SVS PB17-Ultra

SVS PB17-Ultra 17" Powered Subwoofer Instruction Manual

Model: PB17-Ultra | Brand: SVS

Introduction

The SVS PB17-Ultra is a high-performance 17-inch powered subwoofer designed to deliver deep, impactful bass for home theater and music systems. Featuring a ported enclosure, a powerful SVS amplifier with discrete MOSFET output, and advanced Digital Signal Processing (DSP) control, this subwoofer provides exceptional low-frequency extension and accuracy. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your PB17-Ultra subwoofer.



Image: The SVS PB17-Ultra 17-inch Powered Subwoofer, showcasing its front-firing driver and three large ports, finished in Black Oak Veneer.

Setup

1. Unpacking

- Carefully remove the subwoofer from its packaging. Due to its substantial weight (185.6 pounds), it is recommended to have assistance during unpacking and placement.
- Inspect the subwoofer for any signs of damage during transit. Contact SVS support immediately if any damage is found.
- Retain all packaging materials for future transport or service needs.

2. Placement

Subwoofer placement significantly impacts sound quality. Experiment with different locations to find the optimal balance of bass extension and impact in your listening environment.

- **Corner Placement:** Often provides the most output and deepest extension, but can sometimes lead to 'boomy' bass.
- **Front of Room Placement:** Placing the subwoofer near your front speakers can improve soundstage integration and accuracy.
- **Mid-Wall Placement:** Can offer a good balance between output and accuracy.
- **Multiple Subwoofers:** For larger rooms or more even bass distribution, consider using multiple subwoofers.



Image: The SVS PB17-Ultra subwoofer integrated into a home environment, demonstrating a typical placement near a wall.

3. Connections

Ensure all audio components are powered off before making any connections. The PB17-Ultra offers various input options:

- **LFE Input (RCA):** For connecting to the LFE (Low-Frequency Effects) output of your AV receiver or processor. This is the most common connection for home theater systems.
- **Line Level Inputs (RCA):** For stereo connections from a preamplifier or integrated amplifier. Use both Left and Right inputs for optimal performance.
- **Balanced Inputs (XLR):** For professional audio setups or long cable runs to minimize noise.
- **Speaker Level Inputs:** For connecting directly to the speaker outputs of your amplifier if your amplifier does not have dedicated subwoofer outputs.



Image: A detailed view of the SVS PB17-Ultra's rear panel, highlighting the LFE, Line Level, Balanced, and Speaker Level input connections, along with control knobs and power input.

Operating

1. Power On/Off

- Connect the power cable to the subwoofer and a wall outlet.
- The subwoofer features an auto-on/standby mode. It will automatically power on when an audio signal is detected and enter standby after a period of inactivity.
- A manual power switch is also located on the rear panel for complete power disconnection.

2. DSP Control App

The SVS Subwoofer Control Smartphone App provides comprehensive control over your PB17-Ultra's settings, allowing for precise customization from your listening position.

- Download the SVS app from your device's app store.
- Connect your smartphone to the subwoofer via Bluetooth.
- The app allows adjustment of volume, low pass filter, phase, polarity, parametric EQ (6 PEQs), room gain compensation, port tuning, and custom presets.



Image: The SVS PB17-Ultra subwoofer with a smartphone showing the SVS control app, illustrating the digital interface for adjusting subwoofer settings.

3. Basic Settings

- **Volume:** Adjust to blend seamlessly with your main speakers.
- **Low Pass Filter (Crossover):** Sets the upper frequency limit for the subwoofer. Typically set between 80-120 Hz, or as recommended by your AV receiver's auto-calibration.
- **Phase:** Adjusts the timing of the subwoofer's output relative to your main speakers. Experiment with 0° and 180° to find the setting that provides the most cohesive bass.

4. Advanced Settings

- **SVS Auto Room Correction:** Utilize the included outboard microphone and the SVS app to analyze your room's acoustics and automatically optimize the subwoofer's frequency response.
- **Parametric EQ (PEQ):** The app provides 6 PEQ bands for fine-tuning the frequency response to address room modes or personal preferences.
- **Port Tuning:** The PB17-Ultra is a ported design. Refer to the SVS app for options to adjust port tuning for different performance characteristics (e.g., maximum output vs. deepest extension).

Maintenance

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the cabinet. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Dusting:** Regularly dust the driver and ports to prevent accumulation.
- **Placement:** Ensure adequate ventilation around the amplifier panel to prevent overheating.
- **Storage:** If storing the subwoofer for an extended period, use the original packaging and store in a cool, dry place.

Troubleshooting

No Sound from Subwoofer

- Check power connections and ensure the subwoofer is powered on (indicated by a blue LED).
- Verify audio cable connections from your receiver/processor to the subwoofer.
- Confirm that the LFE/subwoofer output is enabled in your AV receiver's settings.
- Adjust the subwoofer volume using the app or rear panel controls.

Distorted or Boomy Bass

- Reduce the subwoofer volume.
- Adjust the low pass filter (crossover frequency) in the SVS app or your AV receiver.
- Experiment with phase settings (0° or 180°).
- Utilize the SVS Auto Room Correction or Parametric EQ in the app to address specific room modes.
- Try adjusting the subwoofer's physical placement.

For further assistance, please refer to the SVS website or contact SVS customer support.

Specifications

Feature	Detail

Model Name	PB17-Ultra
Speaker Type	Powered Subwoofer
Subwoofer Diameter	17 Inches
Frequency Response	15Hz - 320Hz +/- 3dB
Amplifier	SVS Amplifier with Discrete MOSFET Output
Special Feature	Auto EQ, DSP Control App (6 PEQs, custom presets)
Control Method	App, Touch (rear panel)
Connectivity Technology	Wired
Product Dimensions	29.3"D x 21.7"W x 25"H
Item Weight	185.6 pounds
Material	MDF
Color	Black Oak Veneer
Included Components	1 x SVS PB17-Ultra Subwoofer, Power Cable, User Manual

Warranty and Support

Warranty Information

The SVS PB17-Ultra Subwoofer comes with a Full Warranty. For complete details regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the official SVS website or the warranty card included with your product.

Customer Support

Should you require technical assistance, have questions about setup, or need to report an issue, please visit the SVS website for their comprehensive support resources, FAQs, and contact information for their customer service team.