



engineered by
Snap
av

OWNER'S MANUAL

>>AMPLIFIER

E-1230-A : TWELVE-CHANNEL POWER



- 1** **IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**
- 2** **INTRODUCTION & FEATURES**
- 3** **INSTALLATION**
 - A. FIRST STEPS
 - B. GETTING CONTROL
 - C. GETTING CONNECTED
- 4** **SETTING UP AMPLIFIER**
- 5** **TROUBLESHOOTING**
- 6** **SPECIFICATIONS**

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus in or near rain or moisture

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 openings. Install according to 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. Do not override the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades - one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plug, convenience receptacles, and the point where it exits from the apparatus.
11. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
12. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
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 when the 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. Do not expose this equipment to dripping or splashing and ensure that no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, are placed on the equipment.
16. To completely disconnect this equipment from the AC mains, disconnect the power supply cord plug from the AC receptacle.



The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, 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.



The exclamation point within an equivalent triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

CONGRATULATIONS ON SELECTING AN EPISODE™ 12-CHANNEL POWER AMPLIFIER.

Episode is one of the most highly-regarded brands of amplifiers available today. We appreciate your business and we stand committed to providing our customers with the highest degree of quality and service in the industry.

The Episode™ E-1230-A is a superb choice for almost every type of multi-room Home Audio system. It has been designed with advanced technology components that recreate the subtle details of all types of music while being flexible enough for any type of installation. Use Episode speakers for your Home Audio needs to get the best sound quality possible in your new system.

EPISODE™ 12-CHANNEL AMPLIFIER FEATURES

>>MULTIPLE STAGES OF PROTECTION

Each pair of channels (or Zone) is individually protected with an operation mode indicated by bi-color LEDs on the front of the amplifier. These enable simple troubleshooting. If the circuitry determines that a channel must be shut down for protection due to a short, excessively low impedance or prolonged elevated temperatures, only the channels that are affected will be turned off. The LEDs for zones with trouble will turn red. The other zones will continue to play and maintain blue status LEDs. Once conditions return to normal for the channels with trouble, they will turn back on and the status LED color will return to blue.

>>INPUT SELECTION

Each of the 12 channels (6 stereo zones) can be assigned a variety of source inputs. A dedicated input can be assigned to each channel via the channel Line In connection. Each channel can also be configured to play common signals from the Bus 1 or Bus 2 inputs. When using the Bus 1 or Bus 2 connections odd numbered channels will receive the left channel and the even numbered channels will receive the right channel. This is further indicated by the color of the channel Line In jacks (odd numbers have white jacks and even numbers have red jacks). A three (3) position switch for each channel is used to choose among the input options (BUS1, BUS2, LINE IN). This provides unparalleled flexibility that is needed for today's demanding custom audio installations.

>>INSTALLATION-FRIENDLY CONNECTIONS

Each speaker channel features a removable 2-conductor speaker wire connector that accommodates up to 14 gauge stranded speaker wire. The power cord is removable as well, facilitating fast and simple installations. Bus inputs and outputs as well as individual channel inputs are high-quality RCA connectors.

>>DURABLE AUDIOPHILE DESIGN

Episode amplifiers are built using superior quality components in sophisticated designs. This delivers outstanding sound quality, performance and long-term reliability.

>>RACK-MOUNTABLE

Each Episode amplifier includes an accessory package of rack 'ears' that may be attached to the amplifier by simply removing the four (4) side cover screws near the front of the amplifier and re-installing them through the rack 'ear'. The amplifier feet may be removed easily to facilitate clean rack mounting of the amplifier. The amplifier chassis and rack ear are NOT designed to support anything other than the amplifier. DO NOT stack components on top of the amplifier. It could damage the amplifier's chassis and also cause excessive thermal conditions.

>>INDIVIDUAL CHANNEL GAIN ADJUSTMENTS

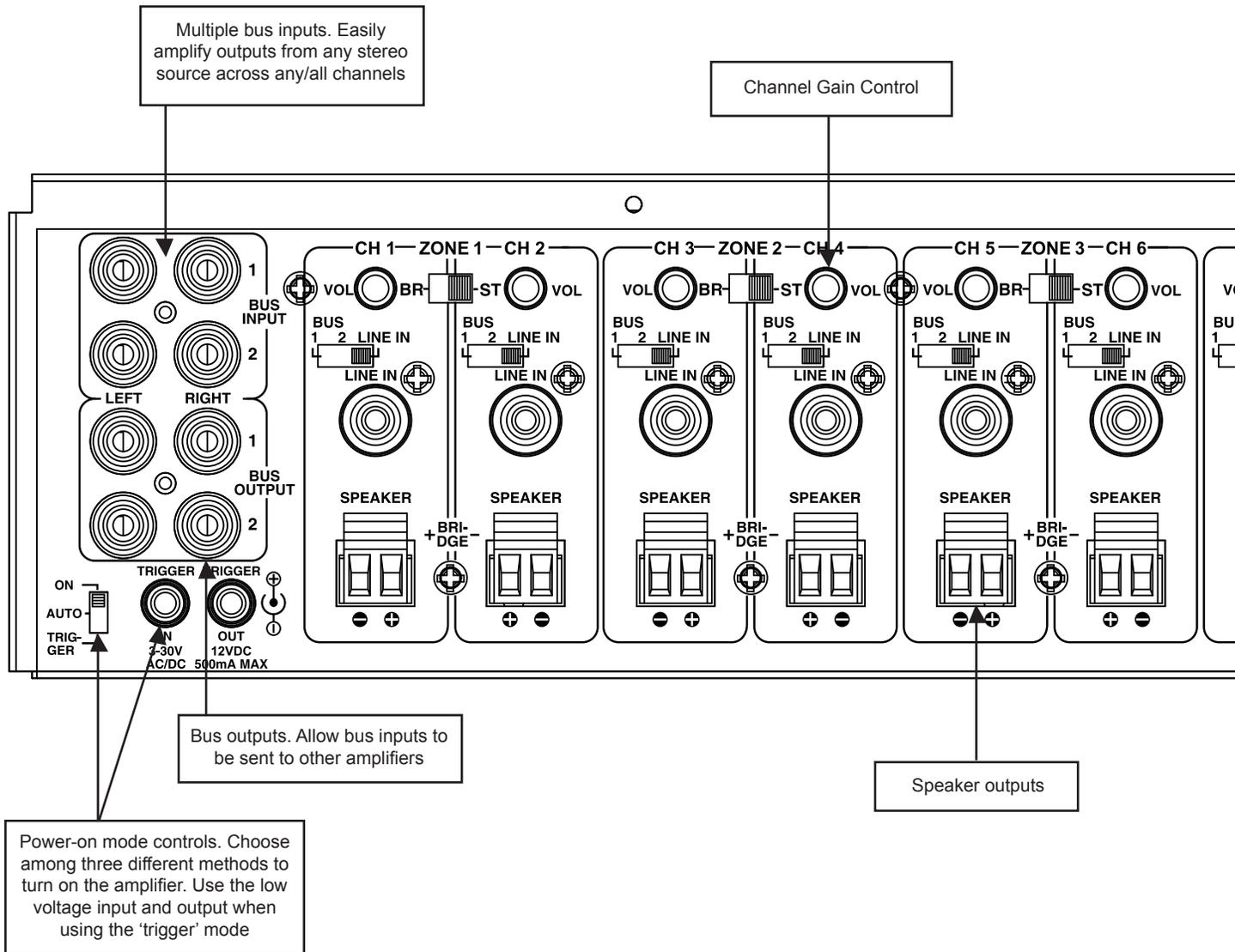
Each channel has its own level adjustment. This allows the output of each speaker to be perfectly matched to its area. It can also serve to provide a limit on how loud each speaker may be allowed to play.

>>BRIDGING

The power output of adjacent channels can be combined to provide extra power when needed in certain areas. This is easily accomplished by flipping a single switch.

>>POWER MODE

There are three choices for power modes with an Episode amplifier; On, Auto and Trigger. When the 'On' mode is enabled, your amplifier will remain on as long as it is plugged in to power and the main power switch on the front panel is switched to the on position. If the 'Trigger' mode is chosen, the amplifier will turn on when a voltage of 3-30 volts (AC or DC) is applied and remains on the 3.5mm trigger input jack. Tip is positive for this connection. The 'Auto' mode works in a similar fashion. Power will turn on whenever a minimal amount of signal is detected on the Bus 1 or Bus 2 RCA jacks and off again when no signal is present after approximately 15 minutes. In addition, auto turn-on mode will sense audio connected to the channel LINE IN RCA jacks. Make sure to have the channel switch set to LINE IN.



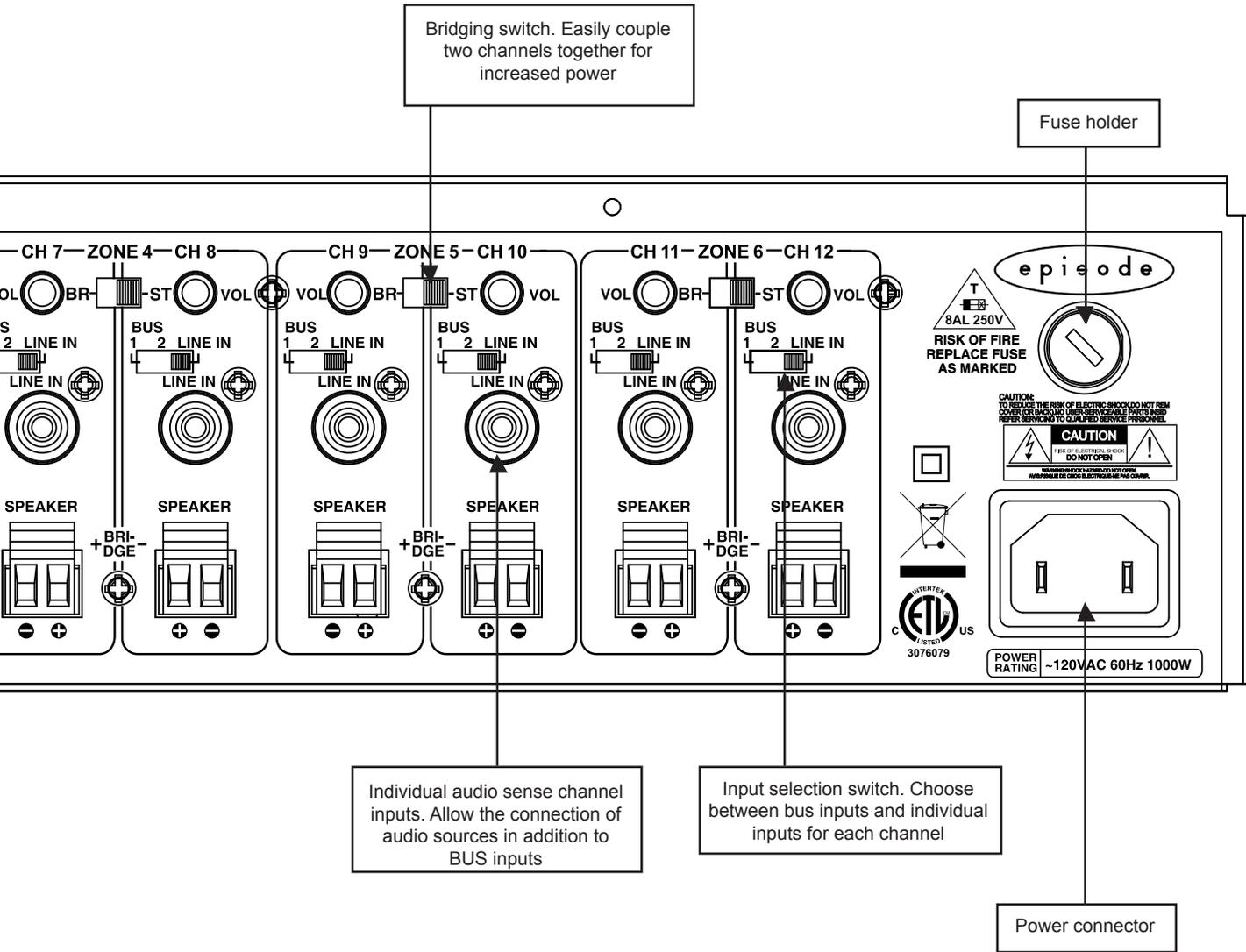
Multiple bus inputs. Easily amplify outputs from any stereo source across any/all channels

Channel Gain Control

Bus outputs. Allow bus inputs to be sent to other amplifiers

Speaker outputs

Power-on mode controls. Choose among three different methods to turn on the amplifier. Use the low voltage input and output when using the 'trigger' mode



INSTALLATION – FIRST STEPS

POSITIONING YOUR EPISODE AMPLIFIER

Episode amplifiers are designed to help deliver a great audio experience that makes your music come alive for years to come. However, where you place the amplifier can have a large effect on the performance that you receive and the life of the unit. If you are not rack-mounting the amplifier, position it with all feet resting on a solid level surface. Be sure that the amplifier is in a well-ventilated area that provides adequate cooling. If your installation lacks good air flow, such as some solid door cabinets or wall-mounted racks, it may be necessary to create some ventilation to air outside the cabinet or rack.

VENTILATION

Do not block the ventilation holes. This applies to not putting anything directly on top of, next to, or under the amplifier. Do not place the amplifier on carpeting or any material that is similar. Do not install the amplifier near a source of heat or in an extremely humid or wet location.

INSTALLATION – GETTING CONNECTED

CAUTION: All connections and switching must be done with the amplifier's power switch positioned to 'Off'. Connect the power cord last to be sure that the amplifier is off during all of your connections and set up.

INPUTS

For line level connections, use high quality RCA cables that feature low impedance, shielding and high quality connectors.

SPEAKER OUTPUTS

Use 14-18 gauge stranded two-conductor loudspeaker wire for all high level connections. At each loudspeaker-level connection, ensure that at least 2 inches of each conductor are separated. Strip away 1/4 inch of insulation from each conductor. Connect the appropriate conductor to each screw terminal, observing correct polarity.

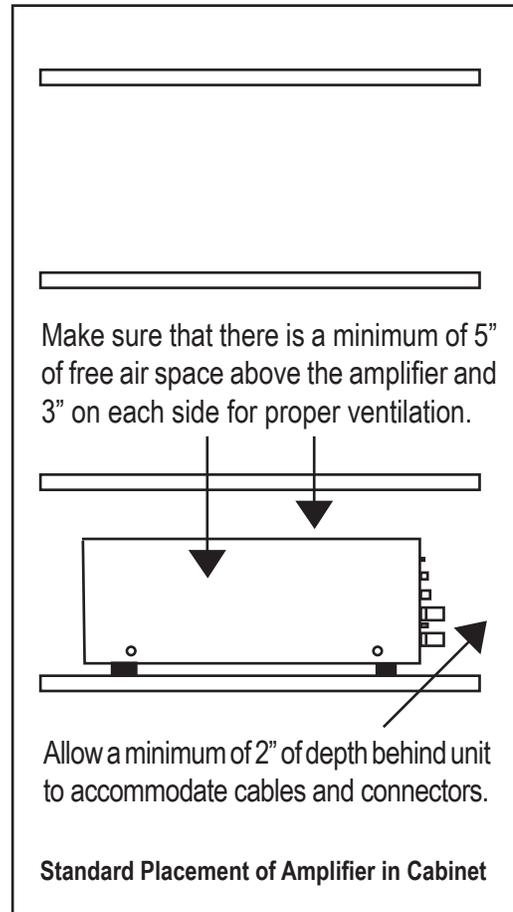
If you connect your speakers out of phase, one speaker will be playing at the opposite 'time' as the other, which will result in sound that lacks bass and sounds 'warbly' or 'distant' with vocals. If you suspect the sound in a zone is not right and you cannot see any markings on the wire to verify that the polarity is correct, try this simple test:

- Sit between the satellite loudspeakers.
- Play some music with your receiver set to Mono.
- Listen to the bass. Is it full or thin? Listen to volume of the bass as well.
- Turn off your receiver and reverse the connections for one of the speakers connected to your Episode amplifier.
- Repeat your test at the same volume level. When the sound has the loudest and best sounding bass and also sounds best in the vocal region, your connections are correct and in-phase.

LINE LEVEL OUTPUTS

Any source connected to the BUS 1 or BUS 2 inputs can be sent to other components or amplifiers by connecting them to the Bus 1 or Bus 2 output connectors near the BUS 1 or BUS 2 inputs.

Refer to the system example diagrams at the end of this guide to choose which option is best suited for your application.



INSTALLATION – SETUP AND OPTIONS

INPUT SELECTION

CAUTION: Only change switch positions when the amplifier is turned off.

Each channel is capable of delivering the source from many inputs. The three main inputs are BUS 1, BUS 2 and LINE IN. The selection for these inputs is done via the Input Selection switch associated with each channel. Select the desired source input. Set the Input Selection switch to BUS 1 (will play source connected to the BUS 1 input), BUS 2 (will play source connected to the BUS 2 input) or LINE IN (will play source connected to that channel's LINE IN).

CONTROL OUTPUT

The 1/8" (tip positive) 12 volt DC output jack can be used to turn on most components equipped with a 12 volt DC input trigger. Voltage is delivered to the output jack when the amplifier is "active", or on. When the amplifier turns off, the voltage will drop to zero. Remember there is a delay of approximately fifteen minutes before the amplifier goes to standby when using the Auto turn-on mode. Before connecting another device to the 12 volt output, please make sure that the item's trigger input is compatible with 12 volt DC and that it draws no more than 500mA.

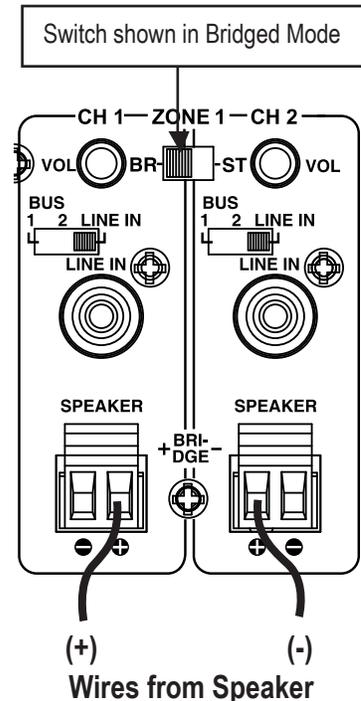
POWER CONNECTION

Plug the power cord supplied with the amplifier into the amplifier and a 120V 60 Hz polarized wall outlet or appropriate surge protector.

CAUTION: DO NOT plug the amplifier's power cord into a switched outlet, such as what is provided on some Surround Receivers. If you wish to have the amplifier turn on Receiver is powered up, use one of the power modes, such as Trigger or Audio.

BRIDGING CHANNELS

There are situations when you may wish to combine two channels into one through a process known as bridging. The output of the two combined channels can then be used to power one speaker. To bridge two adjacent channels, first make sure that the amplifier is powered down and then move the bridging switch to the "BR" position. The speaker must be connected to the positive (+) position of each of the removable terminals immediately under the "BRIDGED" text as indicated in the illustration to the right. All input selection and volume settings for bridged channels will be controlled by the LEFT channel. **DO NOT** connect more than one speaker to the outputs of the bridged channel.



Observe correct connection and polarity when bridging channels.

OPERATION

POWER SWITCH/ LED

The power switch on the front panel of the amplifier will turn off the amplifier no matter which power mode has been selected. When the amplifier is on, the POWER LED will be blue. Refer to the "Power Mode" section for further information.

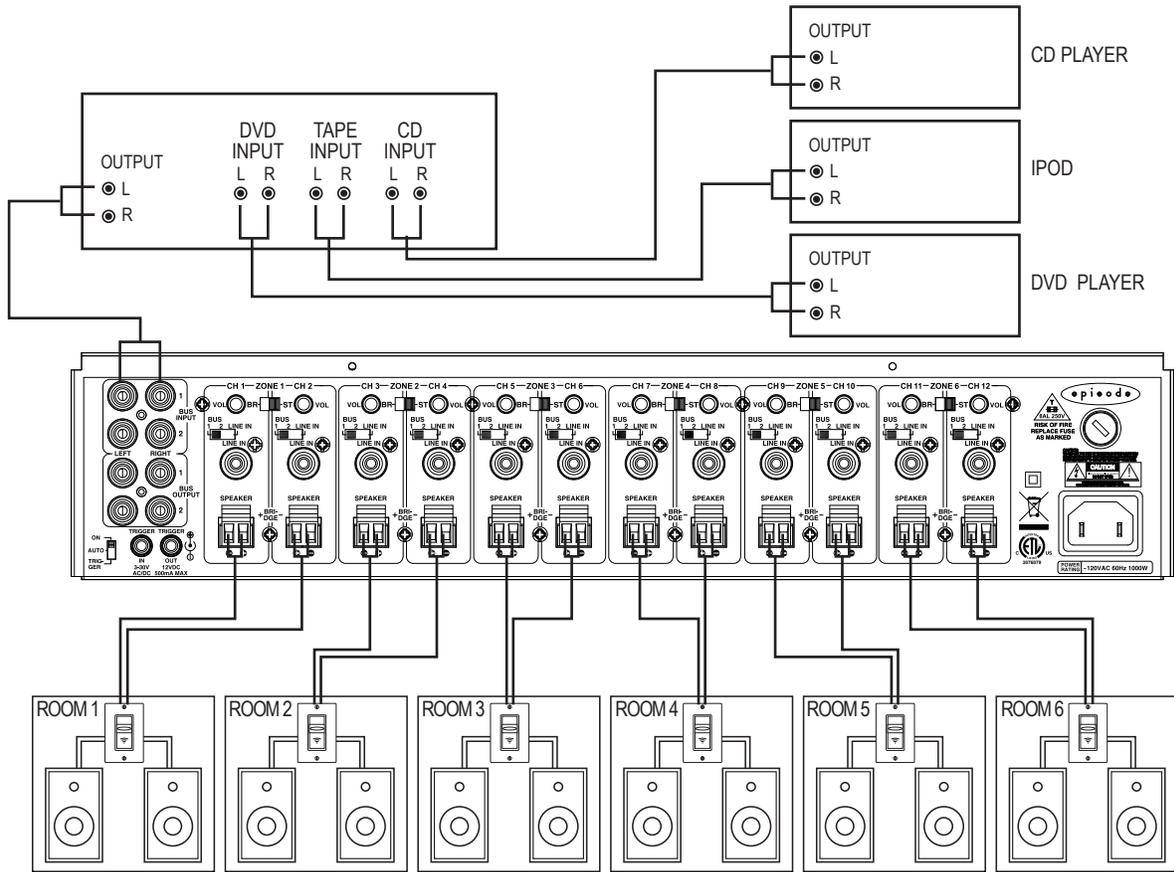
ZONE LED INDICATORS

When lit, the LED section on the front panel indicates that the amplifier is operating. Each Zone (a pair of channels) has one bi-color LED assigned to it. Operation is normal when the LED is blue. A red LED indicates a short in one of the speaker wires connected for that zone or a thermal issue that has the amplifier in a temperature range that is too high. When power is on and the LED is not lit, this indicates the zone is not operating.

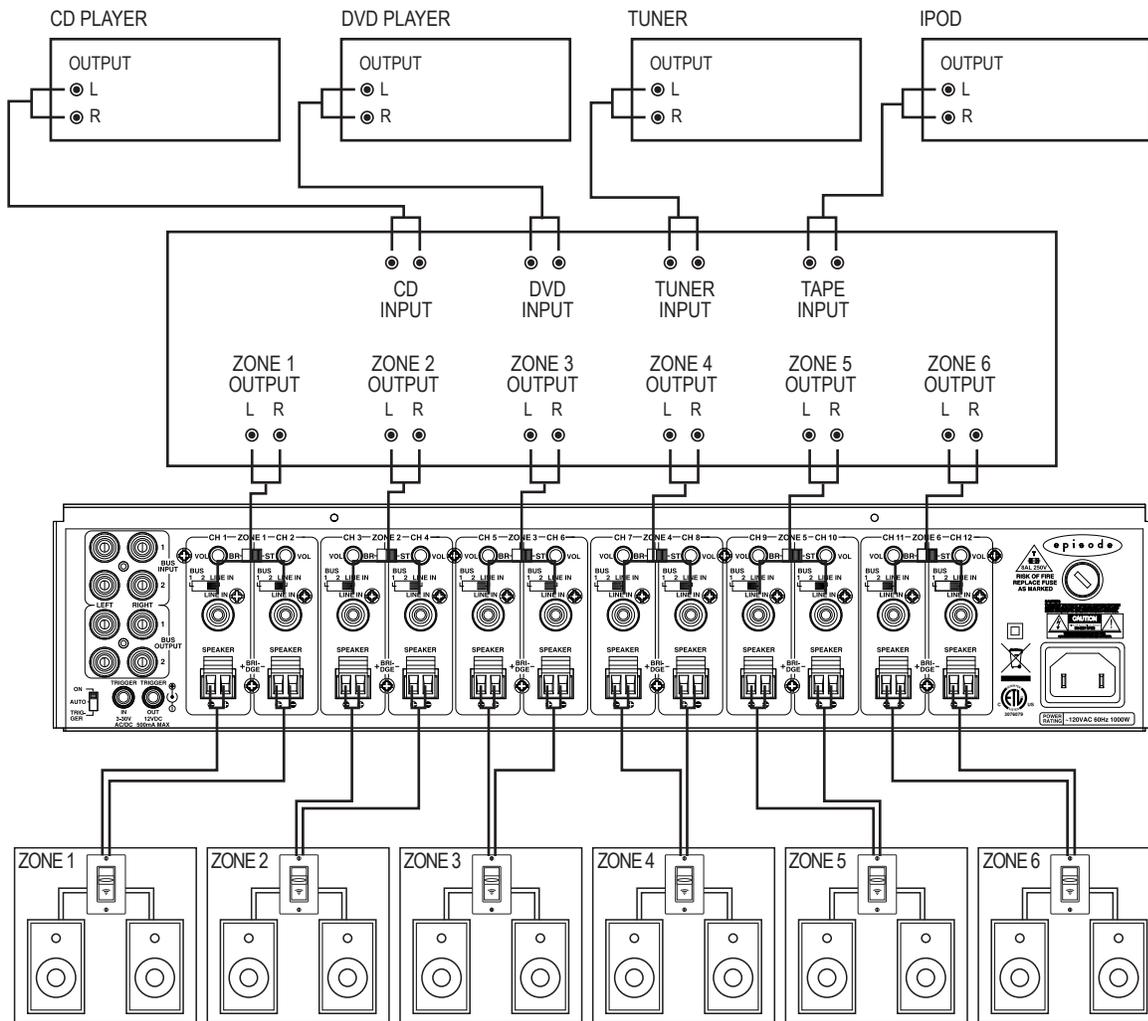
LEVEL ADJUSTMENT

The level adjustments on the back panel of the amplifier can be used to easily adjust the level of each channel. One great use for this feature is to limit the volume level in an area, such as a child's room or guest area. It is not recommended to set the output to have clipping or distortion when the volume is at the maximum level.

EPISODE™ MULTI-ROOM INSTALLATION



EPISODE™ MULTI-ZONE INSTALLATION



TROUBLESHOOTING

<p>No audio from any channel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Power cable to the amplifier is incorrectly connected or plugged into an outlet that does not have power. Check connections and verify power on the outlet. •Audio cable to the source component is not connected properly, connected to incorrect BUS input or the cable is defective. Check connections or replace cable with one that has been verified as good. •The Input Selection switches are set incorrectly. Refer to instructions for correct settings.
<p>No audio from one or more channels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Audio cable to the source component is not connected properly or the cable is defective. Check connections or replace cable with one that has been verified as good. •The Input Selection switch is positioned incorrectly. Refer to installation instructions for proper settings. •The Bridging switch is positioned incorrectly. Refer to installation instructions for proper settings. •Check the connections of the speaker wire at both the speaker and amplifier.
<p>No audio from one channel or one zone only.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Check the front panel LED for the zone that is not working. If it is red, you either have a short on one of the speaker wires for that zone or a thermal issue. Check wires and speaker connections for shorts or allow amplifier to cool. •The level adjustment on the channel is turned down. Turn it to the right slowly to raise the volume. •Test the bad channel by connecting it to a speaker that you know works. •Audio cable to the source component is not connected properly or the cable is defective. Check connections or replace cable with one that has been verified as good. •The Input Selection switch is positioned incorrectly. Refer to installation instructions for proper settings. •The Bridging switch is positioned incorrectly. Refer to installation instructions for proper settings. •Check the connections of the speaker wire at both the speaker and amplifier.
<p>Hum or buzzing sound is heard.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Check RCA input cables by removing them one at time (powering down the amplifier before disconnecting) and checking to see if a connection or cable is to blame.
<p>Amplifier will not turn on.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The amplifier must be plugged into a live outlet. •The power switch on the front panel must be on. •The Power Mode switch may be set to the wrong mode for your system.

SPECIFICATIONS

Continuous Power Output	30 Watts per channel RMS at 8 ohms 45 Watts per channel RMS at 4 ohms
Bridged Power Output	80 Watts per channel RMS at 8 ohms
Input Sensitivity	65mv for 1 watt out; 380mv for full output, 30 watts, with all level controls set to max.
Input Impedance	10,000 ohms
Overall Voltage Gain	38 dB
Frequency Response	5 Hz to 85 kHz
Distortion (Unbridged)	.03% THD 20 Hz-20 kHz (8Ω) .06% THD 20 Hz-20 kHz (4Ω)
Distortion (Bridged)	.20% THD 20 Hz-20 kHz (8Ω)
Overall Dimensions	17" w x 4" h (including feet) x 15" deep
Weight	28 lbs.
Warranty	2-Year Limited Warranty <i>Episode™ Amplifier Products have a 2-Year Limited Warranty. This warranty includes parts and labor repairs on all components found to be defective in material or workmanship under normal conditions of use. This warranty shall not apply to products which have been abused, modified or disassembled. Products to be repaired under this warranty must be returned to the Snap AV or a designated service center with prior notification and an assignment return authorization number (RA).</i>
Certification	Meets FCC Part 15 and ICES-003, Class B for USA and Canada ETL Listed and tested under UL/EN60065



engineered by
Snap
av

Episode

**Technical Support:
1.866.838.5052**

www.episodespeakers.com