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Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2

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Model: 606 S2

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2 Anniversary Edition Bookshelf Loudspeakers. These high-performance 2-way speakers feature a 6.5" Continuum cone bass/midrange driver and a 1" Decoupled Double Dome Aluminum tweeter, designed to deliver clear and precise audio reproduction.

For optimal performance and longevity, please read these instructions carefully before use.



Image: A pair of Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2 Anniversary Edition bookshelf loudspeakers, front view.

2. UNPACKING AND CONTENTS

Carefully remove the loudspeakers and all accessories from the packaging. Retain the packaging for future transport or storage.

Included Components:

- Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2 Anniversary Edition Bookshelf Loudspeakers (Pair)
- Literature (this manual and other documentation)

3. SETUP

3.1 Placement

Proper placement is crucial for achieving the best sound quality from your loudspeakers. The 606 S2 speakers are designed for versatile positioning.

- **On Stands:** For optimal acoustic performance, it is recommended to place the speakers on dedicated speaker stands, such as the Bowers & Wilkins STAV Speaker Stands (sold separately). This elevates the speakers to

ear level and provides a stable, vibration-free platform.

- **On Tables or Shelves:** If using tables or shelves, ensure the surface is sturdy and level. The included rubber feet should be attached to the bottom of the speakers to dampen vibrations and protect furniture surfaces.
- **Room Acoustics:** Experiment with the distance from walls and corners. Placing speakers too close to walls can overemphasize bass frequencies. A general guideline is to keep them at least a foot away from the rear wall.
- **Stereo Imaging:** Position the speakers equidistant from your primary listening position, forming an equilateral triangle for the best stereo imaging.





Image: A single 606 S2 loudspeaker mounted on a speaker stand.

3.2 Connections

The 606 S2 loudspeakers connect to your amplifier using standard speaker cables via binding posts. Ensure your amplifier is turned off before making any connections.

1. **Prepare Speaker Cables:** Strip approximately 1/2 inch (12mm) of insulation from the ends of your speaker cables. Twist the bare wire strands tightly to prevent stray wires.
2. **Connect to Loudspeakers:** Unscrew the binding post terminals on the back of each speaker. Insert the positive (+) wire (usually red or marked) into the red terminal and the negative (-) wire (usually black or unmarked) into the black terminal. Tighten the binding posts securely.
3. **Connect to Amplifier:** Connect the other end of the speaker cables to the corresponding positive (+) and negative (-) speaker output terminals on your amplifier. Ensure correct polarity (red to red, black to black) for both speakers. Incorrect polarity can lead to poor bass response and a diffused stereo image.
4. **Bi-wiring/Bi-amping (Advanced):** The 606 S2 speakers are equipped for bi-wiring or bi-amping. This involves removing the metal links between the tweeter and bass/midrange terminals and using separate cable runs or amplifiers for each section. Consult your amplifier's manual and a qualified audio technician if you wish to explore these options.

Important: Always ensure that the speaker cables are securely connected and that there are no loose strands that could short-circuit the amplifier.

3.3 System Integration

The 606 S2 loudspeakers can be integrated into a larger home theater system. They are voice-matched with other components from the Bowers & Wilkins 600 Anniversary Edition Series, including the HTM6 S2 center channel speaker, 603 S2 tower speakers, and ASW608 subwoofer (all sold separately).



Image: An example of a full Bowers & Wilkins 600 Anniversary Edition home theater system.

4. OPERATING

Once your loudspeakers are correctly set up and connected to your amplifier, operating them is straightforward.

- **Power On:** Turn on your amplifier and audio source.
- **Volume Control:** Adjust the volume using your amplifier's controls. Start at a low volume and gradually increase it to a comfortable listening level.
- **Grilles:** The speakers come with magnetic grilles. You can choose to use them for protection or remove them for a slightly different aesthetic and potentially a subtle change in sound.



Image: A 606 S2 loudspeaker with its protective grille in place.

- **Bass Adjustment (Flowport Foam Plug):** The 606 S2 features Flowport technology for enhanced bass response. A foam plug is provided which can be inserted into the rear port if you find the bass to be too prominent, especially in smaller rooms or when speakers are placed close to a wall. Experiment with the plug to achieve your preferred bass balance.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure your Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2 loudspeakers remain in excellent condition and deliver optimal performance, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning Cabinets:** Dust the cabinet surfaces regularly with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. For stubborn marks, lightly dampen the cloth with water. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or polishes, as these can damage the finish.
- **Cleaning Grilles:** If the grilles become dusty, gently brush them with a soft brush or use a low-power vacuum cleaner with a brush attachment.
- **Driver Care:** Avoid touching the tweeter dome or the Continuum cone bass/midrange driver. These components are delicate and can be easily damaged.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Keep the speakers away from direct sunlight, excessive heat sources, and high humidity. Ensure adequate ventilation around the speakers.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your loudspeakers, consult the following common troubleshooting steps:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from one or both speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loose or incorrect speaker cable connection • Amplifier or source component issues • Incorrect input selection on amplifier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check all speaker cable connections at both the speaker and amplifier ends. Ensure correct polarity. • Verify that your amplifier and audio source are powered on and functioning correctly. • Select the correct input on your amplifier for the connected source.
Distorted or unclear sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overdriving the speakers (volume too high) • Damaged speaker cable • Incorrect amplifier settings • Loose connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the volume level on your amplifier. • Inspect speaker cables for any damage. Replace if necessary. • Check your amplifier's settings (e.g., tone controls, EQ) and reset them to neutral if possible. • Ensure all connections are secure.
Weak or boomy bass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorrect speaker placement • Incorrect speaker cable polarity • Flowport foam plug status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust speaker placement relative to walls and corners. • Verify correct speaker cable polarity (+ to + and - to -). • Experiment with inserting or removing the Flowport foam plug.

If the problem persists after trying these steps, please contact Bowers & Wilkins customer support or your authorized dealer for further assistance.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

The following table details the technical specifications for the Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2 Anniversary Edition Bookshelf Loudspeakers:

Feature	Specification
Model Name	606 S2
Speaker Type	Bookshelf
Connectivity Technology	Binding Post
Audio Output Mode	Stereo
Woofers Diameter	6.5 Inches (Continuum Cone Bass/Midrange Driver)
Tweeter Diameter	1 Inch (Decoupled Double Dome Aluminum Tweeter)
Product Dimensions (D x W x H)	13.39"D x 7.48"W x 13.58"H
Item Weight (per speaker)	12.75 lbs (25.5 lbs for the pair)
Color	White
Manufacturer	Bowers & Wilkins
Item Model Number	FP42625
UPC	714346336753

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Bowers & Wilkins 606 S2 Anniversary Edition Bookshelf Loudspeakers come with a Limited Warranty. Please refer to the separate warranty documentation included with your product for specific terms and conditions. For technical support, service, or warranty claims, please contact your authorized Bowers & Wilkins dealer or visit the official Bowers & Wilkins website for contact information.

Online Resources: For additional information, FAQs, and product registration, please visit the official Bowers & Wilkins website.