



## Instruction Guide and Owner's Manual

Powered Subwoofers LPS08 • LPS10 • LPS12

### Description

Lava Subwoofers were designed and built to provide the incredibly powerful low frequency reproduction demanded by today's audio/video. These models feature a high-powered amplifier, a coated cellulose composite driver, and a sleekly designed cabinet that will fit into any room's decor.

Lava amplifiers use a special design; with a heavy-duty transformer to minimize unwanted heat build up, the amps can drive harder and longer. This also means very low distortion and powerful reproduction of music and theater sound. With this kind of efficiency from an amplifier, you're guaranteed to get strong and clean bass at any listening level.

The coated cellulose composite drivers incorporate large magnets and voice coils which allow for high volumes and deep, rolling bass. Every subwoofer driver is tested to make sure that it holds up to Lava Subwoofer's strict specifications.

The cabinet features two large, front-loaded ports located below the woofer. Ports this size allow for more air to escape the cabinet when the subwoofer is playing at high volumes, which provides deeper bass and longer life to the subwoofer and amplifier. Since the ports are located on the front of the cabinet, the subwoofer can be mounted into cabinetry without sacrificing any performance. The cabinet also features a black vinyl, lightly textured finish, and smoothly rounded corners.

### INSPECT Your Subwoofer!

Now is the time to inspect your subwoofer for any damage. When it left our factory, it was inspected to make sure it was in perfect condition. If for some reason it was damaged in transit to you, please let us know right away so corrective action can be taken.

### CAUTION: For NO reason should you open this subwoofer. This will void the warranty!

To reduce the risk of electrical shock and fire, do not remove the amplifier panel from the back of the cabinet or remove the driver from the front of the cabinet. All service to this product MUST be done by Lava Subwoofers.

Before installing the subwoofer, please read the following instructions:

- Always turn off the power of your receiver/preamp and the powered subwoofer.

- When turning your amplifier/receiver back on, make sure your volume is turned all the way down.
- Never expose this subwoofer to excessive cold, heat, humidity or direct sunlight.
- This device should never be used in, on or near water due to risk of fatal shock.
- DO NOT attempt to open or dismantle this subwoofer.
- These models should always have plenty of air flow to reduce the chance of over heating.

### Subwoofer Placement

This subwoofer is engineered, designed and built to reproduce low frequencies at and below 150Hz. Frequencies at this level are basically omni-directional. This makes it easy to find a good place for the sub; however, there are also several location options that can either give more or less bass. When placed near a wall, you will get louder, deeper bass. Placing the subwoofer in a corner will produce a high volume of bass output, while near only one wall will provide less bass. Placement away from any wall may not produce enough bass. Because even a slight change of how the unit sits will alter the bass output, we suggest trying your subwoofer in different locations. This will allow you to hear the difference of bass output and decide what is best for that particular room and the listener's preference.

Our suggestion is to place the subwoofer close to the pair of speakers it will be matched with. For example, if the subwoofer is to reproduce bass from the front two channels, then it should be located near the front two speakers. If it's to reproduce bass from the rear effect channels, then the sub should be located near the rear speakers.

Because Lava Subwoofers are ported from the front, they can be built into a wall, into cabinetry etc. **NOTE:** Even though they are ported from the front, the amp panel is still located on the back of the subwoofer cabinet. Proper ventilation is needed for the amp to "breathe". If the subwoofer will be "built-in", make sure there is enough space in the area behind it for proper air flow. Otherwise, you could overheat and damage the sub amplifier.

**One more NOTE:** Because of the acoustics of the sub installed into an enclosed area, we also suggest using some kind of sound dampening material in the space. This will prevent a hollow "boomy" sound coming from the area behind the subwoofer.

One location or setting will NOT work for all installations. The ideas above are only suggestions. Each installation of these products can be different and you must figure out what works best for your specific room and system.

### Input Connections of the Subwoofer

This subwoofer offers several different "input" connections allowing it to be compatible with almost all A/V equipment. The "line level" or "low level" input connection is usually the best choice when connecting the subwoofer to a preamp or receiver that has a subwoofer output connection. The "speaker level" or "high level" inputs are typically used when connecting the subwoofer to a preamp or receiver that does not have subwoofer outputs.

#### Low Level Input Connections:

Connect an RCA subwoofer cable from the subwoofer output on the preamp or receiver to the left or right low level input connection on the rear panel of this subwoofer. If you need more subwoofer volume, first make sure the volume knob is turned up. Then, if you still need more volume, attach a "Y" adapter cable to the subwoofer cable and then to the right and left low level input connections on this subwoofer. This will give another 3 to 6 dB of subwoofer output. Using the low level input connections requires frequency adjustments (40 to 200 Hz) to be made with the frequency knob on the back of this subwoofer.

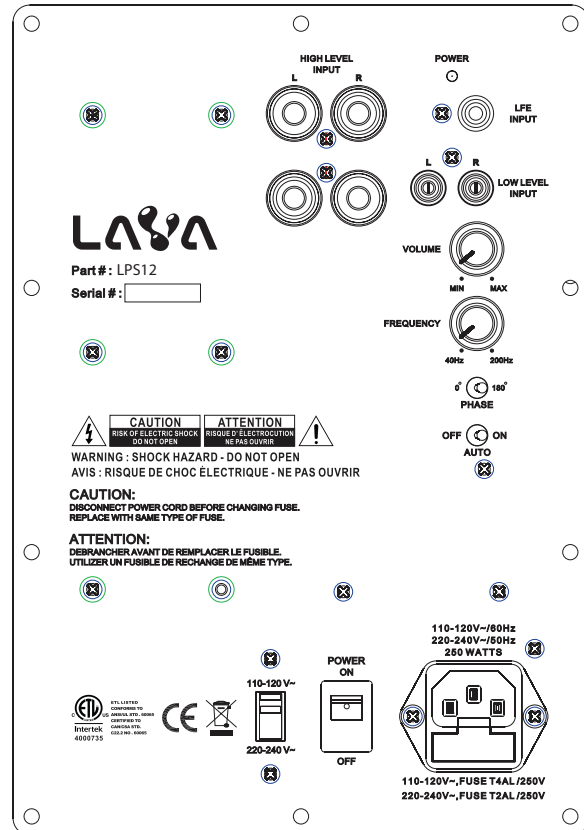
#### LFE Input Connection:

Before attempting to utilize the LFE input, consult the installation manual of your preamp or receiver to determine if it is set to LFE output. This may not be an option. It is usually featured on newer surround sound receivers and preamps. If you proceed, connect an RCA subwoofer cable from the subwoofer output on the preamp or receiver to the LFE input connection on the rear panel of this subwoofer. Using the LFE input connection requires frequency adjustments to be made in the menu of the preamp or receiver. The frequency knob on the back of this subwoofer is disabled under this setup.

Both low level and LFE input connections should be made using a good quality RCA subwoofer cable. Try to keep this cable as short as possible and also try to avoid running it close to other electrical equipment that could cause unwanted noise or hum. If the cable is being installed inside the wall cavity, make sure the subwoofer cable is kept away from electrical wire.

#### High Level Input Connections:

To connect your subwoofer with your main right and left speakers, you will use the high level input connections on the back of this subwoofer's panel. Locate the right and left primary speaker connections on the back of your receiver or amplifier. Connect four good quality



speaker cables from these connections to the high level inputs on the back of this subwoofer (the black and red binding posts). Then also connect four speaker cables from the same connectors on the back of your receiver or amplifier to the main right and left speakers. If your receiver has "B" speaker connections, you can connect your subwoofer to these connections instead. Using the high level input connections requires frequency adjustments (40 to 200 Hz) to be made using the frequency knob on the back of this subwoofer.

### Adjusting Subwoofer Settings In Your Receiver/Preamp

Read the instruction manual for your preamp or receiver to understand all settings available for subwoofer adjustments. Go to the "Setup Menu" in the preamp or receiver. Find the section for subwoofer adjustments and make sure all the proper settings for subwoofer outputs are on and set to the correct level for your application. Different receivers and preamps will offer different types of features and settings for subwoofer output.

Digital home theater equipment dedicates one channel to reproduce the special low-frequency information contained in digitally encoded soundtracks. Go to the menu of your receiver or preamp and verify that the subwoofer output is activated. Having it set this way

will relieve the amplifier of having to reproduce the difficult low bass signals that can drive the receiver into audio distortion.

### **Subwoofer Amplifier Controls**

After the subwoofer is connected to the receiver/preamp and all the settings are complete, it is time to adjust the subwoofer amplifier controls.

This series of subwoofers provides a wide range of adjustments to optimize its performance in any listening area and with any combination of speaker systems. These adjustments are located on the back of the subwoofer on the amplifier panel.

**Volume Knob:** Adjusts the sound level of the subwoofer. This is used to give more or less volume to the overall sound of the subwoofer. Also use this adjustment to match the volume of the subwoofer to other speakers in the system. When turning this up or down, it only affects the signal of the subwoofer inputs. It will not adjust the volume of your main speakers. A good starting point is to set the knob 1/3 of the way up (10 o'clock).

**Frequency Knob:** This is a variable filter that controls the upper frequencies of the subwoofer. Lava Subwoofers use a filter that is continuously variable from 40 Hz to 200 Hz. If this is adjusted properly, it will help smooth the listening frequencies between the subwoofer and the main two speakers. NOTE: This must be set properly; please take the time to try different settings. Setting the filter too high will cause the bass from the main speakers to overlap the bass from the subwoofer and will cause a distorted bass sound. If the filter is set too low, there will seem to be missing frequencies between the bass from the sub and the main speakers.

**Phase Switch:** This is used to select the polarity for the subwoofer and should be relative to your front speakers. It allows for cancellation of bass energy caused by the particular listening room or area. To set this: while sitting in the main listening seat, listen to a recording that has low frequency percussion instruments or music with a continuous bass line. Try it first in the "0" setting and then listening to the same music in the "180" setting. Then set the switch to the setting that reproduced the most bass. Furniture, wall coverings, and subwoofer location all can affect this setting. If any of these elements are changed or added to, you will need to go through this process again.

**Auto Power On/Off Switch:** Set the switch to "ON" and the subwoofer will automatically turn on when it senses any kind of signal from the receiver/preamp. To override this feature, set the switch to "OFF" and the subwoofer will turn on and off manually with the power switch.

**Power Indicator Light:** When the Auto Power On/Off switch is turned to "ON", the power indicator light will always be red or green.

Red: standby mode

Green: active and receiving audio signal

**Power Switch:** This turns the AC power to the subwoofer either on or off.

### **Cleaning the Subwoofer**

All Lava Subwoofers feature lightly textured, durable paint finish. When needed, we suggest cleaning with a damp cloth with water only. Do not use any kind of abrasive cleaners or detergents.

### **Important Safety Instructions**

1. Follow all instructions and warnings in this manual.
2. Do not use this apparatus near water.
3. Clean only with a damp cloth.
4. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
5. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
6. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade of the third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
7. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
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. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
11. 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.
12. The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing. No objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.

**WARNING:** To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

Where the main plug of an appliance coupler is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.

**WARNING:** The Class I apparatus shall be connected

to a main socket outlet with a protective grounded connection.

**WARNING:** The 110-120V~/220-240V~ voltage selector must be set to the correct local voltage with the proper fuse installed.

	LPS08	LPS10	LPS12
Speaker Type:	Powered subwoofer	Powered subwoofer	Powered subwoofer
Enclosure Design:	Front-firing, front-ported	Front-firing, front-ported	Front-firing, front-ported
Driver:	8" coated cellulose composite	10" coated cellulose composite	12" coated cellulose composite
Power:	100 watt internal amplifier	150 watt internal amplifier	250 watt internal amplifier
Frequency Range, Lowpass:	28 - 250 Hz (+/-3dB) boost: 12dB @ 45Hz	22 - 200 Hz (+/-3dB) boost: 11dB @ 40Hz	22 - 200 Hz (+/-3dB) boost: 13dB @ 40Hz
Frequency Range, LFE:	37 - 400 Hz (+/-3dB)	24 - 400 Hz (+/-3dB)	24 - 400 Hz (+/-3dB)
Sensitivity:	200mV @ 100W	200mV @ 150W	200mV @ 250W
Crossover:	46 - 250 Hz continuously variable low pass	40 - 200 Hz continuously variable low pass	40 - 200 Hz continuously variable low pass
Inputs:	Line level RCA, speaker level	Line level RCA, speaker level	Line level RCA, speaker level
Cabinet Dimensions:	15" [379 mm] H (including feet) 11 1/2" [290 mm] W 13" [330 mm] D (including grill and amp)	16 7/8" [429 mm] H (including feet) 12 1/4" [312 mm] W 14 7/8" [376 mm] D (including grill and amp)	18 7/8" [479 mm] H (including feet) 13 3/4" [350 mm] W 16 3/8" [416 mm] D (including grill and amp)
Grill:	MDF frame w/ black speaker cloth	MDF frame w/ black speaker cloth	MDF frame w/ black speaker cloth
Available Colors:	Black vinyl, lightly textured	Black vinyl, lightly textured	Black vinyl, lightly textured



**WARNING: SHOCK HAZARD - DO NOT OPEN**  
**AVIS: RISQUE DE CHOC ÉLECTRIQUE - NE PAS OUVRIR**

**CAUTION:**  
DISCONNECT POWER CORD BEFORE CHANGING FUSE.  
REPLACE WITH SAME TYPE OF FUSE.

**ATTENTION:**  
DEBRANCHER AVANT DE REMPLACER LE FUSIBLE.  
UTILISER UN FUSIBLE DE RECHANGE DE MÊME TYPE.

• Descriptions of Graphical Symbols



The "lightning bolt" with an "arrowhead" symbol within an equilateral triangle alerts you to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure and to the fact that such voltage may constitute a risk of electric shock to one or more persons.



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

APPLICABLE FOR USA CANADA OR WHERE APPROVED FOR USAGE  
CAUTION: TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK MATCH WIDE BLADE PLUG TO WIDE SLOT INSERT FULLY.  
ATTENTION: POUR EVITER LES CHOCS ELECTRIQUES INTRODUIRE LA LAME LA PLUS LARGE DE LA FICHE DANS LA BORNE CORRESPONDANTE DE LA PRISE ET POUSSER JUSQU'AU FOND.

It is the policy of Lava Subwoofers to continuously incorporate improvements into our products. All specifications are subject to change without notice.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other Lava Subwoofers products, please call 877-750-LAVA (5282), Monday – Friday, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm MST.

<http://www.lavasubs.com/>

