

Electro-Voice EKX-18SP

Electro-Voice EKX-18SP 18-Inch 1300W Powered Subwoofer Instruction Manual

Model: EKX-18SP

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1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Electro-Voice EKX-18SP is a high-performance 18-inch powered subwoofer designed for professional sound reinforcement. It combines EV's renowned sound quality and reliability with advanced technology, making it suitable for a variety of applications including live music, DJ events, clubs, and installed sound systems. This subwoofer delivers powerful low-frequency extension and is equipped with features that enhance performance and ease of use.

Key Features:

- **QuickSmartDSP:** Features best-in-class processing, EV's signature single-knob user interface, and intuitive menu navigation via LCD for easy control and optimization.
- **Cardioid Control Technology:** Allows sound output to be directed towards the audience, providing up to 35 dB reduction on stage when multiple subwoofers are used, minimizing unwanted stage rumble.
- **High-Efficiency 1300W Class D Amplifier:** Delivers up to 134 dB peak SPL, ensuring powerful and clear bass reproduction through high-sensitivity transducers.
- **Intelligent Thermal Management:** A variable-speed fan, controlled by multiple onboard sensors, ensures superior performance and reliability even in demanding environmental conditions.
- **Versatile Connectivity:** Equipped with two XLR outputs for easy system expansion to additional loudspeakers or subwoofers and large slot ports for low distortion and excellent bass extension.

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- Electro-Voice EKX Series EKX-18SP Subwoofer System
- Power Cable
- User Manual (this document)

3. SETUP

3.1 Unpacking and Placement

Carefully remove the EKX-18SP subwoofer from its packaging. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage. Place the subwoofer on a stable, level surface. For optimal bass response, consider placing the subwoofer in a corner or against a wall. Ensure adequate ventilation around the amplifier panel.



Image: Angled top view of the Electro-Voice EKX-18SP subwoofer, showing its robust construction and top-mounted pole cup.

3.2 Power Connection

1. Ensure the subwoofer's power switch is in the OFF position.
2. Connect the provided power cable to the AC inlet on the rear panel of the subwoofer.
3. Plug the other end of the power cable into a grounded electrical outlet.

3.3 Audio Connections

The EKX-18SP features versatile input and output options for integration into various sound systems.



Image: Close-up of the rear control panel of the Electro-Voice EKX-18SP subwoofer, highlighting the QuickSmartDSP LCD, input/output connectors, and power switch.

- **Inputs:** Connect your audio source (e.g., mixer, soundboard) to the XLR/TRS combo input jacks (Input 1 and Input 2) on the rear panel.
- **Outputs:** Use the XLR output jacks (Output 1 and Output 2) to send a processed signal to full-range loudspeakers or additional subwoofers.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Powering On/Off

1. To power on, flip the power switch to the ON position. The QuickSmartDSP LCD will illuminate.
2. To power off, flip the power switch to the OFF position.

4.2 QuickSmartDSP Control

The QuickSmartDSP provides intuitive control over various parameters:

- **Menu Navigation:** Use the single-knob interface to scroll through menus and select options on the LCD.
- **Presets:** Select from factory presets optimized for different applications (e.g., Music, Live, Speech) or create

and save your own custom settings.

- **Subwoofer Matching:** If using with other EV EKX series loudspeakers, the DSP can automatically apply settings for optimal system integration.
- **Cardioid Control:** Activate Cardioid Control Technology through the DSP menu when using multiple subwoofers to reduce rearward sound radiation.
- **Volume Control:** Adjust the overall output level of the subwoofer using the main volume control.

4.3 System Expansion

Utilize the XLR outputs to connect to other powered speakers or subwoofers. The DSP allows for signal routing and processing to ensure a cohesive sound system.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your EKX-18SP subwoofer.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the subwoofer. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure that the amplifier panel's vents are clear of dust and debris to prevent overheating.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the subwoofer in a dry, temperature-controlled environment. Consider using a protective cover to prevent dust accumulation and physical damage.
- **Cable Inspection:** Periodically check all audio and power cables for wear and tear. Replace damaged cables immediately.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your EKX-18SP subwoofer, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Sound Output	Power cable disconnected. Audio cables incorrectly connected or faulty. Volume too low. Input source not sending signal.	Check power cable and outlet. Verify all audio connections and try different cables. Increase subwoofer volume and source volume. Check the audio source for proper operation.
Distorted Sound	Input signal too high (clipping). Subwoofer volume too high. Faulty audio cable.	Reduce input signal level from the source. Lower the subwoofer's volume. Try a different audio cable.
Overheating	Blocked ventilation. Prolonged operation at high levels.	Ensure vents are clear. Reduce volume and allow the unit to cool down.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	EKX-18SP-US
Speaker Type	Subwoofer

Feature	Detail
Subwoofer Diameter	18 Inches
Speaker Maximum Output Power	1300 Watts
Connectivity Technology	XLR
Item Weight	32 Kilograms (70.4 pounds)
Product Dimensions	29 x 24 x 27 inches
Color	Black

8. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

8.1 Warranty Information

The Electro-Voice EKX-18SP Subwoofer comes with a Limited Warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product for specific terms and conditions, including coverage duration and claim procedures.

8.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, service, or additional product information, please contact Electro-Voice customer support. You can find contact details on the official Electro-Voice website or in the documentation provided with your product.