

# Adept Audio®

## Subwoofer Installation Manual



ADS8 • ADS10 • ADS12

# Adept Audio®

Thank you for buying an Adept Audio subwoofer. This subwoofer was designed and tuned by one of the world's most experienced speaker design teams. It's built to deliver outstanding performance day in and day out for years to come.

This manual provides all the necessary information for installation and operation. If for any reason you experience problems or if you have installation questions, please call us at (888) 982-3378. Hours of operation are 8:00am to 5:00pm (Pacific Time), Monday through Friday.

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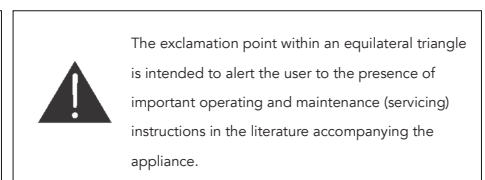
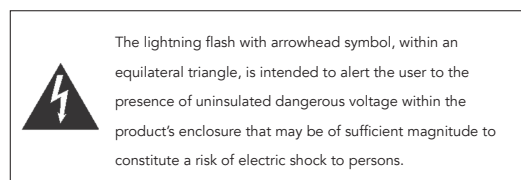
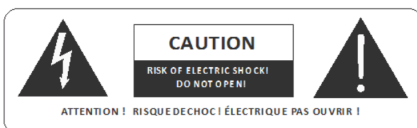
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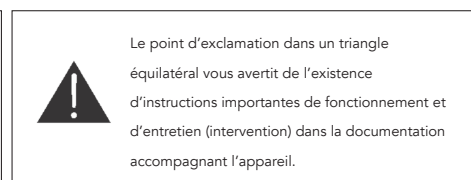
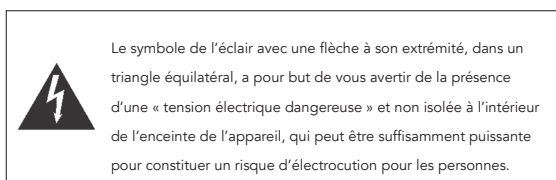
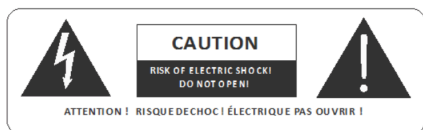
# Important Safety Instructions

- 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 dry cloth.
- 7) Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 8) Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- 9) Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. The wide bladed is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- 10) Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- 11) Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- 12) 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.
- 13) Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- 14) 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.
- 15) Do not open the equipment to reduce the risk of electrical shock. For safety reasons it is only allow to the opened by qualified service personnel.
- 16) **WARNING:** To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture. And the apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing and that no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.
- 17) The MAINS plug is used as the disconnect device and shall remain readily operable.



# Consignes de sécurité importantes

- 1) Lisez ces instructions.
- 2) Conservez ces instructions.
- 3) Observez tous les avertissements.
- 4) Observez tous les avertissements.
- 5) N'utilisez pas cet appareil à proximité de l'eau.
- 6) Utilisez uniquement un chiffon sec pour le nettoyer.
- 7) Ne bloquez pas les ouvertures de ventilation. Installez conformément aux instructions du fabricant.
- 8) Ne l'installez pas à proximité de sources de chaleur telles que des radiateurs, des bouches de chaleur, des poêles ou d'autres appareils (amplificateurs compris) produisant de la chaleur.
- 9) Ne pas contourner le dispositif de sécurité de la fiche polarisée. Une fiche polarisée possède deux lames dont une plus large que l'autre. La grande lame est fournie pour votre sécurité. Si la fiche fournie ne rentre pas dans votre prise, consultez un électricien pour le remplacement de la prise obsolète.
- 10) Protégez le cordon d'alimentation, surtout au niveau des fiches, des prises et des points où il sort de l'appareil, pour éviter qu'on ne marche dessus ou qu'on ne le pince.
- 11) Protégez le cordon d'alimentation, surtout au niveau des fiches, des prises et des points où il sort de l'appareil, pour éviter qu'on ne marche dessus ou qu'on ne le pince.
- 12) Utilisez uniquement avec le chariot, le socle, le trépied, la table ou le support spécifié par le fabricant ou vendu avec l'appareil. En le fabricant ou vendu avec l'appareil. Cas d'utilisation d'un chariot, faites attention lorsque vous déplacez l'ensemble chariot / appareil de ne pas le renverser.
- 13) Débranchez cet appareil lors d'orage avec foudre ou lorsque vous ne l'utilisez pas pendant des périodes prolongées.
- 14) Faites-le réparer et entretenir par un personnel de service qualifié. Il est nécessaire de faire réparer l'appareil lorsqu'il a subi des dommages quelconques du type suivant : cordon ou fiche d'alimentation abîmé, liquide renversé ou objets tombés dans l'appareil, exposition de l'appareil à la pluie ou à l'humidité, mauvais fonctionnement ou chute.
- 15) Faites-le réparer et entretenir par un personnel de service qualifié. Il est nécessaire de faire réparer l'appareil lorsqu'il a subi des dommages quelconques du type suivant : cordon ou fiche d'alimentation abîmé, liquide renversé ou objets tombés dans l'appareil, exposition de l'appareil à la pluie ou à l'humidité, mauvais fonctionnement ou chute.
- 16) **ATTENTION:** Pour réduire le risque d'incendie ou d'électrocution, n'exposez pas cet appareil à la pluie ou à l'humidité. De plus, l'appareil ne doit pas être exposé au dégouttement ou aux éclaboussures et aucun objet rempli de liquide, tel qu'un vase, ne doit être posé sur l'appareil.
- 17) La fiche d'alimentation CA sert de principal dispositif de déconnexion et doit toujours être capable de fonctionner correctement.



## Warranty

Adept Audio warrants to the original retail purchaser only that our products will be free from defects in materials and workmanship, provided the speaker was purchased from an Adept Audio authorized dealer. If the product is determined to be defective, it will be repaired or replaced at Adept Audio's discretion. If the product must be replaced yet it is no longer manufactured, it will be replaced with a model of equal to or greater value that is the most similar to the original. If this is the case, installing the replacement model may require mounting modifications; Adept Audio will not be responsible for any such related costs.

## 2 Year Limited Warranty

This warranty may not be valid if the product was purchased through an unauthorized dealer. This warranty only applies to the individual that made the original purchase, and it cannot be applied to other purchases. The purchaser must be prepared to provide proof of purchase (receipt). This warranty will not be valid if the identifying number or serial number has been removed, defaced, or altered.

## Requirements & Warranty Coverage

All warranties and warranty conditions are subject to change. Please refer to [www.adeptaudio.com](http://www.adeptaudio.com) for the latest information.

These conditions are not covered by warranty:

- Accidental damage
- Damage caused by abuse or misuse
- Damage caused by attempted repairs/modifications by anyone other than Adept Audio or an authorized dealer
- Damage caused by improper installation
- Normal wear, maintenance, and environmental issues
- Damage caused by voltage input in excess of the rated maximum of the unit
- Damage inflicted during the return shipment

## What's Included

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Subwoofer • Grille • AC Power Cord • Manual

### Extras You'll Need

- RCA audio interconnect cables
- Sound pressure level meter (or smartphone app)

### General Information

- Observe all warnings on the subwoofer and in the manual. Please check the subwoofer for damage before use.

The subwoofer must be in perfect working condition. Damaged parts may lead to personal injury.

- Connect the subwoofer according to the instructions in the manual.
- Install the subwoofer on a level surface only.
- When choosing the location of the subwoofer, do not place it in locations that are:
  - In direct sunlight
  - Very humid
  - Prone to vibrations
  - Exceptionally hot or cold
  - Close to magnetic cards (since the speakers are not magnetically shielded placing magnetic cards such as credit cards may cause them to fail)

**Caution!** Adept Audio subwoofers are heavy. Be careful when lifting them to prevent personal injury.

# Controls and Connections

## Status Light

This light glows when the subwoofer's power is on.

## Off/Auto/On Switch

This switch functions only when the power switch (see pg. 8 "Power Switch") is set to "on." When this switch and the power switch are both set to "on," the subwoofer's power will always be on.

When this switch is set to "auto," the subwoofer's power will come on automatically when it senses an incoming audio signal. If there is no signal for 15-18 minutes, the subwoofer will automatically shut off.

## Volume

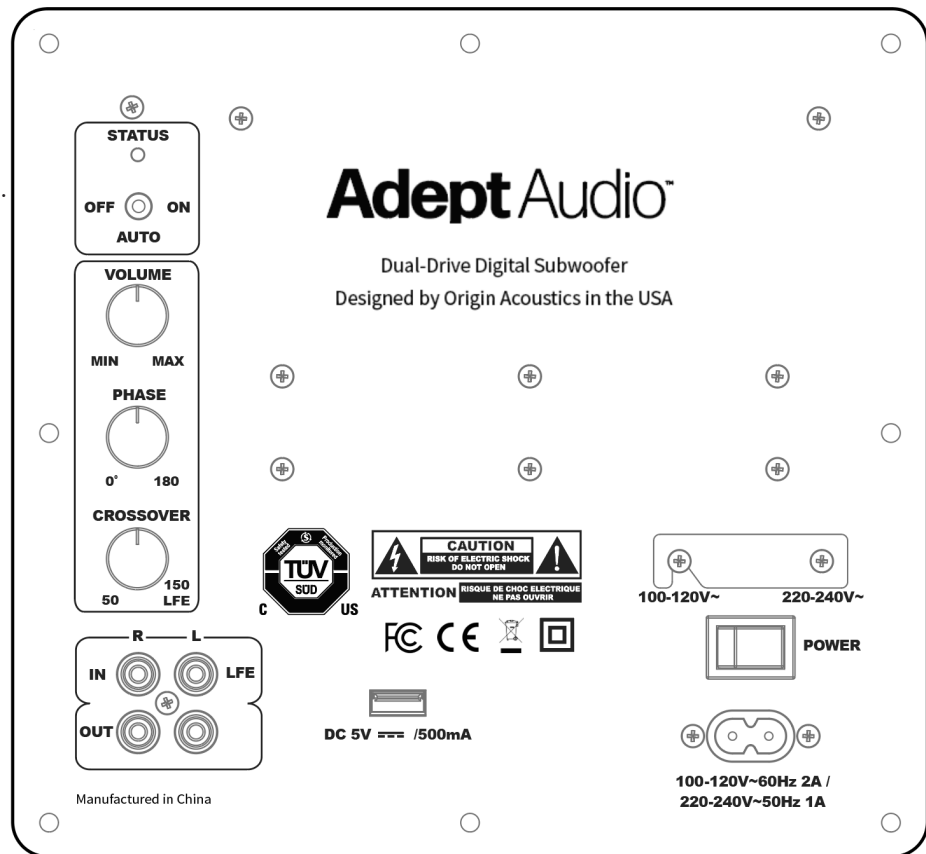
This knob adjusts the subwoofer's volume. Turn it clockwise for full volume. Note that the subwoofer level control in an AV receiver will also affect how loud the subwoofer plays. With most AV receivers, setting this knob at about halfway up (the 12 o'clock position) will provide a volume level that allows the subwoofer's level to be matched with that of the main speakers.

## Phase

Use this knob to adjust the phase of the subwoofer relative to the main speakers. This will help achieve a smoother blend of the sound of the subwoofer and the main speakers. To adjust it, sit in the chair or couch where you usually listen, and play some bass-heavy music with the phase knob set to 0. Now play the same music with the knob set to 180. If you hear a difference, experiment with different settings until the bass sounds smoothest from your chair.

## Crossover

Use this knob to set the highest bass frequency the subwoofer will play, from 50 to 150 Hz. If you're using an AV receiver or surround-sound processor, set this knob at 150 and use the crossover built into the receiver or processor. If the subwoofer is installed in a stereo system, set this knob as close as possible to the lowest rated bass extension of the main left and right speakers.



### Inputs

These jacks accept a signal from an AV receiver, a surround-sound processor, a stereo receiver or a stereo preamp. In a surround-sound system, use an RCA audio interconnect cable (not included) to connect the receiver or processor's subwoofer output to the input jack labeled LFE. In a stereo system, connect two RCA cables (not included) from the preamp or the receiver's preamp output to the jacks labeled R and L.

### USB 5VDC output

This jack outputs 5-volt DC power, which can be used to power accessories such as a wireless subwoofer receiver/transmitter system.

### Power switch

This is the master power switch that turns on the AC power. It must be in the "on" position for the subwoofer to function. If the power switch is on, the on/auto/off switch (see pg. 7 "off/Auto/On Switch") controls the subwoofer's power.

### AC cord input

This connector accepts a standard two-conductor AC power cord (included). Note that the jack is not polarized, which means the connector can be reversed. Reversing the AC cord in this jack can sometimes fix hum (grounding) problems in the audio system.

## Subwoofer Placement

The more walls the subwoofer is near, the louder (and sometimes boomier) the bass will sound. If you want maximum bass output, put the subwoofer in a corner. If this makes the bass too loud or boomy, move the subwoofer out of the corner and closer to the center of the wall. Often, placing the subwoofer near or between the main speakers helps the subwoofer blend better with the speakers, and gives the best compromise between maximum output and smoothest sound. When you listen to evaluate different subwoofer positions, always do it from the chair or couch where most of the listening will take place.

A simple trick used by many home theater enthusiasts is to place the subwoofer in the primary listening chair, play some music with a melodic bass line (most pop and jazz recordings will work), and crawl around with your head about a foot or two off the ground. Find the spot along the wall where the bass sounds the smoothest and most even from note to note, and put the subwoofer there.



## Subwoofer Adjustment

If the subwoofer is installed in a surround-sound system: Use the crossover frequency and level controls in the receiver or surround processor, following the manufacturer's instructions.

If the subwoofer is installed in a stereo system without a built-in subwoofer crossover: Set the subwoofer's crossover control to match the rated bass extension of the speakers as closely as possible—e.g., if you're using tower speakers with 40 Hz rated deep bass response, set the crossover control to 50 Hz.

If you're not sure what the speakers' bass rating is, start with this control set in the middle (about 100 Hz), with the volume control set in the middle. Adjust the volume control until the bass level roughly matches the level of the main speakers. If some bass notes seem to be too quiet, set the crossover control to a higher frequency. If some bass notes seem too loud, set the crossover control to a lower frequency. Do all of your listening tests from the chair or couch where most of the listening will take place.

## Specifications

### ADS8

8" Front-Firing Treated Paper Cone Woofer  
 8" Down-Firing Treated Paper Cone Woofer  
 180W Class D Amp  
 Power Rating Continuous: 180 Watts RMS  
 Power Rating Peak: 320 Watts Peak  
 Frequency Response: 32Hz-200Hz  
 Subwoofer Output: 95dB SPL  
 Inputs: Left & Right Line Level, LFE  
 Outputs: Line Level High-Pass  
 Phase Control: 0 - 180°  
 Crossover: 50Hz - 150Hz; Bypass  
 Features: Auto/on/off, 5V USB,  
 110-220V voltage switch  
 Dimensions W/ Feet: 11 ¾" x 12 ⅝" x 13 ⅝"  
 (298mm x 319mm x 346mm)

### ADS10

10" Front-Firing Treated Paper Cone Woofer  
 10" Down-Firing Treated Paper Cone Woofer  
 200W Class D Amp  
 Power Rating Continuous: 200 Watts RMS  
 Power Rating Peak: 350 Watts Peak  
 Frequency Response: 28Hz-200Hz  
 Subwoofer Output: 99dB SPL  
 Inputs: Left & Right Line Level, LFE  
 Outputs: Line Level High-Pass  
 Phase Control: 0 - 180°  
 Crossover: 50Hz - 150Hz; Bypass  
 Features: Auto/on/off, 5V USB,  
 110-220V voltage switch  
 Dimensions W/ Feet: 13 ¼" x 14 ⅛" x 15 ¼"  
 (337mm x 358mm x 385mm)

### ADS12

12" Front-Firing Treated Paper Cone Woofer  
 12" Down-Firing Treated Paper Cone Woofer  
 300W Class D Amp  
 Power Rating Continuous: 300 Watts RMS  
 Power Peak: 500 Watts Peak  
 Frequency Response: 21Hz-200Hz  
 Subwoofer Output: 101dB SPL  
 Outputs: Line Level High-Pass  
 Inputs: Left & Right Line Level, LFE  
 Phase Control: 0 - 180°  
 Crossover: 50Hz - 150Hz; Bypass  
 Features: Auto/on/off, 5V USB,  
 110-220V voltage switch  
 Dimensions W/ Feet: 14 ¾" x 15 ⅝" x 16 ¾"  
 (375mm x 396mm x 423mm)

## Troubleshooting

**Main speakers work but no sound from the subwoofer:** If the status LED is not lit, make sure the subwoofer's master power switch and off/auto/on switches are set to "on." If the status LED still does not come on, check to make sure the AC cord is plugged into the subwoofer and the AC outlet. If the subwoofer is plugged into a power strip or power conditioner, make sure that device is turned on and plugged into the AC outlet. If the status LED is lit but there's still no output from the subwoofer, check to make sure the RCA cables are connected from the receiver, surround processor or preamp to the subwoofer, and that the cables are in good condition. If the cable connection is good, make sure the subwoofer's volume control is turned up. If there's still no output, and you're using a receiver or surround processor, make sure the subwoofer level in the receiver or processor is turned up, and make sure the receiver or processor is configured for a subwoofer (typically this will be a 5.1, 7.1, 5.1.2 or 7.1.2 configuration in the receiver or processor's onscreen setup menu).

**Bass has too much boom:** Turn the volume control on the subwoofer down slightly, move the subwoofer further from the corner and closer to the middle of the wall, or if you have a stereo system, set the subwoofer's crossover control to a lower frequency.

**Bass is too quiet or some bass notes are missing:** Turn the volume control on the subwoofer up slightly, move the subwoofer closer to one of the corners of the room, or if you have a stereo system, set the subwoofer's crossover control to a higher frequency.

**Subwoofer makes humming sound all the time:** Try unplugging the AC cord from the subwoofer, flipping it over, and plugging it back in. If this doesn't work, try connecting the subwoofer to the same AC outlet or power strip as the rest of the audio system. Using a wireless transmitter/receiver can sometimes eliminate persistent hum problems.

**If you have any questions or concerns about installing or using this product, you can reach us through one of the following methods:**

Phone: (888) 982-3378

Hours of operation: 8:00am - 5:00pm (Pacific Time), Mon - Fri

Email: [techsupport@adept-audio.com](mailto:techsupport@adept-audio.com)

If you are having technical trouble, please include the model number and briefly explain what steps you took to resolve the problem in your email, or be prepared to answer these questions over the phone. If you are considering returning the product, it's required that you contact Adept Audio prior to any return attempts. This way we can determine if the issue can be resolved without returning the product, or if needed we can provide instructions and support for the return process.

# NOTES

# NOTES

**Adept** Audio®

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