

Channel Level Settings

Care must be taken when adjusting the level or volume control on each of the 12 channels of the MA1240a, especially when using stereo in-wall volume controls in the various zones. In zones where in-wall volume controls are not used, simply set the level controls on the two channels of that zone for an average listening level. The actual setting needed can vary based not only upon the volume desired in that zone, but by the input level of the audio source. Even from the same audio source, i.e., an .mp3 player or CD/DVD player, levels can vary significantly from song to song. This is especially true when program material is from different artists or albums.

When in-wall controls are used, care must be taken not to set the channel level controls too high. This can cause “clipping” or distortion in the audio output from the MA1240a’s output amplifiers. The result is excessive heating and a reduced service life of the amplifier’s outputs. The audibility of this distortion can be greatly reduced by the inductive nature of most in-wall volume controls.

Start with the in-wall volume control set to full volume. With an average-strength audio input (a CD or DVD player is best) set the channel level controls to an average listening level for that zone, or even slightly higher. Then use the in-wall control to reduce the volume level of the audio in that zone. Most in-wall controls can reduce the volume to near silence. Bear in mind that the amplifier channel is still operating and dissipating power into the volume control even when the volume control is turned all the way down.

WARNING

Setting the channel level controls to full volume, and then using an in-wall volume control to limit the volume to a lower level is an improper setup. A full-volume adjustment of a channel’s level control will cause extreme clipping of the audio signal by the channel’s amplifier. This will cause rapid heating of the channel’s outputs and may cause it to degrade rapidly, or fail completely in a short period of time. In-wall volume controls can mask this distortion significantly at the speakers, but do nothing to reduce the risk to the amplifier. If you have questions about a proper setup of your MA1240a amplifier, please contact Technical Support before using the system. With a proper setup, the MA1240a can provide years of trouble-free operation.

Proper setup of the MA1240a amplifier is the sole responsibility of the end-user. The damage and/or failure of an MA1240a due to an improper set-up is specific, unique, and is not repairable. It will not be considered a failure covered by the amplifier’s warranty.

