KEF C SERIES

KEF C200SW

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The KEF C200SW is a passive stereo subwoofer system designed specifically to operate with KEF's compact 'C' Series Models C15 and C25 loudspeakers. It consists of two separate easy-to-connect, matched enclosures which derive their power from your existing amplifier. No additional amplification is required. Small loudspeakers such as the C15 and C25 have many virtues. Compact speaker systems are easy to position and can deliver excellent stereo imaging and detail, with low levels of colouration. Their small size, however, also means that they are not, as a rule, very efficient, or - if they are efficient - they do not have much bass extension. Additionally, their maximum output and power handling capability is restricted.

Employing the KEF C200SW allows the owner of the C15 or C25 to retain the desirable attributes listed above but with substantially increased power handling, maximum output capability and deeper bass extension. Each of the subwoofer enclosures contains a 200mm (8″) bass unit mounted in 'single coupled-cavity' configuration. This form of bass loading, a technique developed by KEF for the Reference Series, combines the higher efficiency of a vented enclosure with the superior transient response of a sealed box, and with better power handling capacity than either type. Each enclosure also contains a separate dividing network which provides optimum filtering for the C15 and C25.

The combination of the KEF C200SW with either the C15 or C25 produces a full-range 3-way system with bass response extending down to nearly 35Hz. Maximum output capability is increased to 107dB for the C15 system and 110dB for the C25 system. Although it has long been argued that stereo signals 'turn to mono' at low frequencies, thus losing much of their 'directionality', hi-fi enthusiasts have noticed audible differences between separate left- and-right subwoofer systems and the traditional subwoofer systems in a single cabinet.

The KEF C200SW's separate left and right hand enclosures ensure that any stereo information con tained in the recording at the lowest frequencies will be reproduced faithfully. The use of separate enclosures also offers greater flexibility in positioning the speakers, allowing the C15 or C25 enclosures to be sited for optimum stereo reproduction. The C200SW enclosures can be located according to both space and performance considerations. Use of the C200SW increases midrange clarity and definition because the main speakers no longer need to be placed close to the walls to obtain a sensible low-frequency balance.

The C200SW also relieves the C15 and C25 of the need to reproduce the lowest frequencies, effectively converting them into midrange/treble units; this will increase the system's overall dynamic capabilities.

CONNECTION

Connect the amplifier's output to the lower terminals on each subwoofer enclosure. Each C15 and C25 is then connected to the upper terminals on the corresponding subwoofer enclosure. Make sure that correct polarity (phasing) is maintained on both of these connections by ensuring that positive (+ or red) on the amplifier is connected to +/red on the subwoofer and then on the main speaker. Repeat this for the negative (- or black) connections as well. The length of the connecting cables between the subwoofer enclosures and the main speakers is not critical but you should always try to keep the lengths for both channels the same, even if the distances are different. The excess cable can be folded and placed neatly behind the subwoofer enclosure.

POSITIONING

The two compact floor-standing enclosures may be situated in any convenient position in the listening room, either close to or away from the normal location for the main speakers. The shape of the enclosures allows them to be positioned upright or on their sides, close together or well apart for maximum stereo effect. The low-frequency output level of the KEF C200SW may be optimised for individual room response and listener preference by placing the enclosures close to or away from a wall or corner. The final positioning of the C200SW enclosures and the main speakers will be the result of considerable experimentation; much depends on where the main speakers are placed.

You should start off by placing the subwoofers reasonably close to the main speakers and playing some familiar music to allow you to get used to the general sound of the system. The amount of bass may be adjusted by moving the C200SW enclosures closer to or away from the walls or corners. The closer the enclosures are to the walls or corners, the greater the amount of perceived bass. If the sound is 'bass heavy' simply move the C200SW enclosures away from the walls.

Other subtle changes in the sound will be noted by placing the enclosures upright, together or apart, on their sides, on the floor or on shelves, or concealed behind other pieces of furniture. In an ideal situation, the C15 or C25 should be positioned on stands in open space around 1m from the rear and side walls. The subwoofers should be located to the outside of the main pair and preferably the same distance from the back wall in line with the main speakers. The flexibility of the C200SW system is such, however, that you can place the subwoofer enclosures almost anywhere to suit your listening room configuration. In virtually any circumstances, you retain the ability to obtain optimum low-frequency balance by altering their proximity to the walls and corners, as well as the freedom to position the main speakers where they will operate at their best.

IMPORTANT NOTE

C200SW is designed specifically to operate with C15 and C25. When so used optimum sensitivity and impedance is assured. Used with any other loudspeaker an acceptable subjective acoustic result may be obtained, however, unpredictable variations in both balance and impedence can result. If the use of speakers other than C15 or C25 is contemplated, to avoid any possibility of amplifier overload check with your dealer.

If for any reason C200SW is operated without a satellite speaker connected, an 8 ohm resistor of minimum 20 watts rating must be connected in its place.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (EACH CHANNEL)

Model	C200SW
Description	Floor-standing coupled-cavity subwoofer
Drive unit complement	1 x 200mm (8") LF unit
Finish	Vinyl walnut and black ash to match finish of C15 and C25 - packed in pairs
Frequency range	±3dB 40Hz - 120Hz
Maximum output	107dB free-standing -112dB maximum if installed in a corner
Characteristic Sensitivity	87dB free-standing - 92dB maximum if installed in a corner: for pink noise input of 2.83V measured at 1 metre.
Amplifier requirement	20 - 150W into 4 ohms
Enclosure type	Coupled-cavity
Weight	7.7kg (17lb)
Dimensions	487mm(h) x 249mm(w) x 249mm(d) (19 1/4' x 9 3/4' x 9 3/4")

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