

FAQ – Cambridge Audio 550A

Question:

I read some news from internet that we can connect bi-amplification with integrated amplifier with pre-out output. I got the old Rotel Integrated Amplifier RA931, so can I connect the RCA interconnect cable from pre-out of 550A to the CD input of Rotel, then use speaker cables to connect:

1. the lower (bass) binders of speakers to the Azur 550A
2. the higher (treble) binders of speakers to the Rotel RA931?

I am using Jamo floor standing speakers C605

Thank you

Answer:

Thank you for your email.

Yes, you could connect in this way and it would work fine. However, as you will be using two integrated amps, you will have two volume controls, so you will need to carefully balance the volume on the Rotel amplifier so that it matches the volume of the 550A. Then, once this has been done, you can control the master volume using the 550A.

You must also remember to remove the terminal bridging plates on the speakers before you connect the amplifiers.

Kind regards,
Ben Beaumont

Question:

I read the specification in the tab "summary" of the CA webpage, it shows that 6 inputs, 2 outputs and tape in. I wonder that 2 outputs may be the 2 Rec out on the back panel of amplifier ?

If it were, so can I use the Rec out (1 or 2 or both) to connect to another Power Amplifier ?

Does it work (i mean the Rec out) as the Pre out ?

The reason is that I already used pre-out to the first Power Amplifier, now I would like to use Rec out to another power (in order to make bi-amping system)

Thank you

Answer:

Thank you for your email.

The 550A has 5 line inputs, a tape input, 2 rec outputs, and a Pre out.

The Rec outs are both fixed outputs - they are not variable output like the Pre out. This means that they have no volume control. As such, you cannot connect the Rec out to a power amplifier as there will be no volume control for the system. Usually a power amplifier has a loop output so that multiple power amplifiers can be 'daisy chained' in this way.

Kind regards,
Ben Beaumont

Question:

What is the gain on Cambridge Audio amplifiers and pre amplifiers?

Answer:

Our power amplifier range have fixed gains of 27dB.

Our Preamps have different gains depending on the models;

340A: 6dB

540A/640A V1: 6dB

540A/640A V2: 9dB

550A/650A: 9dB

740A: 9dB

840A V1/ V2: 12dB

840E: 12dB

The preamp gain is added on to the power amp gain to get the total.

So, for example, the total gain for 640A v1 integrated is 33dB (27 + 6dB).

0dB represents the maximum gain of the system. So for an 840 product the pre/power amp gain is 39dB, when you set the volume to 0dB the system has the full gain of 39dB.