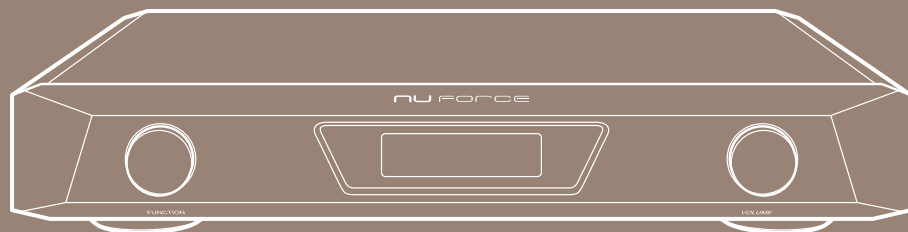




nu force

AVP18

Audiophile digital AV preamp



Additional manual

AVP-18 FAQ

Why doesn't the AVP-18 provide any analog video or audio inputs?

NuForce believes that a simple design is able to provide the shortest audio signal path and lowest interference, and therefore the AVP-18 was conceived as a purely audio-centric HDMI processor. In doing this, the AVP-18 simply strips out the audio data embedded in the HDMI signal for decoding. The video data is strictly a 'pass-through', and as such, it cannot encode analog audio or video signals into the HDMI output.

Does the AVP-18 support 3D video?

3D video support is strictly related to video. The AVP-18 will pass through any relevant 3D video signal to the TV.

Does the AVP-18 support 4K video?

Presently there exists no consumer 4K video content. In the case where '4K video' is a line doubling feature built into a given high-end TV/projector, the signal format carried by HDMI remains 1080P and is therefore compatible with the AVP-18. In other instances, certain high-end BD players may have a built-in video scalar and can output a 4K HDMI signal. In such cases, their 4K HDMI outputs are not compatible with the AVP-18.

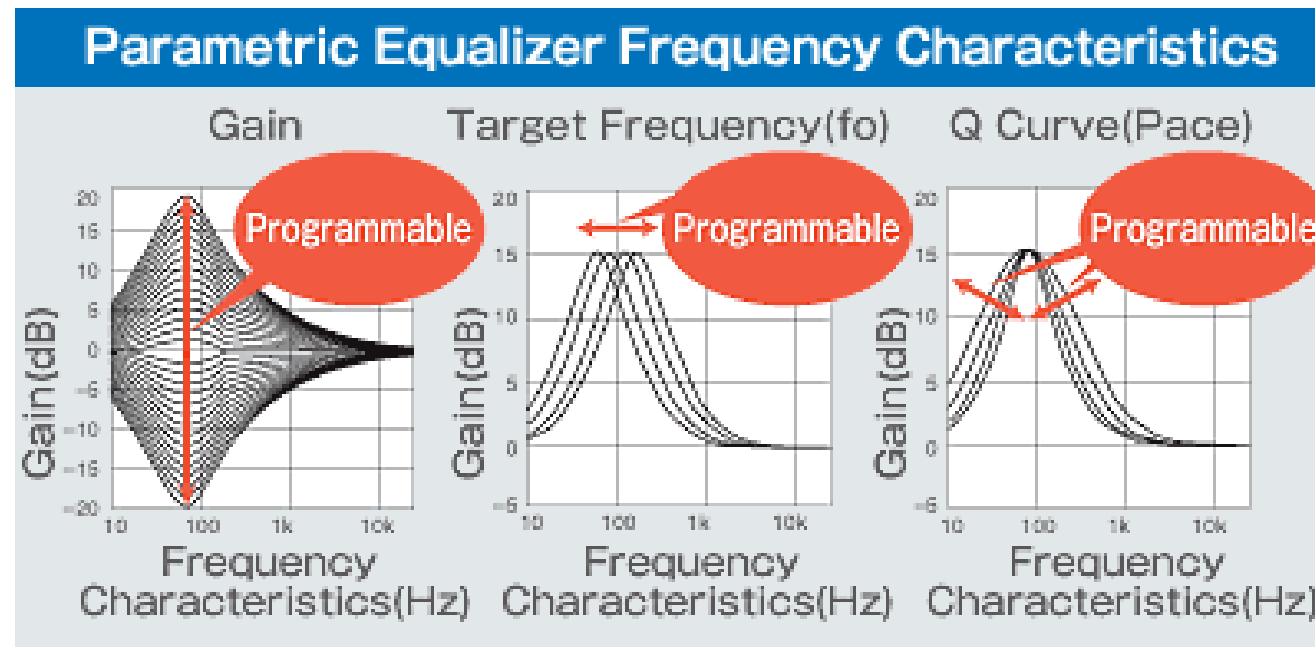
I am overwhelmed by the features of the AVP-18. What's the simplest way to start using it?

Simply connect the input and output cables following the User's Guide. Then run the Auto Room EQ. The whole process takes about 20-minutes. Follow the instructions on the TV screen (OSD). Avoid blocking the speakers and don't walk in the room while the EQ process is taking place. Make sure to save the settings after the Auto Room EQ.

How many EQs are available?

Five (5) of the seven (7) main channels have eleven (11) Parametric EQ presets. The Left & Right Rear channels do not offer any EQ capability, while the Subwoofer LFE output has three (3) Parametric EQ presets.

Every preset has adjustable Frequency, Level, and Q. Keep in mind there are a total of 58 presets with nearly infinite adjustability, so unless you have the proper audio test equipment and knowledge to measure the actual in-room response with the speakers, we highly advise that you only use the Auto EQ function.



Why do I get somewhat differing results if I run the Auto-EQ function more times?

- 1) First, be sure to always adjust the settings in the Speaker Setup screen manually before proceeding to the Auto-EQ measurement. You can choose the Crossover Frequency for the front L/R, and LFE channels based on the manufacturer's specifications. If there is no manufacturer recommendation for the Crossover Slope setting, you might want to experiment with setting it to 24dB, as this often results in a more transparent L/R soundstage and tighter bass.
- 2) After the Speaker Setup parameters are properly entered, you can then run the Auto-EQ. There is no need to manually set the Speaker Distance and Gain, as those will be setup by the Auto-EQ process.
- 3) To begin the Auto-EQ process, first locate and set up the Microphone according to the instructions. Once everything is ready, run Auto-EQ. Remember to press 'Enter' and be sure to SAVE the settings from the first pass, which measures the speaker distances and the sensitivity. The second pass will perform the actual EQ measurement. You can then use the scroll arrow < and > to review the EQ settings for each speaker. Please note that the EQ only applies to the main 5.1 channels, as the rear L/R channels cannot be adjusted and are always set for a flat response. In addition, under most circumstance you should expect the adjustments that were made by the Auto-EQ process to be of relatively small increments/decrements
- 4) The AVP-18 will purge the old EQ settings when repeating the Auto-EQ process. Nevertheless, to ensure consistent results we suggest that if there is a need to re-run the Auto-EQ process, to always 'Load Factory Default' before doing so.
- 5) After completing the Auto-EQ process, it is permissible to make manual adjustments in the Speaker Setup screen in order to change the Crossover Frequency and/or Slope of the crossover. There is no need to run Auto-EQ again.

Does the AVP-18 support Audyssey™?

Audyssey™ is a proprietary Auto Room EQ optimization algorithm. At present, Nuforce is not a licensee so the AVP-18 does not support it. We (subjectively) believe the Auto Room EQ in the AVP-18 offers similar adjustability with superlative audio performance.

There are too many features and formats, what features are supported under which format?

With normal HDMI connections, the AVP-18 auto-detects the supported incoming audio formats and will determine the best default playback settings in most cases. By using the Mode+ and Mode- keys on the remote, users can change the decoding format. Please note that only supported formats are available.

	Stereo PCM	Multi-Channel PCM	Dolby Digital Sound Tracksupport	DTS Digital Soundtrack support	Subwoofer Output	Maximum sample rate	# of audio output channels	EQ Preset	Auto EQ
Direct	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	192KHz	As Is	No	No
Stereo w/EQ	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	192KHz	2	Yes	Yes
All Stereo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
DSP	Yes	Yes	NO	NO	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
Dolby Digital	NO	NO	Yes	NO	Yes	192KHz	As Is*	Yes	Yes
Dolby True HD	NO	NO	NO	NO	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
ProLogic IIz	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
DTS	NO	NO	NO	Yes	Yes	192KHz	7.1*	Yes	Yes
DTS-ES	NO	NO	NO	Yes	Yes	192KHz	5.1	Yes	Yes
DTS-HD MA	NO	NO	NO	NO	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
NEO.6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
DTS HD HRA	NO	NO	NO	NO	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes
DTS HD LRA	NO	NO	NO	NO	Yes	192KHz	7.1	Yes	Yes

DTS repeats the surround channels to the rear surround if all 7.1 speakers are connected.

What do Centre Width and Size adjust?

These adjustments are only available under Pro Logic mode and allow you to control the balance of the main vocals in the centre and front channel.

What are the Height speakers? How can I use them?

Dolby first introduced the concept of Height Speakers in the format Dolby Pro Logic IIz™. The AVP-18 supports the Height speaker by repurposing the Rear surround channels as Height channels, if so required. Based on our own preference, NuForce recommends utilizing the 7.1 rear channels instead of 5.1 + Height wherever possible, unless restricted by a very small room.


To add the Height Speaker, go to the Speaker Setup menu and turn on **FvH**. Only 'Small' Height speakers are supported. (Please see image below)

Input	Mode	Parameters	Setup
Front L/R		Large	
Center		None	
Surround L/R		Small	90 Hz
Back L/R		None	
FvH		Small	90 Hz
Back/FvH Channel			2 CH
Subwoofer		None	40 Hz
Enhance Bass			Off

▲▼ Adjust

◀▶ Move cursor

RETURN Return



Notice that the 'Back L/R' becomes 'None' as soon as FvH is changed to 'Small.'

What is ‘Midnight’?

The Midnight setting is a Dynamic Range compression process provided by Dolby and DTS to highlight certain frequencies and/or signals while keeping the effective volume low. This would be for late night listening or other times when it is important to minimize the disturbance of others within hearing range of the system.

What is the Slope adjustment for (as in '12dB')? It appears this can be set for the front L/R and centre speaker.

The slope adjustment determines the rate at which the frequency response is attenuated above or below the crossover point. It can be set per pair of speakers, but not each individually. For example: the front speakers, the centre speaker and/or the rear speakers.

** Please note that this adjustment only applies to the 'so called' crossover point between the main L/C/R/Rear and the Subwoofer/LFE channels, and that there is no actual external crossover capability 'per se,' as is commonly encountered with true bi-amping or tri-amping, etc.

Why is the AVP-18 unable to receive HDMI 192kHz? It keeps forcing HDMI to 48kHz.

The HDMI Audio Output has been re-directed to the TV instead of the Amplifier. Follow the following process to correct:

Menu > Setup > Option > HDMI Audio Out > Amplifier

Change HDMI Audio Out to "Amplifier" (Default is TV)

Input	Mode	Parameters	Setup
Input Config	OSD Transparency		06
Playback	OSD Popup		On
Speaker Setup	HDMI CEC Control		Off
Auto Room/EQ	HDMI Audio Out		Amplifier
Option	HDMI OFF Through		Off
Language/语言			
Load Default			
Version			

What is CEC? How do I enable it?

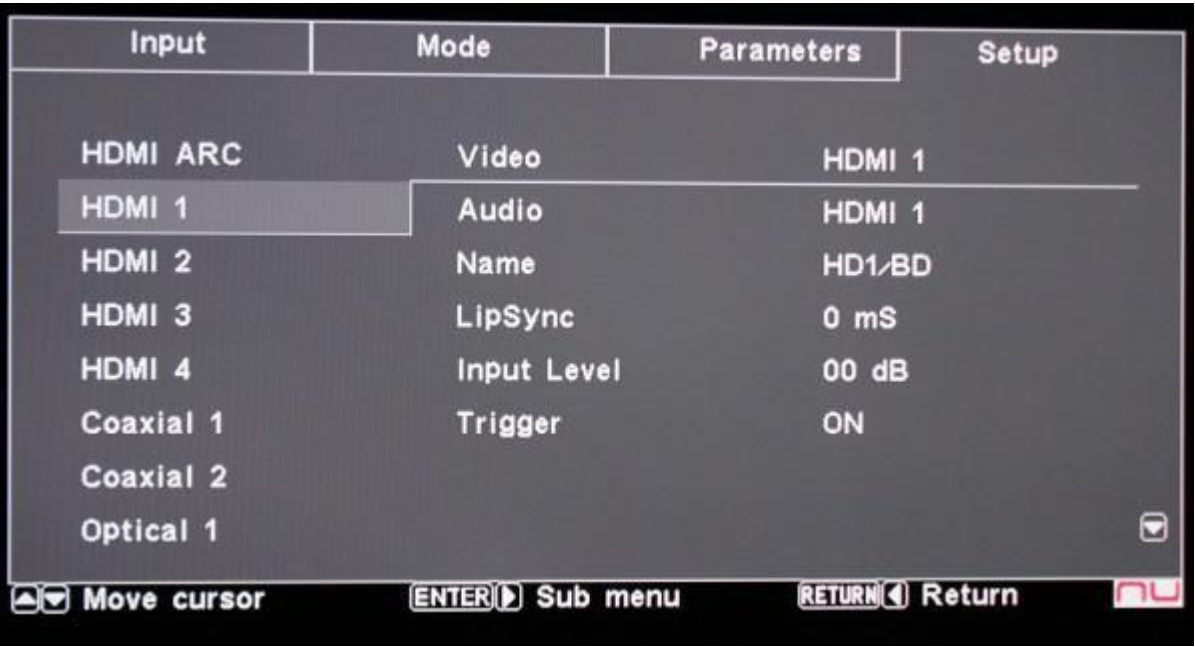
HDMI supports a protocol called CEC (Consumer Electronics Control), CEC allows a single remote handset to control a few functions with multiple HDMI devices, such as TV and BD Player, etc. CEC is subject to full CEC support in all of your connected devices, and may experience some 'quirks' if any of the HDMI devices were purchased before the CEC standards were fully finalized. CEC can be enabled/disabled under:

Menu > Setup > Option > HDMI CEC Control > On

I am experiencing a mismatch between the video and audio (LipSync). Can I adjust the audio delay?

Yes, 'LipSync can be independently adjusted for every HDMI input. Go to:

Menu > Options > Input



The screenshot shows a TV's input menu with four columns: Input, Mode, Parameters, and Setup. The 'HDMI 1' input is selected, and the 'LipSync' mode is highlighted. The 'Parameters' column shows '0 mS' for LipSync. The 'Setup' column shows 'HDMI 1' for HDMI inputs and 'HD1/BD' for other inputs. At the bottom, there are navigation instructions: 'Move cursor' (left arrow), 'Sub menu' (ENTER), and 'Return' (RETURN).

Input	Mode	Parameters	Setup
HDMI ARC	Video	HDMI 1	
HDMI 1	Audio	HDMI 1	
HDMI 2	Name	HD1/BD	
HDMI 3	LipSync	0 mS	
HDMI 4	Input Level	00 dB	
Coaxial 1	Trigger	ON	
Coaxial 2			
Optical 1			

Move cursor ENTER Sub menu RETURN Return

There you will find the LipSync adjustment. The value listed indicates the delay time. Adjust as needed to correct the LipSync problem.

My HDMI TV (HDMI 1.4 and above) supports Audio Return (ARC), how do I play back the TV audio using the AVP-18?

Select input 'TV ARC.' The AVP-18 will switch to the HDMI audio coming from the TV. Please note that not all HDMI TVs provide the ARC feature.

Why do I hear signals coming from the rear surround speakers when playing back a DTS-HDMA 5.1CH audio signal?

The Surround signals are repeated in the Rear Surround channels as required by the DTS format.

Does the AVP-18 support DSD (SACD player as source) over HDMI?

The AVP-18 does not support DSD over HDMI. BD Players compatible with SACDs can often be set to output PCM format at 88.2kHz to the AVP-18 automatically.

What is "Direct" and does EQ have any effect with this setting?

"Direct" refers to a 'purist' form of decoding, such that the AVP-18 turns off all DSP enhancements like room correction and EQ. It's recommended for dedicated 2-channel audio, but not for Movie sound tracks (except perhaps, acoustic music videos, etc.).

Could the video signal be compromised by inserting the AVP-18 into the signal path?

No, it shouldn't. The AVP-18 strips the incoming HDMI signal into separate video and audio streams. While audio stream is decoded, the video streams are unaltered and handed-over to the HDMI output. Nevertheless, the HDMI clock is being regenerated, and some report that it results in a slightly improved video quality when used with longer HDMI cables, much like adding a HDMI switch.

Are there any known issues that I should be aware of?

The followings are known issues and their corrective actions:

Strange HDMI behavior such as losing sync, blank video, green screen:

First, check and make sure you have a good HDMI cable by swapping it out with another cable.

Go to: Menu > Setup > Options:

Turn CEC Control = OFF

Turn HDMI Audio Out = Amplifier

Turn HDMI OFF Through = OFF

Input	Mode	Parameters	Setup
Input Config	OSD Transparency		06
Playback	OSD Popun		On
Speaker Setup	HDMI CEC Control		Off
Auto Room/EQ	HDMI Audio Out		Amplifier
Option	HDMI OFF Through		Off
Language/语言			
Load Default			
Version			

Auto Room Correction. Running auto room EQ multiple times can result in errors on subsequent Auto EQ passes. This is because the Auto EQ test stacks new results over the previously stored room parameters.

When running Auto Room Correction/EQ, make sure you finish the entire routine for all speakers and SAVE the settings.

To re-run the Auto Room Correction, go to **Menu > Setup > Load Default** to clear out all previous stored settings.

Turn Off AVP-18, wait 30 seconds, then power it on again. Now you can re-run Auto EQ.

What is a calibrated mic and how can I utilize it?

Nuforce provides an optional calibrated mic, each with its own serial number and matching characteristic response file which specifically allows the AVP-18 user or AV installer/dealer to insert the calibrated mic response curve into the AVP-18 for a more precise room measurement. NOTE: The calibrated mic is not to be confused with the standard included microphone that for most part is more than sufficiently accurate.

The calibrated mike is available for purchase directly from NuForce or a NuForce dealer. To utilize the calibrated mic, please download the latest firmware and installation software.



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