

Our remarkable MCA multichannel amplifiers are a study in wonderful sonic contrasts.

Hefty, with a weight and authority reminiscent of far more expensive amplifiers; able to play deep, tight and loud without breakup. They are capable of reproducing all of the multichannel magic and complex dynamics of the most demanding 7.1-channel surround-sound experience without ever losing control. And they are consummate musicians. Musical, refined, and detailed—delivering a transparency and clarity destined to unravel even the most elusive notes of an elaborate aria.

These are qualities for which MCA multichannel amplifiers are legendary. With the introduction of the MCA 20, MCA 30, and MCA 50, Anthem's reputation for outstanding high-end performance got even better.

Whether it's the finesse required to satisfy the most discerning audiophile, the power demanded by the avid home theater enthusiast, or the reliability required for professional multimedia and studio installations, MCA amplifiers deliver it all!

MCA 20/30/50

MULTICHANNEL AMPLIFIERS

“... potent ... articulate ... visceral ...”

- Roger Kanno, SoundStage!



“If you are looking for a multichannel amplifier that can really rock on movie soundtracks, but is equally at home in a high-quality two-channel system, look no further. ... one of the more refined amplifiers that I have heard at anywhere near its price point.”

- Roger Kanno, SoundStage!

“... exceedingly clean and detailed ... plenty of power and excellent frequency extension on both ends ... able to deliver unexpected thrills ... clean and tight ... fast and transparent ... paints a vivid sonic picture ... excellent clarity. ... this amp is quiet, perhaps quieter than any other I've heard ... ”

- Doug Schneider, SoundStage!

“... one of the few true high output, audiophile quality, multi-channel power amplifiers on the market today ... seems to be an endless supply of sheer power!”

- Alan L. Maier, SMR Home Theater

*Quotes are from previous MCA Series models. The introduction of the MCA 20, MCA 30 and MCA 50 represents further improvements for even better sound!

Eight Output Devices Per Channel!

Solid state amplifiers get their power from the output devices used in the amplification stage. Just like cylinders in a car's engine, the greater the number of devices per channel, the greater the available high-current power for the crescendos in music, or the thrills, thunder and explosions in movies. Performance is simply more effortless. It also means that the amplifier will run cooler, making it more reliable.

MCA amplifiers each have a whopping eight bipolar output devices per channel—that's 40 devices in the MCA 50 alone, ensuring tremendous current reserves and outstanding reliability.

Sound Purity and Integrity

Our design for MCA amplifiers follows the "Keep-It-Simple" principle. We utilize the fewest possible number of parts in the signal path to maintain the integrity of sound. All parts are of the highest quality and tolerance. As a result, these remarkable amplifiers offer the profound sense of musical purity, transparency and naturalness that is demanded by the most discerning listener.

Mirror-Imaged Channels

Frequency response channel-matching in our amplifiers has always been far better than the norm. In fact, MCA amplifiers are virtually mirror-imaged. All amplifier channels offer identical performance. The musical picture is incredibly vivid, seamless, and detailed, with a multichannel soundstage that is exceptionally clear, coherent and three-dimensional.

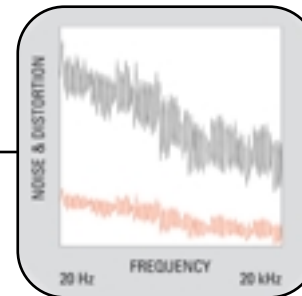
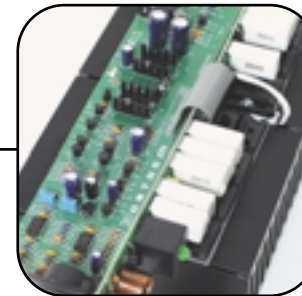
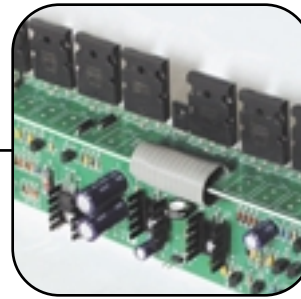
Modular Design

MCA amplifiers reflect the benefit of a common modular design enhanced by our highly refined fourth-generation amplifier circuit topology. Each amplifier channel is completely self-contained on its own board and heatsink. In the rare event that service should be required, it can be done quickly and easily by a qualified technician, minimizing the "down time" of your system.

Vanishing Noise and Distortion

In a rare feat, transformer-induced noise at the bass frequencies of 60 Hz, 120 Hz, and 180 Hz, has effectively been eliminated. MCA amplifiers boast vanishing noise and unbelievably low levels of Total Harmonic Distortion.

The reproduction of subtle harmonic structures in each of these amplifiers allows for a far more complete re-creation of spatial ambience and soundstage dimension—it's enough to give you goose bumps!



A New Level of Quiet!

Signal-to-noise ratio in MCA amplifiers is 120 dB ... a truly remarkable feat! Music and movie soundtracks simply appear out of "dead" silence allowing you to become lost in the emotion of the original performance—the mark (and the end goal) of a truly high-end audio-video component. During even the most tranquil musical passages or dramatically quiet moments in a movie, the background is so 'black' that it is audibly gone.

Massive Toroidal Power Supplies

MCA amplifiers deliver incredible dynamics thanks to massive 'audiophile-approved', conservatively-rated power supplies designed with high rail voltages. Advanced-generation toroidal power transformers are used to ensure ultra-quiet performance by minimizing stray magnetic field radiation. This provides the pure, clean, low-noise power that is needed to reproduce the full dynamics of home theater, and the most complex and dynamic music recordings.

Stable as a Rock

Our amplifiers are incredibly stable into difficult, low-impedance speaker loads, making these superb-sounding dynamos reliable performers in even the toughest circumstances.

RCA Inputs, XLR Balanced Inputs

High quality in! High quality out! Gold-plated female RCA jacks provide a high-quality input connection, but with MCA amplifiers you get much more. XLR balanced connections are commonly used in professional recording and broadcasting to ensure the lowest level of noise and hum possible. Now you can use this same high-quality connection for reference-quality high-end sound since XLR balanced inputs are included on all MCA amplifiers.

Our unique auto-sensing circuit makes connecting inputs a snap. Just plug in either the RCA or XLR connector and our auto-sensing circuit automatically selects the right input. No switches, no problems, it's simple.

50% Larger Power Supply Reservoirs

More Power! More space to store it! With 225 watts, large banks of capacitors are needed to store all of the energy required for the immense dynamic bursts of various special effects in a movie, or the taxing crescendo of a solo piano. These amplifiers are the most powerful MCA amplifiers yet, employing 30,000 micro farads (μF) of capacitance per channel (that's 150,000 μF for the MCA 50). With so many joules of energy in reserve, when called upon, the MCA 20, MCA 30 and MCA 50 are able to deliver full bursts of power instantly and effortlessly.

Larger Custom Chassis and Heatsink

A redesigned chassis and large custom heatsink—33% larger than previous MCA Series amplifiers—ensure that these amplifiers dissipate the heat generated by their higher power levels quickly and efficiently. Our custom heatsinks are computer-designed and modeled to maximize contact area for exceptional heat transfer efficiency. Put simply, they run cooler for greater reliability.



Multiple Power Switches

MCA amplifiers can be powered On/Off three ways: manually with the On/Off switch on the front panel; remotely via the 12-volt trigger input on the rear; or automatically with our patented Auto-On/Off circuit—an incoming audio signal immediately switches it on, and approximately 20 minutes after the audio signal ends, it simply switches off.

Better Output Connection

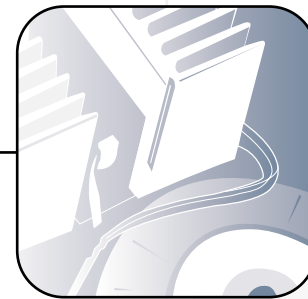
Our own custom-designed, oversized robust binding posts ensure full power delivery at all times. They're easy to use and facilitate large speaker cable connectors.

Detachable Power Cord

While a detachable AC power cord comes in handy when connecting various components, its function is more than one of simple convenience. High-end products typically offer the freedom to use a variety of after-market power cords offered by specialty cable manufacturers. By including IEC detachable AC female sockets and high-power, high-quality 14-awg AC cords, MCA amplifiers further demonstrate their high-end pedigree.

Superior Craftsmanship

Like all Anthem™ products the MCA 20, MCA 30 and MCA 50, designed and built in North America, are like no other amplifiers in the world! Custom low-noise high-power toroidal transformers, high-current bipolar output transistors, high-quality filter capacitors, advanced power supply regulators, oversized aluminum heatsinks, custom-designed dual binding posts, and patented auto-on/off circuitry. Superior craftsmanship that is reflected in clean, clear, audiophile-quality sound from top to bottom of the frequency spectrum.



MCA 20/30/50



MCA 20



MCA 30



MCA 50

INPUTS

MCA 20	2 Single-Ended, 2 Balanced, 1 Relay Trigger (3.5-mm Mono Jack)
MCA 30	3 Single-Ended, 3 Balanced, 1 Relay Trigger (3.5-mm Mono Jack)
MCA 50	5 Single-Ended, 5 Balanced, 1 Relay Trigger (3.5-mm Mono Jack)

OUTPUTS

MCA 20	2 Pairs Speaker Binding Posts, 1 Relay Trigger (3.5-mm Mono Jack)
MCA 30	3 Pairs Speaker Binding Posts, 1 Relay Trigger (3.5-mm Mono Jack)
MCA 50	5 Pairs Speaker Binding Posts, 1 Relay Trigger (3.5-mm Mono Jack)

SWITCHES

Front Panel: Power On/Off
Rear Panel: 3 On/Off Modes (Trigger, Manual, Auto)

POWER OUTPUT

(Continuous RMS, 20 Hz - 20 kHz, <1.0% THD, AC line voltage held constant at full load)

Impedance	8 Ω		4 Ω		2 Ω	
	1	All	1	All	1	All
# of Channels Driven						
MCA 20	225 W	200 W	370 W	300 W	535 W	410 W
MCA 30	225 W	180 W	375 W	265 W	550 W	340 W
MCA 50	225 W	180 W	370 W	265 W	535 W	340 W*

*Special Test Conditions Required

HEADROOM

1.45 dB (8 Ω); 2.3 dB (4 Ω)

POWER BANDWIDTH

10 Hz - 80 kHz (200 W @ 8 Ω)

FREQUENCY RESPONSE

20 Hz - 20 kHz (-0.15 dB); 5 Hz - 100 kHz (-2 dB)

THD + N

0.0015% @ 1 kHz; 0.03% @ 20 kHz (100 W into 8 Ω)

INPUT SENSITIVITY

1.5 VRMS for 225 W into 8 Ω

INPUT IMPEDANCE

10 kΩ (RCA); 15 kΩ (XLR)

DAMPING FACTOR

130 @ 1 kHz (ref. 8 Ω)

S/N RATIO

120 dB, A-weighted (ref. 225 W)

CHANNEL SEPARATION

>65 dB (100 Hz - 10 kHz)

VOLTAGE GAIN

29 dB

SLEW RATE

20 V/μs

POWER REQUIREMENTS

MCA 20	800 VA @ maximum power output (8 Ω load)
MCA 30	1100 VA @ maximum power output (8 Ω load)
MCA 50	1800 VA @ maximum power output (8 Ω load)

DIMENSIONS

MCA 20	17-1/4" (43.8 cm) Wide x 7" (17.8 cm) High x 12-1/4" (31 cm) Deep
MCA 30	17-1/4" (43.8 cm) Wide x 7" (17.8 cm) High x 12-1/4" (31 cm) Deep
MCA 50	17-1/4" (43.8 cm) Wide x 7" (17.8 cm) High x 17-1/2" (44.5 cm) Deep

NET WEIGHT (Unpacked)

MCA 20	35 lb (15.9 kg)
MCA 30	41 lb (18.6 kg)
MCA 50	61 lb (27.6 kg)

A FEW WORDS ON RELIABILITY

Both MCA and PVA multichannel amplifiers are designed to perform flawlessly—offering stunning musicality, tonal neutrality, and incredible dynamics while driving any speaker load reliably under real-world conditions! The power supply is conservatively rated, and the amplifiers run cool for greater reliability, but we didn't stop there.

These amplifiers feature our ALM™ (Advanced Load Monitoring) circuitry which protects sensitive output devices by constantly monitoring temperature, current, and voltage to ensure optimum long-term performance. ALM™ is totally non-invasive—it is not in the signal path, and only engages in the most extreme circumstances to protect the amplifier from damage by maintaining

the safe operating area of the output devices. Buyer beware however! Not all amplifier manufacturers have sophisticated load-monitoring provisions. Many have saved the added cost, leaving their output devices unprotected, choosing instead to use the amplifier's output devices as "fuses." At Sonic Frontiers International however, ALM™ is just one of the ways in which our products provide owners with years of reliable service.