

# SUGDEN AUDIO

**Masterclass SPA-4** Stereo Power Amplifier

## INSTRUCTION MANUAL

MAY 2024

Designed and manufactured in England by

J E Sugden & Co Ltd  
Valley Works  
Station Lane  
HECKMONDWIKE  
West Yorkshire  
WF16 0NF  
ENGLAND

## BEFORE USE

**This section must be read before connecting to the mains supply**

### MAINS CONNECTION INFORMATION

Your SUGDEN amplifier has been designed to comply with the domestic power and safety requirements that exist in your area. This amplifier can be powered by AC ONLY.

### CHOOSE A SAFE AND SUITABLE LOCATION

Your amplifier is a class A design and therefore requires good ventilation

DO NOT: Expose to direct Sunlight

DO NOT: Position next to a heat source such as a radiator

DO NOT: Use in places with high humidity or poor ventilation

DO NOT: Subject to mechanical vibration

DO NOT: Place on an unstable or inclined surface

DO NOT: Stand other equipment on top of the amplifier

Never block the ventilation holes or stand directly on a carpet

### GUARANTEE

To **activate your guarantee**, please complete the owner registration form on our website [www.sugdenaudio.com/warranty-registration](http://www.sugdenaudio.com/warranty-registration) within 60 days of purchase. It is in your best interests to register your ownership to ensure you benefit fully from our warranty. Your details are not shared with any other company.



The SPA-4 is in conformity with the EMC directive and low-voltage directive.



### UNPACKING

Your amplifier should reach you in a substantial protective carton. On unpacking please examine the unit for signs of prior use or damage. Check that all the front panel controls function mechanically. The following items should also be in the carton:-

(1) AC power lead with pre-molded IEC straight connector and plug.

### RECYCLING

This products packaging materials are recyclable and can be reused. The product and the accessories packed together are the applicable product to the WEEE directive except batteries. Please dispose of any material in accordance with your local recycling regulations. When discarding the unit, comply with your local rules and regulations. Batteries should never be thrown away or incinerated but disposed of in accordance with your local regulation concerning chemical waste.

## INSTALLATION

### **IMPORTANT**

The Masterclass power amplifier is a class A amplifier design so it is important to situate the unit in an area where a free circulation of air is available. Never enclose the amplifier in a cupboard or stand that will prevent the airflow through the heatsinks or ventilation holes on the top or base plate. Never stand the amplifier near a heat source or in direct sunlight. Do not sit the amplifier on a soft surface such as a carpet. Sugden recommend that a dedicated piece of audio furniture should be used for maximum ventilation and sonic support.

### POWER SUPPLY SETTING

- Check that the voltage rating on the rear of the amplifier indicated is the correct supply voltage for your country.

### CONNECTIONS (rear panel layout)

#### MAINS INPUT AND FUSE

Connection to the mains is via the supplied AC cable and connects to the mains input socket at the back of the c.d. player.

Most countries are supplied with a pre-moulded AC mains cable. If not supplied with a pre-moulded cable the three core cable is colour coded as follows:-

**BROWN ~ LIVE BLUE ~ NEUTRAL GREEN/YELLOW ~ EARTH**

**Some countries are supplied with two core mains cables, the two core cable is colour coded as follows:-**

**BROWN OR BLACK ~ LIVE BLUE ~ NEUTRAL**

#### LOUDSPEAKERS

Loudspeaker connections are made via the four binding posts provided on the rear of the panel. These are clearly marked L(left) R(right) for identical connection to your loudspeaker. The binding posts are also colour coded black or red for ease of correct phasing.

#### INPUTS

Connection of a suitable single ended pre-amplifier is via the two phono sockets located above the loudspeaker binding posts. These are marked right (red) and left (black). For the ultimate in sound quality there are also a pair of balanced input sockets. These are located at the side of the phono sockets and selected by the input selector switch mounted between the two sockets.

The pin configuration for the balanced sockets are: **Pin One - Ground Pin Two - Hot Pin Three - Cold.**

#### POWER ON

Operating this switch will turn the mains power to the amplifier on and off, indication of power on is shown the red lamps either side of the switch.

#### TURN ON DELAY

The amplifier contains a special delay circuit, which mutes the loudspeaker outputs for approximately 5 seconds after turning on the mains supply. Once this time period has elapsed, the amplifier will become fully operational. This delay circuit does not operate during switch off.

#### FUSES

The amplifier is fitted with mains power and L.T. (low tension) fuse protection. Should a fuse blow this is usually an indication that a fault exists either with the amplifier or with the loudspeaker system. It is essential that the fault be located and corrected before any new fuse is inserted.

**ALL FUSES MUST BE REPLACED WITH A FUSE OF THE CORRECT TYPE. ALWAYS SWITCH OFF YOUR AMPLIFIER AND DISCONNECT FROM MAINS SUPPLY BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO REPLACE ANY FUSE.**

### L.T. FUSES

There are four L.T. Fuses, which are 5 amp fast blow (F) 20mm x 5mm cartridge types. The most common cause of blowing a L.T. fuse is by a short circuit between the loudspeaker connections. **IMPORTANT** : It is therefore recommended that the amplifier should be switched off during the connection or disconnection of a loudspeaker to the amplifier. If bare cables are used instead of plugs in the loudspeaker input sockets, all loose braid should be removed or kept neat to avoid a short circuit. It is also possible for these fuses to blow under high music conditions into a low loudspeaker impedance of less than 4ohms. If, after the correction of the fault a new fuse blows immediately after switch on, do not attempt further replacements. Please seek advice from your supplying agent.

### MAINS POWER FUSE

This is a 5 amp slow blow (S.B.) 20mm x 5mm cartridge type fuse, which is located in the mains power inlet socket at the rear of the amplifier. To replace the fuse first disconnect the amplifier from the mains supply. Locate the fuse tray holder, which forms part of the mains inlet socket on the rear panel of the amplifier. Pull the tray out to its full extension and two fuses will become visible. The back fuse is normally in line with the mains power and the front fuse is a spare replacement. Simply swap the two fuses and close the tray. If a fault persists consult your agent.

### HOW TO ACCESS YOUR AMPLIFIER

Access for service and L.T. fuse replacement may be gained as follows:-

- 1). DISCONNECT ALL POWER and input leads.
- 2). Unfasten the six socket head screws with an appropriate size allen key that secure the ventilated top plate
- 3). Once all six securing screws have been removed the top cover can be removed.

### CONSTRUCTION AND FINISH

Your amplifier is constructed from selected high quality materials and is designed to give long, trouble free performance. Careful attention is paid to ensuring that all steel case components are zinc plated and all aluminium components are anodised for maximum protection against corrosion. All steel case components are finished in a power-coated paint, which is both smooth and durable. It can be cleaned with a **very lightly** dampened cloth and a liquid soap solution, not an abrasive or chemical cleaner.

**SUGDEN MASTERCLASS SPA-4** Specification @ 230Volts setup.

<b>Facilities</b>	
Inputs	Stereo line level, Stereo balanced
Outputs	Stereo pair multi way locking binding posts
<b>Input Sensitivity</b>	1 Volt for full output
<b>Power Output</b>	75 Watts into 4 ohms both channels working 50 Watts into 8 ohms both channels working
<b>Frequency Response</b>	15Hz to 30kHz +/- 0dB
<b>Bandwidth (wide)</b>	2Hz-200kHz +/- 3dB points
<b>Signal to Noise Ratio</b>	>85dB
<b>Nett Weight</b>	25kgs
<b>Dimensions</b>	250 x 430 x 360mm (hwd)

The manufacturer reserves the right to alter specification without notice