



Features

- 5 X 100 watts Full Disclosure Power, 20Hz – 20kHz, at less than 0.03% THD with all channels driven simultaneously into 8 or 4 Ohms
- Dynamic power of 150 watts at 8 Ohms, 200 watts at 4 Ohms, and 260 watts at 2 Ohms.
- Custom wound Holmgren Toroidal transformer with proprietary shielding to eliminate EMF leakage
- Custom 5 way Binding Posts
- 12V Trigger for advanced control options
- Detachable AC cor

Details

Separates vs. All-in-one receivers

NAD designs and sells both Receivers and Separates, and each can provide a spine tingling Home Theatre experience. While Receivers offer a simple one-box solution to the switching, decoding, and amplification needs of the Home Theatre, there are some inherent limitations to combining high power amplifiers with sensitive switching and decoding circuits. The high current circuits required for the highest levels of audio performance create a lot of heat and stray magnetic fields that limit the ability of low level audio and video circuits from achieving optimum levels of low noise and distortion. This is a fact of life dictated by the laws of physics.

We also believe that there is a practical limit to the size of a component developed for home use, a limit that is often surpassed in the largest and most expensive AV Receivers.

Another consideration is cost. While a Receiver may appear to offer more for your money in the short run, the fact of the matter is that Receivers quickly become obsolete. This is because decoder technology is still evolving very fast. If you want the latest in video performance and surround sound decoding, plan on replacing your decoder every 3 – 5 years. The decoder is but one part of the Receiver, yet it is inseparable, requiring the replacement of the entire unit even though only one part is obsolete. But amplifier technology is very mature and the performance of the T955 amplifier will not be exceeded in the foreseeable future. After all, we still have NAD customers raving about the sound of their NAD amplifiers nearly 30 years later! With an AV Receiver the baby goes out with the bath water when upgrading the digital processor to accommodate the latest surround sound decoding format, as there is no way to reuse the amplifier section.

Massive power

Many people are under the illusion that the only reason for high power is to play loud. In fact, the primary advantage to high power is the ability to play loud and clear. When the distortion is very low, the sound isn't loud, it's BIG! Distortion is what makes sound 'loud', and this can lead to listener fatigue – that feeling that it is just too loud. Big sound is effortless and compelling, drawing the listener into the performance and immersing you in the musical or cinematic moment.

Unlike most surround sound receivers [NAD's own receivers are a rare exception] that only rate power with 1 or 2 channels running, or use very short term measurements, the T955 can deliver its full rated power

continuously for hours on end. And dynamic power, the power that more closely represents the true nature of musical signals, is nothing short of sensational.

Sophisticated circuitry

The T955 is comprised of 5 individual 'Monobloc' amplifier channels. Based on NAD's proven all discrete circuit topology as used in the award winning C352 and C372 stereo amplifiers, this design offers very low distortion combined with extremely high current capability. Active current sources and common base current followers in the power amp section combine to improve supply rejection to unprecedented levels, well beyond the audible frequency range.

This has the effect of reducing dynamic intermodulation distortion between music signal components in different frequency ranges, and between these signals and supply ripple and distortion components. In measurement terms static and dynamic IM distortion are reduced by between 10dB to 20dB. (to between -90dB and -100dB.) compared to conventional designs.

In audible terms this improves definition, purity and resolution, hence imaging. And yes, imaging is very important in an amplifier designed for surround sound listening. Sure, any surround

sound component will surround you with sound, but the best surround sound components have the effect of transforming your listening room into the sound stage of the musical or cinematic performance!

NAD's PowerDrive circuitry is a big part of this performance story. By measuring each channel's dynamic impedance individually and computing the optimum power supply voltage required to drive the output stage for maximum power and efficiency. PowerDrive permits high dynamic power and low impedance drive capability, while maintaining ultra low (<0.03%) levels of distortion.

Each channel has individual over current, DC, infrasonic and ultrasonic overload sensing and protection for complete reliability under even the most severe operating conditions.

Custom designed heat sinks keep things cool under the most severe operating conditions without the requirement of forced air cooling and its potential noise. A massive Holmgren toroidal power transformer insures excellent voltage regulation under the most demanding conditions, and offers high efficiency and a low stray magnetic field to help keep distortion at vanishingly low levels.

