# RS 185

## Digital Wireless Headphone System


Instuction Manual

SENNHEISER

# Contents

# Important safety information

- Read this instruction manual carefully and completely before using the product.
- Always include this instruction manual when passing the product on to third parties.
- Do not use an obviously defective product.

### Preventing damage to health and accidents

- Protect your hearing from high volume levels. Permanent hearing damage may occur when headphones are used at high volume levels for long periods of time. Sennheiser headphones sound exceptionally good at low and medium volume levels.
- Keep the headphones at least 10 cm/3.94'' from cardiac pacemakers or implanted defibrillators. The headphones contain magnets that generate a magnetic field which could cause interference with cardiac pacemakers and implanted defibrillators.
- Keep the product, accessories and packaging parts out of reach of children and pets to prevent accidents and choking hazards.
- Do not use the product in situations which require special attention (e.g. in traffic or when performing skilled jobs).

### Preventing damage to the product and malfunctions

- Always keep the product dry and do not expose it to extreme temperatures to avoid corrosion or deformation. The normal operating temperature is from 0 to 40 °C/32 to 104°F.
- Use only attachments/accessories/spare parts supplied or recommended by Sennheiser.
- Unplug the power supply unit from the AC wall outlet if you are not going to use the product for extended periods of time.
- Varnish or furniture polish may degrade the feet of the transmitter, which could stain your furniture. You should therefore place the transmitter on a non-splip pad to avoid potential staining of furniture.
- Do not place your headphones on a glass dummy head, chair armrest or similar objects for long periods as this can widen the headband and reduce the contact pressure of the headphones.
- Clean the product only with a soft, dry cloth.

### Intended use/Liability

This wireless headphone system is suitable for use with hi-fi systems, TV sets, and home cinema systems that can support either or both analog and digital inputs.

This product is intended for private domestic use only. It is not suitable for commercial use. This product is also not intended to be used with portable audio devices.

It is considered improper use when this product is used for any application not named in the associated product guides and instruction manual.

Sennheiser does not accept liability for damage arising from abuse or misuse of this product and its attachments/accessories.

## Safety instructions for standard/rechargeable batteries

### WARNING

In extreme cases, the standard/rechargeable batteries may leak and may cause the following hazards if abused or misused:

- explosion
- fire
- heat
- smoke/gas

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | Keep away from children. |  | Do not heat above 70 °C/ 158 °F, e.g. do not expose to sunlight or throw into a fire. |
|  | Do not expose to moisture. |  | When not using rechargeable batteries for extended periods of time, charge them regularly (about every 3 months). |
|  | Do not mutilate or dismantle. |  | When not using the product for an extended period of time, remove the standard/ rechargeable batteries. |
|  | Observe correct polarity. |  | Use only rechargeable batteries and chargers recommended by Sennheiser. |
|  | Pack/store standard/ charged rechargeable batteries so that the terminals cannot contact each other – danger of shorting out/ fire hazard. |  | Do not continue using defective standard/ rechargeable batteries and dispose of them immediately. |
|  | Switch battery-powered products off after use. |  | Immediately remove standard/ rechargeable batteries from an obviously defective product. |
|  | Charge rechargeable batteries at ambient temperatures between 10 and 40 °C/50 and 104 °F. |  | Dispose of standard/ rechargeable batteries at special collection points or return them to your specialist dealer. |
|  | Do not charge standard batteries. |  | Do not mix standard and rechargeable batteries in the battery compartments. |

# The RS 185 digital wireless headphone system

Created with the music lover in mind, the RS 185 now makes it possible to enjoy dynamic, high-fidelity Sennheiser sound at home without the hassle of wires. These innovative, ergonomically designed, wireless open headphones deliver amazingly precise sound reproduction in uncompressed digital quality even as you wander from room to room, and they are light and comfortable enough for extended periods of use.

Furthermore, the conveniently located manual input level and balance controls make setting the listening levels to your individual preference a snap, so you'll be able to fine-tune the details of each track in stunning acoustic clarity. Just connect the multi-purpose transmitter to your home sound system (via optical or analog inputs) and lose yourself in the music.

Sennheiser's RS 185: The right wireless choice for serious listeners.

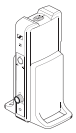
## Features




- Wireless, open, circumaural headphones with uncompressed digital audio transmission
- Exceptional digital audio clarity and transmission range of up to 328 ft/ 100 m (line of sight)
- High-performance Sennheiser transducers for precise, thrilling sound
- Control the sensitivity of your analog input – choose between Automatic Level Control (ALC) mode to even out volume differences automatically or Manual Level Control (MLC) mode to manually adjust the sensitivity
- Supports analog and digital audio inputs and allows toggling between the inputs
- Balance control located on the headset for convenient adjustments
- Multi-purpose transmitter – also functions as ''easy-charge'' cradle and docking station
- Multi-receiver transmission – transmitter supports up to two pairs of headphones simultaneously
- Ergonomic design for enhanced wearing comfort
- 2-year warranty

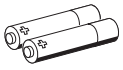
# Package includes

HDR 185 headphones



TR 185 transmitter

Power supply unit with multi-country adapters
(EU, UK, US, AU)



Low self-discharge NiMH rechargeable batteries, AAA size

Optical digital cable, 1.5 m

Stereo RCA cable, 1.2 m

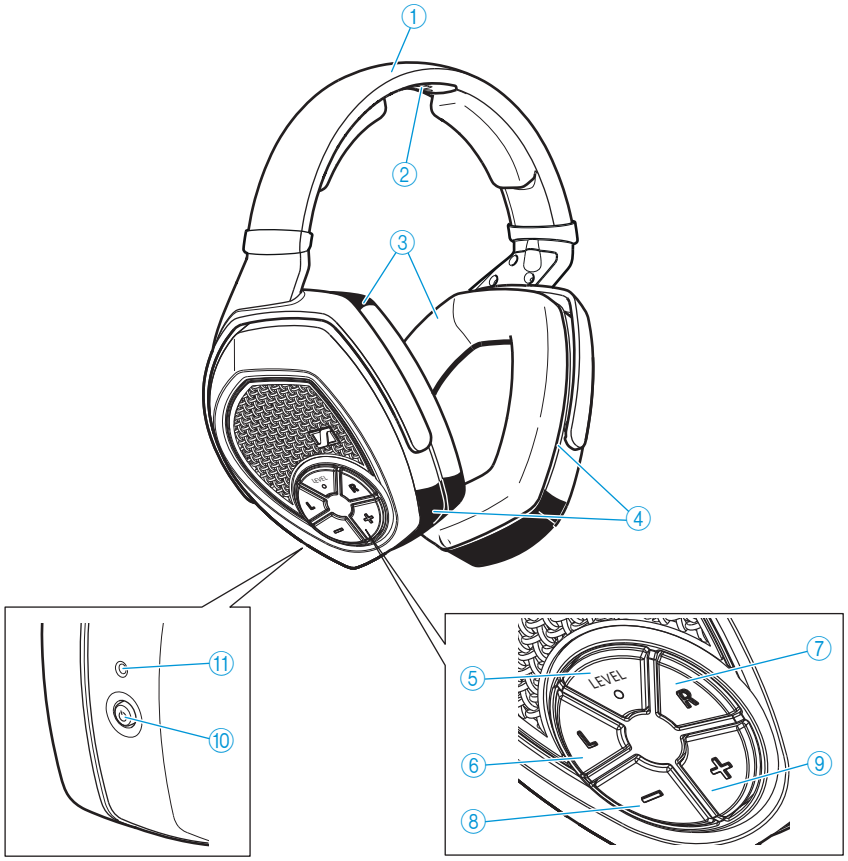

Quick guide


Instruction manual CD in 15 languages (PDF files)


Safety guide

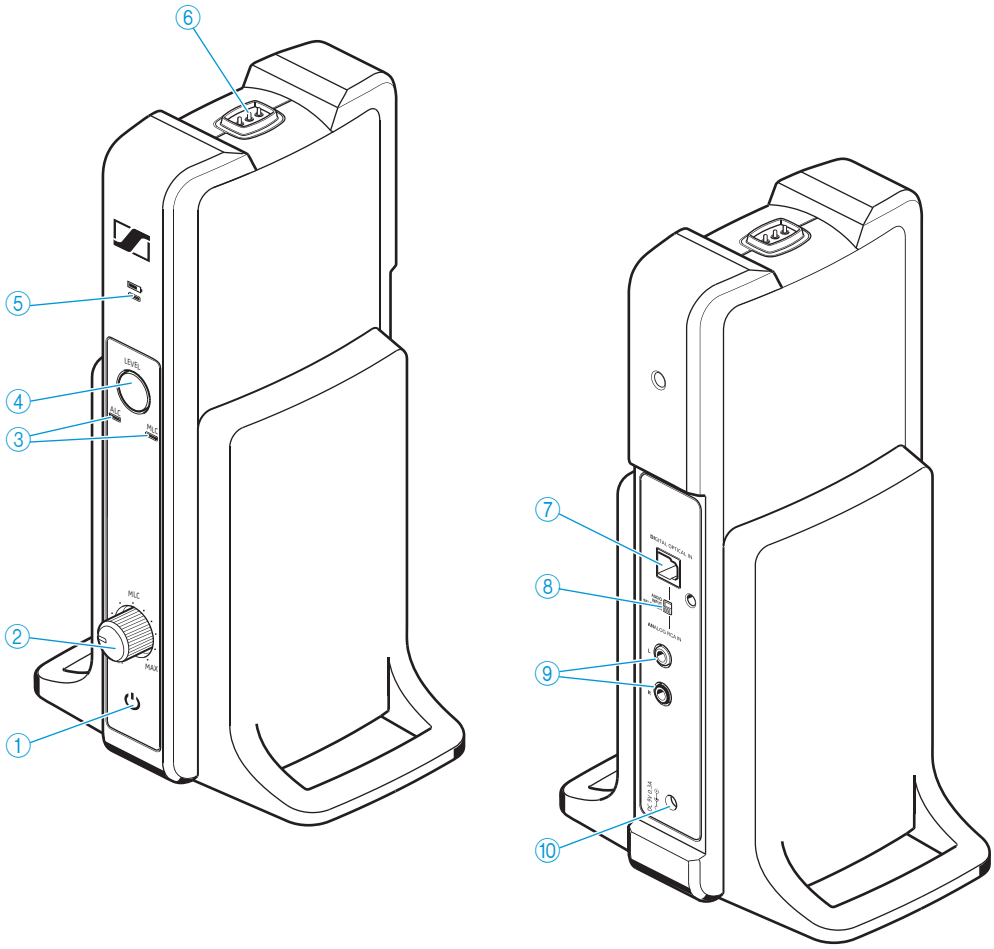
# Product overview

## Overview of the HDR 185 headphones




1. Headband
2. Charging contacts
3. Ear pads
4. Ear cups/Battery compartments
5. LEVEL button for manual and automatic level control selection
6. Balance L button
7. Balance R button
8. Volume – button
9. Volume + button
10. HDR power button ⏻
11. HDR status LED

## Overview of the TR 185 transmitter




① TR status LED ⏻

② MLC rotary knob,
for manual level control adjustment

③ ALC, MLC LEVEL LEDs, indicate the selected signal level control

④ LEVEL button
to toggle between manual and automatic level controls

⑤ Charge status LED ▭

⑥ Charging contacts

⑦ DIGITAL OPTICAL IN Digital optical audio input

⑧ AUDIO INPUT SELECTION switch, for digital or analog audio input selection

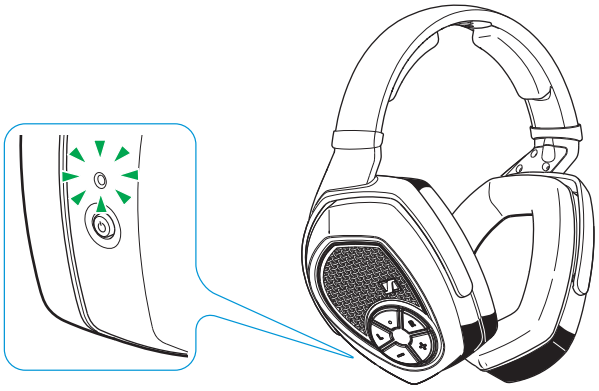
⑨ L, R RCA audio input,
for analog audio input

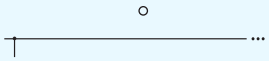
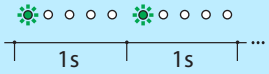
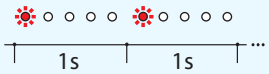
⑩ DC 9V 0.3A socket for the power supply unit

## Overview of LED indicators

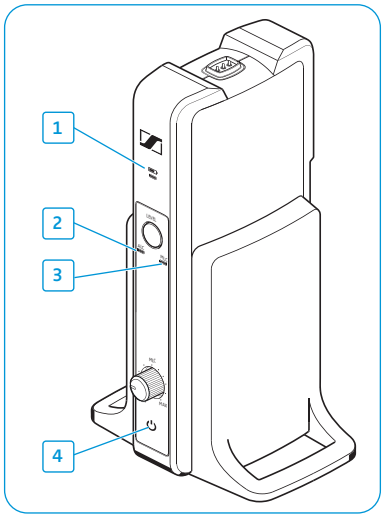
The LED indicators on the headphones and on the transmitter indicate the current operating state. If you are not using the headphones, the LED indicators automatically dim after approx. 30 seconds to not disturb you.

### LED indicators on the headphones

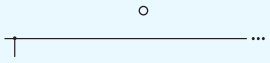


| HDR status LED | Meaning |
|---|---|
|  | The headphones are switched off. |
|  | The transmitter and headphones are connected. |
|  | The transmitter and headphones are connected and the rechargeable batteries are almost empty. |
|  | The headphones are disconnected from or cannot connect to the transmitter. |
|  | The headphones are disconnected from or cannot connect to the transmitter and the rechargeable batteries are almost empty. |

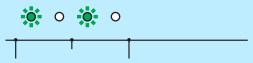
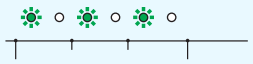
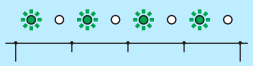
## LED indicators on the transmitter



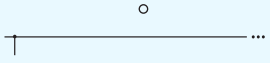

**1**

| Charge status LED | Meaning |
|---|---|
|  | The transmitter is not charging. |
|  | The rechargeable batteries are being charged. |
|  | The rechargeable batteries are fully charged. |
|  | A charging/battery fault has been detected. |

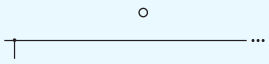
After taking the headphones from the holder, the charge status LED indicates the approximate operating time:

| Charge status LED | Operating time | Battery capacity |
|---|---|---|
|  | up to 4 hours | 0 to 25% |
|  | approx. 4 to 9 hours | 25 to 50% |
|  | approx. 9 to 14 hours | 50 to 75% |
|  | approx. 14 to 18 hours | 75 to 100% |

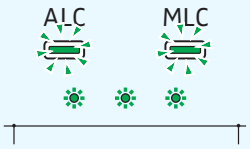
**2**

| ALC LED | Meaning |
|---|---|
|  | The Automatic Level Control (ALC) mode is deactivated. |
|  | The Automatic Level Control (ALC) mode is activated. |

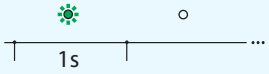
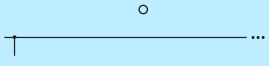
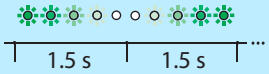
3

| MLC LED | Meaning |
|---|---|
|  | The Manual Level Control (MLC) mode is deactivated. |
|  | The Manual Level Control (MLC) mode is activated. |
|  | The Manual Level Control (MLC) mode is activated but the input signal has exceeded the maximum permitted level. |

2 3

| ALC and MLC LED | Meaning |
|---|---|
|  | When the ALC and MLC LEDs flash three times, the optical audio input is selected. The level adjustment is only necessary for the analog audio input. |

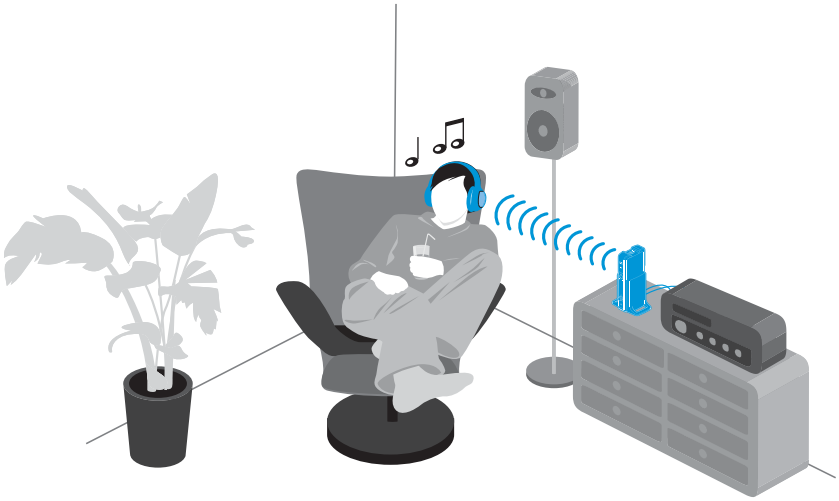
4

| TR status LED ⏻ | Meaning |
|---|---|
|  | The transmitter is connected to the AC wall outlet. |
|  | The transmitter is in standby mode. |
|  | The transmitter and headphones are connected. |
|  | The transmitter detects an incompatible digital audio streaming input. |

# Putting the RS 185 into operation

## Setting up the transmitter

- Choose a suitable place near your audio source.
- Separate the transmitter and other wireless devices in a room by at least 50 cm/20″ to avoid interference.
- Do not place the transmitter close to metal objects such as shelf bars, reinforced concrete walls, etc. as this can decrease the cover range of the transmitter.



## Connecting the transmitter to an audio source

You can simultaneously connect 2 different audio sources (e.g. a TV and a stereo hi-fi system) to the transmitter. The transmitter features a digital as well as an analog audio input. If you connect 2 audio sources, you can toggle between them using the AUDIO INPUT SELECTION switch (see page 21).

You can also refer to the beginner's video guides on how to connect your digital wireless headphone system to a TV at www.sennheiser.com/how-to-videos.

- Switch your audio source off before connecting the transmitter.
- Check the connection options available for your audio source (audio output, usually marked "OUT").
- Select the corresponding connection cable and, if necessary, a suitable adapter.
- Depending on the connection option selected, go to the respective chapter and follow the instructions on how to connect the transmitter to an audio source.

| Connection options available for your audio source | | Connection cable | Page |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | Optical (digital) | Optical digital cable | 13 |
| B | RCA (analog) | Stereo RCA cable | 14 |
| C | 3.5 mm or 6.3 mm/¼" jack socket (analog) | 2 RCA plugs to stereo audio cable with adapter 3.5 mm jack socket (cables/adapters to be ordered separately) | 15 |

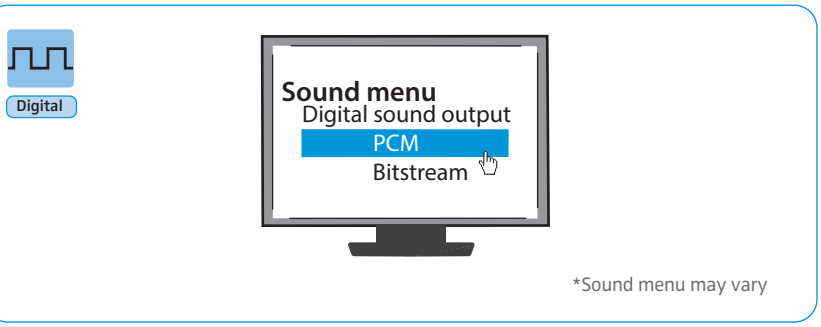
You can purchase accessories and adapters from your local Sennheiser partner.

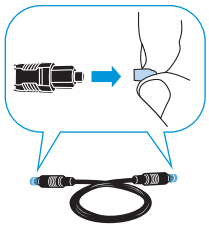
A

## Connection option A: Optical (digital)

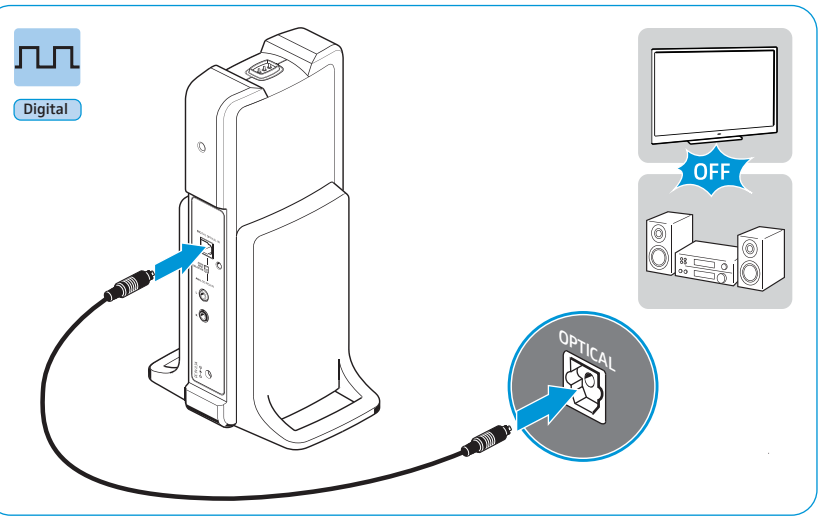
To achieve the best possible listening experience, we recommended that you connect your RS 185 headphone system to your home cinema or hi-fi system using the supplied optical digital cable.

Your wireless headphone system allows digital audio streaming using only PCM audio output from devices connected through the optical digital input DIGITAL OPTICAL IN. Refer to the sound menu or the instruction manual of your device to change from another audio stream (e.g. Bitstream) to PCM.



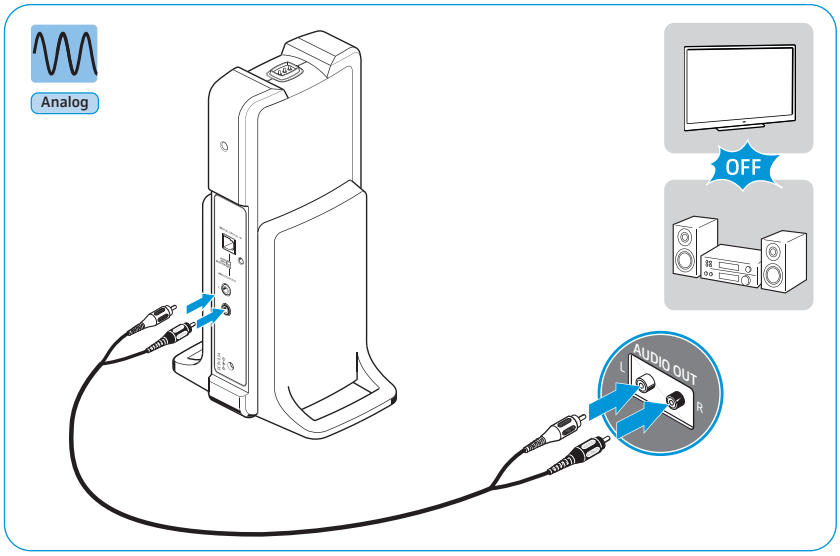
- Switch your audio source off before connecting the transmitter.
- Pull off the clear protective caps from both plugs before connecting the cable.
- Connect one end of the optical digital cable to the DIGITAL OPTICAL IN input of the transmitter and the other end to the optical output of your audio source.



B

## Connection option B: RCA (analog)

- Switch your audio source off before connecting the transmitter.
- Connect the RCA plugs to the RCA inputs of the transmitter. Connect the red RCA plug to the red RCA socket and the white RCA plug to the white RCA socket.
- Connect the RCA plugs to the RCA outputs of your audio source (in most cases ''AUDIO OUT''). Connect the red RCA plug to the red RCA socket and the white RCA plug to the white or black RCA socket.

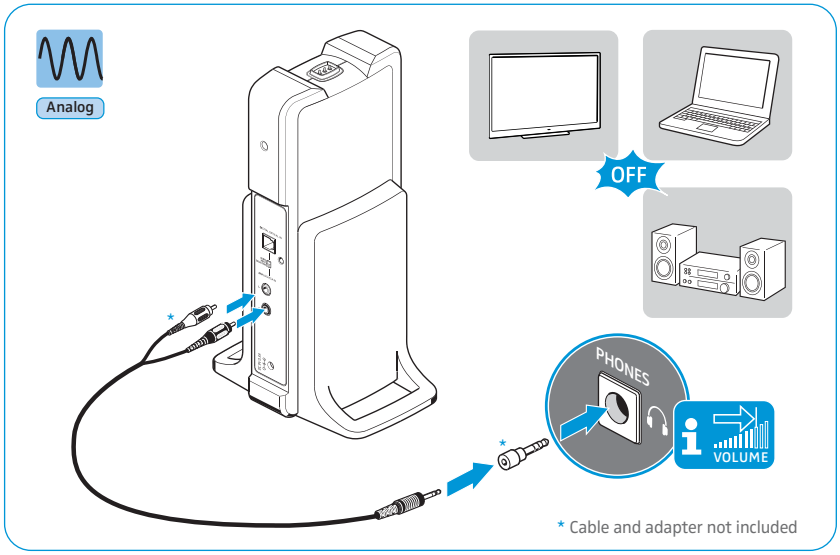


C

## Connection option C: 3.5 mm or 6.3 mm/¼" jack socket (analog)

Some TV models mute the loudspeakers when you connect the transmitter to the headphone socket. Check in the menu of your TV to see if the muting function can be deactivated. Alternatively, connect the TV and the transmitter using a different option (A or B).

- Switch your audio source off before connecting the transmitter.
- Connect the RCA plugs to the RCA inputs of your transmitter. Connect the red RCA plug to the red RCA socket and the white RCA plug to the white RCA socket.
- If necessary, connect the 6.3 mm/¼" adapter jack plug onto the 3.5 mm plug of the RCA cable.
- Connect the 3.5 mm plug of the RCA cable to the headphone socket of your audio source.




Adjust the volume of the headphone socket on your audio source to at least about the medium level.

## Connecting the transmitter to an AC wall outlet

1 Select a suitable country adapter and slide it onto the power supply unit until it locks firmly in place.

2 Connect the power supply unit connector to the power input socket of the transmitter.

3 Plug the power supply unit into an AC wall outlet.
The TR status LED ⏻ lights up for a second. The transmitter is in standby mode.