

Simple rules to follow:

When connecting any audio device to an amplifier, ensure the volume is turned down during the plugging in & unplugging as loud noise can be generated. This is especially critical for microphones as they have a sensitive input.

When using microphones for public address, it is wise to ensure wherever possible:

- the microphones are kept as far away from the systems speakers
- keep the microphone behind the front row of speakers and try not to aim the microphone at the speaker,
- turn the volume of the microphone level up slowly if any unwanted noise is heard turn it down slightly, this is likely to be the level of amplification for your room.

Excessive amplification of the microphone will cause it to pick up its own sound from the speakers and amplify it again causing audio feedback, its volume control must be turned down to regulate this.

While using a microphone if you walk around the room, as you get close to the speakers this feedback may also occur, so you either keep further away from the speakers or adjust the volume down.

It is good practice to do a sound check prior to any live event to establish the ideal and maximum levels, these may need to be tweaked during the performance or as the room fills up as the acoustic properties of the room will change.

Microphones always work best when they are close to the audio source (your mouth) the further away the less signal they will have to amplify. If you move the microphone closer and further away from you during its use the volume that your audience will hear will vary dramatically. Keep speaking in a constant level, keep the microphone in a constant distance from you and everything should be OK.

When using wireless microphones, top tips are test its range, if it is a critical event always fit new batteries before the show, ensure the microphone is turned off immediately after you have used it, check the user knows how to use the microphone.