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› Proficient Audio FDS-8 Protege FDS Subwoofer User Manual

Proficient FDS-8

Proficient Audio FDS-8 Protege FDS Subwoofer User Manual

Model: FDS-8

INTRODUCTION

The Proficient Audio FDS-8 Protege FDS Subwoofer is designed to enhance your audio experience by delivering deep, impactful bass. This manual provides essential information for the safe and optimal operation of your subwoofer, including setup, usage, maintenance, and troubleshooting.



Image: Front view of the Proficient Audio FDS-8 Protege FDS Subwoofer, showcasing its matte black finish and active driver.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Read these instructions thoroughly before operating the product.
- Keep these instructions for future reference.
- Heed all warnings on the product and in this manual.
- Follow all instructions.
- Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with a dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

- Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items listed below are included in your package:

- Proficient Audio FDS-8 Protege FDS Subwoofer
- Power Cord
- User Manual (this document)

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The FDS-8 subwoofer features a compact design with triple drivers for powerful bass reproduction. It includes one active 8-inch polypropylene cone woofer and two passive 8-inch polypropylene cone woofers.



Image: Rear panel of the Proficient Audio FDS-8 Subwoofer, showing the volume, crossover, phase controls, LFE, Line In, USB power, and power switch.

Rear Panel Controls and Connections:

- **Volume Knob:** Adjusts the overall output level of the subwoofer.
- **Crossover Knob:** Sets the upper frequency limit for the subwoofer. This determines where the subwoofer takes over from your main speakers. Adjustable from 50Hz to 160Hz.
- **Phase Switch (0°/180°):** Adjusts the phase of the subwoofer output relative to your main speakers. This helps to ensure optimal bass integration.
- **LFE Input:** For connection to an AV receiver's LFE (Low-Frequency Effects) output.
- **Line In (Left/Right):** For connection to a stereo pre-out or line-level output from an amplifier or receiver.
- **USB Power (5V 500mA):** Provides power for optional wireless receivers.

- **ON/AUTO-OFF/OFF Switch:** Selects power mode. ON keeps the subwoofer powered on. AUTO-OFF puts the subwoofer into standby when no audio signal is detected and powers it on when a signal is present. OFF powers the subwoofer down completely.
- **Power Switch:** Main power toggle.
- **AC Power Inlet:** Connects the subwoofer to an AC power source using the provided power cord.

SETUP

1. Placement

Subwoofer placement significantly impacts sound quality. Experiment with different locations to find the best bass response for your room. Generally, placing the subwoofer in a corner can enhance bass output, while placing it along a wall can provide a more balanced sound. Avoid placing it directly against a wall or in a cabinet without proper ventilation.



Image: Proficient Audio FDS-8 Subwoofer with its protective grille installed, showing its compact form factor.

2. Connections

1. **Power Connection:** Ensure the subwoofer's power switch is in the OFF position. Connect the supplied power cord to the AC Power Inlet on the subwoofer's rear panel, then plug the other end into a suitable wall outlet.
2. **Audio Connection (LFE):** If your AV receiver has an LFE output, connect a single RCA cable from the receiver's LFE output to the LFE input on the subwoofer. This is the recommended connection for home theater systems.
3. **Audio Connection (Stereo Line In):** If your amplifier or receiver does not have an LFE output, connect RCA cables from its stereo pre-out or line-level output to the Left and Right Line In inputs on the subwoofer.

3. Initial Power On

After making all connections, set the ON/AUTO-OFF/OFF switch to AUTO-OFF or ON. Then, flip the main Power Switch to ON. The subwoofer should power on, indicated by a status light (if present).

OPERATING THE SUBWOOFER

Volume Adjustment

Use the **Volume Knob** on the rear panel to adjust the subwoofer's output level. Start with a low setting and gradually increase it until the bass blends seamlessly with your main speakers without overpowering them.

Crossover Frequency

The **Crossover Knob** sets the highest frequency the subwoofer will reproduce. For most home theater receivers, set the receiver's subwoofer crossover to LFE or 120Hz and leave the subwoofer's crossover knob at its maximum setting (160Hz) or bypass it if your receiver manages the crossover. If connecting via stereo line-in, adjust the subwoofer's crossover to match the low-frequency capabilities of your main speakers. A good starting point is typically 80Hz-100Hz.

Phase Control

The **Phase Switch (0°/180°)** helps to ensure that the subwoofer's sound waves are in sync with your main speakers. Listen to music with strong bass and switch between 0° and 180°. Choose the setting that provides the most impactful and coherent bass response. If the bass sounds weak or hollow, try reversing the phase.

Power Modes

- **ON:** The subwoofer remains continuously powered on.
- **AUTO-OFF:** The subwoofer will automatically enter a low-power standby mode after a period of inactivity (no audio signal) and will power back on when an audio signal is detected. This is the recommended setting for energy efficiency.
- **OFF:** The subwoofer is completely powered off. Use the main Power Switch for complete disconnection from power.

MAINTENANCE

The Proficient Audio FDS-8 Subwoofer requires minimal maintenance to ensure long-lasting performance.

- **Cleaning:** Dust the cabinet regularly with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners, aerosols, or abrasive materials, as these may damage the finish.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure that the subwoofer's ventilation openings are not blocked. Adequate airflow is crucial for preventing overheating.
- **Placement:** Avoid placing the subwoofer in direct sunlight or near heat sources, which can affect its internal components and finish.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No Sound from Subwoofer	Power cord not connected. Power switch is OFF. ON/AUTO-OFF/OFF switch is OFF. No audio signal. Volume too low.	Ensure power cord is securely connected to both the subwoofer and the wall outlet. Turn the main Power Switch to ON. Set the ON/AUTO-OFF/OFF switch to ON or AUTO-OFF. Check audio cable connections from your receiver/amplifier to the subwoofer. Ensure the source is playing audio. Increase the Volume Knob on the subwoofer and/or the subwoofer level on your receiver.
Weak or Muffled Bass	Incorrect phase setting. Crossover frequency set too low. Subwoofer volume too low. Poor placement.	Toggle the Phase Switch (0°/180°) to the other setting. Increase the Crossover Knob setting. Increase the Volume Knob. Experiment with different subwoofer placements in the room.
Distorted Sound	Volume set too high. Input signal too strong.	Decrease the Volume Knob on the subwoofer. Reduce the subwoofer output level on your receiver/amplifier.
Subwoofer Does Not Turn On Automatically (AUTO-OFF mode)	Input signal too low.	Increase the volume of your source device or the subwoofer output level on your receiver/amplifier. Try setting the ON/AUTO-OFF/OFF switch to ON.

SPECIFICATIONS



Image: Diagram showing the dimensions of the Proficient Audio FDS-8 Subwoofer: 11.73 inches deep, 12.44 inches wide, and 12.48 inches high.

Feature	Detail
Model Name	FDS-8
Speaker Type	Subwoofer
Woofer Size/Type	1 x 8" Active Polypropylene Cone; 2 x 8" Passive Polypropylene Cone
Power (Peak)	400W
Frequency Response	29-160Hz
Overall Dimensions (LxWxH)	11.73"D x 12.44"W x 12.48"H
Item Weight	23 Pounds
Color	Black
Connectivity Technology	Auxiliary (RCA LFE/Line In)

Feature	Detail
Power Source	Corded Electric
Manufacturer	Proficient Audio

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please contact Proficient Audio directly or refer to their official website. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Manufacturer: Proficient Audio

Website: www.proficientaudio.com (Note: This is a placeholder URL, please refer to the official product documentation for the correct support website.)

Model Number: FDS-8

ASIN: B0B3HPYCZP