

ARGON

DA2



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Owner's manual

Dear Customer,

Quality has always been our driving force and founding Argon Audio is a natural extension of this philosophy. We have 20 years' experience in creating and specifying high quality products, manufacturing them and selling them on to end users with Value-for-Money as the primary aim. And Argon Audio is a brand fully compliant with these values.

Design, features and quality standards are all specified in Denmark and manufacturing takes place in the Far East, where quality vendors are highly competitive - and as a result supply outstanding Value-for-Money products – to the delight of both ourselves and our customers!

Introduction

Thank you for choosing Argon Audio DA2 amplifier, we hope it will bring you many years of enjoyment. Please read this manual fully before unpacking and installing the product.

Unpacking

We have during production and packing carefully checked and inspected this amplifier.

After unpacking please check for any damage from transport.

We recommend that you keep the original carton box and packing material for any future shipping.

About DA2

The DA2 has been designed and engineered to achieve outstanding performance way beyond the expectations of a product at this price point. Excellent build quality, reliability and ease of use combine to make a product which if used correctly will offer you a lifetime of musical enjoyment.

Omitting all the usual gimmicks allows us to concentrate the manufacturing costs on the high quality parts necessary to reproduce good sound. The money we save is spent across the design. Using Cirrus, AKM and Burr Brown D/A converters and digital processors, with resolution on all digital inputs is up to 24bit/192Khz. We use solid aluminium cabinet and having USB audio input are just some of the quality features we have added that you normally will find only in products that costs two or three times the price of a DA2. The minimalist design of the Argon DA2 and the use of high quality components ensure that your amplifier should last for many years. Argon DA2 is one of very few true full digital stereo amplifiers on the market. Besides the amplification being done by a power full digital 2X50 watt RMS amplifier, DA2 also has full digital package on all audio source connections. Actually DA2 has only one normal analogue connection (just in case ☺). DA2 is as “future proof” as it gets at this time and you can basically connect any audio source, digitally.

Most audio sources have digital conversion but often of poor quality. The D/A converters build into this DA2, ensures you top quality D/A conversion of any digital audio signal..It's recommended to use digital inputs only – if possible.

Connecting your DA2

We recommend that you read the manual of your other components carefully before connecting your DA2. Please switch off all equipment when connecting your DA2. The binding posts on the loudspeaker terminal accepts wire up to Ø 4mm or cables with banana plugs. Make sure that positive terminal binding posts on the speakers (marked + and colored red) are connected to the positive output terminal binding posts on the DA2 and that the negative terminals on the speakers (marked – and colored black) are connected to the negative output terminal on the DA2. Now you can connect the audio source you want. (read more about this on page 4 and forward).

Care and cleaning

We don't recommend use of any solvents or cleaners on Argon DA2 cabinet, the cabinet surface usually only requires dusting or cleaning with a damp soft cloth (only use cold clean water).

Environmental information

Argon DA2 complies with international directives on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) in electrical and electronic equipment and the disposal of Waste. Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) - the crossed bin symbol indicates compliance and that the products must be appropriately recycled or processed in accordance with these directives.

Safety instructions

Please store this instruction manual for future reference.
Do not use this product near water or moisture. Clean only with a dry cloth. Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Place the unit on a solid surface. Do not block any ventilation openings. Do not put it in a closed bookcase or a cabinet that may keep air from flowing through its ventilation openings. Do not install near any heat sources, such as radiators, heat registers, stoves or other appliances that produce heat. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs and the point where they exit from the product. Servicing is required when the product has been damaged. Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltages or other hazards. Please contact the manufacturer to be referred to an authorized service center near you. To prevent risk of fire or electric shock, avoid over loading wall outlets, extension cords, or integral convenience receptacles. Do not let objects or liquids enter the product. Use proper power sources. Plug the product into a proper power source, as described in the operating instructions or as marked on the product.

Front panel



Notice: The above buttons marked with 1-4 are all input selectors that each corresponds to a connection on the back side of DA2.

Rear panel and connections



Remote control



DA2 comes with a remote control. The remote control is a system remote control that also can control Argon iNet6+ which is an Internet tuner in same family as DA2.

The section with the white square around is dedicated to DA2, as well as the Red Power “ON” button saying “DA2”.

The rest of the controls on the remote are dedicated iNet6+ (see page 10)

Notice:

Controlling Bass, Treble and Balance levels can only be done via the remote.

Notice:

If DA2 is connected with a Argon iNet6+ they have to be connected only by Optical digital out/in.

If iNet6+ is connected to DA2 via analogue RCA the volume function on the remote will not work properly.

Connecting your speakers

Connect the RED (+) and BLACK (-) terminals from the **left** speaker to the corresponding terminals on the DA2.

Connect the RED (+) and BLACK (-) terminals from the **right** speaker to the corresponding terminals on the DA2.

Use good speaker cable, to enhance sound quality. Expect to pay around 4-6US\$ pr meter.

The binding posts on the DA2 terminals accepts wire up to Ø 4mm or cables with banana plugs.

Insulation on cable must be stripped on all ends.

Connect your Argon DA2 to a subwoofer

Connect the single RCA plug to your Argon DA2 SUB OUT.

Your subwoofer need to have input for one RCA plug just like there is only one RCA output plug from the DA2.

Connect using this single RCA plug at both ends.

Your Subwoofer might have a Left and Right input. In this case you can choose between two options:

Option 1 is to use one single RCA connection on the subwoofer and you can choose either L or R input and leave the other one unplugged.

Option 2 is to get a cable with one RCA plug at one end for connection to DA2 and two RCA (L and R) at the other end for connecting to the Subwoofer.

To make things simple, we recommend you to use only one RCA at both ends, even though your subwoofer might have both an L and R input.

Warning: You should never connect a Subwoofer using the speaker cables from your Argon DA2 as output to the subwoofer. Using this option can seriously damage your Argon DA2.

Analogue audio connection

Your Argon DA2 is equipped with 1 analogue audio input.

The analogue input is of the left/right RCA type.

You simply connect the left/right RCA plugs to the corresponding plugs on ex. your CD player (if it doesn't have digital output)

You can also use this connection for analogue sound out from a TV.

Note: that most new TV remotes can control the Argon DA2 volume if connected to variable TV audio out.

Use of digital audio connection

Your Argon DA2 has 3 different digital inputs

- Optical digital
- Coaxial digital
- USB audio digital

Optical and Coax digital connection are typically used for hi-fi products such as CD player, DVD players, Digital tuners (like Argon iNet6+). Take a look at the back side of your audio source product and see what kind of digital output it has.

Use of digital audio connection (USB Audio)

Your Argon DA2 is uniquely equipped with a USB Audio Digital input

A USB Audio Digital input means that you can connect a PC and directly play digital audio content from the PC.

Conversion of the signal from digital to analogue would normally happen in the PC, but often the D/A conversion quality in PC's are of poor standard.

DA2 has high quality build in D/A converters that converts the signal in the Optical signal with up till 16bit/96hz and USB digital audio with 16bit/48Khz. Notice: optical is not supported via Bluetooth to an Argon BT2. Instead, use analogue input on DA2, if you intend to connect an Argon Audio BT2 Bluetooth adaptor.

What can you connect to USB AUDIO input?

USB digital audio input is shown on page 5 on the back panel description.

Your Argon DA2 is using a USB type B plug (similar to what many Printers use)

USB AUDIO is primarily intended for playback from a PC. All PC's have USB AUDIO out.

Connection will in most cases be a standard flat USB plug in the PC end and a USB type B plug for the DA2

Other audio source products might also have USB AUDIO out. Refer to your audio source manual about this issue.

Notice that Apple iPod, iPhone etc, are not supported for USB AUDIO on DA2.

If you want to know more about USB and USB AUDIO you can check <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB>

Notice: If DA2 is connected with a Argon iNet6+ they have to be connected only by Optical digital out/in. If iNet6+ is connected to DA2 via analogue RCA the volume function on the remote will not work properly

Basic Troubleshooting

If the LED does not light up, check...

that the AC power cord is firmly plugged into the rear panel and wall outlet.

to make sure the amplifier rear panel power switch is ON.

that the amplifier is getting power from the wall outlet.

that the rear panel voltage selector is matched to the operating voltage.

the fuse in the AC IN on the rear panel. If the fuse needs to be replaced it is extremely important to replace only with same fuse type and value.

If no sound output, check...

that the amplifier is turned on (blue LED illuminated)

to make sure the speakers are connected correctly

that the volume on the front panel is not all the way down.

the volume level on the iPod or other audio source.

If bass output is low, check...

speaker wire polarity (verify that wires are going to same terminals on both speakers + to + and – to -)

that the speaker placement is not too close to a wall or other obstruction.

that the bass ports on speakers are not blocked by a rodent or jelly sandwich.

Using Optical cable... ensure that you have removed the small plastic covers from the Optical cable connections.

Specifications:

Type: Full class D, digital amplifier

Inputs: Digital USB2.0, 1 x Optical digital, 1 x Coax digital, Analogue L/R RCA stereo input

Output: SUB-OUT, 1 set speaker output

Main voltage: 220-240V, 50/60Hz

Distortion: @4ohm 20-20Khz 0,3% @8ohm 20-20Khz 0,2%

Input sensitivity: 500mV (RCA) analogue

Frequency Response: (-1db @1Khz): 20Hz-20Khz

Output Power: 2X50W (RMS @4ohm)

Resolution: USB2.0 16bit/48Khz, Optical max. 16 bit/96Khz

Optical processing: Burr Brown 2704 processed via Sp/diff and then D/A converted by AKM4388A.

(Notice: The Optical input does not support Bluetooth connection. If you have a Bluetooth adaptor that only can run fixed 24bit/a92Khz (like Argon BT2), you must connect it to Argon Audio DA2 via analogue input).

Recommendation

Argon DA2 is part of a small family that also consists of iNet6+.

iNet6+ is like DA2 a full digital product. iNet6+ is basically an Internet based tuner. Besides access to thousands of Internet radio stations, iNet6+ also has digital DAB+ radio and streaming functionality from PC or UpnP drives.

If you are into the digital Internet era and if you want to complete the Argon family we strongly recommend you to try out iNet6+.

Argon Stream 2,6 Full Digital, Internet and Streaming Midi-size Hi-Fi system

