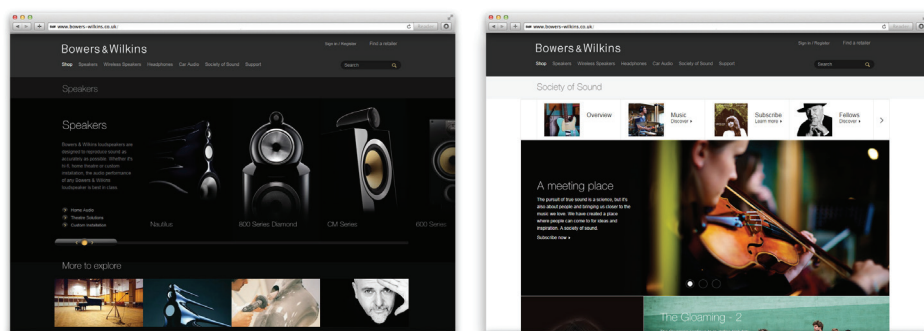


DB1D, DB2D and DB3D Subwoofers

Welcome to Bowers & Wilkins and DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers.

Thank you for choosing Bowers & Wilkins. When John Bowers first established our company he did so in the belief that imaginative design, innovative engineering and advanced technology were keys that could unlock the enjoyment of audio in the home. His belief is one that we continue to share and it inspires every product we design.

Before connecting and operating this mains powered apparatus, please read carefully and observe the Important Safety Instructions in the accompanying leaflet.



1. DB1D, DB2D and DB3D carton contents

1. DB1D, DB2D or DB3D
2. Power cable
3. Spike and rubber feet
4. Cleaning cloth
5. Quick start guide

2. Introduction

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers are extremely high performance products that will reward thoughtful installation. We suggest that you take some time to read this manual before you begin.

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers can be used for low frequency enhancement in both conventional stereo and multi-channel home theatre systems. They incorporate a compressive set of features that enhance versatility and enable their performance to be tuned to the listening room, programme material and type of installation. These features are briefly described in the following paragraphs:

Control and User Interface

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers are intended to be set up and controlled via the dedicated Bowers & Wilkins Sub (app name?) app for iOS and Android mobile devices. The Sub app provides full set up and control facilities, including access to room equalisation functions, and also provides comprehensive support information. Before you begin installing and configuring your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer, please download and install the Sub app on your iOS or Android device. It is not possible to configure a DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer without the app.

Multiple Inputs

The DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers provide both RCA Phono and XLR socket stereo analogue inputs. The inputs can be selected for use independently. Input selection is handled via the Sub app.

Adjustable Input Sensitivity and Level

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers incorporate input sensitivity options that enable optimum matching with source electronics, and variable gain control to match volume levels with that of the main speakers. Input sensitivity and level are adjusted via the Sub app.

Polarity Inversion

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers provide optional polarity inversion that enables compensation for the polarity inversion occasionally found in audio electronics. Polarity inversion is selected via the Sub app.

Impact Equalisation

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers incorporate a preset equalisation option that can enhance the low frequency impact of audio visual material. Impact equalisation is selected via the Sub app.

Equalisation

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers incorporate a five-band, half-octave, graphic equaliser that enables acoustic performance to be modified to suit the characteristics of the listening room. Graphic equalisation is adjusted via the Sub app.

Configuration Presets

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers incorporate five configuration memory locations where groups of setup parameters can be stored and recalled. The setup parameters that can be stored are:

- Input selection
- Input level
- Impact Equalisation
- Graphic Equalisation
- Low-pass filter (engaged or not)

Configuration presets enable different subwoofer performance characteristics to be selected for different types of program material or different listening occasions. Configuration presets are managed within the Sub app.

Room Optimisation

The Sub app, when used in conjunction with optional acoustic measurement hardware, can automatically optimise the performance of DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers to the acoustic characteristics of your listening environment. Room optimisation is managed via the Sub app.

This manual will tell you everything you need to know to get the most from your DB1D, DB2D and DB3D Subwoofer.

It begins by describing installation.

3. Installing your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D Subwoofer

3.1 Positioning

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers are heavy and are best unpacked close to their final installed position by two people working together.

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers may be used free-standing on the floor or be installed into custom built furniture.

The positioning of any subwoofer is generally less critical than for full-range speakers. DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers are also more versatile than most subwoofers in terms of positioning thanks to their equalisation and optimisation systems that can compensate to some extent for less than ideal positioning. Best results, however, will be obtained if the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D is placed between the left and right speakers or in the vicinity of one of them. Placing a subwoofer to the side, but still to the front of the listeners is an acceptable compromise if domestic considerations dictate, however the subwoofer should not be located behind the listeners. If two subwoofers are to be used it is best to position one near the left speaker and one near the right speaker. Diagram 1 illustrates subwoofer positioning.

Note: Using two subwoofers in a single installation can improve performance by maintaining stereo separation to the lowest frequencies, averaging the effects of low frequency room resonances and enabling a higher maximum volume level. In the case of two subwoofers used in a conventional stereo system, stereo separation will only be improved if each channel has its own subwoofer located close to the appropriate satellite speaker.

Note: Like all speakers, the proximity of room boundaries affects the sound of a subwoofer. Bass volume increases as more surfaces come into proximity. The more boost gained from the room, the lower the volume can be set and the less hard the subwoofer has to work.

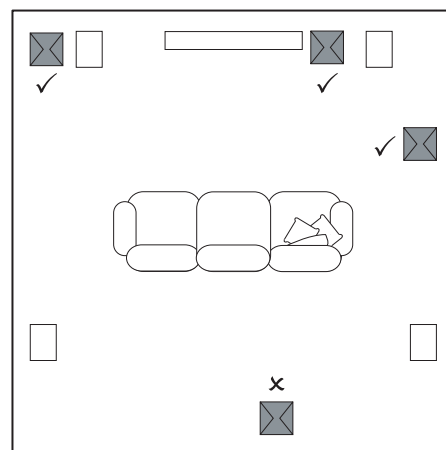


Diagram 1
Positioning

3.2 DB1D, DB2D and DB3D Foot Options

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers can be fitted with either rubber or spike feet – both are supplied in the accessory pack. Spike feet are designed to pierce carpet and rest on the floor beneath both to protect the carpet from indentation and to provide the subwoofer with a solid foundation. We recommend that spike feet are used whenever possible.

Note: Spike feet can be used on delicate, non-carpeted floors by standing the spikes on coins.

To fit either foot option, a DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer must first be turned upside-down. Take care not to damage the drive units when handling the subwoofer, and ensure when upside-down that the subwoofer rests on a surface that will not damage its finish. Fit either the spike or rubber feet by screwing them into the four screw holes in the subwoofer underside. In both cases, initially screw the lock nuts fully onto the thread of the feet before screwing them into the subwoofer. Hand tighten the feet. Diagram 2 illustrates fitting and using spike or rubber feet.

Once the spike or rubber feet are fitted, the subwoofer can be turned back on to its feet. Take care not to allow the entire weight of the subwoofer to rest at an angle on one or two feet as it is turned. Also take care that careless handling of the subwoofer with spike feet fitted does not cause injury.

If the subwoofer rocks when placed on the floor in its final position, or the thickness of carpet means that the spike points do not reach the floor beneath, adjust the relevant feet until the subwoofer is supported firmly without rocking. When adjustment is complete, tighten all the lock nuts against the underside of the subwoofer using a 10mm spanner.

3.3 Connections

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers require connection to the mains supply and an input signal. Connectors for optional 12V trigger and RS232 (home automation) are also provided. A variety of different power cables may be packed with your subwoofer. Use the one appropriate for the mains outlet socket in your territory. The subwoofer will enter standby mode as soon as it is connected to mains power. Diagram 3 illustrates the DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofer connection panel.

DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers provide stereo RCA Phono and stereo balanced XLR inputs. Their use is described in the following paragraphs. It is possible to use the Phono and XLR sockets as independently selectable inputs. This potentially enables your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer to be integrated with two different audio systems – a home theatre and a conventional stereo system for example. Input selection is managed via the Sub app.

1. Input 1 – Balanced XLR inputs

The balanced XLR inputs are intended for use with preamplifiers or audio-visual processors that provide balanced stereo outputs.

Note: Balanced connection, where negative, positive and ground signals are carried on separate wires, is common in professional and some high-end domestic audio equipment. Balanced connection is inherently more resistant to interference and noise than unbalanced connection.

2. Input 2 – Unbalanced Phono inputs

The unbalanced Phono inputs are intended for use with preamplifiers or audio-visual processors that provide unbalanced balanced stereo outputs.

Use an appropriate high quality interconnect cable to connect to the required input or inputs.

Note: If your preamplifier or audio-visual processor provides only a mono subwoofer output, it can be connected to just one of the DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofer input sockets.

In addition to the mains and signal input sockets the DB1D, DB2D and DB3D connection panel carries the following further sockets:

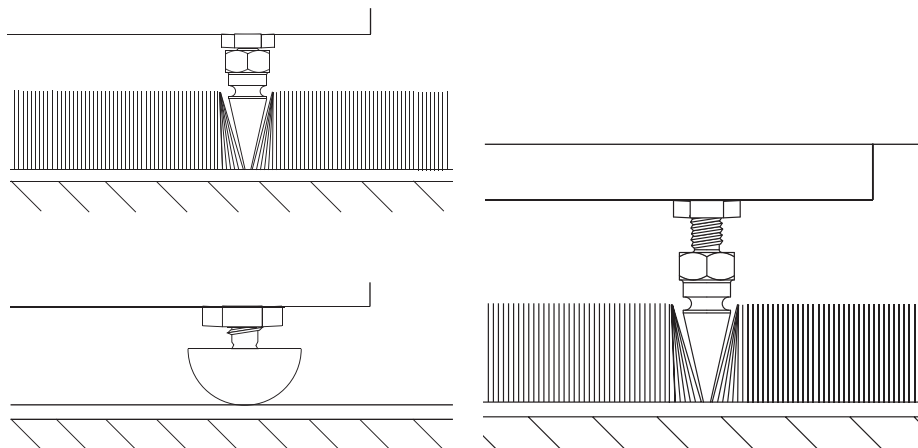


Diagram 2
Fitting spike or rubber feet

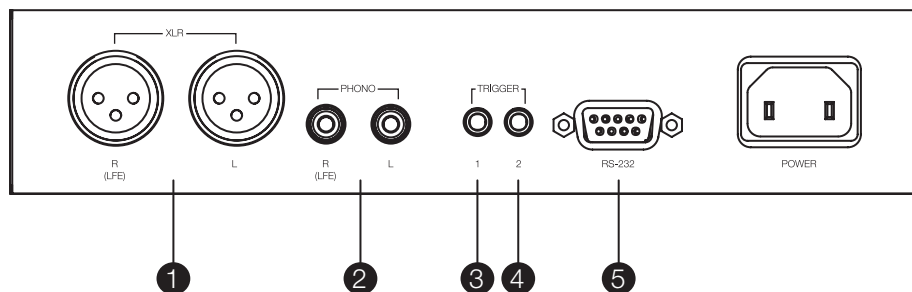


Diagram 3
Connection panel

3. 12V Trigger 1 – 3.5mm jack socket

The Trigger 1 socket enables wired remote control of the DB1D, DB2D and DB3D switch on and standby functions.

4. 12V Trigger 2 – 3.5mm jack socket

The Trigger 2 socket enables wired remote control of DB1D, DB2D and DB3D preset selection.

5. RS-232 – 9-pin D connector

The RS232 interface enables DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers to be incorporated in remote control home automation systems. Your Bowers & Wilkins retailer will be able to provide more information RS232 based home automation systems.

4. Switching-on and Configuring your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D Subwoofer

Your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer can only be setup using the Sub app. If you have not already downloaded and installed the app on your iOS or Android device please do so now. Bluetooth must be enabled on the device in order for it to connect to the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer.

Once your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer is positioned in the listening room and connected to power and signal cables it can be switched on from its standby button. The standby indicator will change colour from red to blue. Open the Bluetooth settings page on your iOS or Android device and select the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer for connection. Once the iOS or Android device is connected via Bluetooth, launch the Sub app.

The Sub app will take you through the following setup parameters so that your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer is fully configured and ready for use.

- **Identification:** Enables the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer to be named and the type of installation (stereo hi-fi or home theatre) to be specified.
- **Audio input setup:** Selects the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer input to be used.
- **Input Sensitivity:** Enables the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer input sensitivity to be adjusted.
- **Polarity Inversions:** Enables DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer polarity to be inverted to match the polarity inversion occasionally found in audio electronics.
- **Low Pass Filter:** Enables the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer low pass filter to be specified and engaged or disengaged.
- **Impact Equalisation:** Enables DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer impact equalisation to enhance the low frequency impact of audio visual material.
- **Graphic Equalisation:** Enables the DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer five-band graphic equaliser to be adjusted to suit the characteristics of the listening room.
- **Configuration Presets:** Enables up to five DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer configurations of the seven setup parameters to be saved as presets.
- **Room Optimisation:** Enables DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer performance to be optimised to match the acoustic characteristics of the listening environment. An appropriate OS X or Windows computer, audio interface, and measurement microphone is required. Your Bowers & Wilkins retailer will be able to advise on appropriate hardware.

5. DB1D, DB2D and DB3D In Use

Once the Sub app setup procedure is complete, your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer is ready for use. Beyond potentially selecting presets for different types of programme material or selecting inputs for use with different systems, your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer should need little regular adjustment. However, if it is moved within the listening room or if large items of furniture are introduced, its level and graphic equalisation

will probably require adjustment. If the Room Optimisation function was previously employed this will also need to be repeated.

Please remember that DB1D, DB2D and DB3D subwoofers are capable of volume levels with the potential to cause nuisance and even damage your and others' hearing. If in any doubt, reduce the volume. If a DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer is overloaded its standby indicator will flash red.

The performance of your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer may change subtly during the initial listening period. If it has been stored in a cold environment, the damping compounds and suspension materials of the drive units will take some time to recover their correct mechanical properties. The drive unit suspension will also loosen up during the first hours of use. The time taken for the speaker to achieve its intended performance will vary depending on previous storage conditions and how it is used. As a guide, allow up to a week for the temperature effects to stabilise and 15 hours of average use for the mechanical parts to attain their intended design characteristics.

6. DB1D, DB2D and DB3D Reset

To return your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D subwoofer to its default settings, switch it to standby mode (indicator red) then press and hold the standby button for 5 seconds. The indicator will flash while a reset is underway. When the reset is complete the subwoofer will return to standby mode.

7. Cleaning Your DB1D, DB2D or DB3D Subwoofer

Wipe surfaces with a clean lint-free cloth. If you wish to use a cleaning agent, apply it onto the cleaning cloth, not directly onto the subwoofer. Test a small area first, as some cleaning products may damage some of the surfaces. Avoid products that are abrasive, or contain acid, alkali or anti-bacterial agents.

8. DB1D, DB2D and DB3D Support

Should you require help or advice there are a variety of support options for DB1D, DB2D and DB3D products. These are listed below: Add bullet point list of support portals.

