

# SPEC



**DESIGNER AUDIO**

REAL-SOUND USB DAC

# RMP-DAC3EX

## Operation Manual

Read through this operation manual before use so you will know how to operate your model properly. After you have finished reading the manual, put it in a safe place for future reference.

# Safety Precautions



**AVIS: RISQUE DE CHOC ELECTRIQUE-NE PAS OUVRIR.**



THIS SYMBOL IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF NON-INSULATED "DANGEROUS VOLTAGE" WITHIN THE PRODUCTS ENCLOSURE THAT MAY BE OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO CONSTITUTE A RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK TO PERSONS.



THIS SYMBOL IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF IMPORTANT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE (SERVICING) INSTRUCTIONS IN THE LITERATURE ACCOMPANYING THE UNIT.

## WARNING

Exposure to extremely high noise levels may cause a permanent hearing loss. Individuals vary considerably to noise induced hearing loss but nearly everyone will lose some hearing if exposed to sufficiently intense noise for a sufficient time.

## 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)

## 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.**

## 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 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 fire or give you an electrical shock. Check the power cord once in a while.

## European model only



If you want to dispose this product, do not mix it with general household waste. There is a separate collection system for used electric 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 electric 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.

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### Check included items

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- Power cord × 1
- DC cord × 1
- Audio cord × 1
- USB Cable (Type A - Type B) × 1
- Operation manual (this book)

### Installing this product

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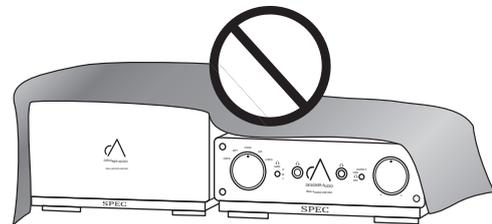
- Be sure to install this product on a flat, stable surface.
- Do not install this product in the following locations:
  - On top of a television (the image may warp)
  - Near a cassette deck or other magnetism emitting device (the audio may be adversely affected)
  - In a location hit by direct sunlight
  - In a moist location
  - In high or low temperature locations
  - In a location with vibration
  - In a location with much dust or tobacco smoke
  - In kitchens or other locations where fumes are emitted and oil is used

### Regarding installation

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#### **Caution**

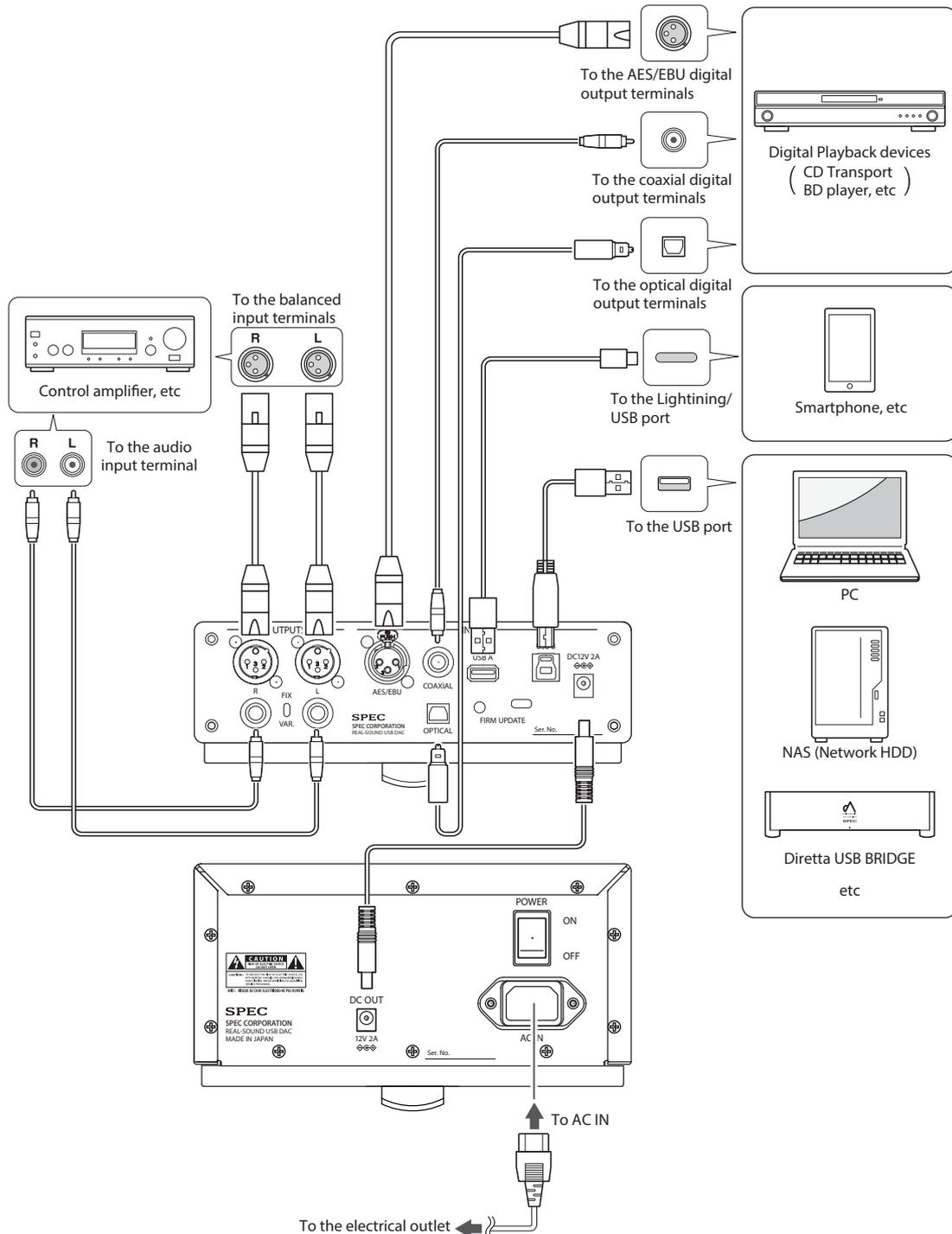
- Never place items on top of this product, cover it with a sheet, or use it when its heat radiation is obstructed. Abnormally high temperatures may damage the product.



## Connections diagram

### ! Important

- When connecting devices or making changes, be sure to turn the POWER switch OFF and disconnect the power cord from the electrical outlet. Plug in the power cord last.
- If an extremely loud signal is input to this product, there is a danger that noise will be generated and cause damage. In such a case, lower the input signal level.
- Use only the included DC cords for the connection between the product body and power supply. Do not use any other cords.

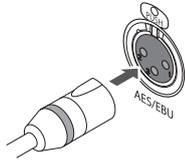


\* Depending on the control amplifier used, there may be a caution regarding simultaneously connecting RCA and XLR, so refer to the operation manual of the respective control amplifier.

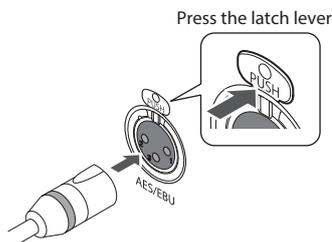
### How to connect the AES/EBU (XLR) cords

Connect the output terminal on the device to the AES/EBU input terminal on the product.

Match the orientation of the XLR plug to the AES/EBU input terminal on the product, and then push the XLR plug into the XLR input terminal until a click is heard.



When disconnecting an XLR plug, press the latch lever (the part with "PUSH" inscribed on it) while pulling the cable. Use caution, as forceful disconnection may damage the unit.

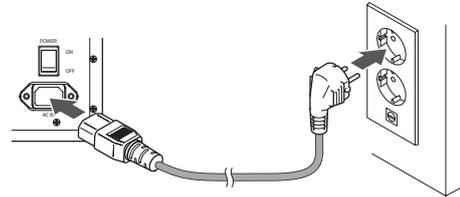


### How to connect audio cords

Connect the RCA output terminal on the device to the RCA input terminal on the product.

### How to connect the power cord

Once all connections have been made, connect the included power cord to the AC IN terminal of this product and to the residential electrical outlet. Press firmly to push the plug all the way in.



\* The plug type varies according to the region.

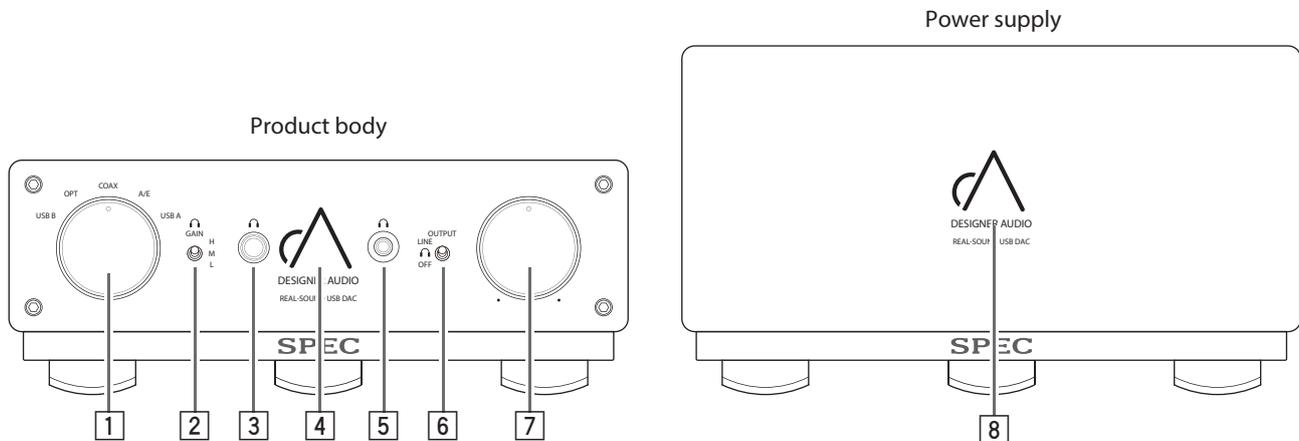
#### **Caution**

- The power cord for this product is removable, but please refrain from using power cords other than the cord included (3P plug-in socket type with electrical current capacity: 7 A).

#### **Note**

- When not using this product for extended periods, be sure to turn the POWER switch OFF or unplug the power cord from the electrical outlet.
- Turn the POWER switch OFF before unplugging the power cord.
- The power consumption of this product varies greatly depending on the volume level of the playback audio signal. For satisfactory music playback, connect to an electrical outlet with sufficient capacity. (Connecting to a low capacity electrical outlet creates the danger that the connection will overheat.)
- If the residential power supply is cut off due to a power outage, the state of this product will be as follows when power is restored.
  - If the POWER switch is ON when power is restored
    - The product returns to its state prior to power restoration.
  - If the POWER switch is OFF when power is restored
    - The product is in the normal power OFF state.

## Front panel

**1 INPUT SELECTOR (input switching knob)**

Switches the input for this product.

Selects a device (USB B, OPTICAL, COAXIAL, AES/EBU, USB A) for playback.

**2 Headphones GAIN switch**

Switches between H/M/L to match headphone impedance.

Select H (High) for headphones with high impedance, and L (Low) for those with low impedance.

The factory default setting is M (Mid).

When changing this setting while listening with headphones, lower the volume before changing the setting.

**3 Headphone terminal (Φ6.5)**

Insert a standard headphone plug when using headphones.

**4 Sampling rate indicator**

Uses color to display the sampling rate of the song being played.

- Red: 44.1 kHz, 48 kHz
- Green: 88.2 kHz, 96 kHz
- Blue: 176.4 kHz, 192 kHz
- Purple: 352.8 kHz, 384 kHz
- White: DSD64/128/256

**5 Headphone terminal (Φ3.5)**

Insert a mini headphone plug when using headphones.

**6 OUTPUT switch**

Switches the output from this product.

Select LINE, , or OFF as an output.

The factory default setting is OFF.

**7 VOLUME (level adjustment knob)**

Adjusts the volume of the headphones and RCA output (when the RCA output switch on the rear panel is set to VAR).

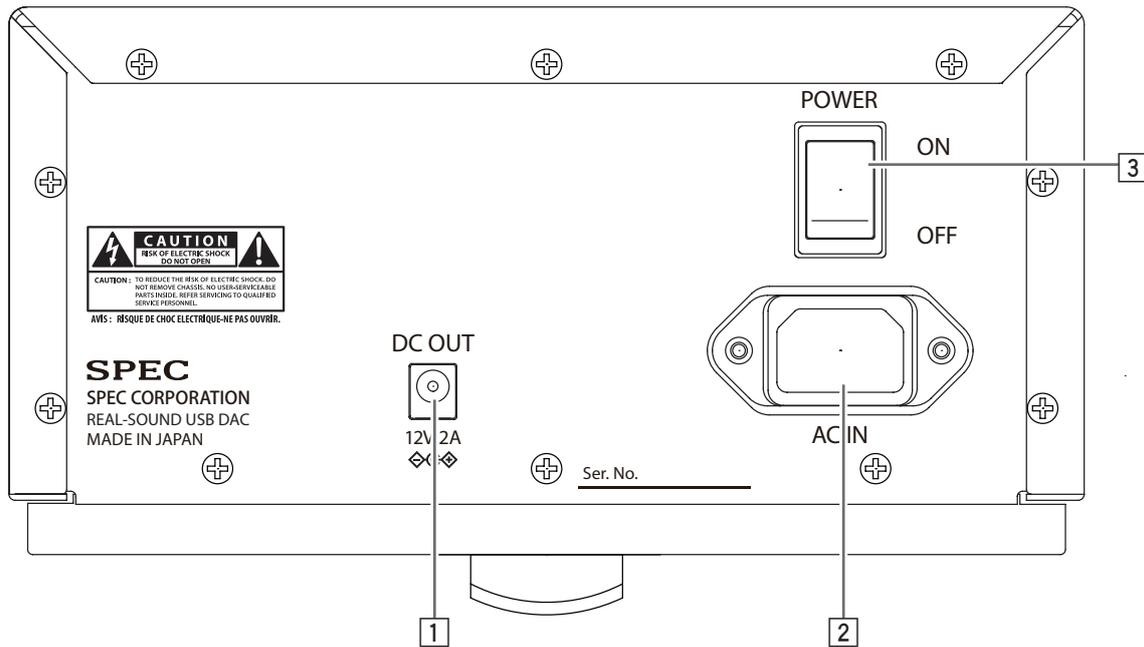
The RCA output volume does not change when the RCA output switch on the rear panel is set to FIX (fixed).

**8 ON indicator**

Lit when the product power is turned on.

## Rear panel

### ■ Power supply



#### 1 DC OUT terminals

Connect the power supply to the product body using the included DC cord.  
Do not use any other cords.

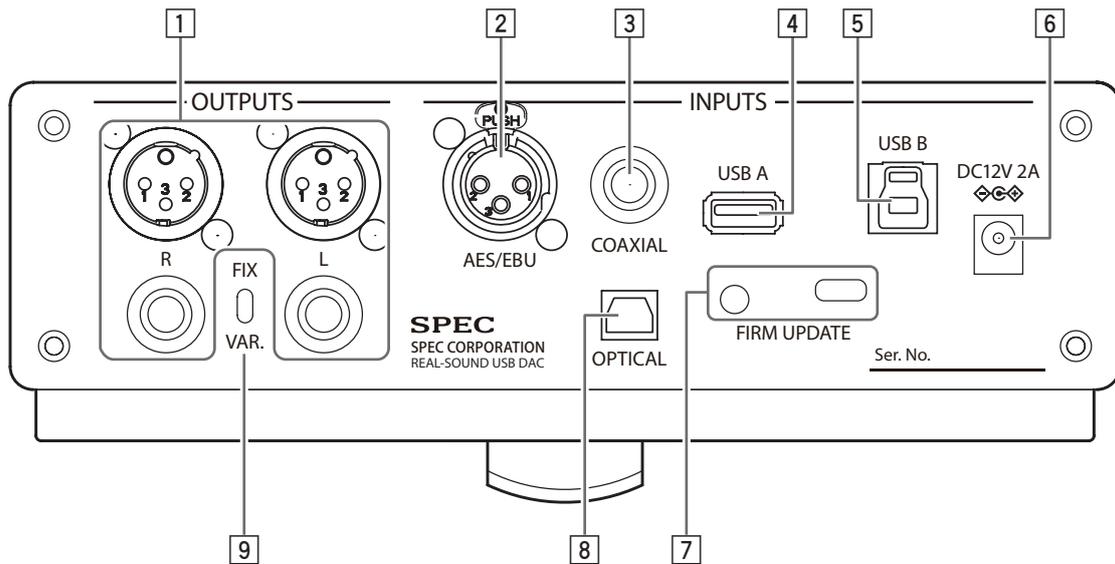
#### 2 AC IN terminal

Connect the included power cord. (→ pages 5 to 6)

#### 3 POWER switch

Turns power ON and OFF.

## ■ Product body



### 1 Audio output terminal

Signals input to this product are converted into analog signals and then output.

The selected input signal is output from both RCA and XLR.

The pin positioning of the balanced output terminal of this product is depicted below.

1:GND 2:HOT 3:COLD

### 2 Digital input terminal (AES/EBU)

An AES/EBU input terminal (female).

(→ page 6)

### 3 Digital input terminal (COAXIAL)

A coaxial digital input terminal.

### 4 Digital input terminal (USB Type A)

A USB Type A input terminal.

### 5 Digital input terminal (USB Type B)

A USB Type B input terminal.

### 6 DC IN terminals

Connect the product body to the power supply using the included DC cord.

Do not use any other cords.

### 7 FIRMWARE UPDATE

For service support.

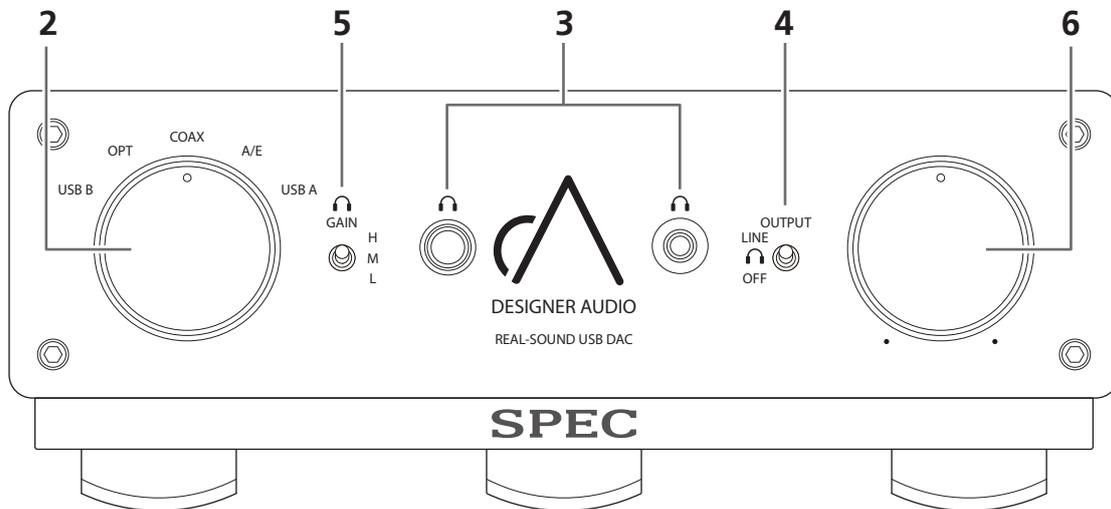
### 8 Digital input terminal (OPTICAL)

An optical digital input terminal.

### 9 RCA output FIX/VAR switch

Switches the RCA output between fixed (FIX) and variable (VAR).

## Playback steps (when using headphones)

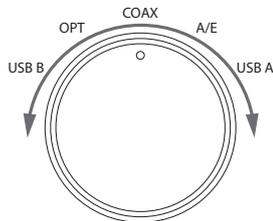


**1 Turn on the power supply.**

Check that the ON indicator on the front panel of the power supply section is lit.

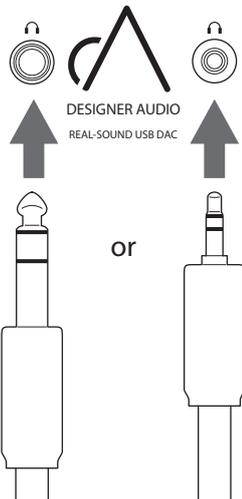
**2 Switch the input to match the playback device.**

Rotate the INPUT SELECTOR (the input selector knob) to choose an input.



Please perform the following operations with the volume lowered.

**3 Connect the headphones to the headphone terminal (Φ6.5) or the headphone terminal (Φ3.5).**



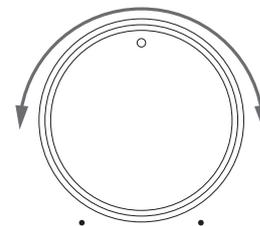
**4 Set the OUTPUT switch to (headphones).**



**5 Use the headphones GAIN switch to set the headphone amplifier gain.**

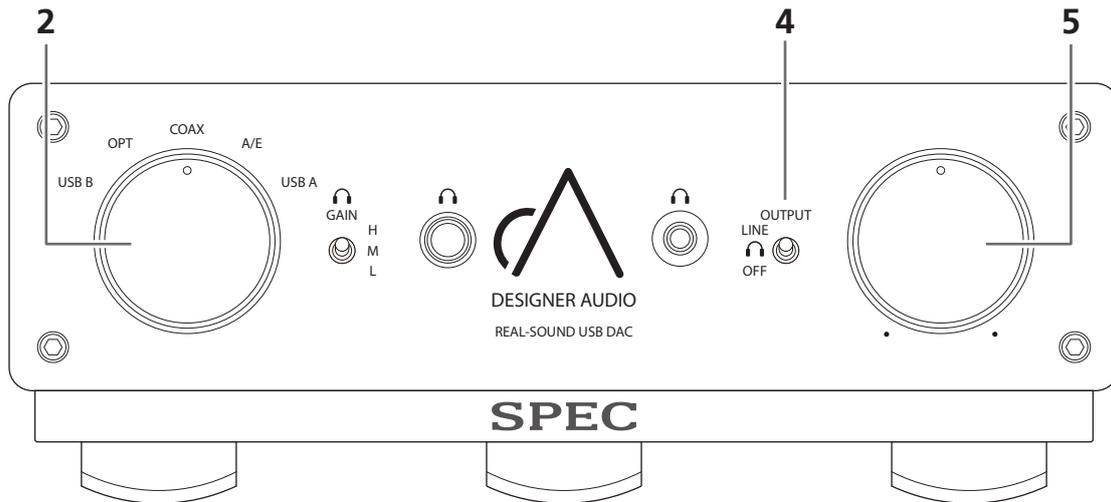


**6 Use VOLUME (the volume adjustment knob) to adjust the volume.**



**7 Operate the playback device and begin playback.**

**Playback steps (when using an external amplifier)**

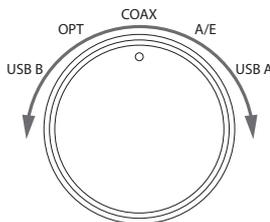


**1 Turn on the power supply.**

Check that the ON indicator on the front panel of the power supply section is lit.

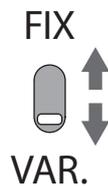
**2 Switch the input to match the playback device.**

Rotate the INPUT SELECTOR (the input selector knob) to choose an input.



**3 When using the RCA output terminals, use the RCA output FIX/VAR switch on the rear panel to set it to either fixed (FIX) or variable (VAR)**

When connecting this product to a SPEC amplifier or an integrated amplifier from another company, set to FIX.

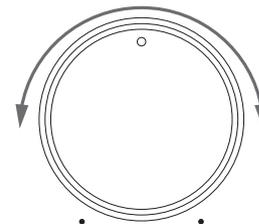


**4 Set the OUTPUT switch to LINE.**



**5 Use VOLUME (the volume adjustment knob) to adjust the volume.**

When using the RCA output terminals, the volume does not change when the RCA output FIX/VAR switch on the rear panel is set to FIX (fixed).



**6 Operate the playback device and begin playback.**

## Troubleshooting

If you think this product may be broken, check the following troubleshooting items. Some minor operational errors can make the product appear to be broken.

Potential causes other than this product should also be considered. Check the other devices being used as well as all simultaneously operated electrical devices. If the following instructions do not help even on multiple inspections, contact us. (→ page 14)

Issue	Cause/Treatment	Reference
The power does not turn on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the power plug disconnected from the electrical outlet? → Correctly insert the power plug into the outlet.</li> </ul>	page 6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the power plug disconnected from the AC IN terminal? → Correctly insert the power plug.</li> </ul>	page 6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the supplied DC cord connected correctly? → Connect the power supply section and the product body correctly with the supplied DC cord.</li> </ul>	page 5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the OUTPUT switch set to OFF? → Check that the OUTPUT switch is not set to OFF.</li> </ul>	page 7
There is no sound.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the connecting cord disconnected from the terminal, or connected incorrectly? → Correctly connect the cord.</li> </ul>	pages 5 to 6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the terminal or connecting cord pin plug dirty? → Wipe clean the terminal or plug.</li> </ul>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the OUTPUT switch set correctly? → Check that the OUTPUT switch is set correctly.</li> </ul>	page 7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are the PC sound settings configured correctly? → Check the PC sound settings.</li> </ul>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When the RCA output FIX/VAR switch is set to VAR, is VOLUME (the volume adjustment knob) set to its minimum setting? → Check VOLUME (the volume adjustment knob).</li> </ul>	page 7
This product is not recognized by a PC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the USB cable connected correctly? → Check that the USB cable is connected correctly.</li> </ul>	page 5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the PC functioning normally? → Restart the PC.</li> </ul>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you are using a Windows PC, are the dedicated drivers installed? → Installation of dedicated drivers is required when using a Windows PC. Please download the required dedicated drivers from the product explanation page on the SPEC website.</li> </ul>	-



### Note

The product may not function properly due to external factors, such as static electricity. In this case, the product may once again function properly if the power cord is unplugged and then plugged in again. If this does not solve the problem, please contact SPEC CORPORATION.

## Care and maintenance

For daily maintenance, use a polishing cloth to lightly wipe the front panel of this product. If it is very dirty, use a soft cloth moistened with neutral detergent watered down to 1/5-1/6 concentration and wipe off the dirt, then wipe dry with a dry cloth.

If alcohol, thinner, petroleum ether or insecticide adhere to the front panel it may be damaged, so use caution. Whenever using pre-moistened wipe, be sure to completely read the warning instructions that come with the wipe.

Natural wood is used for the bottom panel of the product. Do not place it in direct sunlight or near a heater. The front panel may become discolored, and the product may be warped due to the natural wood contracting.

## Specifications

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### ■ Product body

Digital input terminal.....	USB A: MAX PCM 32 bit/384 kHz, DSD Native256, DoP128 USB B: MAX PCM 32 bit/384 kHz, DSD Native256, DoP128 Optical: MAX PCM 24 bit/192 kHz Coaxial: MAX PCM 24 bit/192 kHz AES/EBU: MAX PCM 24 bit/192 kHz
Analog output terminal .....	XLR output: 1 RCA unbalanced output: 1 (Fixed/variable switchable)
Analog output voltage .....	Unbalanced: 2.3 Vrms Balanced: 4.6 Vrms
Headphone.....	Ø3.5 mm stereo mini jack Maximum output voltage: ±5Vp-p (160Ω) Output impedance: 2Ω (Load: 16Ω to 300Ω) Ø6.3 mm stereo jack Maximum output voltage: ±10Vp-p (600Ω) Output impedance: 10Ω (Load: 16Ω to 300Ω)
External dimensions.....	215 mm (width) × 82 mm (height) × 299 mm (depth)
Weight.....	3.0 kg

### ■ Power supply, other

Power voltage.....	110, 120, 220, 230, 240 V AC50/60 Hz
Electrical consumption.....	30 W
External dimensions.....	215 mm (width) × 122 mm (height) × 273 mm (depth)
Weight.....	4.0 kg

### ■ Included items

Power cord.....	1
DC cord .....	1
Audio cord .....	1
USB Cable (Type A - Type B).....	1
Operation manual (this book) .....	1

\* Due to improvements the above specifications and external appearance may be changed without notice.

## Warranty and after sales service

### ■ About Warranty

Make sure that the name of your distributor and the date of purchase are written in the warranty. Read it carefully, and then keep it in a secure location. The warranty is valid for one year from the date of purchase.

### ■ Malfunctions

If the product malfunctions in the course of normal use (use in accordance with the manual and safety precautions) during the warranty period, then we will repair the product free of charge. When you bring your product to the distributor for servicing, be sure to bring the warranty with you. See the guarantees in your warranty for details. We will repair malfunctions occurring after the warranty period has expired for a fee, in accordance with our servicing regulations.

**Please note that we cannot provide any warranty or bear any liability for damage to any equipment that is connected to the unit resulting from incorrect use.**

### ■ Terms of Warranty

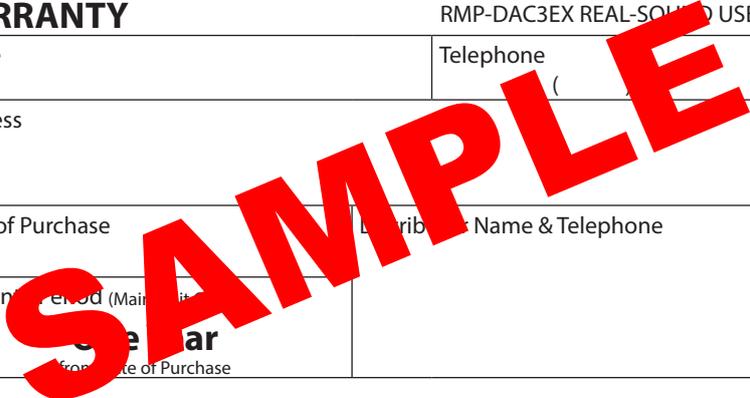
1. If this product malfunctions during use in accordance with the manual, and during the warranty period, then please bring the product and this warranty to the store where you purchased it. It will be repaired free of charge.
2. If you cannot ask the store where you purchased it for repairs (e.g. if you have moved or the product was a gift), please consult with SPEC CORPORATION.
3. A fee will be charged for repairs in the following circumstances, even if it is during the warranty period.
  - (A) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to user error or unauthorized repair or modification
  - (B) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to dropping, etc. after purchase
  - (C) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to fire, flooding, lightning and other weather phenomena, pollution, salt damage, or the like
  - (D) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to other than normal use, such as long hours of continuous commercial use
  - (E) The main unit has been disassembled
  - (F) The text of the warranty has been changed or overwritten
  - (G) The malfunction was caused by another company's product
4. This warranty cannot be re-issued. Store it in a safe place, and do not lose it.

**Contact Information**

**SPEC CORPORATION**

TEL: +81-3-3660-0303  
 FAX: +81-3-3660-0333  
 E-mail: info-ex@spec-corp.co.jp  
 URL : spec-corp.co.jp

<b>WARRANTY</b>		RMP-DAC3EX REAL-SOURCE USB DAC
Name	Telephone ( )	
Address		
Date of Purchase	Distributor Name & Telephone	
Warranty Period (Main Unit)	One Year from Date of Purchase	





# SPEC

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