



## ALMANDO

In the digital world of consumer electronics, there are high quality devices, technologically sophisticated devices, devices with good design and devices that are easy to use. And there are a few devices that combine all of this to meet the needs of their users - such as devices from almando GmbH. To do this, we take new and unconventional paths and can rely on many years of experience.

Congratulations on purchasing the almando Multiplay Surround. The device is 100% B&O compatible and offers connection options for up to six speakers in a 5.1 setup (front, surround, center speakers and subwoofer).

Various devices from Bang & Olufsen can be connected to the numerous inputs® and as well as from other manufacturers. The almando Multiplay Surround automatically recognizes whether one of the connected sources is active and automatically activates the loudspeakers. If several sources are active at the same time, an intelligent priority circuit ensures that only the source with the highest priority can be heard.

You only ever need one remote control to activate and operate your player – the almando Multiplay Surround takes care of the rest automatically.

The almando Multiplay Surround is certified by Dolby and DTS.

almando GmbH is not connected to Bang & Olufsen®, basic®, Hisense®, LG®, Lion®, Metz®, Panasonic®, Phillips®, Samsung®, Sharp®, Sonos®, Sony®, Toshiba®, TechniSat®.

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# TRADEMARK



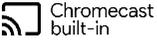
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The Wi-Fi CERTIFIED™ Logo is a certification mark of Wi-Fi Alliance®.



WiSA is a trademark of Summit Wireless, registered in the United States and/or other countries.

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



The connection to the mains is made with the supplied USB-PD power supply unit (20V, 3A) and the also supplied USB-C cable (60W).

If you use a different power supply unit or a different USB-C cable, these minimum requirements must be observed.



Protect the device from moisture and moisture. Do not operate the device in the rain. The device must not be operated near water, bathtubs, washbasins, kitchen sinks, wet rooms, swimming pools or damp rooms. Do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, glasses, bottles, etc., on the device.

Avoid direct sunlight and the immediate vicinity of radiators, radiant heaters or similar devices.



If the unit is suddenly moved from a cold to a warm place, condensation may form inside the unit. Wait until the device has reached room temperature before switching it on.

To protect the device during thunderstorms or if it is not used or supervised for a long period of time, the mains plug should be pulled out. This prevents damage to the device due to lightning and power surges.

Improper use and opening the device will void the warranty!

Disclaimer:

almando GmbH is not liable for damage to devices caused by negligence or improper use. In particular, almando GmbH is not liable for lost profits or other financial losses of the buyer. This limitation also applies to the personal liability of employees, representatives and vicarious agents.

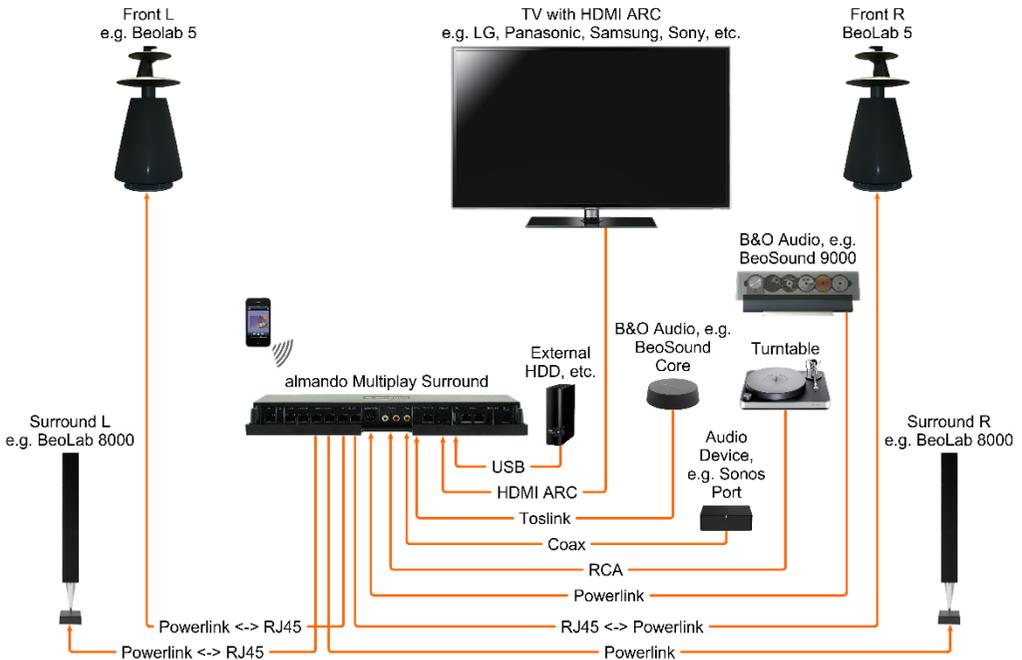
# FUNCTIONALITY

The almando Multiplay Surround was developed to integrate third-party devices into a 5.1 surround setup with Bang & Olufsen speakers and system.

Any television (e.g. Grundig®, Hisense®, LG®, Lion®, Metz®, Panasonic®, Phillips®, Samsung®, Sharp®, Sonos®, Sony®, TechniSat®, Toshiba®) can be connected to the HDMI (e)ARC input. In this way, volume control with the TV remote control is also possible.

All video devices (Apple TV, Bluray player, etc.) are connected directly to the television - all audio devices, on the other hand, are connected directly to the various inputs of the almando Multiplay Surround. There is of course the classic Powerlink socket for Bang & Olufsen systems (eg Beosound 9000). Then there are still digital inputs (coax and optical) available for devices such as Apple Airport Express or Sonos Port. And finally there is also a stereo cinch input.

You can see an application example for the almando Multiplay Surround here:



The almando Multiplay Surround can be individually configured with a smartphone app. This allows you to set all parameters such as lipsync, downmix, pro logic mode, volume and distances of the loudspeakers and make sound settings such as treble, bass and loudness, etc. And sometimes even for each input individually. In this way, you can tailor your surround setup perfectly to your needs.

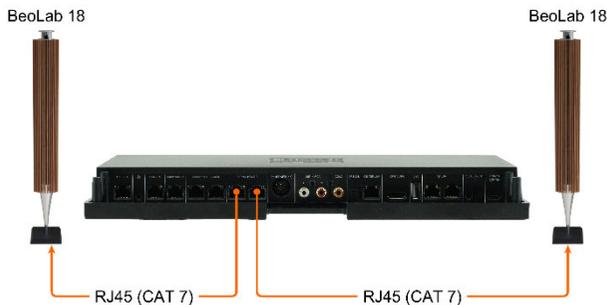
## START-UP STEPS

### Step 1: Connect speakers

The almando Multiplay Surround Decoder offers six RJ45 sockets for connecting Bang & Olufsen loudspeakers in a full 5.1 surround setup as well as another for an additional stereo zone - ideal for an open living room situation.

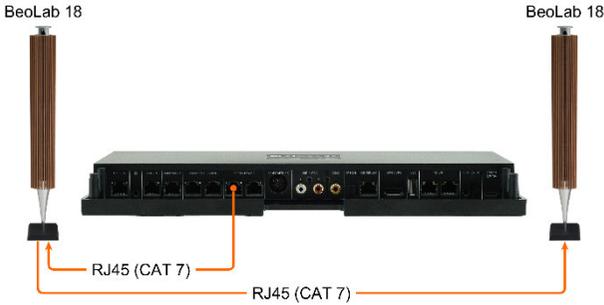
#### Front speakers:

Here, for example, with newer B&O loudspeakers with RJ45 Powerlink sockets



You can connect newer B&O loudspeakers (e.g. BeoLab 18) directly with a CAT 7 patch cable.

Shown here is BeoLab 18 connected as a front speaker.

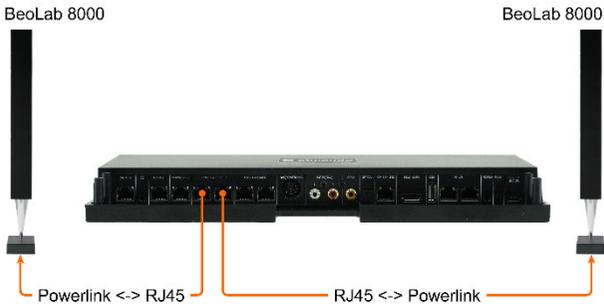


If the speaker has two Powerlink sockets, looping through is also possible (daisy chain).

There are also various older B&O loudspeakers with two Powerlink sockets (e.g. BeoLab 6000, BeoLab 4000, BeoLab 5, etc.). Looping through is also possible with these.

## Surround speakers:

Here, for example, with older B&O loudspeakers with 8-pin DIN Powerlink sockets



For older B&O speakers (e.g. BeoLab 5, BeoLab 8000, BeoLab 6000 etc.) you need a special RJ45 <-> Powerlink adapter to connect them.

Shown here is the BeoLab 8000 connected as a surround speaker.

## center speaker

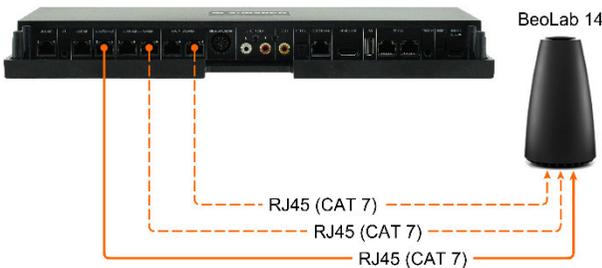


Both mono and stereo speakers (as shown here, a BeoLab 7) can be connected to the center socket. The center tone is output here on both Powerlink audio signals of the socket.

## Subwoofers



Subwoofers - like a BeoLab 2 shown here - are connected to the corresponding RJ45 socket.

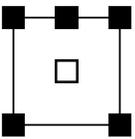
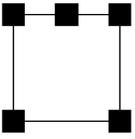
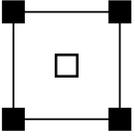
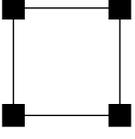
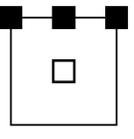
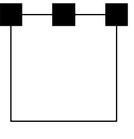
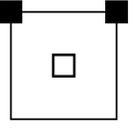
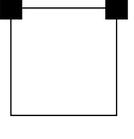


BeoLab 14 can also be connected here without any problems (centre and subwoofer are output separately on the two audio signals from the Powerlink socket).

Do you also have the corresponding passive speakers are connected, you will need two more CAT 7 cables for the front and surround speakers (shown here with dashed lines).

## multi-channel configurations

You can realize all speaker configurations from 2.0 stereo mode to full 5.1 surround mode:

 <p>A diagram showing a 5.1 surround speaker configuration. It features five black squares representing speakers: two on the top horizontal line, two on the bottom horizontal line, and one centered between the two vertical lines. A small white square represents a subwoofer, positioned centrally between the two vertical lines.</p>	5.1 surround mode with center and with subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 5.0 surround speaker configuration. It features five black squares representing speakers: two on the top horizontal line, two on the bottom horizontal line, and one centered between the two vertical lines. There is no subwoofer.</p>	5.0 surround mode with center without a subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 4.1 surround speaker configuration. It features four black squares representing speakers: two on the top horizontal line and two on the bottom horizontal line. A small white square represents a subwoofer, positioned centrally between the two vertical lines. There are no center speakers.</p>	4.1 surround mode without centers with subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 4.0 surround speaker configuration. It features four black squares representing speakers: two on the top horizontal line and two on the bottom horizontal line. There are no center speakers and no subwoofer.</p>	4.0 surround mode without centers without a subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 3.1 stereo speaker configuration. It features three black squares representing speakers: two on the top horizontal line and one centered between the two vertical lines. A small white square represents a subwoofer, positioned centrally between the two vertical lines.</p>	3.1 stereo mode with center and with subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 3.0 stereo speaker configuration. It features three black squares representing speakers: two on the top horizontal line and one centered between the two vertical lines. There is no subwoofer.</p>	3.0 stereo mode with center without a subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 2.1 stereo speaker configuration. It features two black squares representing speakers on the top horizontal line. A small white square represents a subwoofer, positioned centrally between the two vertical lines. There are no center speakers.</p>	2.1 stereo mode without centers with subwoofer
 <p>A diagram showing a 2.0 stereo speaker configuration. It features two black squares representing speakers on the top horizontal line. There are no center speakers and no subwoofer.</p>	2.0 stereo mode without centers without a subwoofer

## Step 2: Connect sources



### POWERLINK (8pin DIN)

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

Newer B&O systems (such as BeoSound Essence, BeoSound Moment) can also be connected – you need a Powerlink <-> RJ45 adapter cable for this.

### LINE IN (RCA)

Any device that has a stereo cinch output (volume controllable if possible), eg Raumfeld Connector, Sonos Connect, can be connected here.

### COAX

If possible, only use devices with a volume-adjustable digital output such as Sonos Port, Sonos Connect etc.

### OPTICAL

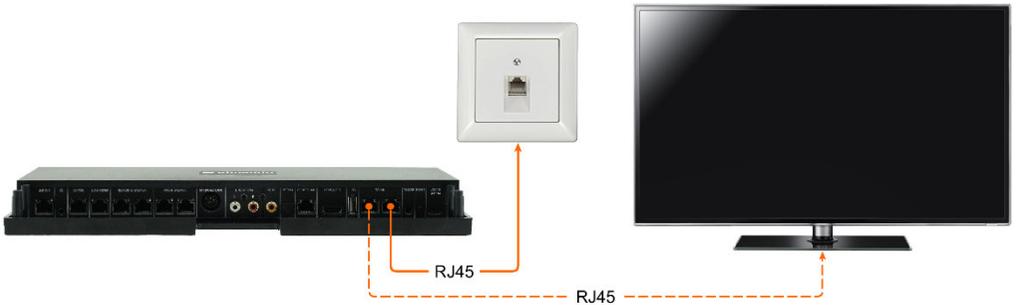
If possible, only use devices with a volume-adjustable optical output such as BeoSound Core, Sonos Connect, etc.

The optical input can also be coupled with HDMI (e)ARC.

### HDMI(e)ARC/CEC

Connect the television with the supplied HDMI cable and activate the HDMI (e)ARC function in the setup menu of your TV set. Please also note the information in the operating instructions for the television.

### Step 3: Connect Multiplay Surround to the network (optional)



The almando Multiplay Surround is WiFi-certified and can be connected wirelessly to the network.

The device also has an integrated switch with two RJ45 sockets and can optionally be connected to your network with a patch cable. If required, an additional device can be connected via the second RJ45 socket (e.g. a television, etc.).

Important note: This is not possible if the almando Multiplay Surround is connected to the network wirelessly via WLAN. This means that the almando Multiplay Surround CANNOT be used as a WLAN repeater!

### Step 4: Connect Multiplay Surround to the mains



After you have connected all speakers and playback devices, connect the almando Multiplay Surround to your power supply.

## Step 5: Download and install the Google Home app



We recommend the Google Home app for commissioning. This is available free of charge for the Android and iOS platforms.



Download the free one from the Apple App Store **GOOGLE HOME** Download the app and install it on your iPhone or iPad.



Download the free one from the Google Play Store **GOOGLE HOME** Download the app and install it on your Android smartphone or tablet.

After installation, start the Google Home app and you can start the initial setup for the Almando device. You define the device name (e.g. living room) and, if necessary, enter the access data for your home WLAN.

## Step 6: Download and install the Almando Play app



For the audio settings and daily use you need the Almando Play app. This is available free of charge for the Android and iOS platforms.



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

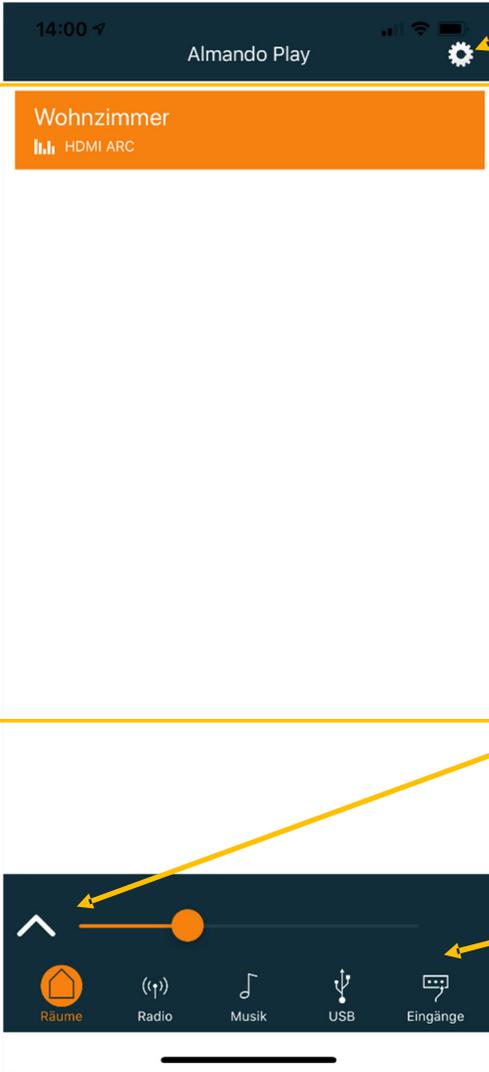


Download the free app from the Google Play Store **ALMANDO PLAY** Download and install it on your Android smartphone or tablet.

# ALMANDO PLAY APP

## Rooms (main page of the app)

The main screen of the app is divided into the following sections:



In the upper area you will find information about the menu level and the icon for opening the settings.

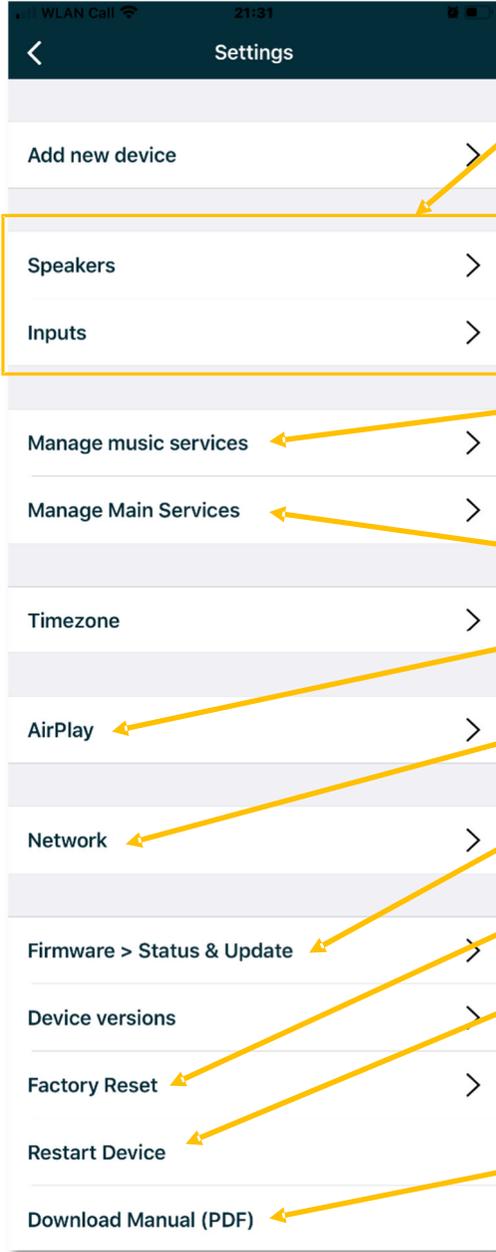
The middle section lists all almando devices available in the network. To play music from a specific device or configure that device, select it and it will be highlighted in orange.

When delivered, the device name consists of the word almando followed by part of the MAC address. Of course, you can specify the device name yourself during configuration, for example living room

This icon takes you to the details of the current playback. The volume control is to the right of it.

You can use the icons in the menu bar below to access the other areas of the app.

# Ideas



The most important area of settings is for the speakers and for the inputs. You take this for each individual entrance settings individually. To do this, simply switch on the input to be configured connected source and start playback.

Here you select your preferred music service (e.g. Spotify) for quick access via the almando Play app.

Here you select the icons that are displayed in the menu bar.

Click here if you want to set an Airplay password.

To access network settings, please click here.

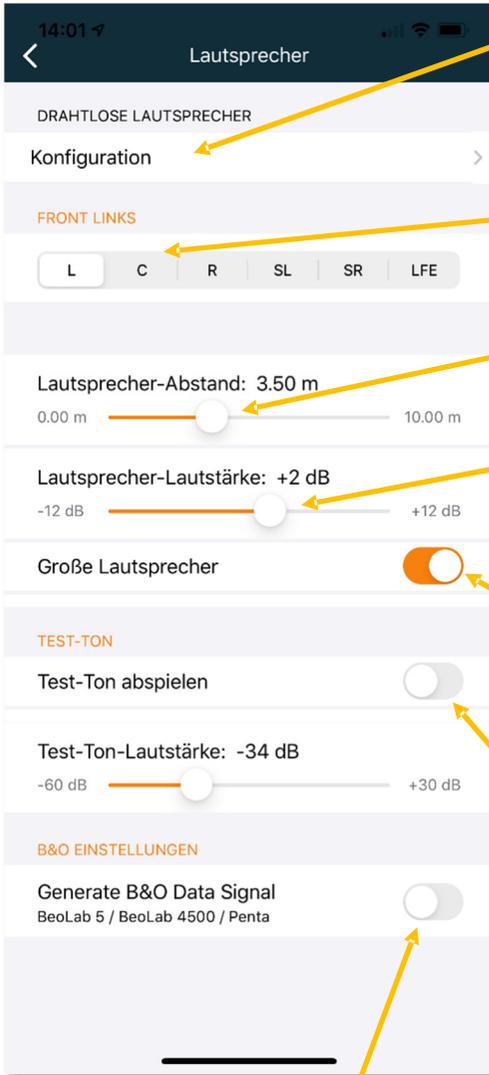
Click this button to go to the Firmware Update page.

Here you can reset your device to factory settings.

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

The You can download and display the operating instructions here as a PDF.

## Settings > Speakers



\* Optional: If the device has an integrated WiSA transmitter module, you can open a page here to connect speakers wirelessly (e.g. BeoLab 18).

This area allows you to select the speaker you want to configure using the controls below.

Use the upper slider to set the distance from the speaker to the seating position.

And here you determine the volume of the selected speaker (compared to the others). You can increase or decrease the level by up to 12 dB at a time.

Here you specify whether the selected speaker is a "large speaker", i.e. suitable for reproducing low frequencies (bass). If you selected "LFE" above, indicate here whether a subwoofer is connected.

With this button you can play a test tone. This allows you to identify the speaker selected above and verify that it is connected to the correct output on the device. The test tone is also helpful for optimally setting the volume ratios between the individual speakers.

Here you specify whether data signals are to be output to the B&O loudspeakers (data fed from B&O devices or data generated by the almando device itself for third-party devices). This is only necessary when a BeoLab 5, BeoLab 4500 or BeoLab Penta is connected. Otherwise the generation of the "data signal" should remain deactivated (default setting).

## Configuration WIRELESS SPEAKERS (optional \*)

\* This function is only available if the almando Multiplay Surround Decoder has an integrated WISA module (option with surcharge).

First put all WiSA loudspeakers or WISA receivers in pairing mode in order to be able to register them with the almando Multiplay Surround Decoder.

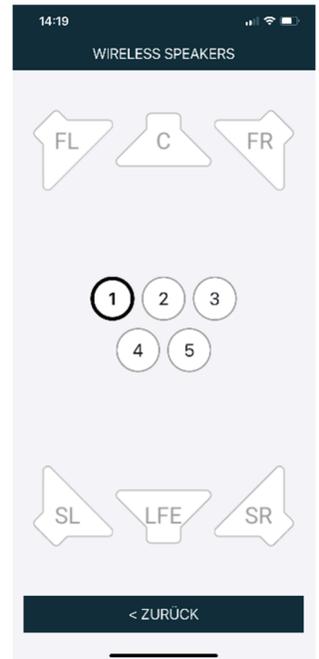
Please refer to the instructions that came with your wireless speaker, e.g. B. BeoLab 18 for more information on how to connect your speaker.



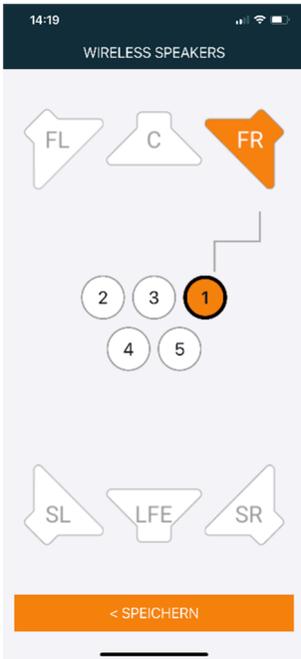
After that click **RECONFIGURE**



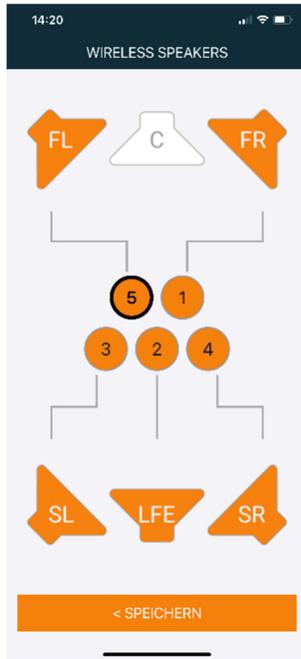
All loudspeakers found are displayed with numbers in the middle



When tapping the a short hissing tone is played around the speaker to be able to identify

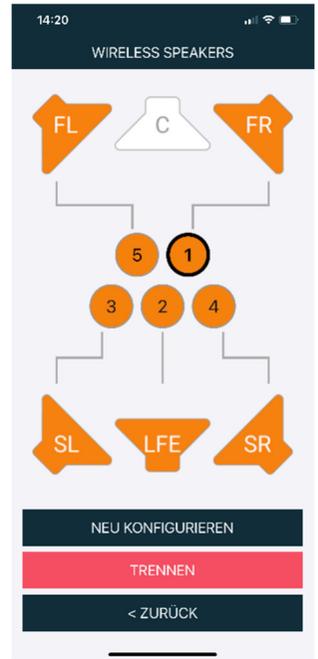


Now select the channel (position) that this Loudspeaker should play, e.g **FR**(front right)



Repeat the assignment for all other speakers and finally click on

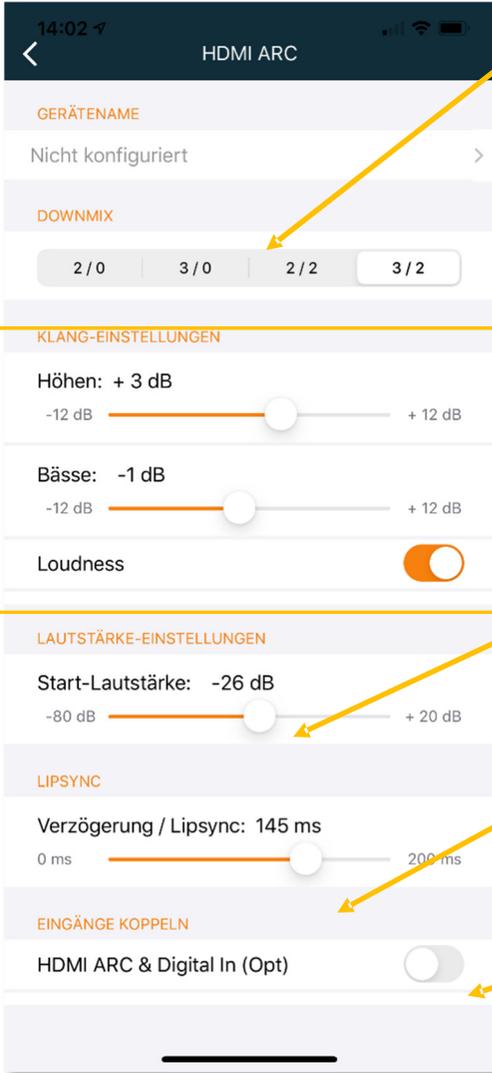
**SAVE ON COMPUTER**



With **SEPARATE** can You later single speakers again remove or with **RECONFIGURE** complete the setup again to lead

## Settings > Inbox

You make various settings separately for each individual input. To do this, simply switch on the playback device at the input that you want to configure and start playback – eg the TV at the HDMI ARC input, as shown here.



In the DOWNMIX area, you determine which speakers should be used for playback when this input is active. The first number means the number of front speakers. The number after the slash indicates the number of rear speakers. For example, you can play back the sound in full surround sound when watching TV (HDMI: 3/2) and, on the other hand, only run your B&O system in stereo via the two front speakers (DIN: 2/0)

For the sound settings, you can raise or lower the treble and bass by up to 12 dB each, and activate or deactivate loudness.

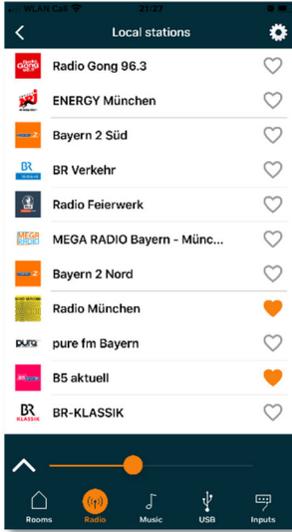
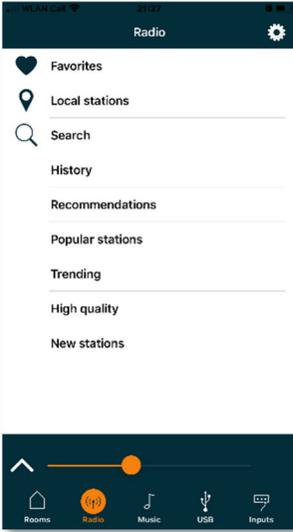
With this controller you determine the channel-specific volume of the active input with which the connected source is to be played back.

Delay/Lipsync. Select a news or talk show channel and slide the slider until the picture and sound are lip-synching.

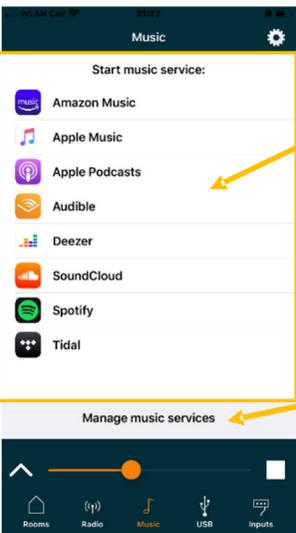
Although some TV sets have an HDMI-CEC connection, they require additional parallel cabling with an optical cable (Toslink). Here you can couple the inputs HDMI ARC and OPTICAL.

## radio

On the radio page you can start the station you want.



## Music

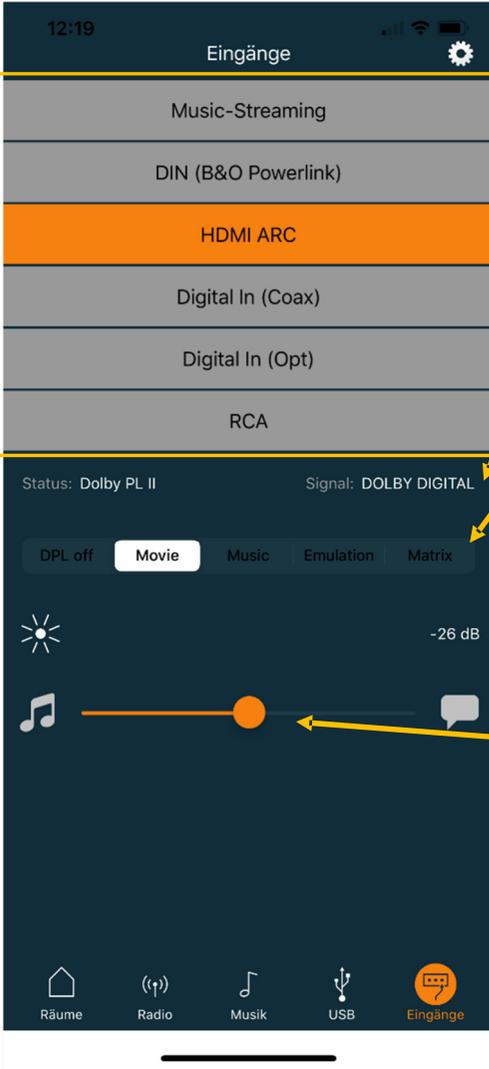


This is where you start your favorite music app (e.g. Spotify) in daily use.

Here you can choose which music services to list in the above pane for quick access in everyday use.

## inputs

This page shows the inputs on the Multiplay Surround according to their priority:



In the upper area you can see all available inputs. The active input is shown in orange.

This line shows information about the device status and the audio signal.

The horizontally arranged buttons offer the option of switching Dolby Pro Logic off or on with the desired mode and thus saving it permanently for the currently active input. After changing the input or after restarting the device, the last Dolby Pro Logic selection made is used again.

In the case of the inputs – HDMI and OPTICAL – a controller is displayed underneath with which you can set the volume ratio between the ambient noise and the speech. For better speech intelligibility, slide the slider to the right towards the speech bubble - if you want to make the commentator quieter at a football game, for example, then slide the slider to the left towards the noises (represented by a note symbol). The prerequisite is that the current TV program is broadcast in multi-channel sound

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- HDMI (e)ARC for any TV</li><li>- DIN 8pol / B&amp;O Powerlink</li><li>- COAX</li><li>- OPTICAL</li><li>- Stereo RCA</li></ul>
Outputs (5.1 surround)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 2 x Front L/R XXXXXXXX. RJ45 (Powerlink)</li><li>- 2 x Surround L/R XXXXXX.. RJ45 (Powerlink)</li><li>- 1 x Center XXXXXXXX..RJ45 (Powerlink)</li><li>- 1 x subwoofer (/center) XX.RJ45 (Powerlink)</li></ul>
Output (Stereo Zone)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 1 x L/R (sum signal) XX. RJ45 (Powerlink)</li></ul>
output (headphone)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 1 x L/R (sum signal) XX. 3.5mm jack+opt.</li></ul>
power supply	20 V / 3 A (via external USB PD power supply)
Dimensions	340 x 180 x 34 mm (W x D x H)
Weight	0.76kg
Color	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- black</li><li>- white</li></ul>
guarantee	3 years
Accessories included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- USB PD power adapter (20V, 3A) with USB-C cable</li><li>- HDMI cable, length 2 m</li><li>- Network cable, length 2 m</li></ul>
Accessories sold separately	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- HDMI, fiber optic, Powerlink cable (various lengths)</li><li>- Powerlink adapter (RJ45 &lt;-&gt; 8-pin DIN coupling)</li><li>- Powerlink RJ45 cable (various lengths)</li></ul>