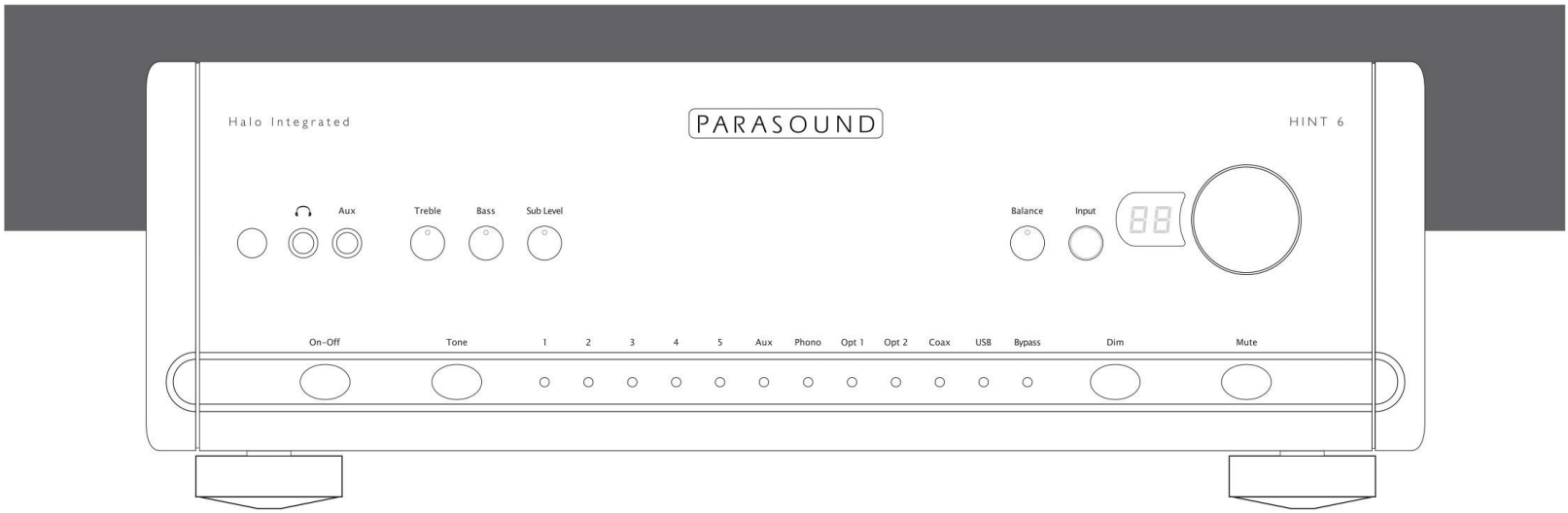
HALO by PARASOUND



HINT6

2.1 Channel Integrated Amplifier & DAC

OWNER'S GUIDE

Read this manual and all warning labels on the product before using this product. Failure to follow these instructions and safety precautions can result in serious injury or death.

Keep your packaging. The original carton and inserts are the only packaging designed to protect your HINT6 if you ever move or ship it. Shipping damage caused by inadequate packaging is not covered by warranty.

Important Safety Instructions

The lightning flash with the arrowhead symbol within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of “dangerous voltage” inside the product that may constitute a risk of electric shock.

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance instructions in the literature accompanying the product.

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

1. **Read instructions.** Read all the safety and operating instructions before operating this product.
2. **Retain instructions.** Retain safety and operating instructions for future reference.
3. **Heed warnings.** Adhere to all warnings on the product and in the operating instructions.
4. **Follow instructions.** Follow all operating and use instructions.
5. **Cleaning.** Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Use a damp cloth for cleaning. Clean the outside of the product only.
6. **Attachments.** Do not use attachments that are not recommended by the product manufacturer; they may be hazardous.
7. **Water and moisture.** Do not use this product near water.
8. **Accessories.** Do not place this product on an unstable cart or stand. The product may fall, causing bodily injury and damage to the product. A product and cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the product and cart to overturn.
9. **Ventilation.** Slots and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating. These openings must not be blocked or covered. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided.
10. **Power sources.** Operate this product only from the type of power source indicated on the label. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your dealer or local power company. This product is equipped with a three-prong grounding plug. This plug will only fit into a grounding power outlet. If you are unable to insert the plug into the outlet, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the grounding plug.
11. **Power cord protection.** Power supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them.
12. **Lightning.** Unplug the unit from the wall outlet for added protection during a lightning storm and when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and power line surges.
13. **Overloading.** Do not overload wall outlets or extension cords. This can result in a fire or electric shock.
14. **Inserting objects into unit.** Never push objects of any kind into this product through any openings; they may touch dangerous voltage points or short out parts that could result in fire or electric shock.
15. **Servicing.** Do not attempt to repair or service this product yourself. Opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage and other hazards. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
16. **Damage requiring service.** Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions: **a)** If the power-supply cord or plug is damaged. **b)** If liquid has been spilled into the product. **c)** If the product has been exposed to rain or water. **d)** If the product does not operate normally by following the operating instructions. **e)** If the product has been dropped or damaged in any way. **f)** If the product exhibits a distinct change in performance.
17. **Replacement parts.** When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, and other hazards.
18. **Safety check.** Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.
19. **Wall or ceiling mounting.** Mount the product to a wall or ceiling only as recommended.
20. **Heat.** The product should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, and other products (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

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Introduction

Thank You for Choosing Parasound

Your new Parasound HINT6 is an advanced 2.1 channel integrated amplifier that has been designed for the highest performance for serious two-channel music listening and ease of integration with a surround sound system. The HINT6 is built to the extremely strict quality and performance standards for which Parasound is renowned. We're proud to offer you this exceptional audio component that will bring you many years of enjoyment and dependability. Because your new HINT6 amplifier performs at a higher level of sonic performance than you may have expected, we encourage you to read this entire manual to maximize your enjoyment. We wish you many years of listening enjoyment.

Registering Your HINT6

When you register your HINT6 you can report an issue or ask a question about this exact unit right from your Parasound account, with your model and serial number already on file. Registered owners also receive priority support.

If you bought your HINT6 directly from Parasound, it is already registered to you. If you bought it from a Parasound Registered Dealer, your dealer may register it on your behalf; if they do, you will receive a confirmation email from us within 7 days of your purchase. You can also register it yourself at any time; see How to Register at **parasound.com/pages/how-to-register**.

Parasound HINT6 serial number: _____ (5 or 6 digit number below the bar code on the chassis bottom)

Important Warranty Information

There is no Parasound warranty for this unit if it was not purchased from Parasound or a Parasound Registered Dealer. Detailed warranty terms are available at **parasound.com/pages/support**.

Before you buy, check that a seller is a Parasound Registered Dealer with Verify a dealer at **parasound.com/pages/verify-dealer**.

Investigate very carefully any claims made by a dealer who is not a Parasound Registered Dealer. Statements an unregistered dealer makes about their own or third-party warranty coverage are undependable and misleading; unregistered dealers lack the capability to make repairs or arrange for repairs of Parasound equipment.

A missing or altered serial number could indicate that a unit was re-sold by an unregistered dealer or is stolen merchandise. If this unit is missing its serial number, or the serial number has been altered, return it to your dealer immediately for a full refund.

Unpacking and Placement

Unpacking Your HINT6

Carefully remove your HINT6 from its shipping carton and locate the enclosed accessories:

- AC power cord
- 12 V trigger wire with a mono 3.5 mm mini plug at each end
- Remote control with two AA batteries
- USB A to USB B cable for music playback from a computer

While you are unpacking your HINT6, inspect it thoroughly for possible shipping damage and tell your Parasound dealer immediately if you find any evidence of shipping damage.

This would be a good time to make a copy of your sales receipt to store with the HINT6's original packing.

Important: keep all of your packaging. Save both the inner and outer cartons and, especially, the molded foam inserts. You will need the original packaging to safely move or ship your HINT6, and any unit sent to Parasound for service must be shipped in its original packaging. Bubble wrap and other substitutes do not provide adequate protection and can cause shipping damage that is not covered by the warranty. You may flatten the cartons to save storage space after cutting the taped seams on the bottom flaps.

Placement Guidelines

The HINT6 will be easier to use and will last longer if you follow these simple guidelines:

- Place the HINT6 on a surface that will adequately support its weight.
- Use input and output cables that are long enough to leave some slack; that will enable you to pull the HINT6 out of a cabinet to check or to change connections without inadvertently disconnecting cables.
- Place your HINT6 where you can route input and output signal cables as far as possible from AC cords.
- Where signal cables must cross AC cords they should do so only at a 90° right angle.

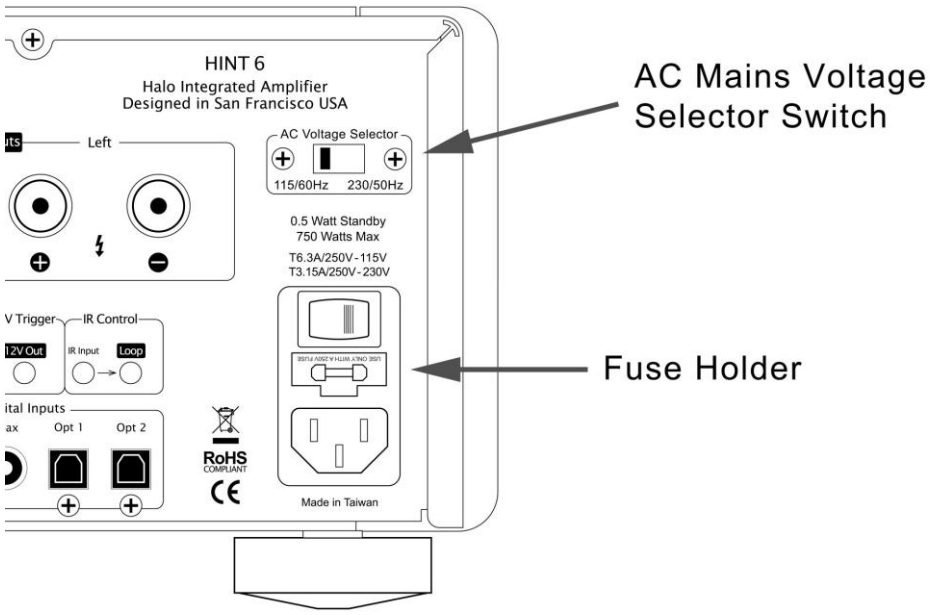
Ventilation Requirements

- Always position the HINT6 horizontally.
- Allow at least 3 in on each side, 4 in above and 3 in behind.
- The HINT6 should never be stacked directly above another power amplifier or directly below another component.
- Do not install the HINT6 in an unventilated equipment cabinet or compartment. Pockets of stagnant hot air can build up even in a cabinet with an open front and back. A ventilation fan is recommended to prevent "hot spots" in confined spaces.

Note: because of its high bias class A/AB design, the HINT6 can get very warm, even when no music is playing.

AC Mains Voltage

Make sure the 120 V/230 V voltage selector switch on the HINT6's back panel is set for the correct AC line (mains) voltage before you plug in the power cord. The HINT6 can be seriously damaged if this switch is set for the wrong AC mains voltage.



In the 120 V position the HINT6 can safely operate with AC line voltages between 110 and 125 V, which is correct for North America, Mexico, Colombia, and Taiwan. In some countries, such as Brazil, AC voltages differ by region. Most other countries require setting it to 230 V. With the 230 V setting the HINT6 can operate safely with AC line voltages between 220 and 250 V. If the AC voltage selector is changed, the rear panel fuse value must also be changed. The HINT6 operates on 50 Hz or 60 Hz AC.

Note: a HINT6 that has been damaged by connection to the incorrect AC mains voltage is not covered by the Parasound warranty.

AC Power Cord

The AC power cord supplied with your HINT6 is a high quality IEC-type cord. If possible, plug your HINT6 into the same AC outlet as your source components and any additional power amplifier(s). If different AC outlets are used for the HINT6 and your other components, the ground potential may be higher or lower between the outlets, resulting in audible hum. The rear panel master power switch, above the power cord socket, must be on for the HINT6 to operate.

Rack Mounting

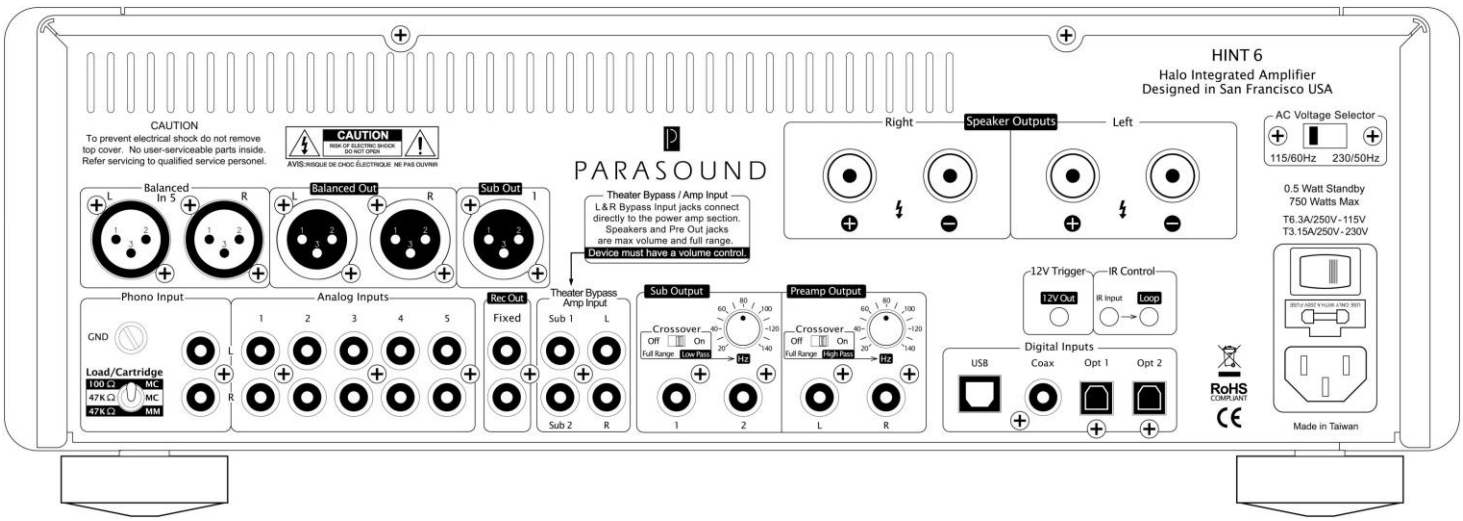
With its four feet removed, the HINT6 occupies three rack spaces (5.25 in / 133 mm). For mounting in a standard 19 in equipment rack, use the Parasound HRA 3 rack mount kit, sold separately under **Rack Bracket and Mount Kits**. Its shouldered plastic washers sandwich the front panel so there is no metal-to-metal contact between the chassis, the rack, and other components.

Note: the ventilation requirements above apply in a rack too. Leave the open space they require around the HINT6, and do not mount other heat-producing components directly beneath it.

Warning: never reinstall the feet screws without the feet attached. The screws can reach internal components and cause a short circuit.

Analog Audio Input Connections

Always unplug your HINT6's AC power cord before making or changing any input, output or trigger wire connections. Inserting or removing an input or output cable while the HINT6 is turned on can result in a blast of sound that could damage your loudspeakers. Make sure there is no strain or tension on any cables that could cause them to pull loose.



Phono Input

The HINT6 is equipped with a high-quality phono stage. If you wish to connect a turntable, set the Load/Cartridge switch to MM (moving magnet) or MC (100 Ω or 47 kΩ moving coil), depending on your cartridge type. Select MM if you are not sure which type of cartridge you have. If you use the MC setting with an MM cartridge the volume level will be very high and distorted.

Note: only a turntable can be connected to the Phono input.

Phono Load/Cartridge Switch

The Phono input has a three-position Load/Cartridge selector switch. Select the switch position that matches your turntable cartridge type. We recommend that you contact the cartridge manufacturer if you are unsure which setting to use. You can also try all three settings and use the one that sounds best in your system and listening room:

- MM is for moving magnet cartridges. It provides a 47 kΩ load and the appropriate gain for all MM cartridges. This is the most common cartridge type.
- MC 100 Ω is for most moving coil cartridges. It provides the higher gain required for even very low output MC cartridges and a 100 Ω load that is ideal for most MC cartridges.
- MC 47 kΩ provides the appropriate gain for MC cartridges with an alternative 47 kΩ load. You can try both the 100 Ω and 47 kΩ settings to see which sounds best in your system. The MC 47 kΩ setting is also the load Grado™ recommends for their MI (moving iron) cartridges.

Note: if your turntable won't reach adequate volume, or if it plays too loud, you have selected the incorrect cartridge type. Don't forget to connect the ground wire from your turntable to the Phono GND (ground) terminal on the HINT6.

RCA Line Level Input Jacks (Inputs 1 to 5)

Source inputs 1 to 5 all have the same input sensitivity and input impedance and are compatible with any typical analog line level source.

XLR Balanced Input (Input 5)

Input 5 also uses balanced XLR jacks. Use this input to connect an analog source that has balanced XLR outputs. A balanced line provides superior hum and noise cancellation, especially for long cable runs.

Note: Input 5 is shared between its RCA and XLR jacks, so the RCA and XLR jacks for Input 5 cannot be connected at the same time.

Front Panel Aux Input

For your convenience there is an input jack on the front panel for a portable MP3 player, tablet, or mobile phone. Connect a cable with 3.5 mm stereo mini plugs between your portable player, tablet or phone's headphone jack and the HINT6's Aux input jack. The Aux input has an additional gain stage that boosts the input signal by 12 dB so that the volume level is comparable with your other audio sources. For the best result set your portable player or phone's volume to at least 75% of its maximum level.

Note: if you connect a component other than a portable MP3 player or phone to the Aux input jack, the volume level will probably be too high and likely distorted.

Theater Bypass / Amp Input

The HINT6's Bypass/Amp input makes it suitable both for the highest quality stereo reproduction and for powering the left and right channels in a surround sound system. It can improve the performance of your left and right speakers in a surround sound system, because the power amp built into the HINT6 is superior to the amplifier in a surround sound receiver, and it relieves your AV receiver of the burden of driving the left and right speakers so that more power is available for the center and surround channels. It also lets your subwoofer(s) play with both your stereo sources and the sub channel(s) of your surround sound system.

Note: the Theater Bypass function requires preamp output jacks on your surround sound processor or AV receiver.

How It Works

The Bypass input routes the incoming left and right (front) channels from your surround sound receiver or processor's L and R preamp output jacks directly to the HINT6's power amp stage, bypassing the preamp stage and all controls. The HINT6 functions as a pure standalone power amplifier when its Bypass input is used. Your receiver or processor's sub output jack(s) are routed from the HINT6's Bypass Sub In jacks directly to its Sub Output jacks. All controls are excluded from the bypass signal path:

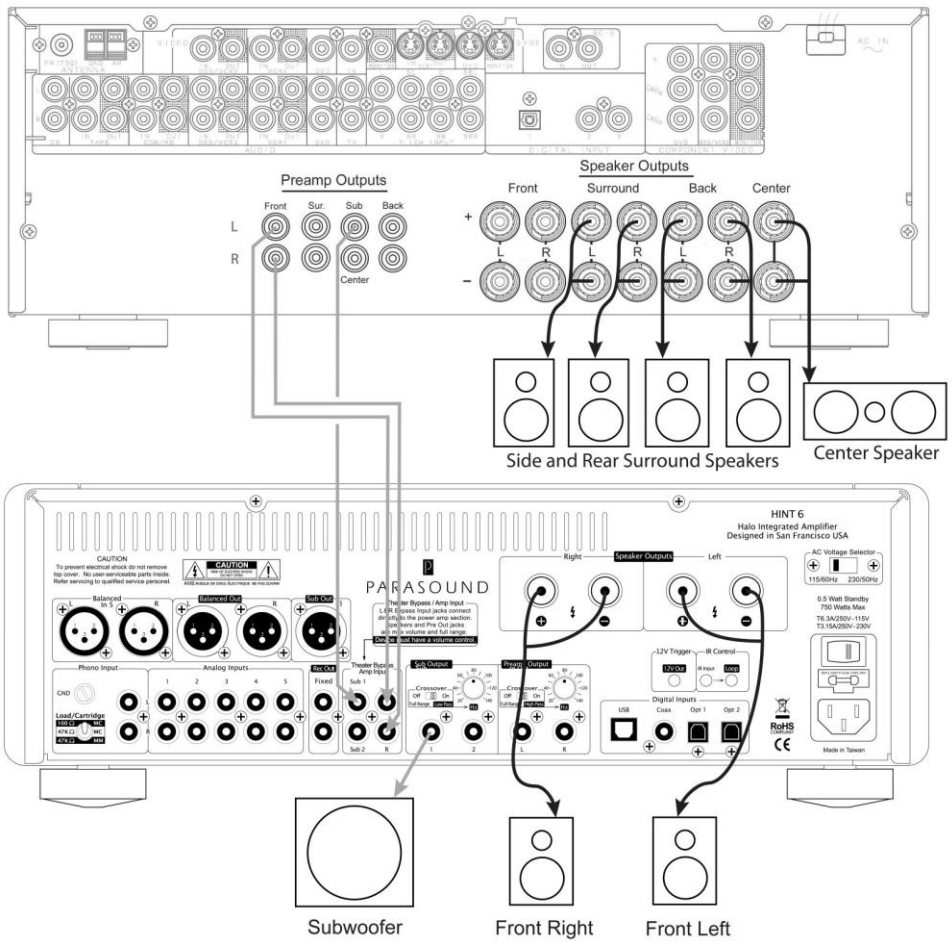
- Adjusting the HINT6's volume knob or remote control volume buttons will not change the volume level of the Bypass input.
- The Bass and Treble tone controls do not function; frequency response is flat, regardless of how these controls are adjusted.
- The Left/Right Balance control does not function; channel balance is equal, regardless of how this control is adjusted.
- The Speaker Outputs and Preamp Outputs are full range, regardless of the Preamp Output crossover settings.
- The Sub Outputs are full range, regardless of the Sub Output crossover settings.

Note: if you adjust any of these controls while the Bypass input is selected you will not hear a change, but the change will become audible when you select any other HINT6 input.

These exclusions are intentional, so that your surround sound receiver's (or processor's) volume control and bass management settings are preserved when you are listening to surround sound with the left, right and subwoofer channels routed through the HINT6. See the owner's manual for your surround sound receiver or processor to set and calibrate speaker levels, distances and bass management. After adding the HINT6 to an existing surround sound system, recalibrate your system with the calibration microphone that is typically included with surround sound receivers. Remember that the volume control on the HINT6 does not work when the Bypass input is selected; use the volume control on your surround sound receiver or processor.

Connecting the Bypass Input

Connect your surround sound receiver or processor's Left, Right and Sub(s) preamp output jacks to the HINT6's Left, Right and Sub Bypass Input jacks. With a single subwoofer you can use either the Sub 1 or Sub 2 Input jack. Connect your left and right speakers to the HINT6's Left and Right Speaker Output terminals, and connect your subwoofer(s) to the HINT6's Sub Output jack(s).



In this example the surround sound receiver (top) drives the center and surround speakers, and the HINT6 (bottom) drives the front left and right speakers and the subwoofer.

Note: even when the HINT6 is turned off, its Bypass L, R and Sub RCA Input jacks are connected directly to its L, R and Sub RCA Preamp Output jacks. The HINT6 must be turned on for the balanced XLR outputs to function, because they require active driver circuitry.

Warning: connect the Bypass inputs only to a surround sound receiver or processor. Never connect them directly to a source component with a fixed output level and no volume control, such as a CD player, most Blu-ray or DVD players, a tape deck or a tuner. There is no volume control in the Bypass path, so the source's full output goes straight to the HINT6's power amplifier: the sound will be very loud, cannot be turned down, and could damage your speakers. Use the volume control on the surround sound receiver or processor to set the level when the Bypass input is selected.

Digital Audio Inputs

The HINT6's built-in 32-bit DAC (digital to analog converter) uses a very high resolution 384 kHz ESS Sabre32® Reference DAC IC. Since the HINT6's DAC is superior to the DACs in most digital source components, they will sound better if you connect one of their digital outputs to the HINT6's DAC instead of connecting their analog output jacks.

Using a TV, Blu-ray, DVD Player or Gaming Console's Digital Output

If you connect a TV, Blu-ray player, DVD player, cable TV box, satellite receiver or gaming console to your HINT6, you must go to the device's audio setup menu and select stereo PCM (2.0). The HINT6's DAC accepts only two-channel stereo PCM. It does not accept Dolby Digital or DTS formats.

Opt (Optical) 1 and 2

The Optical 1 and 2 inputs use high speed Toslink receivers. Each accepts PCM digital signals up to 192 kHz with 16 or 24-bit word lengths.

Note: 176.4 kHz and 192 kHz sampling rates will only play reliably with a short optical cable, no more than 6 ft (2 m) long. Handle the optical cable carefully: it cannot be bent at a sharp angle without impairing its ability to carry the digital signal from your source to the HINT6.

Coax (Coaxial)

The Coax (also called S/PDIF) input connector is an RCA jack. It accepts PCM digital signals up to 192 kHz with 16 or 24-bit word lengths.

Note: digital coaxial cables often look like typical analog audio cables, but their electrical characteristics are not always the same. The HINT6 Coax input works best with a true 75 Ω cable, which typically has 75 ohm, RG6 or RG59 printed on the cable jacket. Using an ordinary audio cable can make the signal unstable, resulting in high levels of jitter and even audio dropouts.

USB

The USB input is used to connect your HINT6 to your Windows® PC or Mac computer. This allows high quality playback of any music files that are stored on your computer and streaming music services you access over the internet. The USB input accepts PCM sampling rates up to 384 kHz with 16, 24 or 32-bit word lengths. The USB input also accepts native DSD and DoP (DSD over PCM). See USB Computer Setup to set up your computer.

Note: inexpensive USB cables longer than 6 ft (2 m) are often unreliable and a common cause of audio dropouts. If a longer USB cable is required, a higher quality USB cable will usually give more consistent results.

USB Computer Setup

Connect the USB cable (included in the HINT6 carton) between your computer and the HINT6, turn on the HINT6, and then select PARASOUND as your computer's audio output device:

- **Mac:** no drivers are needed. Open System Settings, choose Sound, and under Output select PARASOUND.
- **Windows:** Windows 10 (updated since early 2018) and Windows 11 include the USB audio driver the HINT6 needs. Click the speaker icon on the taskbar, or open Sound settings, and choose PARASOUND as the playback device.

If PARASOUND does not appear as an output device, make sure the HINT6 is turned on, use a USB cable no longer than 6 ft (2 m), and make sure your operating system is up to date; then turn off the HINT6, restart your computer and try again. For drivers and current operating system steps, visit **www.parasound.com/help**.

Playing Music from Your Computer

Once your computer is set up, press the USB button on the HINT6's remote control or rotate the HINT6's Input select knob until the blue USB indicator is illuminated. Simply start playing any music on your computer and it will be sent to the HINT6 through the USB cable. Any sound that you would normally hear through your computer speakers will be heard through the HINT6 and your audio system.

Note: for the highest quality sound playback, we recommend leaving the computer application's volume control at 100% and using the volume control on your HINT6 to set the listening level.

Audio Output Connections

Left and Right Speaker Outputs

The speaker binding posts accept a wide variety of speaker wire and connectors, including large spade connectors, banana plugs, and bare wire as large as 8 AWG. The binding posts are spaced wider than traditional dual banana plug connectors. This wider spacing is intentional, so that larger spade lug connectors can be used without the risk of a short circuit.

If you use bare wire, twist its bare strands tightly before connecting it, to prevent any of the individual strands from making contact across the red plus and black minus speaker terminals.

Correct Speaker Polarity is Important

Polarity refers to + and – connections. Speaker wires are coded with color, printing or a ridge on the insulation on one of the leads so you know which lead was connected to the + and – terminals at the other end. This coding will help you keep the + and – polarity consistent for all channels. If one speaker is wired with incorrect polarity it will significantly impair sound quality.

Left and Right Preamp Output Jacks (Balanced and Unbalanced)

The Preamp Output jacks carry the same preamp line level audio signal that goes to the HINT6's power amp stage. Use them to connect an external power amplifier, for example for bi-amping your speakers or for driving speakers in another room. Both RCA (unbalanced) and XLR (balanced) outputs are provided, and both types may be used at the same time.

The balanced XLR Left and Right outputs have the same signal as the Left and Right RCA output jacks. Balanced outputs have 6 dB higher gain. The High Pass crossover switch affects the RCA and XLR Preamp Outputs and the Speaker Outputs.

Subwoofer Outputs (Balanced and Unbalanced)

The HINT6 provides one XLR connector and two RCA jacks for one or more subwoofers. The two unbalanced and one balanced subwoofer outputs all carry the same mono signal. You can select whether the mono signal is full range or crossed over according to the frequency you select for the Low Pass crossover. The balanced XLR Sub Output has the same signal as either Sub 1 or Sub 2 RCA Output jack, with 6 dB higher gain. Both RCA outputs and the XLR output can be connected at the same time.

Using Stereo Subwoofers

If you have two subwoofers and want them to operate in stereo, you can connect them to the Left and Right Preamp Output jacks instead of to the Sub Output jacks, which are mono. In this case you would need to set the High Pass crossover switch to Off. With this configuration the front panel Sub Level control does not function.

Record Out Jacks (Fixed Level)

The Record Out jacks connect to your analog audio recorder's record/input jacks. When you select an input, the signal from the corresponding source component is available at the Record Out jacks whenever it is turned on. It is a fixed level signal that is unaffected by volume, balance, tone, mute or crossover settings. The fixed level Record Out jacks are also useful to connect a power amplifier for speakers in another room that has a passive in-wall volume control.

Note: when you select the Bypass input, there is no signal at the Record Out jacks. The HINT6 does not offer simultaneous monitoring of a recording while you are making it.

Other Rear Panel Connections

12 V Trigger Output Jack

If an additional power amplifier is equipped with a 12 V trigger input, you may find it convenient for the HINT6 to turn it on and off automatically. Connect the trigger cable (included) between the HINT6's 12 V Out jack and the external amplifier's 12 V trigger input. When the HINT6 is powered on, 12 volts will be present at the 12 V output jack and your amplifier will turn on automatically.

Note: the 12 V trigger wire included with the HINT6 has mono plugs. A cable with stereo plugs, such as an aux cable, will not work.

IR Control Input Jack

Your HINT6 is compatible with most popular infrared repeater systems for remote control operation from another room, or when the HINT6 is installed in a cabinet where its remote handset signals cannot reach its front panel remote control sensor. The IR Control Input connector is a standard 1/8 in (3.5 mm) mono mini jack. The center conductor (plug tip) is for signal and the outer conductor (plug sleeve) is for ground. Your Parasound Registered Dealer or custom installer can recommend a compatible IR repeater system.

IR Loop Output Jack

The loop output offers a convenient way to daisy-chain an IR signal to another component that is also equipped with an IR input jack. Whatever IR control signal is present at the HINT6 rear panel IR Input jack is also present at its IR Loop Out jack.

Subwoofer Setup

The crossover setup and level setup are two important steps in setting up your subwoofer(s).

Subwoofer Crossover Setup

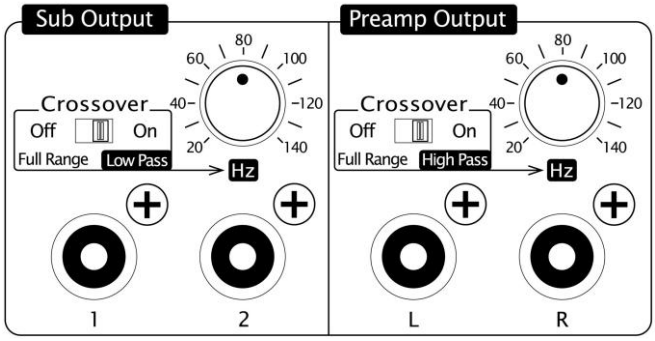
You should turn off the crossover built into your subwoofer's amplifier, since the HINT6 has its own crossovers and leaving both the subwoofer's and the HINT6's crossovers on will result in double filtering. Most powered subwoofers have a switch that is typically labeled "Bypass," "Home Theater" or simply "Crossover Off." If your subwoofer's crossover cannot be switched off, set it to its highest frequency. See Crossover Setup for the proper HINT6 settings.

Subwoofer Level Setup

To set the proper subwoofer level, start with the HINT6's front panel Sub Level control set to its 12 o'clock (0 dB) position and then play a variety of music. Adjust the level control built into your subwoofer until the bass level sounds balanced in your system. Now, whenever you want to fine-tune your subwoofer level, you can simply use the HINT6's front panel Sub Level control instead of walking over to your subwoofer, bending down and reaching behind it to adjust its level control.

Crossover Setup

The HINT6 has adjustable low pass and high pass crossovers. A low pass filter lets only low frequencies through and blocks high frequencies; a high pass filter lets only high frequencies through and blocks low frequencies. If you are using a subwoofer and are not certain where to set the crossovers, 80 Hz is the best starting frequency for both. If you are not using a subwoofer, set the Preamp Output Crossover switch to Off. The crossover settings affect both the Speaker Outputs and the Preamp Outputs (RCA and XLR).



Low Pass Crossover (Subwoofer RCA and XLR Outputs)

With the Sub Output Crossover switch On, the Low Pass frequency knob sets the point where the highest frequencies going to the subwoofer(s) start to roll off. With the switch Off, a full range mono signal goes to the subwoofer(s) and you will use the crossover built into your subwoofer. If your subwoofer's crossover cannot be switched off, set it to its highest frequency to minimize the effects of filtering in both the HINT6 and the subwoofer.

High Pass Crossover (Left and Right Speakers and Preamp Outputs)

The High Pass crossover keeps low frequencies out of your main left and right speakers. This is particularly useful if you are using small speakers (typically with woofers of 6.5 in (165 mm) or smaller) and a subwoofer. With the Preamp Output Crossover switch On, the High Pass frequency knob sets the point where the lowest frequencies going to the speaker terminals and the Preamp Outputs start to roll off; the most common settings are between 50 Hz and 80 Hz. With the switch Off, your left and right speakers play full range. If you are not using a subwoofer, set the switch to Off or set the frequency below 40 Hz.

Crossovers and the Theater Bypass Input

The High Pass and Low Pass crossovers are always off when the Bypass input is selected, so the bass management you already selected in your surround sound receiver or processor's setup menu is used instead.

Where to Start with Crossover Settings

If you don't know where to set the High and Low Pass crossovers, these settings are a good place to start. From here you can experiment until you find a combination that sounds best to you.

No subwoofer:

- Set the High Pass crossover switch to Off.
- The Low Pass crossover will not be used, so its setting does not matter.

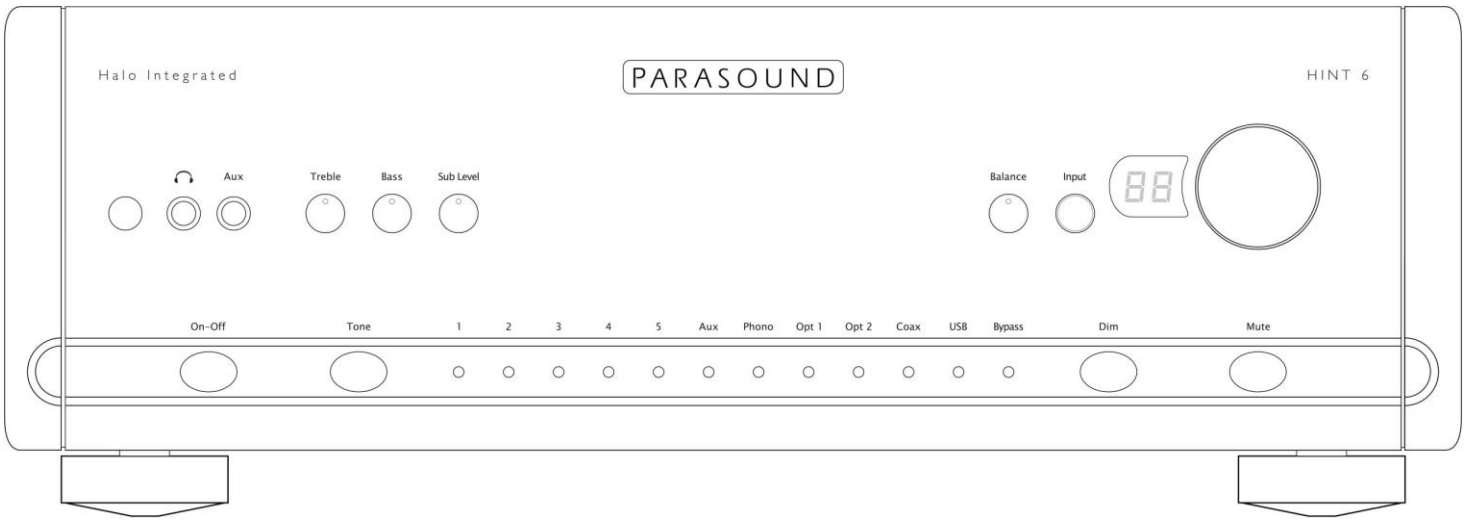
One or more subwoofers, with left and right speakers whose woofers are 6.5 in (165 mm) or smaller:

- Set the High Pass crossover switch to On and the frequency knob to 80 Hz.
- Set the Low Pass crossover switch to On and the frequency knob to 80 Hz.

One or more subwoofers, with left and right speakers whose woofers are larger than 6.5 in (165 mm):

- Set the High Pass crossover switch to On and the frequency knob to 50 Hz.
- Set the Low Pass crossover switch to On and the frequency knob to 50 Hz.

Front Panel Controls



On-Off Button

A soft blue glow surrounds the On-Off button when the HINT6 is turned off. Whenever the HINT6 is turned on, the glow changes to red for a few seconds while its circuits stabilize, and is then replaced by a brighter blue glow to indicate normal operation. Push the On-Off button again to turn it off. If the glow remains red after turn on or while the HINT6 is in use, its protection circuits have been activated and no sound will be heard from the speakers. The most common causes are a shorted speaker connection and overheating; see Amplifier Protection.

Headphone Output

The HINT6 has a dedicated high quality current-feedback headphone amplifier based on the Texas Instruments TPA6120A, with a low 10 Ω output impedance and high gain to drive headphones rated up to 600 Ω. The headphone jack accepts a 1/8 in (3.5 mm) stereo mini plug. The Speaker Outputs and the Preamp Output jacks (RCA and XLR) are muted whenever a headphone plug is inserted into this jack. The L and R Record Out jacks are not muted.

Caution: note where the volume knob is set before you unplug your headphones, to avoid a sudden high level of sound that could damage your speakers.

Aux Input Jack

For your convenience the HINT6 includes an Aux input jack on its front panel to accommodate a portable MP3 player, tablet or mobile phone. Connect a cable with 3.5 mm stereo plugs between the phone or portable player's headphone jack and the Aux input. The Aux input has an additional gain stage that boosts the input signal by 12 dB so the volume level is consistent as you select other source components. For best results set your portable player's volume to at least 75% of its maximum.

Bass and Treble Control Knobs

These offer precision adjustment of tonal balance. You will find that very slight adjustments can add a degree of warmth, richness, clarity and "air." However, larger adjustments may obscure musical detail, and even risk overloading your speakers. The Bass and Treble controls affect the Speaker Outputs, the Preamp Outputs and the Subwoofer Outputs. The HINT6 Bass and Treble controls are only active when the blue light surrounding the Tone button is illuminated.

Tone Button

By pressing this button, you can turn off the Bass and Treble tone controls, completely bypassing the tone control circuitry. This will improve sonic purity by eliminating the small amount of noise and distortion inherent in tone control circuits. The tone controls can also be turned on and off from the remote control so you can switch between flat and your desired tone settings. The remote control does not adjust the bass and treble tone controls; it only engages and disengages them.

Input Select Knob

Rotating the Input selector will cycle through all of the inputs. The front panel LED under each input name indicates when it is selected.

Sub Level Knob

The Sub Level control knob adjusts the subwoofer level. The sub level can be adjusted between –10 dB and +10 dB, relative to the L and R channels. When the Sub Level knob is in the 12 o'clock position the boost is 0 dB. When you first set up your subwoofer you should set this control to 12 o'clock (0 dB) and then play some music. Adjust the level control built into your subwoofer until it sounds balanced in your system. Now, whenever you want to fine-tune your subwoofer level, you can simply use the HINT6 front panel Sub Level control knob instead of walking over to your subwoofer and bending over to adjust its level control.

Note: the Sub Level control knob cannot adjust the Sub level when the Bypass input is selected.

Balance Knob

Adjusting left and right channel balance is helpful to compensate for speaker placement or room acoustics.

Volume Knob and Display

Your HINT6 uses a high quality electronically controlled analog volume control IC. The volume level is displayed next to the volume knob and has a range of 0 to 99.

Mute Button

Pressing the Mute button once will mute the signal for all output jacks except the Record Out. The Mute button glow will change from blue to red when mute is engaged. Press the Mute button a second time to cancel mute. Mute is automatically canceled if you press the volume up or down buttons on the remote or if you change the volume from the front panel.

Dim Button

Press this button to select one of the volume display's two brightness levels.

Remote Control Functions

The HINT6 remote control has a maximum range of approximately 20 to 25 feet (6 to 7.5 m). Use only AA batteries in the handset and insert them according to the + and – polarity markings in the battery compartment.

On and Off Buttons

These buttons turn the HINT6 on and off.

Backlight Button

Pressing this button backlights the buttons with a soft blue glow. The backlight times out after approximately 8 seconds, or you can press the button a second time to turn the backlight off immediately.

Dim Button

Press this button to select one of the volume display's two brightness levels.

Mute Button

Pressing the Mute button once mutes the signal at all of the output jacks except the Record Out. The Mute button on the front panel will illuminate red while mute is engaged. Press the Mute button a second time to cancel mute.

Volume Up and Down Buttons

These buttons increase and decrease the listening volume. The volume level, from 0 to 99, is shown on the display next to the volume knob.

Vol Mem (Volume Memory)

This button recalls the volume setting you have memorized, a convenient way to jump to your favorite volume. See Turn On Volume and Favorite Volume for how to set the Vol Mem level. This is different from the turn on volume setting.

Tone On and Off Buttons

Pressing the Tone On button engages the tone control circuit with the boost or cut set by the front panel Bass and Treble knobs. Pressing the Tone Off button bypasses the tone control circuits. This will improve sonic purity by eliminating the small amount of noise and distortion inherent in tone control circuits.

Source Input Buttons

Press the input button for the source that you wish to hear.

Vol Set (Volume Setup)

The Vol Set button is used with other buttons to set the turn on volume and the Vol Mem (favorite) volume. See Turn On Volume and Favorite Volume.

Turn On Volume and Favorite Volume

Turn On Volume

You may wish your HINT6 to come on at the same volume setting every time it is turned on. This can be particularly useful if you sometimes listen at high volume levels and you want to avoid a blast of sound the next time you turn it on, or if you have a preferred listening level. To set the turn on volume:

1. Adjust the volume to the level you wish to program.
2. Press the Vol Set button, then quickly press the On button. With the remote resting on a table you can press the two buttons in quick succession with both hands.
3. The display confirms the setting: if it is set to dim, it brightens briefly; if it is set to bright, it dims briefly, which is harder to see.

Now every time the HINT6 is turned on, the volume will automatically be set to the level you have programmed.

Cancel the Turn On Volume Feature (Use Last Volume)

You may wish to cancel the turn on volume feature, so that the HINT6 turns on at the same volume level it had when it was turned off. To cancel it:

1. Press the Vol Set button.
2. Press the Off button.

Now when the HINT6 turns on, the volume will be set to where it was last used.

Memorizing a Favorite Volume Level (Vol Mem Button)

For your convenience, you can memorize your favorite listening level. Once memorized, you can jump to this listening level by pressing the Vol Mem button on the remote control. This is different from the turn on volume you may have already set. To memorize a favorite volume level:

1. Adjust the volume to the level you wish to memorize.
2. Press the Vol Set button, then quickly press the Vol Mem button. With the remote resting on a table you can press the two buttons in quick succession with both hands.
3. The display confirms the setting: if it is set to dim, it brightens briefly; if it is set to bright, it dims briefly, which is harder to see.

You can now jump to your favorite listening level by pressing the Vol Mem button at any time.

Amplifier Protection

The HINT6 protects itself from external fault conditions such as excessive heat, a load impedance that is too low, or a short-circuited speaker connection or wire. Under such conditions the On-Off button will glow red and no sound will be heard from the speakers. After you correct the fault, the HINT6 will resume operation and the On-Off button will glow blue.

Current Overload (Short Circuit or Load Impedance Below 1 Ω)

If the current through the HINT6's output stage exceeds a safe level because of a load impedance below 1 Ω or a short circuit at the speaker terminals, the output protection relay opens immediately to prevent damage, and the On-Off button glows red. Immediately turn off the HINT6 and disconnect the speakers from its speaker terminals. Turn it back on to see if the On-Off button now glows blue, indicating the fault has been removed. Carefully check your speaker wires and speaker connections for a short circuit and correct the problem before you resume listening.

Overheating

If the HINT6 overheats, the On-Off button will glow red and the power amp section will shut down. If this occurs you must provide better ventilation around the HINT6. The over-temperature protection can also be activated if you are driving more than one pair of speakers for an extended time and/or at extremely high listening levels. Normal operation will resume after the HINT6 has cooled down.

DC Offset Protection

The HINT6's power amp stage is direct coupled, and its DC servo circuits keep the DC offset at the speaker terminals close to zero. A faulty source component, particularly a vacuum tube preamp with leaky output coupling capacitors, can produce a DC offset that exceeds the capability of the servos, and the protection circuit will activate. If the On-Off button glows red and you have ruled out the two conditions above, try disconnecting your source components.

If you have confirmed that none of these fault conditions is present and the On-Off button still glows red, it could indicate an internal problem. Please contact us at **www.parasound.com/help**.

Maintaining Your HINT6

Your HINT6 requires no periodic maintenance and has no user-serviceable parts inside; to avoid the risk of electric shock, do not remove the cover, and clean it only with a soft cloth lightly moistened with water, never with solvents or abrasives. Remove the remote control's AA batteries if it will go unused for an extended period, and check the battery compartment once a year for leaking batteries.

Getting Help and Service

Start With Your Dealer

If something doesn't seem right, contact your Parasound Registered Dealer first. As the original owner, the dealer who sold you your HINT6 is your first stop for help. Your dealer knows your system and can resolve most issues quickly.

Parasound Support

If your dealer can't resolve the issue, or you purchased directly from Parasound, visit www.parasound.com/help. Sign in and open Owner Support to ask a question or report an issue with your registered HINT6; your model and serial number are already on file.

Warranty Service

- The HINT6 is covered by Parasound's Limited Warranty for the original owner when purchased from Parasound or a Parasound Registered Dealer. Applicable warranty periods and complete terms are at parasound.com/pages/support.
- Never ship your unit anywhere without first obtaining a Return Material Authorization (RMA) at www.parasound.com/help. The RMA number must be clearly marked on the shipping label or the shipment will be refused.
- Ship only in the original carton with its molded foam inserts, and insure the shipment for its value. Damage caused by inadequate packaging is not covered by the warranty.
- Keep your original purchase receipt from Parasound or your Parasound Registered Dealer; it establishes your warranty. The Parasound warranty is not transferable.

Outside the USA

Warranty coverage for units purchased outside the USA is provided by the authorized Parasound distributor for your country.

Specifications

Power Output, Both Channels Driven (0.05% THD, 20 Hz to 20 kHz)

160 watts x 2 @ 8 Ω RMS

240 watts x 2 @ 4 Ω RMS

Power Output, Both Channels Driven (0.9% THD, 20 Hz to 20 kHz)

180 watts x 2 @ 8 Ω RMS

270 watts x 2 @ 4 Ω RMS

Current Capacity

45 amps peak per channel

Frequency Response

10 Hz to 100 kHz, +0/–3 dB

20 Hz to 20 kHz, +0/–0.5 dB

Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)

< 0.01 %, average listening levels

< 0.05 %, 160 watts x 2 @ 8 Ω

Interchannel Crosstalk

> 70 dB at 20 kHz

> 78 dB at 1 kHz

Signal to Noise Ratio, IHF A-weighted

Line in: 103 dB (input shorted)

Digital in: 106 dB

Amplifier Damping Factor

> 800 at 20 Hz

Preamplifier Stage

Input sensitivity: 300 mV in for 1 V at Preamp Output jacks

Total preamp stage gain: 10 dB

Maximum output, unbalanced: 7 V

Maximum output, balanced: 9 V

Power Amplifier Stage

Sensitivity: 1 V at Bypass/Amp In for 28 V at Speaker Out

Total amp stage gain: 28 dB

Phono Stage Sensitivity / Input Impedance

MM: 41 dB / 47 kΩ

MC: 54 dB / 47 kΩ or 100 Ω

Input Impedance

Unbalanced: 24 kΩ

Balanced: 100 kΩ per leg

Preamplifier Output Impedance

Unbalanced: 100 Ω

Balanced: 470 Ω per leg

High and Low Pass Crossover Slope

12 dB per octave

Supported DAC Sampling Rates

USB: up to 384 kHz / 32-bit PCM

DSD native: DSD64, DSD128, DSD256

DSD over PCM (DoP): at 384 kHz

Coax/Optical: up to 192 kHz / 24-bit PCM

Digital to Analog Converter

ESS Sabre32 Reference ES9018K2M, 384 kHz / 32-bit

USB 2.0 Controller

Savitech SA9227, 384 kHz / 32-bit

Headphone Amplifier

Texas Instruments TPA6120A

Output impedance: 10 Ω

XLR Pin Identification

1 = Ground (shield)

2 = Positive

3 = Negative (return)

Dimensions

Width: 17-1/4" (437 mm)

Depth: 16-1/4" (413 mm)

Depth, with cables 17-1/4" (437 mm)

Height, with feet: 5-7/8" (150 mm)

Height, without feet: 5-1/4" (133 mm), 3U

Net Weight

33 lb (15 kg)

Shipping Weight

45 lb (20.4 kg)

Power Requirement

Standby: 0.5 Watts

Idle: 70 Watts

Maximum: 750 Watts

110 to 125 VAC or 220 to 250 VAC, 50/60 Hz

AC mains voltage is set on the rear panel

Full, current specifications for the HINT6 are available at parasound.com/products/hint6.

Specifications and features subject to change or improvement without notice.
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