

Polk Audio PSW 505

Polk Audio PSW505 12-inch Powered Subwoofer Instruction Manual

Model: PSW 505 | Brand: Polk Audio

INTRODUCTION

The Polk Audio PSW505 is a high-performance 12-inch powered subwoofer designed to enhance your home audio experience with deep, impactful, and distortion-free bass. Featuring a powerful amplifier and a long-throw woofer, this unit is engineered for accurate sound reproduction and seamless integration into various home theater systems.



Figure 1: Front view of the Polk Audio PSW505 Powered Subwoofer with grille.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Read these instructions thoroughly before operating the unit.
- Keep these instructions for future reference.
- Heed all warnings on the product and in the operating instructions.
- Follow all instructions for safe use and maintenance.
- Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with a dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

1. Unpacking

Carefully remove the subwoofer from its packaging. Ensure all components listed in the "What's in the Box" section are present:

- PSW505 subwoofer
- One 9.5' AC power cord
- Owner's Manual
- Product Registration Card
- Online registration sheet

2. Placement

Optimal placement of your subwoofer is crucial for sound quality. Experiment with different locations in your room to find the best bass response. Generally, placing the subwoofer in a corner or near a wall can enhance bass output. The PSW505 is magnetically shielded for flexible placement near TVs or video monitors.

SOLID, REAL WOOD VENEER
in black finish easily blends
into your room



Figure 2: Dimensions of the Polk Audio PSW505 Subwoofer.

3. Connections

The PSW505 offers versatile connection options:

- **LFE Input (Unfiltered):** For receivers with a dedicated subwoofer output (LFE/Sub Out). Connect a single RCA cable from your receiver's LFE output to the subwoofer's LFE input.
- **Line Level Inputs (Filtered):** For receivers without a dedicated LFE output. Connect RCA cables from your receiver's stereo pre-out to the subwoofer's Line In (Left/Right) inputs.
- **Speaker Level Inputs/Outputs:** For connecting directly to your amplifier's speaker outputs. Use high-quality speaker wire to connect your amplifier's speaker outputs to the subwoofer's speaker level inputs, then connect the subwoofer's speaker level outputs to your main speakers.

CLEARLY MARKED BACK PANEL

makes this fully-loaded subwoofer convenient to use



Figure 3: Rear panel connections and controls.

4. Power Connection

Connect the provided AC power cord to the subwoofer's power inlet and then to a suitable wall outlet.

OPERATING THE SUBWOOFER

1. Power On/Off

The subwoofer features a 3-way power switch with settings for ON, AUTO, and OFF.

- **ON:** The subwoofer remains continuously powered on.
- **AUTO:** The subwoofer automatically turns on when it senses an audio signal and enters standby mode after approximately 15 minutes of no signal.
- **OFF:** The subwoofer is powered off.

2. Adjusting Volume

Use the rotary volume control on the rear panel to adjust the subwoofer's output level relative to your main speakers. Start with a low setting and gradually increase until the bass blends seamlessly with your system without overpowering it.

3. Low-Pass Filter (Crossover)

The continuously variable low-pass filter (adjustable from 60-120 Hz) allows you to control the upper frequency limit of the subwoofer. Set this control to blend the subwoofer's output with the low-frequency response of your main speakers. If using a receiver with built-in bass management (LFE output), set the subwoofer's low-pass filter to its highest setting (120 Hz) or bypass it if an LFE input is used, and manage the crossover through your receiver.

4. Phase Switch

The phase switch (0°/180°) helps to ensure that the subwoofer's output is in phase with your main speakers. Experiment with both settings to determine which provides the most coherent and impactful bass response in your listening area.

MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Dust the cabinet with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure the subwoofer's vents are not obstructed to prevent overheating.
- **Placement:** Avoid placing the subwoofer in direct sunlight or near heat sources.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **No Sound:**
 - Check power connections and ensure the subwoofer is turned ON or in AUTO mode.
 - Verify audio input cables are securely connected to both the subwoofer and your receiver/amplifier.
 - Adjust the volume control on the subwoofer and your receiver.
 - Check the low-pass filter setting; ensure it is not set too low.
- **Distorted or Boomy Bass:**
 - Reduce the subwoofer's volume.
 - Adjust the low-pass filter to a lower frequency.
 - Experiment with the phase switch (0°/180°).
 - Try repositioning the subwoofer in the room.
- **Humming Noise:**
 - Ensure all connections are secure.
 - Try plugging the subwoofer into a different electrical outlet.
 - If using RCA cables, try a different cable or ensure it is not running parallel to power cables.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Model Name	PSW505
Driver Complements	1 x 12" Diameter (30.48cm) High excursion polymer composite cone with hi roll surround, shielded
Overall Frequency Response	23Hz - 160Hz
Lower -3dB Limit	28Hz
Upper -3dB Limit	125Hz
Crossover	Variable low pass 60 - 125Hz, 4th order
Inputs	Speaker level 5-way binding posts, line level (filtered) and LFE (unfiltered)
Outputs	Speaker level
Cabinet Size (H x W x D)	16-1/8" H x 15-1/8" W x 18-3/16" D (40.96cm H x 38.42cm W x 46.20cm D)
Enclosure Type	Vented via slot loaded port
Power Output (Continuous)	300 watts
Dynamic Power Output	460 watts
Item Weight	48.00 lbs. (21.77kgs)
Color	Black
Material	Wood







WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Polk Audio provides the following warranty coverage:

- **Speaker Warranty:** 5 years parts and labor.
- **Subwoofer Amplifier Warranty:** 3 years parts and labor.

To ensure a valid warranty, Polk loudspeakers must be purchased from an Authorized Polk Audio home or car loudspeaker Dealer (such as Amazon.com). The warranty is not transferable and applies only to the original purchaser. If you purchase your speakers from a private individual, the product is considered "used" and has NO factory warranty. The warranty is VOID if the serial number of the speaker has been removed or defaced. For questions about warranty coverage or service, contact Polk Customer Service at [1-800-377-7655](tel:1-800-377-7655).



	<p>Polk Audio PSW303, PSW404, PSW505 Powered Subwoofers: Owner's Manual & Setup Guide</p> <p>Detailed owner's manual for Polk Audio PSW303, PSW404, and PSW505 powered subwoofers. Includes setup instructions, connection diagrams, adjustment guidance, troubleshooting tips, specifications, and warranty information.</p>
	<p>Polk Audio PSW10 & PSW12 Powered Subwoofers Owner's Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for Polk Audio PSW10 and PSW12 powered subwoofers, detailing safety instructions, setup options, adjustment controls, technical specifications, and limited warranty information.</p>
	<p>Polk MagniFi Mini AX Quick Start Guide</p> <p>A quick start guide for the Polk MagniFi Mini AX soundbar, covering setup, connections, and basic features.</p>
	<p>Polk Audio SurroundBar 5000 Instant Home Theater User Manual</p> <p>User manual for the Polk Audio SurroundBar 5000 Instant Home Theater system, covering setup, controls, connectivity, Bluetooth pairing, troubleshooting, and specifications.</p>
	<p>Polk Monitor XT12 Subwoofer Owner's Manual</p> <p>This owner's manual provides detailed information on the Polk Monitor XT12 Subwoofer, including setup, operation, safety precautions, and specifications. Learn how to connect and position your subwoofer for optimal sound quality.</p>
	<p>Polk MagniFi Mini Quick Start Guide: Home Theater Sound Bar System</p> <p>Get started quickly with your Polk MagniFi Mini Home Theater Sound Bar System. This guide covers unboxing, connecting to your TV via HDMI, Optical, or AUX, remote setup, and optimizing your audio experience.</p>