# KENWOOD

### COMPACT Hi-Fi COMPONENT SYSTEM

# CORE-A55 KAF-A55

# **INSTRUCTION MANUAL**

**Kenwood Corporation** 

# Declaration of Conformity with regard to the EMC Directive 2004/108/EC

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Caution : Read the pages marked  $\underline{\wedge}$  carefully to ensure safe operation.

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Read before use

Playing music tracks

Creating the desired sound setting

Advanced operations

Maintenance

3

# ▲ Caution : Read this page carefully to ensure safe operation.

Units are designed for operation as follows.

Australia	AC 240 V only
Europe	AC 230 V only

### Safety precautions

WARNING: TO PREVENT FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.



CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.



THE LIGHTNING FLASH WITH ARROWHEAD SYMBOL, WITHIN AN EQUILATERAL TRI-ANGLE, IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF UNINSULATED "DAN-GEROUS VOLTAGE" WITHIN THE PRODUCT' S ENCLOSURE THAT MAY BE OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO CONSTITUTE A RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK TO PERSONS.

THE EXCLAMATION POINT WITHIN AN EQUI-LATERAL TRIANGLE IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF IMPORTANT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE (SERVIC-ING) INSTRUCTIONS IN THE LITERATURE AC-COMPANYING THE APPLIANCE.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

# ▲ Caution : Read this page carefully to ensure safe operation.

**Read Instructions** – All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the product is operated.

Retain Instructions – The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference. Heed Warnings – All warnings on the product and in the operating instructions should be adhered to. Follow Instructions – All operating and use instructions should be followed.

**1. Cleaning** – Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.

2. Attachments – Do not use attachments not recommended by the product manufacturer as they may cause hazards.

3. Water and Moisture – This product shall not be exposed to dripping and splashing – for example, near a bath tub, wash bowl, kitchen sink, or laundry tub; in a wet basement; or near a swimming pool; and the like. Do not place an object containing liquid, such as a flower vase, on the appliance.

4. Accessories – Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The product may fall, causing serious injury to a child or adult, and serious damage to the product. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table recommended by the manufacturer. Any mounting of the product should follow the manufacturer's instructions, and should use a mounting accessory recommended by the manufacturer.

A product and cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the product and cart combination to overturn.



5. Ventilation – Slots and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation and to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating, and these openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided or the manufacturer's instructions have been adhered to. 6. Power Sources – This product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the product. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your product dealer or local power company.

7. CAUTION – Polarization – This product may be equipped with a polarized alternating-current line plug (a plug having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug should still fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.

8. Power Cord Protection – Power-supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the product.

**9. Lightning** – For added protection for this product during a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet and disconnect the antenna or cable system. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and power-line surges.

**10.Overloading** – Do not overload wall outlets, extension cords, or integral convenience receptacles as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.

**11.Object and Liquid Entry** – Never push objects of any kind into this product through openings as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on the product.

**12.Servicing** – Do not attempt to service this product yourself as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage or other hazards. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

**13.Damage Requiring Service** – Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:

- a) When the power-supply cord or plug is damaged,
- **b)** If liquid has been spilled, or objects have fallen into the product,
- c) If the product has been exposed to rain or water,
- **d)** If the product does not operate normally by following the operating instructions.
- e) If the product has been dropped or damaged in any way, and
- f) When the product exhibits a distinct change in performance – this indicates a need for service.
- g) If an abnormal smell or smoke is detected.

**14.Replacement Parts** – When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer or have the same characteristics as the original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, or other hazards.

**15.Safety Check** – Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.

**16.Wall or Ceiling Mounting** – This product should be mounted to a wall or ceiling only as recommended by the manufacturer.

**17.Heat** – This product should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other products that produce heat. Do not place a flaming object, such as a candle or lantern, or near the product.

**18.Power Lines** – An outside antenna system should not be located in the vicinity of overhead power lines or other electric light or power circuits, or where it can fall into such power lines or circuits. When installing an outside antenna system, extreme care should be taken to keep from touching such power lines or circuits as contact with them might be fatal.

**19.Outdoor Antenna Grounding** – If an outside antenna or cable system is connected to the product, be sure the antenna or cable system is grounded so as to provide some protection against voltage surges and builtup static charges. Article 810 of the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70, provides information with regard to proper grounding of the mast and supporting structure, grounding of the lead-in wire to an antenna discharge unit, size of grounding conductors, location of antennadischarge unit, connection to grounding electrodes, and requirements for the grounding electrode.



#### Notes:

- 1. Item 7 is not required except for grounded or polarized equipment.
- 2. Item 19 complies with UL in the U.S.A.

### Accessories

AC adapter (AC-120357A x 1)



Power cord (x 1) Remote control unit (RC-A0500 x 1)



Vertical installation stand (x 1)

Stand securing screw (x 1)

Horizontal installation cushions

(x 8)







Packaged together with the speaker of CORE-A55 only

Speaker cords (2 m x 2)



Speaker stands (x 2)







CORE-A55/KAF-A55

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### Installation precautions

- Always install the system on a level, stable surface. When installing on a stand or tabletop, be sure to confirm the strength of the stand.
- The magnetism from the speakers may cause color irregularities on a nearby TV or PC screen. Always install the speakers at a distance from a TV or PC.

Horizontal installation

Vertical installation



The two speakers are identical. Each speaker can be installed either on the left or right.

**A** CAUTION

Observe the following cautions when installing the system and AC adapter. Insufficient heat radiation may build up internal heat and cause a malfunction or fire hazard.

- Do not place an object that may hinder heat radiation on the system.
- Do not install the system on the back, on the side or upside down.
- Do not place a cloth on the system or place it on a carpet or cushion.
- Do not use the system in a poorly ventilated place.

Install the system so that the power outlet is easily accessible from the user, and unplug the power cord from the power outlet immediately in case of a trouble.

Note that the power supply to the system is not shut down completely by simply setting the power button to OFF. To shut down the power supply completely, it is required to unplug the power cord.

### To fully enjoy the acoustic effects

The audio is variable depending on how the speakers are installed. Ensure the following points to enjoy music with higher quality.

- Make the environments around the left and right speakers as equal as possible. Install the left and right speakers at a distance of a wall, and minimize the sound reverberations by drawing thick curtains on the windows.
- Place the left and right speakers at a large distance between each other.
- Install each speaker at an upward angle (0 to 20°) so that it points toward the listener's ears.

# Connections

### **Basic connections**



The two speakers are identical. Each speaker can be installed either on the left or right.

#### Installation of the main unit

#### How to use the horizontal installation cushions

Attach the cushions on the four positions on the bottom of the main unit. Make sure that the cushion surfaces contact the surface on which the main unit is installed. See the following illustration for the positions of the cushions. (8 cushions are provided with the system. Retain the remaining 4 cushions for possible future use.)



#### • How to use the vertical installation stand

When installing the main unit vertically, place it lengthwise so that the SD card slot comes at the bottom. Secure the main unit on the stand by tightening the stand securing screw on the rear of the stand.



 If the securing screw is too tight to remove, use a commercially available flat-blade screwdriver.

### Installation of speakers

#### How to use the speaker stands

Install each speaker on each speaker stand so that the arrow on the bottom of the stand points toward the front. Each speaker can be adjusted at a desired upward angle between  $0^{\circ}$  (vertical) and  $20^{\circ}$ .



### **Connecting the speakers**

#### How to attach the speaker terminal covers

Before connecting each speaker cord, pass the cord through the hole on the provided speaker terminal cover. After connecting the speaker cord to the speaker, fit the cover on the terminal.



#### · How to prepare the speaker cord extremity

Remove the vinyl coating on the tip of each cord by twisting the coating.



• How to connect the speaker cord



#### · How to remove the speaker terminal covers

Push down the hole on the speaker terminal cover and remove it.



 Be careful not to short-circuit the + and – conductors of the speaker cord (be sure to avoid contact between the + and – conductors). If the speaker cord is connected by inverting the + and – polarity, the reproduced audio will be unnatural with unclear positioning of musical instruments.

### Connecting associated products (commercially available)

- Before connecting associated system products, be sure to read their instruction manuals.
- · Connect every connection cord firmly. Incomplete insertion may cause loss of audio output or generation of noise.

#### **Caution for connection**

Set the main unit in the standby mode before connecting any associated product to it and do not set the power button to ON until all connections are completed. Before unplugging a connected cord or cable, be sure to set the power button to OFF and unplug the power cord from the power outlet in advance.

### USB

Connect a USB flash memory or a digital audio player with USB mass storage class compatibility to the [•----USB] terminal on the rear of the main unit.

- With certain models, it takes a certain period before the connection is recognized.
- Certain models display the USB connection mode selection menu. In this case, select the "Storage" mode.



### **D.AUDIO/PORTABLE IN**

Connect a digital audio player or the iPod Dock (PAD-iP7) to the **[D.AUDIO/ PORTABLE IN]** terminal on the rear of the main unit.

 When a Kenwood Digital Audio Link-compatible player is connected using the dedicated cable (separately available), the player can be controlled from the main unit or remote control unit by setting D.AUDIO Control (page 32) to "ON". (pages 22, 36)

The iPod can be controlled when it is connected using the PAD-iP7 dedicated adapter (separately available).

- When a digital audio player without the Digital Audio Link compatibility is used, set D.AUDIO Control to "OFF". (page 32) Such a player should be connected using a commercially available stereo miniplug cable.
- When not using the iPod, unplug the cable from the main unit.



### AUX IN

Connect the audio output of the VCR, etc. to the **[AUX IN]** terminals on the rear of the main unit. Use a commercially available stereo miniplug cable for the connection.



#### PC IN

Connect a PC running Windows<sup>®</sup> Vista/XP and equipped with a USB terminal to the **[PC IN]** terminal.

Use a commercially available USB cable (Type A – Mini B) for the connection.

• Use a USB cable with a length of no more than 3 m.



### D-IN(PCM)

Connect the optical digital output of a digital tuber, etc. to the **[D-IN(PCM)]** terminal on the rear of the main unit.

• Set the digital audio output setting of the connected component to "PCM".



#### PHONES

Connect headphones with a stereo miniplug to the **[PHONES]** jack on the front of the main unit.

When you connect the headphones, sound from the speakers is muted and the volume adjustment range is from 0 to MAX (33).



### Main unit



#### 1 Display (page 13)

### VOLUME knob

#### () (page 17)

Press to switch the power of the system ON/OFF (standby mode).

When the system is in standby mode, press to turn it ON.

When the system is ON, press and hold for more than a second to set it to standby mode.

#### VOLUME (page 16)

Rotate to adjust the volume.

#### /II (pages 17, 18, 20, 22)

When the USB/SD/D.AUDIO source is selected, press to start playback. The illumination changes from white to blue at this time.

Press again to let the playback pause. The illumination changes from blue to white.

#### Note on the illumination

The color of the illumination around the JOG knob indicates the function of the JOG knob.

White: Rotating the JOB knob selects the audio source.

Blue: When the SD/USB/D.AUDIO source is selected, the JOG knob functions as I = I and I = I.

### JOG knob

#### INPUT SELECTOR (pages 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24)

When the illumination is white, turn clockwise or counterclockwise to select the audio source.

#### I◀◀/▶▶I (pages 19, 21, 22)

When the USB/SD/D.AUDIO source is selected, rotate clockwise or counterclockwise during playback to skip the file.

#### />>> (pages 19, 21, 22)

When the USB/SD/D.AUDIO source is selected, rotate clockwise or counterclockwise continuously during playback to fast forward or fast reverse the playback.

- SD slot (pages 17, 19)
- Insert the SD card.
- O PHONES jack (page 11)
- G STANDBY indicator

Red lighting: Standby mode. Extinguished: The system is ON.

#### Standby mode

When the [STANDBY] indicator is lit, a small amount of power is supplied to the system to operate the microcomputer. This status is referred to as the standby mode. In this state, the system can be switched OFF from the remote control unit.

### Display



1 Shows the information in alphanumeric characters.

2 The icons show the input selection and the sound modes of the system.



 The display illustrations shown in this manual may differ from actual display.

### **Remote control unit**



 The buttons having the same names as the buttons on the main unit function in the same way as the main unit buttons with the same times.

#### 1 (page 17)

Press to switch the power of the system ON/OFF (standby mode).

#### P.MODE (pages 18, 20) Press to switch the playback mode (all-file play mode or folder play mode).

**3 REPEAT (pages 19, 21)** Press to play a file(s) repeatedly.

#### MODE (pages 28 - 32) Press to set up the system of this unit.

#### ⑤ ►/II (pages 17, 18, 20, 22)

Press to start playback. Press again to let the playback pause.
■ (pages 19, 21, 22)
Press to stop playback.

#### MULTI CONTROL< / > (pages 28 - 32)

Press to select a music file.

Press to select a menu item.

#### I◀◀/▶▶I (pages 19, 21, 22)

When the USB/SD/D.AUDIO source is selected, press during playback to skip a file.

When the D.AUDIO source is selected, press and holding during playback to fast forward or fast reverse the playback.

#### ENTER (pages 28 - 32)

Press to enter the selected item.

#### () ◄◄/►► (pages 19, 21, 22)

When the USB/SD source is selected, press and holding during playback to fast forward or fast reverse the playback.

**FOLDER**▲/▼ (pages 18, 20, 22) Press to select a folder.

#### MUTE (page 16)

Press to mute the audio temporarily.

O VOLUME ▲/▼ (page 16)

Press to adjust the listening volume. Pressing  $\blacktriangle$  increases the volume and pressing  $\blacktriangledown$  decreases the volume.

INPUT SELECTOR ▲/▼ (pages 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24)

Press to set the audio source.

DISPLAY (pages 19, 21)

Press to switch the information shown on the display.

#### TONE (page 26)

Press to adjust the tone as desired.

#### B SOUND (page 26)

Press to select a sound mode.

#### STRAIGHT (page 27)

Press to play the audio without any sound adjustment by bypassing the TONE and SOUND settings.

### Preparation of remote control

### Removing the insulation sheet

Pull out the insulation direction in the direction of the arrow.



### **Replacing the battery**

1. While pushing the stopper sideways, pull out the battery holder.



Back side of remote control unit

2. Place a new lithium button battery in the battery holder and set the holder in the original position.



• The provided batteries are intended for use in operation check and their service life may be shorter than usual.

• Be careful not to damage your nails when pulling out the battery holder.

### A CAUTION

• Do not leave the battery near fire or under direct sunlight. A fire, explosion or excessive heat generation may result.

### Note on the battery

Be sure to use the following battery mode for the replacement.

#### Battery type: 3 V lithium button battery CR2025



### **A** CAUTION

If a lithium battery is handled improperly, a fire hazard or skin injury by chemical substance may result. Keep the battery away from the reach of children. Also do not attempt to open, recharge, burn or apply heat above 100 °C to the battery. Always use the designated battery for replacement. If a wrong battery is used, a fire or explosion hazard may result.

### Operation

Plug the power cord of the system to a power outlet and press [ $\mathcal{O}$ ] on the remote control unit to turn the system ON.

After the system is switched ON, press the desired operation button. Use the remote control unit by pointing it to the remote sensor on the main unit.



 The system may malfunction if the remote control sensor is exposed to direct sunlight or the light of a fluorescent lamp with high-frequency lighting system (inverter system, etc.). Change the system installation to prevent malfunction.

# **Basic Operation**



### Turn the system ON.



Press [VOLUME].



Press [也].

### To turn the system OFF:



Press and hold [VOLUME] for more than a second.

Press [එ].

### Load the audio source medium.

### How to load an SD card

Insert the SD card into the SD card slot until it clicks.





Insert the SD card so that the label side faces up and the side with a cut comes on the right.

#### To remove the SD card:

After playback has stopped, turn the system to standby mode and push the SD card with your finger. When the card pops out, it can be pulled out.

■ To use a mini SD or micro SD card:



 Attach the card to a special adapter (commercially available) and insert it. The adapter is inserted in the same orientation as the SD card.

### How to connect a USB device

Hold the device in the correct orientation and insert the connector all the way. (page 10)

To disconnect the USB device:

After stopping, set the system to the standby mode and pull out the USB device.



Confirm that the illumination is white and rotate [JOG] to select an audio source (input source).



 \* The settings change according to the connected component. When D.AUDIO Control is set to "OFF", the input selection display changes to "PORTABLE". (page 32)

# Playing an SD card

The audio files in an SD card can be played as described below.

### Playback



- · For the order of playback where there several folders and/or audio files, see "Order of playback of folders and audio files" (page 35).
- Playback does not start if there is no playable music file in the card.

### Folder play mode

The folder play mode plays the files in the SD card folder by folder.

Select the SD source and enter stop mode.



### Button operations during playback/stop

То	Operation				
	Press [DISPLAY] during playback or stop.				
Switch the display	Each press switches the displayed information. "" is displayed when there is no tag information to be displayed. ":" is displayed when the play time exceeds 99 min. 59 sec.				
	File Name       Folder Name       Title       Artist       Album       T       1       01:15         File name       Folder name       Track title       Artist Name       Album Name       File No.         Play time				
Stop	Press [■] during playback.				
	Press [VOLUME] during playback.				
Pause	Press again to resume playback.				
Tudde	Press [►/II] during playback.				
	Press again to resume playback.				
Select a folder	Press [FOLDER ▲/▼].				
Fast forward/fast	During playback, rotate and hold [JOG] clockwise or counterclockwise.				
	Press and hold [				
	During playback, rotate [JOG] clockwise.				
Sкip a track	Press [►►I].				
Return to previous	During playback, rotate [JOG] counterclockwise twice.				
track	Press [I				
Return to the	During playback, rotate [JOG] counterclockwise.				
track	Press [I] once.				
Start repeat playback	Press [REPEAT].				
(Playing music repeatedly)	Each press switches the selection. Repeat playback of single music track. Repeat playback of all music folders. Repeat playback canceled.				

A USB device such as a USB flash memory or a digital audio player with USB mass storage class compatibility can be connected to play audio files in it.

### Playback



- Playback does not start if there is no playable music file in the card.
  - If a USB device consuming current above the rated current is connected, "USB ERROR" is displayed and it cannot be played through this system. If this happens, turn this system OFF and disconnect the USB device.

### Folder play mode

The folder play mode plays the files in the selected folder of the USB source.

Select 🔁 (folder play mode).

Select the USB source and enter stop mode.

### Button operations during playback/stop

То	Operation				
	Press [DISPLAY] during playback or stop.				
Switch the display information	<ul> <li>Each press switches the displayed information.</li> <li>"" is displayed when there is no tag information to be displayed.</li> <li>":" is displayed when the play time exceeds 99 min. 59 sec.</li> </ul>				
	File Name       Folder Name       Title       Artist       Album       T 1       01:15         File name       Folder name       Track title       Artist Name       Album Name       File No.         Play time				
Stop	Press [=] during playback.				
	Press [VOLUME] during playback.				
Pause	Press again to resume playback.				
	Press [►/II] during playback.				
	Press again to resume playback.				
Select a folder	Press [FOLDER ▲/▼].				
Fast forward/fast reverse	During playback, rotate and hold [JOG] clockwise or counterclockwise.				
	Press and hold [				
	During playback, rotate [JOG] clockwise.				
Sкip a track	Press [►►I].				
Return to previous	During playback, rotate [JOG] counterclockwise twice.				
track	Press [I				
Return to the During playback, rotate [JOG] counterclockwise.					
track	Press [I				
Start repeat playback	Press [REPEAT].				
(Playing music repeatedly)	Each press switches the selection. Repeat playback of single music track. Repeat playback of all music folders. Repeat playback canceled.				

A Kenwood digital audio player or iPod can be connected to play audio files in it.

# Button operations during playback/stop

Plavback	10	
Connect the player.	Stop	
Connect an iPod or Kenwood digital audio player to the D.AUDIO/PORTABLE IN terminal using a commercially available connection cable. (page 10)	Pause	5
Also read the instruction manual for the connected component.		
2 Select the "D.AUDIO" audio source.	Select a folder	
Rotate [JOG].         Press [INPUT SELECTOR▲/▼].         D.AUDIO         Component connected to D.AUDIO	Fast forward/fast reverse	7
<b>3</b> Turn the connected player ON and set it to pause mode.	Skip a track	7
4 Start playback.	Return to previous track	7
Press [VOLUME]. Press [►/Ⅲ].	Search of the beginning of an audio file	5

 While the player is connected to this system, the volume and tone settings on the player are defeated (\* except when an iPod is connected through PAD-iP7). If the audio level of the connected iPod/D.AUDIO player is lower or higher than the level at the same volume control position of other audio sources, adjust the input level of this system. For how to adjust the input level, see page 28.

То	Operation		
ор	Press [■] during playback.		
use		Press [VOLUME] during playback. Press again to resume playback.	
		Press [►/II] during playback. Press again to resume playback.	
lect a folder	ê •	Press [FOLDER ▲/▼].	
st forward/fast verse		During playback, rotate and hold [JOG] clockwise or counterclockwise.	
		Press and hold [I◀◀]/ [▶▶I] during playback.	
in a twark		During playback, rotate [JOG] clockwise.	
ip a track		Press [►►1].	
turn to		During playback, rotate [JOG] counterclockwise twice.	
evious track	•	Press [I	
arch of the		During playback, rotate [JOG] counterclockwise.	
dio file		Press [I	

- Dedicated cable/device for connection
- When the separately available dedicated cable (special cable for Kenwood digital audio player connection) or PAD-iP7 (special cable for iPod connection) is used to connect the player, the player can be controlled from the main unit and remote control unit.
- For details on the connection and installation, refer to the instruction manual provided with PAD-iP7.

### Playing a component connected to AUX IN/D-IN (PCM)

An external component connected to AUX IN/ D-IN(PCM) of the system can be played back through this system.

### Connect an external component.

- Connect the external component to the AUX IN/ D-IN(PCM) input terminal. (page 11)
- · Also read the instruction manual for the connected external component.
- · Be sure to turn both this system and the external component OFF before connecting them.

### Select the "D-IN" or "AUX" audio source.

Rotate [JOG].

Press [INPUT SELECTOR▲/▼].



D-IN

External component connected to D-IN(PCM)

External component connected to AUX IN

#### 44.1kHz = Sampling frequency

• When D-IN(PCM) is selected, the sampling frequency of the input signal is displayed. This system can play the PCM (32kHz/44.1kHz/48 kHz) digital signal.

### Turn the connected external component ON and start playback.

When AUX is selected and if the audio level of the connected component is lower or higher than the level at the same volume control position of other audio sources, adjust the input level of the system. For how to adjust the input level, see page 28.

### Playing a portable player

When the setting for D.AUDIO/PORTABLE IN of this system is set to "PORTABLE", a portable player component can be connected to this system and played through it.

### Connect the portable player.

- Connect the portable player to the D.AUDIO/ PORTABLE IN terminal. (page 10)
- Also read the instruction manual for the connected external component.
- · Be sure to turn both this system and the external component OFF before connecting them.

# Switch the setting of the system.

Set the D.AUDIO control setting to "PORTABLE". (page 32)

Select the "PORTABLE" audio source. Rotate [JOG].



PORTABLE

Press [INPUT SELECTOR▲/▼].

Portable player connected to D.AUDIO/PORTABLE IN

### Turn the connected external component ON and start playback.

If the audio level of the connected portable player is lower or higher than the level at the same volume control position of other audio sources, adjust the input level of the system. For how to adjust the input level, see page 28.

# Connecting a PC and playing its contents

When a PC is connected to this system using a USB cable (commercially available), the contents of the PC including audio files and radio broadcasting can be played by controlling the PC's software.

Prepare a USB cable (Type A – Mini B) for use in connection of the PC to this system.

Connect the USB port of the PC to the [PC IN] terminal on the rear of the main unit using the USB cable.



Turn this system OFF before connecting the PC to it.

2 Turn the PC ON.

## Turn this system ON.

- The driver software is installed automatically in the PC, which recognizes this system as "USB speaker".
- Do not disconnect the USB cable while the PC is detecting the connection of this system.
- If the PC does not recognize this system in a few seconds, try to:
  - Disconnect the USB cable and connect it again.
  - Reboot the PC.

### Select the "PC" audio source.

Rotate [JOG].



# **D** Control the PC software and open an audio file.

- The audio file should be selected on the PC. For the operations of the PC, refer to the manuals for your PC and the software.
- The volume can be controlled on this system.
- III is displayed while the PC is connected.
- This system is compatible with 32 kHz/44.1 kHz/48 kHz sampling frequencies. It can receive 16-bit stereo/monaural data.
- The PC IN terminal of this system is used exclusively for input. It is not possible to record the audio played on this system into the PC.
- If the audio is not hard or very low, check the Windows setup as described below.

### Windows XP

Open the [Start] menu, select [Control Panel] and double-click on [Sound and Audio Devices Properties].

Sounds and	Audio Devia	es Propertie	5	Ľ	? ×
Volume	Sounds	Audio	Voice	Hardware	L_,
Sound	playback				
Ø.	Default devic	e:			
9)	USB Speake	ers		<b>•</b>	
		Volume	Adv	vanced	

- Click on the [Audio] tab and select [USB Speakers].
- Click on [Volume] and adjust the volume. If the [Mute] checkbox is checked, uncheck it.



### Windows Vista

Open the [Start] menu, select [Control Panel] and double-click on [Sound].

Sound	
Playback	Recording Sounds
Select a	playback device below to modify its settings:
Select a	playback device below to modify its settings:

- From [Playback], select [Speakers].
- Click on [Levels] and adjust the volume.

Speakers Prop	erties			
General Levels	Enhancements	Advanced		
Cooplease				
speakers	-0		70	Balance

# Adjusting the sound properties

### Changing the sound mode "SOUND"

The sound mode can be selected as follows.





### Enter the selected sound mode.

Press [ENTER].

The sound mode selected above is set.

Found is displayed when a sound mode is set.

### Setting the equalizer "TONE"

The tone can be adjusted as desired using the equalizer.

### Select the tone mode.

Each press of **[TONE]** switches the tone mode. Press it until the frequency band to be adjusted is displayed.



**Tone** is displayed when a tone mode is selected.

# 2 Adjust the level of the selected band.



To adjust other frequency bands, repeat steps 1 and 2 for each.

### Setting the Straight mode "STRAIGHT"

The Straight mode reproduced audio without adjusting the sound properties.



 When STRAIGHT is "ON", the sound mode and tone mode settings are canceled. Their settings resume when STRAIGHT is set to "OFF".

# Changing the setups of the system

### Adjusting the input level "Input Level"

The level of the signal input can be adjusted when the D.AUDIO, AUX or PORTABLE audio source is selected. Adjust the input level if the audio level of the connected component is lower or higher than the level at the same volume control position of other audio sources.



### Adjusting the left/right audio balance "Balance"

Adjust the balance between the left and right speaker levels.

Disconnect the headphones before adjustment.



#### Adjusting the display contrast Adjusting the display brightness "Contrast" "Backlight" The contrast of the display can be adjusted. The brightness of the backlight of the display panel can be adjusted. . . . . . . . . . . Enter the setup mode. Enter the setup mode. Press [MODE]. Press [MODE]. Select "Contrast". Select "Backlight". Use [MULTI CONTROL</>] to select, then press [ENTER]. Use [MULTI CONTROL< / >] to select, then press [ENTER]. Adjust the contrast. Adjust the brightness. Use [MULTI CONTROL< / >] to adjust, Use [MULTI CONTROL< / >] to select, then press [ENTER]. then press [ENTER]. Decreases the contrast. Low brightness Backlight LOW **V** A Backlight Medium brightness MID Contrast ~ \* HIGH Backlight High brightness Contrast 10 Increases the contrast. The setup mode is exited automatically when the The setup mode is exited automatically when the selection is entered.

selection is entered.

■ To abort setup in the middle:



Press [MODE].

# Setting the illumination "Illumination"

The display illumination can be turned ON or OFF.



The setup mode is exited automatically when the selection is entered.

To abort setup in the middle:

Press [MODE].

Selecting the speakers

Adjust the sound to the optimum properties for

"Speaker Setup"

**30** | CORE-A55/KAF-A55



selection is entered.

Advanced operations

To abort setup in the middle:



### Setting the power supply to the USB terminal "Power Supply"

The digital audio played connected to the USB terminal can be charged according to this setting, even when the USB audio source is not selected.



The setup mode is exited automatically when the selection is entered.

- When the "USB" audio source is selected with the input selector, the power is automatically supplied to the connected component.
  - Power is not supplied when the system is in standby mode.

### Setting D.AUDIO Control "D.AUDIO Control"

When a Kenwood Digital Audio Player Linkcompatible component is connected to this system using the separately available dedicated cable, the connected component can be controlled from this unit or remote control unit according to this setting. When D.AUDIO Control is set to "OFF", a portable player component can be connected.



The setup mode is exited automatically when the selection is entered.

To abort setup in the middle:



### Media usable with this system

Medium		Note	
	USB flash memory	• Do not connect a component other than a USB flash memory or a USB mass storage class-compatible digital audio player to the [•USB] terminal. Kenwood will not assume any liabilities for the malfunction, damage or loss of data that may result from connection of other kind of component.	
USB	USB mass storage class- compatible digital audio player		
	SD/SDHC card		
SD	miniSD <sup>™</sup> card	<ul> <li>An SD card of 1 GB to 32 GB can be used.</li> <li>A special adapter is required for using a miniSD/microSD card.</li> <li>A multimedia card (MMC) cannot be used</li> </ul>	
	micro SD/SDHC card		
РС	Windows Vista/XP machine equipped with USB terminals	• Connect a PC running Windows Vista/XP to the PC IN terminal using a USB cable (commercially available).	

### **Copyright information**

- Materials recorded from broadcasting, CDs, discs or other recorded materials (music tapes, karaoke tapes, etc.) are protected by the copy right just like the verses and melodies of songs.
- The copyright law prescribes that the permission from the copyright owners is required to sell, distribute, transfer or lend the materials recorded from the above recorded materials or to use them on a commercial basis (including background music in shops, etc.).

### **Playable audio files**

### MP3 file

File format: MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3/ MPEG 2 Audio Layer 3/ MPEG 2 Audio Layer 3 Lower sampling rate (MPEG2.5)

File extension: .mp3

#### Sampling frequency:

MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3: 32 kHz/ 44.1 kHz/ 48 kHz MPEG 2 Audio Layer 3: 16 kHz/ 22.05 kHz/ 24 kHz MPEG 2.5: 8 kHz/ 11.025 kHz/ 12 kHz

#### Bit rate:

MPEG 1 Audio Layer 3: 32 kbps – 320 kbps MPEG 2 Audio Layer 3: 8 kbps – 160 kbps MPEG 2.5: 8 kbps – 160 kbps

### WMA file

#### File format:

Windows Media<sup>™</sup> Audio compliant

File extension: .wma

Sampling frequency: 32 kHz/ 44.1 kHz/ 48 kHz

Bit rate: 48 kbps – 192 kbps

- Files created with the following functions provided with Windows Media<sup>™</sup> Player 9 or after cannot be played back:
  - WMA Professional
  - WMA Lossless
  - WMA Voice

### AAC file

File format: MPEG-4 AAC (created using iTunes<sup>™</sup> 4.1 to 7.7) File format: .m4a

Sampling frequency: 16 kHz/ 22.05 kHz/ 24 kHz/ 32 kHz/ 44.1 kHz/ 48 kHz

Bit rate: 32 kbps - 320 kbps

 Files created using the Apple<sup>™</sup> lossless encoder cannot be played back. This system can play the SD and USB components containing the recordings of the following audio files.

### SD/USB compatible file systems

FAT16 FAT32

### **File number limits**

Maximum number of files/folders: Total 1000 Maximum number of folders: 200 Maximum number of files per folder: 255

#### Maximum number of displayable characters

Filename: 64 characters (including extension) Folder name: 64 characters Tag display (Title/Album/Artist) ID3 v1.0/ 1.1: 30 characters ID3 v2.2/ 2.3/ 2.4: 128 characters

• The non-displayable character is displayed as "\*".

#### Other cautions

- Even audio files compliant to the above standard may be unable to be played depending on the recording conditions of the disc, etc.
- Playback may sometimes be impossible depending on the specifications and setup of the software used in encoding.
- Files with DRM (Digital Rights Management) cannot be played back.
- Audio files encoded in VBR (Variable Bit Rate) may contain data outside the compatible bit rate of this system. Such audio files containing incompatible bit rates cannot be played back.

### Note on file extensions

 Make sure that audio filenames have proper extensions (mp3, wma, m4a). A file without the extension cannot be played. Also, do not put extension (mp3, wma, m4a) to a file that is not an audio file. For the file extensions, see "Playable audio files".

### Order of playback of folders and audio files

Among the audio files in an SD card, USB flash memory or USB audio player, the files in the Root directory are played first. The following diagram shows how this system selects the stored audio files.



### Handling of USB device

### Handling precautions

- Be sure to read the instruction manuals provided with each USB device.
- The USB device is not provided with this system.
- The [• + USB] terminal on the rear of the main unit is USB2.0 (Full speed) compatible.
- It is not permitted to connect a USB device through a USB hub.
- The data saved in the USB device may be lost depending on the usage conditions. Kenwood will not assume any liabilities for the damage incurred due to loss of saved data.

### Usable USB devices

The following restrictions are applicable to the type and operating method of the USB device.

- The USB device should be USB mass storage class compatible. For whether each USB device is compatible with the USB mass storage class, consult its dealer.
- The maximum current drain should be no more than "500 mA".

If a USB device other than specified above is used, the music files may be unable to be played correctly. Also, note that even a USB device complying with the above specifications may be unable to play certain music files depending on the type or condition of the music files.

### Usable D.AUDIO

To control a Kenwood digital audio player from the main unit or remote control unit, the Kenwood digital audio player connection cable is necessary.

Usable Kenwood digital audio player models		
HDD audio player	Memory audio player/recorder	
HD20GA7	MGR-A7/M2GD55/ M1GD55/M1GC7/M2GC7	

(as of Aug. 2008)

### Handling of SD card

### Handling precautions

- Be sure to read the instruction manual provided with your SD card.
- The SD card is not provided with this system
- The saved data may be lost depending on the operating situations of the SD card. Kenwood will not assume any liabilities for the damage incurred due to loss of saved data.

### Handling iPod

### Handling precautions

- Be sure to read the instruction manuals provided with your iPod.
- The iPod is not provided with this system.
- The saved data may be lost depending on the operating situations of the iPod. Kenwood will not assume any liabilities for the damage incurred due to loss of saved data.

### Usable iPod

 To control an iPod from the main unit or remote control unit, the PAD-iP7 iPod Dock is necessary. For the usable iPod models, refer to the instruction manual for PAD-iP7.

### Care and storage of device

### Main unit

#### Do not place in the following locations.

- Place exposed to direct sunlight.
- Place subjected to excessive humidity or dirt.
- Place exposed to direct heat from heating equipment.

#### Be careful against condensation.

When the difference in temperatures between the main unit and the environmental air is large, dew may be condensed inside the main unit and may cause malfunction of the main unit. If this happens, leave the main unit for a few hours until its internal mechanisms are dried up.

Take special care against condensation when the main unit is moved between places with a large temperature difference or into a room with high humidity.

#### When the unit becomes dirty:

When the front panel or case gets dirty, wipe with a soft dry cloth. Do not use lacquer thinner, benzine, alcohol or contact revitalizer for these chemicals will cause discoloration or deformation.

### SD card

#### Before storing the SD card:

- Always store the SD card in its case.
- Avoid locations with a very high temperature (such as a place exposed to direct sunlight) or high humidity.

#### When the SD card becomes dirty:

- Wipe gently with a soft, dry cloth.
- Do not use lacquer thinner, benzine or alcohol.

#### Other cautions

- Do not attempt to open or modify a card.
- Do not peel off the label from the card.
- Do not attach a label or sticker on the card.
- Do not touch the metallic terminals on the back side with a hand or metallic object.

### **USB** device

Be sure to read the instruction manuals provided with each USB device.

# Caution for transport or movement

Before transporting or moving the system, prepare it as described below.

- Turn the system OFF and disconnect the external component such as USB audio player as well as the SD card.
- If any other external component is connected, make sure that it is turned OFF before disconnecting the connection cable.

### **Memory backup**

The setups in the system are backed up even after the power cord has been unplugged from the power outlet. The backed-up setups are as follows.

#### Sound and system setups

- Input selection
- Volume setting
- Balance setting
- Input level setting
- Sound setting
- Items set with MODE

Term	Description
AAC	AAC stands for "Advanced Audio Coding" It is the audio compression method use with the video compression of digital broadcasting, etc.
MP3	An audio compression method developed by Fraunhofer IIS, Germany. It achieves a high compression rate by thinning out the data of the sound that is less audible to human ears. It can compress music CD data into about 1/11 (128 kbps) while maintaining similar audio quality.
USB	Standard for interfacing between the PC and peripheral devices. This system is compatible with USB 1.1 and 2.0.
USB mass storage class	Standard for controlling a USB device from a PC. Also, refers to the action that a PC recognizes a USB device connected to it as an external storage device.
VBR (Variable Bit Rate)	Technology for assigning the bits by varying their quantity according to the amount of music information.
WMA	Stands for "Windows Media™ Audio". This is an audio compressed encoding system developed by Microsoft Corporation.
Sampling frequency	Number of times analog signal is converted into digital signal per second. It is 44.1 kHz with music CD. In general, higher sampling frequencies offer higher audio quality.
Tag data	Information written in audio file, including the title name, artist name, album name and genre.
Bit rate	Figure expressing the amount of information per second. A higher bit rates offer higher audio quality.

# Message list

Displayed Message	Description
Reading	The system is reading the audio file information from the SD/USB audio source.
D-IN	The input signal is recorded with a sampling frequency other than 32k/44.1k/48k Hz.
D-IN Unlock	No digital component is connected to the D-IN terminal.
D-IN NonPCM	A signal other than PCM signal is input to the D-IN terminal.
No File	There is no audio file that can be played with this system.

A trouble with the system does not always mean the failure. Before calling for service, check the following table according to the symptom of trouble.

### **Amplifier/speaker blocks**

Symptom	Remedy	See page
	Reconnect the cords properly.	8
No avalia avatavat	Increase the volume level.	16
No audio output.	Set Mute to OFF.	16
	<ul> <li>If headphones are plugged in, unplug them.</li> </ul>	11
The standby indicator blinks in red and no audio is output.	• The speaker cords may be short-circuited. Unplug the power cord and reconnect the speakers.	8
	<ul> <li>An internal fault may be produced. Turn the system OFF, unplug the power cord and call for service.</li> </ul>	_
No audio from headphones.	Check if headphone plug is inserted properly.	11
	<ul> <li>Increase the volume level.</li> </ul>	16
	• Set Mute to OFF.	16
No audio from one of the speakers.	Reconnect the cords properly.	8

### SD block

Symptom	Remedy	See page
No sound is output even when an SD card is inserted.	<ul><li>Insert the SD card properly.</li><li>Insert an SD card containing music files.</li></ul>	17
No folder or audio file in an SD card can be viewed.	• The data in the SD card may be destroyed or the SD card may contain files that cannot be recognized with this system.	_

### **USB** block

Symptom	Remedy	See page
No audio is played when a USB flash memory or USB audio player is connected.	<ul><li>Insert the USB flash memory properly.</li><li>Connect the USB cable properly.</li><li>Check of the USB audio player is turned ON.</li></ul>	10

### **Component connected to D.AUDIO connector**

Symptom	Remedy	See page
Kenwood digital audio player cannot be controlled from the main unit or remote control unit.	<ul><li>Connect using the connection cable (separately available).</li><li>Check if a compatible model is connected.</li></ul>	10 36

### PC block

Symptom	Remedy	See page
The PC does not recognize this system.	<ul> <li>Connect the PC and this system properly using a USB cable.</li> <li>If a USB hub is used in the connection, check if the hub is functioning properly. Alternatively, change the connected port.</li> </ul>	11
No audio output or too low level.	• Set the PC properly.	24
Audio is interrupted.	<ul> <li>The audio may be interrupted if the PC is used for an operation that imposes a burden on the CPU during the audio output. Avoid executing operations that may impose a burden on the CPU.</li> <li>The audio may be interrupted if a USB cable is connected to or disconnected from another USB connector of the PC. Do not connect or disconnect the USB cables to other equipment during audio playback.</li> </ul>	_
Audio is noisy.	• Noise may be noticeable if the system is installed near a source of strong magnetic waves (TV, etc.). Install the system away from a source of strong magnetic waves.	7

### **Remote control unit**

Symptom	Remedy	See page
Remote control is unavailable.	<ul><li> Replace the batteries with new ones.</li><li> Use the remote control unit within the controllable distance.</li></ul>	15

### Resetting the system

Symptom	Check points & remedy
	The system may malfunction due to unplugged and plugging of a cable while the system is ON or to an extraneous cause. In this case, reset the system with the following steps. Resetting the microcomputer results in erasing the setups of the system and returns it to the factory-shipped condition.
The system malfunctions (resulting in inoperability of the system, erroneous display, etc.).	<ul> <li>Unplug the power cord from the power outlet.</li> <li>While holding [VOLUME]/[0] of the main unit, unplug the power cord and plug it again. ("INITIALIZE" is displayed to indicate that the system is reset.)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Please note that resetting the microcomputer results in erasing the setups of the system and returns it to the factory-shipped condition.</li> </ul>

### Main unit (KAF-A55)

#### [Amplifier block]

Maximum practical output	$10 \text{ W} + 10 \text{ W} (4 \Omega)$
Total harmonic distortion 0.07	% (1 kHz, 1 W, 4 Ω)
Signal to noise ratio (D-IN)	100 dB
Tone control characteristics	
BASS	±6 dB (100 Hz)
MID	±6 dB (2 kHz)
TREBLE	±6 dB (10 kHz)
Input terminals (Sensitivity/impedance)	
AUX	400 mV/22 kΩ
D.AUDIO	200 mV/22 kΩ

#### [Digital block]

Sampling freque	ncy	 	 32 k/44.1 k/4	48 kHz
Input terminals		 	 C	ptical

#### [USB block]

Compatible USB devices

	USB mass storage class devices
Interface	
	USB 2.0 (Full speed), USB 1.1 compatible
Maximum supply	current 500 mA

#### [Power supply and other blocks]

Provided AC adapter

DC 12 V (AC 230 - 240 V, 50 Hz)
Rated power consumption 12W
Power consumption in standby mode 0.35 W or less
Max. dimensions
Horizontal installation Width 170 mm
(incl. cushions) Height 42 mm
Depth 144 mm
Vertical installation (incl. stand) Width 82 mm
Height 179 mm
Depth 154 mm
Weight740 g
Weight (incl. stand)790 g

### Speakers (LSF-A55)

#### System

Fu	ull-range speakers (Anti-magnetic)
Enclosure	
	Bass reflex (passive radiator) type
Speaker unit configuration	วท
Full range	60 mm cone
Impedance	4 Ω
Maximum input	20 W
Max. dimensions (incl. sta	and) Width 103 mm
	Height 180 mm
	Depth 121 mm
Weight (incl. stand)	1.3 kg (pc)

- Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.
- The system may be unable to manifest the full performance in an extremely cold place (under the water freezing temperature).

iPod is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. in the United States and other countries.

iTunes is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. in the United States and other countries.

The SDHC logo is a trademark.

Microsoft, Windows and Windows Media are registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries.

Other system names and product names are generally trademarks or registered trademarks of their developers. However, note that the text in this manual does not use the TM and  $^{\circ}$  markings to them.

### Information on Disposal of Old Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Batteries (applicable for EU countries that have adopted separate waste collection systems)



Pb

Products and batteries with the symbol (crossed-out wheeled bin) cannot be disposed as household waste.

Old electrical and electronic equipment and batteries should be recycled at a facility capable of handling these items and their

waste by products. Contact your local authority for details in

locating a recycle facility nearest to you. Proper recycling and waste disposal will help conserve resources whilst preventing

detrimental effects on our health and the environment. Notice: The sign "Pb" below the symbol for

batteries indicates that this battery contains lead.

# KENWOOD

### For your records

Record the serial number, found on the back of the unit, in the spaces designated on the warranty card, and in the space provided below. Refer to the model and serial numbers whenever you call upon your dealer for information or service on this product.

Model\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_Serial Number\_