

Velodyne DB-10: World's first test of the new Deep Blue subwoofer series

Precise low bass from a small cabinet

Velodyne presents with the Deep Blue series completely newly developed active subwoofers that are equally compact and powerful. We have ordered the Velodyne DB-10 for a worldwide first exclusive report for testing.

For over 40 years, the Velodyne brand has stood for low-frequency sound in perfection. Generations of hi-fi and home cinema enthusiasts appreciate the sonic qualities of Velodyne active subwoofers. They are inspired by the very own dynamics and deep bass precision of these bass specialists. Since the end of 2019, Velodyne has been a subsidiary of the Hamburg-based HiFi distributor Audio Reference – one of the most renowned partners in the industry for high-quality audio components. Audio Reference boss Mansour Mamaghani is building on the first-class reputation of the Velodyne brand and has expanded Velodyne's extensive product range: the first new product series under new management is the Deep Blue series, from which we have selected the DB-10, an enormously powerful yet compact subwoofer, for our test.

low-resonance housing. With a wall thickness of 25 millimeters and a twice as thick baffle, the closed cabinet of the DB-10 remains neutral in sound even at high volumes and guarantees precise low bass. Thanks to the closed design (and active equalization), the Velodyne delivers big, dust-dry deep bass, which one would hardly expect from this relatively compact enclosure. Flow noise from a bass reflex port is non-existent, thanks to the closed cabinet of the DB-10.

Deep Blue DB-10

The perfect active subwoofer should be as deep as an ocean and powerful and punchy as a boxer. To meet this demand in the new Deep Blue series, the German-American Velodyne team has left nothing to chance and developed all components of the new series completely new. The linchpin of the DB-10 is an extremely powerful woofer with a reinforced 10-inch cone and a four-layer 52mm voice coil. Two massive superimposed ferrite magnets provide the appropriate drive. A 350-watt amp is responsible for this powerhouse's energy supply; if necessary, this module even provides up to 850 watts of short-term power. To convert this enormous power into undistorted, precise, and low-reaching sound, Velodyne has given the DB-10 an exceptionally robust,



Highlight

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A double ferrite magnet in conjunction with the high-performance voice coil and extra-stable membrane provides the DB-10 driver with an enormously strong magnetic field. It ensures a clean, deep, and dynamic low-frequency reproduction.



Laboratory and practice

With dimensions of around 29 x 31 x 35 centimeters, the very handy subwoofer cuts a first-class figure in the measurement lab and plays cleanly and precisely down to regions below 20 Hertz. Even at higher levels, the compact DB-10 doesn't "run out of breath" and delivers dynamic levels of up to around 105 dB if required. The connection of the DB-10 to a hi-fi or home theater system is quickly made via RCA jacks or high-level connectors if no sub-out is available on the hi-fi amplifier. Level, crossover frequency, and phase can be adjusted via a rotary control. Thanks to absolutely neutral, balanced, and to the point low bass reproduction, the Velodyne DB-10 can be easily integrated into any listening room and adapted to existing speaker systems. Once listening tests have determined the level and crossover frequency, the DB-10 thrills us with its physically noticeable power in the lowest registers. Like a much larger subwoofer, the DB-10 moves vast amounts of air in the listening room and shoots crisp impulses quickly out of its membrane - precise, balanced, and enormously playful, so home theater is really fun!

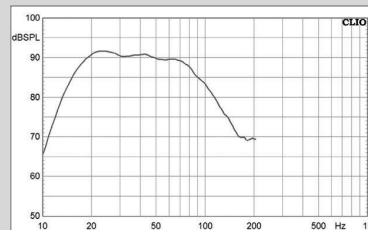
Conclusion

With the brand new Deep Blue series, Velodyne has landed a big hit under the new management of Audio Reference. The DB-10 raises the bar for compact active subwoofers significantly. Rich, precise, and dynamic low-frequency reproduction to below 20 Hertz from a practical housing – the Velodyne Deep Blue DB-10 is an absolute highlight and the ultimate recommendation for every home theater and music lover.



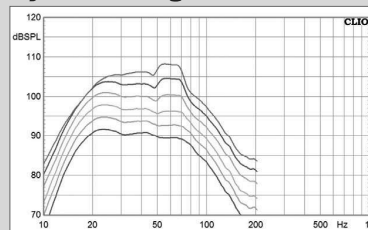
Thanks to its RCA connectors and high-level input, the Velodyne DB-10 can be easily connected to AV receivers and also hi-fi integrated amplifiers

Technology: Frequency response



With a lower cutoff frequency of around 18 Hertz, the compact DB-10 inspires a fantastic value even for much larger subwoofers.

Dynamic range



The Velodyne DB-10 offers enormous dynamic reserves and delivers balanced, deep bass response even at levels approaching 105 dB.

Velodyne DB-10

Price	990 Euro
Distributor/Manufacturer	Audio Reference, Hamburg
Telephone	040 53320359
Internet	www.audio-reference.de

• Features

Finishes	Anthrazit, kratzefeste Vinyl-Oberfläche
Dimensions (W x H x D)	296 x 316 x 348mm
Weight	11kg
Type	sealed, front-fire
Power	350W (RMS)
Membrane diameter	200mm
Volume / crossover freq. / phase	Controllers
Inputs	Cinch / High level
Remote control / App	- / -

• Sound	70 %	1,0	■■■■■■■■■■
Precision	20 %	1,0	■■■■■■■■■■
Level stability	20 %	1,1	■■■■■■■■■■
Dynamics	15 %	1,1	■■■■■■■■■■
Physical impact	15 %	1,0	■■■■■■■■■■
• Measurements	10 %	1,0	■■■■■■■■■■
Frequ. range	5 %	1,0	■■■■■■■■■■
Distortion	5 %	1,0	■■■■■■■■■■
• Practice	20 %	1,2	■■■■■■■■■■
Workmanship	15 %	1,2	■■■■■■■■■■
Features	5 %	1,2	■■■■■■■■■■

Rating:

- extremely powerful
- precise bass reproduction
- compact dimensions

Top class 1,0

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Price/performance: excellent