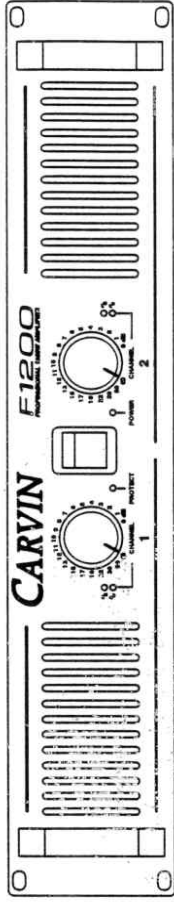
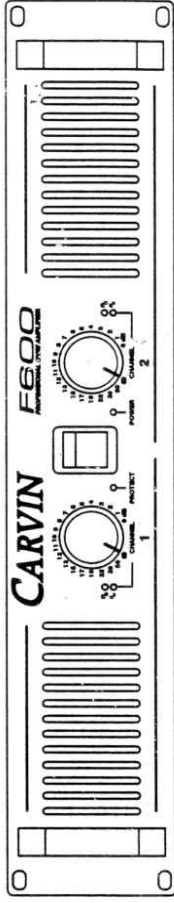
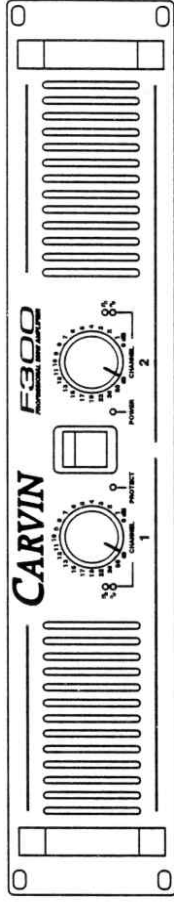


CARVIN

F300, F600 & F1200

PROFESSIONAL STEREO POWER AMPLIFIERS



HELPLINE

1-800-854-2235

7:30 To 5:00 Monday-Friday
Pacific Standard Time
USA

CARVIN

12340 World Trade Drive
San Diego, CA 92128

OPERATION MANUAL

Manual No. 76-12028
Revision 1.0

Made in USA

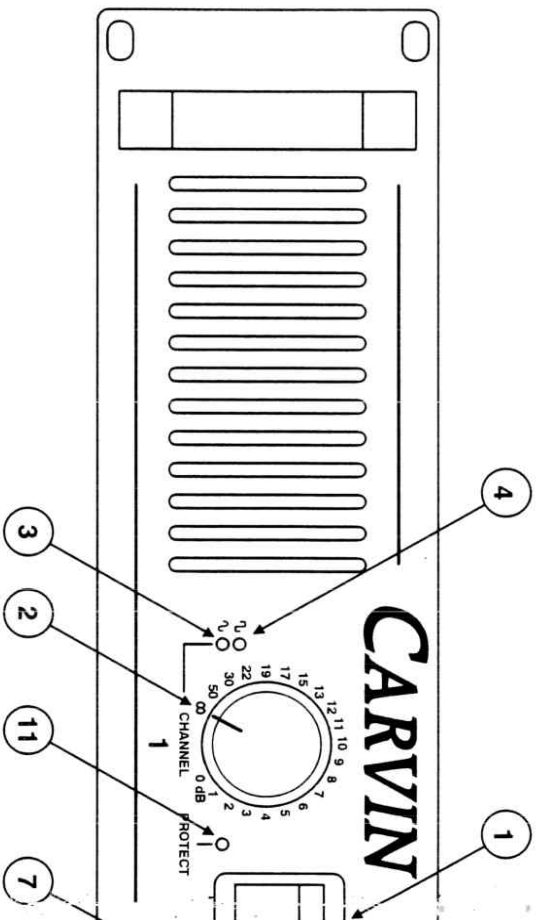
CARVIN

12340 World Trade Drive
San Diego, CA 92128
(800)854-2235

Record the serial number of your amplifier in the space provided below:

Serial No. _____ Invoice Date _____

FRONT PANEL FEATURES



1. POWER SWITCH

Press the top half of this switch to apply power to the unit. (The orange power LED ⑦ will illuminate to show when the amplifier is powered.)

2. CHANNEL 1 LEVEL CONTROL

A precision 41 step input level attenuator is used to adjust volume levels.

3. CHANNEL 1 SIGNAL INDICATOR

This green LED comes on when signal is present on channel 1.

4. CHANNEL 1 CLIP INDICATOR

This RED LED lights when channel 1 has reached its maximum output capability.

5. FRONT PULL COOLING VENTS

The cooling chamber gets air from the front of the amplifier where the air is cooler. Make sure there is adequate ventilation. Never block the vents or attach a front cover to the rack while the equipment is operating.

6. HANDLES

These sturdy one piece aluminum handles make transporting a breeze as well as facilitate installation and removal from racks.

WARRANTY AND SERVICE INFORMATION

Call Toll-Free 800-354-2235 if you need help with your CARVIN product. If you need to return it for service, our service dept. will issue a Service Number so that we can expect your shipment. Write the Service Number on the carton and be sure to include a full description of every problem. Pack in its original carton using all its packing material. Return by UPS pre-paid. Units returned with physical damage, missing parts, or damage from improper service are not serviceable.

REPAIRS UNDER WARRANTY (1Year)

There is no charge for service under warranty. However, shipping is to be paid both ways by the customer.

REPAIRS OUT OF WARRANTY

After your warranty has expired, call us for the current flat rate charge which includes parts labor and testing to bring your unit up to factory specifications.

SERVICING IN YOUR AREA

You may select your own service center or have your own qualified technician work on the unit at your own expense. This will not void the warranty unless damage was done because of improper servicing. Under the ONE YEAR WARRANTY, Carvin will ship parts pre-paid to you or your technician providing that the defective part(s) are first returned for our inspection. If you do not have a qualified service person, we ask that you do not involve yourself in servicing the unit.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Your Carvin Professional Series Product is guaranteed against failure for ONE YEAR. Carvin will service the unit and supply all parts at no charge to the customer providing the unit is under warranty. CARVIN DOES NOT PAY FOR PARTS OR SERVICING OTHER THAN OUR OWN. This warranty is extended to the original purchaser only and is not transferable. THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT INCLUDE FAILURES CAUSED BY INCORRECT USE, INADEQUATE CARE OF THE UNIT, OR NATURAL DISASTERS. A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL INVOICE IS REQUIRED TO VERIFY YOUR WARRANTY. Carvin takes no responsibility for any horn driver or speaker damaged by this unit. This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied. No representative or person is authorized to represent or assume for Carvin any liability in connection with the sale or servicing of Carvin products. No liability is assumed for damage due to accident, abuse, lack of reasonable care, loss of parts, or failure to follow Carvin's directions. CARVIN SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.

In the interest of creating new products and improving existing ones, Carvin is continually researching the latest state of the art audio design methods, and modern packaging and production techniques. Thus, Carvin reserves the right to make changes in its products and specifications without notice or obligation.

CARVIN

12340 World Trade Drive
San Diego, CA 92128
800-854-2235 M-F 7:30 to 5:00

SPECIFICATIONS

	F300	F600	F1200
Output Power			
8Ω, 1kHz, < 1% THD	300 Watts	600 Watts	1,200 Watts
4Ω, 1kHz, < 1% THD	N/A	N/A	1,200 Watts
2Ω, 1kHz, < 1% THD (BRIDGE MONO)	N/A	N/A	1,800 Watts
8Ω, 1kHz, < 0.5% THD	100/100 Watts	200/200 Watts	400/400 Watts
4Ω, 1kHz, < 0.5% THD	150/150 Watts	300/300 Watts	600/600 Watts
2Ω, 1kHz, < 0.5% THD	N/A	N/A	600/600 Watts
2Ω, 1kHz, < 0.5% THD (Stereo, both channels driven)	N/A	N/A	900/900 Watts* (*RMS POWERMAX™)

THD

20-20kHz (8Ω at half power)	< 0.1%	< 0.1%	< 0.1%
--------------------------------	--------	--------	--------

Damping Factor

	>450	>450	>500
--	------	------	------

Sensitivity (@ 4Ω)

	0.75 Vrms	1.0 Vrms	1.5 Vrms
--	-----------	----------	----------

Signal to Noise Ratio

	100 dB	103 dB	106 dB
--	--------	--------	--------

Weight (Shipping)

	21 lbs.	23 lbs.	27 lbs.
--	---------	---------	---------

Power Consumption (120V) (240V)

	290 VA	575 VA	1250 VA
	290 VA	575 VA	1250 VA

Frequency Response

	±0.5 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz (±1.0 dB, 10 Hz to 40 kHz)
--	--

Input Impedance

	> 20kΩ Balanced or Unbalanced
--	-------------------------------

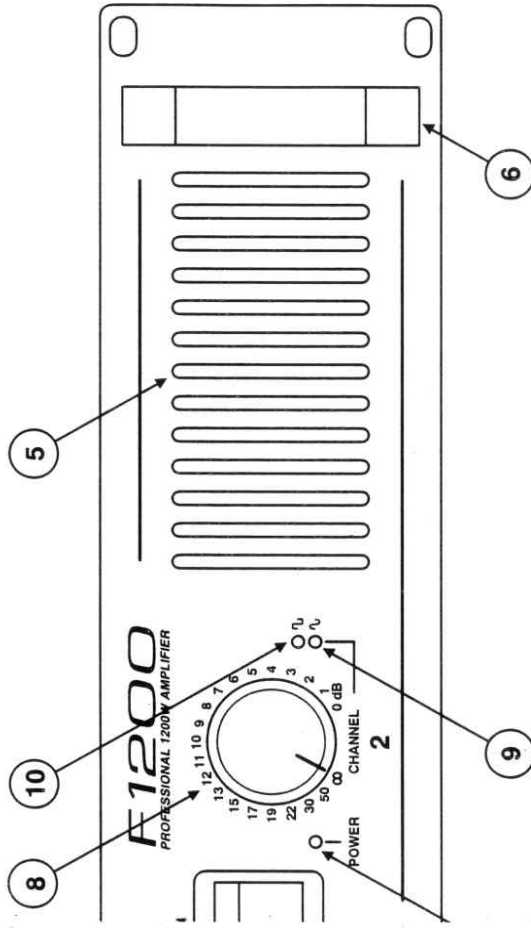
Dimensions

	3 1/2" High x 19" Wide x 10" Deep
--	-----------------------------------

MAINTENANCE

Carvin's F-Series amplifiers have free-flow ventilation and require no filter maintenance. However, use caution to avoid spilling liquids or allowing any other foreign matter inside the unit. As with all pro-audio gear, avoid prolonged use in caustic environments (i.e., on the beach). When used in such an environment, please be sure the amplifier is adequately protected by rack, covers, etc..

To clean the unit, always use a mild detergent and warm water solution applied to a soft cloth. Never spray cleaning products directly on the unit.



7. POWER INDICATOR

An orange LED unmistakably tells when the amplifier is turned on. (The various front panel indicators were deliberately given different colors so the operator can see the status of the amplifier from across the room with only a glance.)

8. CHANNEL 2 LEVEL CONTROL

A precision 41 step input level attenuator is used to adjust volume levels.

9. CHANNEL 2 SIGNAL INDICATOR

This green LED comes on when signal is present on channel 2.

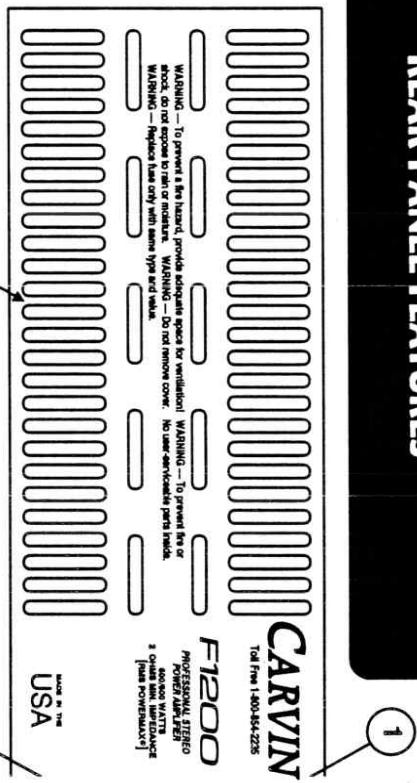
10. CHANNEL 2 CLIP INDICATOR

This RED LED lights when channel 2 has reached its maximum output capability.

11. PROTECT INDICATOR

If the amplifier detects any problems due to abusive operating conditions, it will automatically enter "PROTECT" mode. This mode will remove signal from one or both affected channels and the "PROTECT" LED will light. (See the section entitled "PROTECT LED" for more detailed information.)

REAR PANEL FEATURES



1. CHANNEL 1 1/4" PHONE JACK INPUT

This stereo phone jack is designed to receive either balanced or unbalanced input signals. Balanced signals coming into this jack should be wired with the connector's tip going to signal + and the connector's ring to signal -. The connector's sleeve is then tied internally to ground through the GROUND LIFT switch.

2. CHANNEL 1 XLR INPUT CONNECTOR

Like the 1/4" phone jack, this input connector will accept either balanced or unbalanced signals. Pin 2 is signal +, pin 3 signal - and pin 1 is grounded through the GROUND LIFT switch.

3. CHANNEL 1 SPEAKON OUTPUT

The Speakon speaker connectors' twist-lock design and high current capacity is a great way to simplify speaker connection while maintaining a high, system wide damping factor. (F1200 only).

4. CHANNEL 1 1/4" PHONE JACK SPEAKER OUTPUT

Standard 1/4" phone jacks are supplied for convenient speaker connection.

5. CHANNEL 1 BINDING POST SPEAKER OUTPUT

An alternative for connecting speakers is through the binding posts. RED is positive and BLACK is negative. These high current connectors will safely clamp bare wires at their base or will accept standard banana plugs. (The two RED binding posts are used for mono bridging, ch1 is + and ch2 is -).

6. RMS POWERMAX™ IMPEDANCE MATCHING SWITCH

Set this switch to the position that corresponds to the speaker load. (F1200 model only. See the section "RMS POWERMAX™" for more information.)

7. MAIN POWER FUSE

Should the fuse ever blow, replace only with same type and value (see "Fuse Selection").

- F300 3A @ 120VAC or 1 1/2A @ 240VAC, Slow Blow
- F600 6A @ 120VAC or 3A @ 240VAC, Slow Blow
- F1200 12A @ 120VAC or 6A @ 240VAC, Slow Blow

(Note: Some F-Series amplifiers are supplied with circuit breakers. Should one of these ever blow, simply let the breaker cool down and press to reset.)

P.C.B. REF	DESCRIPTION	PART #
R254	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R255	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R256	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R257	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 220K	50-22035
R258	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 500K	50-50035
R259	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R260	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R261	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R262	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R263	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R264	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R265	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R266	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R267	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R268	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R269	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R270	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R271	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R272	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R273	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R274	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R275	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R276	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R277	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R278	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R279	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R280	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R281	Resistor 2W, 10%, 1.5K	54-15030
R282	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R283	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R284	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R285	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R286	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R287	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R288	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R289	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R290	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R291	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R292	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R293	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R294	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R295	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R296	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
R297	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 22K	50-22035
R298	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 47K	50-47035
R299	Resistor 1/4W, 15%, 100K	50-10035
S1	Switch, DIP, 8 Pole single throw	25-02068
SYS GND	Jump, 22AWG, .500X.175"	44-15000
VR1	Regulator, Voltage, +15, 2A	60-78150
Z100	Regulator, Voltage, -15, 2A	60-79150
Z101	Zener Diode, 16V, ±5%, 1W475A	61-47450
Z102	Not used	
Z103	Not used	
Z104	Not used	
Z201	Not used	
Z202	Not used	
Z203	Not used	

FUSE SELECTION

There are two versions of each F-Series amplifier. A 120 Volt AC version for those countries supplying 120 and a 240 Volt version for others.

There are several differences between the two but of primary concern are power cord and fuse values. Models with power cords containing the standard North American three prong plug are for use with 120VAC where models with the European CEE-7 plugs are for 240V. The following chart shows what fuse values to use for each model:

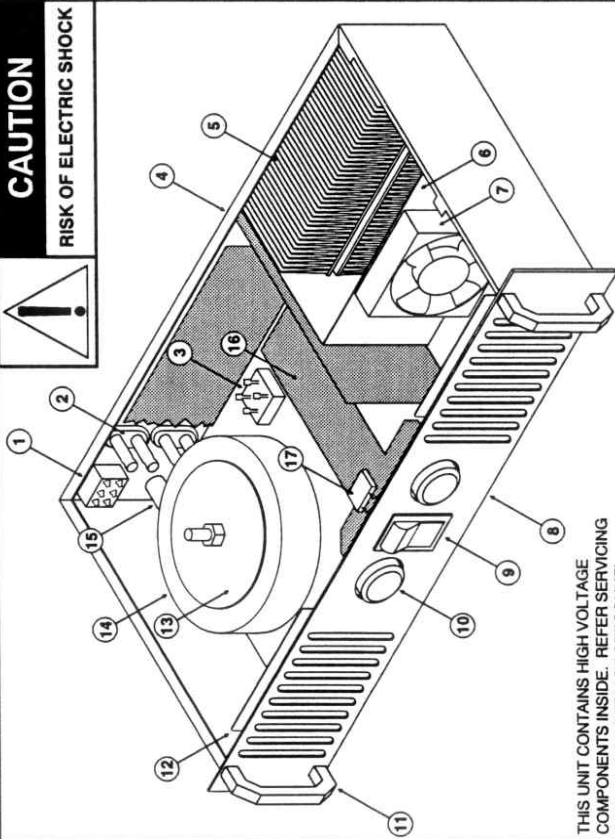
Model	Fuse Value	Size	Carvin P/N
F1200	12A, 250V, Slow Blow	3AB, 1/4 x 1 1/2"	70-22112
F600	6A, 250V, Slow Blow	3AG, 1/4 x 1 1/2"	70-22060
F300	3A, 250V, Slow Blow	3AG, 1/4 x 1 1/2"	70-22030

Model	Fuse Value	Size	Carvin P/N
F1200	6A, 250V, Slow Blow	3AG, 1/4 x 1 1/2"	70-22060
F600	3A, 250V, Slow Blow	3AG, 1/4 x 1 1/2"	70-22030
F300	1 1/2A, 250V, Slow Blow	3AB, 1/4 x 1 1/2"	70-22015

Fuse Selector Chart for 240 VAC (Export) Models

Warning: Installing a wrong value fuse can damage the amplifier or create a fire hazard.

REPLACEMENT PART GUIDE



THIS UNIT CONTAINS HIGH VOLTAGE COMPONENTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

REF	DESCRIPTION	PART #	QTY
1	Switch, Impedance	25-31360	1
2	Binding Post, Dual, Black/Red, Long	03-10450	2
3	Bridge Rectifier, 35A	60-35040	1
4	Unichassis	10-06009	1
5	Heatsink, custom, natural aluminum finish	12-00504	2
6	Bracket, Fan, Dual	10-10027*	1
7	Fan, DC 24V, 80mm, 36CFM	70-02408	2**
8	Front Panel	10-06001-3	1
9	Switch, Power	25-31350	1
10	Knob, Power Amp	07-09001	2
11	Handle, Extruded, F-Series	10-11120	2
12	Shield, Vent, F-Series	10-06003	2
13	Mount, Toroid Cap	10-15004	1
14	Insulator, Toroid Pad (Not shown)	03-15010	2
15	Transformer, Power, Toroid	See Chart	1
16	Fuse Holder (See chart for fuse values)	23-81116	1
17	Circuit Board Assembly (Includes all PCB's)	80-12028	1
18	Capacitor, AC Line Switch	41-47322	1
19	Cover, Chassis (Not shown)	10-06005	1
20	Foot, .875x.3125 (Not shown)	03-19682	4
	Power Cord, AC, 16AWG (Not shown)	05-01604	1

* F1200 uses 10-10027 dual fan bracket, F300 & F600 uses 10-10017 single fan bracket.
 ** F1200 uses two fans whereas F300 and F600 uses only one.

Fuse/Transformer Selector Chart

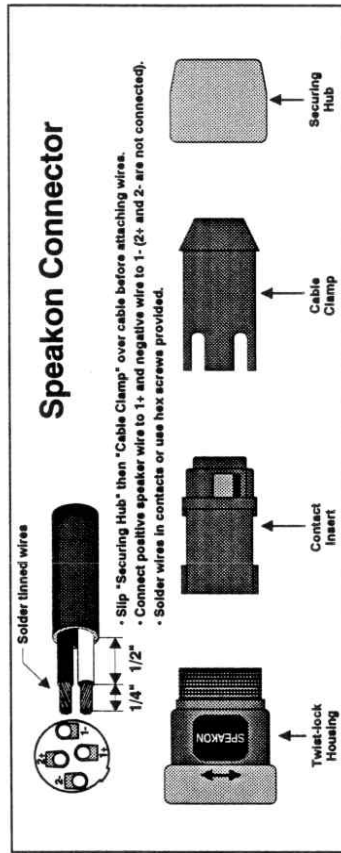
Model	Line	Fuse Value	Transformer P/N
F1200	120 VAC	12A, 250V, Slow Blow	15-12120
F1200	240 VAC	6A, 250V, Slow Blow	15-12240
F600	120 VAC	6A, 250V, Slow Blow	15-06120
F600	240 VAC	3A, 250V, Slow Blow	15-06240
F300	120 VAC	3A, 250V, Slow Blow	15-03120
F300	240 VAC	1 1/2A, 250V, Slow Blow	15-03240

MONO "Y" INPUT MODE

This feature allows both channels of the amplifier to be driven from a single input. To use this feature, plug one speaker cabinet into any of the channel 1 speaker output connectors and a second cabinet into any of the channel 2 speaker output connectors. Next, set the Accessory Group switches labeled "PARALLEL INPUTS" to their right-most position (as viewed from the rear of the amplifier). Now, signal entering any input will be available on both channels. The channel 1 level control will affect speakers connected to channel 1's output and channel 2 level will control speakers on channel 2's outputs. This feature is also used to "daisy chain" from one piece of equipment to the next (since channel 1 and channel 2 inputs are placed in parallel, any signal present on one will be available at the other).

OUTPUT CONNECTIONS

There are two 1/4" phone jacks available for speaker connections (one for each channel). Additionally, there are two pairs of binding posts that not only allow for high current connections to speakers but are also used when "bridging" the outputs (see section titled "Bridging the Amp"). Carvin supplies another alternative for connecting speakers to an F1200. Widely acclaimed audio connector manufacturer "Neutrik", created a standard for speaker connections that provides high current capacity and ease of use. These connectors, dubbed "Speakons", have been embraced by professionals as an improvement over previous standards.

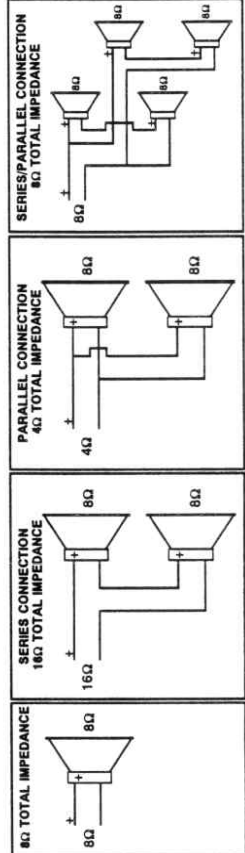


As shown above, standard Speakon speaker cables are wired to pins 1+ and 1-. Pins 2+ and 2- are reserved for use when biamping (as is the case on Carvin TR1503 and TR1801 trapezoidal speaker systems), or bridging (not supported).

Make sure to use heavy gauge wire for all speaker connections (no lighter than 16 gauge up to 50', like Carvin's PH50). Caution: never use shielded cable (i.e., guitar cable) to connect speakers. It poses an abnormal load on any audio power amplifier and its impedance will not provide an adequate current path for the speakers.

TYPICAL LOUDSPEAKER IMPEDANCE CONFIGURATIONS

Individual speakers or speaker cabinet wiring examples.



RMS POWERMAX™

Unlike most amplifiers, the F1200 is capable of driving speaker loads down to 2Ω per channel, continuously, at full output power.

This is made possible through the use of Carvin's exclusive RMS POWERMAX™ feature. Competitors boast exceptionally high power ratings at 2Ω, as does the F1200, but many admit continuous duty is just not possible. The Carvin F1200 amplifier will continuously deliver 600 Watts per channel into either 2Ω or 4Ω per channel by setting the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to match the speaker load. You will recognize the value of this feature if you have ever experienced a blown fuse or thermal shut-down when operating at 2Ω.

There are three possible configurations for using the RMS POWERMAX™ feature:
1. "Matching Mode" 2. "High Power Mode" 3. "Heat Savings Mode"

MATCHING MODE

When loading the speaker outputs to 2Ω, set the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to the 2Ω position. When loading the speaker outputs to 4Ω or higher, set the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to the 4/8Ω position. Whether running 2Ω or 4Ω output power will remain at 600W per channel.

HIGHER POWER MODE

Under normal operating conditions, with each channel loaded to 2Ω and the RMS POWERMAX™ switch set to its 2Ω position, the amplifier will deliver 600 Watts per channel continuously. However, if the amplifier is not running into clipping, by switching the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to the "4/8Ω" position. (That's right; if the amplifier is not being pushed to extremes, you can load both channels to 2Ω and set the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to "4/8Ω.") Why? Because, instead of 600 Watts per channel you get 900 Watts!

The PEAK LED's indicate when the amplifier has reached its maximum output. Therefore, as RMS POWERMAX™ is switched from 'higher power mode' (900W) to 'matching mode' (600W), the PEAK LED's will light sooner. The same is true when switching from 'matching mode' to 'heat savings mode'.

HEAT SAVINGS MODE

If the amplifier is loaded with 4Ω or more per channel and operating under such extreme load and environmental conditions that it's entering thermal "PROTECT" mode, move the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to the 2Ω position. This will allow continued operation by decreasing the heat in the power section.

BRIDGING THE AMP

Carvin's F-Series of amplifiers can be operated in bridged mode if you need a high power mono (single channel) amplifier.

When 'bridging' the amp, the impedance capacity is always reduce in half. For example: if the amp is rated with a minimum impedance of 4Ω per channel then the lowest impedance is 8Ω in bridge mode. Likewise, if the amp is rated at 2Ω per channel then the lowest recommended impedance would be 4Ω.

Speaker connections must be made on the two RED binding posts. The channel 1 RED binding post is the positive output while channel 2's RED post is negative.

When bridging the F1200, set the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to the position that is half the speaker's impedance rating. (i.e., when running a 4Ω speaker in bridge mode, the RMS POWERMAX™ switch should be in the 2Ω position.)

The switches in the Accessory Group labeled "BRIDGE MONO" must be in their right-most position. The output level is controlled by channel 1's level control (the channel 2 level control is disabled).

Problem	Possible Cause	Correction
One or both clip LED's flash intermittently	Input signal	Clip LED's light to indicate maximum output level. This is not a problem as long as the LED's don't stay continuously lit and the sound is not distorted. Running the system with the LED's continuously lit will not harm the power amp but is dangerous to speakers whose power ratings are not well above the amplifier's power rating.
Sound is coming from both channels when only one channel has signal at its input	Accessory Group's "Parallel Inputs" switches are in the mono position Accessory Group's "BRIDGE MONO" switches are in the mono position	Move "Parallel Inputs" switches to the Stereo position. Move "BRIDGE MONO" switches to the Stereo position.
Unit enters PROTECT mode repeatedly after resets	Excessive speaker load Shorted speaker or speaker cable Program material contains excessive signal below 20Hz	Verify that the total speaker load is not less than the amplifiers rating. (i.e., three 4Ω speakers per channel is less than 2Ω total.) Try different cables and speakers Move Accessory Group "Sub Filters" switches to the ON position.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If the above chart has not been able to guide you to the problem then answer the following five questions:

1. AC cord attached to a source 'alive' with appropriate Voltage and current capacity?
2. Is the fuse OK and power switched on?
3. Correct level audio signal connected to inputs through known good cables?
4. Are the Accessory Group switches set properly and level controls raised sufficiently?
5. Are known good speakers connected properly using known good cables?

Carvin's friendly technical support staff will be happy to assist by calling 800-854-2235.

BIAMPING AND TRIAMPING

It is desirable in many circumstances to bypass the speaker's passive crossover network and power the individual drivers through an active crossover.

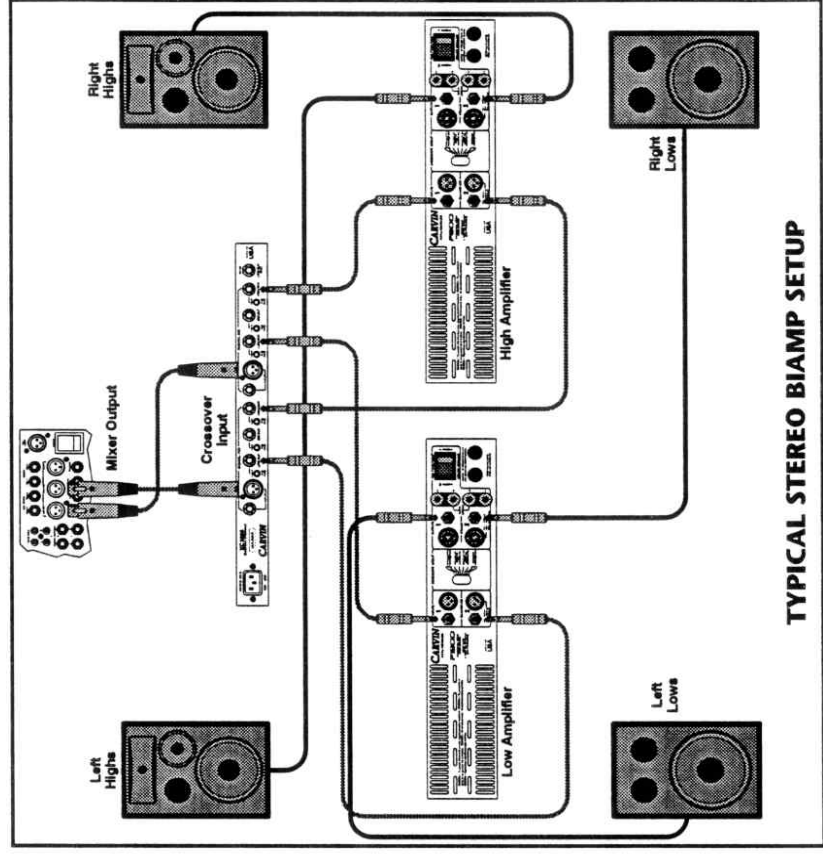
This is called biamping (when separating the highs and lows) or triamping (when separating the highs, mids and lows.) The F-Series power amplifiers are well suited to this application. The following sections illustrate a few possible configurations. By following the concepts presented here, you should be able to tailor a system to fit your needs.

STEREO BIAMP SYSTEM

The following illustration demonstrates the use of a Carvin XC3000 active crossover, an F1200 amplifier for lows and an F600 for highs.

By moving the speaker's Biamp switch (if so equipped) to the Biamp position, the user is able to feed power directly into the horn through the Hi's input and into the woofer/mid through the Lows input.

The crossover frequency of this setup was chosen to be 3.5kHz.

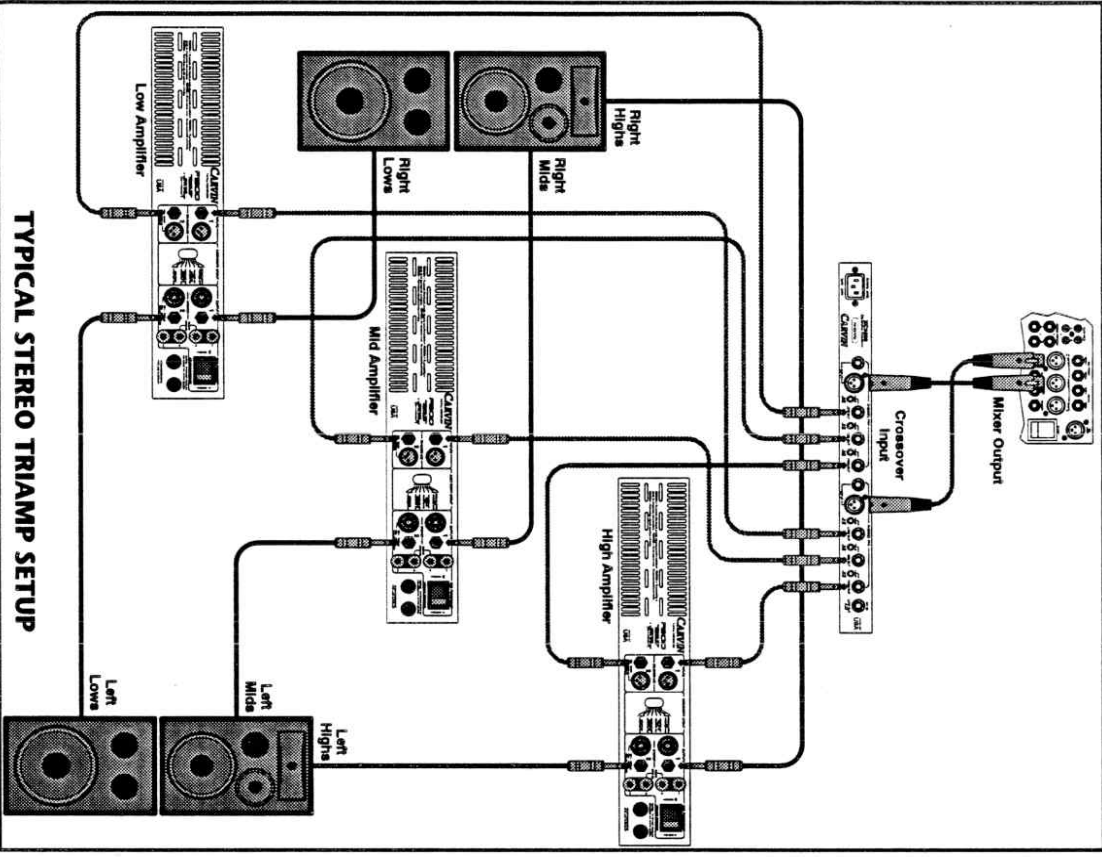


TYPICAL STEREO BIAMP SETUP

Problem	Possible Cause	Correction
Loud hum coming from speakers (cont'd)		es (located in the Accessory Group on the rear panel) to the right-most position.
No sound out of one channel	Bridge switch not set properly	Make sure the bridge switches (located in the Accessory Group on the rear panel) are set to the position appropriate for your setup.
One or both channels cut out every few minutes	Unit entering PROTECT mode due to overheating	Make sure both the front and rear of the amplifier has adequate space for ventilation. Verify that the total speaker load is not less than the amplifiers rating. (i.e., three 4Ω speakers per channel is less than 2Ω total.) Check for shorted speaker cables. Move Accessory Group "Sub Filters" switches to the ON position.
Sound is distorted and clip indicator(s) are on	Program material contains excessive signal below 20Hz Shorted speaker or speaker cable Too many speakers	Try different cables and speakers Try connecting one speaker system at a time.
Sound is distorted and clip indicator(s) are not on or only flash occasionally	Amplifier input signal is too high Defective input cable	Turn down the output level of equipment feeding the amplifier. If the sound level is too low then raise the controls on the front of the power amp. Try substituting a known good cable.

STEREO TRIAMP SYSTEM

This diagram demonstrates the use of a Carvin XC3000 active crossover, F1200 amplifier for lows, F600 for mids and F300 for the highs. By moving the speaker Blamp switch to the Blamp position, the user is able to feed power directly into the horn through the High input and into the woofer/mid through the Low input. This time the speaker's woofer/mid combination is actually only reproducing the mid frequencies. The lows are then fed to the sub-woofer whose crossover selector switch is in the Bypass position. The crossover frequency between the high and mid is 3.5K-Hz. The crossover frequency between the mid and low is 500Hz.



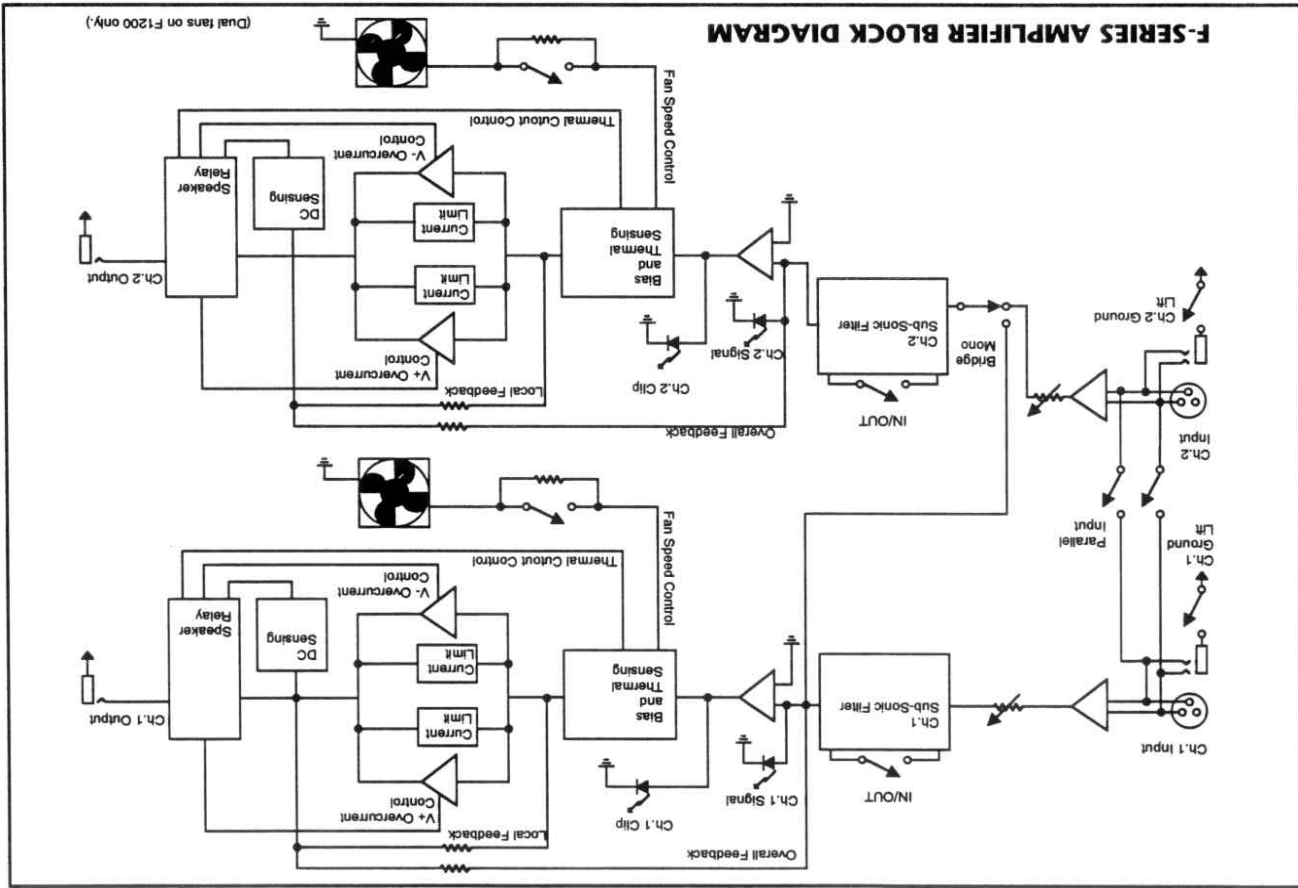
TYPICAL STEREO TRIAMP SETUP

IN CASE OF TROUBLE

Every F-Series amplifier undergoes severe environmental "burn-in" as well as thorough computer controlled and human testing. It is unlikely a malfunction will occur. However, when something doesn't seem to work properly, please refer to the following chart:

Problem	Possible Cause	Correction
Power switch is on but LED doesn't light	Power plug is loose or disconnected Circuit breaker tripped or fuse blown in circuit fuse box	Reconnect plug. Disconnect all other loads on the same circuit and reset circuit breaker or replace fuse.
The unit has power but no output is present at the speakers	Amplifier fuse or circuit breaker is blown No input signal	Disconnect the power cord and replace fuse only with same type and value or reset circuit breaker. Check that the source equipment is properly feeding the amplifier's input. The green signal LED's will show if signal is present.
Loud hum coming from speakers	Open speaker cable Blown speaker fuse Ground loop	Replace speaker cable with a known good one. Check speaker cabinet for fuses and replace as necessary. Move one or both GROUND LIFT switches (located in the Accessory Group on the rear panel) to the left-most position. (Note: Never defeat the ground prong of the AC power cord. Serious shock or electrocution may occur.)
	Missing ground feed (unbalanced only)	Move one or both GROUND LIFT switches-

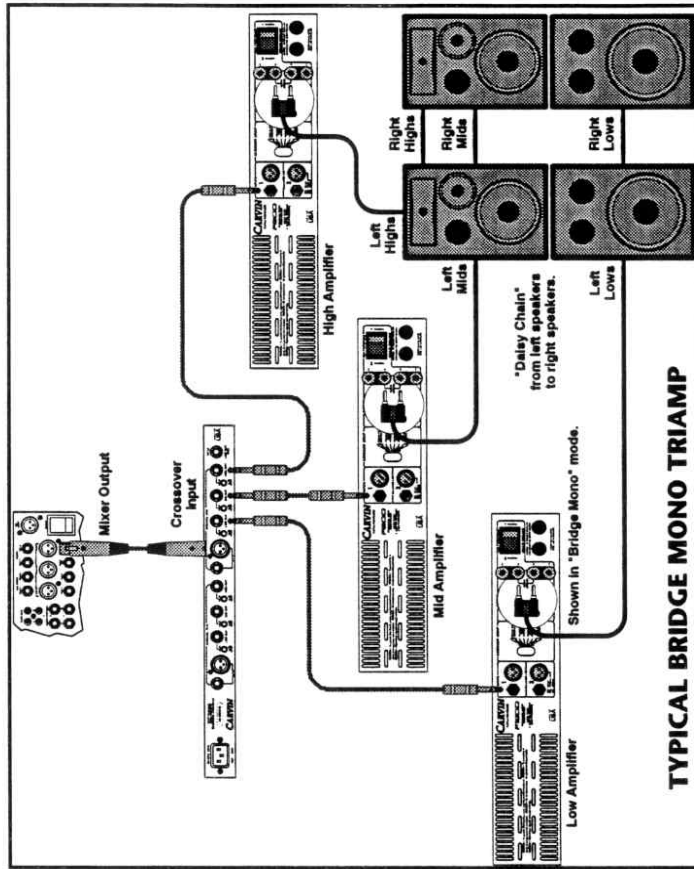
BLOCK DIAGRAM



MONO TRIAMP SYSTEM

This illustration shows a Carvin XC3000 active crossover, F1200 amplifier for lows, F600 for mids and F300 for the highs in BRIDGE MONO mode. Cabling from the speakers and their selector switches are set as in stereo mode above. However, the power amplifiers are setup in BRIDGE MONO mode and the speakers connect to the bridge outputs (channel 1's RED binding post is signal + and channel 2's RED binding post is signal -)

Warning: These power amplifiers produce extreme volume levels capable of causing permanent hearing damage.



Accessory Group

Recessed beneath the rear panel sits an 8 position DIP switch that controls some of the amplifier's features. The next few paragraphs explain what the features are and how to use them.

"Y" INPUTS

Switches 1 and 2 are used together to couple the input connectors. When the switches are in their right-most position the signal + of channel 1's input is tied to signal + of channel 2's. The same is true for signal -. This is useful when running in mono because only one input cable is required to drive both channels.

It also provides a way of "daisy chaining" amps together. When using two or more amp's, plug the source into any input of the first amp then from the other input run a jumper to any input on the second amp (and so on for additional amp's).

SUB FILTERS

Switches 3 and 4 control the low frequency cut-off point. Switch 3 is for channel 1 and 4 is for channel 2. These switches may be set separately to allow different cut-off frequencies for each channel.

When in the left-most position, the SUB FILTER is engaged and the low frequencies are down 3dB at 15Hz. In the right-most position the filter is disabled.

It is normal to run with the filters engaged. There is virtually no desirable audio content below 20Hz. Any energy below 20Hz will waste the amplifier's power and has a greater potential for damaging speakers.

GROUND LIFT SWITCHES

Many times sound systems are connected in such a manner to cause ground loops that result in audible hum. The purpose of switches 5 and 6 are to eliminate this ground loop. If your system emits audible hum by moving the GROUND LIFT switches to the other position, each channel can be controlled independently but usually both channels will be "lifted" or "grounded" simultaneously.

GROUND LIFT switches such as the ones found in Carvin products are great for curing ground loop problems. A more complicated and expensive way would be to isolate two pieces of equipment from each other with 'audio isolation' or 'line matching' transformers. However, **never defeat the AC cord safety ground in any piece of electrical equipment** to open a ground loop. Doing so can damage equipment and cause serious electrical shock or electrocution.

BRIDGE MONO

This power amplifier can be converted from stereo to mono, providing twice the power capacity of a single channel, by switching into BRIDGE MONO mode and connecting the speakers across the two RED binding posts.

When switches 7 and 8 are to their left-most position, the amplifier is configured for normal STEREO operation. (If switches 1 and 2 are selected to mono it simply means both speaker outputs contain the same program material. You would then plug one set of speakers into channel 1's outputs and a separate set of speakers into channel 2's outputs. Channel 1's level control affects the speakers plugged into channel 1's outputs while channel 2's level control affects speakers plugged into channel 2.)

When switches 7 and 8 are in their right-most position, the amplifier is setup for BRIDGE MONO operation. This is different than standard mono mode in that channel 1's outputs are "out of phase" from channel 2's. In this configuration a single set of speakers is connected with one lead going to channel 1's RED binding post and the other lead going to channel 2's

RED binding post. (See the "Typical Bridge Mono Triamp" illustration, two pages back.)

Speaker impedance in this mode is twice the actual load on each channel. For example: when operating an F600, whose minimum speaker impedance rating is 4Ω, in BRIDGE MONO mode, speaker impedance must be no lower than 8Ω. A 4Ω speaker load, in this situation, would violate the minimum impedance rating of the amplifier.

PROTECT LED

The "PROTECT LED" provides the operator with information about the status of the amplifier. There are 4 different reasons for it to light.

1. During power-up, the amplifier stays in a muted state until it determines all is well. First the fan(s) kick into high speed for a few seconds. After that it looks for DC Voltages on the outputs (F1200 only). Then if there are no short circuits on the outputs and its not overheated, the amp auto-initializes by disengaging the mute and turning off the "PROTECT LED". This all happens during the first 5 seconds after power is applied.
2. If the output load draws excessive current, such as when a speaker cable short circuits, the amp detects this danger and mutes the channel. It then remains muted until power is turned off. Correct the problem then re-apply power to the unit. When power is re-applied the unit will come on normally. When the amplifier encounters this situation, it deals with it by muting only the affected channel. This way a shorted speaker cable on one side won't stop the show!
3. If the amp is subjected to sufficiently severe environmental or abusive load conditions to cause overheating, the unit will mute the affected channel. In this case, turning the power off and then on again will not reset the mute. The unit will have to cool off first. Fortunately the unaffected channel will remain on while the fan(s) cool the muted channel. Remedy the problem at once! Get the amp into a cooler environment or reconfigure the loads or whatever else can be done to prevent abuse. (When this situation occurs on F1200's, set the RMS POWERMAX™ switch to the 2Ω position. The amp will run cooler.) This condition mutes each channel independently so that a problem on one channel does not shut down the entire amplifier. Again, the show goes on.
4. (F1200 only.) When the amp detects high levels of subsonic content in the program material or DC on the output, it triggers the mute circuit. Since this circuit is non-latching, the mute disengages as soon as the problem is corrected. As with the other protection modes, this one works on each channel independently.

In summary:

If the amplifier goes in and out of PROTECT every few seconds, then the problem is most likely excessive low frequencies (F1200 only).

If the amplifier goes in and out of PROTECT every few minutes, then its probably overheating.

If the amplifier goes into PROTECT and stays until you turn power off and back on again, it is experiencing over-current (i.e., shorted speaker cable or too many speakers are connected.)

If you turn the power off and back on a gain and the unit stays in PROTECT, then it is probably overheated and needs to cool off. Leave the power on so the fan(s) will cool it faster. It will come back on automatically when it is cool enough. Be sure to correct whatever caused it to overheat in the first place.