











Optimal Audio



Congratulations on your choice of Optimal Audio for your latest sound system installation.

The Optimal Audio range of compatible audio zoners, controller, amplifiers and loudspeakers are designed to work together simply and effectively. Our quick start guides will take you through connectivity and set up in a straightforward style that reflects the Optimal Audio brand.







There are three amplifiers in the SmartAmp range:

SmartAmp 10

Two channels of Class D amplification, 125W each with power sharing, low impedance or 70 - 100V output, integrated DSP





SmartAmp 20

Four channels of Class D amplification, 125W each with power sharing between pairs of channels, low impedance or 70 – 100V output, integrated DSP

SmartAmp 30

Four channels of Class D amplification, 250W each, low impedance or 70-100V output, integrated DSP











Start using your SmartAmp

All SmartAmps come loaded with DSP presets for Optimal Audio Up series ceiling speakers and the smaller models in the Cuboid range. Presets are easily selected via the dip switches on the rear panel. Presets can be found later in this guide.

SmartAmp 10 and 20 offer increased flexibility through power sharing between pairs of channels. This means that if the power requirement on one channel of an adjacent pair is required to deliver more that its rated 125W, it can draw unused power from its partner channel, assuming it has the power available.

This does not apply for SmartAmp 30, which offers 4 channels of 250 W.

All SmartAmp models use identical connectors, which are supplied with the units. Inputs are 3.5mm pitch green Euro Block connectors. Amplifier outputs are 5mm pitch green Euro Block connectors. Refer to the diagrams on the rear panel of SmartAmp for the correct wiring, and the Optimal Audio Connectors and Cables, Lights and Labels Quick Start Guide, which will help you get the wiring right.

- Connect the output of your Optimal Audio Zone 4 or 8 that relates to the loudspeakers in the area you want your SmartAmp to power
- Once you have connected everything up, plug your SmartAmp into the mains power and turn it on
- Turn the relevant amplifier channel volume knob all the way up
- Apply signal and the amplifier will automatically wake up, the front panel LED turning from red (standby) to green (operational)
- Green LED's will illuminate on the channels to which signal is applied.









Powering Up

240V AC, 50/60Hz. Use the mains cable appropriate to your region as supplied with the amplifier and connect it to a switched mains supply.

SmartAmp amplifiers have no mains power switch and are operational as soon as mains power is connected. Ensure that all signal, GPIO and output connections are made and that all DIP switch options are selected appropriately before connecting the amplifier to mains power.

NOTE

SmartAmps are Energy Star compliant and will sleep when not in use to minimize energy consumption. On receiving a signal at the input above -47dBu the amplifier will wake up.

Amplifiers will not power up from standby mode unless an input signal is present.







Rear Panel Connections & Controls



SmartAmp 10

SmartAmp 20 & SmartAmp 30











Input Connections

SmartAmp inputs are of balanced, line level format and require the use of suitable two-core, screened signal cable.

Input connections to SmartAmp are achieved via male 'Euro Block' connectors. Connecting cables to the supplied female input connectors is illustrated below







Loudspeaker Outputs

All channels are capable of both Low-Z and Hi-Z (70V or 100V) outputs.

Output impedance is selected by a combination of the impedance switches and the active preset. Where presets include subs, these channels are fixed at low impedance.

It is critical that the correct connections are made using the appropriate 'Euro Block' connectors, supplied with the unit. Again, ensure the amplifier is off when connecting loudspeakers and check that you have used the correct combination of pins for your application.

Be aware that the Hi-Z output pins can deliver voltages up to 100 volts!

Output connections from SmartAmp are achieved via male 'Euro Block' connectors. Ensure that speaker connection polarity is correct throughout the installation: positive (+) amplifier terminals should always be connected to positive speaker terminals and negative (–) amplifier terminals always connected to negative speaker terminals.

Together with DIP switch configuration, the output connector blocks provide connection options that enable channel independent selection of Hi-Z or Low-Z mode. Connecting cables to the supplied female output connector, and the selection of Hi-Z or Low-Z connection options as shown in the diagram.



Low-Z Connection Hi-Z Connection



Ch1: Low-Z connection Ch2: Hi-Z connection Ch3: Hi-Z connection Ch4: Low-Z connection

The caution symbol printed next to the OUTPUT terminals of the SmartAmp amplifier is in addition to the "CLASS 2 WIRING" text intended to alert the user to the risk of hazardous energy. Output connectors that could pose a risk are marked with caution symbol. Do not touch the output terminals while the amplifier power is on. Make all connections with the amplifier turned off.



SmartAmp Amplifiers with DSP

SmartAmp 10

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Dip Switches

The dip switches allow you to select the recommended DSP presets for the Optimal Audio Up series of ceiling speakers, Cuboid 8, Cuboid 10 and Sub 10. The following tables contain all the presets available in SmartAmp 10, 20 and 30. Be sure to use the correct table for the amp you are using, as SmartAmp 10 has different preset allocations to SmartAmp 20 and 30.

Please note that only the first 5 switches are used for loudspeaker preset selection.

SmartAmp Presets – white squares show switch position.

Preset No.	Speaker Configuration Phase 1		
	CH1 CH2		1 2 3 4 5
0	No Processing	No Processing	
1	Up 3	Up 3	
2	Up 4	Up 4	
3	Up 40	Up 40	
4	Up 4S	Up 4S	
5	Up 6	Up 6	
6	Reserved	Reserved	
7	Reserved	Reserved	
8	Reserved	Reserved	
9	Reserved	Reserved	
10	Reserved	Reserved	
11	Reserved	Reserved	
12	Reserved	Reserved	
13	Sub 10	Sub 10	
14	Sub 10	Up 3	
15	Sub 10	Up 4	
16	Sub 10	Up 40	
17	Sub 10	Up 4S	
18	Sub 10	Up 6	
19	Reserved	Reserved	
20	Reserved	Reserved	
21	Reserved	Reserved	
22	Reserved	Reserved	
23	Reserved	Reserved	
24	Reserved	Reserved	
25	Reserved	Reserved	
26	Reserved	Reserved	
27	Reserved	Reserved	
28	Reserved	Reserved	
29	Reserved	Reserved	
30	Reserved	Reserved	
31	Reserved	Reserved	

reset No.	. Speaker Configuration Phase 1								
	CH1	CH2	CH3	CH4	1	2	3	4	Ę
0	No Processing	No Processing	No Processing	No Processing					
1	Up 3	Up 3	Up 3	Up 3					
2	Up 4	Up 4	Up 4	Up 4					
3	Up 40	Up 40	Up 40	Up 40					
4	Up 4S	Up 4S	Up 4S	Up 4S					
5	Up 6	Up 6	Up 6	Up 6					
6	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
7	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
8	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
9	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
10	Cuboid 8	Cuboid 8	Cuboid 8	Cuboid 8					
11	Cuboid 10	Cuboid 10	Cuboid 10	Cuboid 10	F				
12	Sub 10	Sub 10	Sub 10	Sub 10					
13	Sub 10	Up 3	Sub 10	Up 3					
14	Sub 10	Up 4	Sub 10	Up 4					
15	Sub 10	Up 40	Sub 10	Up 40					
16	Sub 10	Up 4S	Sub 10	Up 4S					
17	Sub 10	Up 6	Sub 10	Up 6	F				
18	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
19	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
20	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					F
21	Sub 10	Cuboid 8	Sub 10	Cuboid 8	F				
22	Sub 10	Cuboid 10	Sub 10	Cuboid 10					
23	LowZ only	HiZ only	LowZ only	HiZ only					
24	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
25	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
26	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
27	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	F				
28	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
29	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	F				F
30	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					
31	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved	Reserved					Ē



SmartAmp standalone mode +4dBu input level gives maximum amplifier output Front panel volume controls active



SmartAmp used with a Zone processor +20dBu input level gives maximum amplifier output Front panel volume controls inactive

and levels set to unity.

DIPS	8
1	

DIP SWITCH 6&7 COMBINATIONS FOR PRESET 23 ONLY

	CH1	CH2	CH3	CH4
0	8 ohms	70V	8 ohms	70V
1	8 ohms	100V	8 ohms	100V
2	4 ohms	100V	4 ohms	100V
3	4 ohms	70V	4 ohms	70V







GPIO (General Purpose In/Out) Connections

The GPIO connectors enable remote control of key parameters of SmartAmp:



	Function	Notes
GPIO GND (1)	Ground reference for all GPIO pins	
GPIO v12 (2) *	Channel 1 & 2 auxiliary gain control	Connect to a potentiometer (> $10k\Omega$) wiper between the VCC and GND pins. The maximum level available when using GPIO control is defined by the front panel gain control setting.
GPIO V34 (3) *	Channel 3 & 4 auxiliary gain control (four channel amplifiers only)	Connect to a potentiometer (> $10k\Omega$) wiper between the VCC and GND pins. The maximum level available when using GPIO control is defined by the front panel gain control setting.
GPIO VCC (4)	Control voltage output	Provides a 3.3V DC control output (100 Ω output impedance) for up to two volume control potentiometers (>10k Ω)
GPIO STB (5)	Alarm Mute	Connect to GND pin to mute the unit and place it in standby mode
GPIO GPO (6)	Mute Out	OV DC indicates normal status, +3.3V DC indicates one or more channels in protection mode

*In order to conform to EMC specifications, shielded cable must be employed when connecting external volume control potentiometers to the GPIO connectors. This is to prevent the cable acting as an antenna for any radiated emissions from within the amplifier.

Be sure to use the appropriate Euro Block connector for the GPIO inputs





Installation & Rack Mounting

Optimal Audio provide a set of hardware options for rack mounting SmartAmp in several ways.

Rack Kit A (see Appendix A) is suitable for rack mounting both full and half-racksized units and enables coupling of half-rack-sized units to fit two SmartAmp 10 or 20 into a single rack space.

Rack Kit B (see Appendix B) is for providing rear support to units when mounted in mobile racks and other more demanding situations

SmartAmp Wall Mount (See Appendix C) is used for mounting any of the SmartAmp range against flat surfaces

SmartAmp 30 is shipped with rack mount 'ears' attached as illustrated above and is primarily intended to be installed in an equipment rack. The installation and equipment rack should be configured to provide appropriate ventilation airflow space around the sides and rear of the amplifier. Ventilation airflow space of at least 25 mm (1 in) should be maintained along at least one side of the amplifier at all times. Ventilation apertures are also located on the rear panel of the amplifier and must not be obstructed. It is important to retain at least 80 mm (3.1 in) free space for airflow behind the amplifier rear panel.



Installation & Rack Mounting

SmartAmp 20 is shipped without rack mount hardware attached but can be configured for rack installation using one standard rack 'ear' and one half-rack extension piece as illustrated. The installation and equipment rack should be configured to provide appropriate ventilation airflow space around the sides and rear of the amplifier. Ventilation airflow space of at least 25 mm (1 in) should be maintained along at least one side of the amplifier at all times. Ventilation apertures are also located on the rear panel of the amplifier and must not be obstructed. It is important to retain at least 80 mm (3.1 in) free space for airflow behind the amplifier rear panel.

In addition to rack mount ears, optional rack mount rear support hardware is available and can be attached to the amplifier. Rear support hardware may be appropriate if the amplifier is to be used in a mobile rack or potentially be subject to significant movement. Multiple SmartAmp 20 can also be mechanically connected using accessory connecting plates.



Installation & Rack Mounting

Two SmartAmp 20 amplifiers mechanically connected through the connection plate.

SmartAmp 10 is also shipped without rack mount hardware attached but can be configured for rack installation in the same way as SmartAmp 20.

Free-standing

If not to be installed in an equipment rack, SmartAmp can be placed freestanding on a flat surface. Adhesive rubber feet are supplied for this purpose.

SmartAmp 10 and SmartAmp 20 can also be attached to the underside of desks or wall mounted using connecting plate hardware. The adhesive rubber feet should also be used in these circumstances. Wall and desk mounting is illustrated above.

It is important in any free-standing installation that airflow through the amplifier's side panel mounted fans and rear panel ventilation apertures is not compromised by adjacent items. At least 80mm of free space behind the amplifier and 25mm along at least one side should be retained at all times.







Maintenance

Your Optimal Audio SmartAmp should require minimal maintenance and prove to be a reliable workhorse in your sound system

From time to time it may be necessary to clean the fan filters. SmartAmps are forced air cooled, and if located in certain environments the filters can become blocked, causing the amplifier to run at high temperatures, with the potential for shut down.

If in doubt, contact your distributor, who will help you with whatever you need to keep your Optimal Audio system running at its best.





Amplifiers



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS	SmartAmp 10	SmartAmp 20	SmartAmp 30	
ТҮРЕ	CLASS D power amplifier with DSP	CLASS D power amplifier with DSP	CLASS D power amplifier with DSP	
POWER OUTPUT (4Ω-16Ω)	2 x 125W	4 x 125W	4 x 250W	
70V – 100V OUTPUT	2 x 125W	4 x 125W	4 x 250W	
DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING	EQ & limiter presets for Optimal Audio loudspeakers	EQ & limiter presets for Optimal Audio loudspeakers	EQ & limiter presets for Optimal Audio loudspeakers	
COOLING	Forced air cooling with fan	Forced air cooling with fan	Forced air cooling with fan	
ANALOGUE IN/LINK	2 balanced line inputs on Euroblock connectors	4 balanced line inputs on Euroblock connectors	4 balanced line inputs on Euroblock connectors	
ANALOGUE INPUT IMPEDANCE	$10 k \Omega$ unbalanced, $20 k \Omega$ balanced	$10 k \Omega$ unbalanced, $20 k \Omega$ balanced	$10 k \Omega$ unbalanced, $20 k \Omega$ balanced	
MAXIMUM ANALOGUE INPUT LEVEL	+24dBu	+24dBu	+24dBu	
AMPLIFIER OUTPUTS	Euroblock	Euroblock	Euroblock	
SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO	> 100dB (A-weighted, 20Hz - 20kHz, 8Ω load)	> 100dB (A-weighted, 20Hz - 20kHz, 8Ω load)	$>100 dB$ (A-weighted, 20Hz - 20kHz, 8Ω load)	
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	20Hz - 20kHz, +0/-0.25dB (8 Ω load, 3 dB below rated power)	20Hz - 20kHz (+0/-0.25dB (8 Ω load, 3dB below rated power)	20Hz - 20kHz, +0/-0.25dB (8 Ω load, 3dB below rated power)	
TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION	< 0.05 % (20Hz - 20kHz, 8 Ω load, 3dB below rated power)	< 0.05 % (20Hz - 20kHz, 8 Ω load, 3dB below rated power)	< 0.05 % (20Hz - 20kHz, 8 Ω load, 3dB below rated power)	
SLEW RATE	8.796V/µS at 70V peak, low impedence, 17.77V/µS at 100V peak, high impedence	8.796V/μS at 70V peak, low impedence, 17.77V/μS at 100V peak, high impedence	8.796V/μS at 70V peak, low impedence, 17.77V/μS at 100V peak, high impedence	
DAMPING FACTOR	370 with 8Ω load	370 with 8Ω load	370 with 8Ω load	
CONTROL AND MONITORING	GPIO	GPIO	GPIO	
DSP SAMPLE RATE	48kHz	48kHz	48kHz	
MAINS POWER INPUT	Universal mains, 100-240V, 50-60Hz	Universal mains, 100-240V, 50-60Hz	Universal mains, 100-240V, 50-60Hz	
MAINS CONNECTOR	IEC	IEC	IEC	
POWER CONSUMPTION	75W	150W	300W	
HEAT GENERATED	270kJ per hour	540kJ per hour	1080kJ per hour	
DIMENSIONS	(W) 220mm x (H) 43.9mm x (D) 277mm (W) 8.67" x (H) 1.73" x (D) 10.91"	(W) 220mm x (H) 44mm x (D) 353mm (W) 8.67" x (H) 1.73" x (D) 13.90"	(W) 440mm x (H) 44mm x (D) 308mm (W) 17.32" x (H) 1.73" x (D) 12.13"	
WEIGHT	1.9kg (4.2lb)	2.4kg (5.3lb)	3.6kg (7.9lb)	
ACCESSORIES (available separately)	Rack ears and connection plate, rear rack support kit, wall/desktop mount kit	Rack ears and connection plate, rear rack support kit, wall/desktop mount kit	Rear rack support kit	
ACCESSORIES (included)	n/a	n/a	2 x rack ears	

USER GUIDE

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SmartAmp

Amplifiers with DSP

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ITEM NO. DESCRIPTION Qty. Single Half Rack Unit Long Rack ear 1 1 **Optimal Audio** OPTIMAL AUDIO GROUP LTD CENTURY POINT, HALIFAX ROAD CRESSEX BUSINESS PARK, HIGH WYCOMBE, 5 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP12 3SL, ENGLAND TEL: +44 (0)1494 535312 WEB: www.optimal-audio.co.uk (2) 2 Rack Ear 2 (1) DATE: 0 15/11/2021 0 DRAWN BY: ď ର୍ଷା CC ISSUE: ଜ 001 All information is Copyright © by Optimal Audio Group Ltd. 3 Coupling Plate 1 C Two Joined Half Rack Units 5 ଚ 6 SmartAmp Rack Kit A 1 4 SmartAmp Support Bush ଚ 7 5 4 Torx Screw Countersink 4 M4 x 8 ES. 4 6 Torx Screw Countersink M3 x 6 Black 3 C 7 Torx Screw Button 1 M3 x 6 Black 2

Appendix A



SmartAmp

Amplifiers with DSP

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Appendix C











This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.



This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of **sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk** of electric shock to persons.

THIS EQUIPMENT MUST BE EARTHED

Important Safety Instructions

- 1. Read these instructions.
- 2. Keep these instructions.
- 3. Heed all warnings.
- 4. Follow all instructions.
- 5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
- 6. Clean only with a dry cloth.
- 7. Do not block any ventilation opening. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- 9. To reduce the risk of electrical shock, the power cord shall be connected to a mains socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.
- 10. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- 11. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- 12. Do not unplug the unit by pulling on the cord, use the plug.
- 13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- 14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
- 15. The appliance coupler, or the AC Mains plug, is the AC mains disconnect device and shall remain readily accessible after installation.
- 16. The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing and no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.
- 17. Do not remove any covers, loosen any fixings or allow items to enter any aperture.

FCC Compliance

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- 1. This device may not cause harmful interference.
- 2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications.



Relax, It's Optimal Audio.

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