

Mark Fenlon's Alpair 12



Purist's large full range audio driver

The Alpair 12 is a large full range single cone drive unit (8 inch - 206-mm frame). The primary feature is its extended and detailed range, operating to 20-kHz. The driver achieves this performance without using a whizzer or co-axial centre tweeter, making this driver a purist's single cone/cap design. In the right cabinet this speaker may be the first to achieve the elusive 20Hz to 20KHz bandwidth without the potential interference of crossover components.

This driver incorporates a new cone multi-forming technology originally developed in Japan. The cones are made using 7 separate CNC controlled forming and trimming processes. The accuracy of this technology is superior to conventional spun and press methods.

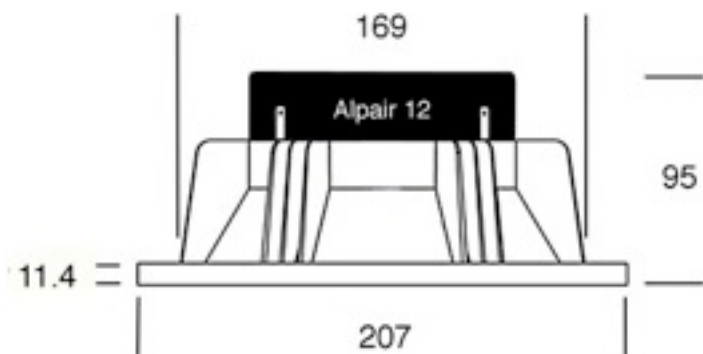
Tadashi Matsubara San, a most experienced senior driver designer from Japan, has produced the rear suspension. It is unique and exclusive to the Alpair 12. Lui Yi Ping, a specialist in front suspension design from Taiwan, has engineered the 12's suspension which is the most advanced of its type so far. It is ultra-thin and requires an all new production process for this component. The same exclusivity is also applied to the frame, coil, connectors, every part for this driver is unique custom designed.

The acoustic result is remarkable for a large full range emitter, delivering outstanding clarity, detail and musical realism.

Alpair 12 data



Revc= 7.000 Ohm
Fo= 46 Hz
Sd= 143.14 Cm
Vas= 22.8 Ltr
Cms= 0.750 MM/N
Mmd= 14.886 g
Mms= 15.871 g
BL= 8.752 T.M
Qms= 1.454
Qes= 0.420
Qts= 0.327
Levc= 0.058m H
No= 0.493 %
SPLo= 89.3 dB
Xmax= 9mm (1 way)
Pwr cont= 50 watts



Two colour choices, gun-metal grey and classic gold. Drivers are packed in single boxes with a 2mm thick seals and 6 X 22-mm long Hex head wood screws.

Handling

Don't touch the cone or cap. These are delicate components.

Running in period

The Alpair 12 has advanced suspensions that require careful running in:

Don't use any kind of artificially generated sound signal.

Hours 1 to 20. Low volume vocal and light music, no heavy bass. Hours 21 to 120, gradually increase the volume to normal listening levels and gently introduce rhythmic bass music.

Patience and care will bring musical rewards.

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