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# DS18 Candy-XXL1B Monoblock Car Audio Amplifier User Manual

MODEL: DS18 CANDY XXL1B

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The DS18 Candy-XXL1B is a high-performance monoblock car audio amplifier designed to deliver powerful and clear bass to your vehicle's sound system. With its compact design and robust power output, it is an ideal choice for enhancing your car audio experience. This amplifier is engineered for efficiency and reliability, providing up to 3000W of maximum power. This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your DS18 Candy-XXL1B amplifier.

The amplifier comes complete with a 4GA amplifier installation kit, ensuring you have the necessary components for a secure and efficient setup.



*Image: The DS18 Candy-XXL1B amplifier shown with its complete 4GA amplifier installation kit, including power cables, ground cables, RCA cables, speaker cable, fuse holder, and loom tube.*

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read all instructions carefully before attempting installation or operation. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in damage to the amplifier, vehicle, or personal injury.

- **Disconnect Battery:** Always disconnect the vehicle's negative battery terminal before starting any electrical work to prevent short circuits.
- **Professional Installation:** If you are unsure about any aspect of the installation, seek assistance from a qualified professional car audio installer.
- **Proper Fusing:** Ensure the included ANL fuse holder with a 100A fuse is installed correctly and close to the battery to protect the power circuit.
- **Ventilation:** Mount the amplifier in a location that allows for adequate air circulation to prevent overheating. Avoid mounting in enclosed spaces without ventilation.
- **Wiring:** Use the correct gauge wiring (4GA for power and ground) as provided in the kit. Ensure all connections are secure and insulated to prevent short circuits.
- **Avoid Moisture:** Do not expose the amplifier to moisture or direct water.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your package:

- DS18 Candy-XXL1B Monoblock Amplifier

- Remote Subwoofer Level Controller (Bass Knob)
- ANL Fuse Holder with MANL 100A Fuse
- 6 ft. 4GA Loom Tube
- Rubber Grommet
- 17 ft. Red Power Cable (4GA)
- 3 ft. Black Ground Cable (4GA)
- 17 ft. Red/Black Twisted RCA Cable
- 17 ft. Remote Turn-On Cable
- 17 ft. Red/Black Speaker Cable



*Image: Various components of the 4GA amplifier installation kit, including power cables, RCA cables, speaker wire, loom tube, and the fuse holder.*

## 4. PRODUCT FEATURES

- **High Power Output:** Delivers up to 3000 Watts Max Power for robust bass performance.
- **Wide Impedance Range:** Stable operation at 1, 2, and 4 Ohm loads, allowing flexibility with various subwoofer configurations.
- **Compact Mini Design:** Measuring approximately 11" x 5" x 2", this amplifier can be installed in tight spaces.
- **Remote Bass Knob:** Included remote level controller for convenient adjustment of bass levels from the driver's seat.
- **Adjustable Crossover:** Features a Low Pass Filter (LPF) from 50Hz to 150Hz for precise frequency tuning.
- **Bass Boost:** Adjustable bass boost from 0dB to +12dB for enhanced low-frequency response.
- **Phase Control:** 0° to 180° phase adjustment for optimal integration with other speakers.



*Image: Top view of the DS18 Candy-XXL1B amplifier, showcasing its sleek black design with red accents and compact form factor.*

## 5. SPECIFICATIONS

Parameter	Value
Number of Channels	1 (Monoblock)
Frequency Response	20Hz - 20KHz
Max Power	3000W
1 Ohm RMS Power (14.4V)	1 x 1000W
2 Ohm RMS Power (14.4V)	1 x 650W
4 Ohm RMS Power (14.4V)	1 x 400W
Speaker Impedance Range	1 Ohm
Input Sensitivity	0.2V - 6V
Low Pass Filter (LPF)	50Hz - 150Hz

Parameter	Value
Fuse Size	3 x 35A (Internal)
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	100dB
THD (Total Harmonic Distortion)	0.0001%
Bass Boost	0dB - +12dB
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	280 x 127 x 47.5mm (11" x 5" x 2")
Audio Jack	RCA

## 6. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the performance and longevity of your amplifier. Follow these steps carefully:

### 6.1. Mounting Location

- Choose a dry, well-ventilated location away from direct sunlight or heat sources.
- Ensure sufficient space around the amplifier for air circulation.
- Securely mount the amplifier to a solid surface using appropriate hardware.

### 6.2. Power and Ground Connections

**Before making any connections, disconnect the vehicle's negative battery terminal.**

1. **Power Cable (+12V):** Run the 17 ft. red 4GA power cable from the positive terminal of your vehicle's battery to the amplifier's +12V terminal. Install the ANL fuse holder within 18 inches (45 cm) of the battery.
2. **Ground Cable (GND):** Connect the 3 ft. black 4GA ground cable from the amplifier's GND terminal to a clean, unpainted metal surface on the vehicle's chassis. Ensure a solid, low-resistance connection.
3. **Remote Turn-On (REM):** Connect the 17 ft. remote cable from your head unit's remote output to the amplifier's REM terminal. This cable turns the amplifier on and off with your head unit.



*Image: Rear panel of the DS18 Candy-XXL1B amplifier, detailing the power (+12V), ground (GND), remote (REM) input terminals, and speaker output terminals.*



*Image: Close-up view of the DS18 ANL fuse holder, designed to protect the amplifier's power circuit.*

### 6.3. Speaker Connections

- Connect your subwoofer(s) to the amplifier's speaker output terminals using the 17 ft. red/black speaker cable.
- Ensure correct polarity (+ to + and - to -) for optimal sound performance.
- Verify that the total impedance of your subwoofer(s) matches the amplifier's stable impedance range (1, 2, or 4 Ohm).

### 6.4. Input Connections

- **RCA Input:** Connect the 17 ft. Red/Black Twisted RCA cable from your head unit's subwoofer or pre-amp output to the amplifier's LINE INPUT (RCA) jacks.
- **High Input:** If your head unit does not have RCA outputs, use the High Input connection. Consult your head unit's manual for proper wiring to the amplifier's High Input terminal.

### 6.5. Remote Bass Knob Connection

- Connect the remote bass knob to the amplifier's 'REMOTE' port using the provided cable. Mount the bass knob in a convenient location for easy access.

## 7. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once installed, adjust the amplifier settings for optimal sound performance.



*Image: Front panel of the DS18 Candy-XXL1B amplifier, displaying the High Input, Line Input (RCA), Gain, Bass Boost, Boost Freq, LPF, Phase controls, and the Remote port.*

- **GAIN:** This control matches the amplifier's input sensitivity to the output of your head unit. Start with the gain at minimum (MIN) and slowly increase it until you hear distortion, then back off slightly.
- **BASS BOOST:** Adjusts the level of bass enhancement (0dB to +12dB). Use sparingly to avoid distortion.
- **BOOST FREQ:** Selects the center frequency for the bass boost (40Hz to 100Hz).
- **LPF (Low Pass Filter):** Sets the upper frequency limit for the amplifier's output (50Hz to 150Hz). This ensures only low frequencies are sent to your subwoofer.
- **PHASE:** Adjusts the phase of the subwoofer output (0° or 180°). This helps to align the subwoofer's output with other speakers in your system for better sound integration.
- **REMOTE (Bass Knob):** Use the external remote bass knob to conveniently adjust the subwoofer output level from your listening position.

## 8. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your amplifier:

- **Cleaning:** Periodically wipe the amplifier's exterior with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure that the amplifier's cooling fins are free from dust and debris to maintain proper airflow.
- **Connections:** Periodically check all power, ground, remote, and speaker connections to ensure they remain secure and free from corrosion.
- **Fuses:** If the amplifier does not power on, check the external ANL fuse and the internal fuses (3 x 35A). Replace blown fuses only with fuses of the same type and rating.

## 9. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your amplifier, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Amplifier does not turn on	Blown fuse (external or internal) Poor power or ground connection No remote turn-on signal	Check and replace fuses. Verify all power and ground connections are secure. Check remote wire connection and head unit's remote output.
No sound output	RCA cables disconnected or faulty Speaker wires disconnected or shorted Gain set too low Head unit volume too low	Check RCA connections. Inspect speaker wiring for shorts or disconnections. Increase gain setting gradually. Increase head unit volume.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Distorted sound	Gain set too high Speaker impedance mismatch Poor ground connection	Reduce gain setting. Verify speaker impedance is within amplifier's stable range. Ensure ground connection is clean and secure.
Amplifier overheats	Insufficient ventilation Speaker impedance too low Playing at high volume for extended periods	Relocate amplifier to a better ventilated area. Check speaker impedance. Reduce volume or allow amplifier to cool down.

## 10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding your DS18 Candy-XXL1B amplifier, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official DS18 website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

If you require further technical assistance or have questions not covered in this manual, please contact DS18 customer support through their official channels. You can often find contact information on the DS18 website or through your product retailer.