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› Focal 300 ICW 8 In-Wall/In-Ceiling 8" Flax Loudspeaker User Manual

Focal F300ICW8

Focal 300 ICW 8 In-Wall/In-Ceiling Loudspeaker User Manual

Model: F300ICW8

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Focal 300 ICW 8 in-wall/in-ceiling loudspeaker. Please read this manual thoroughly before proceeding with installation and retain it for future reference. The Focal 300 ICW 8 is a high-fidelity 8-inch loudspeaker designed for discreet integration into your living space, featuring patented Flax cone technology for superior audio performance.

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- **Electrical Safety:** Always disconnect power to the installation area before beginning any wiring. Improper wiring can cause electrical shock or damage to equipment.
- **Structural Integrity:** Ensure the mounting surface (wall or ceiling) can safely support the weight of the speaker. Consult a structural engineer if unsure.
- **Wiring:** Use appropriate gauge speaker wire for your installation length and amplifier power. Refer to your amplifier's manual for recommended wire specifications.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate air circulation around the speaker's enclosure, especially if installing in a confined space, to prevent overheating.
- **Hearing Protection:** Avoid prolonged listening at high volumes to prevent hearing damage.
- **Proposition 65 Warning:** This product may contain chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

3. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Carefully unpack your Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker and verify that all components are present:

- Focal 300 ICW 8 Loudspeaker (1 unit)

- Circular Front Grille (1 unit)
- Square Front Grille (1 unit)
- Instruction Manual (this document)



Figure 3.1: Exploded view showing the speaker, mounting frame, and grille options.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker is designed for easy installation in walls or ceilings. No specialized tools are required once the opening is prepared.

4.1. Planning and Preparation

- **Location:** Choose a suitable location in your wall or ceiling, ensuring there are no obstructions (e.g., electrical wires, plumbing, studs/joists) behind the mounting surface. Use a stud finder to locate framing members.
- **Wiring:** Run appropriate speaker wire from your amplifier to the chosen speaker location. Leave sufficient slack for connection.
- **Clearance:** Ensure there is enough depth behind the wall/ceiling surface for the speaker's enclosure. Refer to

the specifications section for dimensions.

4.2. Cutting the Mounting Hole

- Use the provided cutting template (if included, otherwise refer to the speaker's outer dimensions) to mark the exact opening size on the wall or ceiling.
- Carefully cut the hole using a drywall saw or rotary tool. Ensure clean edges for a flush fit.

4.3. Connecting Speaker Wires



Figure 4.1: Speaker terminals for wire connection.

- Strip approximately 1/2 inch (12mm) of insulation from the ends of your speaker wires.
- Connect the positive (+) wire (typically red or marked) from your amplifier to the red (+) terminal on the speaker.
- Connect the negative (-) wire (typically black or unmarked) from your amplifier to the black (-) terminal on the speaker.

- Ensure a secure connection and no stray wire strands that could cause a short circuit.

4.4. Mounting the Speaker



Figure 4.2: The speaker's mounting frame with integrated clamps.

- The Focal 300 ICW 8 features a tool-free, snap-in bracket system for easy installation.
- Carefully insert the speaker assembly into the prepared mounting hole.
- The integrated mounting clamps will automatically engage and secure the speaker to the wall or ceiling as you push it into place. Ensure the speaker is flush with the surface.

4.5. Attaching the Grille

The Focal 300 ICW 8 comes with both circular and square magnetic grilles. Choose the one that best suits your aesthetic preference.





Figure 4.3: Speaker with circular grille (left) and square grille (right).

- Align the chosen grille with the speaker frame.
- The grille will magnetically attach to the speaker, providing a clean and seamless finish.

5. OPERATING THE LOUDSPEAKER

Once installed and connected to an appropriate amplifier, your Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker is ready for use. These are passive speakers, meaning they require an external amplifier or receiver to produce sound.

- Ensure your amplifier is powered off before making any connections.
- Connect the speaker wires from the Focal 300 ICW 8 to the corresponding speaker output terminals on your amplifier. Maintain correct polarity (+ to + and - to -).
- Power on your amplifier and select the appropriate audio source.
- Start with a low volume level and gradually increase it to your desired listening level.

6. MAINTENANCE

The Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker requires minimal maintenance to ensure long-lasting performance.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to gently wipe the grilles and visible surfaces of the speaker. Do not use abrasive cleaners, solvents, or excessive moisture, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- **Grille Care:** If the grilles become dusty, they can be carefully removed and gently vacuumed with a soft brush attachment.

- **Inspection:** Periodically check speaker wire connections to ensure they remain secure.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| No sound from speaker | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loose wire connections • Incorrect amplifier settings • Amplifier malfunction • Speaker damage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check all speaker wire connections at both the speaker and amplifier. Ensure correct polarity. • Verify amplifier input selection and volume level. • Test with another known-working speaker or amplifier. • Contact customer support if speaker is suspected to be damaged. |
| Distorted or unclear sound | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overdriven amplifier • Loose connections • Damaged speaker cone • Incorrect impedance matching | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce amplifier volume. • Check wire connections for shorts or loose strands. • Inspect speaker cone for visible damage. • Ensure amplifier impedance matches speaker impedance (8 Ohms). |
| Speaker buzz or hum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground loop issue • Interference from other electronics • Faulty wiring | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all audio components are plugged into the same electrical outlet or power strip. • Move speaker wires away from power cables or other electronic devices. • Inspect wiring for damage or improper shielding. |

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker:

| Feature | Specification |
|------------------------------|--|
| Brand | Focal |
| Model Number | F300ICW8 |
| Speaker Type | In-Wall / In-Ceiling Loudspeaker |
| Woofers Diameter | 8 Inches |
| Tweeter Diameter | 100 Hundredths-Inches (1 inch) |
| Speaker Maximum Output Power | 150 Watts |
| Frequency Response | 28 KHz (Upper limit, typical for tweeters) |
| Impedance | 8 Ohms |
| Signal-to-Noise Ratio | 90 dB |
| Mounting Type | Ceiling Mount, Wall Mount (Magnetic Mount) |
| Enclosure Material | Aluminum |
| Item Dimensions (D x W x H) | 14.96"D x 12.6"W x 14.96"H |
| Item Weight | 3 Pounds |
| Color | White |

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty: The Focal 300 ICW 8 loudspeaker comes with a 2-Year Manufacturer Warranty. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use.

Support: For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, or warranty inquiries, please contact your authorized Focal dealer or visit the official Focal website for customer support information.