Clarion M508

Clarion M508 Marine Digital Media Receiver

User Manual

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Clarion M508 Single-DIN In-Dash Marine-Grade Digital Media Receiver. This unit is engineered for the harsh marine environment, featuring a mechanism-free design that enhances durability by eliminating internal moving parts prone to wear. Its robust construction provides resistance to salt water and UV exposure, ensuring reliable performance over an extended lifespan.

The M508 offers extensive connectivity options, including Bluetooth for hands-free calling and music streaming, USB, and auxiliary inputs, allowing seamless integration with various digital media sources. This manual provides detailed instructions for installation, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting to help you maximize your experience with the Clarion M508.

2. Safety Information

Please read all safety instructions carefully before installing and operating the unit. Failure to follow these instructions may result in injury or damage to the unit or vehicle.

- **Professional Installation Recommended:** For optimal performance and safety, it is highly recommended that this product be installed by a qualified marine audio technician.
- **Power Supply:** Ensure the unit is connected to a 12V DC negative ground power supply. Incorrect voltage can cause damage.
- **Wiring:** Do not extend or cut the power supply wires. Ensure all connections are secure and properly insulated to prevent short circuits.
- **Water Exposure:** While marine-grade, avoid direct high-pressure water spray or submersion. Ensure all covers and seals are properly secured.
- **Ventilation:** Do not block ventilation openings. Adequate airflow is necessary to prevent overheating.
- **Operating Temperature:** Operate the unit within the specified temperature range.
- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.

3. Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in the package before proceeding with installation:

- Clarion M508 Single-DIN In-Dash Marine-Grade Digital Media Receiver
- Wiring Harness
- Mounting Hardware (Screws, Mounting Sleeve, Trim Ring)
- User Manual

4. Setup and Installation

4.1. Before Installation

- Disconnect the negative terminal of the vehicle's battery to prevent short circuits during installation.
- Ensure the mounting location is suitable for a single-DIN unit and provides adequate space for wiring.
- Check the existing wiring for any damage or corrosion.

4.2. Mounting the Unit

The M508 is designed for standard single-DIN dashboard openings. Follow these steps for secure mounting:

1. Insert the mounting sleeve into the dashboard opening. Bend the tabs outward to secure it.
2. Connect all necessary wiring harnesses to the rear of the M508 unit.
3. Slide the M508 unit into the mounting sleeve until it locks into place.
4. Attach the trim ring around the front of the unit for a finished appearance.

4.3. Wiring Connections

Refer to the wiring diagram provided with your unit for specific connections. General connections include:

- **Power (Yellow):** Connect to a constant 12V power source.
- **Ignition (Red):** Connect to a switched 12V power source (ACC).
- **Ground (Black):** Connect to a clean chassis ground point.
- **Speaker Outputs:** Connect to your marine speakers (ensure correct polarity).
- **Antenna (Blue/White):** Connect to the power antenna or amplifier remote turn-on lead.
- **RCA Outputs:** For connecting external amplifiers (Front, Rear, Subwoofer).



Figure 4.3.1: Clarion M508 Front Panel Overview. This image displays the front panel of the Clarion M508 marine digital media receiver. Key features visible include the central rotary knob for volume and selection, surrounded by playback controls (play/pause, skip tracks). To the left are buttons for source selection (SRC), menu access (MENU), and subwoofer control (SUB). The right side features a USB port, an AUX input, and buttons for display (DISP) and dimming (DIM). The clear LCD display is prominent in the center, showing "Clarion M508" and indicating Bluetooth, Pandora, and SiriusXM compatibility.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1. Basic Operation

- **Power On/Off:** Press the **SRC** button briefly to turn the unit ON. Press and hold the **SRC** button to turn the unit OFF.
- **Volume Control:** Rotate the central knob clockwise to increase volume and counter-clockwise to decrease.
- **Source Selection:** Press the **SRC** button repeatedly to cycle through available sources: Tuner (FM/AM), Bluetooth, USB, AUX, SiriusXM (if connected).
- **Menu Access:** Press the **MENU** button to access audio settings (Bass, Treble, Balance, Fader, Subwoofer Level) and system settings. Use the rotary knob to navigate and select.
- **Display Dimmer:** Press the **DIM** button to adjust the display brightness.

5.2. Bluetooth Operation

The M508 supports Bluetooth for hands-free calling and audio streaming.

1. **Pairing a Device:**
    - Ensure Bluetooth is enabled on your mobile device.
    - Select "Bluetooth" as the source on the M508. The unit will enter pairing mode automatically or you may need to select "Pairing" from the Bluetooth menu.
    - On your mobile device, search for Bluetooth devices and select "Clarion M508".
    - Confirm the pairing on both devices if prompted.
2. **Hands-Free Calling:**
    - When a call comes in, the unit will display the caller ID.

- Press the **Play/Pause** button (central knob) to answer, or press and hold to reject.
- Use the built-in microphone for communication.

3. **Audio Streaming (A2DP):**
   - Once paired, select Bluetooth as the source.
   - Start playback on your mobile device. Audio will stream through the M508.
   - Use the **Skip Forward/Backward** buttons on the M508 to control tracks.

5.3. USB and AUX Input

- **USB Playback:**
  - Connect a USB storage device (e.g., USB flash drive, iPhone/iPod) to the USB port on the front panel.
  - Select "USB" as the source. The unit will automatically begin playback of compatible audio files.
  - Use the **Skip Forward/Backward** buttons to navigate tracks and the **Folder** buttons (4-TOP, 5-FOLDER) to browse directories.
- **AUX Input:**
  - Connect an external audio device (e.g., MP3 player) to the 3.5mm AUX input jack on the front panel using an audio cable.
  - Select "AUX" as the source.
  - Control playback directly from the connected external device.

5.4. Radio Tuner Operation

- **Band Selection:** Press the **BAND** button to switch between FM1, FM2, FM3, and AM bands.
- **Manual Tuning:** Press the **Skip Forward/Backward** buttons briefly to fine-tune the frequency.
- **Seek Tuning:** Press and hold the **Skip Forward/Backward** buttons to automatically seek the next strong station.
- **Preset Stations:**
  - To store a station: Tune to the desired station, then press and hold one of the numeric preset buttons (1-6) until you hear a beep.
  - To recall a station: Briefly press the corresponding numeric preset button.
- **SiriusXM Ready:** If a SiriusXM Connect Vehicle Tuner (sold separately) is connected, select SiriusXM as a source and follow the tuner's instructions for activation and channel selection.

6. Maintenance

Proper maintenance will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Clarion M508.

- **Cleaning the Unit:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the front panel and display. For stubborn dirt, slightly dampen the cloth with water. Do not use harsh chemicals, abrasive cleaners, or solvents, as these can damage the finish or display.
- **Connector Inspection:** Periodically inspect all wiring connections for corrosion or loose contacts, especially in marine environments. Clean any corrosion with a suitable contact cleaner.
- **UV and Saltwater Resistance:** The M508 is designed to resist UV and saltwater exposure. However, rinsing the unit with fresh water after exposure to saltwater can help prevent salt buildup and extend its life.

7. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues with your M508, refer to the table below for common problems and their solutions. If the problem persists, contact Clarion customer support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Power	Blown fuse; Loose power connection; Incorrect wiring.	Check and replace fuse; Verify all power and ground connections; Consult wiring diagram.
No Sound Output	Volume too low; Mute function active; Loose speaker wires; Incorrect speaker impedance.	Increase volume; Deactivate mute; Check speaker connections; Ensure speakers match unit's impedance.
Bluetooth Not Connecting	Device not in pairing mode; Bluetooth disabled on phone; Interference.	Ensure M508 is in pairing mode; Enable Bluetooth on phone; Move phone closer to unit; Restart both devices.
USB Device Not Recognized	Incompatible file format; USB device not formatted correctly; Damaged USB device/port.	Ensure files are compatible (MP3, WMA, etc.); Format USB to FAT32; Try a different USB device.
Display Not Working / Dim	Dimmer setting; Unit malfunction.	Press **DIM** button to adjust brightness; If problem persists, contact support.

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Number	M508
Type	Single-DIN Digital Media Receiver
Connectivity	Bluetooth, USB, AUX
Bluetooth Features	Hands-free Calling, Music Streaming (Qualcomm aptX)
Display	High-contrast 13-digit, 2-line LCD
Compatible Devices	Smartphone (iOS, Android), USB storage devices
Audio Output Mode	Stereo
Output Power	50 Watts (per channel, 4 channels)
Color	Black
Product Dimensions	12.1 x 9.4 x 3.4 inches
Item Weight	3.4 pounds

Feature	Detail
Marine Grade Features	Saltwater and UV resistant, mechanism-free design

9. Warranty and Support

Clarion products are manufactured to the highest quality standards. This product is covered by a limited warranty from the date of purchase. Please refer to the warranty card included with your product for specific terms and conditions, including warranty period and coverage details.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance, or warranty claims, please contact Clarion customer service through their official website or the contact information provided in your warranty documentation. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty validation.

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