

DENON

PMA-1520AE

INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER

Owner's Manual

You can print more than one page of a PDF onto a single sheet of paper.





Remote





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Thank you for purchasing this Denon product. To ensure proper operation, please read this owner's manual carefully before using the product. After reading them, be sure to keep them for future reference.

Accessories

Check that the following parts are supplied with the product.









• If the battery fluid should leak, carefully wipe the fluid off the inside of the battery compartment and insert new batteries.

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Appendix

Features

• Advanced UHC-MOS Single Push-pull Circuit

The new generation UHC-MOS FET is employed for the power amplifier output stage. The handling power guideline has been scaled up from 150 Watts to 260 Watts.

The operation stability affected by the temperature fluctuation is improved by using the dual FET selected first stage for the voltage amplifier stage. Furthermore, the phase property is stabilized up to the high range by using the cascade bootstrap circuit.

Power Supply

To make the most of the Advanced UHC-MOS Single Push–pull Circuit, this powerful power supply consists of a LC mount twin transformer, schottky barrier diodes, and a custom block type capacitor that is tuned for high-quality sound.

Phono Equalizer

Even a user who is particular about analog records is satisfied because the Phono Equalizer circuit for the FET input supports MM/MC.

• Pre Out

A Pre Out connector is equipped that can extend the system's possibility by using another power amplifier to drive a bi-amplifier with a speaker that supports the bi-wiring or adding a subwoofer to upgrade the system.

Adoption of a Large potentiometer with motorized function

This unit adopts a large potentiometer that is provided with higher-grade integrated amplifiers as well.

• Resonance Suppression Design

Effects of vibrations on the audio quality of this unit have been substantially minimized, by scattering resonance points by varying the configurations of fins in the heat sink, as well as by lowering the center of gravity of the power amplifier block.





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For buttons not explained here, see the page indicated in parentheses ().

Front panel









NOTE

- Functions 4, 5 and 6 are only available when the SOURCE DIRECT button is set to off.
- When the VOLUME control knob is set just beyond the "12 o'clock" position (over halfway), the adjustments that can be made with the BASS and TREBLE controls is decreased.
- When the VOLUME control knob is set to maximum or turned fully clockwise, the base and treble can no longer be adjusted.
- When power amp direct mode is on, adjustment of the volume, balance and tone on the main unit has no effect. You should adjust the volume on the input device.
- When power amp direct mode is on, the main unit is at its maximum volume. Check the output level on the input device before playback, and adjust the volume accordingly.

Front panel









Audio connectors (AUDIO)

Used to connect players (2 page 17, 18).

2 REC OUT connectors (RECORDER)

Used to connect the input connector of a recorder (2 page 18).

3 Power amplifier direct connectors (POWER AMP DIRECT)

Used to connect a pre-amplifier when this unit is used as a power amplifier ($\underline{rppage 19}$).

The volume should be adjusted on the connected device.

Speaker system terminals (SPEAKERS)

Used to connect speakers (2 page 15, 16).

5 AC inlet (AC IN)

Used to connect the power cord (page 20).

6 REMOTE CONTROL jacks

Extension jack for future use.

PRE OUT connectors

Use this to add such equipment as a power amplifier or subwoofer (12) page 19).

8 SIGNAL GND jacks

Used to connect a turntable (page 17).

OCARTRIDGE selection switch

Set this switch to MM or MC according to the type of cartridge used on your turntable.

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Front	nanei
	panor

Remote

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Remote control unit



Amplifier operation

• AMP POWER button (也) This turns the power on/off (standby) (で page 22, 26).

2 Input source select buttons (AMP)

These select the input source (2 page 23, 24).

3 VOLUME buttons (▲▼) These adjust the volume level (2) page 23).

④ MUTE button (ଏ×)

This mutes the audio (12 page 23)

- The included remote control unit can be used to operate Denon CD players and network audio player. When using it, also refer to the operating instructions of the other devices.
- Some products may not be operable.









CD player operation

To operate Denon CD player, press REMOTE MODE CD button to switch the remote control to the CD operation mode.

- REMOTE MODE CD button lights for approximately two seconds.
- **POWER button**(()) Remote mode select button (REMOTE MODE CD) **2** Input source select button (CD) **(D** ►/**II** button PURE DIRECT button Beverse-skip/ Forward-skip buttons (I B MODE button 4 Fast-reverse/Fast-forward **(D** Cursor buttons ($\triangle \nabla \triangleleft \triangleright$) buttons (**B**ENTER button **5** Stop button (■) Number buttons (0 – 9, +10) 6 Information button (INFO) CLEAR button SOURCE button DIMMER button **B**RANDOM button PROGRAM button **O**REPEAT button

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• Operate the amplifier with the amplifier operation button even when the remote control operation mode is CD.

Front panel

Remote

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Network audio player operation

To operate Denon network audio player, press REMOTE MODE NET button to switch the remote control to the NETWORK operation mode. • REMOTE MODE NET lights for approximately two seconds.

Tips

POWER button (の) **I**REPEAT button **2** Input source select button Bemote mode select button (NETWORK) (REMOTE MODE NET) **B**INTERNET RADIO PRESET B ►/II button buttons (1 - 3) **PAVORITE** button Reverse-skip/Forward-skip **D**MODE button buttons (I **(** $\triangle \nabla \triangleleft \triangleright$ **) 5** Fast-reverse/Fast-forward **D**ENTER button buttons (◄◄, ►►) B MENU button **6** Stop button (■) Number buttons (0 – 9, +10) **PRESET** buttons (+, –) CLEAR button Information button (INFO) **DIMMER** button SOURCE button SEARCH button **O**RANDOM button

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• Operate the amplifier with the amplifier operation button even when the remote control operation mode is NETWORK.

Front panel







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Connections	
Speaker connection (Page 14)	■ Cables used for connections Provide necessary cables according to the devices you want to connect.
Connecting a playback device (Page 17)	
Connecting a recording device (127 page 18)	
Connecting the power cord (Reprage 20)	Speaker cable
Connections for all compatible audio signal format is described in	

When making connections, also refer to the operating instructions of the other components.Be sure to connect the left and right channels properly (left with left, right with right).

• Do not plug in the power cord until all connections have been completed.

this operating instructions. Please select the types of connections

corresponding to the equipment you are connecting.

- Do not bundle power cords with connection cables. Doing so can result in humming or noise.
- Do not turn up the volume without a turntable connected to the PHONO input terminals. Doing so will cause humming or noise.

NOTE





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Remote

Speaker connection

NOTE

- Disconnect this unit's power plug from the power outlet before connecting the speakers.
- Connect so that the speaker cable core wires do not protrude from the speaker terminal. The protection circuit may be activated if the core wires touch the rear panel or if the + and – sides touch each other (137 page 34 "Protection circuit").
- Never touch the speaker terminals while the power cord is connected.
- Use speakers with impedances within the ranges shown below to suit how they are used.

Speakers used	Impedance
SPEAKERS A (Standard connection)	4 – 16 Ω/ohms
SPEAKERS B	4 – 16 Ω/ohms
SPEAKERS A and SPEAKERS B	8 – 16 Ω/ohms
SPEAKERS A and SPEAKERS B (for bi-wiring connections)	4 – 16 Ω/ohms



Rear panel

Connecting the speakers cables

Carefully check the left (L) and right (R) channels and + (red) and - (black) polarities on the speakers being connected to the unit, and be sure to connect the channels and polarities correctly.

- **1** Peel off about 10 mm of sheathing from the tip of the speaker cable, then either twist the core wire tightly or apply solder to it.
- **2** Turn the speaker terminal counterclockwise to loosen it.

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3 Insert the speaker cable's core wire to all the way into the speaker terminal.



4 Turn the speaker terminal clockwise to tighten it.





- The same signal is output from the SPEAKERS A and SPEAKERS B terminals.
- When only one set of speakers is to be connected, use either the SPEAKERS A or SPEAKERS B terminals.







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Bi-wiring connection

- When bi-wiring with bi-wireable speakers, connect the mid and high range terminals to SPEAKERS A (or SPEAKERS B), the low range terminals to SPEAKERS B (or SPEAKERS A).
- This connection limits the effect of signal interference between the high range speakers and low range speakers, allowing you to enjoy high quality playback.



Connecting a playback device

You can connect turntables, tuners, CD players and network audio players to this unit.

This unit is compatible with turntables equipped with a moving magnet (MM) phono cartridge. When you connect to a turntable with a low output moving coil (MC) cartridge, use a commercially available MC head amp or a step-up transformer.

If you set this unit's input source to "PHONO" and you accidentally increase the volume without having a turntable connected, you may hear a hum noise from the speakers.









Connecting a recording device



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NOTE

• Never insert the short-circuiting pin plug into the recording output connectors (RECORDER). Doing so could result in damage.





Remote







NOTE

• Never insert the short-circuiting pin plug into the PRE OUT terminals. Doing so could result in damage.





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Connecting the power cord

Wait until all connections have been completed before connecting the power cord.





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Selecting the input source (Pp page 23)		Playing CDs (page 24	<u>4</u>)			
Adjusting the volume (P page 23)		Recording (<u>page 24</u>)				
(Turning off the sound temporarily (page 23)							











Selecting the input source

- **Press the input source select button to be played back.** The indicator of the selected input source lights.
- You can also select the input source by turning INPUT SELECTOR on the main unit.

Adjusting the volume



• You can also adjust the volume by turning VOLUME on the main unit.

Turning off the sound temporarily

Tips

Press MUTE ⊄X.

The power indicator on the main unit blinks red.

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- Muting can be cancelled by pressing MUTE $\mathbf{q} \mathbf{X}$ again.

Adjusting the tone

- **1** Press SOURCE DIRECT on this unit to turn off source direct mode.
- **2** Turn the BASS, TREBLE and BALANCE control knobs to adjust the tone.





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4 Use VOLUME $\blacktriangle V$ to adjust the volume.

Playback in source direct mode

The signal does not pass through the tone adjustment circuitry (BASS, TREBLE and BALANCE), resulting in playback of a higher sound quality.

1 Press SOURCE DIRECT on this unit to turn on source direct mode.



















You can set the unit to automatically switch to standby mode if the unit is not operated for 30 minutes when there is no audio input. Auto Standby mode is set to on by default.



Turning Auto Standby mode off

1 Press and hold AMP POWER (1) for more than 5 seconds to turn the Auto Standby mode off.

The standby indicator flashes three times.

Turning Auto Standby mode on

Press and hold AMP POWER () for more than 5 seconds to turn the auto standby mode on.

The standby indicator flashes three times.

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- If you set the Auto Standby mode while the unit is ON, the unit will enter the standby mode as soon as the Auto Standby mode setting is completed.
- When iPod is being charged, this unit enters the power standby mode after charging.

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Setting the power amp direct mode

When a pre-amplifier is connected to this unit and the unit is used as a power amplifier, follow the instructions below to turn power amp direct mode on.



Turning power amp direct mode on

Press POWER AMP DIRECT on the main unit.

• By switching this on, it is possible to play back a device connected to the Power Amp Direct connector on the rear panel. In this case, the input indicator is turned off.

Turning power amp direct mode off

Press POWER AMP DIRECT on the main unit.

• By switching it off, it is possible to play back the program source selected using the INPUT SELECTOR knob. In this case, the input indicator lights up.

NOTE

- When the power amp direct mode is on, adjustment of the volume, balance and tone on the main unit has no effect. Adjust the volume on the pre-amplifier.
- When the power amp direct mode is on, the main unit outputs at maximum volume. Check the output level on the input device before playing it and adjust the volume accordingly.







Playback



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Front panel





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Tins					

I want to adjust the tone myself

• Use the BASS, TREBLE and BALANCE knobs to adjust the sound as desired (12 page 23).

I want to sound playback that is faithful to the original sound

• Set the Source Direct mode on (12 page 23).

I want to use bi-wiring compatible speakers

• This unit is compatible with bi-wiring connections. Enjoy high quality playback by using bi-wiring connections (12) page 16).

I want to use this unit as a power amplifier

• Turn the power amp direct mode on (12 page 27).

I want to use this unit as a pre-amplifier

• Connect the power amplifier to the PRE OUT connectors of this unit (12 page 19).

I want to operate a Denon CD player or network audio player using the remote control of this unit

- Switch the remote control operating mode (page 11, 12).
- Also refer to the CD player or network audio player instruction manuals.

I want to stop the unit from automatically switching to standby mode

• Set the Auto Standby mode to off (page 26).





Troubleshooting

- If a problem occurs, first check the following:
- 1. Are the connections correct?
- 2. Is the unit being operated as described in the owner's manual?
- 3. Are the other components operating properly?

If this unit does not operate properly, check the items listed in the table below. If the problem persist there may be a malfunction. In that case, disconnect the power immediately and contact your retail outlet.

Power does not turn on / Power is turned off

Symptom	Cause / Solution	Page
Power does not turn on.	• Check whether the power plug is correctly inserted into the power outlet.	<u>20</u>
Power automatically turns off.	• The Auto Standby mode is set. The Auto Standby mode switches the unit to standby mode when the unit is not operated for approximately 30 minutes. To disable the Auto Standby mode, press and hold the AMP POWER b button for more than 5 seconds when the Auto Standby mode is enabled.	<u>26</u>
Power turns off and the power indicator flashes in red approx. every 1 seconds.	 Please re-install this unit in a place having good ventilation. Check the speaker connection. The protection circuit may have been activated because speaker cable core wires came in contact with each other or a core wire was disconnected from the connector and came in contact with the rear panel of this unit. After unplugging the power cord, take corrective action such as firmly re-twisting the core wire or taking care of the connector, and then reconnect the wire. 	_ <u>14</u>





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Symptom	Cause / Solution	Page
Power turns off and the power indicator flashes in red approx. every 0.5 seconds.	 Due to the temperature rise within this unit, the protection circuit is working. Turn off the power and wait about an hour until this unit sufficiently cools down. Then, turn on the power again. Turn down the volume and turn on the power again. This unit's amplifier circuit has failed. Turn off the power and please contact the Denon service adviser. 	<u>34</u> 22, 23 -

Operations cannot be performed through the remote control unit

Symptom	Cause / Solution	Page
Operations cannot be performed	• Batteries are worn out. Replace with new batteries.	<u>4</u>
through the remote control unit.	• Operate the remote control unit within a distance of about 7 m from this unit and at an angle of within 30°.	<u>4</u>
	• Remove any obstacle between this unit and the remote control unit.	_
	$ullet$ Insert the batteries in the proper direction, checking the \oplus and Θ marks.	<u>4</u>
	• The set's remote control sensor is exposed to strong light (direct sunlight, inverter type fluorescent bulb light, etc.). Move the set to a place in which the remote control sensor will not be exposed to strong light.	-
	• When using a 3D video device, the remote control unit of this unit may not function due to effects of infrared communications between units (such as TV and glasses for 3D viewing). In this case, adjust the direction of units with the 3D communications function and their distance to ensure they do not affect operations from the remote control unit of this unit.	-





Contents Connections Playback Settings Tips Append Image: No sound comes out Image: No sou					
Symptom	Cause / Solution	Page			
No sound comes out of speakers.	Check the connections for all devices.	<u>13</u>			
	 Insert connection cables all the way in. 				
	 Check that input connectors and output connectors are not reversely connected. 	-			
	Check cables for damage.	-			
	• Check that speaker cables are properly connected. Check that cable core wires come in	<u>14</u>			
	contact with the metal part on speaker terminals. Also, securely tighten speaker terminals.				
	Check speaker terminals for looseness.				
	 Check that a proper input source is selected. 	<u>23</u>			
	• Adjust the volume.	<u>23</u> <u>23</u>			
	Cancel the mute mode.	<u>23</u>			

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Desired sound does not come out

Symptom	Cause / Solution	Page
No sound comes out of a specific speaker.	 Check that the speaker cable is properly connected. Adjust the BALANCE control knob. 	<u>14</u> <u>23</u>
The left and right of stereo sound is reversed.	• Check whether the left and right speakers are connected to the correct speaker terminals.	<u>14</u>

Sound is interrupted or noise occurs

Symptom	Cause / Solution	Page
When playing a record, the sound is	Adjust to a proper needle pressure.	-
distorted.	Check the tip of the needle.	-
	Replace the cartridge.	-
When playing a record, a humming	 Check that the turntable is connected correctly. 	<u>17</u>
noise comes out of the speakers.	• If there is a TV or AV device near the turntable, such devices may affect the playback sound. Install the turntable in a location as far away as possible from the TV or other AV devices.	_
When playing a record at high	 Install the turntable and speakers as far from each other as possible. 	<u>17</u>
volume, a "howling" sound comes out of the speakers.	• The vibrations from the speakers are being transmitted to the player through the floor. Use cushions, etc., to absorb the speakers' vibrations.	_

Remote







Explanation terms

B Bi-wiring connection

This method of connecting a speaker by using two speaker cables enables separate transmission of treble and bass signals. This enables playback with minimal interference between the high-range speaker unit and the low-range speaker unit.

Μ

MM/MC cartridge select

There are two types--MM (Moving Magnet) and MC (Moving Coil)--of cartridges for turntable.

As the output levels for these two types of cartridges differ, the setting of the phono equalizer that is mounted in this unit must be switched according to the type of cartridge for your turntable. For switching, use the MM/MC cartridge select button.

Ρ

Protection circuit

This is a function to prevent damage to devices within the power supply when an abnormality such as an overload, excess voltage occurs or over temperature for any reason.

If a malfunction occurs in this unit, the power indicator blinks red and the unit switches to standby mode.

S

Source direct

Playback with higher fidelity to the source becomes possible, as input audio signals are output by bypassing the audio quality-control circuits (BASS/ TREBLE/BALANCE).

Speaker impedance

This is an AC resistance value, indicated in Ω (ohms). Greater power can be obtained when this value is smaller.







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Power amplifier section	
Rated Output Power:	both channels driven (CD IN– SPEAKER OUT) 70 W + 70 W (8 Ω/ohms, 20 Hz – 20 kHz, T.H.D. 0.07 %)
Dynamic power:	140 W + 140 W (4 Ω/ohms, DIN, 1 kHz, T.H.D. 0.7 %)
High frequency distortion:	0.01 % (Rated output: –3 dB), 8 Ω/ohms, 1 kHz
Output terminals:	Speaker: A or B: 4 – 16 Ω/ohms A + B: 8 – 16 Ω/ohms Suited for headphones/stereo headphones
Input Sensitivity / Input Impedance:	P. DIRECT: 0.84 V / 47 kΩ/kohms Gain: 29 dB
Pre amplifier section	
Equalizer amplifier output:	150 mV

(REC OUT terminals) Input Sensitivity/Input Impedance:

RIAA Deviation: Maximum Input:

Rated Output:

PHONO (MM):2.5 mV/47 kΩ/kohms PHONO (MC): 200 μ V/100 Ω /ohms CD, TUNER, AUX, NETWORK, RECORDER: 125 mV/47 kΩ/kohms (SOURCE DIRECT: Off) 125 mV/23 kΩ/kohms (SOURCE DIRECT: On) PHONO: 20 Hz – 20 kHz ±0.5 dB PHONO (MM):130 mV/1 kHz PHONO (MC):10 mV/1 kHz PRE OUT: 0.84 V (Input CD 125 mV)





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■ Overall performance	
S/N Ratio (A network):	PHONO (MM): 89 dB (With input terminals short-circuited, 5 mV input signal) PHONO (MC): 74 dB (With input terminals short-circuited, 0.5 mV input signal) CD, TUNER, AUX, NETWORK, RECORDER: 108 dB (input terminals short-circuited)
Tone control (bass):	BASS: 100 Hz ±8 dB TREBLE: 10 kHz ±8 dB
■ General	
Power supply:	AC 230 V, 50/60 Hz
Power consumption:	295 W
Power consumption in standby mode:	0.2 W

For the purpose of improvement, the specifications and design are subject to change without notice.







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