

[Manuals.plus](#) /

› [Soundstream](#) /

› Soundstream BX-12 Digital Bass Processor User Manual

## Soundstream BX-12

# Soundstream BX-12 Digital Bass Processor User Manual

Model: BX-12

## INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Soundstream BX-12 Digital Bass Processor. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and use to ensure proper function and to maximize the performance of your unit.

The Soundstream BX-12 is designed to enhance the bass response in your car audio system, providing deeper and more impactful low frequencies. It features a PFM Subsonic filter and bass level control, along with a convenient dash-mount remote control.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

Upon opening the package, verify that all items are present and in good condition:

- Soundstream BX-12 Digital Bass Processor Unit
- Dash-mount Bass Control Knob
- Connection Cable for Remote Knob
- Power and Ground Wiring Harness
- Mounting Hardware (Screws, Washers)
- Owner's and Installation Manual (This document)

**SOUNDSTREAM®**  
T E C H N O L O G I E S

**BX-12**  
Digital Bass Driver

Owner's Manual  
and  
Installation Guide



Image: Contents of the Soundstream BX-12 package, showing the main processor unit, the remote bass control, connecting cables, and the owner's manual.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Soundstream BX-12 features various controls and connections for optimal bass processing.



Image: Top view of the BX-12 unit, highlighting the 'Wide' and 'Sweep' controls, and the 'Max. Bass Control' indicator lights.

### Front Panel Controls:

- **WIDE Control:** Adjusts the Q factor of the bass enhancement circuit.
- **SWEEP Control:** Selects the center frequency of the bass enhancement.
- **MAX. BASS CONTROL LEDs:** Indicate the level of bass enhancement.
- **POWER LED:** Illuminates when the unit is powered on.



Image: Rear view of the BX-12 unit, showing the Balanced Inputs (L/R), Output (L/R) RCA connections, Dash Remote port, and Power/Ground/Remote terminals.

### Rear Panel Connections:

- **BALANCED INPUTS (L/R):** RCA inputs for connecting to your head unit or source.
- **OUTPUT (L/R):** RCA outputs for connecting to your amplifier.
- **DASH REMOTE:** RJ-11 port for connecting the dash-mount bass control knob.

- **+12V, GROUND, REMOTE:** Power, ground, and remote turn-on terminals.

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for optimal performance and safety. It is recommended that installation be performed by a qualified professional.

### Mounting the Unit:

1. Choose a secure, dry location for mounting the BX-12, away from excessive heat or moisture.
2. Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit.
3. Use the provided mounting hardware to secure the unit firmly.

### Wiring Connections:

Follow these steps for wiring your BX-12:

1. **Power (+12V):** Connect the +12V terminal to a constant +12V power source from your vehicle's battery. Use appropriate gauge wire and an inline fuse (not included) near the battery.
2. **Ground (GND):** Connect the GND terminal to a clean, solid chassis ground point in your vehicle. Ensure a good metal-to-metal connection.
3. **Remote (REM):** Connect the REM terminal to the remote turn-on output of your head unit or another switched +12V source. This will turn the BX-12 on and off with your audio system.
4. **Audio Input:** Connect the RCA outputs from your head unit (or other audio source) to the BALANCED INPUTS (L/R) on the BX-12.
5. **Audio Output:** Connect the OUTPUT (L/R) RCAs from the BX-12 to the RCA inputs of your amplifier.
6. **Dash Remote:** Connect the dash-mount bass control knob to the DASH REMOTE port using the provided cable. Mount the knob in a convenient location for easy access.



Image: The Soundstream BX-12 main unit and its dash-mount remote control, demonstrating how they are used together in a car audio system.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once installed, the BX-12 is ready for operation. Adjustments should be made carefully to achieve desired bass enhancement without distortion.

### Initial Power-Up:

Turn on your head unit. The POWER LED on the BX-12 should illuminate, indicating it is receiving power.

### Adjusting Bass Enhancement:

- **Dash-Mount Bass Control Knob:** This knob controls the overall bass level. Turn it clockwise to increase bass and counter-clockwise to decrease.
- **WIDE Control:** This knob adjusts the width of the bass enhancement. A higher setting (MAX) will affect a broader range of frequencies, while a lower setting (MIN) will focus on a narrower band. Experiment to find the optimal setting for your music and speakers.
- **SWEEP Control:** This knob allows you to select the center frequency of the bass enhancement. Adjust this to target the specific bass frequencies you wish to boost.
- **PFM Subsonic Filter (on remote knob):** This control helps to filter out extremely low, inaudible frequencies that can cause distortion and damage to subwoofers. Adjust it to prevent your subwoofer from playing below its safe operating range.

### Caution:

Over-boosting bass can lead to distortion and potential damage to your speakers or amplifier. Always listen for signs of distortion and reduce the bass level if necessary.

## MAINTENANCE

The Soundstream BX-12 is designed for reliable operation and requires minimal maintenance.

- Keep the unit clean and free from dust and debris. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning.
- Ensure all connections remain secure. Periodically check wiring for any signs of wear or corrosion.
- Avoid exposing the unit to extreme temperatures or direct moisture.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your Soundstream BX-12, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

| Problem                        | Possible Cause                                                                                        | Solution                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No Power / Unit Not Turning On | Loose power or ground connection; Blown fuse; Remote wire not connected or faulty.                    | Check +12V, Ground, and Remote connections. Ensure fuse is intact. Verify remote turn-on signal from head unit.        |
| No Bass Enhancement            | RCA cables loose or incorrect; Bass control knob set to minimum; WIDE/SWEEP controls set incorrectly. | Check all RCA connections. Increase bass level on the remote knob. Adjust WIDE and SWEEP controls.                     |
| Distorted Bass                 | Bass level too high; PFM Subsonic filter set too low; Amplifier gain too high.                        | Reduce bass level. Adjust PFM Subsonic filter. Check amplifier gain settings. Ensure proper impedance matching.        |
| Humming or Noise               | Ground loop; Poor RCA shielding; Power wire too close to RCA cables.                                  | Ensure good ground connection. Reroute RCA cables away from power wires. Consider a ground loop isolator if necessary. |

If the problem persists after trying these solutions, contact Soundstream customer support or a qualified car audio technician.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the Soundstream BX-12 Digital Bass Processor:

- **Output Level:** 13.5 Volts (Max)
- **Signal-to-Noise Ratio:** 132 dB
- **Frequency Response:** 10Hz - 100kHz
- **Total Harmonic Distortion:** 0.003%
- **Input Impedance:** 10 kOhms
- **Output Impedance:** 150 Ohms
- **Power Supply:** 11-15V DC Negative Ground
- **Dimensions (L x W x H):** 10.5 x 8.5 x 2.5 inches (approximate)
- **Weight:** 1.93 pounds (approximate)
- **Included Components:** Unit, bass control knob, cable, owners and installation manual

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Soundstream products are designed for durability and performance. For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official Soundstream website or contact their customer service department.

Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

For further assistance, you may visit the [Soundstream brand page on Amazon](#) or contact your authorized dealer.

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**Question**

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

**Details**

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question