

dynaudioacoustics

**MS15/18 Subwoofer
Owner's Manual**

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1: Product Safety and Conformity

The MS15/18 is a professional loudspeaker intended for professional users working in a professional environment; therefore, a certain level of knowledge of audio equipment operation is assumed.

About this guide

Used expressions and symbols

In this guide, the following signs and symbols are used:



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the product.

WARNING

Indicates, in combination with a safety sign, a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

Important safety instructions

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with a dry cloth.
7. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
8. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
9. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
10. No naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, should be placed on the apparatus.

WARNING

To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, this apparatus should not be exposed to rain or moisture and objects filled with liquids, such as vases, should not be placed on this apparatus.

WARNING

△

Our speakers are very heavy. Ensure appropriate lifting methods are employed when moving them.

WARNING

Never place a loudspeaker in an unstable location. A loudspeaker may fall, causing serious personal injury or death. Use only appropriate stands or brackets to mount the loudspeaker.

High sound pressure levels

To prevent possible hearing damage, avoid listening at high volume levels for extended periods of time.

Unpacking

After unpacking, ensure the system is complete and inspect the device and all accessories for any transport damage. Transport damage may be expected if the packaging is already severely damaged. Do not attempt to start up a damaged device.

If the contents are incomplete or damaged, please contact your Dynaudio distributor.

Distributor addresses can be found on the Internet at dynaudio.com.

Removing the protection cap

The tweeter is protected by a cap to prevent damage during transport and unpacking. After you have unpacked the speaker, remove the cap by just pulling it straight out.

Packaging material

The packaging has been designed to be reusable, provided it has not been damaged during transport. Keep the original packaging and use it for all further transport.

CE declaration of conformity

The CE declaration of conformity can be found online:

<https://dynaudio.com/support/ce-conformity-declarations>

Correct disposal of this product

This marking on the product, accessories, packaging or literature indicates that the product and its electronic accessories should not be disposed of with other household waste as stated in the European Directive 2012/19/EU on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). The crossed-out bin symbol is printed on all products as a reminder.

By ensuring this product is disposed of correctly, you will help prevent potential negative consequences for the environment and human health. Recycling of materials helps to conserve natural resources.

Household users should contact either the retailer where they purchased this product or their local government office for details on where and how to recycle these items in an environmentally safe manner.

Business users should contact their supplier and check the terms and conditions of the purchase contract. This product and its electronic accessories should not be mixed with other commercial wastes for disposal.

Waste may be taken to a special collection site or can be delivered free of charge to the dealer when purchasing a new equivalent or without obligation to make a new purchase for equipment smaller than 25 cm.

2: Introduction

The MS15 and MS18 are high-quality, high-power passive subwoofers that utilise ported cabinets to deliver extended low-frequency performance. They would typically complement speakers from our M series to make a superb surround monitoring system for Dolby Atmos and other immersive formats. They could also be used with M1 or M2 for bass extension and power enhancement.

Both models have very high power ratings and are intended for use with high-power amplifiers, such as the DA40, the 2-channel DA40 in Bridged mode, the DA80, and the DCA800 in bridged mode.

3: Installation

3.1: Electrical Installation

In view of the “custom” nature of every installation for a speaker of this type, no cabling is supplied. The following are required for the electrical installation of the MS15/18 system.

Speaker Cables

The connections between the speaker and amplifier should be kept as short as possible. The cable itself should be high-quality speaker cable, eg 2.5 mm², 4mm² or 6mm² oxygen-free multi-strand copper. The speaker terminations are on gold screw down terminals.

The outputs of the amplifiers are typically on speakON connectors.

Signal Wiring

The amplifier inputs are balanced XLR connections. Always ensure that only high-quality XLR cables are used for connection to the amplifiers. Typical system wiring configurations are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

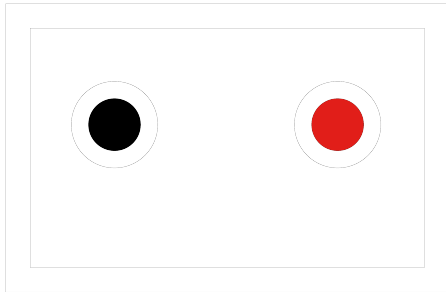


Figure 1: MS15/18 Connector panel. Red indicates +ve.

3.2: Positioning

The MS15/18 subwoofer is intended to be part of a surround speaker system, such as Dolby Atmos or a similar system. The surround format guidelines in use will therefore determine the position in the room of each MS15/18.

The MS15/18 is typically positioned on the floor between the left and right speakers. It can be built into a baffle wall if desired, which will increase low-frequency performance.

The optimum distance from the speaker to the listener is within the range of 1 to 10 meters.

The acoustic centre of the MS15/18 is at the centre of the bass driver.

If the studio is seeking approval and licensing from Dolby, THX or a similar entity, then these parties or qualified acoustic consultants should be consulted prior to installation, so that their specific requirements can be met.

4: Setting up and adjusting

4.1: First time power up

Check that the system has been wired and set up according to the previous instructions, then simply switch on the amplifier. Check for any hum or buzz, then play some music into the system at a low level. Verify that routing and phasing are correct, then increase the level to a moderate level.

4.2: Running in

Running in is essential before any judgments are passed or the system is subjected to the maximum level. Failure to observe this can permanently damage the drivers, resulting in degraded performance for the system's lifetime. The easiest way to run a system in is to set the level controls roughly by ear as above, then connect a continuous music source (eg, a CD player in repeat mode) and leave it to run for at least 12 hours at medium volume levels. This will achieve a minimum of running in. The system will be run in fully after 5 to 6 days of continuous use. Note that if the system is left unused for a period of time (days), it may take a few minutes to return to normal performance after being switched on.

4.3: Testing and alignment

There is essentially nothing to adjust in this speaker. As part of a surround system, we would expect a front-end processor to be in place (eg, Avid MTRX), which will cover filtering, room equalisation, gain control, and time alignment.

Setup and alignment of the surround system should be carried out by a suitably qualified engineer with knowledge of room acoustics and speaker system commissioning.

5: Protection

The cones of the LF drivers will be seen to move during normal playback. However, if this gets to a point where the surround is straightening out, then driver damage is likely.

If audible distortion is heard, this is a good sign that the speaker and/or amplifier is being overdriven. Turn it down.

6: Care and Maintenance

High-quality components are used in the MS15/18, which should provide a long, trouble-free life. Here are a few hints to help them on their way.

- Never touch the drive units, especially the tweeter, which is very easily damaged. If the speakers are being moved or work is going on nearby, replace the plastic tweeter protection domes that came with the system.
- Avoid running the system into clipping or distortion. The amplifiers have clipping indicators on their front panels. When an amplifier clips, it can send potentially damaging DC components to the drive units. They may not fail immediately, but prolonged exposure to clipping will ultimately lead to failure. Set limiters to prevent this from occurring.
- Avoid unplugging or switching off any equipment that is connected to the monitor system without first muting the crossovers or switching off the amplifiers. Large spikes are often generated when equipment is switched off, which will be amplified to a potentially damaging level.
- The amplifier power provided with the MS15/18 is specified at a level to offer the best possible reproduction of dynamics and short-term transients, and as such is capable of damaging the system if run continuously at high levels.
- The very low distortion of these monitors means that it is easy to reach high SPLs without realising it. This can be potentially damaging to both the monitors and the user's ears. Take care of your monitoring levels.

7: Servicing & Spare parts

Drive units have been designed with easy replacement in mind. In the unlikely event that a replacement is required for any of these parts, contact your dealer. They will supply you with the appropriate Dynaudio Acoustics spare parts.

MS 15/18 spare part numbers	Contents
DA 15sub	Single 15-inch driver
DA 18sub	Single 18-inch driver

Please quote these references when ordering spares.

If you have trouble obtaining parts from your local dealer, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Dynaudio service centre:

<https://dynaudio.com/faq/kb-tickets/new>

Do not send any goods directly. Always contact us first.

WARRANTY

This product is guaranteed against defects in materials and workmanship for 2 years from the date of purchase. This warranty is void if the unit has been tampered with or modified in any way, or in our opinion, has not been used in accordance with the instructions above.

8: Technical Specifications

Size	MS15 774 (H) × 500 (W) × 550 (D) mm
-	MS18 1000 (H) × 700 (W) × 550 (D) mm
Drivers	MS15 single 15-inch driver
-	MS18 single 18-inch driver
Impedance	8 ohm
Connectors	4 mm Binding Posts as standard (options available)
Crossover	N/A
Amplification	Amplifiers of 100 W to 1000 W/ch – 8 ohm would normally be specified.
Frequency response	MS15: 30 Hz to 200 Hz (±3 dB, room dependent)
-	MS18: 25 Hz – 200 Hz (±3 dB, room dependent)
Typical peak SPL	125 dB @ 1 m, 1 cabinet driven
Weight	MS15: 50 kg
-	MS18: 75 kg

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