Pioneer

VSX-918V-S/-K
VSX-818V-S/-K

AUDIO/VIDEO
MULTI-CHANNEL RECEIVER

Discover the benefits of registering your product online at
http://www.pioneer.co.uk (or **http://www.pioneer.eu**).

Operating Instructions

IMPORTANT

CAUTION
RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK
DO NOT OPEN

The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

CAUTION:
TO PREVENT THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

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

D3-4-2-1-1_En-A

Replacement and mounting of an AC plug on the power supply cord of this unit should be performed only by qualified service personnel.

IMPORTANT: THE MOULDED PLUG

This appliance is supplied with a moulded three pin mains plug for your safety and convenience. A 5 amp fuse is fitted in this plug. Should the fuse need to be replaced, please ensure that the replacement fuse has a rating of 5 amps and that it is approved by ASTA or BSI to BS1362.

Check for the ASTA mark or the BSI mark on the body of the fuse.

If the plug contains a removable fuse cover, you must ensure that it is refitted when the fuse is replaced. If you lose the fuse cover the plug must not be used until a replacement cover is obtained. A replacement fuse cover can be obtained from your local dealer.

If the fitted moulded plug is unsuitable for your socket outlet, then the fuse shall be removed and the plug cut off and disposed of safely. There is a danger of severe electrical shock if the cut off plug is inserted into any 13 amp socket.

If a new plug is to be fitted, please observe the wiring code as shown below. If in any doubt, please consult a qualified electrician.

IMPORTANT: The wires in this mains lead are coloured in accordance with the following code:
Blue : Neutral   Brown : Live

As the colours of the wires in the mains lead of this appliance may not correspond with the coloured markings identifying the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows ;

The wire which is coloured BLUE must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter **N** or coloured BLACK.
The wire which is coloured BROWN must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter **L** or coloured RED.

How to replace the fuse: Open the fuse compartment with a screwdriver and replace the fuse.
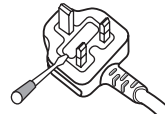
D3-4-2-1-2-2_B_En

Thank you for buying this Pioneer product.
Please read through these operating instructions so you will know how to operate your model properly.
After you have finished reading the instructions, put them away in a safe place for future reference.

WARNING

This equipment is not waterproof. To prevent a fire or shock hazard, do not place any container filled with liquid near this equipment (such as a vase or flower pot) or expose it to dripping, splashing, rain or moisture.
D3-4-2-1-3_B_En

WARNING

Before plugging in for the first time, read the following section carefully.

The voltage of the available power supply differs according to country or region. Be sure that the power supply voltage of the area where this unit will be used meets the required voltage (e.g., 230 V or 120 V) written on the rear panel.
D3-4-2-1-4_A_En

WARNING

To prevent a fire hazard, do not place any naked flame sources (such as a lighted candle) on the equipment.
D3-4-2-1-7a_A_En

Operating Environment

Operating environment temperature and humidity:
+5 °C to +35 °C (+41 °F to +95 °F); less than 85 %RH (cooling vents not blocked)
Do not install this unit in a poorly ventilated area, or in locations exposed to high humidity or direct sunlight (or strong artificial light)
D3-4-2-1-7c_A_En

This product complies with the Low Voltage Directive 2006/95/EC and EMC Directive 2004/108/EC.
D3-4-2-1-9a_A_En

If you want to dispose this product, do not mix it with general household waste. There is a separate collection system for used electronic products in accordance with legislation that requires proper treatment, recovery and recycling.

Private households in the member states of the EU, in Switzerland and Norway may return their used electronic products free of charge to designated collection facilities or to a retailer (if you purchase a similar new one).

For countries not mentioned above, please contact your local authorities for the correct method of disposal.

By doing so you will ensure that your disposed product undergoes the necessary treatment, recovery and recycling and thus prevent potential negative effects on the environment and human health.

K058_A_En

VENTILATION CAUTION
When installing this unit, make sure to leave space around the unit for ventilation to improve heat radiation (at least 20 cm at top, 10 cm at rear, and 30 cm at each side).

WARNING
Slots and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation to ensure reliable operation of the product, and to protect it from overheating. To prevent fire hazard, the openings should never be blocked or covered with items (such as newspapers, table-cloths, curtains) or by operating the equipment on thick carpet or a bed. D3-4-2-1-7b_A_En
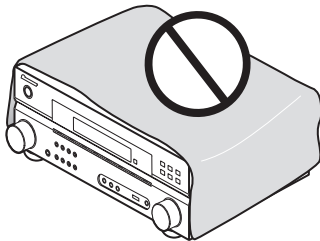
If the AC plug of this unit does not match the AC outlet you want to use, the plug must be removed and appropriate one fitted. Replacement and mounting of an AC plug on the power supply cord of this unit should be performed only by qualified service personnel. If connected to an AC outlet, the cut-off plug can cause severe electrical shock. Make sure it is properly disposed of after removal.
The equipment should be disconnected by removing the mains plug from the wall socket when left unused for a long period of time (for example, when on vacation). D3-4-2-2-1a_A_En

This product is for general household purposes. Any failure due to use for other than household purposes (such as long-term use for business purposes in a restaurant or use in a car or ship) and which requires repair will be charged for even during the warranty period. K041_En

CAUTION
The STANDBY/ON switch on this unit will not completely shut off all power from the AC outlet. Since the power cord serves as the main disconnect device for the unit, you will need to unplug it from the AC outlet to shut down all power. Therefore, make sure the unit has been installed so that the power cord can be easily unplugged from the AC outlet in case of an accident. To avoid fire hazard, the power cord should also be unplugged from the AC outlet when left unused for a long period of time (for example, when on vacation). D3-4-2-2-2a_A_En

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09 Controlling the rest of your system

10 Other connections

11 Other Settings

12 Additional information

Chapter 1:
Before you start

Checking what's in the box

Please check that you've received the following supplied accessories:

- Setup microphone
- Remote control unit
- Dry cell batteries (AA size IEC R6) x2
- AM loop antenna
- FM wire antenna
- Warranty card
- These operating instructions

Loading the batteries
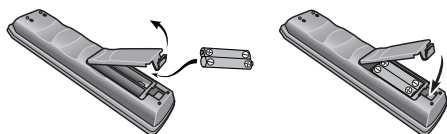
✋ Caution

Incorrect use of batteries may result in such hazards as leakage and bursting. Observe the following precautions:

- Never use new and old batteries together.
- Insert the plus and minus sides of the batteries properly according to the marks in the battery case.
- Batteries with the same shape may have different voltages. Do not use different batteries together.
- When disposing of used batteries, please comply with governmental regulations or environmental public instruction's rules that apply in your country or area.
- Do not use or store batteries in direct sunlight or other excessively hot place, such as inside a car or near a heater. This can cause batteries to leak, overheat, explode or catch fire. It can also reduce the life or performance of batteries.

Installing the receiver

- When installing this unit, make sure to put it on a level and stable surface.

Don't install it on the following places:
– on a color TV (the screen may distort)
– near a cassette deck (or close to a device that gives off a magnetic field). This may interfere with the sound.
– in direct sunlight
– in damp or wet areas
– in extremely hot or cold areas
– in places where there is vibration or other movement
– in places that are very dusty
– in places that have hot fumes or oils (such as a kitchen)

Ventilation

When installing this unit, make sure to leave space around the unit for ventilation to improve heat dispersal (at least 20 cm at the top). If not enough space is provided between the unit and walls or other equipment, heat will build up inside, interfering with performance and/or causing malfunctions.
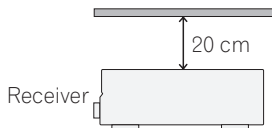
Slot and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation and to protect the equipment from overheating. To prevent fire hazard, do not place anything directly on top of the unit, make sure the openings are never blocked or covered with items (such as newspapers, table-cloths and curtains), and do not operate the equipment on thick carpet or a bed.

Chapter 2:
5 minute guide

Introduction to home theater

Home theater refers to the use of multiple audio tracks to create a surround sound effect, making you feel like you're in the middle of the action or concert. The surround sound you get from a home theater system depends not only on your speaker setup, but also on the source and the sound settings of the receiver.

This receiver will automatically decode multichannel Dolby Digital, DTS, or Dolby Surround sources according to your speaker setup. In most cases, you won't have to make changes for realistic surround sound, but other possibilities (like listening to a CD with multichannel surround sound) are explained in *Listening to your system* on page 30.

Listening to Surround Sound

With the following quick setup guide, you should have your system hooked up for surround sound in no time at all. In most cases, you can simply leave the receiver in the default settings.

• Be sure to complete all connections before connecting to an AC power source.

1 Connect your DVD player and TV.
See *Connecting a DVD player and TV* on page 12 to do this. For surround sound, you'll want to hook up using a digital connection from the DVD player to the receiver.

2 Connect your speakers and place them for optimal surround sound.
See *Connecting the speakers* on page 20.

Where you place the speakers will have a big effect on the sound. Place your speakers as shown below for the best surround sound effect. Also see *Hints on speaker placement* on page 21 for more on this.
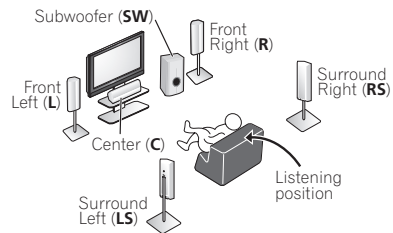
3 Plug in and switch on the receiver, followed by your DVD player, subwoofer and TV.
Make sure you've set the video input on your TV to this receiver. Check the manual that came with the TV if you don't know how to do this.

4 Use the on-screen automatic MCACC setup to set up your system.
See *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8 for more on this.

5 Play a DVD, and adjust the volume.
Make sure that **DVD/BD** is showing in the receiver's display. If it isn't, press **DVD** on the remote to set the receiver to the DVD input.[1]

There are several other sound options you can select. See *Listening to your system* on page 30 for more on this.[2]

📝 **Note**

1 You may need to set your DVD player to output Dolby Digital, DTS and 88.2 kHz/96 kHz PCM (2 channel) audio (see your DVD player's manual for more on this).

2 Depending on your DVD player or source disc, you may only get 2 channel sound. In this case, the listening mode must be set to **STANDARD** (see *Listening in surround sound* on page 30 if you need to do this) if you want multichannel surround sound.

Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)

The Auto Multi-Channel Acoustic Calibration (MCACC) setup measures the acoustic characteristics of your listening area, taking into account ambient noise, speaker size and distance, and tests for both channel delay and channel level. After you have set up the microphone provided with your system, the receiver uses the information from a series of test tones to optimize the speaker settings and equalization for your particular room.

⚠️ Important

- The Auto MCACC Setup will overwrite any existing speaker settings you've made.
- Make sure the headphones are unplugged.

✋ Caution

- The test tones used in the Auto MCACC Setup are output at high volume.
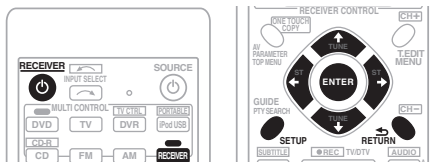
1 Switch on the receiver and your TV.

2 Connect the microphone to the MCACC PORTABLE jack on the front panel.
Push down on the **PUSH OPEN** tab to access the **MCACC PORTABLE** jack.

Make sure there are no obstacles between the speakers and the microphone.
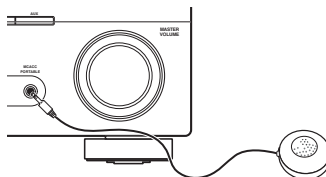
If you have a tripod, use it to place the microphone so that it's about ear level at your normal listening position. Otherwise, place the microphone at ear level using a table or a chair.

3 Press RECEIVER on the remote control, then press the SETUP button.
An on-screen display (OSD) appears on your TV. Use ↑/↓/←/→ and **ENTER** on the remote control to navigate through the screens and select menu items. Press **RETURN** to exit the current menu.

- Press **SETUP** at any time to exit the System Setup menu.[1]

4 Select 'Auto MCACC' from the System Setup menu then press ENTER.
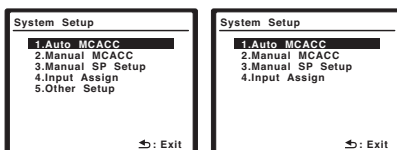
Above: VSX-918V (left) and VSX-818V (right)

Try to be as quiet as possible after pressing **ENTER**. The system outputs a series of test tones to establish the ambient noise level.

📝 Note

1 • The screensaver automatically starts after three minutes of inactivity. If you cancel the Auto MCACC Setup at any time, the receiver automatically exits and no settings will be made.
 • The OSD will not appear if you have connected using the HDMI output to your TV. Use component or composite connections for system setup.

5   Follow the instructions on-screen.

- Make sure the microphone is connected.

- If you're using a subwoofer, it is automatically detected every time you switch on the system. Make sure it is on and the volume is turned up.

- See below for notes regarding background noise and other possible interference.

6   Wait for the test tones to finish.

A progress report is displayed on-screen while the receiver outputs test tones to determine the speakers present in your setup. Try to be as quiet as possible while it's doing this.

```
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│ 1.Auto  MCACC                    │
│                                  │
│       Now  Analyzing             │
│       ▬▬▭                        │
│                                  │
│   Environment  Check             │
│     Ambient  Noise      [ OK ]   │
│     Microphone          [ OK ]   │
│    ▶Speaker  YES/NO     [ OK ]   │
│                                  │
│                        ↰:Cancel  │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
```

- For correct speaker settings, do not adjust the volume during the test tones.

7   Confirm the speaker configuration.

The configuration shown on-screen should reflect the actual speakers you have.

```
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│ 1.Auto  MCACC                    │
│         Check!                   │
│                                  │
│  Front       [ YES ]   ▣ ▣▫▣     │
│  Center      [ YES ]             │
│  Surround    [ YES ]   ▣ ◦ ▣     │
│  SUB W.      [ YES ]             │
│                                  │
│                   ◀  OK  ▶       │
│  30:Next          ↰:Cancel       │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
```
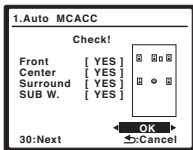
If the speaker configuration displayed isn't correct, use ↑/↓ to select the speaker and ←/→ to change the setting. When you're finished, go to the next step.

If you see an error message (**ERR**) in the right side column, there may be a problem with the speaker connection. If selecting **RETRY** doesn't fix the problem, turn off the power and check the speaker connections.

8   Make sure 'OK' is selected, then press ENTER.

If the screen in step 7 is left untouched for 30 seconds and the **ENTER** button is not pressed in step 8, the Auto MCACC setup will start automatically as shown below.

A progress report is displayed on-screen while the receiver outputs more test tones to determine the optimum receiver settings for channel level, speaker distance, and Acoustic Calibration EQ.

```
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│ 1.Auto  MCACC                    │
│                                  │
│       Now  Analyzing             │
│       ▬▬▬▬▭                      │
│                                  │
│   Surround  Analyzing            │
│    ▶Speaker  System    [     ]   │
│     Speaker  Distance  [     ]   │
│     Channel  Level     [     ]   │
│     Acoustic  Cal  EQ  [     ]   │
│                        ↰:Cancel  │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
```
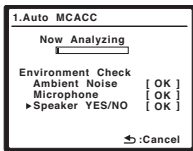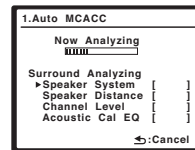
Again, try to be as quiet as possible while this is happening. It may take 3 to 8 minutes.

9   The Auto MCACC Setup has finished! Select 'SKIP' to go back to the System Setup menu.

The MCACC indicator on the front panel will light to show the setup is complete.

The settings made in the Auto MCACC Setup should give you excellent surround sound from your system, but it is also possible to adjust these settings manually using the System Setup menu (starting on page 37).[1]

✐ Note

1 • Depending on the characteristics of your room, sometimes identical speakers with cone sizes of around 12 cm will end up with different size settings. You can correct the setting manually using the *Speaker Setting* on page 42.
 • The subwoofer distance setting may be farther than the actual distance from the listening position. This setting should be accurate (taking delay and room characteristics into account) and generally does not need to be changed.

You can also choose to view the settings by selecting individual parameters from the **Analyzed Data Check** screen:

- **Speaker Setting** – The size and number of speakers you've connected (see page 42 for more on this)
- **Speaker Distance** – The distance of your speakers from the listening position (see page 45 for more on this)
- **Channel Level** – The overall balance of your speaker system (see page 44 for more on this)
- **Acoustic Cal EQ** – Adjustments to the frequency balance of your speaker system based on the acoustic characteristics of your room (see page 40 for more on this)

Press **RETURN** after you have finished checking each screen. When you're finished, select **SKIP** to go back to the System Setup menu.

Other problems when using the Auto MCACC Setup

If the room environment is not optimal for the Auto MCACC Setup (too much background noise, echo off the walls, obstacles blocking the speakers from the microphone) the final settings may be incorrect. Check for household appliances (air conditioner, fridge, fan, etc.), that may be affecting the environment and switch them off if necessary. If there are any instructions showing in the front panel display, please follow them.

- Some older TVs may interfere with the operation of the microphone. If this seems to be happening, switch off the TV when doing the Auto MCACC Setup.

Better sound using Phase Control

This receiver's Phase Control feature uses phase correction measures to make sure your sound source arrives at the listening position in phase, preventing unwanted distortion and/or coloring of the sound (see illustration below).
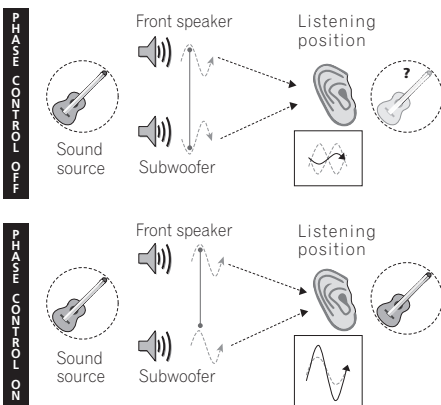
Phase Control technology provides coherent sound reproduction through the use of phase matching[1] for an optimal sound image at your listening position. The default setting is on and we recommend leaving Phase Control switched on for all sound sources.
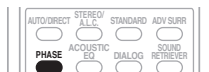
- **Press PHASE (PHASE CONTROL) to switch on phase correction.**

📝 **Note**

1 Phase matching is a very important factor in achieving proper sound reproduction. If two waveforms are 'in phase', they crest and trough together, resulting in increased amplitude, clarity and presence of the sound signal. If a crest of a wave meets a trough (as shown in the upper section of the diagram above) then the sound will be 'out of phase' and an unreliable sound image will be produced.

Chapter 3:
Connecting up

Making cable connections

Make sure not to bend the cables over the top of this unit (as shown in the illustration). If this happens, the magnetic field produced by the transformers in this unit may cause a humming noise from the speakers.
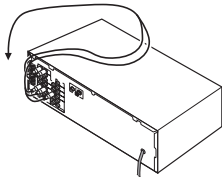
⚠ Important

- Before making or changing connections, switch off the power and disconnect the power cord from the AC outlet.
- Before unplugging the power cord, switch the power into standby.

Analog audio cables

Use stereo RCA phono cables to connect analog audio components. These cables are typically red and white, and you should connect the red plugs to R (right) terminals and white plugs to L (left) terminals.

Analog audio cables

Right (red)
Left (white)
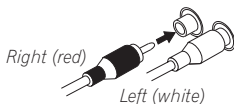
Digital audio cables

Commercially available coaxial digital audio cables or optical cables should be used to connect digital components to this receiver.[1]
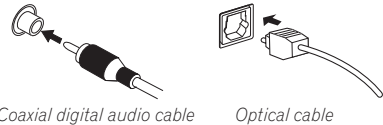
Coaxial digital audio cable   *Optical cable*

Video cables

Standard RCA video cables

These cables are the most common type of video connection and are used to connect to the composite video terminals. The yellow plugs distinguish them from cables for audio.
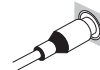
Standard RCA video cable

Component video cables

Use component video cables to get the best possible color reproduction of your video source. The color signal of the TV is divided into the luminance (**Y**) signal and the color (**P$_B$** and **P$_R$**) signals and then output. In this way, interference between the signals is avoided.

Component video cables

Green (Y)
Blue (P$_B$)
Red (P$_R$)
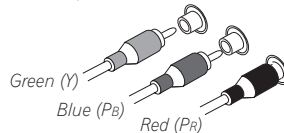
📝 Note

1 • When connecting optical cables, be careful when inserting the plug not to damage the shutter protecting the optical socket.
  • When storing optical cable, coil loosely. The cable may be damaged if bent around sharp corners.
  • You can also use a standard RCA video cable for coaxial digital connections.

Connecting a DVD player and TV

This page shows you how to connect your DVD player and TV to the receiver.

1   Connect a coaxial digital audio output on your DVD player to the DIGITAL COAX 1 (DVD/BD) input on this receiver.
Use a coaxial digital audio cable for the connection.[1]

2   Connect the composite video output and the stereo analog audio outputs[2] on your DVD player to the DVD/BD inputs on this receiver.
Use a standard RCA video cable[3] and a stereo RCA phono cable for the connection.

• If your DVD player has multichannel analog outputs, see *Connecting the multichannel analog outputs* on page 13 for how to connect it.

3   Connect the analog audio outputs from your TV to the TV/SAT inputs on this receiver.
This will allow you to play the sound from the TV's built-in tuner. Use a stereo RCA phono cable to do this.

• If your TV has a built-in digital decoder, you can also connect an optical digital audio output from your TV to the **DIGITAL OPT 2 (TV/SAT)** input on this receiver. Use an optical cable for the connection.

4   Connect the MONITOR OUT video jack on this receiver to a video input on your TV.
Use a standard RCA video cable to connect to the composite video jack.[4]

DVD player

VSX-918V

TV
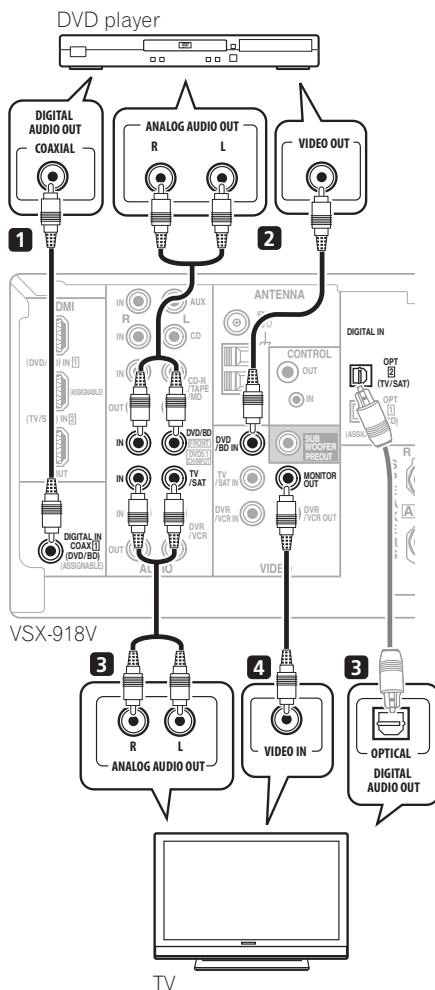
The illustration shows the VSX-918V, but connections for the VSX-818V are the same.

Note
1 If your DVD player only has an optical digital output, you can connect it to the optical input on this receiver using an optical cable. When you set up the receiver you'll need to tell the receiver which input you connected the player to (see *The Input Assign menu* on page 64).
2 This connection will allow you to make analog recordings from your DVD player.
3 If your player also has a component video output, you can connect this too. See *Using the component video jacks* on page 16 for more on this.
4 See *Using the component video jacks* on page 16 if you want to use the component video outputs to connect this receiver to your TV.

Connecting the multichannel analog outputs

For DVD Audio and SACD playback, your DVD player may have 5.1 channel analog outputs. In this case, you can connect them to the multi-channel analog outputs to the multichannel inputs of this receiver as shown below.[1]

VSX-918V

DVD/multi-channel decoder with multi-channel analog output jacks

The illustration shows the VSX-918V, but connections for the VSX-818V are the same.

Connecting a satellite receiver or other digital set-top box

Satellite and cable receivers, and terrestrial digital TV tuners are all examples of so-called 'set-top boxes'.

1 Connect a set of audio/video outputs on the set-top box component to the TV/SAT AUDIO and VIDEO inputs on this receiver.[2]
Use a stereo RCA phono cable for the audio connection and a standard RCA video cable for the video connection.[3]

2 If your set-top box has a digital output, connect it to a digital input on this receiver.
The example shows an optical connection to the **DIGITAL OPT 2 (TV/SAT)** input.[4]

VSX-918V

STB

The illustration shows the VSX-918V, but connections for the VSX-818V are the same.

📝 **Note**

1 The multichannel input can only be used when **DVD 5.1ch** is selected (see page 36).

2 If you've already connected your TV to the **TV/SAT** inputs, simply choose another input. However, to receive a signal, you'll need to press the input select button for the input you connected the set-top box to.

3 See *Using the component video jacks* on page 16 if your set-top box also has a component video output.

4 If your set-top box only has a coaxial digital output, you can connect it to the coaxial input on this receiver using a coaxial digital audio cable. When you set up the receiver you'll need to tell the receiver which input you connected the set-top box to (see *The Input Assign menu* on page 64).

Connecting other audio components

The number and kind of connections depends on the kind of component you're connecting.[1] Follow the steps below to connect a CD-R, MD, DAT, tape recorder or other audio component.

1   If your component has a digital output, connect this to a digital input on the receiver as shown.

The example shows an optical connection to the **DIGITAL OPT 1 (CD)** input.

2   If necessary, connect the analog audio outputs of the component to a set of spare audio inputs on this receiver.

You'll need to make this connection for components without a digital output, or if you want to record from a digital component. Use a stereo RCA phono cable as shown.

3   If you're connecting a recorder, connect the analog audio outputs to the analog audio inputs on the recorder.

The example shows an analog connection to the **CD-R/TAPE/MD** analog output jack using a stereo RCA phono cable.
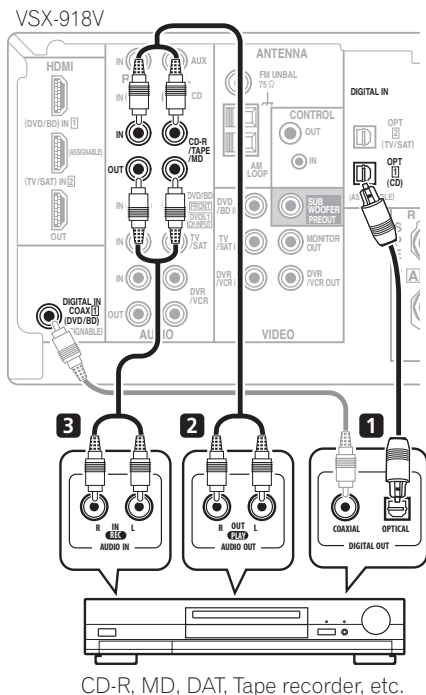
VSX-918V

CD-R, MD, DAT, Tape recorder, etc.

The illustration shows the VSX-918V, but connections for the VSX-818V are the same.

About the WMA9 Pro decoder

This unit has an on-board Windows Media® Audio 9 Professional (WMA9 Pro) decoder, so it is possible to playback WMA9 Pro-encoded audio using a coaxial or optical digital connection when connected to a WMA9 Pro-compatible player.

However, the connected DVD player, set-top box, etc. must be able to output WMA9 Pro format audio signals through a coaxial or optical digital output.

✎ **Note**

1 Note that you must connect digital components to analog audio jacks if you want to record to/from digital components (like an MD) to/from analog components.

Plays
Windows
Media™

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Connecting an HDD/DVD recorder, VCR and other video sources

This receiver has audio/video inputs and outputs suitable for connecting analog or digital video recorders, including VCRs and HDD/DVD recorders.

1   Connect a set of audio/video outputs on the recorder to the DVR/VCR AUDIO and VIDEO inputs on this receiver.
Use a stereo RCA phono cable for the audio connection and a standard RCA video cable for the video connection.[1]

2   Connect a set of audio/video inputs on the recorder to the DVR/VCR AUDIO and VIDEO outputs on this receiver.
Use a stereo RCA phono cable for the audio connection and a standard RCA video cable for the video connection.

3   If your video component has a digital audio output, connect it to a digital input on this receiver.
The example shows a recorder connected to the **DIGITAL OPT 1 (CD)** input.[2]
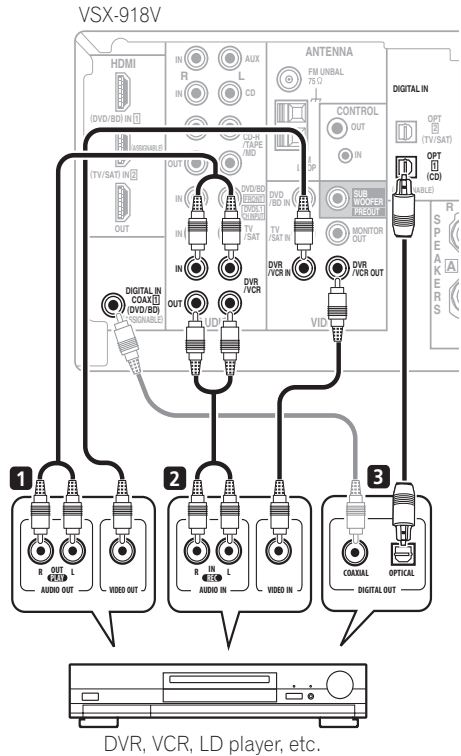
VSX-918V

DVR, VCR, LD player, etc.

The illustration shows the VSX-918V, but connections for the VSX-818V are the same.

Note

Using the component video jacks

Component video should deliver superior picture quality when compared to composite video. A further advantage (if your source and TV are both compatible) is progressive-scan video, which delivers a very stable, flicker-free picture. See the manuals that came with your TV and source component to check whether they are compatible with progressive-scan video.

⚠ Important

• If you connect any source component to the receiver using a component video input, you must also have your TV connected to this receiver's **COMPONENT VIDEO MONITOR OUT** jacks.

1   Connect the component video outputs of your source to a set of component video inputs on this receiver.
Use a three-way component video cable for the connection.

2   If necessary, assign the component video inputs to the input source you've connected.
This only needs to be done if you didn't connect according to the following defaults:

• **Component 1** – **DVD**
• **Component 2** – **TV**
• **Component 3** – **DVR**

See *Assigning the component video inputs* on page 65 for more on this.

3   Connect the COMPONENT VIDEO MONITOR OUT jacks on this receiver to the component video inputs on your TV or monitor.
Use a three-way component video cable.

Connecting using HDMI

If you have an HDMI or DVI (with HDCP) equipped component, you can connect it to this receiver using a commercially available HDMI cable.

The HDMI connection transfers uncompressed digital video, as well as almost every kind of digital audio that the connected component is compatible with, including DVD-Video, DVD-Audio (see below for limitations), Video CD/Super VCD, CD and MP3.

HDMI/DVI-equipped component

VSX-818V

HDMI/DVI-compatible monitor or flat screen TV
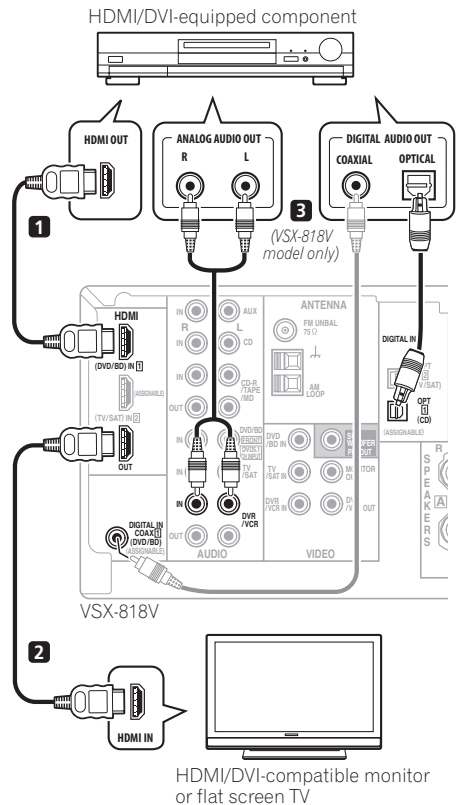
The illustration shows the VSX-818V, but connections for the VSX-918V are the same.

1   Use an HDMI cable to connect the HDMI IN 1/2 interconnect on this receiver to an HDMI output on your HDMI component.

2   Use an HDMI cable to connect the HDMI OUT interconnect on this receiver to an HDMI interconnect on a HDMI-compatible monitor.

• The arrow on the cable connector body should be facing left for correct alignment with the connector on the player.
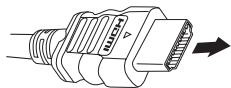
3   *VSX-818V model only:* To hear audio from your HDMI component through this system, make analog and/or digital connections as necessary.
On the rear panel, you must connect to the audio jacks from a set of audio/video inputs (for example, **DVR/VCR** as shown in the illustration).

• Without this connection, HDMI audio will still be output from your TV or flat screen TV (though no sound will be heard from this receiver).

4   Assign the HDMI input(s) you connected to the corresponding input source.
After connecting, you must specify which input(s) you are using for your HDMI component in *Assigning the HDMI inputs* on page 65.

5   Use the input source buttons to select the input source you assigned in the previous step, then press SIGNAL SEL (SIGNAL SELECT) after press RECEIVER button to select the audio input signal.
You can also use the front panel controls to do this (see *Choosing the input signal* on page 36).

• *VSX-918V model only:* Set the HDMI parameter in *Setting the AV options* on page 35 to **THRU** (THROUGH) if you want to hear HDMI audio output from your TV or flat screen TV (no sound will be heard from this receiver).

• If the video signal does not appear on your TV or flat screen TV, try adjusting the resolution settings on your component or display. Note that some components (such as video game units) have resolutions that may not be displayed. In this case, use a (analog) composite connection.

• The signals input from the analog (composite and component) video inputs of this unit will not be output from the HDMI OUT.

About HDMI

HDMI (High Definition Multimedia Interface) supports both video and audio on a single digital connection for use with DVD players, DTV, set-top boxes, and other AV devices. HDMI was developed to provide the technologies of High Bandwidth Digital Content Protection (HDCP) as well as Digital Visual Interface (DVI) in one specification. HDCP is used to protect digital content transmitted and received by DVI-compliant displays.

HDMI has the capability to support standard, enhanced, or high-definition video plus standard to multi-channel surround-sound audio. HDMI features include uncompressed digital video, a bandwidth of up to 2.2 gigabytes per second (with HDTV signals), one connector (instead of several cables and connectors), and communication between the AV source and AV devices such as DTVs.

HDMI, the HDMI logo and High-Definition Multimedia Interface are trademarks or registered trademarks of HDMI Licensing LLC.

Connecting to the front panel audio mini jack

Front audio connections are accessed via the front panel using the **VIDEO/PORTABLE** button. Press **VIDEO/PORTABLE** and select **PORTABLE** input. Use a stereo mini-jack cable to connect a digital audio player, etc.

• Push down on the **PUSH OPEN** tab to access the **MCACC PORTABLE** jack.

This receiver

Digital audio player, etc.
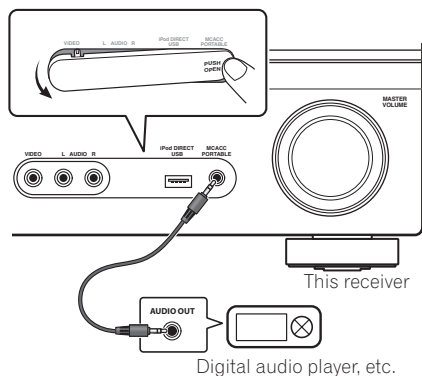
Connecting to the front panel video terminal

Front video connections are accessed via the front panel using the **VIDEO/PORTABLE** button. Press **VIDEO/PORTABLE** and select **VIDEO** input. There are standard audio/video jacks. Hook them up the same way you made the rear panel connections.

• Push down on the **PUSH OPEN** tab to access audio/video connection.

This receiver

Video camera, etc.
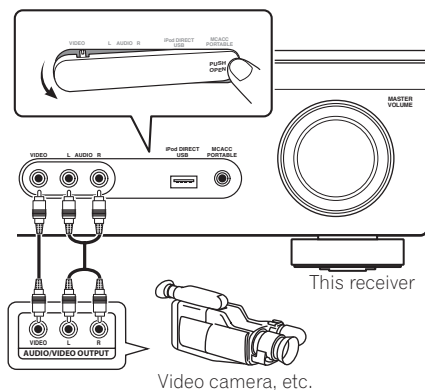
Connecting antennas

Connect the AM loop antenna and the FM wire antenna as shown below. To improve reception and sound quality, connect external antennas (see *Using external antennas* below).
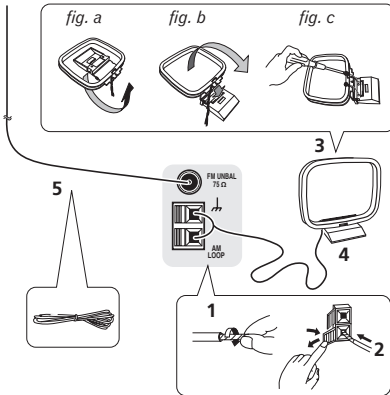
1 Pull off the protective shields of both AM antenna wires.

2 Push open the tabs, then insert one wire fully into each terminal, then release the tabs to secure the AM antenna wires.

3 Fix the AM loop antenna to the attached stand.
To fix the stand to the antenna, bend in the direction indicated by the arrow (*fig. a*) then clip the loop onto the stand (*fig. b*).

• If you plan to mount the AM antenna to a wall or other surface, secure the stand with screws (*fig. c*) before clipping the loop to the stand. Make sure the reception is clear.

4 Place the AM antenna on a flat surface and in a direction giving the best reception.

5 Connect the FM wire antenna in the same way as the AM loop antenna.
For best results, extend the FM antenna fully and fix to a wall or door frame. Don't drape loosely or leave coiled up.

Using external antennas

To improve FM reception
Use a PAL connector to connect an external FM antenna.

One-touch
PAL connector

75 Ω coaxial cable
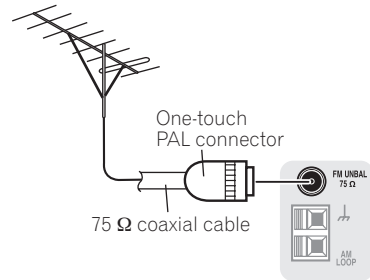
To improve AM reception
Connect a 5 m to 6 m length of vinyl-coated wire to the AM antenna terminal without disconnecting the supplied AM loop antenna.

For the best possible reception, suspend horizontally outdoors.

Outdoor antenna

5 m to 6 m

Indoor antenna
(vinyl-coated wire)
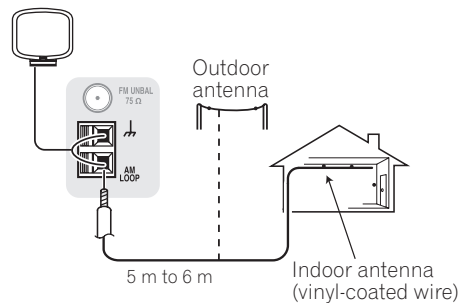
Connecting the speakers

A complete setup of six speakers (including the subwoofer) is shown here but everyone's home setup will vary. Simply connect the speakers you have in the manner shown below. The receiver will work with just two stereo speakers (the front speakers in the diagram) but using at least three speakers is recommended, and a complete setup is best for surround sound. If you're not using a subwoofer, change the front speaker setting (see *Speaker Setting* on page 42) to **LARGE**.

Make sure you connect the speaker on the right to the right terminal and the speaker on the left to the left terminal. Also make sure the positive and negative (**+**/**−**) terminals on the receiver match those on the speakers. You can use speakers with a nominal impedance between 6 Ω to 16 Ω (please see *Switching the speaker impedance* on page 70 if you plan to use speakers with an impedance of less than 8 Ω).

You can use the speakers connected to the B speaker terminals to listen to stereo playback in another room. Make sure to review *Hints on speaker placement* on page 21 when placing the speakers in another room. See *Switching the speaker system* on page 22 for the listening options with this setup.

Be sure to complete all connections before connecting this unit to the AC power source.

VSX-918V

SW	L	R	C	LS	RS	L	R
Powered subwoofer	Front speakers		Center speaker	Surround speakers		Speaker system B	
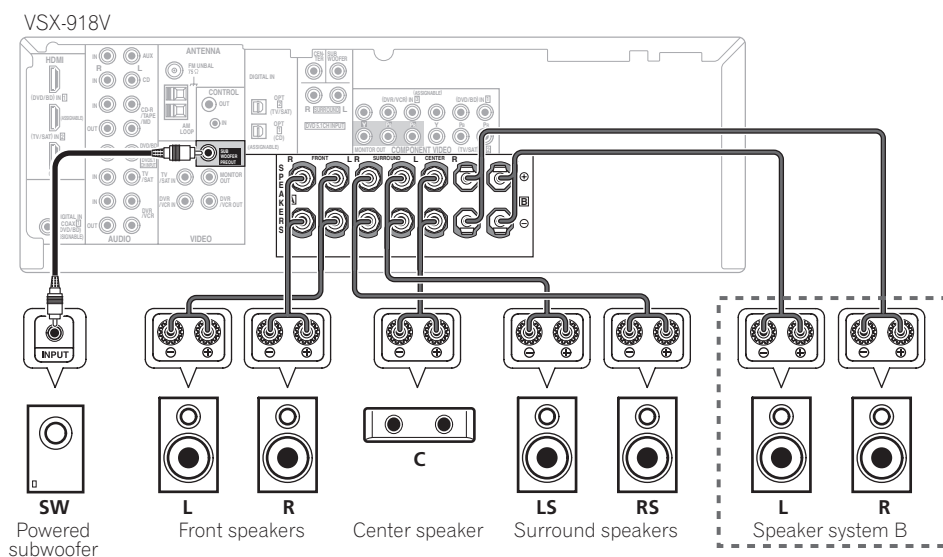
The illustration shows the VSX-918V, but connections for the VSX-818V are the same.

Bare wire connections

A-Speaker terminals:

1   Twist exposed wire strands together.

2   Loosen terminal and insert exposed wire.

3   Tighten terminal.
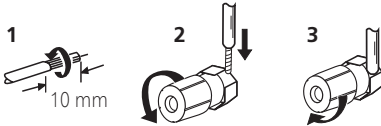
B-Speaker terminals:

1   Twist exposed wire strands together.

2   Push open the tabs and insert exposed wire.

3   Release the tabs.

✋ Caution

• These speaker terminals carry **HAZARDOUS LIVE voltage**. To prevent the risk of electric shock when connecting or disconnecting the speaker cables, disconnect the power cord before touching any uninsulated parts.

• Make sure that all the bare speaker wire is twisted together and inserted fully into the speaker terminal. If any of the bare speaker wire touches the back panel it may cause the power to cut off as a safety measure.

Hints on speaker placement

Speakers are usually designed with a particular placement in mind. Some are designed to be floorstanding, while others should be placed on stands to sound their best. Some should be placed near a wall; others should be placed away from walls. We have provided a few tips on getting the best sound from your speakers (following), but you should also follow the guidelines on placement that the speaker manufacturer provided with your particular speakers to get the most out of them.

• Place the front left and right speakers at equal distances from the TV.

• When placing speakers near the TV, we recommend using magnetically shielded speakers to prevent possible interference, such as discoloration of the picture when the TV is switched on. If you do not have magnetically shielded speakers and notice discoloration of the TV picture, move the speakers farther away from the TV.

• If you're using a center speaker, place the front speakers at a wider angle. If not, place them at a narrower angle.

• Place the center speaker above or below the TV so that the sound of the center channel is localized at the TV screen.

• It is best to angle the speakers towards the listening position. The angle depends on the size of the room. Use less of an angle for bigger rooms.

• Surround speakers should be positioned 60 cm to 90 cm higher than your ears and titled slightly downward. Make sure the speakers don't face each other.

• To achieve the best possible surround sound, install your speakers as shown next page. Be sure all speakers are installed securely to prevent accidents and improve sound quality.

✋ Caution

- If you choose to install the center speaker on top of the TV, be sure to secure it with putty, or by other suitable means, to reduce the risk of damage or injury resulting from the speaker falling from the TV in the event of external shocks such as earthquakes.
- Make sure no exposed speaker wire is touching the rear panel, this may cause the receiver to turn off automatically.

Speaker placement diagrams

The following illustrations show 5.1 channel speaker setups.

3-D view of 5.1 channel speaker setup

Overhead view of speaker setup
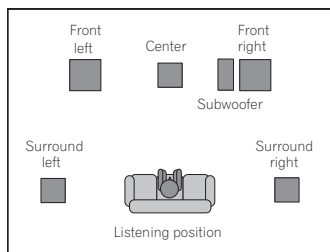
Switching the speaker system

Three speaker system settings are possible using the **SPEAKERS** button.

- **Use the SPEAKERS button on the front panel to select a speaker system setting.**[1]
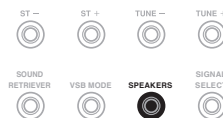
Press repeatedly to choose a speaker system option:

- **SP▶A** – Sound is output from the speakers connected to the A speaker terminals (multichannel playback is possible).
- **SP▶B** – Sound is output from the two speakers connected to speaker system B (only stereo playback is possible).
- **SP▶AB** – Sound is output from speaker system A (no sound is output from the Center and the Surround speaker), the two speakers in speaker system B, and the subwoofer. Multichannel sources are downmixed for stereo output from speaker systems A and B.

📝 **Note**

1 • The subwoofer output depends on the settings you made in *Speaker Setting* on page 42. However, if **SP▶B** is selected above, no sound is heard from the subwoofer (the LFE channel is not downmixed).
   • All speaker systems (except speaker system B connections) are switched off when headphones are connected.

Chapter 4:
Controls and displays

Front panel
Illustration shows the VSX-918V model
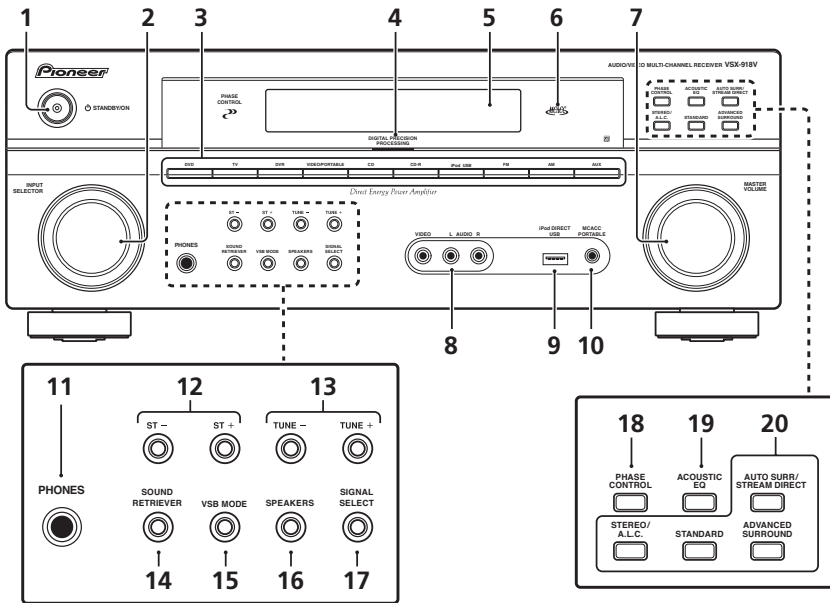
1 ⏻ STANDBY/ON

2 INPUT SELECTOR dial
Selects an input source.

3 Input select buttons
Selects an input source.

4 Digital Precision Processing indicator
(VSX-918V model only)
Lights to indicate digital processing.

5 Character display
See *Display* on page 24.

6 MCACC indicator
Lights when Acoustic Calibration EQ (page 33) is on (Acoustic Calibration EQ is automatically set to **ALL CH ADJUST** after the Auto MCACC Setup (page 8) or EQ Auto Setup (page 40)).

7 MASTER VOLUME dial

8 AUDIO/VIDEO input
See *Connecting to the front panel video terminal* on page 18.

9 iPod DIRECT USB terminal
Use to connect your Apple iPod as an audio source (page 57), or connect a USB audio device for playback (page 59).

10 MCACC PORTABLE jack
Use to connect a microphone when performing Auto MCACC setup, or connect an auxiliary component using a stereo mini-jack cable (page 18).

11 PHONES jack
Use to connect headphones (when connected, there is no sound output from the speakers (except speaker system B connections)).

12 ST +/−
Use to select preset radio stations (page 47).

13 TUNE +/−
Used to find radio frequencies (page 46).

14 SOUND RETRIEVER
Press to restore CD quality sound to compressed audio sources (page 32).

15 VSB MODE
Press to switch on/off Virtual Surround Back (VSB) mode (page 33).

16 SPEAKERS
Use to change the speaker system (page 22) and the impedance setting (page 70).

17 SIGNAL SELECT
Selects an input signal (page 36).

18 PHASE CONTROL
Press to switch on/off Phase Control (page 10).

19 ACOUSTIC EQ
Press to select an Acoustic Calibration EQ setting (page 33).

20 Listening mode buttons

AUTO SURR/STREAM DIRECT
Switches between Auto surround mode (*Auto playback* on page 30) and Stream Direct playback. Stream Direct playback bypasses the tone controls for the most accurate reproduction of a source (page 32).

STEREO/A.L.C.
Switches between stereo playback, Auto level control stereo mode (page 31) and Front Stage Surround Advance modes (page 32).

STANDARD
Press for Standard decoding and to switch between the various ◻◻ Pro Logic II options (page 30).

ADVANCED SURROUND
Switches between the various surround modes (page 31).

Display
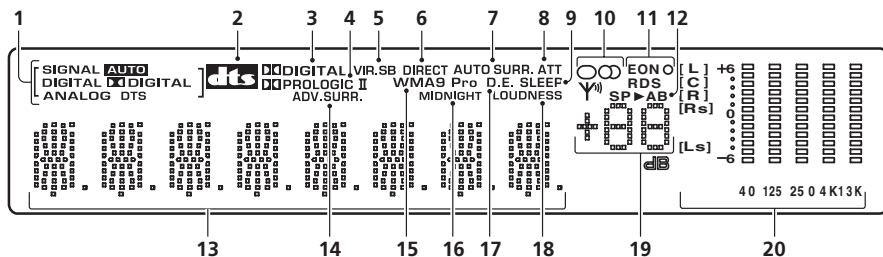
1 SIGNAL indicators
Lights to indicate the type of input signal:

AUTO
Lights when **AUTO** signal select is on.

DIGITAL
Lights when a digital audio signal is detected.

◻◻ DIGITAL
Lights when a Dolby Digital encoded signal is detected.

ANALOG

Lights when an analog signal is detected.

DTS

Lights when a source with DTS encoded audio signals is detected.

2 **dts**

Lights to indicate decoding of a DTS multichannel signal.

3 DD DIGITAL

Lights to indicate decoding of a Dolby Digital multichannel signal.

4 DD PRO LOGIC II

Lights to indicate Pro Logic II decoding (see *Listening in surround sound* on page 30).

5 VIR. SB

Lights during Virtual surround back processing (page 33).

6 DIRECT

Lights when source Stream Direct playback is in use. Direct playback bypasses the tone controls for the most accurate reproduction of a source.

7 AUTO SURR.

Lights when the Auto Surround feature is switched on (see *Auto playback* on page 30).

8 ATT

Lights when **ANALOG ATT** is used to attenuate (reduce) the level of the analog input signal (page 28).

9 SLEEP

Lights when the sleep mode is active (page 28).

10 Tuner indicators

O/ MONO

Lights when the mono mode is set using the **MPX** button.

OO / STEREO

Lights when a stereo FM broadcast is being received in auto stereo mode.

Y⁾ / TUNED

Lights when a broadcast is being received.

11 EON/RDS indicators

EON

Lights when the EON mode is set, and flashes during an EON broadcast. The **O** indicator lights when the current station carries the EON service (page 49).

RDS

Lights when an RDS broadcast is received (page 48).

12 Speaker indicators

Lights to indicate the current speaker system, **A** and/or **B** (page 22).

13 Character display

14 ADV.SURR. (Advanced Surround)

Lights when one of the Advanced Surround modes has been selected.

15 WMA9 Pro

Lights to indicate decoding of a WMA9 Pro signal.

16 MIDNIGHT

Lights during Midnight listening (page 34).

17 D.E.

Lights when Dialog Enhancement is switched on (page 35).

18 LOUDNESS

Lights during Loudness listening (page 34).

19 Master volume level

Shows the overall volume level.

20 MCACC channel EQ / Sound Retriever / HDMI indicators

These indicators show the EQ balance for each channel in *Checking your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings* on page 42. Also, **L** and **R** light when the Sound Retriever is active (page 32).

In addition, the HDMI connection state is displayed as shown below.

Blinks when connecting an HDMI-equipped component: lights when the component is connected (page 16).

HDMI indicator

25
En

Remote control

Illustration shows the VSX-918V model
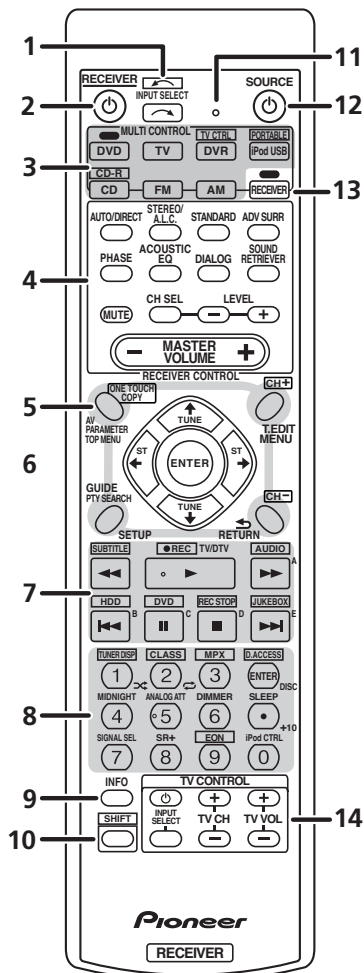
1 INPUT SELECT

Use to select the input source (use **SHIFT** for **INPUT SELECT** ⟨⟩).

2 ⏻ RECEIVER

Switches the receiver between standby and on.

3 MULTI CONTROL buttons

Press to select control of other components (see *Controlling the rest of your system* on page 51).

TV CTRL, **PORTABLE** and **CD-R** buttons can be used with **SHIFT** button.

4 RECEIVER CONTROL buttons

AUTO/DIRECT
Switches between Auto surround mode (*Auto playback* on page 30) and Stream Direct playback. Direct playback bypasses the tone controls for the most accurate reproduction of a source (page 32).

STEREO/A.L.C.
Switches between stereo playback, Auto level control stereo mode (page 31) and Front Stage Surround Advance modes (page 32).

STANDARD
Press for Standard decoding and to switch between ◻◻ Pro Logic II options (page 30).

ADV SURR
Switches between the various surround modes (page 31).

PHASE
Press to switch on/off Phase Control (page 10).

ACOUSTIC EQ
Press to select an Acoustic Calibration EQ setting (page 33).

DIALOG
Use to make dialog stand out when watching TV or a movie (page 35).

SOUND RETRIEVER
Press to restore CD quality sound to compressed audio sources (page 32).

MUTE
Mutes/unmutes the sound.

CH SEL
Press repeatedly to select a channel, then use **LEVEL +/–** to adjust the level (page 44).

LEVEL +/–
Use to adjust the channel levels.

MASTER VOLUME +/–
Use to set the listening volume.

5 System Setup and Component control buttons
The following button controls can be accessed after you have selected the corresponding **MULTI CONTROL** button (**DVD**, **DVR**, **RECEIVER**, etc.).

AV PARAMETER
Use to access the AV options.

TOP MENU
Displays the disc 'top' menu of a DVD.

ONE TOUCH COPY*
Copies the currently playing title from DVD to HDD or vice-versa.

GUIDE
Displays/changes the subtitles on multilingual DVDs.

PTY SEARCH
Use to search for RDS program types (page 48).

SETUP
Press to access the System Setup menu (page 37). Also functions as the **SETUP** button for DVD/DVR units.

T.EDIT
Memorizes/names stations for recall (page 47).

MENU
Displays the disc menu of DVD-Video discs.

RETURN
Confirm and exit the current menu screen.

CH +/–*
Use to select channels for DVD/DVR units.

6 ↑↓←→ (TUNE↑/↓, ST←/→), ENTER
Use the arrow buttons when setting up your surround sound system (page 37). Also used to control DVD menus/options.

Use the **TUNE↑/↓** buttons can be used to find radio frequencies (page 46) and the **ST←/→** buttons can be used to select preset radio stations (page 47).

7 Component control buttons
The main buttons (►, ■, etc.) are used to control a component after you have selected it using the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons.

The controls above these buttons can be accessed after you have selected the corresponding **MULTI CONTROL** button (for example **DVD**, **DVR** or **TV** (when connected to a DTV)).

SUBTITLE*
Displays/changes the subtitles included in multilingual DVD-Video discs.

● REC*
Start recording.

AUDIO*
Changes the audio language or channel on DVD discs.

HDD*, DVD*
These buttons switch between the hard disk and DVD controls for HDD/DVD recorders.

REC STOP*
Stops recording.

JUKEBOX*
Switches to the Jukebox feature.

TV/DTV
Switches between the analog TV and DTV input modes for Pioneer flat screen TVs.

8 Number buttons and other component controls

Use the number buttons to directly select a radio frequency (page 46) or the tracks on a CD, DVD, etc. There are other buttons that can be accessed after the **RECEIVER** button is pressed. (For example **MIDNIGHT**, etc.)

TUNER DISP*

Switches between named station presets and radio frequencies (page 47).

CLASS*

Switches between the three banks (classes) of radio station presets (page 47).

MPX*

Switches between stereo and mono reception of FM broadcasts. If the signal is weak then switching to mono will improve the sound quality (page 46).

D.ACCESS*

After pressing, you can access a radio station directly using the number buttons (page 46).

MIDNIGHT

Switches to Midnight or Loudness listening (page 34).

ANALOG ATT

Attenuates (lowers) the level of an analog input signal to prevent distortion.

DIMMER

Dims or brightens the display.

SLEEP

Press to change the amount of time before the receiver switches into standby (**30 min – 60 min – 90 min – Off**). You can check the remaining sleep time at any time by pressing **SLEEP** once.

SIGNAL SEL

Use to select an input signal (page 36).

SR + *(VSX-918V model only)*

Switches the SR+ mode on/off (page 63).

EON*

Use to search for programs that are broadcasting traffic or news information (page 49).

iPod CTRL

Switches between the iPod controls and the receiver controls (page 59).

DISC (ENTER)

Use to enter commands for TV or DTV, and also use to select a disc in a multi-CD player.

9 INFO

Use to bring up information screens on a digital TV.

10 SHIFT

Press to access the 'boxed' commands (above the buttons) on the remote. These buttons are marked with an asterisk (*****) in this section.

11 Remote control LED

Lights when a command is sent from the remote control.

12 ⏻ SOURCE

Press to turn on/off other components connected to the receiver (see page 54 for more on this).

13 RECEIVER

Switches the remote to control the receiver (used to select the green commands above the number buttons (**SETUP**, etc)). Also use this button to set up surround sound (page 37).

14 TV CONTROL buttons

These buttons are dedicated to control the TV assigned to the **TV CTRL** button. Thus if you only have one TV to hook up to this system assign it to the **TV CTRL MULTI CONTROL** button. If you have two TVs, assign the main TV to the **TV CTRL** button (see page 53 for more on this).

⏻
Use to turn on/off the power of the TV.

INPUT SELECT
Use to select the TV input signal.

TV CH +/−
Use to select channels.

TV VOL +/−
Use to adjust the volume on your TV.

Operating range of remote control

The remote control may not work properly if:

• There are obstacles between the remote control and the receiver's remote sensor.

• Direct sunlight or fluorescent light is shining onto the remote sensor.

• The receiver is located near a device that is emitting infrared rays.

• The receiver is operated simultaneously with another infrared remote control unit.
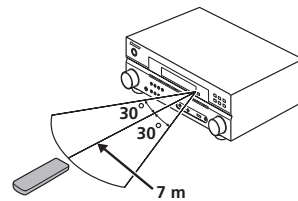
Chapter 5:
Listening to your system

⚠ Important

- Certain features explained in this section will not be possible depending on the source (for example, PCM 88.2 kHz/96 kHz, DTS 96 kHz (24 bit) or WMA9 Pro sources).

Auto playback

The simplest, most direct listening option is the Auto Surround feature. With this, the receiver automatically detects what kind of source you're playing and selects multichannel or stereo playback as necessary.[1]

- **While listening to a source, press AUTO/DIRECT[2] for auto playback of a source.**
Press repeatedly until **AUTOSURR.** shows briefly in the display (it will then show the decoding or playback format). Check the digital format indicators in the display to see how the source is being processed.

Listening in surround sound

Using this receiver, you can listen to any source in surround sound. However, the options available will depend on your speaker setup and the type of source you're listening to.[3]
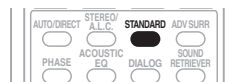
- **While listening to a source, press STANDARD.**
If the source is Dolby Digital, DTS, or Dolby Surround encoded, the proper decoding format will automatically be selected and shows in the display.

With two channel sources, press **STANDARD** repeatedly to select from:

- ⫪⫪ **Pro Logic II MOVIE** – Up to 5.1 channel sound, especially suited to movie sources

- ⫪⫪ **Pro Logic II MUSIC**[4] – Up to 5.1 channel sound, especially suited to music sources

- ⫪⫪ **Pro Logic II GAME** – Up to 5.1 channel sound, especially suited for video games

- ⫪⫪ **PRO LOGIC** – 4.1 channel surround sound

📝 Note

1 • Stereo surround (matrix) formats are decoded accordingly using ⫪⫪ **Pro Logic II MOVIE** (see *Listening in surround sound* above for more on these decoding formats).
  • The Auto Surround feature is canceled if you connect headphones or select the multichannel analog inputs.
2 For more options using this button, see *Using Stream Direct* on page 32.
3 When all except front speaker is set to **NO** in *Speaker Setting* on page 42, **2CH IN** shows in the display and no surround sound will be heard.
4 When listening to 2-channel sources in Dolby Pro Logic II Music mode, there are three further parameters you can adjust: Center Width, Dimension, and Panorama. See *Setting the AV options* on page 34 to adjust them.

Using the Advanced surround effects

The Advanced surround feature creates a variety of surround effects. Try different modes with various soundtracks to see which you like.[1]
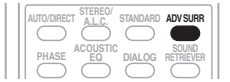
• **Press ADV SURR repeatedly to select a listening mode.**

  • **ACTION** – Designed for action movies with dynamic soundtracks.
  • **DRAMA** – Designed for movies with lots of dialog.
  • **MONOFILM** – Creates surround sound from mono soundtracks.
  • **ENT.SHOW** – Suitable for musical sources.
  • **EXPANDED** – Creates an extra wide stereo field.[2]
  • **TV SURR.** – Provides surround sound for both mono and stereo TV sources.
  • **ADV.GAME** – Suitable for video games.
  • **SPORTS** – Suitable for sports programs.
  • **ROCK/POP** – Creates a live concert sound for rock and/or pop music.
  • **UNPLUGED** – Suitable for acoustic music sources.
  • **X-STEREO** – Gives multichannel sound to a stereo source, using all of your speakers.
  • **PHONESUR.** – Creates the effect of overall surround with headphones.

Listening in stereo

When you select **STEREO** you will hear the source through just the front left and right speakers (and possibly your subwoofer depending on your speaker settings). Dolby Digital and DTS multichannel sources are downmixed to stereo.

In the Auto level control stereo mode (A.L.C.), this unit equalizes playback sound levels if each sound level varies with the music source recorded in a portable audio player.

• **While listening to a source, press STEREO/A.L.C. for stereo playback.**
Press repeatedly to switch between:

  • **STEREO** – The audio is heard with your surround settings and you can still use the Midnight, Loudness, and Tone functions.
  • **A.L.C.** – Listening in Auto level control stereo mode.
  • **F.S.S.FOCUS** – See *Using Front Stage Surround Advance* on page 32 for more on this.
  • **F.S.S. WIDE** – See *Using Front Stage Surround Advance* on page 32 for more on this.

📝 **Note**

1 • If you press **ADV SURR** with the headphones connected, **PHONESUR.** will automatically be selected.
  • When an Advanced Surround listening mode is selected, the effect level can be adjusted using the **EFFECT** parameter in *Setting the AV options* on page 34.
2 Use with Dolby Pro Logic for a stereo surround effect (stereo field is wider than Standard modes with Dolby Digital sources).

Using Front Stage Surround Advance

The Front Stage Surround Advance function allows you to create natural surround sound effects using just the front speakers and the subwoofer.

• **While listening to a source, press STEREO/ A.L.C. to select Front Stage Surround Advance modes.**

- **STEREO** – See *Listening in stereo* on page 31 for more on this.
- **A.L.C.** – See *Listening in stereo* on page 31 for more on this.
- **F.S.S.FOCUS** – Use to provide a rich surround sound effect directed to the center of where the front left and right speakers sound projection area converges.
- **F.S.S. WIDE** – Use to provide a surround sound effect to a wider area than **FOCUS** mode.[1]

FOCUS position (Recommend)   **WIDE** position

Front left speaker   Front right speaker   Front left speaker   Front right speaker
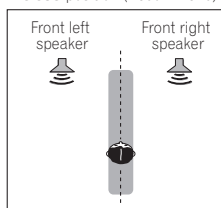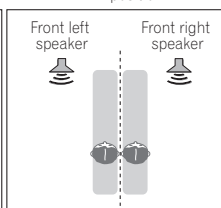
Using Stream Direct

Use the Stream Direct modes when you want to hear the truest possible reproduction of a source. All unnecessary signal processing is bypassed.
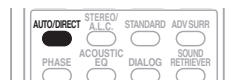
• **While listening to a source, press AUTO/ DIRECT to select Stream Direct mode.**

- **AUTOSURR.** – See *Auto playback* on page 30.
- **DIRECT** – Sources are heard according to the settings made in the Surround Setup (speaker setting, channel level, speaker distance), as well as with dual mono settings. You will hear sources according to the number of channels in the signal. For analog sources, only Channel Level can be set. All other digital processing can not be set.

Using the Sound Retriever

When audio data is removed during the compression process, sound quality often suffers from an uneven sound image. The Sound Retriever feature employs new DSP technology that helps bring CD quality sound back to compressed 2-channel audio by restoring sound pressure and smoothing jagged artifacts left over after compression.[2]
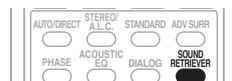
• **Press SOUND RETRIEVER to switch the sound retriever on or off.**

✎ **Note**

1 When using **F.S.S. WIDE**, a better effect can be obtained if Auto MCACC Setup is performed. For more on this, refer to *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8.
2 The Sound Retriever is only applicable to 2-channel sources.

Listening with Acoustic Calibration EQ

• Default setting: **OFF** / **ALL CH** (after the Auto MCACC Setup or EQ Auto Setting)

You can listen to sources using the Acoustic Calibration Equalization set in *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8 or *Acoustic Calibration EQ* on page 40. Refer to these pages for more on Acoustic Calibration Equalization.

• **While listening to a source, press ACOUSTIC EQ.**

Press repeatedly to select between:

• **ALL CH** – No special weighting is given to any one channel.

• **F. ALIGN** – All speakers are heard in accordance with the front speaker settings.

• **CUSTOM 1/2** – Custom settings

• **EQ OFF** – Switches Acoustic Calibration EQ off.

The MCACC indicator on the front panel lights when Acoustic Calibration EQ is active.[1]

Using Virtual Surround Back (VSB)

Selecting this mode allows you to hear a virtual surround back channel through your surround speakers. For example, you can choose to listen to sources with no surround back channel information (for example, 5.1 encoded material) with emulated 6.1 encoding (**VSB ON**). Sometimes the material may sound better in the 5.1 format for which it was originally encoded. In this case you can simply switch it off (**VSB OFF**).[2]

Depending on the input signal and the Listening Mode, the Virtual Surround Back mode may not be effective.
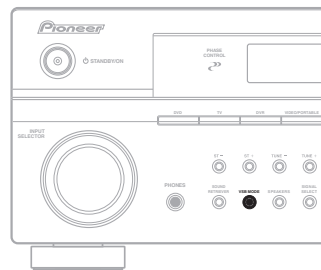
• **Press VSB MODE (front panel) to select a virtual surround back channel option.**

Each press cycles through the options as follows:

• **VSB ON** – Virtual Surround Back is always used (for example, on 5.1 encoded material)

• **VSB OFF** – Virtual Surround Back mode is switched off

📝 **Note**

1 You can't use Acoustic Calibration EQ with **DVD 5.1ch**, Stream Direct mode or WMA9 Pro, and it has no effect with headphones.

2 The Virtual Surround Back mode is not effective when using headphones, Stream Direct, Stereo, Auto level control stereo mode, Front Stage Surround Advance mode. It is also unavailable if the surround speaker is set to **NO** in *Speaker Setting* on page 42.

Setting the AV options

There are a number of additional sound settings you can make using the AV Parameter menu. The defaults, if not stated, are listed in bold.

⚠ Important

• The AV Parameter menu is not available with **DVD 5.1ch** selected by **SIGNAL SEL** (**SIGNAL SELECT**) (see *Choosing the input signal* on page 36).

• Note that if a setting doesn't appear in the AV Parameter menu, it is unavailable due to the current source, settings and status of the receiver.
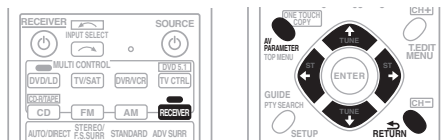
1   Press RECEIVER on the remote control, then press AV PARAMETER button.

2   Use ↑/↓ to select the setting you want to adjust.
Depending on the current status/mode of the receiver, certain options may not be able to be selected. Check the table below for notes on this.

3   Use ←/→ to set it as necessary.
See the table below for the options available for each setting.

4   Press RETURN to confirm and exit the menu.

Setting	What it does	Option(s)
MIDNIGHT[a]	Allows you to hear effective surround sound of movies at low volumes.	**M/L OFF**
		MIDNIGHT
LOUDNESS[a]	Used to get good bass and treble from music sources at low volumes.	
		LOUDNESS
BASS[b]	Depending on what you are listening to, you may want to adjust the bass or treble.	–6 to +6 (dB) Default: **0** (dB)
TREBLE[b]		–6 to +6 (dB) Default: **0** (dB)
CENTER WIDTH[c] (Applicable only when using a center speaker)	Spreads the center channel between the front right and left speakers, making it sound wider (higher settings) or narrower (lower settings).	0 to 7 Default: **3**
DIMENSION[c]	Adjusts the surround sound balance from front to back, making the sound more distant (minus settings), or more forward (positive settings).	–3 to +3 Default: **0**
PANORAMA[c]	Extends the front stereo image to include surround speakers for a 'wraparound' effect.	**OFF**
		ON
EFFECT	Sets the effect level for the currently selected Advanced Surround mode (each mode can be set separately).	10 to 90

Setting	What it does	Option(s)
DUAL MONO[d]	Specifies how dual mono encoded Dolby Digital soundtracks should be played.	CH1 – Channel 1 is heard only
		CH2 – Channel 2 is heard only
		CH1 CH2 – Both channels heard from front speakers
DRC (Dynamic Range Control)	Adjusts the level of dynamic range for movie soundtracks optimized for Dolby Digital and DTS (you may need to use this feature when listening to surround sound at low volumes).	OFF
		MAX
		MID
Dialog Enhancement[e]	Localizes dialog in the center channel to make it stand out from other background sounds in a TV or movie soundtrack.	OFF
		ON
Sound Delay	Some monitors have a slight delay when showing video, so the soundtrack will be slightly out of sync with the picture. By adding a bit of delay, you can adjust the sound to match the presentation of the video.	0.0 to 6.0 (frames) 1 second = 25 frames (PAL)
LFE ATT (LFE Attenuate)	Some Dolby Digital and DTS audio sources include ultra-low bass tones. Set the LFE attenuator as necessary to prevent the ultra-low bass tones from distorting the sound from the speakers. The LFE is not limited when set to 0 dB, which is the recommended value. When set to –10 dB, the LFE is limited by the respective degree. When OFF is selected, no sound is output from the LFE channel.	LFEATT 0 (0 dB)
		LFEATT 10 (–10 dB)/ LFEATT ** (OFF)
HDMI (VSX-918V model only)	Specifies the routing of the HDMI audio signal out of this receiver (amp) or through to a TV or flat screen TV.	AMP
		THRU (Through)

a. You can change the MIDNIGHT/LOUDNESS options at any time by using **MIDNIGHT** button.

b. The tone controls are only available when Stereo, Auto level control stereo mode or Front Stage Surround Advance mode are selected (except when **STEREO** is selected using **AUTOSURR.**).

c. Only available with 2-channel sources in Dolby Pro Logic II Music mode.

d. This setting works only with dual mono encoded Dolby Digital and DTS soundtracks.

e. You can change the Dialog Enhancement options at any time by using **DIALOG** button.

Playing other sources

1   Turn on the power of the playback component.

2   Turn on the power of the receiver.

3   Select the source you want to playback.
Use the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons (**INPUT SELECTOR**).

4   Start playback of the component you selected in step 1.

Choosing the input signal

• Default setting: **AUTO**

You need to hook up a component to both analog and digital inputs on the rear of the receiver to select between input signals.[1]

1   Press RECEIVER on the remote control.

2   Press SIGNAL SEL (SIGNAL SELECT) to select the input signal corresponding to the source component.
Each press cycles through the following:

• **AUTO** – The input signal is automatically selected from the **HDMI** *(VSX-918V model only)*, **DIGITAL** and **ANALOG** in this order.

• **HDMI** *(VSX-918V model only)* – Selects an HDMI signal.[2]

• **DVD 5.1ch** – See *Selecting the multichannel analog inputs* below.

• **ANALOG** – Selects the analog inputs.

• **DIGITAL** – Selects the digital input.

When set to **DIGITAL** or **AUTO**, **DꙨ DIGITAL** lights when a Dolby Digital signal is input, and **DTS** lights when a DTS signal is input.

VSX-918V model only: When the **HDMI** is selected, the **ANALOG** and **DIGITAL** indicators are off (see page 24).

Selecting the multichannel analog inputs

If you have connected a decoder or a DVD player with multichannel analog outputs to this receiver (page 13), you must select the analog multichannel inputs for surround sound.[3]

1   Make sure you have set the playback source to the proper output setting.
For example, you might need to set your DVD player to output multichannel analog audio.

2   Press DVD.

3   Press RECEIVER on the remote control, then press SIGNAL SEL to select the multichannel analog inputs.
DVD 5.1ch shows in the display and the **ANALOG** indicator lights.

Selecting the front audio inputs

When playing back a component connected to the **MCACC PORTABLE** jack on the front panel, set the source to **PORTABLE** on the receiver.

1   Press PORTABLE (SHIFT+iPod USB) on the remote control.
You can also select the source by pressing **VIDEO/PORTABLE** on the front panel.

2   Playback the connected component.

📝 **Note**
1 • This receiver can only playback Dolby Digital, PCM (32 kHz to 96 kHz), DTS and WMA9 Pro digital signal formats. With other digital signal formats, set to **ANALOG**.
• You may get digital noise when a LD or CD player compatible with DTS is playing an analog signal. To prevent noise, make the proper digital connections (page 12) and set the signal input to **DIGITAL**.
• Some DVD players don't output DTS signals. For more details, refer to the instruction manual supplied with your DVD player.
2 When the **HDMI** option in *Setting the AV options* on page 34 is set to **THRU** (THROUGH), the sound will be heard through your TV, not from this receiver.
3 During playback from the multichannel inputs, you can't use any of the sound features/modes and only the volume and channel levels can be set.

Chapter 6:
The System Setup menu

Using the System Setup menu

The following section shows you how to make detailed settings to specify how you're using the receiver, and also explains how to fine-tune individual speaker system settings to your liking.
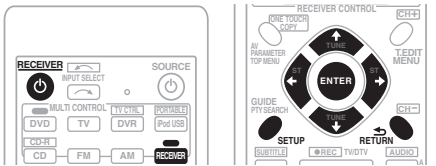
1   Switch on the receiver and your TV.
Use the ⏻ **RECEIVER** button to switch on.[1]

2   Press RECEIVER on the remote control, then press the SETUP button.[2]
An on-screen display (OSD) appears on your TV. Use ⬆/⬇/⬅/➡ and **ENTER** on the remote control to navigate through the screens and select menu items. Press **RETURN** to confirm and exit the current menu.

3   Select the setting you want to adjust.
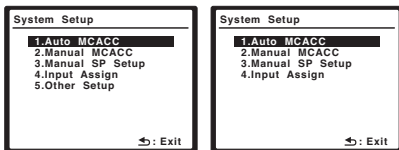
Above: VSX-918V (left) and VSX-818V (right)

- **Auto MCACC** – This is a quick and effective automatic surround setup (see *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8).
- **Manual MCACC** – Fine tune your speaker settings and customize the Acoustic Calibration EQ (see *Manual MCACC speaker setup* below).
- **Manual SP Setup** – Specify the size, number, distance and overall balance of the speakers you've connected (see *Manual speaker setup* on page 42).
- **Input Assign** – Specify what you've connected to the digital, component video and HDMI inputs (see *The Input Assign menu* on page 64).
- **Other Setup** *(VSX-918V model only)* – Make customized settings to reflect how you are using the receiver (see *The Other Setup menu* on page 66).

Manual MCACC speaker setup

You can use the settings in the Manual MCACC setup menu to make detailed adjustments when you're more familiar with the system. Before making these settings, you should have already completed *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8.

You only need to make these settings once (unless you change the placement of your current speaker system or add new speakers).

📝 **Note**

1 If headphones are connected to the receiver, disconnect them.

2 • You can't use the System Setup menu when the iPod USB or PORTABLE input is selected.
  • Press **SETUP** at any time to exit the System Setup menu.
  • The OSD will not appear if you have connected using the HDMI output to your TV. Use component or composite connections for system setup.

⚠ **Important**

• For some of the settings below, you'll have to connect the setup microphone to the front panel and place it about ear level at your normal listening position. See *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8 if you're unsure how to do this. Also see *Other problems when using the Auto MCACC Setup* on page 10 for notes regarding background noise and other possible interference.

• If you're using a subwoofer, switch it on and turn up the volume as necessary.

1 Select 'Manual MCACC' from the System Setup menu.
See *Using the System Setup menu* on page 37 if you're not already at this screen.

```
System  Setup              2.Manual  MCACC

  1.Auto  MCACC              a.Fine  Ch  Level
  2.Manual  MCACC            b.Fine  SP  Distance
  3.Manual  SP  Setup        c.EQ  AUTO  Setting
  4.Input  Assign            d.EQ  Data  Copy
  5.Other  Setup             e.EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust
                             f .EQ  CUSTOM2  Adjust
                             g.EQ  Data  Check

              ⬏ : Exit                    ⬏ :Return
```
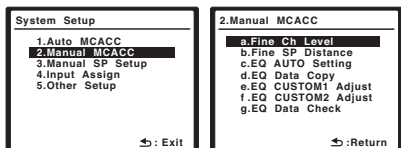
2 Select the setting you want to adjust.
If you're doing this for the first time, you might want to make these settings in order.

• **Fine Ch Level** – Make fine adjustments to the overall balance of your speaker system (see *Fine Channel Level* below).

• **Fine SP Distance** – Make precise delay settings for your speaker system (see *Fine Speaker Distance* on page 39).

The last five settings are specifically for customizing the parameters explained in *Acoustic Calibration EQ* below:

• **EQ AUTO Setting** – Measure the acoustic characteristics of your room and automatically adjust the frequency balance of your speaker system (see *Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ automatically* on page 40).

• **EQ Data Copy** – Copy Acoustic Calibration EQ settings for manual adjustment (see *Copying your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings* on page 40).

• **EQ CUSTOM1/2 Adjust** – Make detailed manual adjustments to your custom Acoustic Calibration EQ settings (see *Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ manually* on page 41).

• **EQ Data Check** – Check the **ALL CH ADJUST**, **FRONT ALIGN** and custom settings using the on-screen display (see *Checking your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings* on page 42).

Fine Channel Level

• Default setting: **0dB** (all channels)

You can achieve better surround sound by properly adjusting the overall balance of your speaker system. The following setting can help you make detailed adjustments that you may not achieve using the *Manual speaker setup* on page 42.

1 Select 'Fine Ch Level' from the Manual MCACC setup menu.
You'll hear test tones from each speaker in turn. Since the left speaker is the main reference speaker, the level is fixed.

✋ **Caution**

• The test tones used in the System Setup are output at high volume (the volume increases to **–13dB** automatically).

```
2.Manual  MCACC            2a.Fine  Channel  Level

  a.Fine  Ch  Level
  b.Fine  SP  Distance         Please  Wait . . . 20
  c.EQ  AUTO  Setting
  d.EQ  Data  Copy
  e.EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust            Caution!
  f .EQ  CUSTOM2  Adjust      Loud  test  tones
  g.EQ  Data  Check               will  be  output.

              ⬏ :Return                   ⬏ :Cancel
```
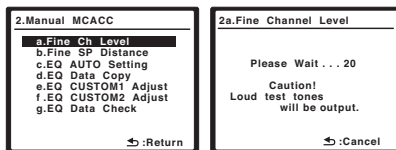
2 Select each channel in turn and adjust the levels (+/– 10dB) as necessary.
Use ◀/▶ to adjust the volume of the speaker you selected to match the reference speaker.

When it sounds like both tones are the same volume, press **ENTER** to confirm and continue to the next channel.
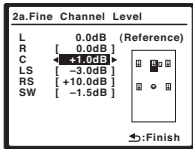
```
2a.Fine  Channel  Level

L        0.0dB  (Reference)
R      [   0.0dB ]
C      [ +1.0dB ]
LS     [  −3.0dB ]
RS     [ +10.0dB ]
SW     [  −1.5dB ]

                          ⤒:Finish
```

• For comparison purposes, the reference speaker will change depending on which speaker you select.

• If you want to go back and adjust a channel, simply use ↑/↓ to select it.

3   When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual MCACC setup menu.

Fine Speaker Distance

• Default setting: **3.0 m** (all channels)

For proper sound depth and separation with your system, it is necessary to add a slight bit of delay to some speakers so that all sounds will arrive at the listening position at the same time. The following setting can help you make detailed adjustments that you may not achieve using the *Manual speaker setup* on page 42.

1   Select 'Fine SP Distance' from the Manual MCACC setup menu.
The volume increases to the reference level.

```
2.Manual  MCACC

a.Fine  Ch  Level
b.Fine  SP  Distance
c.EQ  AUTO  Setting
d.EQ  Data  Copy
e.EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust
f .EQ  CUSTOM2  Adjust
g.EQ  Data  Check

                          ⤒ :Return
```

2   Adjust the distance of the left channel from the listening position.

```
2b.Fine  SP  Distance

L(Reference)
    ◄  3.0 m ►

ENTER:Next          ⤒:Cancel
```
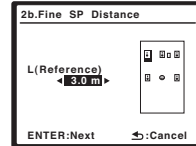
After pressing **ENTER**, test tones will be output.

3   Select each channel in turn and adjust the distance as necessary.
Use ←/→ to adjust the delay of the speaker you selected to match the reference speaker. The delay is measured in terms of speaker distance from **0.1 m** to **9.0 m**.

```
2b.Fine  SP  Distance

L        3.0 m (Reference)
R      [  1.8 m ]
C      [  3.0 m ]
LS     [  1.3 m ]
RS     [  1.2 m ]
SW     [  2.4 m ]

                          ⤒:Finish
```
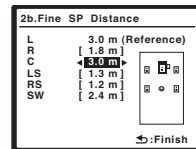
Listen to the reference speaker and use it to measure the target channel. From the listening position, face the two speakers with your arms outstretched pointing at each speaker. Try to make the two tones sound as if they are arriving simultaneously at a position slightly in front of you and between your arm span.
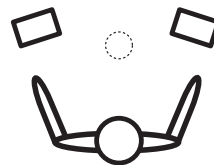
When it sounds like the delay settings are matched up, press **ENTER** to confirm and continue to the next channel.

• For comparison purposes, the reference speaker will change depending on which speaker you select.

• If you want to go back and adjust a channel, simply use ↑/↓ to select it.

4 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual MCACC setup menu.

Acoustic Calibration EQ

Acoustic Calibration Equalization is a kind of room equalizer for your speakers (excluding the subwoofer). It works by measuring the acoustic characteristics of your room and neutralizing the ambient characteristics that can color the original source material. This provides a 'flat' equalization setting. If you're not satisfied with the automatic adjustment, you can also adjust these settings manually to get a frequency balance that suits your tastes.

Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ automatically

If you have already completed *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8, **ALL CH ADJUST** and **FRONT ALIGN** (below) should already be set. Therefore, if you want to adjust your settings manually, you can skip to *Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ manually* on page 41.

1 Select 'EQ AUTO Setting' from the Manual MCACC setup menu.
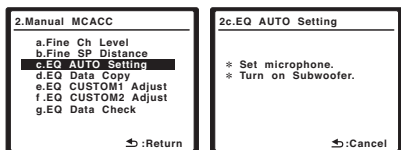
```
2.Manual MCACC              2c.EQ AUTO Setting
  a.Fine Ch Level
  b.Fine SP Distance
  c.EQ AUTO Setting          ※ Set microphone.
  d.EQ Data Copy             ※ Turn on Subwoofer.
  e.EQ CUSTOM1 Adjust
  f.EQ CUSTOM2 Adjust
  g.EQ Data Check
              ⤺:Return                      ⤺:Cancel
```

• Make sure the microphone is connected.

• If you're using a subwoofer, it is automatically detected every time you switch on the system. Make sure it is on and the volume is at the middle position.

• See *Other problems when using the Auto MCACC Setup* on page 10 for notes regarding high background noise levels and other possible interference.

2 Wait for the EQ AUTO Setting to finish.

```
2c.EQ AUTO Setting          2c.EQ AUTO Setting
    Now Analyzing              Now Analyzing
   ▬▬▬▬                       ▮▮▮▮▬
  Environment Check          Surround Analyzing
 ►Ambient Noise     [   ]   ►Channel Level     [   ]
  Microphone        [   ]    Acoustic Cal EQ   [   ]
  Speaker YES/NO    [   ]
              ⤺:Cancel                      ⤺:Cancel
```
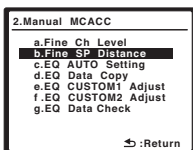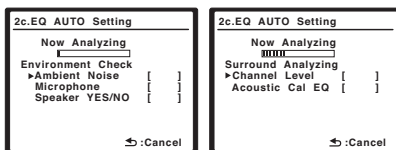
As the receiver outputs test tones, the frequency balance is adjusted automatically for the following settings:

• **ALL CH ADJUST** – A 'flat' setting where all the speakers are set individually so no special weighting is given to any one channel.

• **FRONT ALIGN** – All speakers are set in accordance with the front speaker settings (no equalization is applied to the front left and right channels).

You return to the Acoustic Cal EQ setup menu after the Acoustic Calibration Equalization is set.

Copying your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings

If you want to manually adjust the Acoustic Calibration EQ (see *Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ manually* on page 41), we recommend copying the **ALL CH ADJUST** or the **FRONT ALIGN** settings from the **EQ AUTO** setup above (or from *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8) to one of the custom settings. Instead of just a flat EQ curve, this will give you a reference point from which to start.

1 Select 'EQ Data Copy' from the Manual MCACC setup menu.

```
2.Manual MCACC
  a.Fine Ch Level
  b.Fine SP Distance
  c.EQ AUTO Setting
  d.EQ Data Copy
  e.EQ CUSTOM1 Adjust
  f .EQ CUSTOM2 Adjust
  g.EQ Data Check
                      ⤺:Return
```
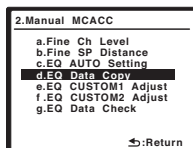
2 Select CUSTOM1 or CUSTOM2 then use ←/➡ to select the setting you want to copy.

```
2d.EQ  Data  Copy

  TO    ←    FROM

CUSTOM1  ◄   CUSTOM1   ►
CUSTOM2  [    CUSTOM2   ]

Start  Copy         [  OK  ]


                     ⏎:Cancel
```

```
2d.EQ  Data  Copy

  TO    ←    FROM

CUSTOM1  ◄   ALL  CH  ADJ  ►
CUSTOM2  [    CUSTOM2   ]

Start  Copy         [  OK  ]


                     ⏎:Cancel
```
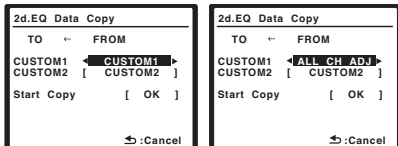
• You can also copy from one custom setting to another. For more on the **ALL CH ADJUST** and **FRONT ALIGN** settings, see *Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ automatically* on page 40.

3 Select 'OK' to copy and confirm.

Setting the Acoustic Calibration EQ manually

Before manually adjusting the Acoustic Calibration EQ, we recommend copying the **ALL CH ADJUST** or the **FRONT ALIGN** settings from the auto setup above (or from *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8) to one of the custom settings. Instead of just a flat EQ curve, this will give you a reference point from which to start (see *Copying your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings* on page 40 for how to do this).

1 Select 'EQ CUSTOM1 Adjust' or 'EQ CUSTOM2 Adjust' from the Manual MCACC setup menu.

```
2.Manual  MCACC

  a.Fine  Ch  Level
  b.Fine  SP  Distance
  c.EQ  AUTO  Setting
  d.EQ  Data  Copy
  e.EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust
  f.EQ  CUSTOM2  Adjust
  g.EQ  Data  Check

             ⏎:Return
```

```
2e.EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust

  Test  Tone  Type
       ◄ ALL  CH  ADJUST ►






ENTER:Next      ⏎:Cancel
```
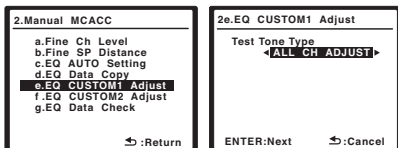
2 Select which method you would like to use to adjust the overall frequency balance.
It is best to choose whichever one you copied to the custom setting in *Copying your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings* on page 40.

• **ALL CH ADJUST** – All the speakers can be set independently so no special weighting is given to any one channel. When adjusting, test tones will sound for each individual channel.

• **FRONT ALIGN** – Speakers are set in accordance with the front speaker settings. The sound of the test tone will alternate between the left front (reference) speaker and the target speaker.

3 Select the channel(s) you want and adjust to your liking.

```
2e.EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust

 Test  Tone  Type:
     "ALL  CH  ADJUST"
◄ Left              ►
   40Hz :  [ +1.0dB]
  125Hz :  [   0.0dB]
  250Hz :  [   0.0dB]
   4kHz :  [   0.0dB]
  13kHz :  [   0.0dB]
   TRIM :  [   0.0dB]
                ⏎:Finish
```

```
2e. EQ  CUSTOM1  Adjust

 Test  Tone  Type:
     "ALL  CH  ADJUST"
 [ Left             ]
   40Hz :  ◄ +1.0dB ►
  125Hz :  [   0.0dB]
  250Hz :  [   0.0dB]
   4kHz :  [   0.0dB]
  13kHz :  [   0.0dB]
   TRIM :  [   0.0dB]
                ⏎:Finish
```
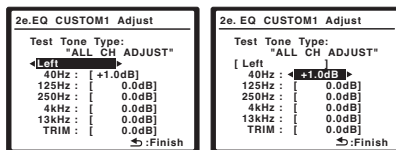
Use ←/➡ to select the channel.

Use ↑/↓ to select the frequency and ←/➡ to boost or cut the EQ. When you're finished, go back to the top of the screen and use ←/➡ to select the next channel.

• The front speakers can't be adjusted if you selected **FRONT ALIGN**.

• The **OVER** indicator shows in the display if the frequency adjustment is too drastic and might distort. If this happens, bring the level down until **OVER** disappears from the display.

🔧 Tip

• Changing the frequency curve of one channel too drastically will affect the overall balance. If the speaker balance seems uneven, you can raise or lower channel levels using test tones with the **TRIM** feature. Use ↑/↓ to select **TRIM** then use ←/➡ to raise or lower the channel level for the current speaker.

4 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual MCACC setup menu.

Checking your Acoustic Calibration EQ settings

After you have completed an automatic or manual Acoustic Calibration EQ adjustment, you can check the **ALL CH ADJUST**, **FRONT ALIGN** and custom settings using the on-screen display.

1 Select 'EQ Data Check' from the Manual MCACC setup menu.

```
2.Manual MCACC                2g.EQ Data Check
  a.Fine Ch Level             ◄ ALL CH ADJUST ►
  b.Fine SP Distance            [ Left          ]
  c.EQ AUTO Setting
  d.EQ Data Copy                  40Hz :  +1.0dB
  e.EQ CUSTOM1 Adjust            125Hz :   0.0dB
  f.EQ CUSTOM2 Adjust           250Hz :   0.0dB
  9.EQ Data Check                 4kHz :   0.0dB
                                13kHz :   0.0dB
                                 TRIM :   0.0dB
                  ↰:Return                  ↰ :Return
```
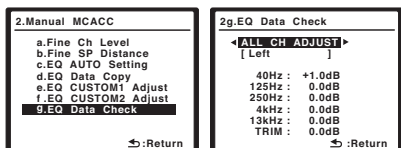
2 Select the setting you want to check.
• It is useful to do this while a source is playing so you can compare the different settings.

3 Select the channels you want, pressing ENTER when you're finished checking each one.

4 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual MCACC setup menu.

Manual speaker setup

This receiver allows you to make detailed settings to optimize the surround sound performance. You only need to make these settings once (unless you change the placement of your current speaker system or add new speakers).

These settings are designed to fine-tune your system, but if you're satisfied with the settings made in *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8, it isn't necessary to make all of these settings.

✋ **Caution**

• The test tones used in the System Setup are output at high volume (the volume increases to **–13dB** automatically).

1 Select 'Manual SP Setup' then press ENTER.

```
System Setup              3.Manual SP Setup
  1.Auto MCACC              a.Speaker Setting
  2.Manual MCACC            b.Crossover Network
  3.Manual SP Setup         c.Channel Level
  4.Input Assign            d.Speaker Distance
  5.Other Setup

              ↰: Exit                    ↰ :Return
```
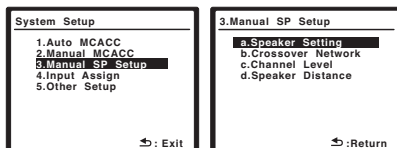
2 Select the setting you want to adjust.
If you are doing this for the first time, you may want to adjust these settings in order:

• **Speaker Setting** – Specify the size and number of speakers you've connected (see below).

• **Crossover Network**– Specify which frequencies will be sent to the subwoofer (page 43).

• **Channel Level** – Adjust the overall balance of your speaker system (page 44).

• **Speaker Distance** – Specify the distance of your speakers from the listening position (page 45).

3 Make the adjustments necessary for each setting, pressing RETURN to confirm after each screen.

Speaker Setting

Use this setting to specify your speaker configuration (size, number of speakers). It is a good idea to make sure that the settings made in *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8 are correct.

1 Select 'Speaker Setting' from the Manual SP Setup menu.

```
3.Manual  SP  Setup              3a.Speaker  Setting
  a.Speaker  Setting              Front    ◄ SMALL ►
  b.Crossover  Network            Center   [ SMALL ]
  c.Channel  Level                Surr     [ SMALL ]
  d.Speaker  Distance             SUB W.  :  YES

              ⤺ :Return                        ⤺ :Finish
```
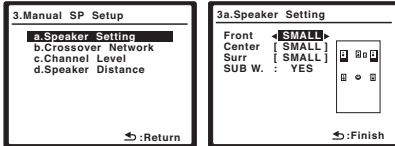
2 Choose the set of speakers that you want to set then select a speaker size.
Use ←/→ to select the size (and number) of each of the following speakers:

• **Front** – Select **LARGE** if your front speakers reproduce bass frequencies effectively, or if you didn't connect a subwoofer. Select **SMALL** to send the bass frequencies to the subwoofer.[1]

• **Center** – Select **LARGE** if your center speaker reproduces bass frequencies effectively, or select **SMALL** to send bass frequencies to the other speakers or subwoofer. If you didn't connect a center speaker, choose **NO** (the center channel is sent to the other speakers).

• **Surr** – Select **LARGE** if your surround speakers reproduce bass frequencies effectively. Select **SMALL** to send bass frequencies to the other speakers or subwoofer. If you didn't connect surround speakers choose **NO** (the sound of the surround channels is sent to the other speakers).

• **SUB W.** – LFE signals and bass frequencies of channels set to **SMALL** are output from the subwoofer when **YES** is selected (see notes below). Choose the **PLUS** setting if you want the subwoofer to output bass sound continuously or you want deeper bass (the bass frequencies that would normally come out the front and

center speakers are also routed to the subwoofer). If you did not connect a subwoofer choose **NO** (the bass frequencies are output from other speakers).

3 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual SP Setup menu.

☀ Tip

• If you have a subwoofer and like lots of bass, it may seem logical to select **LARGE** for your front speakers and **PLUS** for the subwoofer. This may not, however, yield the best bass results. Depending on the speaker placement of your room you may actually experience a decrease in the amount of bass due to low frequency cancellations. In this case, try changing the position or direction of speakers. If you can't get good results, listen to the bass response with it set to **PLUS** and **YES** or the front speakers set to **LARGE** and **SMALL** alternatively and let your ears judge which sounds best. If you're having problems, the easiest option is to route all the bass sounds to the subwoofer by selecting **SMALL** for the front speakers.

Crossover Network
• Default setting: **100Hz**

This setting decides the cutoff between bass sounds playing back from the speakers selected as **LARGE**, or the subwoofer, and bass sounds playing back from those selected as **SMALL**. It also decides where the cutoff will be for bass sounds in the LFE channel.[2]

✎ Note
1 If you select **SMALL** for the front speakers, the subwoofer will automatically be fixed to **YES**. Also, the center and surround speakers can't be set to **LARGE** if the front speakers are set to **SMALL**. In this case, all bass frequencies are sent to the subwoofer.
2 For more on selecting the speaker sizes, see *Speaker Setting* above.

1   Select 'Crossover Network' from the Manual SP Setup menu.

```
3.Manual SP Setup
    a.Speaker  Setting
    b.Crossover  Network
    c.Channel  Level
    d.Speaker  Distance


                        :Return
```

```
3b.Crossover  Network

  Frequency  ◄ 80Hz ►




                        :Finish
```
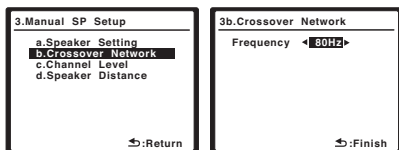
2   Choose the frequency cutoff point.
Frequencies below the cutoff point will be sent to the subwoofer (or **LARGE** speakers).

3   When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual SP Setup menu.

Channel Level

Using the channel level settings, you can adjust the overall balance of your speaker system, an important factor when setting up a home theater system.

1   Select 'Channel Level' from the Manual SP Setup menu.

```
3.Manual SP Setup
    a.Speaker  Setting
    b.Crossover  Network
    c.Channel  Level
    d.Speaker  Distance


                        :Return
```

```
3c.Channel  Level

  Test Tone  ◄ Manual ►




ENTER:Next            :Cancel
```
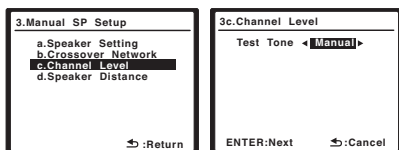
2   Select a setup option.
- **Manual** – Move the test tone manually from speaker to speaker and adjust individual channel levels.
- **Auto** – Adjust channel levels as the test tone moves from speaker to speaker automatically.

3   Confirm your selected setup option.
The test tones will start after you press **ENTER**. After the volume increases to the reference level, test tones will be output.

```
3c.Channel  Level

  Test Tone    [ Manual ]


      Please  Wait . . .20

        Caution!
  Loud  test  tones
      will  be  output.
                        :Cancel
```
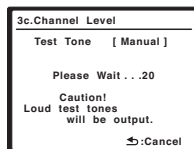
4   Adjust the level of each channel using ◄/►.
If you selected **Manual**, use ↑/↓ to switch speakers. The **Auto** setup will output test tones in the order shown on-screen:

```
3c.Channel  Level
  L    ◄ 0.0dB ►
  C    [  0.0dB ]
  R    [  0.0dB ]
  RS   [  0.0dB ]
  LS   [  0.0dB ]
  SW   [  0.0dB ]

                        :Finish
```
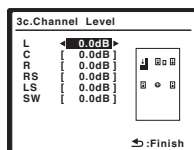
Adjust the level of each speaker as the test tone is emitted.[1]

5   When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual SP Setup menu.

⚙ Tip

- You can change the channel levels at any time by using **CH SEL** and **LEVEL +/–** on the remote control. You can set two channel levels: one for **DVD 5.1CH** and one for the listening modes.

📝 **Note**
1 • If you are using a Sound Pressure Level (SPL) meter, take the readings from your main listening position and adjust the level of each speaker to 75 dB SPL (C-weighting/slow reading).
  • The subwoofer test tone is output at low volumes. You may need to adjust the level after testing with an actual soundtrack.

Speaker Distance

For good sound depth and separation from
your system, you need to specify the distance
of your speakers from the listening position.
The receiver can then add the proper delay
needed for effective surround sound.

**1 Select 'Speaker Distance' from the
Manual SP Setup menu.**

```
┌─────────────────────┐  ┌─────────────────────┐
│3.Manual  SP  Setup  │  │3d.Speaker  Distance │
│                     │  │ L    ◄ 3.0 m ►      │
│  a.Speaker  Setting │  │ C    [ 3.0 m]       │
│  b.Crossover  Network│  │ R    [ 3.0 m]       │
│  c.Channel  Level   │  │ RS   [ 3.0 m]       │
│  d.Speaker  Distance│  │ LS   [ 3.0 m]       │
│                     │  │ SW   [ 3.0 m]       │
│                     │  │                     │
│              ↰:Return│  │              ↰:Finish│
└─────────────────────┘  └─────────────────────┘
```
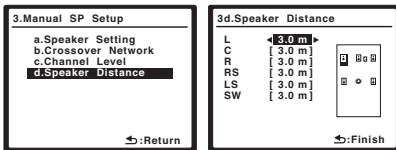
**2 Adjust the distance of each speaker
using ←/→.**
You can adjust the distance of each speaker in
0.1 meter increments.

3 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Manual SP Setup menu.

Chapter 7:
Using the tuner

Listening to the radio

The following steps show you how to tune in to FM and AM radio broadcasts using the automatic (search) and manual (step) tuning functions. If you already know the frequency of the station you want, see *Tuning directly to a station* below. Once you are tuned to a station you can memorize the frequency for recall later—see *Saving station presets* on page 47 for more on how to do this.
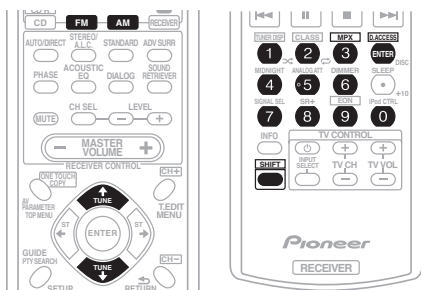
1 Press FM or AM to select the band.
You can also use the front panel controls.

2 Tune to a station.
There are three ways to do this:

Automatic tuning
To search for stations in the currently selected band, press and hold **TUNE↑/↓** (or **TUNE +/–** on the front panel) for about a second. The receiver will start searching for the next station, stopping when it has found one. Repeat to search for other stations.

Manual tuning
To change the frequency one step at a time, press **TUNE↑/↓** (**TUNE +/–**).

High speed tuning
Press and hold **TUNE↑/↓** (**TUNE +/–**) for high speed tuning. Release the button at the frequency you want.

Improving FM stereo sound

If the ꙭ (tuned) or ◌◌ (stereo) indicators don't light when tuning to an FM station because the signal is weak, press the **MPX (SHIFT+3)** button to switch the receiver into mono reception mode. This should improve the sound quality and allow you to enjoy the broadcast.

Tuning directly to a station

Sometimes, you'll already know the frequency of the station you want to listen to. In this case, you can simply enter the frequency directly using the number buttons on the remote control.

1 Press FM or AM to select the band.
You can also use the front panel controls.

2 Press D.ACCESS (SHIFT+ENTER).

3 Use the number buttons to enter the frequency of the radio station.
For example, to tune to **106.00** (FM), press **1**, **0**, **6**, **0**, **0**.

If you make a mistake halfway through, press **D.ACCESS** twice to cancel the frequency and start over.

Saving station presets

If you often listen to a particular radio station, it's convenient to have the receiver store the frequency for easy recall whenever you want to listen to that station. This saves the effort of manually tuning in each time. This unit can memorize up to 30 stations, stored in three banks, or classes, (A, B and C) of 10 stations each. When saving an FM frequency, the **MPX** setting (see *Improving FM stereo sound* on page 46) is also stored.[1]
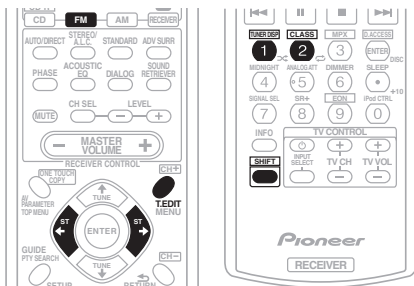

1   Tune to a station you want to memorize.
See *Listening to the radio* on page 46 for more on this.

2   Press T.EDIT (TUNER EDIT).
The display shows **ST. MEMORY**, then a blinking memory class.

3   Press CLASS (SHIFT+2) to select one of the three classes then press ST ←/➡ (ST +/–) to select the station preset you want.
You can also use the number buttons.

4   Press ENTER.
After pressing **ENTER**, the preset class and number stop blinking and the receiver stores the station.

Naming station presets

For easier identification, you can name your station presets.

1   Choose the station preset you want to name.
See *Listening to station presets* below for how to do this.

2   Press T.EDIT (TUNER EDIT).
The display shows **ST. NAME**, then a blinking cursor at the first character position.

3   Input the name you want.
Choose a name up to four characters long.

- Use the **ST ←/➡** (**ST +/–**) buttons to select characters.
- Press **ENTER** to confirm a character. If no character is input, a space is input.
- The name is stored when **ENTER** is pressed after choosing the fourth character.

🔧 Tip

- To erase a station name, simply repeat steps 1 to 3 and input four spaces instead of a name.
- Once you have named a station preset, you can press **TUNER DISP (SHIFT+1)** when listening to a station to switch the display between name and frequency.

Listening to station presets

You will need to have some presets stored to do this. See *Saving station presets* above if you haven't done this already.

1   Press FM, then press CLASS (SHIFT+2) to select the class in which the station is stored.
Press repeatedly to cycle through classes A, B and C.

2   Press ST ←/➡ (ST +/–) to select the station preset you want.
- You can also use the number buttons on the remote control to recall the station preset.

📝 Note
1 If the receiver is left disconnected from the AC power outlet for over a month, the station memories will be lost and will have to be reprogrammed.

An introduction to RDS

Radio Data System (RDS) is a system used by most FM radio stations to provide listeners with various kinds of information—the name of the station and the kind of show they're broadcasting, for example.

One feature of RDS is that you can search by type of program. For example, you can search for a station that's broadcasting a show with the program type, **Jazz**.

You can search the following program types:[1]

News – News
Affairs – Current Affairs
Info – General Information
Sport – Sport
Educate – Educational
Drama – Radio plays, etc.
Culture – National or regional culture, theater, etc.
Science – Science and technology
Varied – Usually talk-based material, such as quiz shows or interviews.
Pop M – Pop music
Rock M – Rock music
Easy M – Easy listening
Light M – 'Light' classical music
Classics – 'Serious' classical music
Other M – Music not fitting above categories
Weather – Weather reports

Finance – Stock market reports, commerce, trading, etc.
Children – Programs for children
Social – Social affairs
Religion – Programs concerning religion
Phone In – Public expressing their views by phone
Travel – Holiday-type travel rather than traffic announcements
Leisure – Leisure interests and hobbies
Jazz – Jazz
Country – Country music
Nation M – Popular music in a language other than English
Oldies – Popular music from the '50s and '60s
Folk M – Folk music
Document – Documentary
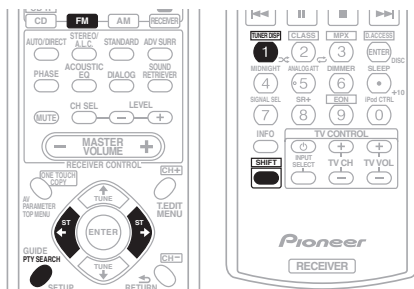
Displaying RDS information
Use the **TUNER DISP (SHIFT+1)** button to display the different types of RDS information available.[2]

• **Press TUNER DISP for RDS information.**
Each press changes the display as follows:

• Radio Text (**RT**) – Messages sent by the radio station. For example, a talk radio station may provide a phone number as RT.
• Program Service Name (**PS**) – The name of the radio station.
• Program Type (**PTY**) – This indicates the kind of program currently being broadcast.
• Current tuner frequency (**FREQ**)

Searching for RDS programs
You can search for a program type listed above.

1 **Press FM to select the FM band.**[3]

2 **Press PTY SEARCH.**
SEARCH shows in the display.

Note
1 In addition, there are three other program types, **TEST**, **Alarm!**, and **None**. **Alarm!** and **TEST** are used for emergency announcements. You can't search for these, but the tuner will switch automatically to this RDS broadcast signal. **None** appears when a program type cannot be found.
2 • If any noise is picked up while displaying the RT scroll, some characters may be displayed incorrectly.
• If you see **NO RADIO TEXT DATA** in the RT display, it means no RT data is sent from the broadcast station. The display will automatically switch to the PS data display (if no PS data, the frequency is displayed).
• In the PTY display, **NO DATA** may be shown. In this case, the PS display is shown after a few seconds.
3 RDS is only possible in the FM band.

3 Press ST ⬅/➡ (ST +/–) to select the program type you want to hear.

4 Press ENTER to search for the program type.
The system starts searching through the station presets for a match. When it finds one, the search stops and the station plays for five seconds.

5 If you want to keep listening to the station, press ENTER within the 5 seconds.
If you don't press **ENTER**, searching resumes.

If **NO PTY** is displayed it means the tuner couldn't find that program type at the time of the search.[1]

Using EON
When EON (Enhanced Other Network information) is turned on, the receiver jumps to an EON-linked broadcast when it begins, even if a receiver function other than the tuner is being used. It can't be used in areas that EON information isn't transmitted and when FM broadcast stations don't transmit PTY data. When the broadcast ends, the tuner returns to the original frequency or function.
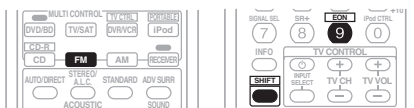
1 Press FM to select the FM band.[2]

2 Press EON (SHIFT+9) to select one of the possible modes.
Press repeatedly to switch between:

- **EON TA** (Traffic Announcement) – Sets the tuner to pick up traffic information when it is broadcast.
- **EON NEWS** – Sets the tuner to pick up news when it is broadcast.
- **OFF** – Switches off the EON feature.

When set to **TA** or **NEWS**, the **EON** indicator in the display lights (it flashes when receiving an EON broadcast).[3] The **o** indicator in the display lights when the current station carries the EON service.[4]

Note
1 RDS searches station presets only. If no stations have been preset, or if the program type could not be found among the station presets **NO PTY** is displayed. **FINISH** means the search is complete.
2 EON is only possible in the FM band.
3 You can't search for traffic announcements and news at the same time.
4 • You cannot operate the **T.EDIT** and **PTY SEARCH** buttons while the **EON** indicator in the display is lit.
 • If you want to change to a function other than the tuner when the **EON** indicator is flashing, press **EON (SHIFT+9)** to turn EON off.

Chapter 8:
Making recordings

Making an audio or a video recording

You can make an audio or a video recording from the built-in tuner, or from an audio or video source connected to the receiver (such as a CD player or TV).

Keep in mind you can't make a digital recording from an analog source or vice-versa, so make sure the components you are recording to/from are hooked up in the same way (see *Connecting up* on page 11 for more on connections).

If you want to record a video source, you also need to use the same type of connection for the source as for the recorder. For example, you can't record a component hooked up to composite video jacks with a recorder hooked up to the component video outputs (see page 15 for more on video connections).
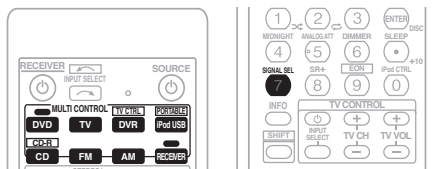
1 Select the source you want to record.
Use the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons (or **INPUT SELECT**).

2 Select the input signal (if necessary).
Press the **RECEIVER** button then press **SIGNAL SEL** to select the input signal corresponding to the source component (see page 36 for more on this).

3 Prepare the source you want to record.
Tune to the radio station, load the CD, video, DVD etc.

4 Prepare the recorder.
Insert a blank tape, MD, video etc. into the recording device and set the recording levels.

Refer to the instructions that came with the recorder if you are unsure how to do this. Most video recorders set the audio recording level automatically—check the component's instruction manual if you're unsure.

5 Start recording, then start playback of the source component.[1]

📝 **Note**

1 • The receiver's volume, balance, tone (bass, treble, loudness), and surround effects have no effect on the recorded signal.
   • Some digital sources are copy-protected, and can only be recorded in analog.
   • Some video sources are copy-protected. These cannot be recorded.

Chapter 9:

Controlling the rest of your system

Operating other Pioneer components

(VSX-918V model only)

Many Pioneer components have SR **CONTROL** jacks which can be used to link components together so that you can use just the remote sensor of one component. When you use a remote control, the control signal is passed along the chain to the appropriate component.[1]

Note that if you use this feature, *make sure that you also have at least one set of analog audio or video jacks connected* to another component for grounding purposes.

VSX-918V

Remote control unit

Other Pioneer products with **CONTROL** terminals

Connect to **CONTROL** terminal of other Pioneer products
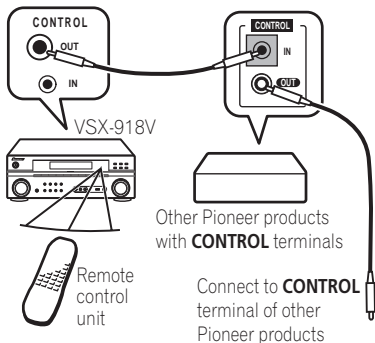
Setting the remote to control other components

Most components can be assigned to one of the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons using the component's manufacturer preset code stored in the remote.

However, please note that there are cases where only certain functions may be controllable after assigning the proper preset code, or the codes for the manufacturer in the remote control will not work for the model that you are using.[2]

✎ Note

- You can cancel or exit any of the steps by pressing **RECEIVER**. To go back a step, press **RETURN**.
- After one minute of inactivity, the remote automatically exits the operation.

✎ Note

1 • If you want to control all your components using this receiver's remote control, refer to *Setting the remote to control other components* below.
  • If you have connected a remote control to the **CONTROL IN** jack (using a mini-plug cable), you won't be able to control this unit using the remote sensor.
2 TV codes (for example, codes for TV, CATV, Satellite TV or DTV) can only be assigned to the **TV** or **TV CTRL** button.

Selecting preset codes directly

1 While pressing the RECEIVER button, press and hold the '1' button.
The LED blinks.

2 Press the MULTI CONTROL button for the component you want to control.
The LED lights on continuously.

3 Use the number buttons to enter the preset code.
You can find the preset codes on page 56.

The LED blinks again after you enter the code.

If the correct code has been input the power of the component being input will turn on or off.

The power of the component being input will only turn on or off if that component is able to be turned on directly by remote control.

- You can only input a code for the component type written on each **MULTI CONTROL** button.[1]

- Even if you don't input a preset code for the TV (**TV MULTI CONTROL** button) you will be able to control your TV using the dedicated **TV CONTROL** on the remote if you have assigned it to the **TV CTRL** button.

4 Repeat steps 2 through 3 to try a different code, or to enter a code for another component you want to control.

5 When you're done, press RECEIVER.

Direct function

- Default setting: **ON**

You can use the direct function feature to control one component using the remote control while at the same time, using your receiver to playback a different component. This could let you, for example, use the remote control to set up and listen to a CD on the receiver and then use the remote control to rewind a tape in your VCR while you continue to listen to your CD player.

When direct function is on, any component you select (using the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons) will be selected by both the receiver and the remote control. When you turn direct function off, you can operate the remote control without affecting the receiver.[2]

1 While pressing the RECEIVER button, press and hold the '4' button.
The LED blinks.

2 Press the MULTI CONTROL button for the component you want to control.
The LED lights on continuously.

3 Use the number buttons to enter either '1' (direct on) or '2' (direct off).
The LED blinks again.

4 Repeat steps 2 through 3 for the other components you want to control.

5 When you're done, press RECEIVER.

Clearing all the remote control settings

You can clear all presets and restore the factory default settings.

• While pressing the RECEIVER button, press and hold the '0' button for three seconds.
The LED blinks three times indicating the settings have been restored to the factory presets.

📝 **Note**

1 • TV codes (for example, codes for TV, CATV, Satellite TV or DTV) can only be assigned to the **TV** or **TV CTRL** button.
  • You can't assign the **FM** / **AM** or **RECEIVER** buttons.
2 You can't use direct function with the **FM** / **AM** and **TV CTRL** functions.

Controls for TVs

This remote control can control components after entering the proper codes or teaching the receiver the commands (see *Controlling the rest of your system* on page 51 for more on this). Use the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons to select the component.

- The **TV CONTROL** buttons on the remote control are dedicated to control the TV assigned to the **TV CTRL** button. If you have two TVs, assign the main TV to the **TV CTRL** button.

Button(s)	Function	Components
⏻ **TV**	Switches the TV or CATV between standby and on.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
INPUT SELECT	Switches the TV input. (Not possible with all models.)	TV
TV CH +/–	Selects channels.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
TV VOL +/–	Adjust the TV volume.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
⏻ **SOURCE**	Press to switch the component assigned to the **TV CTRL** button on or off.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
TV/DTV	Switches between the analog TV and DTV input modes.	TV
INFO	Press to display the channel information.	TV
TUNER DISP	Press to display the channel information.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
A (►►)	Use to choose the 'A' commands on a Satellite TV menu.	Satellite TV
B (I◄◄)	Use to choose the 'B' commands on a Satellite TV menu.	Satellite TV
C (II)	Use to choose the 'C' commands on a Satellite TV menu.	Satellite TV
D (■)	Use to choose the 'D' commands on a Satellite TV menu.	Satellite TV
E (►►I)	Use to choose the 'E' commands on a Satellite TV menu.	Satellite TV
(SHIFT+) 7	Use to choose the RED commands on a TV menu.	TV
(SHIFT+) 8	Use to choose the GREEN commands on a TV menu.	TV
(SHIFT+) 9	Use to choose the YELLOW commands on a TV menu.	TV
(SHIFT+) 10	Use to choose the BLUE commands on a TV menu.	TV
AUDIO	Use to switch audio tracks.	Satellite TV/TV
TOP MENU	Switches **TEXT ON** for TVs.	TV
GUIDE	Use as the **GUIDE** button for navigating.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
RETURN	Use to select **RETURN** or **EXIT**.	Satellite TV/TV
Number buttons	Use to select a specific TV channel.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
+10 button	Use to add a decimal points when selecting TV channels.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV

Button(s)	Function	Components
ENTER/DISC	Use to enter a channel.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
MENU	Select the menu screen.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV
← → ↓ ↑ & **ENTER**	Press to select or adjust and navigate items on the menu screen.	Cable TV/Satellite TV/TV

Controls for other components

This remote control can control these components after entering the proper codes or teaching the receiver the commands (see *Controlling the rest of your system* on page 51 for more on this). Use the **MULTI CONTROL** buttons to select the component.

Button(s)	Function	Components
⏻ **SOURCE**	Press to switch the component between standby and on.	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/DVD/LD/DVR player/Cassette deck
⏮	Press to return to the start of the current track. Repeated presses skips to the start of previous tracks.	CD/MD/CD-R/DVD/DVR/LD player
	Go back channels (channel –).	VCR
⏭	Press to advance to the start of the next track. Repeated presses skips to the start of following tracks.	CD/MD/CD-R/DVD/DVR/LD player
	Go forward channels (channel +).	VCR
⏸	Pause playback or recording.	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/DVD/LD/DVR player/Cassette deck
▶	Start playback.	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/DVD/LD/DVR player/Cassette deck
▶▶	Hold down for fast forward playback.	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/DVD/LD/DVR player/Cassette deck
◀◀	Hold down for fast reverse playback.	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/DVD/LD/DVR player/Cassette deck
■	Stops playback (on some models, pressing this when the disc is already stopped will cause the disc tray to open).	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/DVD/LD/DVR player/Cassette deck
● **REC (SHIFT+▶)**	Starts recording. To prevent accidental recording, this button must be pressed twice to take effect.	MD/CD-R/VCR/DVR player/Cassette deck
REC STOP (SHIFT+■)	Stops recording.	DVR player
Number buttons	Directly access tracks on a program source.	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/LD player
	Use to enter a title/chapter/track number.	DVD/DVR player

Button(s)	Function	Components
+10 button	Selects tracks higher than 10. (For example, press **+10** then **3** to select track 13.)	CD/MD/CD-R/VCR/LD player
ENTER/ DISC	Chooses the disc.	Multiple CD player
	Ejects the disc.	MD player
	Use as the **ENTER** button.	DVD player
	Displays the setup screen for DVR players.	DVR player
	Changes sides of the LD.	LD player
TOP MENU	Displays the disc 'top' menu of a DVD player.	DVD/DVR player
MENU	Displays menus for the current DVD or DVR you are using.	DVD/DVR player
⬆	Pauses the tape.	Cassette deck
⬇	Stops the tape.	Cassette deck
ENTER	Starts playback.	Cassette deck
⬅/➡	Fast rewinds/fast forwards the tape.	Cassette deck
⬅➡⬇⬆, **ENTER** & **RETURN**	Navigates DVD menu/options.	DVD/DVR player
ONE TOUCH COPY (SHIFT+ TOP MENU)	Copies the currently playing title from DVD to HDD or vice-versa.	DVR player
GUIDE	Displays/changes the subtitles on multilingual DVDs.	DVD/DVR player
CH +/– (SHIFT+ T.EDIT/ SHIFT+ RETURN)	Selects channels.	VCR/DVD/DVR player
SUBTITLE (SHIFT + ◄◄)	Displays/changes the subtitles included in multilingual DVD-Video discs.	DVD/DVR player
AUDIO (SHIFT + ►►)	Changes the audio language, channel or track.	DVD/DVR/LD/CD player
HDD (SHIFT + I◄◄)	Switches to the hard disk controls when using an HDD/DVD recorder.	DVR player
DVD (SHIFT + II)	Switches to the DVD controls when using an HDD/DVD recorder.	DVR player
JUKEBOX (SHIFT +►►I)	Switches to the Jukebox feature.	DVR player
INFO	Displays additional EPG information.	DVR player

Preset Code List

You should have no problem controlling a component if you find the manufacturer in this list, but please note that there are cases where codes for the manufacturer in the list will not work for the model that you are using. There are also cases where only certain functions may be controllable after assigning the proper preset code.

DVD
Manufacturer Code
TOSHIBA 001, 022
SONY 002, 016 (video game)
PANASONIC 003, 019
JVC 004
SAMSUNG 005
SHARP 006
AKAI 007
RCA 008, 011
DENON 010
HITACHI 012
PHILIPS 013
ZENITH 014
THOMSON 015
MICROSOFT 017 (video game)
PIONEER 000, 009, 018, 020, 021

LD
Manufacturer Code
SONY 101
PANASONIC 105, 106
PHILIPS 104
KENWOOD 103
RCA 107
PIONEER 100, 111

TV
Manufacturer Code
SHARP 602, 662
SONY 604
TOSHIBA 605
HITACHI 606, 633, 634, 654
PHILIPS 607, 656, 672
PANASONIC 608, 622
MITSUBISHI 609
JVC 613
RCA 618
GRUNDIG 631, 653
NOKIA 632, 652
FISHER 635, 638
THOMSON 636
TELEFUNKEN 637
ALBA 639
FUNAI 640
TANDY 641
ITT 642
SALORA 643
SAMSUNG 644, 646, 673, 674, 675

SANYO 645
BUSH 647
FUJITSU 648
SEI 649
GOLDSTAR 650
GRANDIENTE 657
DAEWOO 676, 677
PIONEER 600, 651, 655, 664, 665, 680

STB (SATELLITE/CATV)
Manufacturer Code
SA 706, 708
JERROLD 716
ZENITH 717
PIONEER 200, 204, 254, 700

DTV
Manufacturer Code
PANASONIC 226, 230
JVC 227
TOSHIBA 228
PIONEER 207, 229, 231, 232, 234, 253

VCR
Manufacturer Code
RCA 401, 413, 415
SHARP 402, 418, 419
ZENITH 403
SONY 404, 416, 417, 457, 458, 459
TOSHIBA 405
HITACHI 406, 434, 436
JVC 407, 428, 429, 430, 431
PANASONIC 408, 432, 433
MITSUBISHI 409, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424
SANYO 410, 425, 435
GOLDSTAR 411
FISHER 412, 426, 427
MAGNAVOX 414
GRANDIENTE 441
PIONEER 400, 437, 438, 439

DVD Recorder
Manufacturer Code
TOSHIBA 485
PANASONIC 486, 491, 492
SONY 490
PIONEER 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 487, 488, 489, 493

TAPE
Manufacturer Code
SONY 801, 806
JVC 802
PANASONIC 803
KENWOOD 804, 807
TEAC 805
ONKYO 808, 809
DENON 810
YAMAHA 811, 812
FISHER 813
PIONEER 800, 814

CD
Manufacturer Code
SONY 301, 316, 317, 318
RCA 302, 319
JVC 303
PANASONIC 304, 326
TEAC 305, 306, 324, 325, 327
ONKYO 307, 308, 320
DENON 309
KENWOOD 310, 311, 321
PHILIPS 312, 322
SANYO 313
YAMAHA 314, 315, 328
MARANTZ 323
PIONEER 300

CD-R
Manufacturer Code
PHILIPS 346
YAMAHA 347
PIONEER 345

MD
Manufacturer Code
SONY 901
SHARP 902
KENWOOD 903
TEAC 904
ONKYO 905
DENON 906
PIONEER 900, 907, 908
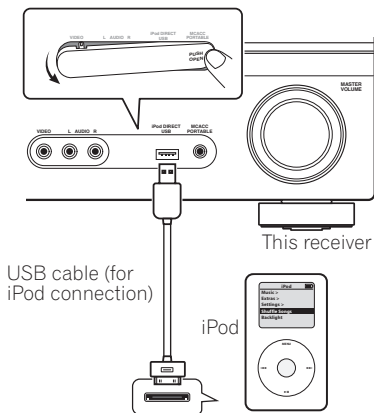
Chapter 10:
Other connections

✋ Caution

- *Before making or changing the connections*, switch off the power and disconnect the power cord from the power outlet. Plugging in components should be the last connection you make with your system.

- Do not allow any contact between speaker wires from different terminals.

Connecting an iPod

This receiver has a dedicated iPod terminal that will allow you to control playback of audio content from your iPod using the controls of this receiver.[1]

- Push down on the **PUSH OPEN** tab to access the **iPod DIRECT USB** terminal.

USB cable (for iPod connection)

This receiver

iPod

Connecting your iPod to the receiver

1   Set this receiver to the standby mode, and then use the USB cable (for iPod connection) to connect your iPod to the iPod DIRECT USB terminal on the front panel of this receiver.
For the cable connection, refer to also the operating instructions for iPod.

2   Switch the receiver on and press the iPod input source button to switch the receiver to the iPod.
The front panel display shows **Loading** while the receiver verifies the connection and retrieves data from the iPod.

3   Press TOP MENU to display iPod Top menu.
When the display shows **Top Menu** you're ready to play music from the iPod.[2]

- If after pressing **iPod** the display shows **No Connection**, try switching off the receiver and reconnecting the iPod to the receiver.

📝 Note

1 • This system is compatible with the audio of an iPod and iPod nano portable device (fifth generation and above). However, that some of the functions may be restricted for some models. Note, however, compatibility may vary depending on the software version of your iPod. Please be sure to use the latest available software version.
 • iPod is licensed for reproduction of non-copyrighted materials or materials the user is legally permitted to reproduce.
 • Features such as the equalizer cannot be controlled using this receiver, and we recommend switching the equalizer off before connecting.
 • Pioneer cannot under any circumstances accept responsibility for any direct or indirect loss arising from any inconvenience or loss of recorded material resulting from the iPod failure.
2 The controls of your iPod will be inoperable when connected to this receiver (**Pioneer** shows in the iPod display).

iPod playback

To navigate songs on your iPod, you can take advantage of the OSD of your TV connected to this receiver.[1] You can also control all operations for music in the front panel display of this receiver.

Finding what you want to play

When your iPod is connected to this receiver, you can browse songs stored on your iPod by playlist, artist, album name, song name, genre or composer, similar to using your iPod directly.

```
iPod Top
[ Playlists        ]
[ Artists          ]
[ Albums           ]
[ Songs            ]
[ Podcasts         ]
[ Genres           ]
[ Composers        ]
[ Audiobooks       ]
[ Shuffle Songs    ]
▲▼ Enter
```

1 Use ↑/↓ to select a category then press ENTER to browse that category.
• To return to the previous level any time, press **RETURN**.

2 Use ↑/↓ to browse the selected category (e.g., albums).
• Use ←/➡ to move to previous/next levels.

3 Continue browsing until you arrive at what you want to play, then press ► to start playback.[2]
Navigation through categories on your iPod looks like this:

Playlists ➡ Songs
Artists ➡ Albums ➡ Songs
Albums ➡ Songs
Songs
Podcasts
Genres ➡ Artists ➡ Albums ➡ Songs
Composers ➡ Albums ➡ Songs
Audiobooks
Shuffle Songs

🌞 Tip

• You can play all of the songs in a particular category by selecting the **All** item at the top of each category list. For example, you can play all the songs by a particular artist.

Basic playback controls

The following table shows the basic playback controls for your iPod:

Button	What it does
►	Press to start playback. If you start playback when something other than a song is selected, all the songs that fall into that category will play.
❙❙	Pauses playback, or restarts playback when paused.
◄◄/►►	Press and hold during playback to start scanning.
❙◄◄/►►❙	Press to skip to previous/next track.
⟳	Press repeatedly to switch between **Repeat One**, **Repeat All** and **Repeat Off**.
✕	Press repeatedly to switch between **Shuffle Songs**, **Shuffle Albums** and **Shuffle Off**.
TUNER DISP (SHIFT+✕)	Press repeatedly to change the song playback information displayed in the front panel display.
←/➡	When browsing, press to move to previous/next levels.
↑/↓	During Audiobook playback, press to switch the playback speed: Faster ↔ Normal ↔ Slower
TOP MENU	Press to return to the **iPod Top** menu screen.
RETURN	Press to return to the previous level.

📝 **Note**

1 • Note that non-roman characters in the title are displayed as **#**.
• This feature is not available for photos or video clips on your iPod.
2 If you're in the song category, you can also press **ENTER** to start playback.

✋ Important

If an error message lights in the display, try following the points below:

Symptom	What it means
Error I1	There is a problem with the signal path from the iPod to the amplifier. Switch off the amplifier and reconnect the iPod to the amplifier. If this doesn't seem to work, try resetting your iPod.
Error I2	The software version being used with the iPod needs to be updated. Update the software being used with the iPod (please use the latest iPod software versions later than the iPod updater 2004-10-20).
Error I3	The iPod that is not supported is connected. Check whether the iPod was supported by this receiver (page 57).
	When the iPod software version is too old. Update the iPod software to the latest version.
Error I4	When there is no response from the iPod. Update the iPod software to the latest version.
No Music Track	There are no playable songs currently stored in the iPod. Input some music files compatible with iPod playback.
No Track	When there are no tracks in the category selected on the iPod. Select a different category.

Switching the iPod controls[1]

You can switch over the iPod controls between the iPod and the receiver.

1 Press iPod CTRL to switch the iPod controls.[2]

This enables operation and display on your iPod, and this receiver's remote control and OSD become inactive.

2 Press iPod CTRL again to switch back to the receiver controls.

iPod® is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

Connecting a USB device

It is possible to listen to two-channel audio[3] using the USB interface on the front of this receiver. Connect a USB mass storage device[4] as shown below.

• Push down on the **PUSH OPEN** tab to access the **iPod DIRECT USB** terminal.

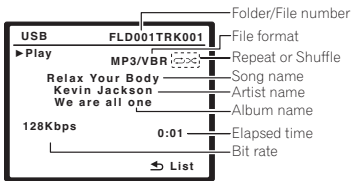This receiver

USB mass storage device

Connecting your USB device to the receiver

1   Switch on the receiver and your TV.

2   Press iPod USB.
No USB appears in the OSD.

3   Connect your USB device.[1]
The USB terminal is located on the front panel.

Loading appears in the OSD as this receiver starts recognizing the USB device connected. After the recognition, a playback screen appears in the OSD and playback starts automatically.[2]

```
                              Folder/File number
  USB      FLD001TRK001      File format
  ▶Play
            MP3/VBR          Repeat or Shuffle
    Relax Your Body          Song name
     Kevin Jackson           Artist name
     We are all one          Album name

  128Kbps          0:01     Elapsed time
                              Bit rate
            ↰ List
```

You can also select and play back your favorite file from the folder/file list displayed in the OSD. For details, see *Selecting a file from the folder/file list for playback* below.

Basic playback controls

The following table shows the basic controls on the remote for USB playback.

Button	What it does
▶	Starts normal playback.
❚❚	Pauses/unpauses playback.
◄◄/►►	Press and hold during playback to start scanning.
I◄◄/►►I	Press to skip to previous/next track.
⟲	Press repeatedly to switch between **Repeat Folder**, **Repeat One** and **Repeat All**.
✕	Press repeatedly to switch between **Shuffle On** and **Shuffle Off**.
TUNER DISP (SHIFT+ ✕)	Press repeatedly to change the song playback information displayed in the front panel display.
←/→	During playback, press to skip to previous/next track; when browsing, press to move to previous/next levels.
TOP MENU	Press to return to ROOT folder.
RETURN	Press to switch the playback screen to the folder/file list; when browsing a folder/file list, press to return to the previous level.

📝 **Note**
1 Make sure the receiver is in standby when disconnecting the USB device.
2 • If the file selected cannot be played back, this receiver automatically skips to the next file playable.
 • When the file currently being played back has no title assigned to it, the file name is displayed in the OSD instead; when neither the album name nor the artist name is present, the row is displayed as a blank space.
 • Note that non-roman characters in the playlist are displayed as *****.

Selecting a file from the folder/file list for playback

The folder/file list displays folders and files stored on your USB device hierarchically. You can select and play back a file of your choice by using ↑/↓/←/→ and **ENTER**.

1 Press RETURN to display the folder/file list for the USB device connected.

USB	
▶ **Play**	MP3/VBR ⟲
Relax Your Body	
Kevin Jackson	
We are all one	
128Kbps	0:15
	↰ List

USB We are all one	
♪ [**Relax Your Body**]	
♪ [The Color of Life]	
♪ [Ain't Thang Wrong]	
♪ [Oh My God]	
♪ [Watcha Need]	
▲ ▼ Enter	↰ Return
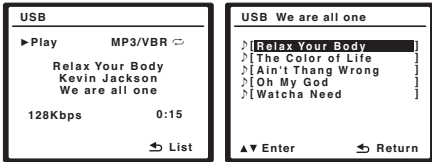
2 Press ↑/↓ to select the file you want to play back, and then press ENTER to confirm your selection.

- Press **RETURN** to switch to the upper hierarchy of the current folder or file.
- To switch to the previous/next folder or file within the current hierarchy, press ←/→.

⚠ Important

If a **USB ERR** message lights in the display, try following the points below:

USB ERR	What it means
USB ERR1	The power requirements of the USB device are too high for this receiver.
USB ERR2	The USB device is incompatible
USB ERR3	See *Troubleshooting* on page 67 for more on this error message.

- Switch the receiver off, then on again.
- Reconnect the USB device with the receiver switched off.
- Select another input source (like **DVD/BD**), then switch back to **USB**.
- Use a dedicated AC adapter (supplied with the device) for USB power.

If this doesn't remedy the problem, it is likely your USB device is incompatible.

Compressed audio compatibility

Note that although most standard bit/sampling rate combinations for compressed audio are compatible, some irregularly encoded files may not play back. The list below shows compatible formats for compressed audio files:

- **MP3** (MPEG-1/2/2.5 Audio Layer 3) – Sampling rates: 8 kHz to 48 kHz; Bit rates: 8 kbps to 320 kbps (128 kbps or higher recommended); File extension: **.mp3**
- **WMA** (Windows Media Audio) – Sampling rates: 32 kHz / 44.1 kHz; Bit rates: 32 kbps to 192 kbps (128 kbps or higher recommended); File extension: **.wma**; WMA9 Pro and WMA lossless encoding: No
- **AAC** (MPEG-4 Advanced Audio Coding) – Sampling rates: 11.025 kHz to 48 kHz; Bit rates: 16 kbps to 320 kbps (128 kbps or higher recommended); File extension: **.m4a**; Apple lossless encoding: No

Other compatibility information

- VBR (variable bit rate) MP3/WMA/MPEG-4 AAC playback: Yes[1]
- DRM (Digital Rights Management) protection compatible: Yes (DRM-protected audio files will not play in this receiver).

📝 Note

1 Note that in some cases playback time will not be displayed correctly.

About MPEG-4 AAC

Advanced Audio Coding (AAC) is at the core of the MPEG-4 AAC standard, which incorporates MPEG-2 AAC, forming the basis of the MPEG-4 audio compression technology. The file format and extension used depend on the application used to encode the AAC file. This unit plays back AAC files encoded by iTunes® bearing the extension '**.m4a**'. DRM-protected files will not play, and files encoded with some versions of iTunes® may not play.

Apple and iTunes are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

About WMA

The Windows Media® logo printed on the box indicates that this receiver can playback Windows Media Audio content.

WMA is an acronym for Windows Media Audio and refers to an audio compression technology developed by Microsoft Corporation. This unit plays back WMA files encoded using Windows Media® Player bearing the extension '**.wma**'. Note that DRM-protected files will not play, and files encoded with some versions of Windows Media® Player may not play.

Windows Media, and the Windows logo are trademarks, or registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

Using this receiver with a Pioneer flat screen TV

(VSX-918V model only)

If you have a Pioneer flat screen TV[1], you can use an SR+ cable to connect it to this unit and take advantage of various convenient features, such as automatic video input switching of the flat screen TV when the input is changed.
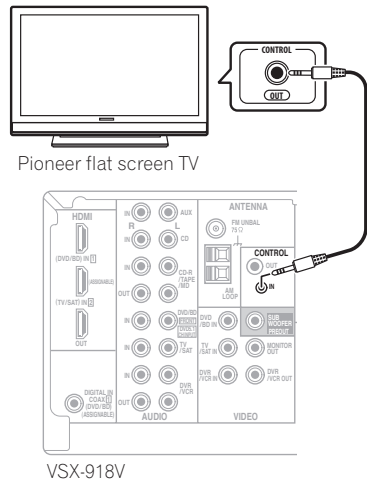
Pioneer flat screen TV

VSX-918V

• **Use a 3-ringed miniplug SR+ cable[1] to connect the CONTROL IN jack of this receiver with the CONTROL OUT of your flat screen TV.**
Before you can use the extra SR+ features, you need to make a few settings in the receiver. See *SR+ Setup for Pioneer flat screen TVs* on page 66 for detailed instructions.

VIDEO INPUT 1   Pioneer flat screen TV   VIDEO INPUT 2

DVD player   Satellite receiver, etc

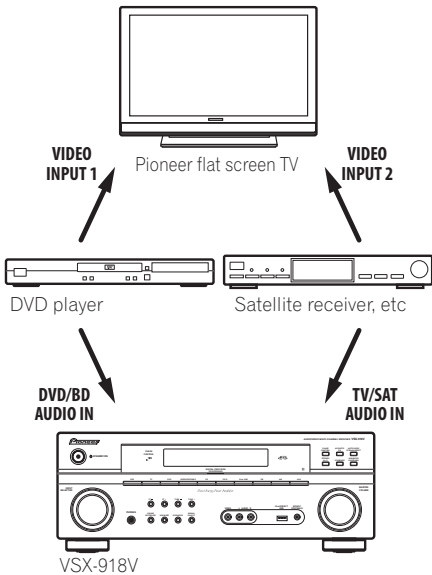DVD/BD AUDIO IN   TV/SAT AUDIO IN

VSX-918V

To make the most of the SR+ features, you should connect your source components (DVD player, etc.) in a slightly different way to that described in this chapter. For each component, connect the video output directly to the flat screen TV, and just connect the audio (analog and/or digital) to this receiver.

Using the SR+ mode with a Pioneer flat screen TV

When connected using an SR+ cable, a number of features become available to make using this receiver with your Pioneer flat screen TV even easier. These features include:

• On-screen volume display.
• On-screen display of listening mode.
• Automatic video input switching on the flat screen TV.
• Automatic volume muting on the flat screen TV.[2]

See also *SR+ Setup for Pioneer flat screen TVs* on page 66 for more on setting up the receiver.

1 Make sure that the flat screen TV and this receiver are switched on and that they are connected with the SR+ cable.
See *Using this receiver with a Pioneer flat screen TV* above for more on this.

2 To switch SR+ mode on/off, press RECEIVER, then the SR+ button.
The front panel display shows **SR+ ON** or **OFF**.

📝 **Note**

1 • The 3-ringed SR+ cable from Pioneer is commercially available under the part number ADE7095. Contact the Pioneer Customer Support division for more information on obtaining an SR+ cable (you can also use a commercially available 3-ringed mini phone plug for the connection).
• If you connect to a Pioneer flat screen TV using an SR+ cable, you will need to point the remote control at the flat screen TV remote sensor to control the receiver. In this case, you won't be able to control the receiver using the remote control if you switch the flat screen TV off.
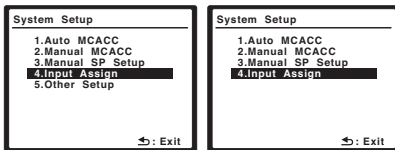2 The automatic volume muting feature is enabled separately; see *SR+ Setup for Pioneer flat screen TVs* on page 66.

Chapter 11:
Other Settings

The Input Assign menu

You only need to make settings in the Input Assign menu if you didn't hook up your digital equipment according to the default settings for the digital inputs, or if you have connected equipment using component video cables.

1   Press RECEIVER on the remote control, then press the SETUP button.
An on-screen display (OSD) appears on your TV. Use ↑/↓/←/→ and **ENTER** on the remote control to navigate through the screens and select menu items. Press **RETURN** to confirm and exit the current menu.

```
System  Setup                    System  Setup

    1.Auto  MCACC                    1.Auto  MCACC
    2.Manual  MCACC                  2.Manual  MCACC
    3.Manual  SP  Setup              3.Manual  SP  Setup
    4.Input  Assign                  4.Input  Assign
    5.Other  Setup

                        : Exit                          : Exit
```

Above: VSX-918V (left) and VSX-818V (right)

2   Select 'Input Assign' from the System Setup menu.

```
4.Input  Assign

    a.Digital  Input
    b.Component  Input
    c.HDMI  Input

                                  :Return
```
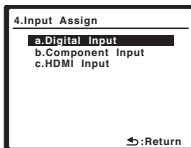
Assigning the digital inputs
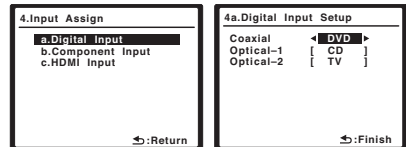• Default settings:

Coaxial – **DVD**
Optical - 1 – **CD**
Optical - 2 – **TV**

You only need to do this if you didn't hook up your digital equipment according to the default settings for the digital inputs (see above). This setting tells the receiver what digital equipment is hooked up to which terminal so the buttons on the remote correspond to what you have hooked up.

1   Select 'Digital Input' from the Input Assign menu.

```
4.Input  Assign                  4a.Digital  Input  Setup

    a.Digital  Input               Coaxial      ◄ DVD ►
    b.Component  Input             Optical–1    [   CD    ]
    c.HDMI  Input                  Optical–2    [   TV    ]




                        :Return                          :Finish
```

2   Select the number of the digital input to which you've connected the digital component.
The numbers correspond with the numbers beside the inputs on the rear of the receiver.

3   Select the component that corresponds with the one you connected to that input.
Select between **DVD**, **TV**, **CD**, **CDR**, **DVR** or **OFF**.

• Use ←/→ and **ENTER** to do this.
• If you assign a digital input to a certain function (for example, **DVD/BD**), any digital inputs previously assigned to that function will automatically be switched off.

4   When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Input Assign menu.

Assigning the component video inputs
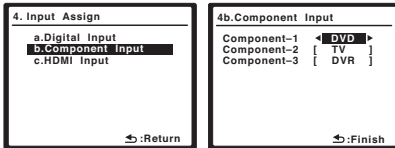
- Default settings:

  Component 1 – **DVD**
  Component 2 – **TV**
  Component 3 – **DVR**

If you used component video cords to connect your video equipment you must tell the receiver which device it is, or else you may see the composite video input instead of the component video signal. For more on this, see *Using the component video jacks* on page 16.

1 Select 'Component Input' from the Input Assign menu.

```
4. Input  Assign              4b.Component  Input
  a.Digital  Input            Component–1  ◄ DVD ►
  b.Component  Input          Component–2  [   TV   ]
  c.HDMI  Input               Component–3  [  DVR  ]



                ⤺ :Return                    ⤺:Finish
```

2 Select the number of the component video input to which you've connected your video component.
The numbers correspond with the numbers beside the inputs on the rear of the receiver.

3 Select the component that corresponds with the one you connected to that input.
Select between **DVD**, **TV**, **DVR** or **OFF**.

- Use ←/➡ and **ENTER** to do this.

- If you assign a component input to a certain function, any component inputs previously assigned to that function will automatically be switched off.

- Make sure you have connected the audio from the component to the corresponding inputs on the rear of the receiver.

- If you connect any source component to the receiver using a component video input, you should also have your TV connected to this receiver's component video **MONITOR** output (down converting component video is not possible after assigning an input).

4 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Input Assign menu.
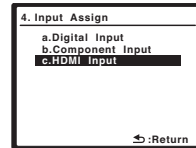
Assigning the HDMI inputs

- Default settings:

  HDMI - 1 – **DVD**
  HDMI - 2 – **TV**

If you used HDMI to connect your video equipment, you must tell the receiver which input terminal(s) you have used, so that you see the proper video signal when you select the input source.

1 Select 'HDMI Input' from the Input Assign menu.

```
4. Input  Assign
  a.Digital  Input
  b.Component  Input
  c.HDMI  Input




                ⤺ :Return
```

2 Select the number of the HDMI input to which you've connected your video component.
The numbers correspond with the numbers beside the inputs on the rear of the receiver.

3 Select the component that corresponds with the one you connected to that input.
Select between **DVD**, **TV**, **DVR** or **OFF**.

- Use ←/➡ and **ENTER** to do this.

- If you assign an HDMI input(s) to a certain function, any HDMI inputs previously assigned to that function will automatically be switched off

- *VSX-818V model only:* To hear audio from your HDMI component (through this system), you must also make separate audio connections to the corresponding inputs on the rear of the receiver. For more on this, see *Connecting using HDMI* on page 16.

- If you connect any video component to the receiver using HDMI, you should also have your TV connected to this receiver's HDMI output.

4 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Input Assign menu.

The Other Setup menu

(VSX-918V model only)

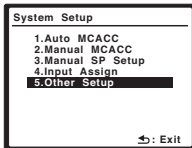### SR+ Setup for Pioneer flat screen TVs

Make the following settings if you have connected a Pioneer flat screen TV to this receiver using an SR+ cable. Note that the number of settings available will depend on the flat screen TV you've connected.

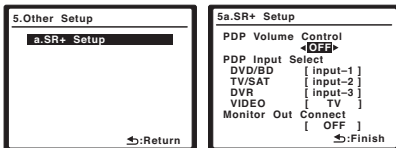See also *Using this receiver with a Pioneer Flat Screen TV* on page 62.

1 Press RECEIVER on the remote control, then press the SETUP button.
An on-screen display (OSD) appears on your TV. Use $\uparrow/\downarrow/\leftarrow/\rightarrow$ and **ENTER** on the remote control to navigate through the screens and select menu items. Press **RETURN** to confirm and exit the current menu.

2 Select 'Other Setup' then press ENTER.

```
System  Setup

  1.Auto  MCACC
  2.Manual  MCACC
  3.Manual  SP  Setup
  4.Input  Assign
  5.Other  Setup



                        ⏎ : Exit
```

3 Make sure 'SR+ Setup' is selected from the Other Setup menu and then press ENTER.

```
5.Other  Setup              5a.SR+  Setup

  a.SR+  Setup              PDP  Volume  Control
                               ◄ OFF ►
                           PDP  Input  Select
                             DVD/BD      [ input–1 ]
                             TV/SAT      [ input–2 ]
                             DVR         [ input–3 ]
                             VIDEO       [   TV   ]
                           Monitor  Out  Connect
                                       [  OFF  ]
                ⏎:Return                ⏎:Finish
```
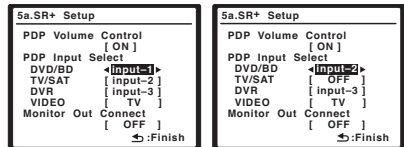
4 Select the 'PDP Volume Control' setting you want.

- **OFF** – The receiver does not control the volume of the flat screen TV.

- **ON** – When the receiver is switched to one of the inputs that use the flat screen TV (**DVD/BD**, or another function below), the volume on the flat screen TV is muted so only sound from the receiver is heard.

5 Assign any input source connected to the flat screen TV to the corresponding input number.
This matches the receiver's input source with a numbered video input on the flat screen TV. For example, assign **DVD/BD** to **input-2** if you have connected your DVD video output to video input 2 on the flat screen TV.

- The **Monitor Out Connect** should be set to the input that you've used to connect this receiver to your flat screen TV.

```
5a.SR+  Setup              5a.SR+  Setup

PDP  Volume  Control       PDP  Volume  Control
          [ ON ]                    [ ON ]
PDP  Input  Select         PDP  Input  Select
  DVD/BD   ◄ input–1 ►        DVD/BD   ◄ input–2 ►
  TV/SAT   [ input–2 ]        TV/SAT   [   OFF  ]
  DVR      [ input–3 ]        DVR      [ input–3 ]
  VIDEO    [   TV   ]         VIDEO    [   TV   ]
Monitor  Out  Connect      Monitor  Out  Connect
         [  OFF  ]                  [  OFF  ]
           ⏎:Finish                   ⏎:Finish
```

6 When you're finished, press RETURN.
You return to the Other Setup menu.

Chapter 12:
Additional information

Troubleshooting

Incorrect operations are often mistaken for trouble and malfunctions. If you think that there is something wrong with this component, check the points below. Take a look at the other components and electrical appliances being used, because sometimes the problem may lie there. If the trouble isn't sorted out even after going through the checks below, ask your nearest Pioneer authorized independent service company to carry out repair work.

• If the unit does not operate normally due to external effects such as static electricity disconnect the power plug from the outlet and insert again to return to normal operating conditions.

Problem	Remedy
The power does not turn on.	• Disconnect the power plug from the outlet, and insert again. • Make sure there are no loose strands of speaker wire touching the rear panel. This could cause the receiver to shut off automatically.
The receiver suddenly switches off and the power indicator blinks.	• After about a minute (you won't be able to switch the unit on during this time), switch the receiver back on. If the message persists, call a Pioneer authorized independent service company.
No sound is output when a function is selected.	• Make sure the component is connected correctly (refer to *Connecting up* on page 11). • Press **MUTE** on the remote control to turn muting off. • Press **SPEAKERS** to select the proper speaker set (see *Switching the speaker system* on page 22). • Press **SIGNAL SELECT** to select the proper input signal (see *Choosing the input signal* on page 36).
No image is output when a function is selected.	• Make sure the component is connected correctly (refer to *Connecting up* on page 11). • Select the correct component (use the input select buttons). • Check *Assigning the component video inputs* on page 65 to make sure you're assigned the correct input. • The video input selected on the TV monitor is incorrect. Refer to the instruction manual supplied with the TV.
No sound from subwoofer.	• Make sure the subwoofer is switched on. • If the subwoofer has a volume knob, make sure it's turned up. • The Dolby Digital or DTS source you are listening to may not have an LFE channel. • Switch the subwoofer setting in *Speaker Setting* on page 42 to **YES** or **PLUS**. • Switch the *LFE ATT (LFE Attenuate)* on page 35 to **LFEATT 0** or **LFEATT 10**.
No sound from surround or center speakers.	• Connect the speakers properly (refer to page 20). • Refer to *Speaker Setting* on page 42 to check the speaker settings. • Refer to *Channel Level* on page 44 to check the speaker levels.
The **PHASE CONTROL** feature doesn't seem to have an audible effect.	• If applicable, check that the lowpass filter switch on your subwoofer is off, or the lowpass cutoff is set to the highest frequency setting. If there is a **PHASE** setting on your subwoofer, set it to 0º (or depending on the subwoofer, the setting where you think it has the best overall effect on the sound). • Make sure the speaker distance setting is correct for all speakers (see *Speaker Distance* on page 45).

Problem	Remedy
Considerable noise in radio broadcasts.	• Connect the antenna (page 19) and adjust the position for best reception. • Route any loose cables away from the antenna terminals and wires. • Fully extend the FM wire antenna, position for best reception, and secure to a wall (or connect an outdoor FM antenna). • Connect an additional internal or external AM antenna (page 19). • Turn off equipment causing interference or move it away from the receiver (or move antennas farther away from equipment causing noise).
Broadcast stations cannot be selected automatically.	• Connect an outdoor antenna (refer to page 19).
Noise during playback of a cassette deck.	• Move the cassette deck away from your receiver, until the noise disappears.
Sound is produced from other components, but not from LD or DVD player.	• Set the **SIGNAL SELECT** to **AUTO**, **DIGITAL** or **ANALOG** according to the type of connections made (refer to page 36). • Set the digital input settings correctly (refer to page 64). • Make digital connections (refer to page 12) and set the **SIGNAL SELECT** to **DIGITAL** (refer to page 36). • Refer to the instruction manual supplied with the DVD player.
No sound is output or a noise is output when software with DTS is played back.	• Set the digital volume level of the player to full, or to the neutral position. • Make sure the player's settings are correct and/or the DTS signal out is on. Refer to the instruction manual supplied with the DVD player. • Set the input signal type to **DIGITAL** (see *Choosing the input signal* on page 36).
During a playback search, noise is output from a DTS compatible CD player.	• This is not a malfunction, but be sure to turn the volume down to prevent the output of loud noise from your speakers.
Everything seems to be set up correctly, but the playback sound is odd.	• Check that the positive/negative speaker terminals on the receiver are matched with the corresponding terminals on the speakers (see *Connecting the speakers* on page 20).
There seems to be a time lag between the speakers and the output of the subwoofer.	• See *Automatically setting up for surround sound (MCACC)* on page 8 to set up your system again using MCACC (this will automatically compensate for a delay in the subwoofer output).
After using the Auto MCACC Setup, the speaker size setting (**LARGE** or **SMALL**) is incorrect.	• Low-frequency noise could have been caused by an air conditioner or motor. Switch off all appliances in the room and rerun the Auto MCACC Setup.
Can't operate the remote control.	• Replace the batteries (refer to page 6). • Operate within 7 m, 30° of the remote sensor (refer to page 29). • Remove the obstacle or operate from another position. • Avoid exposing the remote sensor on the front panel to direct light. • *VSX-918V model only:* Unplug anything connected to the **CONTROL IN** jack and use remote normally (see *Operating other Pioneer components* on page 51).
VSX-918V model only: The SR cable is connected, but the connected components can't be operated with the remote.	• Reinsert the SR cable, making sure it's connected to the right jack (see *Using this receiver with a Pioneer flat screen TV* on page 62). • Make sure an analog connection has been made between the units. • This feature only works with Pioneer products.
The display is dark or off.	• Press **DIMMER** on the control repeatedly to return to the default.
The **System Setup** screen doesn't appear.	• When the receiver is in standby, switch to **BURST.OFF** by holding down **ACOUSTIC EQ** (front panel) and pressing ⏻ **STANDBY/ON** (the current setting is displayed).

Problem	Remedy
USB mass storage device is not recognized by the receiver.	• Try switching the receiver off, then on again. • Make sure you have completely inserted the USB connector to this receiver. • Check that the memory format is FAT16 or FAT32 (FAT12, NTFS and HFS are not supported). • USB devices with an internal USB hub are not supported.
USB ERR3 shows in the display when connecting a USB device.	• If this message continues to appear after going through all the checks in *Important* on page 61 of *Connecting a USB device*, take the unit to your nearest Pioneer authorized service center or your dealer for servicing.
Can't play audio files.	• The WMA or MPEG-4 AAC files were recorded using DRM (digital rights management), or the bit rate/sampling rate is not compatible (see *Compressed audio compatibility* on page 61). This is not a malfunction.

HDMI

Symptom	Remedy
No picture or sound.	• If the problem still persists when connecting your HDMI component directly to your monitor, please consult the component or monitor manual or contact the manufacturer for support.
No picture.	• Depending in the output settings of the source component, it may be outputting a video format that can't be displayed. Change the output settings of the source, or connect using the component or composite jacks. • *VSX-918V model only:* – This receiver is HDCP-compatible. Check that the components you are connecting are also HDCP-compatible. If they are not, please connect them using the component or composite video jacks. – Depending on the connected source component, it's possible that it will not work with this receiver (even if it is HDCP-compatible). In this case, connect using the component or composite video jacks between source and receiver. – If video images do not appear on your TV or flat screen TV, try adjusting the resolution, DeepColor or other setting for your component. – If '**NOT SPT**' (NOT SUPPORT) appears in the receiver's display, try adjusting the resolution, DeepColor or other setting for your component.
OSD does not appear.	• The OSD will not appear if you have connected using the HDMI output to your TV. Use component or composite connections when setting up the system.
No sound, or sound suddenly ceases.	• If you've made separate connections for audio, make sure you have assigned the analog/digital jack(s) to the corresponding HDMI input for the component. See *Assigning the HDMI inputs* on page 65 to do this. • Check the audio output settings of the source component. • *VSX-918V model only:* – Check that the AV Parameter setting is set to **HDMI AMP/THRU** (refer to page 35). – If the component is a DVI device, use a separate connection for the audio. • *VSX-818V model only:* Since the HDMI audio signal is sent through this receiver to your TV, you need to make separate connections for audio if you want to hear your HDMI component through this system. See *Connecting using HDMI* on page 16 for more on this.
VSX-918V model only: **HDCP ERR** shows in the display.	• Check whether or not the connected component is compatible with HDCP. If it is not compatible with HDCP, reconnect the source device using a different type of connection (component or composite). Some components that are compatible with HDCP still cause this message to be displayed, but so long as there is no problem with displaying video this is not a malfunction.

Important information regarding the HDMI connection

(VSX-918V model only)

There are cases where you may not be able to route HDMI signals through this receiver (this depends on the HDMI equipped component you are connecting-check with the manufacturer for HDMI compatibility information).

If you aren't receiving HDMI signals properly through this receiver (from your component), please try the following configuration when connecting up.

Configuration[1]

Connect your HDMI-equipped component directly to the display using an HDMI cable. Then use the most convenient connection (digital is recommended) for sending audio to the receiver. See the operating instructions for more on audio connections. Set the display volume to minimum when using this configuration.

Resetting the main unit

Use this procedure to reset all the receiver's settings to the factory default. Use the front panel controls to do this.

1   Switch the receiver into standby.

2   While holding down the ADVANCED SURROUND button, press and hold the ⏻ STANDBY/ON button for about three seconds.

3   When you see RESET? appear in the display, press 'ST –'.
OK? shows in the display.

4   Press SOUND RETRIEVER to confirm.
OK appears in the display to indicate that the receiver has been reset to the factory settings.

Switching the speaker impedance

We recommend using speakers of 8 Ω with this system, but it is possible to switch the impedance setting if you plan to use speakers with a 6 Ω impedance rating.

•   **With the receiver in standby, press ⏻ STANDBY/ON while holding down the SPEAKERS button.**
Each time you do this, you switch between the impedance settings:

•   **SP 6 OHM** – Use this setting if your speakers are rated at 6 Ω.

•   **SP 8 OHM** – Use this setting if your speakers are rated at 8 Ω or more.

📝 **Note**
1 • If your display only has one HDMI terminal, you can only receive HDMI video from the connected component.
• Depending on the component, audio output may be limited to the number of channels available from the connected display unit (for example audio output is reduced to 2 channels for a monitor with stereo audio limitations).
• If you want to switch the input source, you'll have to switch functions on both the receiver and your display unit.
• Since the sound is muted on the display when using the HDMI connection, you must adjust the volume on the display every time you switch input sources.

Changing the TV format setting

If the System Setup menu is not displayed correctly, it may be that the TV system is set incorrectly for your country or region.

• **With the receiver in standby, press ⏻ STANDBY/ON while holding down the SIGNAL SELECT button.**

The display shows the new setting (**PAL** or **NTSC**).

Power cord caution

Handle the power cord by the plug. Do not pull out the plug by tugging the cord and never touch the power cord when your hands are wet as this could cause a short circuit or an electric shock. Do not place the unit, a piece of furniture, etc., on the power cord, or pinch the cord. Never make a knot in the cord or tie it with other cords. The power cords should be routed such that they are not likely to be stepped on. A damaged power cord can cause a fire or give you an electrical shock. Check the power cord once in a while. When you find it damaged, ask your nearest Pioneer authorized service center or your dealer for a replacement.

Cleaning the unit

• Use a polishing cloth or dry cloth to wipe off dust and dirt.

• When the surface is dirty, wipe with a soft cloth dipped in some neutral cleanser diluted five or six times with water, and wrung out well, and then wipe again with a dry cloth. Do not use furniture wax or cleansers.

• Never use thinners, benzine, insecticide sprays or other chemicals on or near this unit, since these will corrode the surface.

Specifications

Amplifier section

• **Continuous power output (stereo)**

Front. . . . . .100 W + 100 W
(DIN 1 kHz, THD 1.0 %, 8 Ω)

• **Rated power output (surround / 20 Hz to 20 kHz, THD 0.06 %, 8 Ω)**

Front. . . . . 95 W per channel
Center . . . . .95 W
Surround . . . . 95 W per channel

• **Rated power output (surround / 1 kHz, THD 1.0 %, 8 Ω)**

Front. . . . . 130 W per channel
Center . . . . .130 W
Surround . . . . 130 W per channel

Audio section

• **Input (Sensitivity/Impedance)**

AUX, CD, CD-R/TAPE/MD, DVD/BD,
TV/SAT, DVR/VCR . . . . .335 mV/47 kΩ

• **Frequency response**

AUX, CD, CD-R/TAPE/MD, DVD/BD,
TV/SAT, DVR/VCR . . . . . 5 Hz to 100 000 Hz $^{+0}_{-3}$ dB

• **Output (Level/Impedance)**

CD-R/TAPE/MD, DVR/VCR . . . . . 335 mV/2.2 kΩ

• **Tone control**

Bass. . . . . ± 6 dB (100 Hz)
Treble. . . . .± 6 dB (10 kHz)
Loudness. . . . . . . +10 dB/+5 dB (100 Hz/10 kHz)
(at volume level –50 dB)

• **Signal-to-Noise Ratio DIN (Continuous rated power output / 50 mW)**

AUX, CD, CD-R/TAPE/MD, DVD/BD,
TV/SAT, DVR/VCR . . . . 88 dB/64 dB

Video Section

• **Input (Sensitivity/Impedance)**

DVR/VCR, DVD/BD, TV/SAT. . . . . . . .1 Vp-p/75 Ω

• **Output (Level/Impedance)**

DVR/VCR, MONITOR OUT . . . . .1 Vp-p/75 Ω

- **Frequency response**

DVR/VCR, DVD/BD,

TV/SAT ⇨ MONITOR . . . . . . 5 Hz to 7 MHz $^{+0}_{-3}$ dB
Signal-to-Noise Ratio . . . . 55 dB
Crosstalk . . . . 50 dB

Component video section

- **Input (Sensitivity/Impedance)**

DVD/BD, TV/SAT, DVR/VCR. . . . . . . 1 Vp-p/75 Ω

- **Output (Level/Impedance)**

MONITOR OUT . . . . 1 Vp-p/75 Ω

- **Frequency response**

DVD/BD, TV/SAT,

DVR/VCR ⇨ MONITOR . . . 5 Hz to 40 MHz $^{+0}_{-3}$ dB
Signal-to-Noise Ratio . . . . 60 dB

HDMI Section

Input. . . . . 19 pin x2
Output . . . . 19 pin (5 V, 55 mA)

FM Tuner Section

Frequency Range . . . . 87.5 MHz to 108 MHz
Usable Sensitivity . . . . Mono:13.2 dBf, IHF
(1.3 μV/75 Ω)
50 dB Quieting Sensitivity . . . . . . Mono: 20.2 dBf
Stereo: 38.6 dBf
Signal-to-Noise Ratio . . . Mono: 73 dB (at 85 dBf)
Stereo: 70 dB (at 85 dBf)
Distortion. . . . . Stereo: 0.5 % (1 kHz)
Alternate Channel Selectivity. . . . . 60 dB
(400 kHz)
Stereo Separation . . . . 40 dB (1 kHz)
Frequency Response . . . . 30 Hz to 15 kHz
(±1 dB)
Antenna Input (DIN). . . . . 75 Ω unbalanced

AM Tuner Section

Frequency Range . . . . 531 kHz to 1602 kHz
Sensitivity (IHF, Loop antenna) . . . . 350 μV/m
Signal-to-Noise Ratio . . . . 50 dB
Antenna . . . . Loop antenna

Miscellaneous

Power requirements
. . . . AC 220 V to 230 V, 50 Hz/60 Hz
Power consumption . . . . 290 W
In standby. . . . . 0.5 W
Dimensions
. . . . . 420 mm (W) x 158 mm (H) x 352.5 mm (D)
Weight (without package). . . . . 8.1 kg

Furnished Parts

Microphone (for Auto MCACC setup) 1
Remote control 1
Dry cell batteries (AA size IEC R6) 2
AM loop antenna 1
FM wire antenna 1
Warranty card 1
These operating instructions

📝 **Note**

- Specifications and the design are subject
to possible modifications without notice,
due to improvements.

http://www.pioneer.co.uk

http://www.pioneer.eu

<XRB3091-A>

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