



[Manuals.plus](#) /

> [Axxess](#) /

> Axxess AX-FD1-SWC Interface for Ford Vehicles Instruction Manual

Axxess AX-FD1-SWC

Axxess AX-FD1-SWC Interface for Ford Vehicles Instruction Manual

Model: AX-FD1-SWC

INTRODUCTION

The Axxess AX-FD1-SWC is a data interface designed for select 2008-Up Ford vehicles. This interface facilitates the installation of an aftermarket head unit by providing essential functionalities and retaining factory features. It ensures accessory power, retains Retained Accessory Power (RAP), and provides navigation outputs. Additionally, it maintains audio controls on the steering wheel, satellite radio, rear seat entertainment, and SYNC functionality where applicable.

This manual provides detailed instructions for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your AX-FD1-SWC interface. Please read all instructions carefully before beginning installation.



Image: The Axxess AX-FD1-SWC Interface module. This black rectangular electronic device is shown with multiple wiring harnesses connected, illustrating its role in integrating aftermarket car audio systems with vehicle electronics.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the correct operation of the AX-FD1-SWC interface. It is recommended that installation be performed by a qualified professional.

Pre-Installation Steps:

1. **Disconnect Vehicle Battery:** Before starting any electrical work, disconnect the negative terminal of the vehicle's battery to prevent electrical shorts and damage.
2. **Identify Vehicle Wiring:** Consult your vehicle's service manual or a reliable wiring diagram to identify the necessary wires for power, ground, accessory, and speaker connections.
3. **Review Interface Wiring Diagram:** Refer to the specific wiring diagram provided with your AX-FD1-SWC unit for detailed connection instructions. This diagram will outline connections for accessory power, retained accessory power (RAP), navigation outputs (parking brake, reverse, speed sense), and steering wheel controls.

Connection Steps:

4. **Connect Power and Ground:** Connect the main power and ground wires from the AX-FD1-SWC

harness to the corresponding wires in the vehicle.

5. **Connect Accessory Power:** The interface provides a 12-volt 10-amp accessory power output. Connect this to your aftermarket head unit's accessory input.
6. **Connect Navigation Outputs:** If your aftermarket head unit supports navigation features, connect the parking brake, reverse, and speed sense wires from the AX-FD1-SWC to the corresponding inputs on your head unit.
7. **Connect Steering Wheel Control (SWC):** Connect the SWC output from the AX-FD1-SWC to the SWC input of your aftermarket head unit. Ensure your head unit is configured to recognize external steering wheel controls.
8. **Audio Connections:** Connect the audio output wires from the AX-FD1-SWC to the aftermarket head unit's audio inputs. The interface supports both non-amplified and amplified vehicle systems, including Sony and THX models.
9. **Retain Factory Features:** The interface is designed to retain balance and fade (except in Sony or THX models), satellite radio, rear seat entertainment, and SYNC functionality. Ensure all relevant connections are made according to the wiring diagram.
10. **Micro B USB Update:** The unit is Micro B USB updatable. Before final installation, check the manufacturer's website for any firmware updates that may improve compatibility or functionality.

Post-Installation:

11. **Reconnect Battery:** Once all connections are secure, reconnect the vehicle battery.
12. **Test Functionality:** Turn on the vehicle and the aftermarket head unit. Test all retained features, including steering wheel controls, accessory power, RAP, navigation outputs, balance, fade, satellite radio, rear seat entertainment, and SYNC.

OPERATING THE INTERFACE

The AX-FD1-SWC interface operates transparently, integrating your aftermarket head unit with your vehicle's factory systems. Once installed and configured correctly, the interface allows you to use your vehicle's original controls and features with the new head unit.

- **Steering Wheel Controls:** Use your vehicle's factory steering wheel buttons to control functions such as volume, track skip, mode, and source selection on your aftermarket head unit. The specific functions may vary depending on the head unit and vehicle model.
- **Retained Accessory Power (RAP):** The interface maintains RAP, allowing the aftermarket head unit to remain powered for a short period after the ignition is turned off, similar to the factory radio.
- **Navigation Outputs:** If connected, the navigation outputs (parking brake, reverse, speed sense) will provide the necessary signals to your aftermarket navigation system for accurate operation.
- **Balance and Fade:** The interface retains balance and fade functionality, allowing you to adjust audio distribution within the vehicle (not applicable for Sony or THX models).
- **Satellite Radio, Rear Seat Entertainment, and SYNC:** These factory features are retained and should function as they did with the original factory radio, provided they are properly connected and supported by the aftermarket head unit.

MAINTENANCE

The Axxess AX-FD1-SWC interface is designed for reliable, long-term operation and requires minimal maintenance. Follow these guidelines to ensure its longevity:

- **Keep Dry:** Ensure the interface module is installed in a dry location, away from moisture and direct water exposure.
- **Temperature Control:** Avoid exposing the unit to extreme temperatures, both hot and cold, as this can affect electronic components.
- **Secure Connections:** Periodically check that all wiring connections are secure and free from corrosion. Loose connections can lead to intermittent functionality.
- **Firmware Updates:** Check the Axxess website periodically for firmware updates. Updates can improve performance, add features, or resolve compatibility issues. Use the Micro B USB port for updates as instructed by the manufacturer.
- **Cleaning:** If necessary, gently wipe the exterior of the module with a dry, soft cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your AX-FD1-SWC interface, refer to the following troubleshooting steps:

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|---|---|---|
| No power to aftermarket head unit. | Incorrect power connection, blown fuse, or faulty accessory output from interface. | Verify all power and ground connections. Check vehicle fuses and the accessory output wire from the AX-FD1-SWC. |
| Steering wheel controls do not function. | Incorrect SWC connection, head unit not configured for SWC, or incompatible head unit. | Ensure the SWC wire is correctly connected. Check your aftermarket head unit's manual for SWC programming/configuration. Verify head unit compatibility with Axxess interfaces. |
| Retained Accessory Power (RAP) not working. | Incorrect RAP connection or vehicle specific issue. | Confirm the RAP wire is properly connected. Ensure the vehicle supports RAP for the aftermarket radio. |
| Navigation outputs (parking brake, reverse, speed sense) are inaccurate or not working. | Incorrect connection to head unit or head unit not receiving signals. | Verify connections for parking brake, reverse, and speed sense wires to the aftermarket navigation unit. Ensure the navigation unit is configured to receive these signals. |
| Loss of balance or fade functionality. | Vehicle has Sony or THX amplified system (where balance/fade is not retained) or incorrect audio connections. | Confirm if your vehicle has a Sony or THX amplified system. If not, recheck audio connections. |
| Satellite radio, rear seat entertainment, or SYNC not functioning. | Improper connection or aftermarket head unit incompatibility. | Ensure all relevant factory feature wires are correctly connected to the interface and the aftermarket head unit. Verify head unit compatibility with these factory features. |

If these steps do not resolve the issue, contact Axxess technical support or a certified installer for further assistance.

SPECIFICATIONS

| Feature | Detail |
|------------------------|--|
| Model Number | AX-FD1-SWC |
| Brand | Axxess |
| Compatibility | Select 2008-Up Ford Vehicles |
| Accessory Power Output | 12-volt, 10-amp |
| Retained Features | RAP, Steering Wheel Controls, Balance/Fade (except Sony/THX), Satellite Radio, Rear Seat Entertainment, SYNC |
| Navigation Outputs | Parking Brake, Reverse, Speed Sense |
| Update Method | Micro B USB updatable |
| Input Voltage | 12 Volts |
| Output Voltage | 12 Volts |
| Peak Accessory Power | 120 Watts |
| Item Weight | 340 Grams |
| Manufacturer | Metra Electronics Corp |
| UPC | 086429329984 |

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Specific warranty details for the Axxess AX-FD1-SWC interface are typically provided by the manufacturer, Metra Electronics Corp, or the authorized reseller at the time of purchase. Please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Axxess website for the most current and detailed warranty policy. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

SUPPORT

For technical assistance, installation questions, or troubleshooting beyond the scope of this manual, please contact Axxess technical support. You can typically find contact information on the official Axxess website or through your authorized dealer.

- **Online Resources:** Visit the Axxess website for product updates, FAQs, and additional support documents.
- **Professional Installation:** If you are unsure about any installation steps, it is highly recommended to seek assistance from a certified car audio installer.

