

PT 3.1

AC Power Draw and Thermal Dissipation

This document provides detailed information about the amount of power and current drawn from the AC mains by the *PT 3.1* amplifier and the amount of heat produced under various conditions. The calculations presented here are intended to provide a realistic and reliable depiction of the amplifier. The following assumptions or approximations were made:

- The amplifier's available channels are loaded and full power is being delivered.
- The amplifier efficiency at standard 1-kHz power is estimated to be 65%.
- Quiescent power draw is approximately 90 watts.
- Typical power draw for the internal fan is 12 watts or less.
- The estimated duty cycles take into account the typical crest factor for each type of source material.
- Duty cycle of pink noise is 50%.
- Duty cycle of highly compressed rock 'n' roll midrange is 40%.
- Duty cycle of rock 'n' roll is 30%.
- Duty cycle of background music is 20%.
- Duty cycle of continuous speech is 10%.
- Duty cycle of infrequent, short duration paging is 1%.

Here are the equations used to calculate the data presented in Figure 1:

$$\text{AC Mains Power Draw (watts)} = \frac{\text{Total output power with all channels driven (watts)} \times \text{Duty Cycle}}{\text{Amplifier Efficiency}} + \text{Quiescent and Fan Power Draw (watts)}$$

The following equation converts power draw in watts to current draw in amperes:

$$\text{Current Draw (amperes)} = \frac{\text{AC Mains Power Draw (watts)}}{\text{AC Mains Voltage} \times \text{Power Factor}}$$

The value used for Power Factor is 0.83. The Power Factor variable is needed to compensate for the difference in phase between the AC mains voltage and current. The following equation is used to calculate thermal dissipation:

$$\text{Thermal Dissipation (btu/hr)} = \left(\frac{\text{Total output power with all channels driven (watts)} \times \text{Duty Cycle} \times \text{Amplifier Inefficiency}}{\text{Amplifier Efficiency}} + \text{Quiescent and Fan Power Draw (watts)} \right) \times 3.415$$

The value used for inefficiency is 0.35 (1.00–0.65). The factor 3.415 converts watts to btu/hr. Thermal dissipation in btu is divided by the constant 3.968 to get kcal. If you plan to measure output power under real-world conditions, the following equation may also be helpful:

$$\text{Thermal Dissipation (btu/hr)} = \left(\frac{\text{Total measured output power from all channels (watts)} \times \text{Amplifier Inefficiency}}{\text{Amplifier Efficiency}} + \text{Quiescent and Fan Power Draw (watts)} \right) \times 3.415$$

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Duty Cycle	LOAD									
	AC Mains Power Draw (Watts)	4 Ω DUAL / 8 Ω BRIDGE / 2 Ω PARALLEL				8 Ω DUAL / 16 Ω BRIDGE / 4 Ω PARALLEL				
		Current Draw(Amps)		Thermal Dissipation		AC Mains Power Draw (Watts)	Current Draw(Amps)		Thermal Dissipation	
	120VAC	240VAC	btu/hr	kcal/hr			120VAC	240VAC	btu/hr	kcal/hr
50%	1259	12.6	6.3	1705	430	921	4.6	1300	328	
40%	1025	10.3	5.1	1425	359	755	3.8	1102	278	
30%	792	7.9	4.0	1146	289	588	3.0	903	228	
20%	558	5.6	2.8	866	218	422	2.1	705	178	
10%	324	3.3	1.6	587	148	256	1.3	506	128	

Figure 1 Power Draw, Current Draw and Thermal Dissipation at Various Duty Cycles



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