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# DS18 Hydro MRX1 Marine Radio Headunit User Manual

Model: MRX1

Brand: DS18

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The DS18 Hydro MRX1 is a versatile marine head unit radio designed for marine and powersports environments. It offers a comprehensive set of features including Bluetooth connectivity, AM/FM radio, USB input, and AUX input. The unit is built with an IP65 waterproof rating and includes a silicone cover for enhanced protection against harsh conditions. Its easy-to-read LCD display and intuitive controls ensure a seamless audio experience.



Image 1.1: The DS18 Hydro MRX1 Marine Radio Headunit shown with its protective silicone cover.

## MARINE AND POWERSPORTS HEADUNIT

Audio is easy with **DS18's HYDRO MRX1**, complete with a Silicone Cover for the ultimate Marine and Powersports experience.



Image 1.2: Key features of the MRX1, including IP65 waterproof rating, single zone audio control, and a 2.75-inch LCD display.

## 2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

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

- DS18 Hydro MRX1 Marine Radio Headunit
- Silicone Cover
- Wiring Harness
- Mounting Hardware (screws, brackets)



Image 2.1: The included silicone cover provides additional protection for the headunit.

### 3. SAFETY INFORMATION

To ensure safe operation and prevent damage, please observe the following safety guidelines:

- **Power Source:** Connect the unit only to a 12V DC power supply with a negative ground.
- **Wiring:** Ensure all wiring is correctly connected and insulated to prevent short circuits. Incorrect wiring can cause damage to the unit or vehicle.
- **Water Exposure:** While the unit has an IP65 waterproof rating, avoid prolonged submersion or high-pressure water jets directly on the unit. Ensure the silicone cover is properly installed in wet environments.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit to prevent overheating, especially during extended use.
- **Professional Installation:** If you are unsure about any installation steps, consult a qualified professional.

## 4. INSTALLATION

### 4.1 Mounting

The DS18 Hydro MRX1 is designed for flush mounting. Ensure there is sufficient space behind the mounting surface for the unit and its wiring. The unit dimensions are approximately 4.53 x 4.53 x 2.91 inches (L x W x H).



Image 4.1: Approximate dimensions of the MRX1 unit for mounting reference.

Cut a circular opening in the desired mounting location. Secure the unit using the provided mounting hardware. Ensure a snug fit to maintain the IP65 seal.

### 4.2 Wiring Connections

Carefully connect the wiring harness to the corresponding inputs and outputs. Refer to the wiring diagram below for proper connections. Incorrect wiring can lead to malfunction or damage.

- **Power (Yellow):** Connect to a constant 12V DC power source.
- **Ground (Black):** Connect to a clean chassis ground.
- **Accessory/Ignition (Red):** Connect to a switched 12V DC power source (e.g., ignition).

- **Speaker Outputs:** Connect to your speakers. The unit provides 4 x 15 watts RMS at 4 ohms or 4 x 20 watts RMS at 2 ohms.
- **Preamp Outputs (RCA):** Front, Rear, and Subwoofer outputs are provided for connecting external amplifiers. These are 4V preamp outputs for high-quality sound.
- **USB Input:** For music playback and 2.1A device charging.
- **AUX Input:** For connecting external audio devices.
- **Wired Remote Control Input:** For connecting an optional wired remote.



Image 4.2: The wiring harness for the DS18 Hydro MRX1, showing various connections for power, speakers, and auxiliary inputs/outputs.

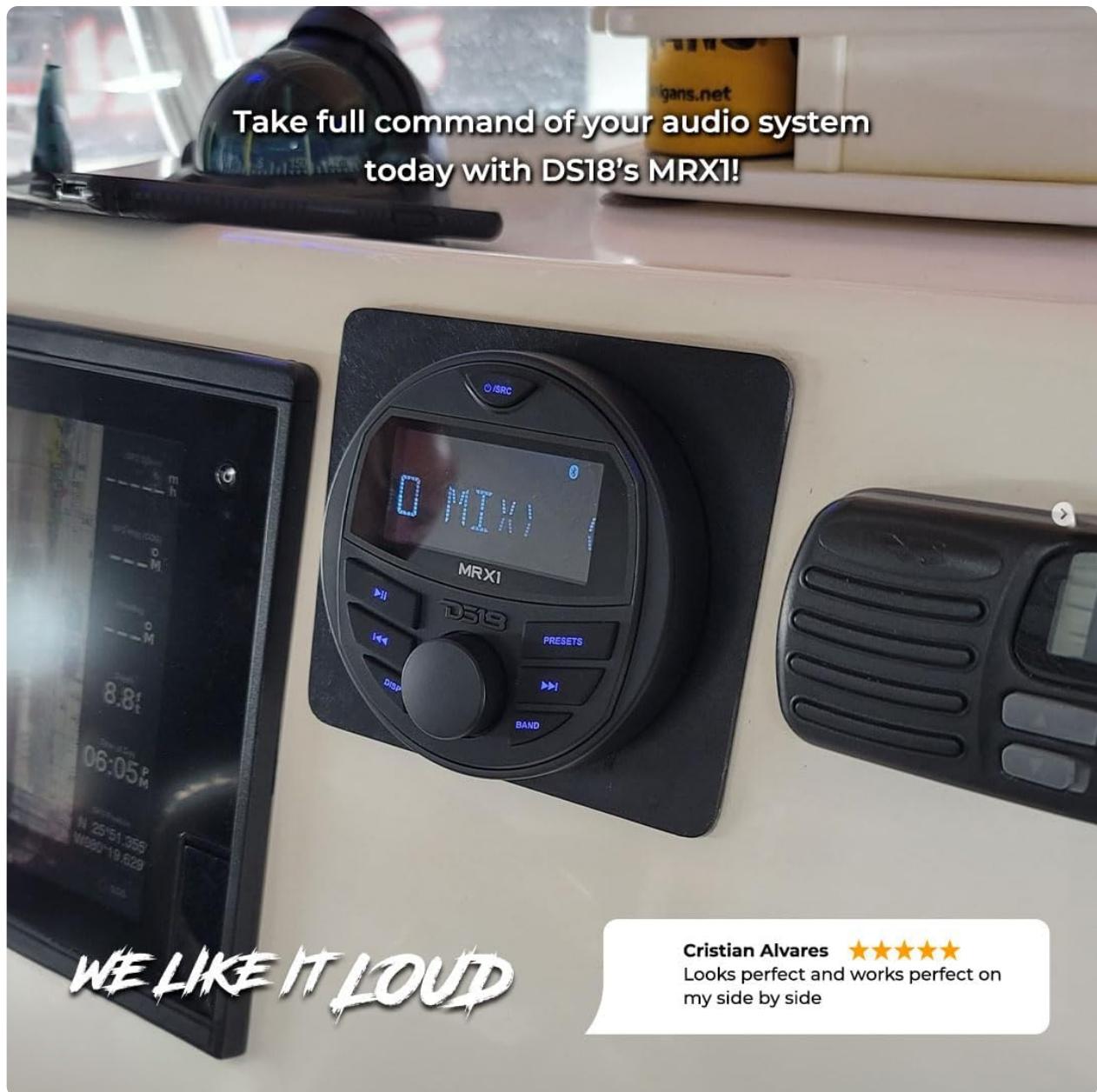


Image 4.3: The MRX1 unit seamlessly integrated into a vehicle's dashboard, demonstrating a typical installation.

## 5. OPERATION

### 5.1 Basic Controls

The MRX1 features an intuitive control layout with a central rotary knob and illuminated buttons. The 2.75-inch LCD display provides clear visual feedback for all functions.



Image 5.1: Front view of the MRX1, showing the LCD screen, rotary knob, and control buttons.

- **Power/Source Button ( /SRC):** Press to turn the unit on/off. Press briefly to cycle through available audio sources (AM/FM, Bluetooth, USB, AUX).
- **Rotary Knob:** Turn to adjust volume. Press to access menu options or confirm selections.
- **Play/Pause ( ):** Play or pause audio playback.
- **Skip/Track ( , ):** Skip to the previous or next track/station.
- **DISP (Display):** Adjust display settings or information shown.
- **PRESETS:** Access radio presets or saved settings.
- **BAND:** Switch between AM and FM bands.

## 5.2 Audio Sources

The MRX1 supports multiple audio input options:

- **Bluetooth:** Pair your mobile device to stream audio wirelessly. The unit supports Bluetooth v4.2 for superior audio streaming and displays ID3 tag information.
- **AM/FM Radio:** Tune into your favorite AM/FM stations. The wideband receiver supports RDS (Radio Data System) for displaying station information.
- **USB:** Connect a USB drive for MP3/WMA/WAV file playback. The USB port also provides 2.1A charging

for compatible devices.

- **AUX Input:** Connect any audio device with a 3.5mm audio output.



Image 5.2: The MRX1 supports AUX input and Bluetooth connectivity for versatile audio playback.

### 5.3 Sound Settings

Access the sound settings menu to customize your audio experience:

- **Equalizer (EQ):** Adjust bass and treble levels.
- **Subwoofer Control:** Adjust subwoofer output level and low-pass filter (80/120/160Hz).
- **Balance/Fader:** Adjust audio distribution between left/right and front/rear speakers.
- **Loudness:** Enhance bass and treble at low volumes.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your DS18 Hydro MRX1.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, damp cloth to clean the unit's surface. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents that could damage the finish or display.
- **Silicone Cover:** Periodically inspect the silicone cover for any tears or damage. Ensure it is properly seated to maintain the unit's waterproof integrity.
- **Connections:** Check all wiring connections periodically to ensure they are secure and free from corrosion, especially in marine environments.
- **Waterproofing:** While the unit is IP65 rated, always ensure the silicone cover is in place and all connections are sealed when operating in wet conditions.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your DS18 Hydro MRX1, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Power	Blown fuse; Incorrect wiring; Loose power connection.	Check and replace fuse; Verify all power and ground connections; Ensure wiring is secure.
No Sound Output	Volume too low; Mute function active; Incorrect speaker wiring; Amplifier not powered (if applicable).	Increase volume; Deactivate mute; Check speaker connections; Verify amplifier power.
Bluetooth Not Connecting	Unit not in pairing mode; Device too far; Bluetooth disabled on device.	Ensure unit is in Bluetooth pairing mode; Move device closer; Enable Bluetooth on your device.
Poor Radio Reception	Antenna not connected; Weak signal area; Interference.	Check antenna connection; Try tuning to a stronger station; Move away from sources of electrical interference.
USB Not Reading	Unsupported file format; Damaged USB drive; USB drive too large.	Ensure files are MP3/WMA/WAV; Try a different USB drive; Check USB drive capacity limits (refer to specifications).

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	MRX
Product Dimensions	4.53 x 4.53 x 2.91 inches
Item Weight	2 pounds

Feature	Detail
Output Power	4 x 15W RMS @ 4 Ohm / 4 x 20W RMS @ 2 Ohm (160 Watts Max)
Preamp Outputs	3 Zones (Front, Rear, Subwoofer), 4 Volts
Waterproof Rating	IP65
Display Technology	LCD (2.75-inch)
Connectivity Technologies	Bluetooth, USB, AUX
Bluetooth Version	v4.2
Radio Frequency	AM/FM (up to 108 MHz)
USB Charging	2.1 Amp
Compatible Devices	Amplifier
Color	Black
Manufacturer	DS18
Date First Available	November 12, 2020

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries regarding your DS18 Hydro MRX1 Marine Radio Headunit, please contact DS18 customer service directly. Refer to the official DS18 website or your purchase documentation for the most current contact details and warranty terms.

You can also visit the [DS18 Store on Amazon](#) for additional product information and resources.

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### Related Documents - MRX1

	<p><a href="#">DS18 MRX1 Marine &amp; Powersports Headunit User Manual</a>  Comprehensive user manual for the DS18 MRX1 Marine &amp; Powersports Headunit, covering operation, installation, features, and troubleshooting.</p>
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	<p><a href="#"><b>DS18 MRX1 Marine &amp; Powersport Headunit Owner's Manual</b></a></p> <p>Detailed owner's manual for the DS18 MRX1 Marine &amp; Powersport Headunit, covering operation, installation, features, and troubleshooting. Learn how to use your marine audio system.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><b>DS18 NXL Series Marine Speaker Owner's Manual</b></a></p> <p>Owner's manual for DS18 NXL6BK and NXL8BK marine/UTV 2-way black speaker systems, detailing features, installation, wiring, and specifications. Includes RGB LED lighting.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><b>DS18 CF-X8TPB 8" Marine Tower Speakers with RGB LED Lights - Owner's Manual</b></a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual and installation guide for the DS18 CF-X8TPB 8-inch marine tower speakers, featuring integrated RGB LED lights. Includes detailed specifications, dimensions, setup instructions, and connection diagrams for marine and powersports applications.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><b>DS18 HYDRO NXL-10 10-Inch Marine Coaxial Speaker with RGB LED Lights - Owner's Manual</b></a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the DS18 HYDRO NXL-10 10-inch marine-grade coaxial speaker. Includes features, specifications, installation guide, wiring diagrams, and dimensions for this high-performance, IP65-rated speaker with integrated RGB LED lighting.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><b>DS18 NXL-X8TPNEO 8" Wakeboard Pod Tower Speakers Owner's Manual</b></a></p> <p>Comprehensive owner's manual for the DS18 NXL-X8TPNEO 8-inch wakeboard pod tower speakers, detailing specifications, installation, and connection options. Features integrated RGB LED lighting.</p>