

**HIFONICS®**  
**C A R A U D I O**  
**POWER FROM THE GODS**

# **BRUTUS**

## **BRX**

### **AMPLIFIERS**

**BRX160.2 / BRX320.4 / BRX640.4 / BRX1200.4**

**BRX1100.1D / BRX1600.1D / BRX2000.1D / BRX2400.1D**

**BRX5000.5**

# HIFONICS BRUTUS HIGH PERFORMANCE AMPLIFIERS

The BRUTUS BRX Series products have been designed to a very high level of performance, with features unavailable in any other product. All of the amplifiers have variable crossovers built in, with added touches such as subsonic filter, bass equalization and an HFR-3 remote control module for the monoblocks that allows overall Level control from reach of the drivers seat.

To insure years of listening pleasure, all amplifiers have a built in diagnostic mode that will detect shorted speaker leads, low impedance, dangerous high temperatures, DC shorts and will shut down the amp to help prevent damage.

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# GENERAL INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

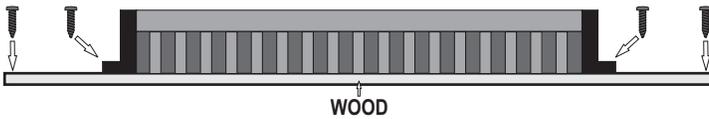
## System Design

The success of any car stereo system relies on several factors, such as the system design, execution of the installation, and system setup. Please remember that any system is only as good as its weakest link.

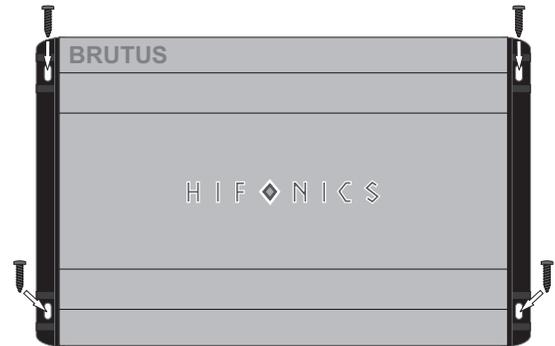
Please remember that higher power systems are not necessarily useful purely for high sound pressure levels, but also to establish a headroom capability, to reproduce musical peaks cleanly without distortion. Lower power amplifiers will clip earlier than their more powerful cousins, and cause loudspeaker failure when overdriven, due to the harmonics generated by a clipped signal, thus overheating voice coils.

Amplifiers should be mounted with the fins running horizontally for best convection cooling, to minimize overheating. Purchase the best quality RCA cables you can afford, for reliability and less engine noise interference in the audio system.

## Installation



It is highly recommended that the amplifier be mounted to a board of MDF or other solid structure using the 4 mounting screws provided. Avoid mounting the amplifier to metal as this can introduce noise and other unwanted issues. When mounting the amplifier, ensure that it is mounted HORIZONTALLY, as shown in the diagram above, for optimal heat dissipation. Mounting amplifiers to speaker enclosures is not recommended as this can cause damage to the amplifier components. When choosing a location for mounting the amplifier, ensure that you check for clearance from wires, gas tank, electrical devices and brake lines etc.



### General:

Run the wiring so that RCA cables are at least 18" away from power and speaker cables. Keep RCA cables away from electrical devices in the vehicle that can cause electrical noise, such as electric fuel pumps, emission control modules and other on-board electronic modules.

### Power and ground connections(see the features matrix on page 12 for proper gauge cables per amplifier):

Use a sufficient gauge power cable and ground cable using the chart below as reference to what size wire you require. Brutus series amplifiers require at least 4 gauge power wire. In a multi amplifier system, add the total value of the manufacture recommended fusing to get your total system amperage. Some applications may require multiple runs of power wire to meet the system requirements. In multi amplifier systems it is advisable to mount a large enough fuse right at the battery, and run one or multiple +12 volt power cables to a fused distribution block near the amplifiers. It is then a simple matter to connect the +12 volt terminal of each amplifier to the distribution block. During this process, please ensure that the main power fuse is removed to avoid shorting the electrical system. The main fuse must be within 12" of the vehicles battery.

Ground each amplifier with as short a ground lead as possible directly to the vehicle chassis using at least 4 gauge wire or equivalent to the size of the amplifiers' power wire. Use a ground distribution block, if you wish, but it is extremely important to keep the main ground lead from this distribution block to the chassis as short as possible, not more than 12". The ground connection integrity to the chassis is very important, and the best way to achieve a good, solid electrical and mechanical contact is to use a large round crimp lug, crimped and soldered to the ground cable. The next step is to scrape the paint off the vehicle chassis, slightly larger than the ground lug, at the connection point. Drill a clearance hole in the chassis, the same size as the lug hole, and use a bolt, spring washer and nut to securely fasten the ground lug. Use petroleum jelly to coat the bolt/lug connection, to prevent oxidization with time.

**TIP:** Use the same approach when installing head units, equalizers or any audio equipment for that matter - run short individual grounds from each piece directly to the vehicle chassis, to minimize ground loops and system noise. All power, ground and speaker connections should be crimped and soldered for reliability. Make sure that none of the cable insulation can chafe against exposed metal in the vehicle, causing short circuits to the chassis.

WIRE LENGTH

SYSTEM AMPERAGE	7-10 ft.	10-13 ft.	13-16 ft.	16-19 ft.	19-22 ft.	22-28 ft.
35-50	8	6	4	4	4	4
50-65	6	4	4	4	4	2
68-85	4	4	2	2	2	0
85-105	4	2	2	2	2	0
105-125	4	2	0	0	0	0
125-150	2	0	0	0	0	0

WIRE GAUGE

**NOTE:** This Matrix is a general rule of thumb. Please refer to the manufacturers specific requirements. Brutus specifications can be found on page 12.

### Safe connection sequence:

After all cables are run, connect speaker wires to the speakers and amplifiers, then run and plug in RCA cables. Next, connect all power, ground, and remote turn on leads. Now connect all +12 volt cables to the amplifier/s and distribution blocks and fuse holders. Finally, connect the main +12 volt cable to the battery, with the main fuse removed, and we are almost ready to power up the system.

### Power up the system:

The following procedure may seem like overkill, but there is nothing more frustrating when turning on a system for the first time, and it does not work properly immediately.

First, make sure the head unit is off, and turn all level controls to minimum (counterclockwise), including the head unit volume control. Set all equalizers to 0 dB (no boost), and all crossover frequency controls at approximate frequencies, as recommended by the loudspeaker manufacturer. Set all input selector and crossover switches as required for the application. Remove all amplifier fuses, and insert the main fuse at the battery. If the fuse does not blow, you can insert the fuse in one of the amplifiers, and we are ready to turn on the system. Turn the head unit on, insert a CD, or select a radio station, and increase the head unit volume control. If the system sounds fine, turn off the head unit, and install fuses in the remaining amplifiers, one by one, till the complete system is powered up and functioning properly.

# AMPLIFIER FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS

## BRUTUS BRX AMPLIFIERS:

Each model is capable of 4 & 2-Ohms stereo per channel, or 4-Ohms mono bridged operation except the mono amps which are capable of 4, 2 and 1-Ohm loads.  
 Tri-Mode operation with any stereo pair of amplifier channels is possible, as with all bridgeable amplifiers.  
 The input sensitivities for rated output powers are variable from 0.2V to 6V for the multi channel amplifiers and 0.2V to 9V for the mono models.  
 All crossovers are fully variable in their respective ranges.  
 Crossover filters are 12dB/Octave.

1 set for channels 1 & 2.

The **X-OVER** slide switch selects the internal crossover functions:

-The input signal is routed directly to the **LINE OUT** RCA jacks, regardless of the **X-OVER** setting simplifying daisy chaining of amplifiers.

-**HPF**: Selects the built in **HI PASS** filter.

-**FULL**: Bypasses all crossovers for full frequency range operation.

-**LPF**: Selects the built in **LOW PASS** filter.

**MODE**: Selectable Stereo or MONO operation.

**HPF**: Variable low frequency cut off from 60Hz to 1.3kHz.

**LPF**: Variable high frequency cut off from 30Hz to 250Hz.

**BASS EQ**: 45Hz bass boost variable from 0dB to 12dB.

**LEVEL**: Variable **LEVEL (GAIN)** control from 6.0V to 0.2V.

**LINE INPUT**: The line input accepts unbalanced (RCA) inputs from 0.2V to 6V.

**LINE OUTPUT**: The line output passes through signal from the line inputs which allows you to daisy chain multiple amplifiers from one signal.

The 4 channel amps have the same features as the 2 channel models except that there are 2 sets of controls.

1 set for channels 1 & 2 and 1 set for channels 3 & 4.

In addition, the 4 channel models have a **Mode** switch which allows you to select 2 or 4 channel operation. Switch to 2 channel if you only have 1 set of RCA's in CH 1/2 and the unit will automatically supply signal to channels 3/4. Select 4 channel if you are providing RCA's to channels 1/2 and 3/4.

The **X-OVER** slide switch selects the internal crossover functions:

-The input signal is routed directly to the **LINE OUT** RCA jacks, regardless of the **X-OVER** setting simplifying daisy chaining of amplifiers.

**HI PASS**: Variable low frequency cut off from 10Hz to 1.5kHz.

**LOW PASS**: Variable high frequency cut off from 30Hz to 150Hz.

**BASS EQ**: 45Hz bass boost variable from 0dB to 10dB.

**LEVEL**: Variable **LEVEL (GAIN)** control from 6.0V to 0.2V.

The 5 channel amps have the same features as the 4 channel models except that there are 3 sets of controls.

1 set for channels 1 & 2, 1 set for channels 3 & 4 and 1 set for channel 5.

In addition, the 4 channel models have a **Mode** switch which allows you to select 2, 4 or 5 channel operation. Switch to 2 channel if you only have 1 set of RCA's in CH 1/2 and the unit will automatically supply signal to channels 2/4/5. Select 4 channel if you are providing RCA's to channels 1/2 and 3/4 and signal will be internally routed to Ch5. Select 5 if you are supplying RCA's to each INPUT.

The **X-OVER** slide switch selects the internal crossover functions:

-The input signal is routed directly to the **LINE OUT** RCA jacks, regardless of the **X-OVER** setting simplifying daisy chaining of amplifiers.

**HI PASS**: Variable low frequency cut off from 10Hz to 1.5kHz.

**LOW PASS**: Variable high frequency cut off from 30Hz to 150Hz. (CH3/4 & 5)

**BASS EQ**: 45Hz bass boost variable from 0dB to 10dB.

**LEVEL**: Variable **LEVEL (GAIN)** control from 6.0V to 0.2V.

**REMOTE**: This is a remote input jack for the remote level control on Ch5.

**SUBSONIC**: Crossover filter from 15Hz to 35Hz.

**LOW PASS**: Crossover filter from 35Hz to 250Hz.

**LEVEL**: Adjusts the input sensitivity from 0.2 volts to 9 volts.

**BASS EQ**: Adjustable bass boost from 0dB to 10dB.

**PHASE**: The Phase Shift is fully adjustable from 0 to 180 degrees and this allows you to control time alignment.

**REMOTE**: This is the input jack for the remote Level control.

**BALANCED INPUT**: Accepts line level balanced input from 0.4v to 18v.

**LINE INPUT**: The line input accepts unbalanced (RCA) inputs from 0.2V to 9V.

**LINE OUTPUT**: The line output passes through signal from the line inputs which allows you to daisy chain multiple amplifiers from one signal.

-The **LINE INPUT** signal is routed directly to the **LINE OUT** RCA jacks, and not affected by the settings on the amplifier simplifying daisy chaining of amplifiers.

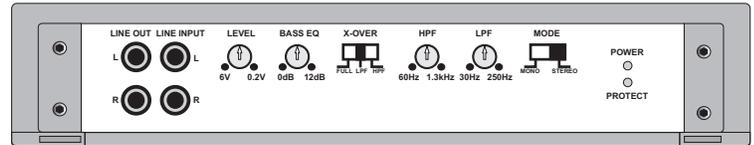
The **BRX2400.1D** is identical to the other **BRX** mono amplifiers except that the **BRX2400.1D** is a linkable amplifier and features a **MASTER / SLAVE** selection switch and **IN / OUT** RCA connection. This allows for a pair of amps to link at 2-Ohms and produce 4800 watts rms.

A **POWER LED** indicates the powered up and turned on condition.

All Hifonics amplifiers feature a comprehensive diagnostic system, with speaker lead short circuit, and amplifier DC faults indicated by the red **"PROTECT"** LED.

**CAUTION: DO NOT OPERATE ANY AMPLIFIER BELOW THE INTENDED IMPEDANCE. YOU WILL CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE AMPLIFIER THAT WILL NOT BE COVERED UNDER THE WARRANTY PRINTED IN THE BACK OF THE MANUAL. 2 & 4 Channel amps are capable of 4 and 2-Ohms wired stereo and 4-Ohms wired mono bridged. The mono amps are capable of 4, 2 and 1-Ohm.**

### BRX160.2 2-CHANNEL AMPLIFIERS

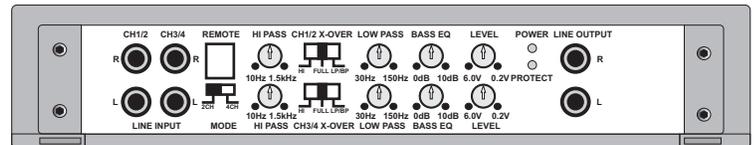


Note that the **LOW PASS** signal is **MONO**.

-In the **LPF** position, the **HPF** filter acts as a subsonic filter.

-When the **LPF** mode is selected, a 0 to +12dB, at 45Hz, **BASS EQ** is also switched in.

### BRX320.4 / BRX640.4 / BRX1200.4 4-CHANNEL AMPLIFIERS

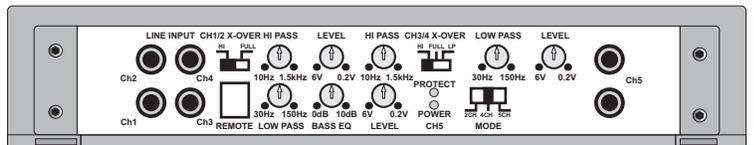


Note that the **LOW PASS** signal is **MONO**.

-In the **LP/BP** position, the **HI PASS** filter acts as a subsonic filter.

-When the **LP/BP** mode is selected, a 0 to +10dB, at 45Hz, **BASS EQ** is also switched in.

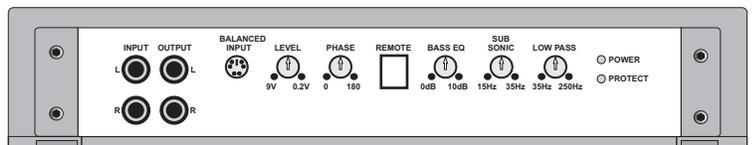
### BRX5000.5 5-CHANNEL AMPLIFIERS



Note that the **LOW PASS** signal is **MONO**.

-In the **LP** position, the **HI PASS** filter on Ch3/4 acts as a subsonic filter.

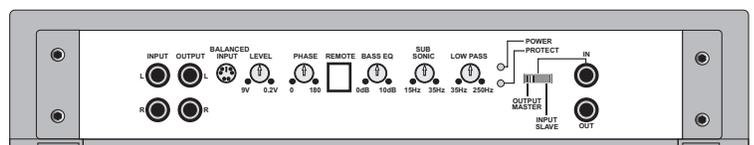
### BRX1100.1D / BRX1600.1D / BRX2000.1D MONO BLOCK AMPLIFIERS



The mono amps are capable of 4, 2 & 1-Ohm loads.

Operating the amp below 1-Ohm can cause damage to the amp not covered in the warranty.

### BRX2400.1D MONO BLOCK AMPLIFIERS



The mono amps are capable of 4, 2 & 1-Ohm loads.

Operating the amp below 1-Ohm can cause damage to the amp not covered in the warranty.

# BRX160.2 2-CHANNEL AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## 2 CHANNEL FULL RANGE SYSTEM

Here we show how to use the 2 channel amplifiers as straightforward discrete 2 channel full range units.

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- Connect the four inputs of the amplifier to a Radio/CD with quality RCA cables.

### Switch setting checklist:

- 1/2CH X-OVER: FULL

### Level control checklist:

- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

- 2 ohm per channel.



## MONO

Here we show how to use the 2 channel amplifiers as a 1 channel unit by taking advantage of the mono bridging capability of all Hifonics amplifiers

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- A MONO signal source is required to bridge channel pair 1/2, such as would be available from the mono sub bass output of an active crossover, whether standalone, or built into a head unit or equalizer. If you only have 1 set of RCA outputs from your headunit, you can simply connect those to the inputs for ch 1/2 and switch the **MODE** to MONO. The amplifier will auto sum the signal and provide mono output for bridged channels 1/2 once the X-OVER is switched to LP.

**Important:** Do not be tempted to connect the hot, or positive outputs, from any source together to obtain a mono signal, as this could very well damage the output stage of that source.

- It is necessary to feed the **SAME** signal to both left and right inputs via a Y-adaptor RCA cable.

- Connect the mono speaker positive terminal to the LEFT +, and its negative terminal to RIGHT - as shown.

### Switch setting checklist:

- 1/2CH X-OVER: LP

- MODE: MONO

### Level control checklist:

- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

- 2 ohm per channel in stereo mode.

- 4 ohm mono bridged.



# BRX320.4 / BRX640.4 / BRX1200.4 4-CHANNEL AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## 4 CHANNEL FULL RANGE SYSTEM

Here we show how to use the 4 channel amplifiers as straightforward discrete 4 channel full range units.

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- Connect the four inputs of the amplifier to a Radio/CD with quality RCA cables.

### Switch setting checklist:

- 1/2CH X-OVER: FULL  
- 3/4CH X-OVER: FULL

### Crossover frequency control checklist:

Channels 1/2:

- HI PASS: N/A  
- LOW PASS: N/A

### Channels 1/2 & 3/4:

- HI PASS: N/A  
- LOW PASS: N/A

### Level control checklist:

- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

- 2 ohm per channel.



## 2 or 3 CHANNEL SYSTEM

Here we show how to use the 4 channel amplifiers as a 3 channel unit by taking advantage of the mono bridging capability of all Hifonics amplifiers.

The following example shows how to create a 3 channel system by mono bridging channel pair 1/2. In order to create a 2 channel system, simply follow the example to also mono bridge channel pair 3/4.

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- If supplying the unit with mono signal on ch 1/2 stereo signal to ch 3/4, you will switch MODE to 4CH.

- If you only have 1 set of RCA outputs from your headunit, you can simply connect those to the inputs for ch 1/2 and switch the **MODE** to 2ch. The amplifier will automatically route the signal to channels 3/4.

**Important:** Do not be tempted to connect the hot, or positive outputs, from any source together to obtain a mono signal, as this could very well damage the output stage of that source.

- It is necessary to feed the **SAME** signal to both left and right inputs via a Y-adapter RCA cable.

- Connect the mono speaker positive terminal to the LEFT +, and its negative terminal to RIGHT - as shown.

### Switch setting checklist:

- 1/2CH X-OVER: LP  
- 3/4CH X-OVER: FULL

### Crossover frequency control checklist:

Channels 1/2:  
- HI PASS: N/A  
- LOW PASS: 11 o'clock

### Channels 3/4:

- HI PASS: N/A  
- LPF: N/A

**TIP:** If you are using the mono sub bass output of an active crossover, there is nothing wrong with switching in the low pass filter in these amplifiers for a steeper low pass rolloff.

### Level control checklist:

- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

- 2 ohm per channel in stereo mode.  
- 4 ohm mono bridged.



# BRX320.4 / BRX640.4 / BRX1200.4 4-CHANNEL AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## Front/Rear high pass, using a mono amplifier for mono sub bass

The combination of a mono and a 4 channel amplifier, utilizing their built in crossovers, makes it a snap to put together a full system with front and rear highs, with mono sub bass.

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- Using good quality RCA cables, feed the front and rear outputs of a head unit to the inputs of the 4 channel amplifier as shown.
- Also connect the LINE OUT of the 4 channel amplifier to the LINE INPUT of the mono amplifier as shown.

### Mono bass woofer wiring:

Connect the mono speaker positive terminal to the LEFT +, and its negative terminal to RIGHT -.

### Switch setting checklist:

#### 4 channel highs amplifier:

- 1/2CH X-OVER: HI
- 3/4CH X-OVER: HI

### Crossover frequency control checklist:

- 4 channel highs amplifier:

#### Channels 1/2 & 3/4:

- HI PASS: 100 Hz
- LOW PASS: N/A

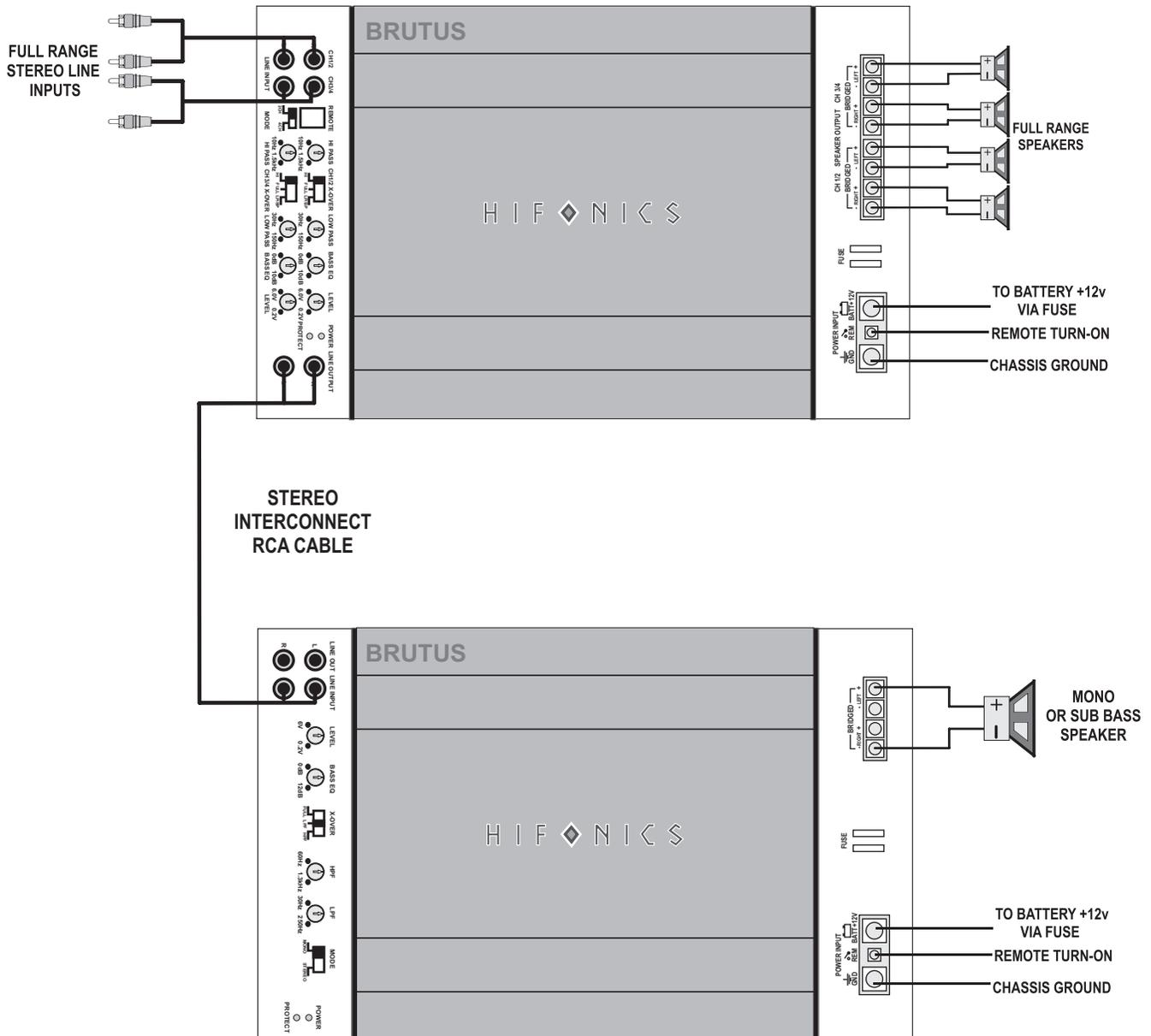
Please note that these frequency points are suggestions only. Refer to the loudspeaker manufacturer specifications and the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Level control checklist:

- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

- 2 ohm per channel in stereo mode.
- 4 ohm mono bridged.



# BRX5000.5 5-CHANNEL AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## 5 channel discrete, one being mono low pass

You can use this configuration simply as 4 discrete full range channels, with a 5th low pass channel. All of the crossovers are bypassed, except the LOW PASS on channel 5. The 5 channels can also be utilized with an outboard active crossover, or with crossovers in head units or equalizers. This setup is common when your headunit or crossover has 2 sets of full range RCA outputs and 1 set of mono subwoofer outputs.

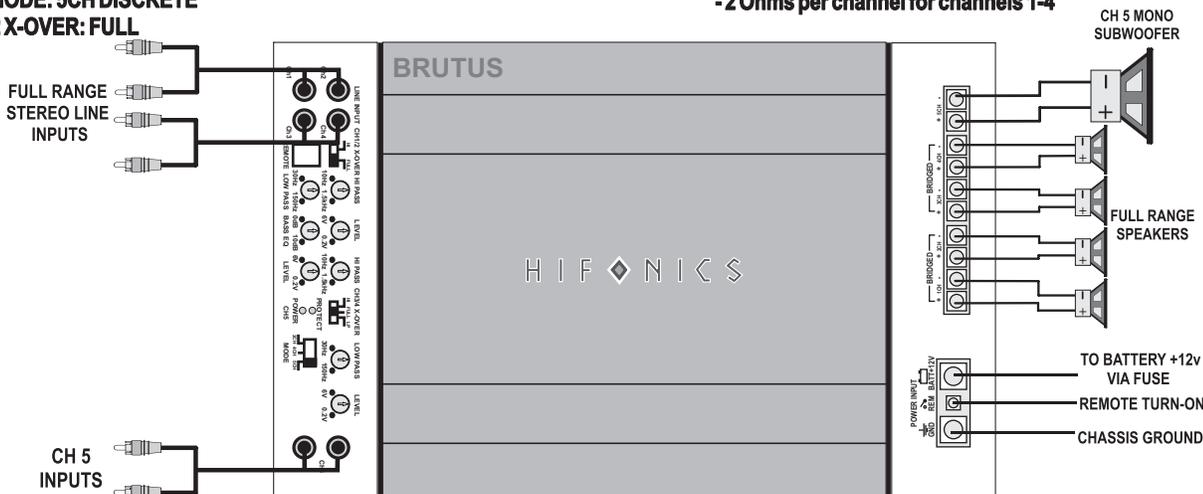
### Interconnect cable checklist:

Connect channel 1&2 inputs to the front output, channels 3&4 to the rear output, and channel 5 to the mono subwoofer output of a head unit or in dash equalizer. The LOW PASS filter on channel 5 will be in tandem with that of the source. You can either set it to the same frequency for a steeper rolloff, or set it to a higher frequency to minimize it's effect. By the same reasoning, you could switch channels 1,2,3&4 high pass crossovers in for steeper high pass slopes.

### Switch setting checklist:

**INPUT MODE: 5CH DISCRETE**

**- CH 1/2 X-OVER: FULL**



**- CH 3/4 X-OVER: FULL**

### Crossover frequency control checklist:

**- CH 1/2 HIGH PASS: N/A**

**- CH 3/4 HIGH PASS: N/A**

**- CH 3/4 LOW PASS: N/A**

**- CH 5 LOW PASS: 80 Hz**

Please note that these frequency points are suggestions only. Refer to the loudspeaker manufacturer specifications and the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Level control checklist:

- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

**- 2 Ohms per channel for channels 1-4**

## Single Set of Stereo RCA's

We will use the same basic setup on the speaker and subwoofer connections as above to illustrate an installation that only has 1 set of stereo RCA's to connect to this amplifier. By switching the amplifier to 3CH on the INPUT MODE, you now provide signal to all channels on the amplifier.

### Interconnect cable checklist:

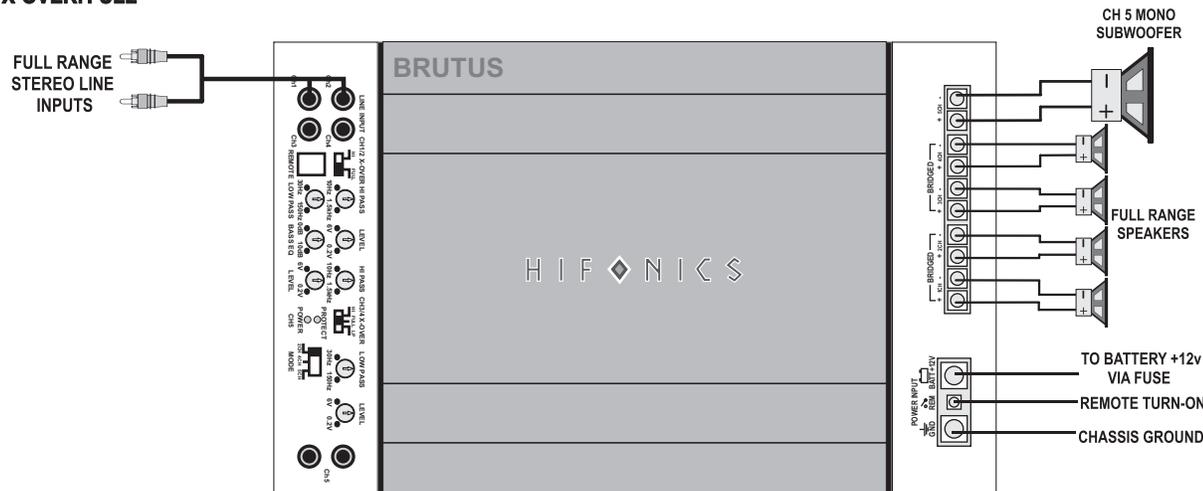
Connect Stereo Left and Right RCA's from headunit to CH1&2 RCA Inputs.

### Switch setting checklist:

**INPUT MODE: 2CH**

**- CH 1/2 X-OVER: FULL**

**- CH 3/4 X-OVER: FULL**



### Crossover frequency control checklist:

**- CH 1/2 HIGH PASS: N/A**

**- CH 3/4 HIGH PASS: N/A**

**- CH 3/4 LOW PASS: N/A**

**- CH 5 LOW PASS: 80 Hz**

### Minimum final loudspeaker impedances:

**- 2 ohm per channel in stereo mode**

**- 4 ohm per mono bridged pair**

**- 2 ohm on channel 5**

# BRX1100.1D / BRX1600.1D MONO AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## Basic application

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- Connect the line inputs to a Radio/CD RCA outputs or line output of the full range primary amplifier with good quality RCA cables. A "Y" adaptor may be needed as shown in the diagram.

- Use at least 16 gauge speaker wiring. These amplifiers have dual speaker terminals, simplifying the hookup of multiple speakers. The 2 positives are the same and the 2 negatives are the same.

### Crossover frequency control checklist:

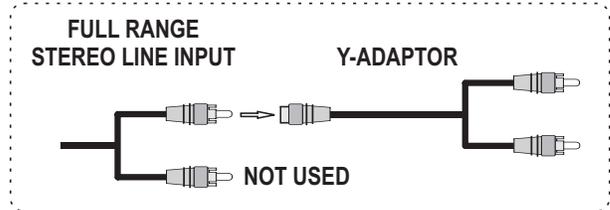
- LOW PASS: 35Hz to 250Hz
- SUBSONIC: 15 Hz to 35 Hz
- BASS EQ: 0 to 10dB
- PHASE: 0 to 180 degrees

### Level control checklist:

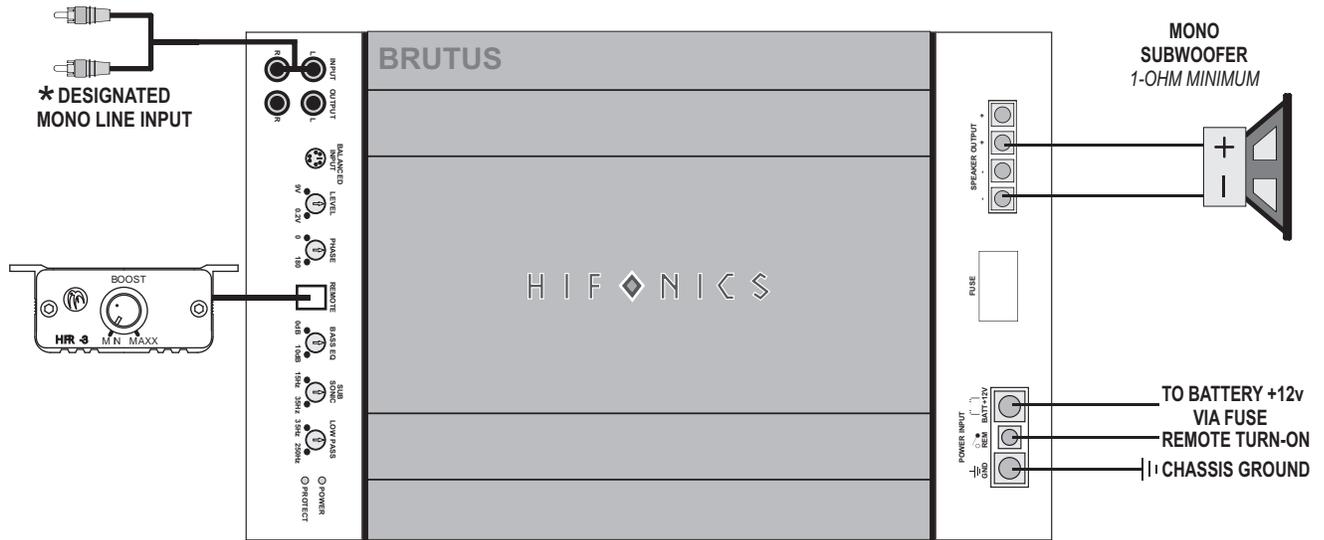
- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

Minimum final loudspeaker impedance:

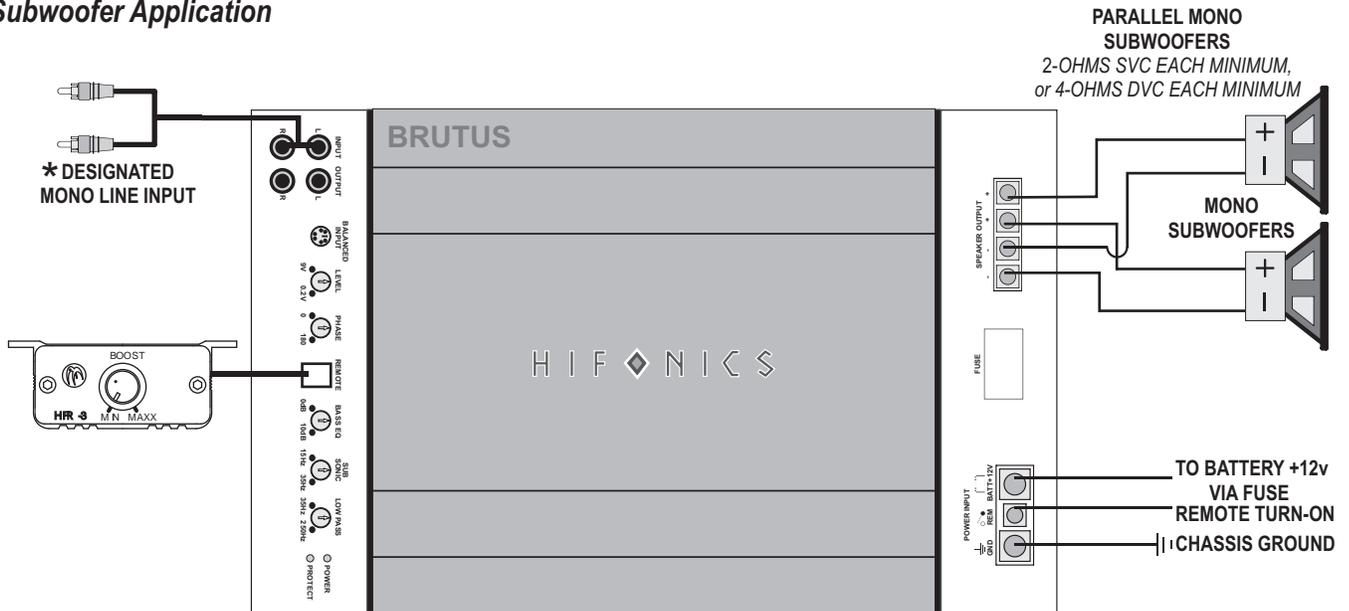
- 1 ohm.



\*Note: You can use the Radio/CD designated mono line output or a full range stereo line output. For full range stereo line output, you will need an optional "Y-Adaptor" as shown



## Dual Subwoofer Application



# BRX2000.1D MONO AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## Basic application

### Interconnect cable checklist:

- Connect the line inputs to a Radio/CD outputs or line output of the full range primary amplifier with good quality RCA cables. A "Y" adaptor may be needed as shown in the diagram.

- Use at least 16 gauge speaker wiring. These amplifiers have dual speaker terminals, simplifying the hookup of multiple speakers. The 2 positives are the same and the 2 negatives are the same.

### Crossover frequency control checklist:

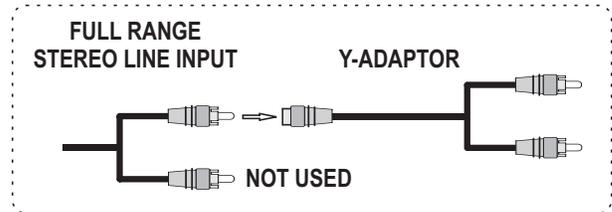
- LOW PASS: 35Hz to 250Hz
- SUBSONIC: 15 Hz to 35 Hz
- BASS EQ: 0 to 10dB
- PHASE: 0 to 180 degrees

### Level control checklist:

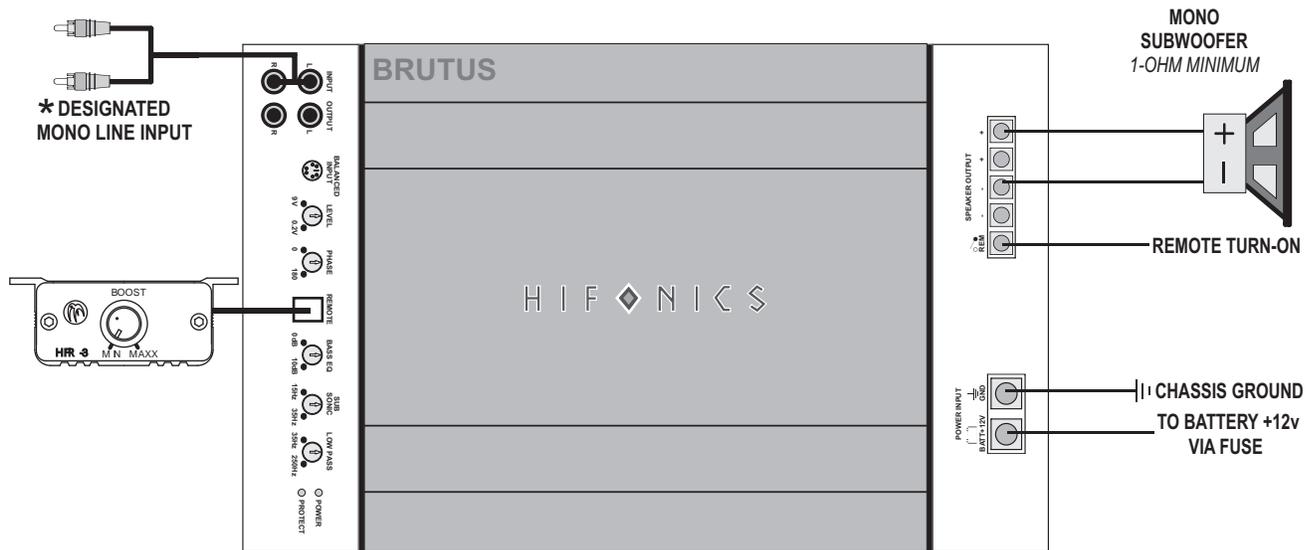
- Refer to the section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"

Minimum final loudspeaker impedance:

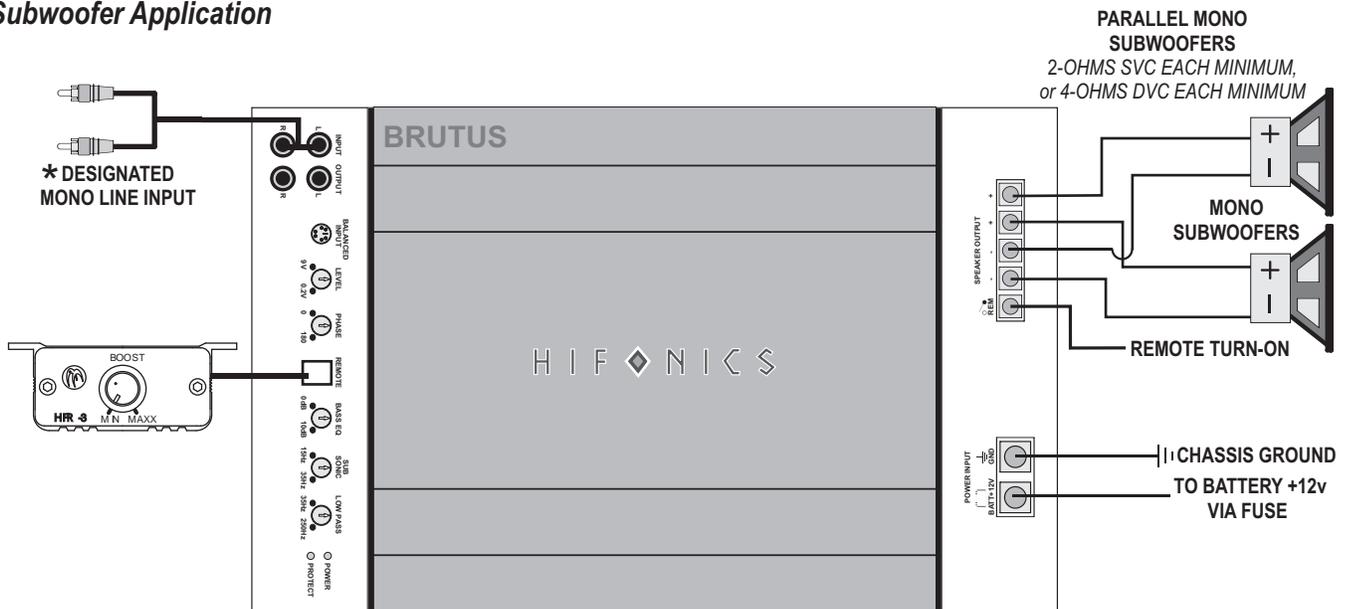
- 1 ohm.



\*Note: You can use the Radio/CD designated mono line output or a full range stereo line output. For full range stereo line output, you will need an optional "Y-Adaptor" as shown



## Dual Subwoofer Application



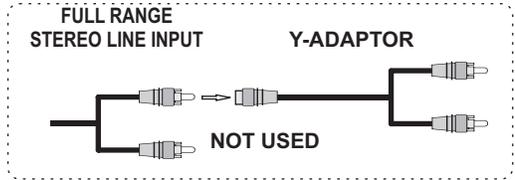
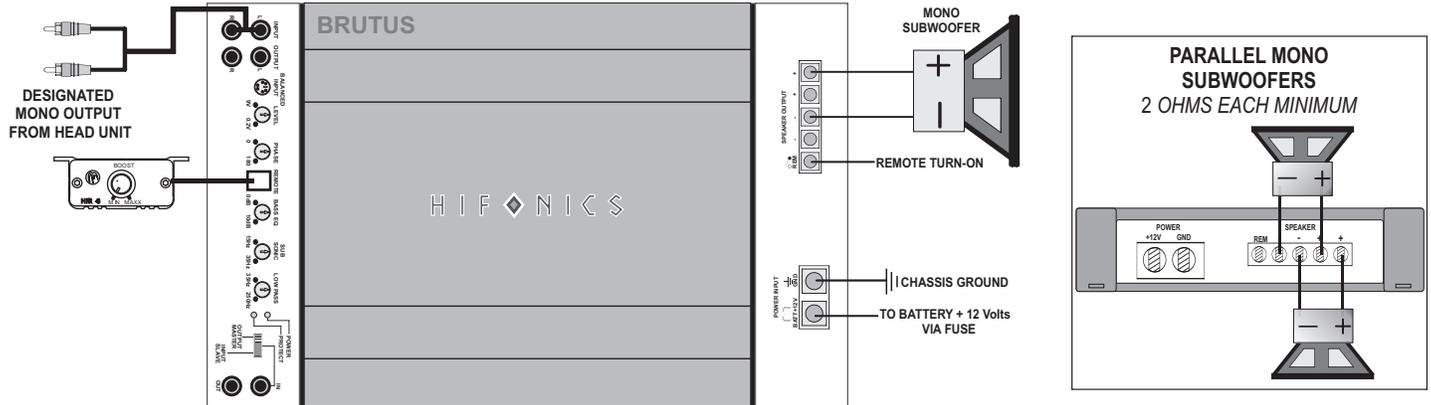
# BRX2400.1D MONO AMPLIFIER APPLICATIONS

## Basic application

### SINGLE AMP INSTALLATION PROCEDURE:

1. Connect the amp LINE INPUTS to the Radio/CD player full range or mono line out puts with good quality RCA interconnect cables.
2. Plug in the HFR-3 remote module into the amp REMOTE INPUT jack.
3. Route a 0 gauge power cables directly to the vehicle battery with an in-line fuse.
4. Connect a 0 gauge ground cables directly to chassis ground with in 36" of the amp.
  - Be sure to remove any paint or primer from the ground point.
  - Use a nut, bolt and lock washer to secure the ground cable to the chassis ground.
5. Connect the subwoofer(s) in accordance to the diagrams below.
6. Make sure the MASTER/SLAVE switch is in the MASTER position.

Note: The amplifier will not work if the MASTER/SLAVE switch is in the Slave position



Note: You can use the Radio/CD designated mono line output or a full range stereo line output. For full range stereo line output, you will need an optional "Y-Adaptor" as shown.

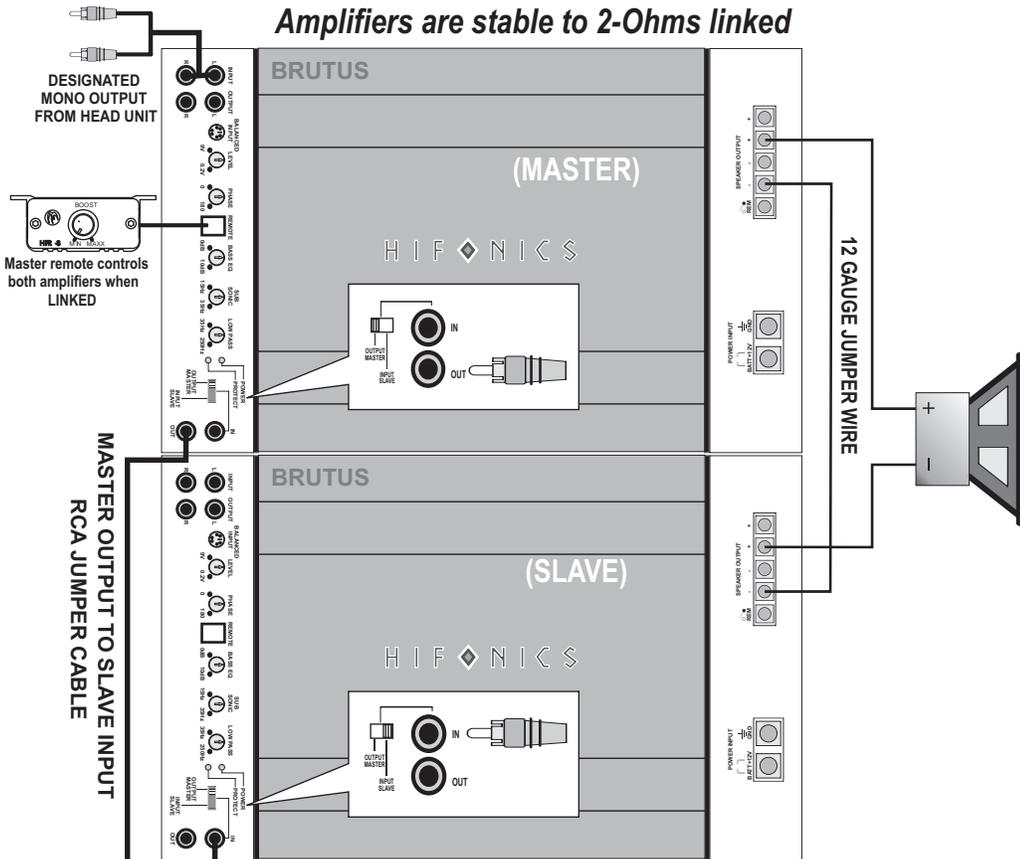
### DUAL AMP INSTALLATION PROCEDURE:

1. Connect the amp LINE INPUTS to the Radio/CD player full range or mono line out puts with good quality RCA interconnect cables.
2. Plug in the HFR-3 bass remote module into the amp REMOTE INPUT jack on the Master amp. This will allow the Master amp to control both Master and Slave amps with just one Bass Remote.
3. Connect an RCA jumper cable from the Master amp MASTER OUTPUT to the Slave amp SLAVE INPUT. Note: This will "link" the amps so that the Master amp crossover switches will control both the Master and Slave amps. The Slave amp crossover switches will be bypassed.

4. Route two 0 gauge power cables directly to the vehicle battery with an in-line fuse.
5. Connect two 0 gauge ground cables directly to the chassis with in 36" of the amp.
  - Be sure to remove any paint or primer from the ground point.
  - Use a nut, bolt and lock washer to secure the ground cable to the chassis ground.
6. Make sure the Master amp MASTER/SLAVE switch is in the MASTER position. Make sure the Slave amp MASTER/SLAVE switch is in the SLAVE position.
7. Connect the subwoofer(s) in accordance to the diagrams below.
8. Connect a 12 gauge jumper from Master amp speaker - to Slave amp speaker - as shown below.

## Linking two amps for single - or dual subwoofer application

Amplifiers are stable to 2-Ohms linked



# SETTING UP SYSTEMS AFTER INSTALLATION FOR BEST PERFORMANCE

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## BRX160.2 / BRX320.4 / BRX640.4 / BRX1200.4 / BRX5000.5

### **General:**

At this point you are ready to get more specific on the settings for your amplifier.

### **High Pass:**

-When in Hi Pass operation, this setting acts as a low frequency cut off for your system reproduction. The point that you set it at cuts off any frequencies from reproduction beyond this point. The 12 o'clock position is a great starting point. EXAMPLE: If you adjust the High Pass to 100Hz, the amplifier will not play frequencies below 100Hz but will play frequencies from 100Hz to the highest frequency the amplifier is capable of reproducing.

-When in Low Pass/Bandpass operation, this setting acts as a low frequency cut off for your system reproduction aka Subsonic Filter. The point that you set it at cuts off any frequencies from reproduction beyond this point. The 12 o'clock position is a great starting point. EXAMPLE: If you adjust the High Pass to 60Hz, the amplifier will not play frequencies below 60Hz but will play frequencies from 60Hz to the chosen Low Pass frequency.

-When in Flat/Full operation, the Low Pass crossover is bypassed.

### **Bass EQ:**

This setting is a fixed bass boost at 45Hz that is variable from 0-10dB. This feature provides impact to your bass, but if not adjusted correctly, it can be over used and cause damage to your speakers and amplifiers. It is best to slowly turn this setting clockwise until the desired punch is felt. It is not recommended to exceed the 12 o'clock position unless listening at a low volume or a low recording quality as this can result in high distortion and possibly clipping.

### **Low Pass:**

The Low Pass control acts as a ceiling and doesn't allow frequencies to the right of the desired setting to be reproduced. Turning the potentiometer all the way to the right is a great starting point. EXAMPLE: If you adjust the Low Pass to 120Hz, the amplifier will not play frequencies above 120Hz but will play frequencies from 120Hz to the chosen Hi Pass or Subsonic frequency.

-When in Hi Pass operation, this setting is bypassed.

### **Level Control Setup:**

Ensure that the Level is turned completely to the left prior to turning the system on. Next you should insert a CD or cassette that you are familiar with to use as a reference, and turn the head unit volume control to about 80% of its full setting. The system sound level will of course be very low, and the following procedures will help you to match the amplifier input sensitivities properly to the head unit output signal level.

It is important to match the amplifier **LEVEL** input sensitivity to the Radio/CD output sensitivity. This can be located in the Radio/CD manual.

If the Radio/CD output sensitivity is 2 volts, then adjust the amplifier **LEVEL** input to 2 volts.

If you are not sure what the Radio output sensitivity is, follow these general guide lines:

Turn the level control up slowly, till you hear distortion, then back off a few degrees on the control. If at any point your amplifier goes into protection, you will need to turn the Level to the left a bit and then try again. If you reach a point where the output does not increase, stop turning the Level control to the right as the amplifier/speaker combo has reached its max output in this application.

### **2 or 3 way active systems (all):**

Always start with the bass, or low frequency amplifier as a reference, by turning its control up to the point where distortion is audible, and back it off some.

Now adjust the level control for the highs or tweeter channels in a 2 way active system, to balance the highs to lows.

In a 3 way active system, match the midrange level to the bass, and then the highs to the midrange and bass. It may be necessary to perform a few iterations of the midrange and highs level control settings to achieve a satisfactory sound balance.

## BRX1100.1D / BRX1600.1D / BRX2000.1D / BRX2400.1D

### **General:**

At this point you are ready to get more specific on the settings for your amplifier.

### **Subsonic:**

This setting acts as a low frequency cut off for your system bass reproduction. The point that you set it at cuts off any frequencies from reproduction beyond this point. The 12 o'clock position is a great starting point. EXAMPLE: If you adjust the Subsonic to 25Hz, the amplifier will not play frequencies below 25Hz but will play frequencies from 25Hz to the chosen Low Pass frequency.

### **Bass EQ:**

This setting is a fixed bass boost at 45Hz that is variable from 0-10dB. This feature provides impact to your bass, but if not adjusted correctly, it can be over used and cause damage to your subwoofers and amplifiers. It is best to slowly turn this setting clockwise until the desired punch is felt. It is not recommended to exceed the 12 o'clock position unless listening at a low volume or a low recording quality as this can result in high distortion and possibly clipping.

### **Low Pass:**

The Low Pass control acts as a ceiling and doesn't allow frequencies to the right of the desired setting to be reproduced. The 12 o'clock position is a great starting point. EXAMPLE: If you adjust the Low Pass to 80Hz, the amplifier will not play frequencies above 80Hz but will play frequencies from 80Hz to the chosen Subsonic frequency.

### **Level Control Setup:**

Ensure that the Level is turned completely to the left prior to turning the system on. Next you should insert a CD or cassette that you are familiar with to use as a reference, and turn the head unit volume control to about 80% of its full setting. The system sound level will of course be very low, and the following procedures will help you to match the amplifier input sensitivities properly to the head unit output signal level.

It is important to match the amplifier **LEVEL** input sensitivity to the Radio/CD output sensitivity. This can be located in the Radio/CD manual.

If the Radio/CD output sensitivity is 2 volts, then adjust the amplifier **LEVEL** input to 2 volts.

If you are not sure what the Radio output sensitivity is, follow these general guide lines:

Turn the level control up slowly, till you hear distortion, then back off a few degrees on the control. If at any point your amplifier goes into protection, you will need to turn the Level to the left a bit and then try again. If you reach a point where the output does not increase, stop turning the Level control to the right as the amplifier/subwoofer combo has reached its max output in this application.

**Sit back and enjoy the music!**

# TROUBLESHOOTING A SYSTEM

---

The key to finding the problem in a misbehaving sound system is to isolate parts of that system in a logical fashion to track down the fault.

## Description of the Diagnostic system built into all HIFONICS amplifiers

The diagnostic system will shut down the amplifier, until reset by turning the head unit off, and back on. This state of affairs will be indicated by the front panel PROTECT LED lighting up under the following conditions:

- 1 - A short circuit on the loudspeaker leads.
- 2 - An internal amplifier fault that causes a DC offset on the loudspeaker output.

Should the amplifier go into diagnostic mode, simply disconnect all RCA and speaker leads, while keeping +12 volt, power ground and remote leads connected.

1. Now turn the amplifier back on, and if the diagnostic LED lights, the amplifier has an internal fault.
2. If not, plug the RCA cables back, and reset the amplifier. If it goes into diagnostic now, the fault lies in the input, either with bad cables or source unit.
3. If the amplifier seems ok with RCA cables plugged in, connect the speakers, one at a time, and if one of speaker or its wiring is faulty, it will activate the diagnostic system.
4. If the amplifier is still in Protection mode after the above steps, remove all RCA's and wires from the amplifier. Take a 12" length of speaker wire, trim the plastic off of each end exposing the wire. Now connect one end of the wire to the 12V+ on the amplifier and connect the other to the Ground on the amplifier. You will have a brief spark indicating that the Capacitors have been discharged and the drivercard has been reset. Remove the jumper wire and reconnect your Power, Ground and Remote wires. Attempt to power the amplifier up like normal. In some cases this can Reset the amplifier if permanent damage has not previously been done.

## Amplifier heatsink overheating

The amplifiers will shut down when the heatsink temperature reaches 80 degrees centigrade, and turn back on once the unit has cooled down below that point.

### Causes of overheating:

- 1 - Inadequate cooling - relocate or remount to provide better natural airflow over the fins.
- 2 - Driving high power levels into low impedances - back off on the volume control, and/or make sure you are not loading the amplifier with less than the recommended loudspeaker impedance.
- 3 - Excessive voltage drop can also cause overheating.

## Low output power

- 1 - Check that level controls have been set up properly.
- 2 - Make sure that the battery voltage, as measured at the amplifier's +12 volt and ground terminals, is 11 volts or more.
- 3 - Check all +12 volt and ground connections.

## Fuses blowing

- 1 - The use of loudspeaker impedances below the recommended minimums will draw more current - check.
- 2 - A short on the main +12 volt cable from the battery to the vehicle chassis will cause the main fuse to blow.
- 3 - If an amplifier fuse blows continually, with only +12 volt, ground and remote leads connected, the amplifier may be faulty.

## System does not turn on

- 1 - Check all fuses.
- 2 - Check all connections.
- 3 - Measure the +12 volt and remote turn on voltages at the amplifier terminals. If these are non existent or low, take voltage measurements at fuse holders, distribution blocks, the head unit's +12 volt and remote leads to localize the problem.
- 4 - If the HIFONICS lettering is illuminated but you do not have Power or Protection illuminated, simply remove your remote wire and use a jumper wire from 12V+ on the amplifier to the Remote connection on the amplifier. If the amplifier powers on like normal then you do not have adequate voltage/amperage from your Remote source to turn your amplifier on. You will need to seek out a certified installer to install a relay for your amplifier. If the jumper does not power your amplifier on, you may have internal damage and should contact Hifonics Customer Service to locate an Authorized Repair Center.

## Noise problems

System noise can be divided into two categories, hiss, and electrical interference.

### Hiss, or white noise:

- 1 - High levels of white noise usually occurs when amplifier level controls are turned up too high - readjust according to the procedures in section "Setting up systems after installation for best performance"
- 2 - Another major problem that can cause excessive hiss, is a noisy head unit - unplug the amplifier input RCA cables, and if the hiss level reduces, the source unit is at fault.

### Electrical interference:

The inside of an automobile is a very hostile electrical environment. The multitude of electrical systems, such as the ignition system, alternator, fuel pumps, air conditioners, to mention just a few, create radiated electrical fields, as well as noise on the +12 volt supply and ground. Remember to isolate the problem - first unplug amplifier input RCA cables, if the noise is still present, check the speaker leads, if not, plug the RCA's back, and investigate the source driving the amplifier, one component at a time.

### A ticking or whine that changes with engine RPM:

- 1 - This problem could be caused by radiation pickup of RCA cables too near to a fuel pump or a distributor, for instance, - relocate cables.
- 2 - Check that the head unit ground is connected straight to the vehicle chassis, and does not use factory wiring for ground.
- 3 - Try to supply the head unit with a clean +12 volt supply directly from the battery +, instead of using a supply from the in dash wiring/fusebox.

### A constant whine:

This type of noise can be more difficult to pinpoint, but is usually caused by some kind of instability, causing oscillations in the system.

- 1 - Check all connections, especially for good grounds.
- 2 - Make sure that no speaker leads are shorting to exposed metal on the vehicle chassis.
- 3 - RCA cables are notorious for their problematic nature, so check that these are good, in particular the shield connections.

FEATURES	2-CHANNEL		4-CHANNEL		5-CHANNEL		1-CHANNEL MONO D CLASS	
	BRX160.2	BRX320.4	BRX640.4	BRX1200.4	BRX5000.5	BRX1100.1D	BRX1600.1D	BRX2000.1D
Output Power Rating (rms)								
4-Ohms	80 X 2	40 X 4	80 X 4	150 X 4	60 X 4 + 475	450 X 1	600 X 1	700 X 1
2-Ohms	160 X 2	80 X 4	160 X 4	300 X 4	120 X 4 + 750	800 X 1	1200 X 2	1400 X 1
1-Ohm	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	CH5: 1000 X 1	1100 X 1	1600 X 1	2000 X 1
Mono Bridge at 4-Ohms	320 X 1	160 X 2	320 X 2	600 X 2	240 X 2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Power Supply	PWM	PWM	PWM	PWM	PWM	PWM	PWM	PWM
Output Power Circuit Configuration	Mosfet	Mosfet	Mosfet	Mosfet	Mosfet	Mosfet	Mosfet	Mosfet
Miscellaneous Specifications								
Soft Start Sound	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Frequency Response-3dB	10Hz - 45KHz	15Hz - 250Hz	15Hz - 250Hz	15Hz - 250Hz				
Damping Factor	>180	>180	>180	>180	>180	>200	>200	>200
S/N Ratio(A-Weight)	>90dB	>90dB	>90dB	>90dB	>90dB	>95dB	>95dB	>95dB
THD & Noise	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	CH1-4: 0.05% CH5: 0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%
Channel Separation	>80dB	>80dB	>80dB	>80dB	>80dB			
Variable Input Level Control	0.2V-6.0V	0.2V-6.0V	0.2V-6.0V	0.2V-6.0V	0.2V-6.0V	0.2V-9.0V	0.2V-9.0V	0.2V-9.0V
Input Impedance	47kΩ	47kΩ	47kΩ	47kΩ	47kΩ	47kΩ	47kΩ	47kΩ
Diagnostic Indicator(power, green / protect: red)	Power/Protect	Power/Protect	Power/Protect	Power/Protect	Power/Protect	Power/Protect	Power/Protect	Power/Protect
Protection(DC, Short, Thermal, Overload)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Crossover Operation								
<i>Crossover Switch for 1+2 channels</i>	HI / FULL / LP-8P	HI / FULL	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Variable HPF (High Pass Filter)	60Hz - 1.3KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	N/A	N/A	N/A
Variable LPF (Low Pass Filter)	30Hz - 250Hz	30Hz - 150Hz	30Hz - 150Hz	30Hz - 150Hz	N/A	35Hz - 250Hz	35Hz - 250Hz	35Hz - 250Hz
Variable Subsonic Filter	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15Hz - 35Hz	15Hz - 35Hz	15Hz - 35Hz
Bass EQ (Bass Boost at 45Hz)	0dB - 12dB	0dB - 10dB	0dB - 10dB	0dB - 10dB	N/A	0dB - 10dB	0dB - 10dB	0dB - 10dB
<i>Crossover Switch for 3+4 channel</i>	N/A	HI / FULL / LP-8P	HI / FULL / LP-8P	HI / FULL / LP-8P	HI / FULL / BP	N/A	N/A	N/A
Variable HI PASS FILTER	N/A	10Hz - 1.5KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	10Hz - 1.5KHz	N/A	N/A	N/A
Variable Low Pass Filter	N/A	30Hz - 150Hz	30Hz - 150Hz	30Hz - 150Hz	30Hz - 150Hz	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bass EQ (Bass Boost at 45Hz)	N/A	0dB - 10dB	0dB - 10dB	0dB - 10dB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>Crossover Switch for channel 5</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Variable HI PASS FILTER	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Variable Low Pass Filter	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30Hz - 150Hz	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bass EQ (Bass Boost at 45Hz)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0dB - 10dB	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>Line Output</i>	Full Range	Full Range	Full Range	Full Range	N/A	Full Range	Full Range	Full Range
<i>Unbalanced Input(RCA Jack)</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Phone Jack for Remote Control</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Remote Level Control Module (HFR-3)</i>	No	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Others								
Power Terminal	4-GA	4-GA	4-GA	2-GA	2-GA	4-GA	2-GA	0-GA
Speaker Terminal	14-GA	14-GA	14-GA	12-GA	12-GA	12-GA	10-GA	10-GA
Fuse Size	20AMPS X 2	25AMPS X 2	30AMPS X 2	40AMPS X 3	EXTERNAL 150AMP	60AMPS X 2	80AMPS X 2	EXTERNAL 200AMP
Dimensions Length x Width x Height (inches)	10.72 X 10.31 X 2.52	13.17 X 10.31 X 2.52	15.92 X 10.31 X 2.52	21.43 X 10.31 X 2.52	21.43 X 10.31 X 2.52	14.95 X 10.31 X 2.52	15.92 X 10.31 X 2.52	16.71 X 10.31 X 2.52
EXTERNAL 250AMP								18.68 X 10.31 X 2.52

Note: Features subject to change with out notice

# Maxxsonics Limited Warranty

As the manufacturer of Maxxsonics, MB Quart, Autotek, Crunch, Hifonics and MAXXLINK car audio products, Maxxsonics USA Inc. Warrants to the original consumer purchaser the amplifier to be free from defects in material and workmanship for one (1) Year from date of purchase.

All other parts and accessories of the system are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship for one (1) year from date of purchase. Maxxsonics will repair or replace at it's option and free of charge during the warranty period, any system component that proves defective in materials and workmanship under normal installation, use and service provided that the product is returned to the authorized Maxxsonics dealer from where it was purchased. A photo copy of the original receipt must accompany the product being returned.

Valid purchase receipts will contain the name and address of the authorized reseller.

Any damage to the product as a result of misuse, abuse, accident, incorrect wiring, improper installation, alteration of date code or bar code labels, revolution, natural disaster, or any sneaky stuff because someone messed up, repair or alteration out side of our factory or authorized service centers and any thing else you have done that you should not have done is not covered.

This warranty is limited to defective parts and specifically excludes any incidental or consequential damages connected therewith. This warranty is not to be construed as an insurance policy.

Warranty on installation labor, removal, re-installation and freight charges are not the responsibility of Maxxsonics USA Inc.

Warranty products damaged as a result of insufficient or improper packing materials are not covered by this limited warranty and such damaged product will be returned "as is" at the expense of the owner.

**FOR EXTENDED WARRANTY INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT  
WWW.MAXXWARRANTY.COM**



**MAXXSONICS**  
Designed and Engineered in the USA  
[www.maxxsonics.com](http://www.maxxsonics.com)



Tested Tough! That's the foundation for every product. Hours of design and testing go into each part to ensure that they not only meet but far exceed industry standards for performance and durability.

MAXXLINK accessories are developed by the mobile audio professionals at Maxxsonics. Since 2001 Maxxsonics has developed some of the most powerful and best sounding mobile audio equipment you can choose. Hifonics, MB Quart, Crunch and Autotek are brands that are known throughout the world and have decades of experience dealing with the harshest environments on the road.

MAXXLINK is built around a simple labeling system. These labels will help you choose which package will fit your application. The simplest codes to look for are V3, V2 and V1 with their matching performance level icons. 10, 7, 5. It is easy to choose based on the total power of the system.

# MAXXTECH

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## THE SYSTEM

## MAXXLINK PRODUCTS & WARRANTY

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**Biggest POWER systems**

**V3 Products, Level 10 Performance + 1 Year Warranty**

**Moderate POWER systems**

**V2 Products, Level 7 Performance + 6 Month Warranty**

**Smaller POWER systems**

**V1 Products, Level 5 Performance**

Maxxsonics is so confident in the reliability of the MAXXLINK accessories, that when any of the Hifonics, MB Quart, Crunch or Autotek amplifiers are matched with a V3 level amplifier kit the customer can extend the amplifier warranty for ONE FULL YEAR. When the customer chooses V2, they can extend the warranty for a full six months. The process is simple, the customer simply registers their amplifier on [MAXXWarranty.com/MAXXLINK](http://MAXXWarranty.com/MAXXLINK).

# WARRANTY

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**TESTED!  
TOUGH!**



# MAXXTECH

If you are serious about understanding the difference between real wire and junk, check out a demo of the thermal properties of 100% copper vs. the rest. Go to [MAXXLINKaudio.com](http://MAXXLINKaudio.com), click on "Technical" and see the video from Cogent Labs or scan this QR code. You will realize that some cheaper wires are better BBQ's than electrical and audio solutions.



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