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Focal SUB12

Focal SUB 12 12-inch Subwoofer Instruction Manual

MODEL: SUB12

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Focal SUB 12 12-inch subwoofer. Please read these instructions thoroughly before attempting to install or use the product. Retain this manual for future reference.



Figure 1: Front view of the Focal SUB 12 subwoofer.

2. Safety Instructions

- **Power Handling:** Ensure the amplifier connected to the subwoofer does not exceed the subwoofer's maximum power handling (600 W MAX) to prevent damage.
- **Wiring:** Always disconnect the vehicle's battery before making any electrical connections. Ensure correct polarity when wiring the subwoofer. Incorrect wiring can cause damage to the subwoofer or amplifier.
- **Enclosure:** Install the subwoofer in a suitable enclosure (sealed or bass-reflex) as recommended for optimal performance and longevity.
- **Mounting:** Securely mount the subwoofer to prevent movement during vehicle operation. Loose components can cause injury or damage.
- **Environment:** This product is not waterproof. Avoid exposure to moisture or extreme temperatures.
- **Professional Installation:** If you are unsure about any aspect of installation, consult a qualified car audio professional.

3. Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- 1x Focal SUB 12 12-inch Subwoofer
- Instruction Manual (this document)

4. Setup and Installation

The Focal SUB 12 subwoofer is designed for installation in a custom enclosure. It can be used effectively in both sealed and bass-reflex (ported) box configurations.

4.1 Enclosure Recommendations

- **Sealed Box:** Minimum recommended volume from 15 liters. A sealed enclosure provides tight, accurate bass response.
- **Bass-Reflex Box:** Minimum recommended volume from 30 liters. A bass-reflex enclosure typically offers louder, deeper bass output.

Consult a car audio specialist or use specialized software for precise enclosure design tailored to your vehicle and listening preferences.

4.2 Wiring the Subwoofer

The SUB 12 features a single 4-Ohm voice coil. Connect the subwoofer to your amplifier using appropriate gauge speaker wire. Ensure secure connections at both the subwoofer terminals and the amplifier.



Figure 2: Rear view of the SUB 12, showing the push terminals for wiring.

Connection Steps:

1. Identify the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals on both the subwoofer and your amplifier.
2. Connect the positive (+) terminal of the subwoofer to the positive (+) output of the amplifier.
3. Connect the negative (-) terminal of the subwoofer to the negative (-) output of the amplifier.
4. Ensure all connections are tight and free from short circuits.

4.3 Component Overview



Figure 3: Diagram illustrating key components of the Focal SUB 12 subwoofer.

The SUB 12 features a robust design for optimal performance and durability:

- **Butyl Surround:** Provides superior resistance and durability for long-lasting performance.
- **Polypropylene Cone:** Offers high rigidity, which reduces distortion even at extreme volumes, ensuring clear and powerful bass.
- **Steel Chassis:** A rigid and compact frame that provides structural integrity.
- **Spider Decompression:** Enhances voice coil ventilation, contributing to improved power handling and reliability.
- **Push Terminals:** Simple and reliable connection points for speaker wire.

5. Operating the Subwoofer

Once installed and wired correctly, the subwoofer will operate in conjunction with your car audio system. The bass output level and crossover frequency are typically controlled by your amplifier or head unit.

- **Initial Power-Up:** After installation, turn on your audio system at a low volume. Gradually increase the volume and adjust bass settings to your preference.
- **Break-in Period:** Allow a break-in period of several hours of normal listening before operating the subwoofer at high volumes. This allows the suspension components to loosen and perform optimally.
- **Volume Control:** Avoid excessive volume levels that cause audible distortion or rattling, as this can damage the subwoofer.

6. Maintenance

The Focal SUB 12 subwoofer requires minimal maintenance.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the cone and surround. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.
- **Inspection:** Periodically check wiring connections for tightness and ensure the subwoofer is securely mounted in its enclosure.
- **Environment:** Keep the subwoofer free from dust, debris, and direct sunlight, which can degrade materials over time.

7. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues with your Focal SUB 12 subwoofer, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from subwoofer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loose or incorrect wiring• Amplifier not powered on or in protect mode• Head unit settings incorrect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check all wiring connections for tightness and correct polarity.• Verify amplifier power and status.• Ensure subwoofer output is enabled and volume is up on head unit.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Distorted or unclear bass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amplifier gain too high • Crossover frequency set incorrectly • Subwoofer overdriven • Poor enclosure seal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce amplifier gain. • Adjust crossover frequency on amplifier or head unit. • Lower volume. • Inspect enclosure for air leaks.
Subwoofer cuts out intermittently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loose wiring connection • Amplifier overheating or going into protect mode 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check all wiring connections. • Ensure amplifier has adequate ventilation.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, contact Focal customer support or a qualified technician.

8. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Model Name	SUB12
Speaker Type	Component Subwoofer
Subwoofer Diameter	12 Inches (30 Centimeters)
Nominal Impedance	Single 4-Ohm
RMS Power Handling	300 W
Maximum Power Handling	600 W
Connectivity Technology	Wired
Product Dimensions (D x W x H)	18" x 8" x 14" (Approximate)
Item Weight	11 pounds (5 Kilograms)
Included Components	SUB12
Manufacturer	Focal
Mounting Type	Flush Mount
Waterproof	No

9. Warranty Information

Focal products are designed and manufactured to the highest quality standards. This product is covered by a limited warranty against defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. The specific terms and duration of the warranty may vary by region and retailer. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the

official Focal website.

10. Support

For technical assistance, troubleshooting, or further inquiries regarding your Focal SUB 12 subwoofer, please contact Focal customer support or your authorized Focal dealer.

You can find contact information and additional resources on the official Focal website:www.focal.com

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