

Line level refers to the level or strength of an audio signal - there are two main types of line level.

- ▶ Consumer line level is usually -10dBV (0.316 volts) and is what you will find in products like a CD player or hi-fi amplifier.
- ▶ Professional line level reference is +4 dBu (1.23 volts or higher) and is found on a mixing desk, wireless system and signal-processing equipment.

Microphone level is generally significantly lower than line level. Depending upon the microphone and the sound pressure level (SPL) injected into the microphone, the level may range from a few microvolts for a whisper, up to several volts for a microphone in front of a guitar cabinet. Mic level needs amplifying up to line level with a microphone pre amp (usually built into mixing desks) for use with mixers and PA systems.