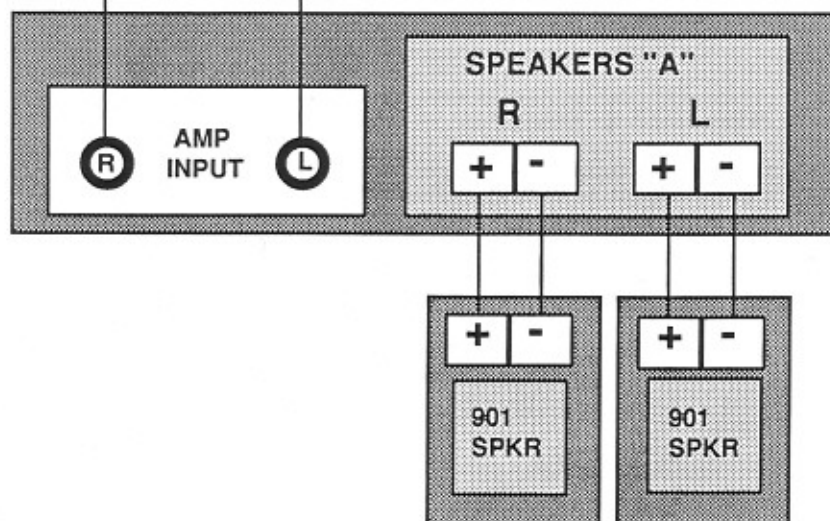
## Lifestyle® Preamp



## 901 EQUALIZER



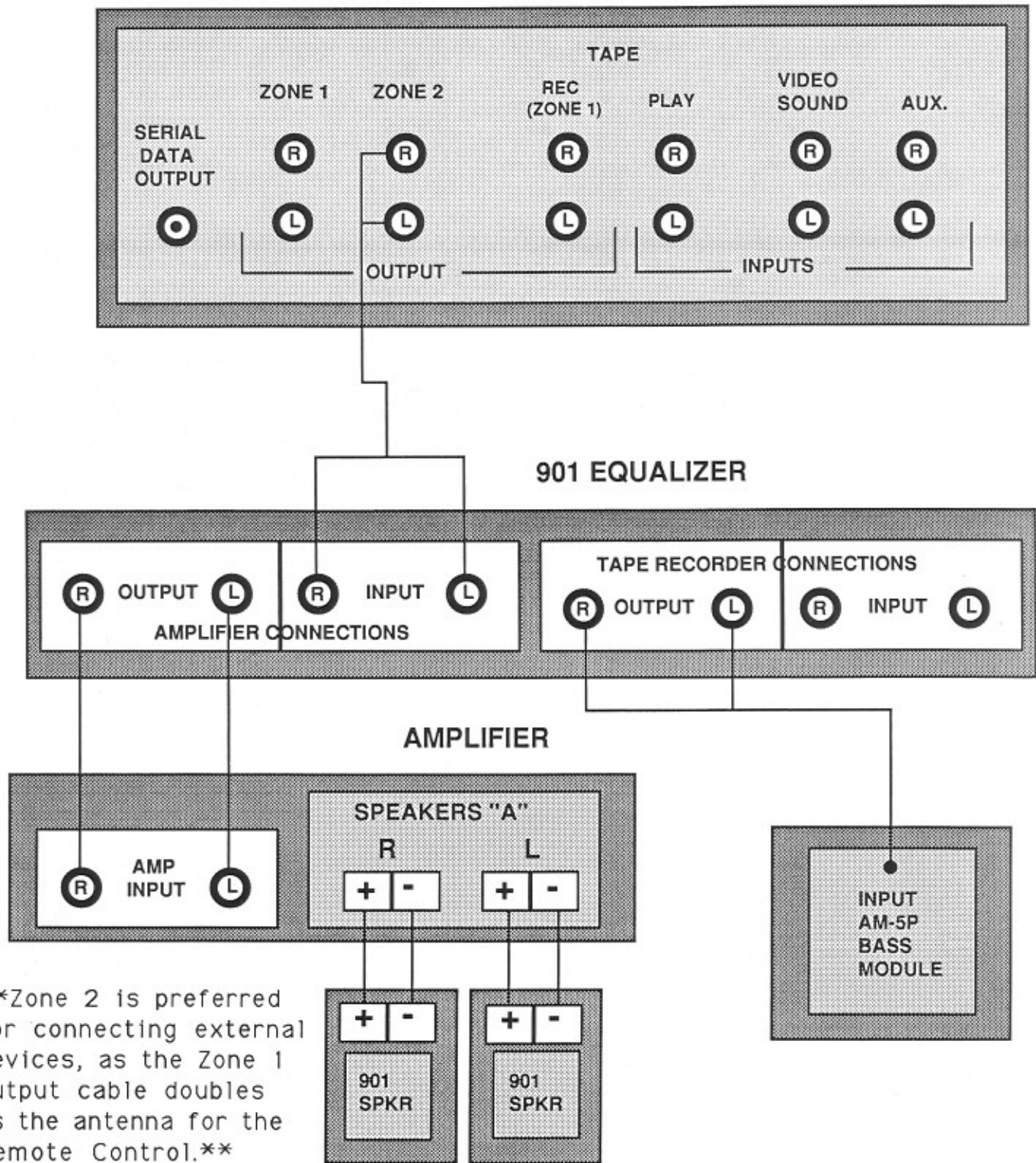
## AMPLIFIER



\*\*Zone 2 is preferred for connecting external devices, as the Zone 1 output cable doubles as the antenna for the Remote Control.\*\*

**Lifestyle®/901®/Acoustimass® Powered System**

**Lifestyle® Preamp**



\*\*Zone 2 is preferred for connecting external devices, as the Zone 1 output cable doubles as the antenna for the Remote Control.\*\*



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***BOSE***<sup>®</sup>  
*Better sound through research.*

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