

Dayton Audio CS1200

Dayton Audio Classic CS1200 12-inch Powered Subwoofer User Manual

Model: CS1200

1. INTRODUCTION

The Dayton Audio Classic CS1200 is a 12-inch powered subwoofer designed to enhance your home audio system with deep, accurate bass. This manual provides essential information for safe installation, operation, and maintenance of your subwoofer.

What's in the Box

- Subwoofer
- Speaker Grille
- Rubber Feet
- 6ft Power Cable
- User Manual (this document)

Key Features

- **200W Class-D Amplifier:** Delivers clean, powerful bass without distortion.
- **Rigid, Braced Cabinet:** Ensures tight and accurate low-frequency reproduction.
- **Flexible Connectivity:** Stereo RCA, LFE, and speaker-level inputs for broad compatibility.
- **Auto-On Feature:** Automatically powers on when an audio signal is detected and enters standby mode after a period of inactivity.
- **Swappable Grille:** Allows for customization to match your decor (black grille included).



Image 1.1: The Dayton Audio Classic CS1200 subwoofer in a living room environment.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and follow all safety instructions before operating your Dayton Audio CS1200 subwoofer. Retain this manual for future reference.

- **Power Source:** Connect the subwoofer only to a 120V AC, 60Hz power outlet. Ensure the power cable is not pinched or walked on.

- **Ventilation:** Do not block any ventilation openings. Allow adequate space around the subwoofer for proper airflow to prevent overheating.
- **Water and Moisture:** Do not expose the subwoofer to rain, moisture, or excessive humidity. Do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on or near the unit.
- **Heat Sources:** Keep the subwoofer away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other heat-producing appliances.
- **Cleaning:** Unplug the subwoofer from the wall outlet before cleaning. Use a dry cloth for cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Opening the cabinet may expose you to dangerous voltages or other hazards.

3. SETUP

3.1 Placement

Subwoofer placement significantly impacts sound quality. Experiment with different locations to find the best bass response for your room. General guidelines include:

- **Corner Placement:** Placing the subwoofer in a corner often maximizes bass output, but can sometimes lead to "boomy" sound.
- **Near Front Speakers:** Placing the subwoofer near your main front speakers can help create a more seamless soundstage.
- **Listening Position:** The "subwoofer crawl" method involves placing the subwoofer at your primary listening position, then crawling around the room to find where the bass sounds best. Place the subwoofer in that spot.

Designed to Belong

Fits naturally into
your room, your
system, and your
everyday listening.



Image 3.1: Subwoofer placement next to a main speaker.

3.2 Connections

The CS1200 offers multiple connection options to integrate with various audio systems. Ensure all components are powered off before making connections.



Image 3.2: Rear panel connections and controls.

LFE Input (Recommended for Home Theater Receivers)

If your A/V receiver has a dedicated Subwoofer Output (often labeled LFE, Sub Out, or SW Out), connect a single RCA cable from this output on your receiver to the LFE Input on the CS1200. This allows your receiver to manage the subwoofer's crossover frequency.

RCA Line Level Input (Stereo)

For receivers or preamplifiers without a dedicated LFE output, connect RCA cables from the stereo pre-out (Left and Right) on your source device to the RCA Line Level Inputs (L/R) on the subwoofer. In this configuration, the subwoofer's built-in crossover control will be active.

High Level Input/Output (Speaker Level)

If your receiver or amplifier does not have RCA pre-outs or an LFE output, you can connect the subwoofer using the speaker-level inputs. Connect speaker wires from your amplifier's main speaker outputs to the High Level Inputs on the subwoofer. Then, connect speaker wires from the High Level Outputs on the subwoofer to your main speakers. Ensure correct polarity (+ to + and – to –).

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 3.1: An overview of the Dayton Audio Classic Collection, demonstrating system integration and lifestyle use.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Power On/Off

- **Power Switch:** Located on the rear panel (refer to Image 3.2). Flip this switch to the ON position to power the subwoofer.
- **On Mode Switch:** This switch (refer to Image 3.2) has two settings:
 - ON:** The subwoofer remains continuously powered on.
 - AUTO:** The subwoofer will automatically turn on when an audio signal is detected and enter standby mode after approximately 15-20 minutes of no signal.

4.2 Controls (Refer to Image 3.2)

- **Subwoofer Level:** This knob controls the overall volume of the subwoofer. Start with a low setting and gradually increase until the bass blends seamlessly with your main speakers.
- **Crossover:** This knob adjusts the upper frequency limit of the subwoofer, typically ranging from 40Hz to 180Hz. Set this to blend with your main speakers. If using the LFE input, your A/V receiver will manage the crossover, and this control should be set to its highest frequency (180Hz) or bypassed if an option exists.
- **Phase:** This switch (0°/180°) helps to ensure the subwoofer's output is in phase with your main speakers. Experiment with both settings to determine which provides the most impactful and coherent bass.
- **Status LED:** Indicates the subwoofer's operational status. Green typically means active, Red means standby.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper care will ensure the longevity and performance of your subwoofer.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the cabinet. Avoid abrasive cleaners, solvents, or waxes.
- **Grille Care:** The speaker grille can be removed for cleaning. Gently brush off dust or use a lint roller.
- **Ventilation:** Periodically check that the rear panel and any other vents are free from dust and obstructions.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your CS1200 subwoofer, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound from subwoofer	Power cable disconnected; Power switch off; On Mode switch in AUTO but no signal; Low volume level; Incorrect input connection.	Ensure power cable is securely connected and power switch is ON. Check On Mode setting. Increase Subwoofer Level. Verify audio cables are correctly connected to the appropriate inputs.
Weak or distorted bass	Incorrect phase setting; Crossover frequency too low; Subwoofer Level too high; Poor placement.	Toggle the Phase switch (0°/180°). Adjust the Crossover frequency. Reduce Subwoofer Level. Experiment with subwoofer placement.
Subwoofer turns off unexpectedly (in AUTO mode)	Input signal too low for auto-on detection.	Increase the output level from your source device (receiver/preamp). If the issue persists, consider setting the On Mode switch to ON for continuous operation.
Humming or buzzing noise	Ground loop issue; Loose connections; Interference from other electronics.	Ensure all connections are secure. Try plugging the subwoofer into a different electrical outlet. Disconnect other audio components one by one to identify the source of interference. A ground loop isolator may be necessary.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	Dayton Audio
Model Number	CS1200
Speaker Type	Powered Subwoofer
Woofer Diameter	12 inches
Amplifier Type	Class-D
Maximum Output Power	200 watts
Frequency Response	26 Hz
Connectivity Technology	RCA, Speaker Wire
Input Voltage	120 volts
Mounting Type	Floor Standing
Item Dimensions (D x W x H)	18"D x 15.5"W x 16.37"H
Color	Black
UPC	848791011412

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Dayton Audio Classic CS1200 subwoofer is backed by a **5-year manufacturer's warranty**, ensuring reliable performance. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. For technical support, warranty claims, or additional information, please contact Dayton Audio customer service or visit their official website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty validation. You can find more information and support resources on the [Dayton Audio Store on Amazon](#).

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question