

Boulder 866 Integrated “Frequently Asked Questions”

Updated 3/30/22

- **“Does Airplay work with the 866?”**
Yes, with the software update of 1.67. Airplay now works with the 866.
- **“Can I play music through the USB port on the back of the 866.”**
The USB ports in the rear panel of the 866 are for a USB host. Meaning you can attach a USB thumb drive or a self powered hard drive and play music that is stored in the external hard drive. This is accessed through a third party app like mConnect, or through our app for the 866, the Boulder Controller app.
- **“Can I connect my 866 to my home network through WiFi?”**
Yes, you can connect your 866 to your home network via WiFi through the Boulder controller app. Though, we recommend using a wired connection directly through a router for better reliability, a more permanent connection and a stronger connection.
- **“I’m playing my 866 at 80, is this normal? Can I play it louder without fear of hurting my amp?”**
Yes it is normal, especially if you have harder to drive speakers. The amplifier will not be harmed if you play it at max volume. The number displaying volume is measuring volume in dB. Meaning 10 steps dB makes perceived volume twice as loud and 20 steps would make it twice as loud as that.
- **“Can I upgrade my analog 866 to a digital 866?”**
Yes you can upgrade an analog 866 to a digital 866. It costs \$ 3200 which is the difference in price between the two versions plus 1000 dollars, plus shipping. It takes 3-4 weeks to get an upgrade.
- **“Do I need or should I get a power conditioner with the 866?”**
We do not recommend using power conditioners with our products. There have been times we have heard of power conditioners making our products perform

worse or even creates operational issues. We feel it is best to go directly into a wall outlet.

- **“Why does my 866 have poor connection when connected through ethernet?” or “Why Does my unit turn off?”**

When experiencing connectivity issues, with the unit turning itself off or losing network connections we recommend (if possible) to bypass connections to other devices. If the 866 loses connection to the network even momentarily it puts itself into standby and this is normal. If using a power strip, plug the 866 into a wall outlet. If using a network switch, plug the ethernet cable directly into the router and see if the issues persist. If so contact your local dealer for further investigation into the problem.

- **“Can I stream Tidal or Quobuz directly to the 866?”**

Currently there is no way to directly stream to the 866. But you can use a 3rd party app like mConnect, JRiver to stream. We also recommend using Roon for streaming, as the 866 is a Roon endpoint and will stream both Tidal and Quobuz and music stored on your home network.

- **“Is there a remote that comes with the 866?”**

Though there is no physical remote that comes with the 866, we made the Boulder Controller app to allow your mobile device to act as a remote. We also have implemented software to allow an RF remote to work. You plug the remote receiver into the USB host on the back of the unit. Here is a link to the physical remote that will work for the 866.

[Remote Link](#)

- **“Why is there no owners manual that came with my 866?”**

One thing we did to keep the cost of the 866 as low as possible was to supply the owner's manual online. You can find our owners manual at this link:

Digital 866:

<https://boulderamp.com/wp-content/uploads/866-Owners-Manual.pdf>

Analog 866:

<https://boulderamp.com/wp-content/uploads/866-Analog-Only-OM.pdf>

- **“What Cables should I use with the 866?”**

We trust your local dealer is best equipped to suggest cables for your system for your personal taste and budget.

- **“How do I hook up a Subwoofer to the 866?”**

You can hook up a subwoofer if it has a speaker level option, which is now more popular with newer subwoofers. You can hook it up by hooking it up to the left and right positive terminals since the negative is the same as ground on the 866.

- **“Would aftermarket fuses make my 866 sound better?”**

The fuse is only connected to the microprocessor and the standby circuit to ‘wake up’ the unit, it is not in the audio path whatsoever, so an after-market fuse would not improve or change the sound of the amplifier.