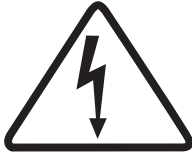




ANTHEM[®]

STR PREAMPLIFIER

Operating Manual



CAUTION

RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT OPEN



CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL



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 EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF IMPORTANT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE (SERVICING) INSTRUCTIONS IN THE LITERATURE ACCOMPANYING THE APPLIANCE.

WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE, AND OBJECTS FILLED WITH LIQUIDS, SUCH AS VASES, SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON THIS APPARATUS.

CAUTION: TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK, MATCH WIDE BLADE OF PLUG TO WIDE SLOT, FULLY INSERT.

CAUTION: FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION AGAINST RISK OF FIRE, REPLACE THE FUSE ONLY WITH THE SAME AMPERAGE AND VOLTAGE TYPE. REFER REPLACEMENT TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

WARNING: UNIT MAY BECOME HOT. ALWAYS PROVIDE ADEQUATE VENTILATION TO ALLOW FOR COOLING. DO NOT PLACE NEAR A HEAT SOURCE, OR IN SPACES THAT CAN RESTRICT VENTILATION.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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 of the ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the 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 defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with 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. When 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 plugs, convenience receptacles and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
11. Only use the 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 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.

WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture. Avoid installing this unit where foreign objects may fall onto this unit and/or this unit may be exposed to liquid dripping or splashing. On the top of this unit, do not place:

- Burning objects (i.e. candles), as they may cause fire, damage to this unit, and/or personal injury.
- Containers with liquid in them, as they may fall and liquid may cause electrical shock to the user and/or damage to this unit.

Apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing and no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.

Do not install this equipment in a confined space such as a case or similar. Install it away from direct sunlight, heat sources, vibration, dust, moisture, and/or cold.

Do not cover this unit with a newspaper, tablecloth, curtain, etc. in order not to obstruct heat radiation. If the temperature inside this unit rises, it may cause fire, damage to this unit, and/or personal injury.

Install this unit near the AC outlet and where the AC power plug can be reached easily.

This unit is not disconnected from the AC power source when it is turned off. This state is called the standby mode. In this state, this unit is designed to consume a very small quantity of power.

CAUTION: Top surface can become hot.

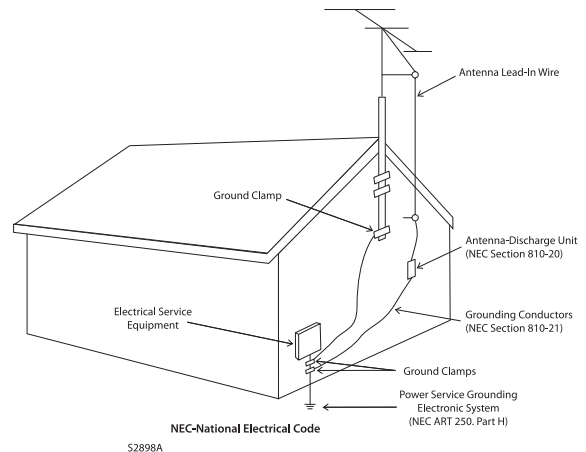
CAUTION: These servicing instructions are for use by qualified service personnel only. To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not perform any servicing other than that contained in the operating instructions, unless you are qualified to do so.

CAUTION: Changes or modifications to this equipment not expressly approved by Paradigm Electronics for compliance could void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

FCC WARNING: Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and unit.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the unit is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio / TV technician for help.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR UK CUSTOMERS: DO NOT cut off the mains plug from this equipment. If the plug fitted is not suitable for the power points in your home or the cable is too short to reach a power point, then obtain an appropriate safety approved extension lead or consult your dealer. If, nonetheless, the mains plug is cut off, REMOVE THE FUSE and dispose of the PLUG immediately, to avoid possible shock hazard by inadvertent connection to the mains supply. If this product is not provided with a mains plug, or one has to be fitted, then follow the instructions given below:

IMPORTANT: DO NOT make any connection to the larger terminal which is marked with the letter "E" or by the safety earth symbol or colored GREEN or GREEN AND YELLOW.

The wires in the mains lead on this product are colored in accordance with the following code:

BLUE – NEUTRAL
BROWN – LIVE

As these colors may not correspond with the colored markings identifying the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows:

The BLUE wire must be connected to the terminal marked with the letter "N" or colored BLACK.

The BROWN wire must be connected to the terminal marked with the letter "L" or colored RED.

When replacing the fuse, only a correctly rated and approved type should be used, and be sure to re-fit the fuse cover. If in doubt consult a competent electrician.

NOTES ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

At the end of its useful life, this product must not be disposed of with regular household waste but must be returned to a collection point for the recycling of electrical and electronic equipment. The symbol on the product, user’s manual and packaging, point this out. The materials can be reused in accordance with their markings. Through re-use, recycling of raw materials or other forms of recycling of old products, you are making an important contribution to the protection of our environment. Your local administrative office can advise you of the responsible waste disposal point.

RECYCLING AND REUSE GUIDELINES (Europe)

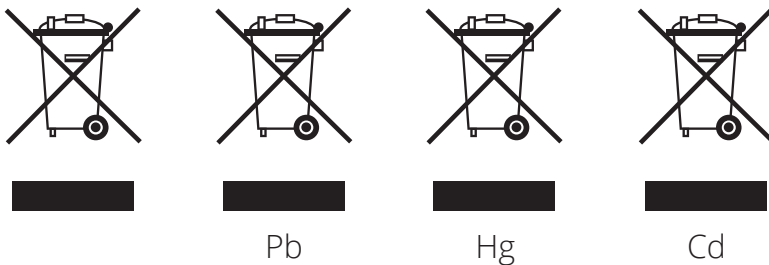
In accordance with the European Union WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) directive effective August 13, 2005, we would like to notify you that this product may contain regulated materials which, upon disposal, require special reuse and recycling processing. For this reason Paradigm Electronics Inc. (the manufacturer of Paradigm speakers and Anthem electronic products) has arranged with its distributors in European Union member nations to collect and recycle this product at no cost to you. To find your local distributor please contact the dealer from whom you purchased this product or go to our website at www.paradigm.com.

Please note that only the product falls under the WEEE directive. When disposing of packaging and other shipping material we encourage you to recycle through the normal channels.

INFORMATION ABOUT COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF WASTE BATTERIES (DIRECTIVE 2006/66/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN UNION) (for European customers only)

Batteries bearing any of these symbols indicate that they should be treated as “separate collection” and not as municipal waste. It is encouraged that necessary measures are implemented to maximize the separate collection of waste batteries and to minimize the disposal of batteries as mixed municipal waste. End-users are exhorted not to dispose waste batteries as unsorted municipal waste. In order to achieve a high level of recycling waste batteries, discard waste batteries separately and properly through an accessible collection point in your vicinity. For more information about collection and recycling of waste batteries, please contact your local municipality, your waste disposal service or the point of sale where you purchased the items.

By ensuring compliance and conformance to proper disposal of waste batteries, potential hazardous effects on human health is prevented and the negative impact of batteries and waste batteries on the environment is minimized, thus contributing to the protection, preservation and quality improvement of the environment.



Anthem and any related party assume no liability for the user’s failure to comply with any requirements.

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 Before Making Connections **1**
1.2 In-Use Notices **1**
1.3 Front Panel. **2**
1.4 Rear Panel **3**
1.5 Remote Control **4**
1.6 Firmware Updates **5**

CONNECTIONS AND OPERATION

2.1 Digital Input Connections **7**
2.2 Analog Connections **7**
2.3 Local Area Network **7**
2.4 12 Volt Trigger **7**
2.5 Infra Red **7**
2.6 Power **7**

SETUP

3.1 Speaker setup **9**
3.2 Bass Management **10**
3.3 Listener Position **11**
3.4 Level Calibration **12**
3.5 Input Setup **13**
3.6 Analog Input Levels **17**
3.7 Preferences **17**
3.8 Network / Remote **18**
3.9 Save / Load Settings **19**
3.10 System Information **20**
3.11 USB Audio **21**

ANTHEM ROOM CORRECTION (ARC™)

4.1 Before Starting. **24**
4.2 ARC Software Installation **24**
4.3 Microphone Stand Assembly. **25**
4.4 Microphone Positioning. **25**
4.5 Measurement **26**
4.6 Manual Mode and Targets **27**
4.7 Advanced Subwoofer Targets **30**
4.8 Printing a Report. **30**

OPERATION

5.1 Power On/Off and Volume **31**
5.2 Input Selection **31**
5.3 Levels **32**
5.4 Listening Modes **32**
5.5 Info Display **32**

BIG PICTURE **33**
LIMITED WARRANTY **31**

Thank you for purchasing the Anthem STR Preamplifier.

All Anthem products are engineered to recreate the passion of a live musical performance and emotional involvement experienced in the best movie theaters by utilizing the highest level of circuit design, superior parts and manufacturing techniques, innovative features, and intuitive ergonomics. We are confident that their inclusion in your system will significantly enhance your enjoyment of recordings for years to come.

1.1 BEFORE MAKING CONNECTIONS

Check that you have received all items listed below and report discrepancies to your dealer as soon as possible. In case the unit needs to be transported in the future, keep the packing materials.

Retain the invoice that you received from your authorized Anthem dealer at time of purchase – without it, service will not be provided under warranty.

Packing List:

- Preamplifier
- Operating manual
- Remote control
- 2 AAA batteries
- USB type B cable for the USB audio input
- USB mini B cable for software updates and ARC (PC version)
- Dual-jack microphone
- 3.5mm microphone cable for ARC (mobile app version)
- IEC power cord (US / UK / EU / CN types are supplied by the factory, other types are normally provided by the local distributor)

Additional items in Anthem Room Correction (ARC™) kit:

- USB Microphone
- Microphone clip
- Telescopic stand with boom
- USB mini B cable for the microphone
- CAT5 cable for connection to a router or network

1.2 IN-USE NOTICES

- Disconnect the power cord before connecting or disconnecting any components.
- If the unit was transported or stored in the cold, let it reach room temperature before use.
- Do not remove the top cover.
- Do not modify the product.
- Due to continuing advances, operational characteristics may change. If this manual contains discrepancies please check www.anthemAV.com for the latest manual.

1.3 FRONT PANEL



- ① Display
- ② Setup menu access and selection confirmation
- ③ Previous input or item
- ④ Volume control and menu navigation
- ⑤ Next input or item
- ⑥ Mute
- ⑦ Power

1.4 REAR PANEL



- ① Power cord inlet (IEC C18 type)
- ② USB DAC input (Windows PCs need to have XMOS driver installed)
- ③ AES/EBU digital audio input
- ④ Coaxial digital audio inputs
- ⑤ Optical digital audio inputs
- ⑥ Factory use
- ⑦ ARC and firmware upgrades via PC
- ⑧ ARC, firmware upgrades, and control via Ethernet
- ⑨ RS-232 (serial) connection for control
- ⑩ 12V DC / 50 mA trigger output
- ⑪ IR input
- ⑫ Phono ground terminal
- ⑬ Moving coil phono input
- ⑭ Moving magnet phono input
- ⑮ Analog RCA inputs (RCA 3 and RCA 4 can be configured for Home Theater Bypass)
- ⑯ Balanced XLR inputs (also configurable for Home Theater Bypass)
- ⑰ Balanced XLR outputs (fronts and 2 subs in mono or stereo)
- ⑱ Line outputs (fixed-level, suitable for a headphone amp or recording device)
- ⑲ Subwoofer outputs (2, mono or stereo)
- ⑳ Left/Right RCA outputs

1.5 REMOTE CONTROL

- ① Power – On
- ② Setup menu
- ③ Power – Standby
- ④ Navigation
- ⑤ Input
- ⑥ Info (pertaining to input and output)
- ⑦ Listening Modes (mono/stereo)
- ⑧ Levels (sub, bass, treble, balance)
- ⑨ Mute
- ⑩ Volume



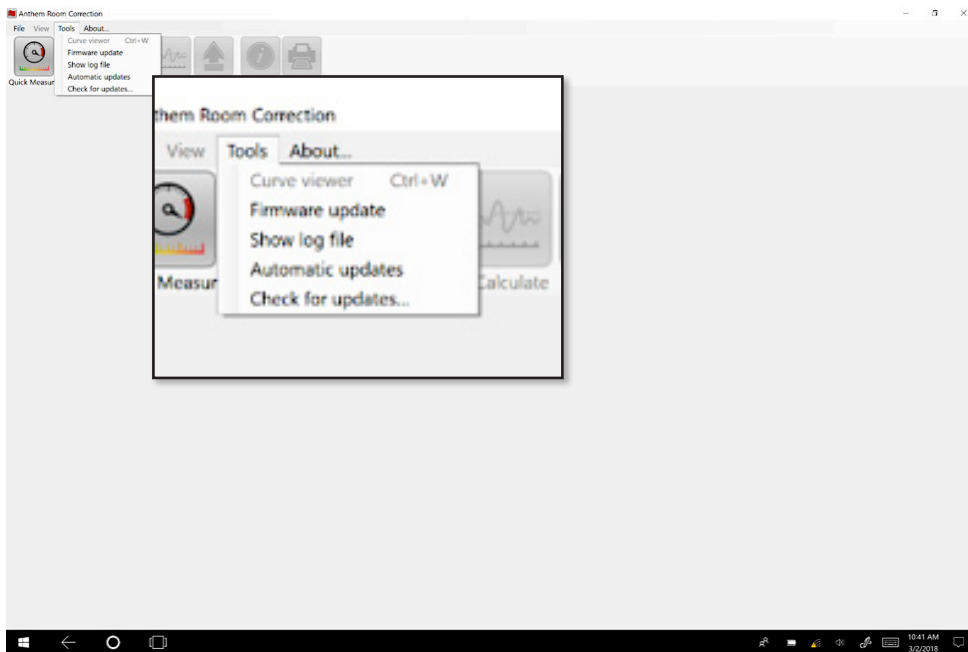
1.6 FIRMWARE UPDATES

The STR series supports software updates via network or mini-USB cable through the ARC (Anthem Room Correction) software. For more information on downloading this software please see section 4.1 of this manual.

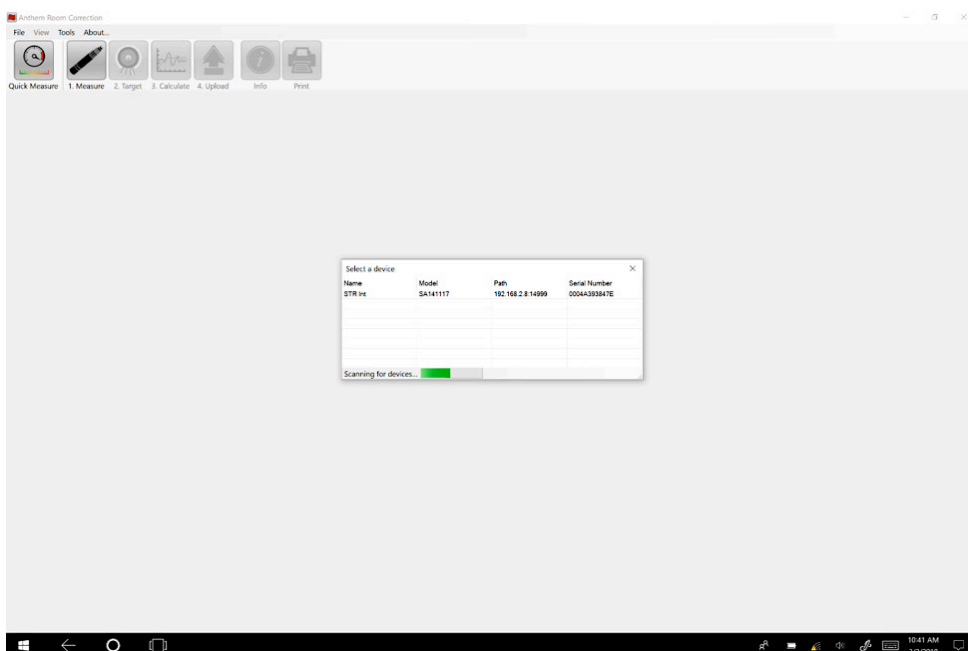
STR firmware updates will help keep your products up to date as Anthem introduces new features and performance enhancements over the lifecycle of the product.

In order to initiate a firmware update open "ARC-2 Manual Mode" in the start menu.

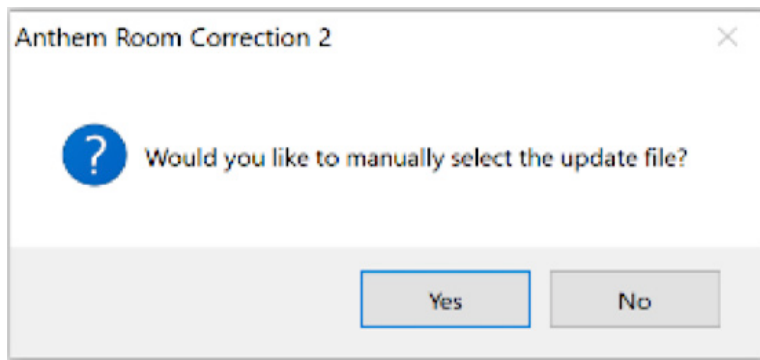
To begin select "Tools->Firmware Update" from the taskbar.



A dialog window will open asking you to select the device you wish to update.



A dialog will open asking you whether you would like to manually select an update file.



NO - Automatic Updates (Network Only)

For automatic network updates your STR will need to be connected to a router with an internet connection.

If you have an active internet connection you may select "No" and the STR will search online for the latest version of firmware. The update will begin and the unit will restart once complete.

YES - Manual Updates (Network or mini-USB)

For manual updates by network or mini-USB cable you will need to download the firmware file from anthemav.com.

Go to <https://www.anthemav.com/support/latest-software.php> and scroll to the STR product. Click download. The file will download as a .zip file and must be extracted. Once extracted you may finish the update process.

After selecting "Yes" you must browse to the folder you have saved the firmware (.upd extension) file and select it. The update will begin and the unit will restart once complete.

2.1 DIGITAL INPUT CONNECTIONS

Stereo digital audio sources can be connected using AES/EBU, coaxial or optical cable. The PCM stereo format up to 24-bit / 192 kHz is supported by all digital inputs. If using sources that have an option for selecting between PCM and Bitstream or Dolby Digital audio output, select PCM.

A personal computer can also be connected to the asynchronous USB DAC input. Stereo PCM up to 32-bit / 384 kHz, and DSD format up to 5.6 MHz are supported through this connection. Simply connect your computer and use media playing software on it to have music playing through your system. If using a Windows PC, the USB DAC driver must first be downloaded from our web site and installed. With Mac OS, just plug and play.

2.2 ANALOG CONNECTIONS

Balanced XLR connection offers the highest analog transmission quality, particularly over long cable lengths because it rejects noise and hum pickup. Two such inputs are provided using the conventional pin-2 positive configuration. There are also four RCA line inputs.

For phono, there are two inputs. Be sure to use the correct one otherwise level will be affected and treble response may be altered. The MM input is suitable for turntables using moving-magnet and high-output moving-coil phono cartridges. The MC input uses input impedance and gain tailored to low-output moving-coil cartridges. As well, connect the ground wire from the turntable to the screw terminal next to the phono inputs to prevent excessive hum.

The subwoofer jacks are labelled "L" and "R" but if the system uses one subwoofer, it can be connected to any subwoofer output jack.

2.3 LOCAL AREA NETWORK

A local network connection is required for IP control. Simply connect your router using CAT5 cable. Anthem Room Correction can be configured using the network or USB-connected personal computer.

2.4 12 VOLT TRIGGER

If another system component has a trigger input it can be activated by the STR Preamplifier. Connect the trigger output using a cable with 3.5mm mini plugs. The STR Preamplifier provides flexible trigger options. Through the setup menu, you can specify the conditions for enabling triggers.

2.5 INFRA RED

An external IR receiver allows the remote control to be used from another location in your home – connect the STR Preamplifier from an external IR hub to the IR IN jack. Most standard IR repeater kits can be used but to avoid problems test compatibility before installing permanently.

2.6 POWER

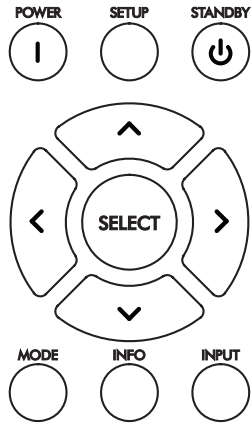
Connect the power cord to the STR Preamplifier and the power source. After connecting power, wait at least 5 seconds before pressing the power button.

SETUP

For optimum performance and enjoyment, your STR Preamplifier should be properly set up. This might seem like a lot of work at first because of the number of menu options, but most settings do not need to be changed from the defaults. The important ones relate to your input connections and speakers. If you're using a subwoofer or subwoofers, Anthem Room Correction will set crossovers and levels for a perfect blend with the main speakers. The rest of the settings mostly relate to your preferences.

HOW TO NAVIGATE IN THE SETUP MENU

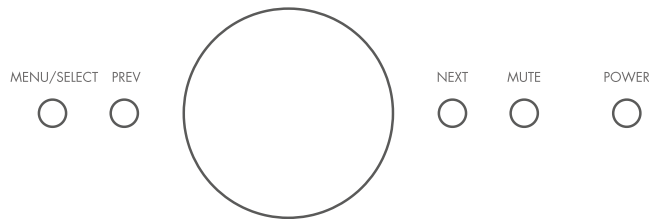
Remote Control



- Press **Setup** to enter or exit
- Press **Up** and **Down** arrows to move up and down on a list or to modify a selected item
- Press **Right** arrow or **Select** to select an item or to save a modification
- Press **Left** arrow to move up one menu level or to cancel a modification

TIP – modifying items which have many options, especially the alphanumeric characters and symbols when renaming an input, is faster using the front panel volume control.

Front Panel



- Press **Menu/Select** two times to enter and once to exit
- Use the **Volume** control to move up and down on a list or to modify a selected item
- Press **Next** to select an item or to save a modification
- Press **Prev** to move up one menu level or to cancel a modification

The help line at the bottom of the display will also guide you through various menu levels.

The display shows up to four menu selections at once, though in this section of the manual all menu items are shown together for simplicity. The top menu contains these items:

Setup Menu

- Speaker Setup
- Bass Management
- Listener Position
- Level Calibration
- Input Setup
- Analog Input Levels
- Preferences
- Network/Remote
- Save/Load Settings
- System Info

3.1 SPEAKER SETUP

Normally only one speaker configuration is needed but more are provided for instant recall of stored subwoofer or Anthem Room Correction settings.

If you will be using the personal computer version of ARC, you can skip this menu since it will be set while the program is running. Before using the mobile version, ensure that Profile1 is configured in this menu.

Speaker Setup Profile1 Profile2 Profile3 Profile4
--

Each configuration contains this submenu:

Speaker Edit	
Name	Profile1
Subwoofers	Off

PROFILE NAME

Using the navigation keys and volume knob each profile can be renamed, up to 10 characters long. Note that the profile name is best set in Anthem Room Correction (Targets panel) because during file upload the name in the menu is overwritten by the one in ARC.

SUBWOOFERS

The STR Preamplifier allows one or more subwoofers to be connected.

Although subwoofers are often thought of as something for home theater systems, their use is recommended for music as well. A subwoofer normally plays bass that is louder, deeper, and less distorted than that of a full-range speaker, and it can be positioned anywhere in the room to help cure resonances that otherwise make the bass sound bloated and lacking definition. Anthem Room Correction quickly and easily creates precise calibration and seamless integration with the main speakers, eliminating unnatural sounding transitions which often made subwoofers and main speakers sound disconnected from one another regardless of the amount of time spent on tweaking.

The setting options are:

- Off – select this if there is no subwoofer in the system or speaker profile.
- 1 Mono – a mono music signal gets sent to all subwoofer jacks. ARC will measure and correct all the subwoofers as a group. This is the generally recommended setting whether using one or more subs.
- 2 Mono – a mono music signal gets sent to all subwoofers but ARC will measure and correct them separately for the L and R output jacks. Select this if you intend to control the delay (distance) and level separately for each subwoofer channel.
- 2 Stereo – the bass from the music source's left channel will be sent to the L subwoofer output and the bass from the right channel will go to the R output. ARC will measure and correct the L and R subs individually. Select this if you have a subwoofer next to each main speaker and would like for them to use a stereo bass signal, especially if the crossover frequency will be set closer to upper bass where the sound becomes directional.

3.2 BASS MANAGEMENT

In this menu, information about your speakers is used to optimize bass performance.

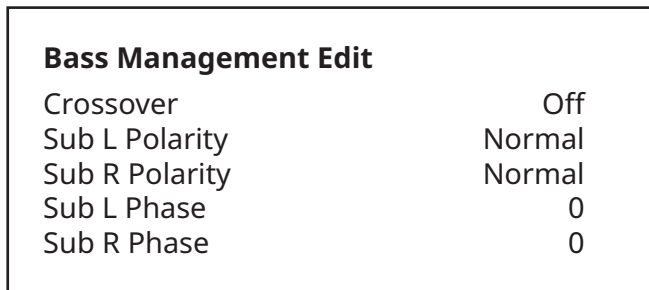
First, set your subwoofer's frequency control to its highest frequency since the bass manager will determine how much upper bass is sent. If your subwoofer has a contour control, set it to flat if you will be using Anthem Room Correction. If it has a phase control, set it to 0 and if it has a polarity switch, set it to Normal as you'll be able to control phase and polarity from your listening chair and hear changes instantly.

The bass manager divides the audio range into two bands suitable for subwoofer/satellite speaker systems. The result is that the main speakers don't need to play bass as loudly or as deeply since it gets picked up by the subwoofer. Note that a crossover does not suddenly cut frequencies in a cliff-like profile, but rolls them off according to a slope. If set to 80 Hz, for example, frequencies lower than 80 Hz are still played by the main speaker while transitioning them to the subwoofer.

Highlighting Bass Management then pressing Select displays this menu:



Four configurations may be set up. Each contains the following:



CROSSOVER FREQUENCY

The range is 20 to 160 Hz in 5 Hz steps, or Off which disables the crossover.

Setting the crossover to the lowest number on your speaker's specification page is unlikely to provide the best result. Instead, setting it to twice this frequency or thereabout, which is an octave higher, ensures that the speaker's woofer will still play to its low frequency limit but at levels that present less of a struggle for it.

If you will be using ARC, you do not need to select a crossover frequency since it will be set by the program.

SUBWOOFER POLARITY AND PHASE

Certain subwoofer positions can cause bass frequency cancellation. When the front speakers and subwoofer are out of phase or misaligned, they work against each other resulting in weak and dislocated sounding bass. This can be corrected by adjusting Phase and Polarity.

As a general guide, set Polarity to Normal if the subwoofer is near the front speakers and to Inverted if the subwoofer is near the back of the room. Compare Normal to Inverted and use the setting that provides louder bass. Continue fine-tuning the crossover region using the Phase control which provides adjustment from 0 to 180 degrees in 5 degree increments.

3.3 LISTENER POSITION

Through these settings, sound coming from all speakers is coordinated to reach the listening area at the same time. This way, proper imaging is achieved. The channel with the greatest distance setting will have no delay while channels with shorter distance settings will be delayed accordingly.

Distances may be set before or after running ARC (ARC does not set distances).

Listener Position
Profile1
Profile2
Profile3
Profile4

These settings are displayed for each configuration:

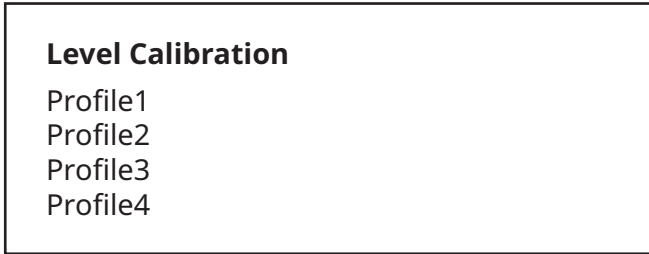
Listener Position Edit	
Units	Feet
Sub Left	12' 0"
Sub Right	12' 0"
Front Left	12' 0"
Front Right	12' 0"

For measurement units, select feet or metres and enter the distance between your primary listening area and each speaker. Range is 0 to 29' 6" in 2-inch increments or 0.00 to 9.00 m in 5 cm increments.

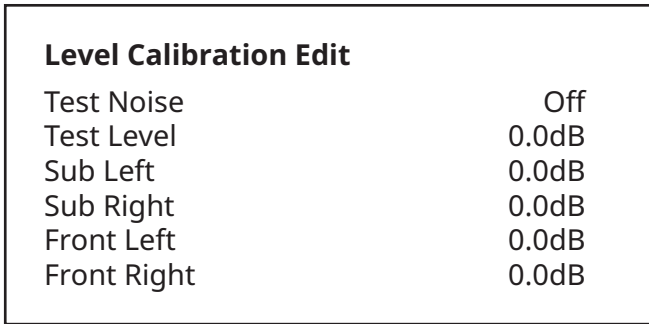
3.4 LEVEL CALIBRATION

Level Calibration uses internally generated test noises to match speaker output levels at the listening position, if using an SPL meter for calibration.

If using Anthem Room Correction, you can usually skip this menu because levels will be calibrated during measurement. The level of the test tones that play during ARC measurement can be adjusted here if necessary.



These settings are displayed for each configuration:



To play the test noise, set it to "On" then highlight a speaker.

A sound pressure level (SPL) meter with C-weighting is recommended if not using ARC, especially to set the subwoofer level because it is often set too high when calibrating by ear. Measure the sound pressure from the listening position while pointing the meter up. Hold it away from your body to prevent reflections. Adjust each channel's level so the meter has the same reading with all speakers.

The level adjustment range is -12.0 to 12.0 dB in 0.5 dB increments. You may need to adjust your subwoofer's input level dial as a rough adjustment.

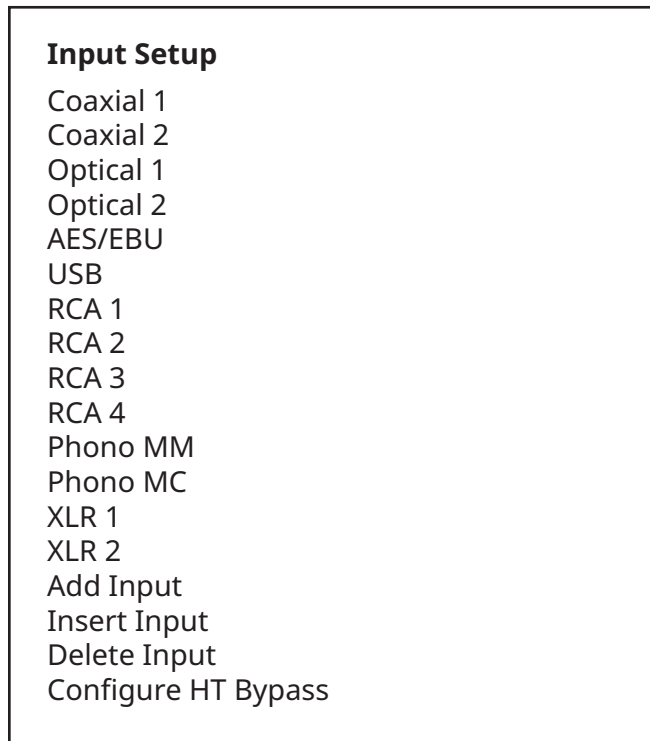
TEST LEVEL

This controls the level of the tones that play during ARC measurement as well as the level of this menu's test noises. The adjustment range is from -20 to +10 dB.

During ARC measurement, if the test tones sound too loud, cancel measurement and lower Test Level before starting a new measurement. If they're not loud enough and a "too much background noise" message appears often, cancel measurement and raise Test Level before starting a new measurement.

3.5 INPUT SETUP

Inputs and listening mode presets are configured in this section. From the factory, all input jacks are configured and named accordingly but you may change this to anything from 1 to 30 input configurations.



To add an input at the end of the list, highlight Add Input and press Next.

To insert an input in the middle of the list, highlight Insert Input and press Next. The display will guide you through the remaining steps.

To delete an input, highlight Delete Input and press Next. The display will guide you through the remaining steps.

CONFIGURE HOME THEATER BYPASS

The STR Preamplifier allows shared use of the front L/R speakers and amplifier, as well as two subwoofer channels, between a music and movie system. To use it this way, instead of connecting the front L/R and subwoofer outputs from the surround processor directly to the front L/R amp and the subwoofer, connect the front outputs to the RCA3 or XLR1 inputs of the STR Preamplifier, and one or two subwoofers using the RCA4 or XLR2 inputs.

With the STR Preamplifier connected between the home theater preamplifier and the front left/right amplifier and configured accordingly, the surround-sound preamplifier is automatically connected to the power amplifier while the home theater system is in use. HT Bypass mode engages while the preamp is in standby so you don't have to turn it on when watching movies, and it employs relays to hard-wire the input jacks to the outputs for the purest signal path.

In the setup menu, select RCA3 or XLR1 for the fronts according to the connection that's being used, and for the subwoofer(s) select RCA4 or XLR2. During power on/off there will be an additional mechanical sound from the relays inside the unit.

NOTE: Sources using RCA as inputs will be output through the corresponding RCA outputs. Sources using XLR as inputs will be output through the corresponding XLR outputs. The STR will not convert between RCA-XLR or XLR-RCA when in standby mode.

CAUTION: When using the HT Bypass function, only connect devices which have their own volume control, because once the STR Preamplifier is turned off, they will be connected directly to the power amp and subwoofers. If there is nothing to control the volume, they will play extremely loudly.

These settings are displayed for each configuration, though a phono input is shown here because it uses all menu items:

Input Edit	
Name	Phono MC
Input Jack	Phono MC
Convert Analog	32/192
Speaker Profile	Profile1
Front Right	12' 0"
ARC	Yes
Mode Preset	Stereo
Rumble Filter	35 Hz
Phono EQ	RIAA
Bass Turnover	
Bass Shelf	
10k De-Emphasis	

NAME

Each input can be renamed, up to 10 characters long. To begin editing, press Next. The volume knob is the fastest means of changing characters. Use the Next button to move to the next character, and when finished renaming, select the green checkmark. To cancel editing, press Prev to select the red X.

Example – Rename “Optical 1” to “Server”:

- Highlight “Name” and press Next. The first character will have a box around it.
- Use the up/down buttons or volume knob to change “O” to “S”.
- Use the Prev/Next buttons to move to each remaining character and complete the renaming.
- Move the box to the green checkmark to save the changes.

INPUT JACK

Select the connection to be used – Coaxial 1, Coaxial 2, Optical 1, Optical 2, AES/EBU, USB, RCA 1, RCA 2, RCA 3, RCA 4, Phono MM, Phono MC, XLR.

CONVERT ANALOG

By default, analog inputs are converted to 32-bit / 192 kHz using a high-quality A/D converter to allow Anthem Room Correction, bass management, distance calibration, bass/treble controls, listening modes, and rumble filter. If this setting is changed to No, signal processing is bypassed and only level adjustment remains.

SPEAKER PROFILE

Select the profile to use with this input.

ANTHEM ROOM CORRECTION (ARC™)

The ARC measurement process, described later, will turn this on. To disable room equalization afterward, change this to “No”. If a measurement file isn’t loaded, this menu item is grayed.

MODE PRESET

By default, the output is in stereo but one of the other settings may improve the sound of old records. The mode can be changed on the fly but in this menu you can assign a preset according to input configuration.

- **Stereo** – this is the default and does not alter the channel mix.
- **Mono** – this blends the left and right channels and can be useful when playing mono records with a stereo cartridge. Without this, stereo noise flanking mono music can be distracting.
- **Both = Left** – this sends the left input to both channels and can be useful when playing a mono record with a stereo cartridge when the left groove wall has less wear and sounds better than the right groove wall. This is also useful with sources that have only one output connector.
- **Both = Right** – like above but for the right channel.
- **Last Used** – select this to disable presets and make selections entirely on the fly.

RUMBLE FILTER

Use this with a turntable to reduce or eliminate low-frequency noise below the music spectrum. Rather than rolling off all content including the music, the filter acts only on vertical stylus motions that are inherently not part of the music signal. This is especially effective with warped records that cause excessive or non-musical woofer motion. Select a frequency from 10 to 60 Hz in 1 Hz increments. To disable the filter, select Off.

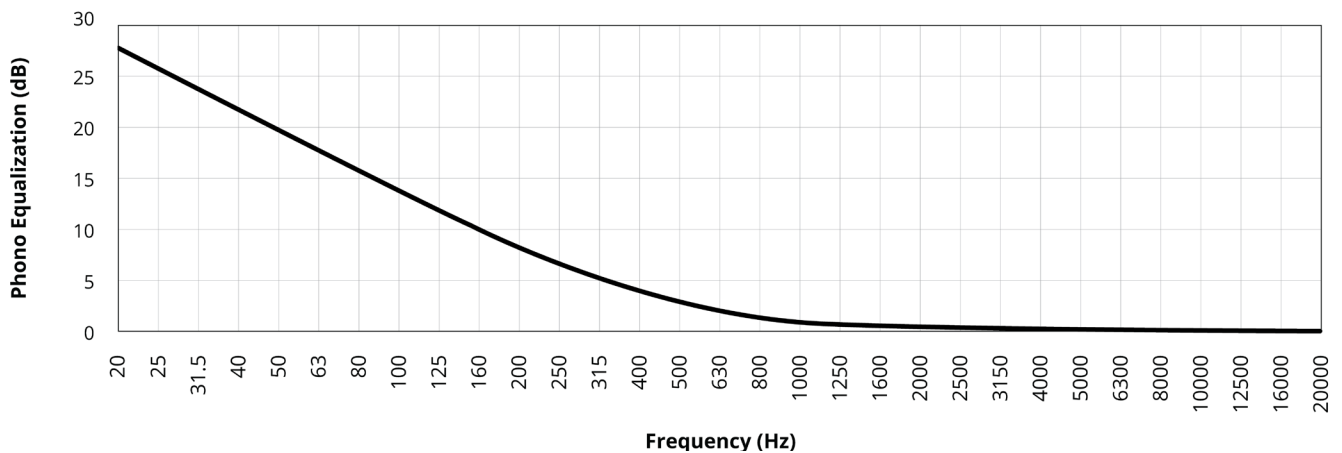
PHONO EQ

The Phono EQ, Bass Turnover, Bass Shelf, and 10k De-Emphasis controls allow the proper equalization of records that predate the RIAA equalization standard. If no records in your collection were manufactured before the 1960s, you can skip the rest of this section.

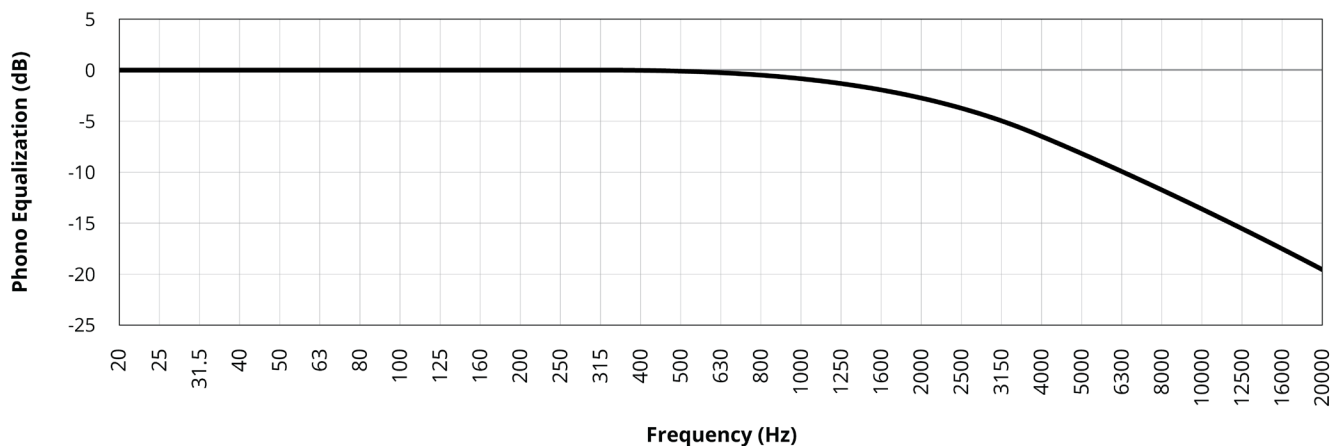
To make record grooves manageable, bass is reduced when records are manufactured, while the treble is emphasized. The main function of a phono preamp is to reverse this equalization upon playback, restoring the intended frequency response. The problem is that before the record industry settled on an equalization standard, resulting in the RIAA curve during the 1950s, the amount of reduction and emphasis varied requiring multi-curve phono preamps for proper playback. Today, such phono stages are rare. This means that if a phono stage that was designed for only one kind of record is used to play older mono records, there will be too much treble, midrange, or bass, or not enough of it.

These menu settings give you the ability to play all old records with their intended frequency response:

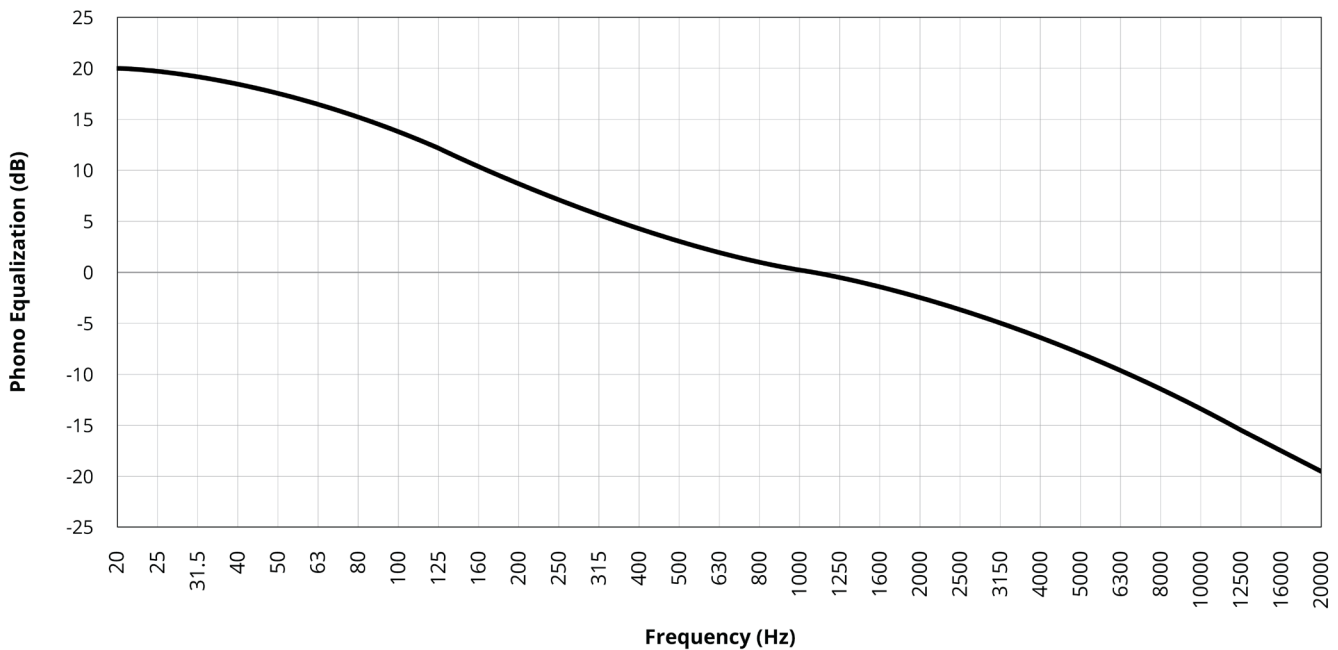
BASS TURNOVER – the frequency at which 3 dB boost occurs. In this example, it is 500 Hz:



10K DE-EMPHASIS – the attenuation at 10 kHz. In this example, it is -13.7 dB:



The following curve combines the two above and adds **BASS SHELF** or boost limit at 20 Hz, which is 20 dB in this example:



The graph above represents the RIAA playback curve. Older phono curves use other amounts of bass boost, bass shelf, and treble cut, often expressed in this format:

500R-13.7

where 500 is the bass turnover in Hz, -13.7 is the 10 kHz de-emphasis in dB, and R is the bass shelf according to: N (None), R (20dB), B (18dB), A (16dB), C (14dB), X (12dB).

When Convert Analog is set to 32/192, the following Phono EQ options become available:

500R-13.7 (RIAA)
400N-12.3 (AES)
350N-10.5 (CCIR)
500B-16 (NAB)
400N-12.7 (Capitol LP)
500C-16 (Columbia LP)
500C-10.5 (London LP)
User

Select according to the record that you are playing. For pre-RIAA long-playing records, check whether the jacket indicates "AES", "CCIR", "NAB", etc. You can also check one of several web sites which provide code lists according to record label and year. They can be found by searching the web for **500R-13.7** or **playback equalization for 78 rpm shellacs and early 33-1/3 LPs** – don't forget to use a properly sized 78 rpm stylus if playing 78 rpm records.

To create or fine-tune any curve, select User and enter Bass Turnover, Bass Shelf, and 10k De-Emphasis according to the code list, or adjust by ear – it's like using bass/treble controls except that these are specially made ones for phono.

BASS TURNOVER options are None, 150, 180, 200, 250, 280, 300, 350, 375, 400, 450, 500, 600, 629, 700, 750, 800, and 1000 Hz.

The **10K DE-EMPHASIS** adjustment range is from -25.5 dB to None in 0.1 dB increments.

Although the purpose of these controls is to provide the correct response with old records, you might find similar uses, for example to brighten a muffled-sounding stereo LP, or to add weight to a thin-sounding one. This is fine as long as extreme settings that would result in overload or a distorted sound are avoided.

Each virtual input stores its own curve settings. This way, you can create multiple profiles for your turntable input, each using a different curve according to the records in your collection.

3.6 ANALOG INPUT LEVELS

Through this menu, unwanted changes in volume when switching to or from an analog source can be prevented. This is especially useful for some XLR sources that produce higher than typical output level, and for the phono inputs since cartridge output levels vary considerably between models.

Analog Input Levels	
RCA 1	0.0dB
RCA 2	0.0dB
RCA 3	0.0dB
RCA 4	0.0dB
Phono MM	0.0dB
Phono MC	0.0dB
XLR 1	0.0dB
XLR 2	0.0dB

The adjustment range for raising or lowering the input level is -20 to 20 dB in 0.5 dB increments.

3.7 PREFERENCES

Here you can set preferences as listed.

Preferences	
Auto Off	20 Minutes
Display Brightness	60
Display Wakeup	100
Displayed Info	Volume
Mute Level	Muted
Max Volume	6.0dB
Power-On Volume	-35.0dB
Power-On Input	Last Used
Mute Line Out	None

AUTO OFF

When there is no input signal the unit will turn off after the selected time: 5, 10, or 20 minutes, 1, 2, or 6 hours, or Never.

DISPLAY BRIGHTNESS

Set preferred front panel brightness between 0 and 100.

DISPLAY WAKEUP

To make the display brighter for 5 seconds when a button is pressed, set a number higher than Display Brightness.

DISPLAYED INFO

By default, only the volume is displayed. Select "All" to add the input, input format, mode, and ARC status to the display.

MUTE LEVEL

When Mute is pressed, sound can be muted or lowered to background level. Select from Muted, -30 dB, -20 dB, or -10 dB.

MAXIMUM VOLUME

This setting allows you to limit the volume to avoid damaging equipment and/or hearing.

POWER-ON VOLUME

The volume will be at this level when the unit is turned on. To power-on at the last used volume, set the volume preset below -96.0 to make Last Used appear.

POWER-ON INPUT

The input will be the assigned one or Last Used when the unit is turned on.

MUTE LINE OUT

If using a recording device, select the input that the recorder's output is connected to. This prevents the recorder's output from being fed back to its input, which can result in a loud noise.

3.8 NETWORK / REMOTE

Network / Remote	
Status	
Device Name	STR Pre
IP Configuration	
RS-232 Configuration	
Trigger Control	
Rear IR	Off
Front IR	On

NETWORK STATUS

This displays the unit's IP address once connected to the local area network.

DEVICE NAME

This is the name that the unit broadcasts, and can be changed using up to 10 characters.

IP CONFIGURATION

Settings in this submenu should only be changed by a network administrator.

IP Configuration	
Mode	DHCP
IP	
Subnet Mask	

MODE

Manually entered IP and Subnet Mask settings take effect once Mode is changed to Static.

RS-232 CONFIGURATION

For serial control, select baud rate from 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600, 19200 (default), 38400, 57600, 115200 and set flow control on or off (default).

TRIGGER CONTROL

When the 12 VDC (max 50 mA) trigger output is connected to the trigger input of another component such as a power amplifier, the component can be turned on/off according to the trigger's setup:

- **Trigger Control** – select Menu to configure the trigger via the setup menu, or RS-232/IP to control the trigger output through serial or IP commands.
- **Power** – when set to Yes, the trigger activates when the unit's power is turned on. When set to No, the input list appears and the trigger can be configured to activate through any combination of input selection.

REAR AND FRONT IR

This allows you to disable each of the infra-red inputs, which can be useful when the unit is connected to an IR repeater and is receiving too many signals.

Note that the moment that you disable the front IR input, you will not be able to control the unit the traditional way from the remote control. Re-enable it using the front panel buttons. If your remote control appears to not be working and you have checked the batteries, check this menu next before contacting technical support.

3.9 SAVE/LOAD SETTINGS

Save / Load Settings

Save User Settings

Save Installer Settings

Load User Settings

Load Installer Settings

Reset On-The-Fly Settings

Load Defaults

SAVE/LOAD USER AND INSTALLER SETTINGS

After selecting Save User Settings and confirming, all menu settings will be stored. If you change settings later and want to recall the saved settings, select Load User Settings and confirm. The same applies to saving and recalling installer settings.

RESET ON-THE-FLY SETTINGS

After selecting and confirming, all non-menu settings such as level and bass/treble will be reset.

LOAD DEFAULTS

After selecting and confirming, all menu settings will be reset.

FACTORY RESET

Use this only as a last resort if the unit becomes inoperable. Disconnect the power cord, wait at least 30 seconds, and reconnect it while holding the front panel power button. Do not let go of the button until something appears on the display. The unit will revert to the software it was manufactured with and all settings will be reset.

3.10 SYSTEM INFORMATION

System Info	
Firmware Version	1.4.6340
FW Date	01/27/17 14:38
ARC Name	
ARC Date	
MAC	00:04:A3:93:FA:62

FIRMWARE VERSION AND UPDATES

The operational characteristics of the STR Preamplifier are controlled by firmware. For best performance and latest features, ensure that your unit has the latest version installed. This gets installed through Anthem Room Correction which is fully explained in the next section. In this section only the STR software update is explained.

If your STR is connected to your network with internet access, you do not need to manually download the update from our web site. Alternatively, the update can be downloaded from our web site first and installed afterwards.

Without network connection:

- On **www.anthemAV.com** locate the software pertaining to your model. Proceed only if your version number is lower, indicating that it is older.
- You will be asked where to save a .zip file – save it to Desktop.
- When the .zip file download is complete, extract it to Desktop.
- See Read Me.txt for the change history.
- Connect your computer to the STR rear panel USB jack labeled PC UPDATE using the supplied USB cable or similar one. Alternatively, connect your computer and the STR to the same local network.
- Using ARC software, select Tools at the top of the window, then Firmware Update, and follow its instructions to manually update using the file on Desktop.

With network connection:

- Ensure that your STR is on the same network as your computer, and that the network has Internet access.
- Using ARC software, select Tools at the top of the window, then Firmware Update. When it asks whether you would like to update manually, select “No” and it will check our web site for updates.

Installation takes less than 10 minutes and the display will indicate progress. Do not interfere by pressing buttons or turning power off – the unit will turn on and off by itself a few times. At the end it will remain on with the normal volume info on the display.

ARC NAME

This is the name that you gave to your measurement file.

ARC UPLOAD TIME

This is the date and time that your ARC file was uploaded.

MAC ADDRESS

This is the unit's unique identifier for network communication.

3.11 USB AUDIO

Your computer can be used as a music source by connecting its USB port to the USB DAC input on the STR Preamplifier and running the media player on your computer that you normally use for playing music.

Mac does not require setup for this purpose - just plug and play (OS 10.6.4 and higher supports USB Audio Class 2.0).

For PC, a driver needs to be installed to add USB audio functionality:

- Download the XMOS driver from www.anthemav.com.
- Extract **XMOS-Stereo-USB-Audio-Class2-Driver.exe** to Desktop and double-click it.
- Run the installation. It will ask whether you'd like to connect the device later. If selecting No, first connect a USB port on your PC to the USB DAC input on the STR Preamplifier and turn it on.

Once driver installation is complete the installer may be deleted. Your PC, through its music playing software, will be ready to stream music to the STR Preamplifier.

DSD PLAYBACK

If you're planning to play DSD audio files, ensure that your computer's software supports the format.

Optional - For PC, a popular and free program is called Foobar. This can be set up for DSD as follows*:

1. Install the Foobar2000 music player which is available from this web page:

<http://www.foobar2000.org/download>

2. Install the SACD (DSD) decoder:

- Download **foo_input_sacd-1.0.x.zip** from:
<https://sourceforge.net/projects/sacddecoder/files/latest/download>
- From the zip file, copy **foo_input_sacd.fb2k-component** to this directory:

(Computer, OS) **C:\Program Files (x86)\foobar2000\components**

- Run Foobar2000 and go to File / Preferences / Components.
- Select Install and browse to the foobar2000\components directory.
- Select **foo_input_sacd.fb2k-component** then click Open.
- Select Apply to complete this installation.

3. Install the ASIO driver:

- Download **foo_out_asio.fb2k-component** from:
http://www.foobar2000.org/components/view/foo_out_asio
- Move **foo_out_asio.fb2k-component** to this directory:

(Computer, OS) **C:\Program Files (x86)\foobar2000\components**

- Run Foobar2000 and go to File / Preferences / Components.
- Select Install. Browse to the foobar2000\components directory if necessary.
- Select **foo_out_asio.fb2k-component** then click Open.
- Select Apply to complete this installation.

4. Configuring Foobar for DSD:

- Go to File / Preferences / Playback / Output.
- In the Device pull-down list, select the following then click Apply:
DSD : ASIO : XMOS USB AUDIO 2.0 ST 308F (or newer)
- Go to File / Preferences / Tools / SACD.
- Change Output Mode to DSD+PCM and click OK.

Upon completion of these steps, your PC is ready to stream music from DSD files.

If you have trouble with Foobar installation or use, please do not contact our tech support regarding it. A solution may be available using an online search.

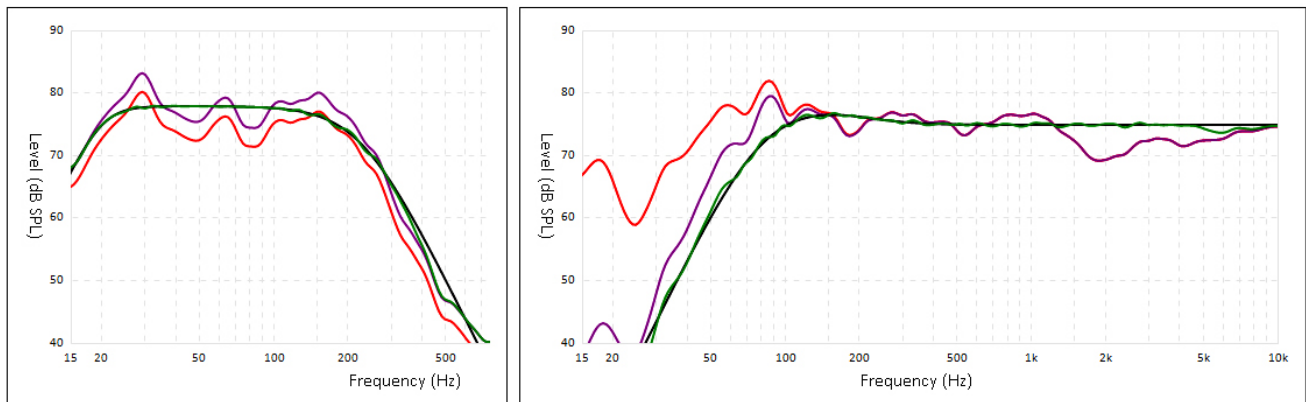
* These steps regarding installation and use of third party software and its components are provided for informational purposes only.

For anyone reading this, the experience of walking into a room and being struck by the dramatic change in its sound after carpet and furnishings have been moved out is probably a familiar one. It may also bring to mind the varying sound character from one room to the next according to its size and structural qualities.

By the same token, even when the finest speakers are optimally positioned, the room impacts sound quality considerably. The walls, floor, ceiling, and windows add unwanted resonance and coloration making bass less impactful, voices less natural, and dialogue less intelligible. The effect on frequency response is typically ± 6 dB in the midrange and ± 10 dB at low frequencies. To compensate for this and to optimize the in-room response of your speakers, Anthem Room Correction measures the output of each one relative to the listening area then through a special series of calculations adjusts the output accordingly. Its target responses have a psychoacoustic basis from research results, not just theoretically ideal curves.

While removing resonances and modal peaks common to the measurement positions, ARC also distinguishes and preserves the positive effects imparted by the room by detecting how much the room's boundaries and pressurization reinforce low frequencies. This effect, known as room gain, appears as a bump in the target response. ARC does not remove it because if flattened, bass sounds thin. Our ear/brain mechanism expects to hear this characteristic when indoors. Ideal anechoic speaker response, as measured in a special non-reverberant facility, is not the same as ideal in-room response, which normally includes this room gain to varying degree. It is one reason that a speaker sounds different outdoors when in fact it is the same speaker. If a speaker indoors was forced to sound like it's positioned outdoors, it just wouldn't sound right.

Sample curves:



The red curves represent the in-room response before correction, as an average from five measurement positions, whereas the green ones show response with equalization applied. In this case a subwoofer and bass management are also in use. In the subwoofer graph, which is on the left, the difference between the level of the red and purple curves shows the amount of room gain.

In addition, ARC senses where each speaker's low-frequency response naturally declines, and sets the high-pass filters to match this natural limit.

The default correction range is 5 kHz. Although it can be changed, raising it is generally not recommended. At higher frequencies the microphone becomes directional, and this affects measurement accuracy.

Note that the subwoofer graph may imply that the subwoofer plays up to the highest frequency shown, but what it plays depends on what the other channels send to it as determined by their crossover setting. The subwoofer graph shows the available correction range, which is not necessarily the range that other channels send to it through bass management.

4.1 BEFORE STARTING

Ensure that the unit software and ARC-2 software that you will be using are compatible with one another. Check www.anthemAV.com for latest versions.

PERSONAL COMPUTER VERSION OF ARC®:

- Your computer must be running Windows 7 or later and be connected to the same network as the unit, or directly to the unit with the supplied USB Mini cable.
- Depending on your network's settings, you may need to enable sharing to allow the unit to be seen by your computer.
- If you are using a laptop computer, check its power settings and battery meter to ensure that procedures will not be interrupted.

MOBILE APP VERSION OF ARC®:

- Configure the Speaker Setup menu before measurement if your speaker system does not correspond to the existing menu configuration.

BOTH VERSIONS:

- If more than one unit is on your network, each may be identified by MAC address, IP address, or the Device Name which appears in the setup menu.
- Ensure that the room will be sufficiently quiet during measurement. Typical background noise is detected and rejected with no impact on measurement accuracy but if excessive noise is present, ARC will indicate that re-measurement is required.
- If using a subwoofer, ensure that its crossover frequency dial is set to its highest frequency before measurement. ARC will manage the transition between the main speakers and subwoofer. Any adjustments to the subwoofer after measurement would require ARC to be run again.

4.2 ARC® SOFTWARE INSTALLATION

MOBILE APP VERSION:

On the iTunes store, locate **Anthem ARC Mobile** and install it to your device.

PERSONAL COMPUTER VERSION:

1. Go to <https://www.anthemav.com/support/latest-software.php>
2. Download the software. Depending on ARC microphone model, a support file named using the microphone's serial number may be required. If your microphone is numbered, enter its number on the web page before downloading. Be sure to enter the correct number otherwise the frequency response will be inaccurate.
3. Unzip the download.
4. Run setup.

To add a new numbered microphone after ARC has been installed, re-installation isn't needed - simply copy new calibration files to this directory:

(Computer, OS) **C:\Program Files (x86)\Anthem Room Correction 2**

During measurement, ARC will list the installed files and ask you to pick the one corresponding to the microphone in use.

What are the differences between the computer and mobile versions of ARC®?

1. With the phone's internal microphone there may be minor variations from ideal response. The maximum equalization frequency is restricted to 2 kHz in this case. The external dual-jack microphone using 3.5mm connection is preferred since it provides the same measurement accuracy as the main kit's USB microphone.
2. The computer version allows viewing and printing curves, target curve customization, and multiple configurations for different applications that may be useful according to various sources, conditions, and preferences.

4.3 MICROPHONE STAND ASSEMBLY

If using the mobile device's microphone, skip this section.

1. Loosen the tripod base screw, move the base to the bottom of the telescoping tube, re-tighten the screw.
2. Screw the microphone clip to the other end of the stand. Position the clip vertically.
3. Connect the USB microphone cable to the microphone and slide the microphone into the clip.
4. Adjust height by first loosening the clamps on the telescoping tube and on the arm. The stand may be placed on the floor or on the seat according to whichever way puts the microphone capsule in its proper position.

4.4 MICROPHONE POSITIONING

This section mainly applies to the personal computer version and full ARC kit since the mobile app version will guide you when using the mobile device's microphone or the dual-jack microphone. The dual-jack microphone may also be used with the microphone stand and/or the PC version of ARC via USB connection.

Proper microphone positioning is essential for good results. Multiple positions are required to prevent standing waves or boundaries from skewing results.

- The microphone must point straight up.
- The microphone capsule, the listener's ears, and the speaker's acoustic center (or tweeter if in doubt) should be at approximately the same height. If the result sounds dull or bright try a different microphone height and repeat measurement.
- Place the microphone in the most often used parts of the listening area while ensuring that all mic positions are at least 2 feet (60 cm) apart. If there is only one listening position, positions 2 through 5 must be a circle or box around the listening chair. Equalization will still be optimized for the center. Varying the mic position is of utmost importance. Without doing so, proper response will not be achieved, especially for lower frequencies.
- Five different positions, and no less, are normally adequate but for larger rooms up to ten may be used.

If most or all listening positions are close to a wall:

- At least half of the microphone positions should be a minimum 2 feet (60 cm) away from the wall.
- Vary distances between microphone and wall by 1 foot (30 cm) or more, for example two or three positions can be 2 feet (30 cm) away but the remaining two or three should be at least 3 feet (90 cm) away.

In summary:

DO

- Set the mic at ear level pointing straight up.
- Use mic positions that are at least 2 feet (60 cm) apart from each other even if there's only one seating position.
- Use more than five measurement positions if using only five would result in their being more than 6 feet (2m) apart due to a large listening area.

DO NOT

- Use mic positions close to walls. If all seating positions are against the rear wall, three or more mic positions should be in front of the seating area. Vary the distance of these positions relative to the wall by 1 foot (30 cm) or more so they are not all the same distance from the wall.

4.5 MEASUREMENT

The remaining ARC instructions apply to the personal computer version. If using the mobile version, follow its instructions instead.

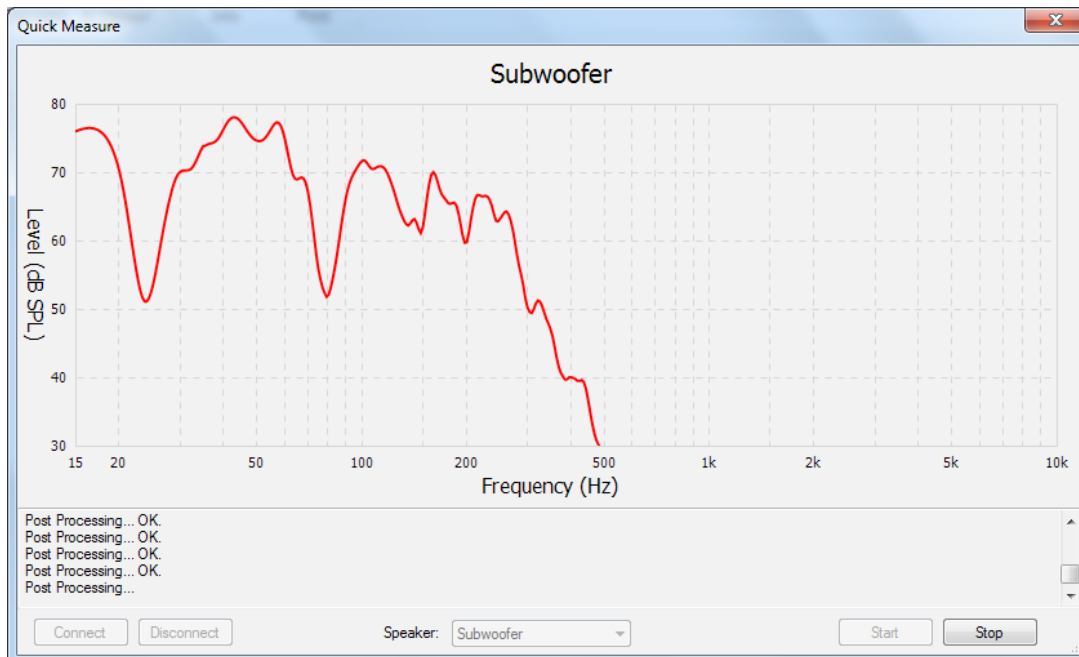
- Connect the microphone and the unit to the computer.
- Set the microphone in the first position. Don't stand near the microphone while sweep tones are playing otherwise reflections from your body may cause bad measurements.
- Run Anthem Room Correction. Use Automatic mode if you are a first-time user. It will guide you through the remaining steps and at the end will load the correction data to your unit. You will still be able to change things if needed, but just remember where you're saving the .arc2 measurement file so you can find it later. The entire process takes about 5-10 minutes depending on the number of measurements and configurations.
- Up to 16 characters may be used to name a measurement. Valid ones are: a-z, A-Z, 0-9, " ", "-", ".", ":", ";", "<", "=", ">", "?", and "@". The rest will be removed if used.
- Once the ARC program has completed its procedure, you can disconnect the computer.
- Save your settings in the unit's setup menu using its Save / Load Settings menu.

QUICK MEASURE SPEAKER POSITION HELPER

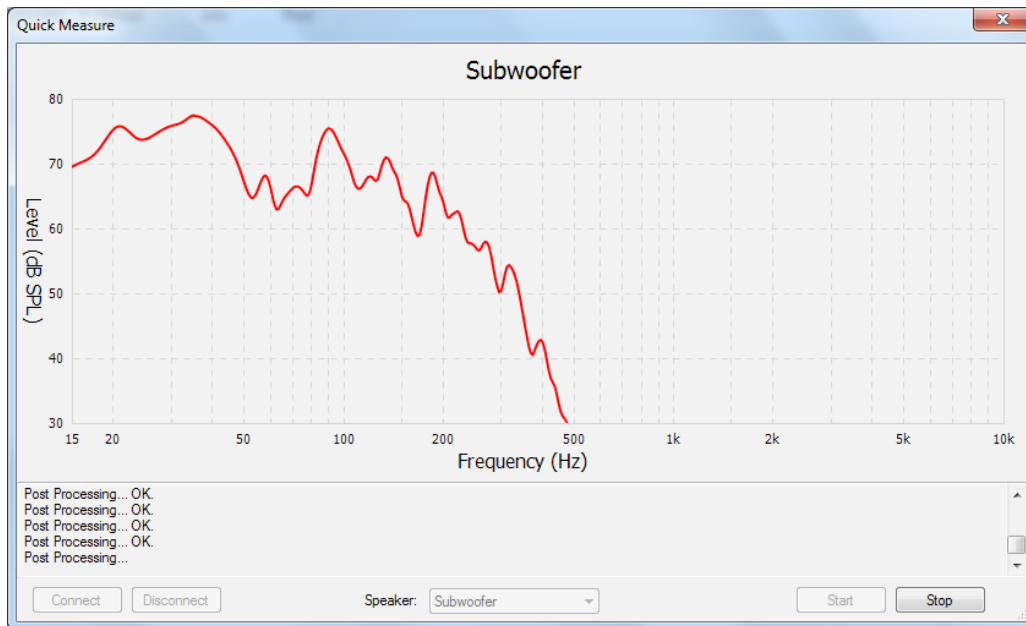
If speaker positioning is flexible, particularly for the sub, Quick Measure can help you with speaker positioning especially if an initial ARC measurement shows that there is room for improvement.

To use it, run ARC Manual mode. Click on the Quick Measure button and enable the sweep tone for the speaker that you are positioning. Note that this will reset level calibration. After a few sweeps the graph will show a live update of the uncorrected measurement. It will keep running until you turn it off. After finding good speaker positions, run the full ARC measurement.

The graphs that follow show how moving a subwoofer can improve uncorrected response. Large dips like these are not uncommon:



They can almost always be cured by repositioning speakers and repeating the measurement:

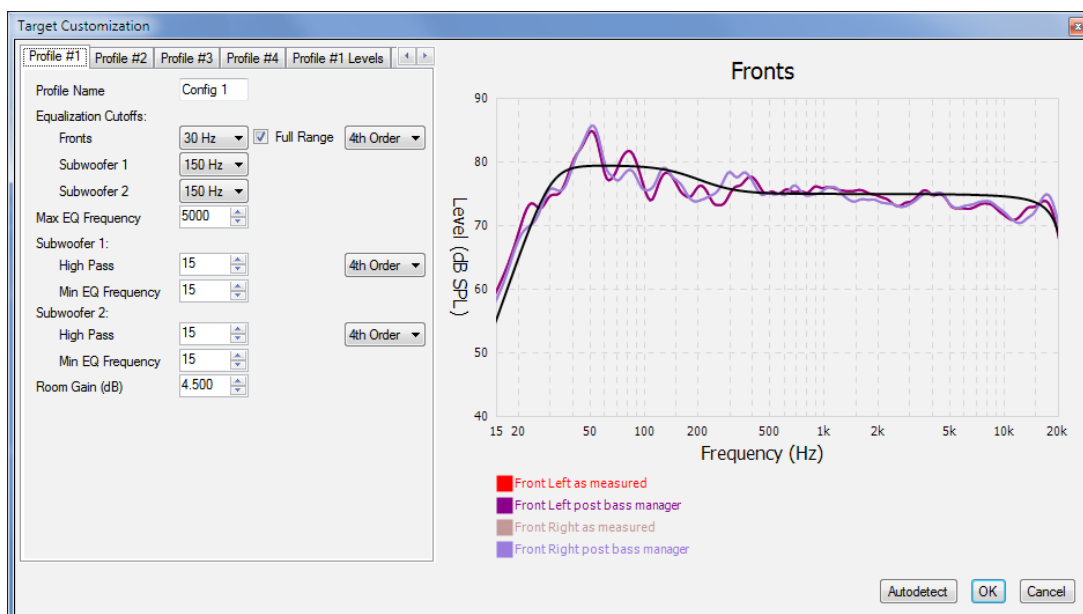


4.6 MANUAL MODE AND TARGETS

When creating a new measurement, Manual and Automatic modes operate identically except that automatic mode does not require clicking on Measure, Calculate, and Upload between these stages. It also allows results to be viewed before upload, and for Targets to be edited. A file created in Automatic mode can later be opened in Manual mode.



A file created in Automatic mode can be opened in Manual mode to allow target editing. After changing targets, you must click OK when closing the window to apply the settings, then Calculate. To restore original settings, click on Auto Detect then Calculate.



For advice in getting the most out of your system based on your measurements, we welcome you to send your .arc2 file (please do not send screenshots) to Anthem Technical Support.

WHAT NOT TO DO

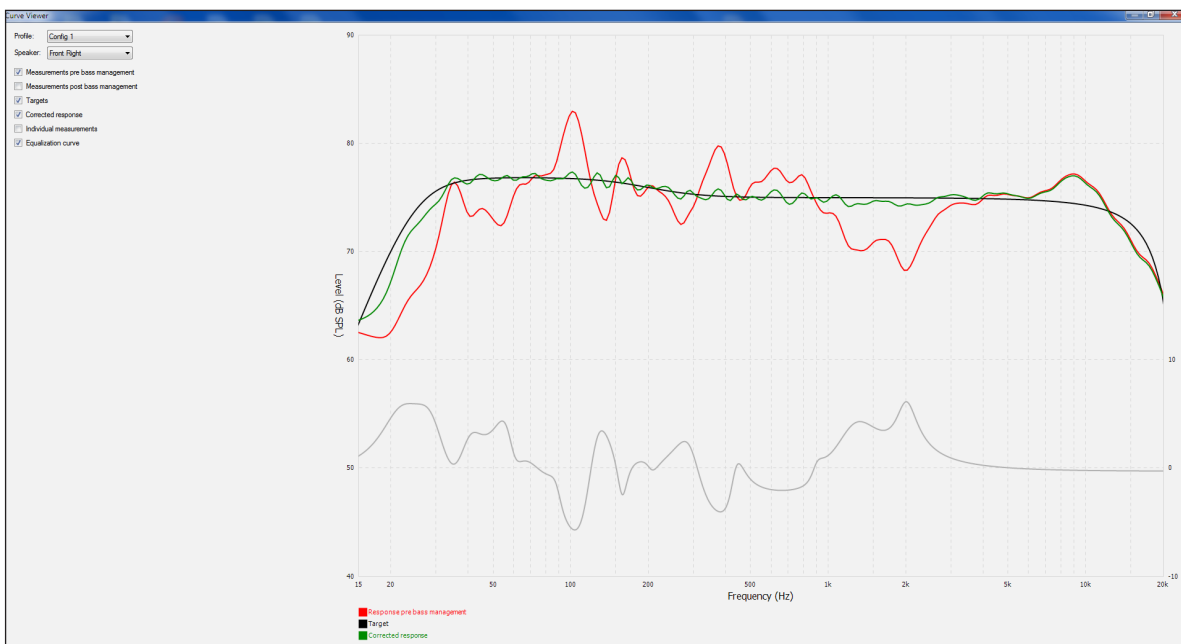
Before we get to that, something to be aware of if at first listen it appears that the equalization has reduced overall bass: It is easier to hear peaks in response than dips. ARC doesn't only level the peaks, but also the dips. With the equalization turned on it may be immediately apparent that boominess is gone, but it may take longer to notice that bass notes which were buried all along have become audible, and for this reason you might want to spend a week getting used to the new sound. Once becoming accustomed to tight bass with the entire range playing at equal level, chances are you'll never want to go back to bloated one-note bass.

If comparing ARC on vs off, note that the subwoofer's level is calibrated according to ARC being on. If ARC is then disabled, subwoofer level may need adjustment.

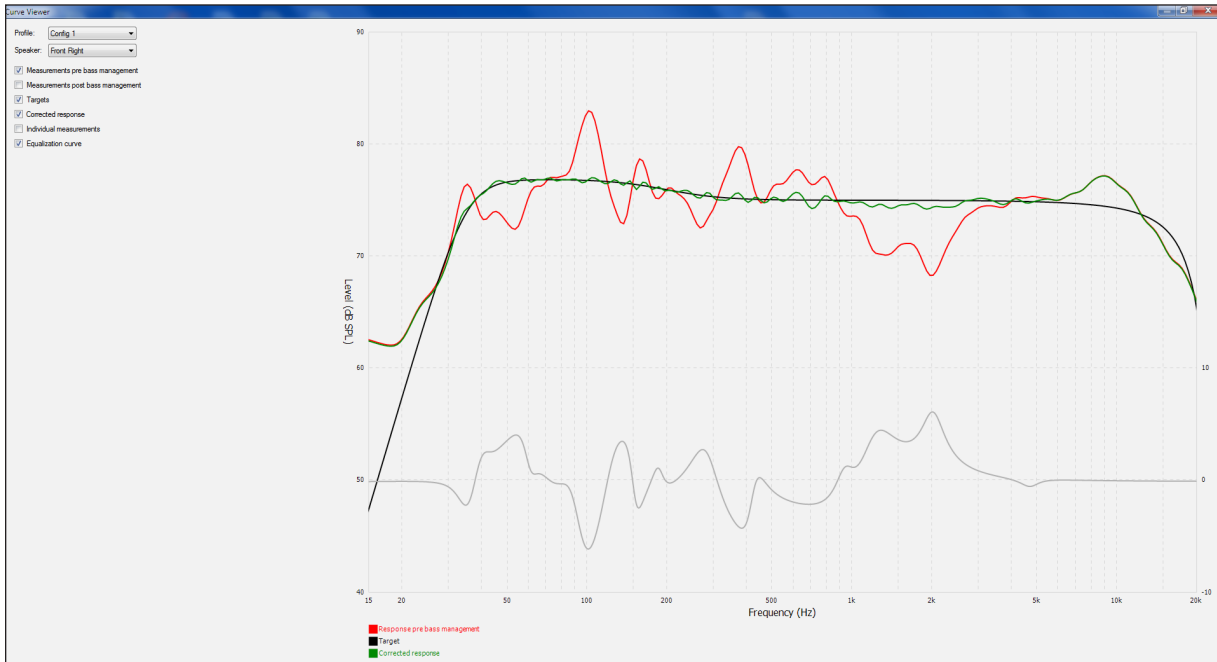
Viewing graphs for the first time may cause temptation to immediately change targets. There is rarely a good technical reason to do so. If you are not satisfied with initial results, examine the red pre-correction measurement curve. It shows how your system performed all along without room correction. Does this reflect the general performance expected from your speakers, especially in the bass? If not, do not try to compensate through electronic correction. It bears repeating that it is not meant at all to be a substitute for proper speaker positioning, nor can it reliably force your speakers to do something they weren't designed to do. Its purpose is to take performance to a higher level after the traditional good practices that existed before room correction have been fulfilled.

The following is a classic case of what not to do - an attempt to turn a "full-range" speaker's woofer into a subwoofer by manually lowering the equalization cutoff from 35 Hz to 25 Hz and the slope from fourth order to a more gradual third order. Such changes are very unlikely to end well. The extra stress on the speaker from approximately 20 Hz to 30 Hz could easily lead to woofer and/or crossover damage from overextension or overheating (+6 dB equates to four times the power). The amplifier will also generate more heat, something that is not good for any electronic device.

Always avoid forcing the green curve to be higher than the red or purple ones in the manner shown here:



In contrast, this is the same measurement with the original targets that were automatically detected and set by ARC. Notice how the left side of the target curve complies to the speaker's natural rolloff:



Another result that you may notice upon first listen with ARC enabled is that the center image is not as before. Some may describe it as a more focused soundstage whereas others may refer to it as a reduced one. Preference aside, if one speaker is louder at some frequencies while the other speaker is louder at others, the center image can become widened, shifted, or diffused. This effect may be pleasing but it is also artificial if sounds such as a lead vocal in the center of a stereo recording do not appear to emerge in whole from the midpoint between the left and right speakers, when at equal distance from the listening position. The nature and purpose of equalization as used by ARC is to allow the speakers to play symmetrically at all frequencies relative to the listening position. If at first this is not what you are accustomed to, give it some time and you may appreciate the more precise image location, never to look back.

EQUALIZATION CUTOFF

For the subwoofer, this is the frequency above which a slope is applied. It is best to keep the setting as high as possible according to the subwoofer's upper frequency response capability. What the subwoofer plays will still depend on what the front channels send it, for example a 160 Hz subwoofer equalization range does not necessarily mean that it will play to 160 Hz.

For the front channels, this is the frequency below which equalization is not applied. If a subwoofer channel is used, it is the crossover frequency, where bass transitions from fronts to sub. When the Full Range box is checked, crossover is disabled and bass is not directed to the subwoofer channel.

Target curve changes are displayed instantly while settings are changed but to see the effect on your measurements, click OK then Calculate and examine the green curve.

MAX EQ FREQUENCY

The default correction range is 5 kHz. This may be raised or lowered for experimentation or comparison.

ROOM GAIN

If you wish to experiment by flattening room gain, you can try it by setting this to 0 dB. Note that auto-detected room gain will be at or near 0 dB if bass absorbers are used or if the speakers are light on bass extension.

Alternatively if you would like to increase or decrease bass, this is the best place to do so if using a subwoofer since a good sub-mains transition will be maintained.

4.7 ADVANCED SUBWOOFER TARGETS

Use of these controls is recommended only for the advanced user who understands the subwoofer's capabilities and behavior when fed low frequencies at high levels. As always, check whether changes are worthwhile by listening to a variety of source material before and after modifying targets.

SUBWOOFER HIGH PASS ORDER

Change the low-end slope only if for some reason the auto-detected one doesn't match the low-end rolloff of the measured response. The left side of the red or purple measured curve is the guideline for shaping the target curve. As mentioned earlier, an attempt to use this as a means of extending low-frequency output beyond the speaker's capability will be detrimental.

SUBWOOFER HIGH PASS FREQUENCY

Use this in conjunction with High Pass Order when manually creating a curve for the lower end of the subwoofer's response.

MINIMUM SUBWOOFER EQ FREQUENCY

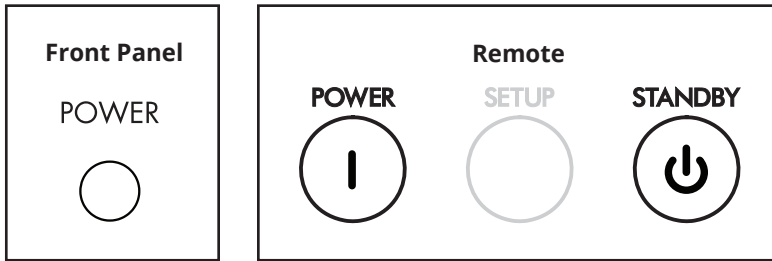
Change this only if you would not like for ARC to equalize the subwoofer channel below a certain frequency.

4.8 PRINTING A REPORT

To print a copy of your graphs and targets, click on Print. For a preview, click on File then Print Preview.

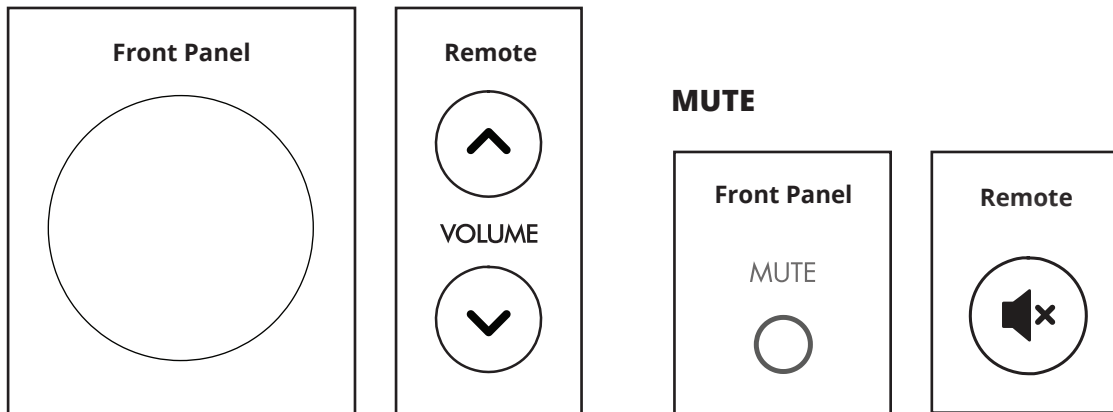
5.1 POWER ON / OFF AND VOLUME

During power-on and power-off a mechanical click is produced from the unit – this is normal. Volume comes on according to setup menu setting.



To control volume rotate the front panel knob or press VOL up/down on the remote control. To mute or un-mute the audio, press MUTE.

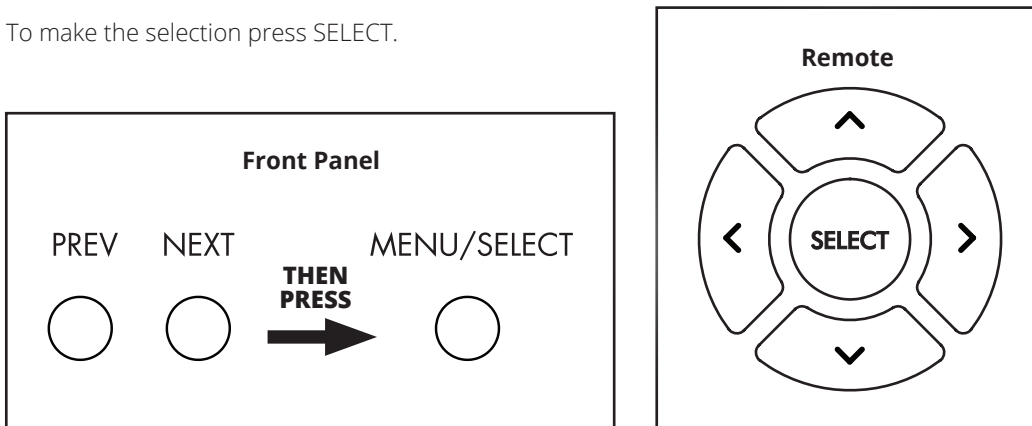
VOLUME



5.2 INPUT SELECTION

The number of active inputs varies according to how the Input Setup menu was programmed. To scroll through the active inputs and view them on the display, press the left/right buttons on the remote control or PREV/NEXT on the front panel.

To make the selection press SELECT.




To see the current input, press INPUT on the remote control.

5.3 LEVELS

Through this menu, subwoofer level, bass, treble, and balance can be adjusted.

Levels	
Subwoofers	0.0dB
Bass	0.0dB
Treble	0.0dB
Balance	Centered

To access the Levels menu from the remote, press 

To access the Levels menu from the front panel, press MENU/SELECT to display the Audio menu then press NEXT.

Audio Menu	
Levels	
Mode	Stereo

Cycle through the options using the up/down buttons on the remote control or the volume control on the front panel and follow the help line at the bottom of the display.

If the subwoofer(s) occasionally sounds too loud or soft according to source material, its level can be adjusted on the fly. The same can be done for tone and balance as needed.

Note that these adjustments are not meant for system calibration, which is handled in the setup menu and by Anthem Room Correction. Also note that Bass does not affect the subwoofer output, which is handled by the Level adjustment.

5.4 LISTENING MODES

Through this menu, the listening mode can be selected on the fly. Refer to the Input Setup section for a description of listening modes. If you wish, you can make a different selection after pressing MODE on the remote control or MENU/SELECT on the front panel.

Listening Mode	
Stereo	
Mono	
Both = Left	
Both = Right	

To access this menu from the remote control, press MODE. The remaining steps, and access from the front panel, are similar to those in the preceding section.

5.5 INFO DISPLAY

Pressing INFO on the remote shows the input name, ARC status, input format, and listening mode on the display in addition to volume. To hide this info, press INFO again.

THE BIG PICTURE – FRONT PANEL



THE BIG PICTURE - REAR PANEL



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