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## Cambridge Audio 851A

# Cambridge Audio Azur 851A Integrated Class XD Amplifier User Manual

Model: 851A

## INTRODUCTION

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Thank you for purchasing the Cambridge Audio Azur 851A Integrated Class XD Amplifier. This manual provides essential information for the safe and optimal use of your amplifier. Please read it thoroughly before installation and operation.

The Azur 851A is designed to deliver high-fidelity audio performance, featuring proprietary Class XD technology, dual toroidal transformers, and versatile connectivity options including RCA/Phono and balanced XLR inputs. It also incorporates CAP5 protection technology for reliable operation.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

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- **Power Supply:** Ensure the amplifier is connected to a power supply matching the voltage indicated on the rear panel.
- **Ventilation:** Do not block ventilation openings. Allow adequate space around the unit for proper airflow to prevent overheating.
- **Moisture:** Do not expose the unit to rain or moisture. Avoid placing objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on the unit.
- **Cleaning:** Unplug the unit from the wall outlet before cleaning. Use a dry cloth only.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

## SETUP

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### 1. Unpacking

Carefully remove the amplifier from its packaging. Retain all packaging materials for future transport or servicing.

### 2. Placement

Place the amplifier on a stable, level surface. Ensure there is sufficient space around the unit for ventilation, especially above the top panel. Avoid placing the unit near heat sources or in direct sunlight.

### 3. Connections

Before making any connections, ensure the amplifier is switched off and disconnected from the mains power supply.



**Image:** Rear panel of the Azur 851A amplifier. This view displays the comprehensive array of input and output terminals, including balanced XLR inputs, unbalanced RCA inputs, speaker terminals, and control ports. Proper connection of audio sources and speakers is crucial for optimal performance.

- **Speaker Connections:** Connect your loudspeakers to the speaker terminals on the rear panel. Ensure correct polarity (+ to + and - to -) for each speaker. The Azur 851A supports two pairs of speakers (A and B).
- **Analog Inputs (RCA/Phono):** Connect your analog audio sources (e.g., CD player, tuner) to the RCA input jacks labeled Source 1-7. The Phono input is specifically designed for turntables with a moving magnet (MM) cartridge.
- **Balanced Inputs (XLR):** For optimal signal integrity, connect compatible sources (e.g., high-end CD players, DACs) using XLR cables to the balanced input jacks labeled Source 1 and Source 2.
- **Preamp Out:** Use these outputs to connect to a separate power amplifier or active subwoofers.
- **Record Out:** Connect to a recording device.
- **Control Bus/IR Emitter:** These ports allow for integration with other Cambridge Audio components for synchronized control.
- **Power Connection:** Once all audio connections are made, connect the supplied power cable to the AC Power inlet on the rear panel and then to a suitable wall outlet.

### OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



**Image:** Front panel of the Azur 851A amplifier. This view highlights the central display, input selection buttons, headphone jack, speaker A/B selector, and the large volume control knob. These controls allow users to manage audio playback and settings.

#### 1. Power On/Off

Press the 'Standby/On' button on the front panel or the remote control to switch the amplifier on or into standby mode. The power switch on the rear panel controls the main power to the unit.

## 2. Input Selection

Use the input selector buttons on the front panel (e.g., CD, Phono, DAC, Internet, Dock, Blu-ray, Tuner) or the remote control to choose your desired audio source. The selected input will be displayed on the front panel screen.

## 3. Volume Control

Adjust the volume using the large rotary knob on the front panel or the volume buttons on the remote control. Start with a low volume level and gradually increase it to a comfortable listening level.

## 4. Speaker A/B Selection

Press the 'Speaker A/B' button on the front panel to toggle between speaker set A, speaker set B, or both. This allows you to connect and switch between two pairs of loudspeakers.

## 5. Tone Controls (Bass/Treble)

The amplifier includes Bass and Treble controls for fine-tuning the sound to your preference. Press the 'Direct' button to bypass these controls for the purest audio signal.

## 6. Class XD Technology

The Azur 851A features Cambridge Audio's proprietary Class XD technology, which combines the sonic purity of Class A operation with the efficiency of Class B, minimizing crossover distortion and enhancing audio clarity.

## 7. CAP5 Protection Technology

The amplifier is equipped with CAP5 protection technology to safeguard against various issues such as clipping, DC overcurrents, and overheating, ensuring trouble-free operation and longevity of the unit and connected speakers.

## MAINTENANCE

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- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to clean the amplifier's exterior. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Ventilation:** Regularly check that the ventilation openings are clear of dust and debris. Ensure the amplifier has adequate space for airflow.
- **Connections:** Periodically check all cable connections to ensure they are secure.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you experience issues with your Azur 851A amplifier, consult the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Power:** Ensure the rear panel power switch is in the 'On' position and the power cable is securely connected to both the amplifier and a working wall outlet.
- **No Sound:**
  - Check that the correct input source is selected.
  - Verify that speaker cables are correctly connected and not short-circuited.
  - Ensure the volume is not set to minimum or muted.
  - Check if the 'Speaker A/B' button is correctly set for your connected speakers.
- **Remote Control Not Responding:**
  - Replace the batteries in the remote control.
  - Ensure there are no obstructions between the remote and the amplifier's IR sensor.
- **Random Volume Increase/Overheating:** Ensure the amplifier has sufficient ventilation. Avoid stacking other

components directly on top of the unit. If the issue persists, contact customer support.

- **Distorted Sound:**

- Check source component connections and cables.
- Reduce the volume level to prevent clipping. The CAP5 protection system may be active.
- Ensure speaker impedance matches the amplifier's specifications.

If the problem persists after attempting these steps, please contact Cambridge Audio customer support.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model	851A
Output Power	120 Watts per channel
Number of Channels	2
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	16.9 x 15.2 x 4.5 inches
Item Weight	33 Pounds
Connectivity	RCA/Phono inputs, Balanced XLR connections
Technology	Class XD, CAP5 protection

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

### Warranty Information

Your Cambridge Audio Azur 851A amplifier is covered by a limited warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Cambridge Audio website for detailed terms and conditions specific to your region.

### Customer Support

For technical assistance, troubleshooting, or service inquiries, please contact Cambridge Audio customer support. Contact details can typically be found on the official Cambridge Audio website or in the documentation provided with your product.

When contacting support, please have your product model (Azur 851A) and serial number ready.