M-Audio BX5 D3

M-Audio BX5 D3 Studio Monitor Speaker User Manual

Model: BX5 D3

Brand: M-Audio

1. Introduction

The M-Audio BX5 D3 is a professional-grade 5-inch studio monitor speaker designed for music production and mixing. It features a bi-amplified design with 100 watts of distributed power, delivering accurate and defined sound reproduction across the frequency spectrum. The monitor incorporates woven Kevlar low-frequency drivers and computer-optimized waveguide-loaded silk dome tweeters for clear audio. An on-board Acoustic Space Control allows for tailoring the sound output to your specific listening environment, ensuring optimal results in various studio spaces.

2. What's in the Box

Upon unpacking your M-Audio BX5 D3 Studio Monitor, please verify that all the following items are included:

- BX5 D3 Studio Monitor Speaker (Single Unit)
- Power Cable
- Acoustic Foam Pad
- User Guide
- Safety & Warranty Manual

3. Features

The M-Audio BX5 D3 Studio Monitor offers several key features for professional audio monitoring:

- **Professional Class A/B Bi-Amplified Design:** 100 watts of distributed power ensure studio-grade, cohesive, and accurate sound.
- **Ultra-Wide Range Frequency Response:** Covers 52Hz-35kHz for a full musical spectrum.
- **Superior Transparent Sound Quality:** Features 5-inch low-frequency drivers with Kevlar cones for rich, defined lows and 1-inch high-frequency drivers with natural silk domes and computer-optimized waveguides for smooth, clear highs.

- **Versatile Connectivity:** Conveniently located XLR balanced and 1/4-inch balanced/unbalanced inputs for connecting to mixers, audio interfaces, instruments, and DJ gear.
- **Acoustic Space Control:** Customizes the sound output to the listening environment for sonically-true, accurate sound reproduction.
- **Optimized Rear Ports:** Designed to minimize air turbulence and acoustic distortion, extending low-frequency response down to 52Hz.



Front view of the M-Audio BX5 D3 monitor with callouts for its 1-inch silk dome tweeter, computer-optimized waveguides, 5-inch Kevlar woofer, and optimized rear ports, illustrating its clarity and precision.

4. Setup

Proper setup is crucial for optimal performance of your M-Audio BX5 D3 studio monitor.

4.1 Placement

- Place the monitors on a stable, flat surface, ideally at ear level in your listening position.
- Use the included acoustic foam pad to decouple the monitor from the surface, reducing unwanted vibrations and improving bass response.

- Position the monitors to form an equilateral triangle with your listening position for optimal stereo imaging.

4.2 Connections

The BX5 D3 offers flexible input options:

1. Ensure the monitor's power switch is in the OFF position and the volume knob is set to minimum.
2. Connect your audio source (e.g., audio interface, mixer) to the monitor using either an XLR balanced cable or a 1/4-inch (TRS balanced or TS unbalanced) cable. Use balanced cables for longer runs to minimize noise.
3. Connect the power cable to the monitor's AC input and then to a grounded power outlet.



The rear panel of the M-Audio BX5 D3 monitor, illustrating the XLR balanced and 1/4-inch balanced/unbalanced inputs for various audio sources.

4.3 Initial Power-Up

After making all connections:

1. Turn on your audio source first.
2. Flip the power switch on the back of the BX5 D3 monitor to the ON position. The front-panel LED will illuminate.

3. Slowly increase the volume to a comfortable listening level.

5. Operating Instructions

Understanding the controls on your BX5 D3 monitor will help you optimize your listening experience.

5.1 Volume Control

The volume knob on the rear panel adjusts the output level of the monitor. It is recommended to start with the volume at a low setting and gradually increase it to avoid sudden loud sounds.

5.2 Acoustic Space Control

The Acoustic Space Control switch on the rear panel allows you to adjust the monitor's low-frequency response to compensate for room acoustics. This is particularly useful when monitors are placed close to walls or in corners, which can artificially boost bass frequencies.

- **FLAT:** Default setting, suitable for acoustically treated rooms or when monitors are placed away from boundaries.
- **-2dB:** Reduces low frequencies by 2dB, useful for monitors placed near a wall.
- **-4dB:** Reduces low frequencies by 4dB, suitable for monitors placed in a corner or in small, bass-heavy rooms.

Experiment with these settings to find the most accurate sound reproduction for your specific environment.



A studio environment showcasing the M-Audio BX5 D3 monitors in use, emphasizing the importance of acoustic space control for accurate sound.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your M-Audio BX5 D3 monitors.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the exterior of the monitors. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes, as these can damage the finish and components.
- **Dust Protection:** Keep the monitors free from dust, especially around the drivers and rear ports, to prevent obstruction and overheating.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Operate the monitors in a dry environment, away from direct sunlight, heat sources, and excessive humidity.
- **Handling:** Always handle the monitors with care. Avoid touching the speaker cones directly.

7. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your M-Audio BX5 D3 monitors.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Sound	• Power cable disconnected. • Monitor power switch off. • Volume knob set to minimum. • Audio source not sending signal. • Incorrect input cable connection.	• Ensure power cable is securely connected and outlet is active. • Turn the monitor power switch ON. • Increase the volume knob gradually. • Verify audio source is playing and outputting signal. • Check all audio cable connections for proper seating and type.
Distorted Sound	• Volume too high (monitor or source). • Input signal too strong (clipping). • Damaged speaker component.	• Reduce volume on both monitor and audio source. • Check input levels on your audio source to prevent clipping. • If distortion persists at low volumes, contact M-Audio support.
Hum or Buzz	• Ground loop issue. • Unbalanced cables used for long runs. • Interference from other electronic devices.	• Ensure all audio equipment is plugged into the same electrical circuit. • Use balanced XLR or TRS cables. • Move the monitor or audio cables away from power cables or other electronics.
Inconsistent Bass Response	• Room acoustics. • Incorrect Acoustic Space Control setting.	• Adjust the Acoustic Space Control switch on the rear panel (FLAT, -2dB, -4dB) to match your room. • Ensure monitors are placed symmetrically in the room.

8. Specifications

Detailed technical specifications for the M-Audio BX5 D3 Studio Monitor Speaker.

Feature	Detail
Model Name	BX5 D3 Single
Speaker Type	Monitor
Woofer Diameter	5 Inches (Kevlar cone)
Tweeter Diameter	1 Inch (Natural Silk Dome)

Feature	Detail
Amplifier Power	100 Watts (Bi-amplified Class A/B)
Frequency Response	52 Hz - 35 KHz
Connectivity Technology	XLR, 1/4" TRS/TS
Input Voltage	115 Volts
Product Dimensions (D x W x H)	7.8" x 6.93" x 10"
Item Weight	12.35 Pounds
Color	Black
Material	Kevlar, Natural Silk
UPC	694318022115

9. Warranty and Support

For detailed warranty information and technical support, please refer to the 'Safety & Warranty Manual' included in your product packaging. You may also visit the official M-Audio website for the latest support resources, FAQs, and contact information.

10. Important Safety Information

Please read all safety instructions before using this product. Keep this manual for future reference. Adhere to all warnings on the product and in the operating instructions. 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.