

---

Subject: Re: Building audio cables from scratch

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2017 16:22:41 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Audio is AC, so positive and negative terms don't apply. However, sometimes (often) the connections are still labeled that way, and it generally means positive voltage on a positive terminal will cause positive pressure, e.g. forward diaphragm motion at the speaker.

One key factor is whether the interface is balanced or unbalanced; Shielding is important for unbalanced connections, and most commercial audio preamp connections are unbalanced. For speaker wires, the main thing is the conductor size. In all cases, you want a good quality connector because the contact is a potential trouble spot.