

Almando Multiplay Surround



5.1 Surround outputs

- 6 x Powerlink (RJ45) for B&O speaker (even BeoLab 5!)
- 6 x RCA (Pre-Out) and 1 x 3,5mm Mono jack for Trigger-Out
- optional with WISA transmitter module for wireless connection of WISA speakers (e.g. BeoLab 18 from B&O)

5.1 Surround inputs

- 3 x Powerlink (RJ45) one socket each for front, surround and subwoofer/center
- 1 x Digital Audiolink for Loewe TVs

Stereo input for B&O and third-party devices

(via enclosed adapter also signal detection for devices with RCA- or headphone output, e.g. Sonos Connect, turntable etc.)

SPDIF input

(z.B. für Apple Airport Express, Google Chromecast Audio, Sonos Connect, etc.)

Multiplay Automatik

(audio signal detection, source change with priority circuit, speaker on/off, Auto-Standby)

Bluetooth module for wireless audio streaming

Configuration with the free app **ALMANDO CONTROL**



Installation and operating instructions

ALMANDO

In the digital world of entertainment electronics, there are high-quality devices, technologically sophisticated devices, devices with good design and easy-to-use devices. And there are a few devices that combine all this in order to meet the needs of their users - like devices from almando GmbH. For this, we are taking new and unconventional paths and can rely on many years of experience.

We congratulate you on buying the almando Multiplay Surround Switch. The unit is 100% B&O compatible and offers connectivity for up to six speakers in the 5.1 setup (front, surround, center speaker and subwoofer). TV sets from Bang & Olufsen and Loewe (with integrated decoder) can be connected to the surround input.

Various devices from Bang & Olufsen and from other manufacturers can be connected to the numerous inputs. The almando Multiplay Surround Decoder automatically detects whether one of the connected sources is playing and automatically activates the loudspeakers. Once several sources are active simultaneously, an intelligent priority circuit ensures that only the source with the highest priority can be heard.

In order to activate and operate your connected device, you only need a single remote control - the almando Multiplay Surround Switch does the rest automatically.

The almando Multiplay Surround has a high-quality aptX Bluetooth module integrated. This allows you to play the music from your smartphone or tablet (iOS and Android) wirelessly - the speakers switch on automatically. The almando Multiplay Surround Switch can also be configured and put into operation with a free App.

almando GmbH is not affiliated with Bang & Olufsen®, Loewe®, Sonos®, Yamaha®.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ALMANDO	2
TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
TRADEMARKS	4
SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS	5
Verbraucherinformation zur Sammlung und Entsorgung alter Elektrogeräte	6
HOW IT WORKS.....	7
STEPS FOR SETUP.....	9
Step 1: Download and Install the App	9
Step 2: Connect the Multiplay Surround Switch to the Power Grid.....	9
Step 3: Establishing a Bluetooth connection to the smartphone / tablet.....	9
Step 4: Connect the Speakers.....	10
Connecting Older Bang & Olufsen Speakers with an Adapter	10
Connecting Newer Bang & Olufsen Speakers with a RJ45 patch cable (CAT 7)	10
Wireless Connecting Speakers with WISA (optional *)	10
Connect Active Speaker with a RCA Cable (e.g. Yamaha Subwoofer).....	11
Step 5: Connect the Sources.....	11
8pin DIN (Powerlink)	11
SPDIF	12
5.1 BANG & OLUFSEN – POWERLINK (3 x RJ45)	12
5.1 LOEWE – DIGITAL AUDIOLINK (1 x RJ45)	12
Step 6: Start the almando App	13
ALMANDO CONTROL APP	13
Control (start page of the app).....	13
(General) Settings	14
Speaker Settings	16
Configuration WIRELESS SPEAKERS (optional *).....	17
Input Settings	19
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.....	20

TRADEMARKS



„Made for iPhone“ and „Made for iPad“ mean that an electronic accessory has been designed to connect specifically to iPhone or iPad, respectively, and has been certified by the developer to meet Apple performance standards.

Apple is not responsible for the operation of this device or its compliance with safety and regulatory standards.

Please note that the use of this accessory with iPhone or iPad may affect wireless performance.

Apple, Apple TV, Apple Watch, iPad, iPad Air, iPad Pro, iPhone, and Lightning are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

tvOS is a trademark of Apple Inc.

App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.



The Bluetooth word mark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. and any use of such marks by almando GmbH is under license.



WiSA

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



Connect the device to the power supply using the supplied power cord. A damaged cable must not be repaired.

The operating voltage must match the local mains voltage



Protect the device from moisture and water. Do not operate the unit in rain. The appliance must not be operated near water, bathtub, sink, kitchen sink, wet room, swimming pool or damp rooms. Do not place objects filled with liquid, such as vases, glasses, bottles, etc. on top of the device.

Avoid direct exposure to the sun as well as the immediate proximity of radiators, radiant heaters or similar devices.



If the appliance is suddenly brought from a cold to a warm place, condensation may form inside the appliance. Before switching on, wait until the device has reached room temperature.

To protect the device during a thunderstorm or when it is not supervised or used for an extended period, the mains plug should be pulled. This prevents damage to the device due to lightning strikes and voltage surges in the power supply system.

In case of improper use and by opening the device, the guarantee claim will be extinguished!

Disclaimer of liability:

Almando GmbH is not liable for damage to equipment caused by negligence or improper use. In particular, almando GmbH is not liable for loss of profit or other assets of the buyer. This restriction also applies to the personal liability of employees, representatives and vicarious agents.

Verbraucherinformation zur Sammlung und Entsorgung alter Elektrogeräte



Befindet sich dieses Symbol auf den Produkten, der Verpackung und/oder beiliegenden Unterlagen, so sollten benutzte elektrische Geräte nicht mit dem normalen Haushaltsabfall entsorgt werden.

In Übereinstimmung mit Ihren nationalen Bestimmungen und den Richtlinien 2012/19/EU bringen Sie alte Geräte bitte zur fachgerechten Entsorgung, Wiederaufbereitung und Wiederverwendung zu den entsprechenden Sammelstellen.

Durch die fachgerechte Entsorgung der Elektrogeräte helfen Sie, wertvolle Ressourcen zu schützen, und verhindern mögliche negative Auswirkungen auf die menschliche Gesundheit und die Umwelt, die andernfalls durch unsachgerechte Müllentsorgung auftreten könnten.

Für weitere Informationen zum Sammeln und Wiederaufbereiten alter Elektrogeräte kontaktieren Sie bitte Ihre örtliche Stadt- oder Gemeindeverwaltung, Ihren Abfallentsorgungsdienst oder die Verkaufsstelle der Artikel.

[Information für geschäftliche Anwender in der Europäischen Union]

Wenn Sie Elektrogeräte ausrangieren möchten, kontaktieren Sie bitte Ihren Händler oder Zulieferer für weitere Informationen.

[Entsorgungsinformation für Länder außerhalb der Europäischen Union]

Dieses Symbol gilt nur innerhalb der Europäischen Union. Wenn Sie solche Artikel ausrangieren möchten, kontaktieren Sie bitte Ihre örtlichen Behörden oder Ihren Händler und fragen Sie nach der sachgerechten Entsorgungsmethode.

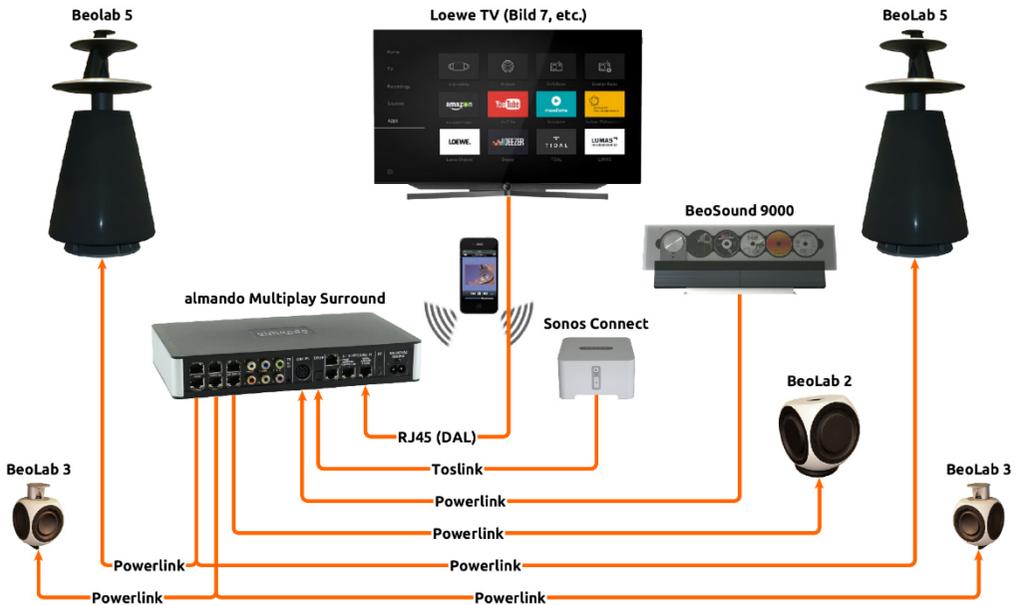
HOW IT WORKS

The almando Multiplay Surround Switch was developed to integrate external devices into a surround setup with a television and speakers from B&O and/or Loewe.

Various devices with volume-controlled output can be connected:

- TVs from B&O and Loewe
- Audio devices from B&O (e.g. BeoSound 9000, Overture, Essence, Moment, etc.)
- Audio devices from other manufacturers (e.g. Amazon Echo Dot, Apple Airport Express, Google Chromecast Audio, Sonos Connect, etc.

Here you can see an example of use for Multiplay Surround Switch:



Powerlink signals from connected B&O devices are simply looped through. All other audio signals - whether digital or analog - are converted to a 100% standard B&O Powerlink signal including the trigger voltage required for the B&O loudspeakers (as well as the B&O data signal for BeoLab 5, BeoLab 4500 and BeoLab Penta if required).

The almando Multiplay Surround Switch is a surround Powerlink switch with an automatic source management. To operate one of the connected devices, all you need is the respective remote control and you can also adjust the volume in this way.

The connected sources have different priorities - i.e. even if several sources are active at the same time, you will only hear the one with the highest priority. For example, you can present photos on the TV with music from your audio system, or listen to suggestions from your music service during the halftime of a football match.

The almando Multiplay Surround Switch can be configured individually with a free smartphone app. This allows you to set all parameters such as initial volumes, operating mode (signal detection on/off), automatic generation of the data signal for BeoLab 5 and sound settings such as treble, bass and loudness, etc. - and in some cases even individually for each input. This is how you can adjust your audio setup perfectly to your needs.

You will no longer need the almando Control App in your daily use of your equipment - just the remote control of the device you want to listen to is sufficient. And this is the great strength of the almando device - it does everything for you fully automatically - from recognizing active devices to switching the speakers on and off to smart switching between equally active sources according to predefined priorities.

STEPS FOR SETUP

Step 1: Download and Install the App



Download the free **ALMANDO CONTROL** app from the Apple App Store and install it on your iPhone or iPad.



Download the free **ALMANDO CONTROL** app from the Google Play Store and install it on your Android smartphone or tablet.

Step 2: Connect the Multiplay Surround Switch to the Power Grid



Now connect the almando Multiplay Surround to the mains. Loudspeakers and auxiliary devices may not be connected until later.

Step 3: Establishing a Bluetooth connection to the smartphone / tablet

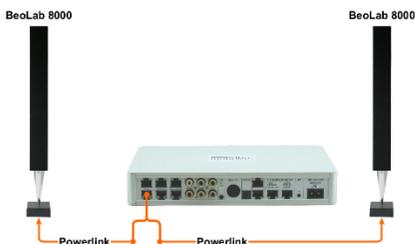
Press the Bluetooth button on the almando device to the left of the power connection and open the settings in your smartphone, enable Bluetooth, and search for new Bluetooth devices in the area. As soon as a device named "Almando..." is found, click on it and it is paired with the device. You have two minutes to do this after pressing the Bluetooth button on the – during this time, the device is in discovery mode and is visible to your smartphone when scanning for new devices.

This pairing only needs to be done once. If you want to connect another smartphone later, simply press the Bluetooth button on the almando device to the left of the power connection and do the same as when pairing with the first smartphone.

Step 4: Connect the Speakers

The almando Multiplay Surround Switch offers six RJ45 powerlink sockets for connecting a surround setup with up to 5.1 Bang & Olufsen speakers and also six pre-out RCA sockets for connecting active loudspeakers from other manufacturers (Piega, Loewe subwoofer, etc.).

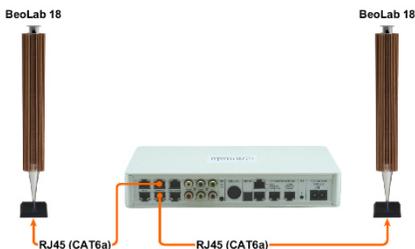
Connecting Older Bang & Olufsen Speakers with an Adapter



To connect older B&O speakers, you will need an RJ45 <-> Powerlink adapter (#210211 and #210311) - you can connect your existing Powerlink cables to this adapter.

In this example, the connection of BeoLab 8000 as front speakers with an RJ45-Powerlink-Y-adapter (#210311) is shown.

Connecting Newer Bang & Olufsen Speakers with a RJ45 patch cable (CAT 7)



Newer B&O speakers can be connected with RJ45 patch cables (CAT 7). If the speaker has two Powerlink RJ45 sockets, you can also loop the cables through (daisy chain).

Here you can see a pair of BeoLab 18, individually connected as rear speakers.

Wireless Connecting Speakers with WISA (optional *)

* This function is only available if the almando Multiplay Surround Switch has an integrated WISA module. (option with additional costs).

With this option you can connect various speakers that have an integrated WISA receiver (e.g. Bang & Olufsen, Harman Kardon, Klipsch, etc.). Look at page 17f.

Connect Active Speaker with a RCA Cable (e.g. Yamaha Subwoofer)

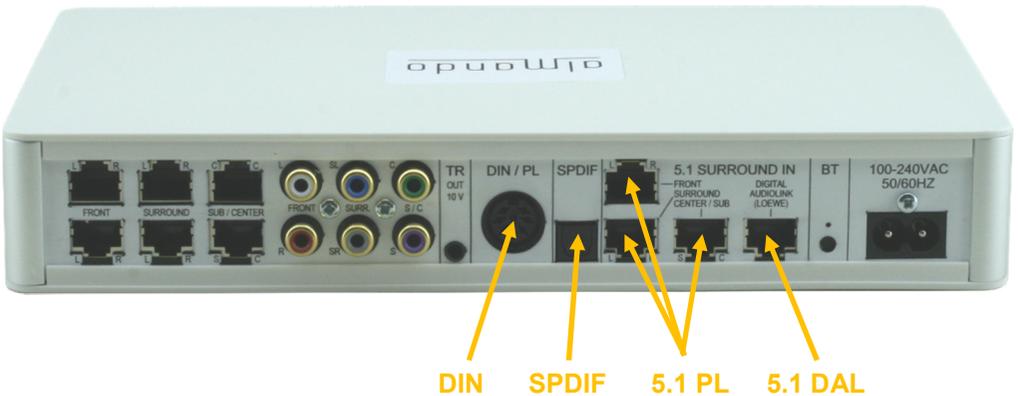


You can also connect active speakers from other manufacturers with an ordinary RCA cable.

Here you can see the connection of a Yamaha subwoofer to the corresponding Pre-Out.

A Loewe 525 or 800 subwoofer can also be connected to the six Pre-Out sockets with six RCA cables (and, if necessary, plus an adapter audio link <-> 3.5mm mono jack). The other passive speakers (front and surround speakers) are connected to the subwoofer itself as usual.

Step 5: Connect the Sources



8pin DIN (Powerlink)

Here you can connect a Bang & Olufsen audio system (e.g. BeoSound 9000, BeoSound Overture) with a classic Powerlink cable.

Newer B&O systems (such as BeoSound Essence, BeoSound Moment) can also be connected using an adapter cable (RJ45 <-> Powerlink).

SPDIF

Use this input only for audio devices with a volume controllable optical output (such as Apple Airport Express, Google Chromecast Audio, Sonos Connect, etc.). The optical cables are already part of the delivery.

Of course the Almando Multiplay Surround Switch can also play PCM stereo signals from video devices via SPDIF (e.g. Bluray player, various televisions, AV receivers, Apple TV) - however, these sources cannot be volume controlled with the remote control of the device itself. The volume control would then always have to be done with the Almando App, which is of course particularly convenient. In the setup menu of the connected device, the sound output must be set to PCM.

5.1 BANG & OLUFSEN – POWERLINK (3 x RJ45)

To connect Bang & Olufsen TVs, three RJ45 Powerlink sockets are available, one for the front speakers, one for the rear speakers and one for the center(R) / subwoofer(L). For newer TVs with RJ45 sockets you can use ordinary RJ45 patch cables (CAT7). For older TVs you need adapter cables (RJ45 <-> Powerlink).

The audio configuration has to be done in the setup menu of the TV!

5.1 LOEWE – DIGITAL AUDIOLINK (1 x RJ45)

There is an RJ45 socket for connecting Loewe televisions with integrated DAL (Digital Audio Link) to the Digital Audio Link output of the TV. The RJ45 patch cable (CAT7) required for this is already included in the Multiplay Surround Switch package.

The audio configuration has to be done in the setup menu of the TV!

Older Loewe televisions with analog audio link output (SUB-HD 26-pin) can also be connected - but to the three RJ45 power link sockets, which are normally intended for connecting B&O televisions. This requires special adapter cables from Audiolink <-> Cinch <-> RJ45.

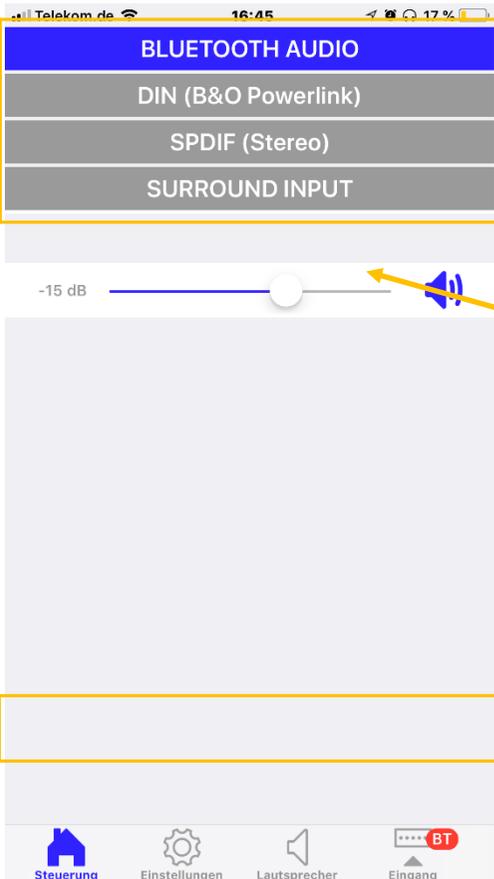
Step 6: Start the almando App

If you are connected to the almando device via Bluetooth, you can start the app and get to its start page.

ALMANDO CONTROL APP

Control (start page of the app)

The main page of the app (control) is divided into the following areas:



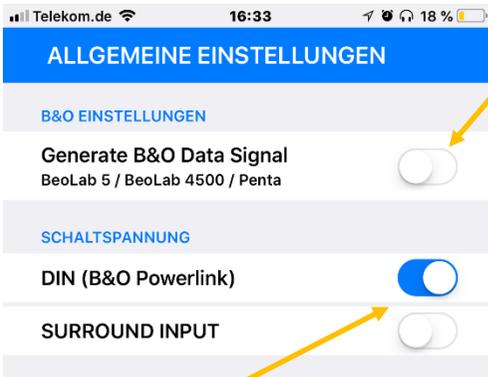
In the upper area all available inputs are listed in the order of their priority. The currently active input is displayed in color. If several inputs are active at the same time, the upper input has priority.

In the area below you will find the volume control. On the far left, the current volume value of the currently active input is displayed. And if the volume control for this input was activated with the app in the input settings, a volume control and a mute button are available to the right of it.

At the bottom you will find the icon bar for navigating to the other pages of the app, which are described in detail on the next pages.

(General) Settings

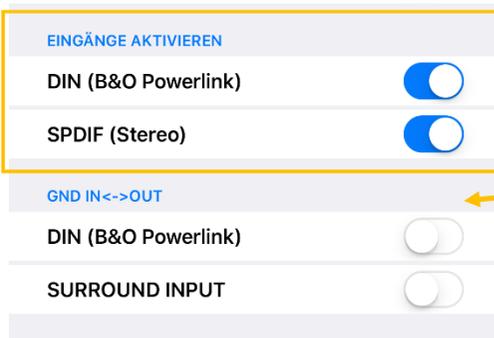
On this page you can make general settings and reset the device to the factory settings or update the firmware of your almando device.



Here you define whether data signals are needed for the B&O speakers (data fed in from connected B&O devices or data generated by the almando device itself for external devices). This is only necessary if BeoLab 50, BeoLab5, BeoLab 4500 or BeoLab Penta are connected. Otherwise, the generation of the "data signal" should remain deactivated (default setting).

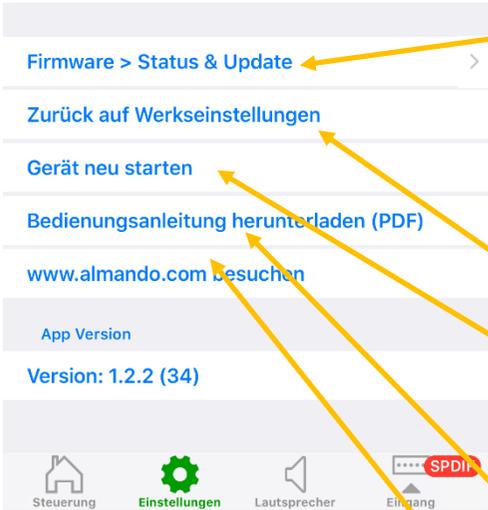
Use these switches to set whether the device provides a trigger voltage at the DIN input (B&O Powerlink) or at the surround input. Usually, devices from B&O or Loewe are connected to both inputs. For this reason, both switches are activated by default.

If a device is to be connected which does not supply a trigger voltage (e.g. turntable, etc.), the input can only be operated with automatic audio signal recognition. Then the respective switch must be deactivated. By the way, this also applies exceptionally to the following two B&O devices: BeoSound Essence and BeoSound Moment - please also deactivate the Switching Voltage switch here.



If no devices are connected to certain inputs, these can be deactivated here. They will then be hidden on the main page of the app. This setting can be undone later at any time.

If only one analog input device is connected, you can establish a direct ground connection between input (IN1 or IN2) and output.



This button takes you to the page for displaying and updating the firmware. If a new firmware for your device is available on the almando server, this line is colored red and on the navigation icon for the settings the badge "FW" appears.

Here you can reset your device to the factory defaults.

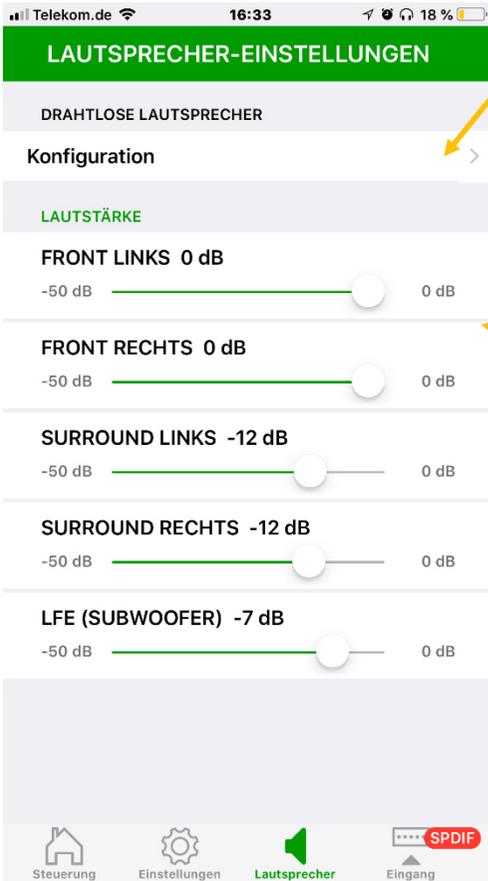
If you want to restart your device, you can click here - this has the same function as disconnecting the device from the power supply for a few seconds.

If you need information about the installation or operation of your device, you can download and view the manual as a PDF file here.

Further information is available on our website, which you can visit by clicking on this button.

Speaker Settings

This page is used to configure the speakers..



This button takes you to a page for wireless connection of speakers with WISA module (e.g. newer B&O loudspeakers such as BeoLab 18). Note: This function is only available if the almando Multiplay Surround Switch has an integrated WISA module (option with additional costs).

These sliders allow you to adjust the volume for each individual speaker (except CENTER). And these settings can be made separately for each of the stereo inputs (BLUETOOTH, DIN, SPDIF).

IMPORTANT: The input must be active and the source must be playing so that you can adjust the level correctly.

The volume ratios for the SURROUND input must be set directly in the connected device itself - e.g. via the setup menu of the television (Loewe or B&O).

Configuration WIRELESS SPEAKERS (optional *)

* This function is only available if the almando Multiplay Surround Switch has an integrated WISA module. (option with additional costs).

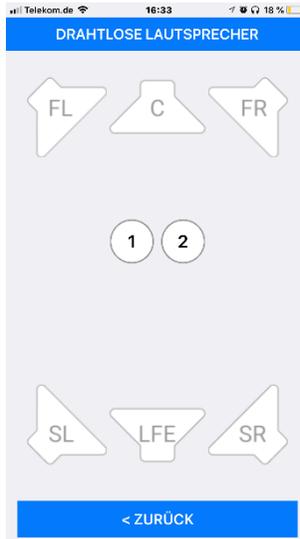
Please refer to the instructions included with your wireless speaker, e.g. BeoLab 18, for more information on connecting your speaker.

Press and hold the RESET button on any speaker or WISA receiver you want to connect for about 6 seconds in order to start the wireless pairing. The respective status indicator will light for 10 seconds and then flashes quickly green. The respective speaker or WISA receiver is now in pairing mode and can be connected wirelessly to the almando Multiplay Surround Switch.

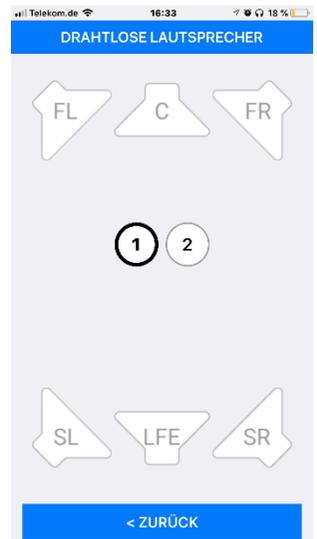
Please follow the operating instructions of your speaker. It may need to be set to pairing mode in some other way.



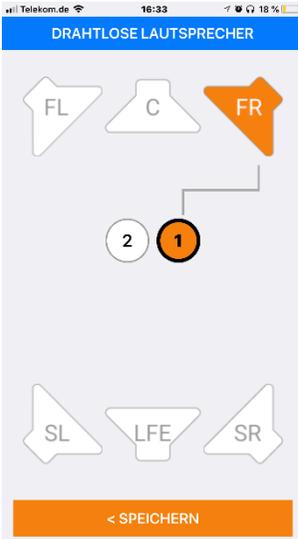
Then click on **NEU KONFIGURIEREN**



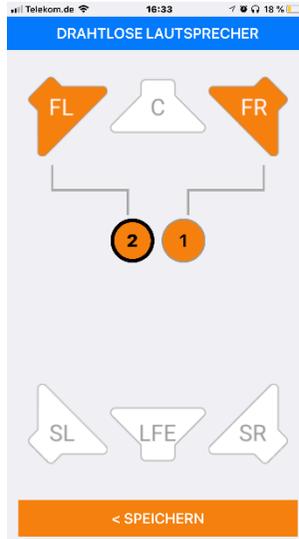
All speakers found are displayed with numbers in the middle.



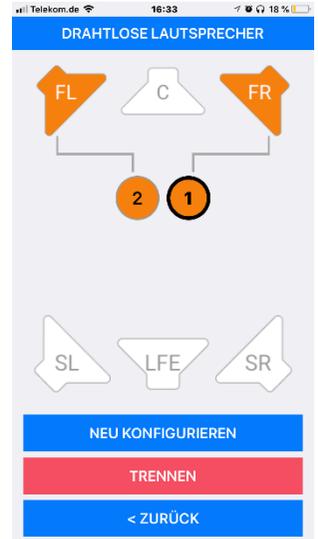
When the number is touched, a short noise tone is played in order to identify the speaker.



Now select the channel, you want this speaker to play back, e.g. **FR** (front right)



Repeat the assignment for all other speakers and then click **SAVE**

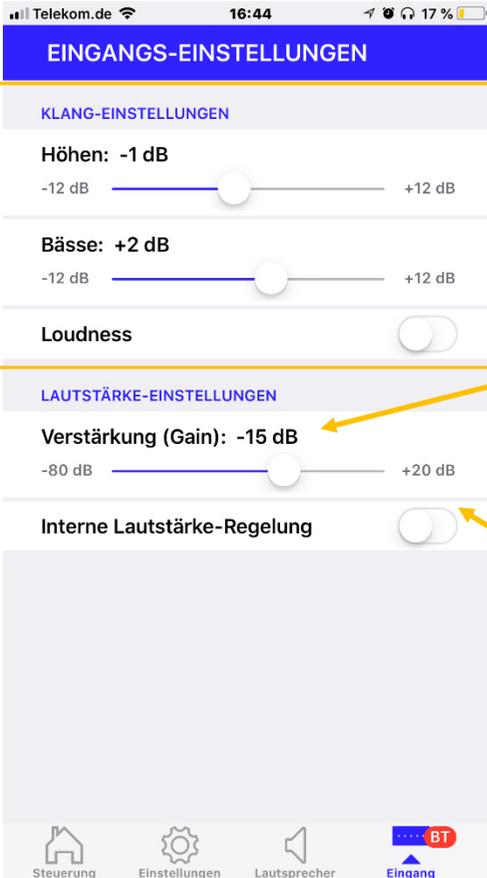


Mit **TRENNEN** können Sie später einzelne Lautsprecher wieder entfernen bzw. mit **NEU KONFIGURIEREN** das Setup auch wieder komplett neu durchführen

Input Settings

You make various settings separately for each individual input. To do this, simply turn on the device at the input you want to configure and start the playback.

The active input is highlighted, and a badge with the abbreviation for this input is also displayed on the navigation icon for the input settings at the bottom right. Click on this navigation icon and you will be taken to a new page where you can make the specific settings for exactly this input - e.g. for BLUETOOTH (BT).



For the sound settings, you can increase or decrease the treble and bass by up to 12 dB each, as well as activate or deactivate loudness.

Use this slider to set the channel-specific volume of the active input and the connected source (or Bluetooth audio) for the playback.

The volume control function with the Almando APP should only be activated in exceptional cases. This is only necessary if the connected device does not have its own volume control (e.g. turntable).

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Powerlink Signals	8pin DIN input and all RJ45 outputs are 100% B&O compatible (even with BeoLab 5)
Inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3 x RJ45 (Powerlink) – 5.1 Surround for B&O TV- 1 x RJ45 (Digital Audiolink) – 5.1 for Loewe TV- 8pin DIN / B&O Powerlink- 1 x SPDIF
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 6 x RJ45 (Powerlink) for B&O speakers (5.1)- 6 x RCA (Pre-Out) e.g. for Loewe 5.1 subwoofer, active speakers, amplifiers, active subwoofer- 12V Trigger Output (3.5mm Mono)
5.1 WISA Transmitter (optional, additional costs)	for the wireless connection with up to 6 pieces WISA speakers / receivers (5.1 Surround)
Power Supply	100-240 V, 50/60 Hz
Dimensions	254 x 156 x 41 mm (B x T x H)
Weight	0,76 kg
Color	Aluminum Ring / Plastic Cover in three color combinations <ul style="list-style-type: none">- silver anodized / black- silver anodized / white- black anodized / black
Warranty	3 years
Accessories included	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Power Cable- RJ45 Cable (CAT7) for Loewe Digital Audiolink- Optical Cable Toslink <-> Toslink, length 1m (z.B. für Sonos Connect, etc.)- Optical Cable Toslink <-> 3,5mm, length 1m (e.g. for Apple Airport Express, Google Chromecast Audio, etc.)
Accessories sold separately	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- optical cables, Powerlink cables (different lengths)- Powerlink Adapter (RJ45 male <-> 8pin DIN female)- Powerlink <-> RJ45 cables (different lengths)