

How to wire a CD player or other unbalanced audio devices to the Athena matrix mixer.

Introduction

The Athena audio inputs are a 3 pin phoenix connector which makes it flexible for a number of different source devices. Most CD players have dual RCA connectors as their audio output. These instructions are the preferred method for wiring to maximize the audio signal quality and level.

**With regards to wire colors and what signals are on those wires, these instructions are based on “typical” audio cables and CD players.*

Instructions

Difficulty: Low

- 1) Locate the audio output connectors on the CD player. Typically, it will be two RCA female connectors, one RED and one WHITE. If unsure, refer to device’s manual. Some devices will have an 1/8” mini receptacle as the audio output.
- 2) Next, locate the cable that comes with the CD player. If a cable was not provided, you will need to acquire a dual RCA male to dual RCA male cable long enough to reach from the CD player to Athena.
- 3) After that, decide on terminating the CD player as mono or stereo (Through the Athena software, stereo pairing can be setup, one stereo pair occupies 2 phoenix connectors on the back of the unit).

For example, an 1/8” mini, such as from an MP3 player (iPOD), is a unbalanced stereo “Tip, Ring, Sleeve” connection. Tip is the left channel, Ring is the right channel, and the Sleeve is a common ground for both left and right channels.



MP3 player 1/8” MINI Jack

CD players, Tuners, MP3 players and other unbalanced audio source devices can be terminated as either stereo or mono.

**If you need to sum the CD player from a stereo to a mono source please refer to the "How to ..." library on that subject.*

- 4) The CD player's cable must be modified by cutting off the two RCA connector's on one end.
- Typically a dual RCA cable contains two cables for the left and right channels, strip back the main insulation of the two cables 1/2". This will expose a bare wire (ground) and either a RED or WHITE insulated wire. RED is the right channel and WHITE is the left channel.
 - Separate the insulated conductors from the exposed outer strands.
 - Twist together the exposed strands into a single conductor.
 - Strip back the insulation of the internally insulated RED and WHITE cables 1/8". This is the signal "+" for the right channel and the signal "+" for the left channel.

Take care not to damage the conductors inside the cable.

- 5) Terminating the cable. Remove the small green phoenix style audio input connectors from the back of the Athena. Connect the twisted conductors to the Athena matrix connectors.

There are two approved methods of wiring for this type of audio source. Illustration A will provide a +6 dB boost. Illustration B is also an approved method of wiring; however, it does not provide the +6 dB boost.

Illustration A

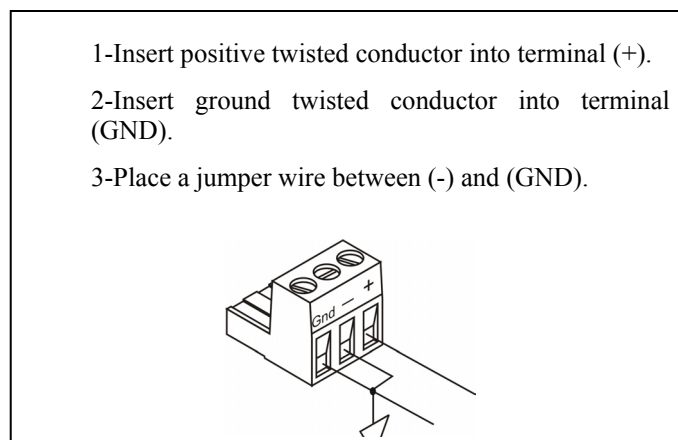
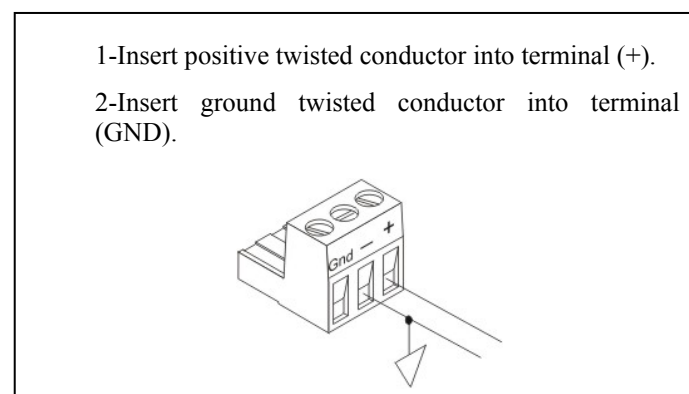


Illustration B



- 6) Repeat the above steps for each CD player or other unbalanced audio devices.