

Option Audio Dual Slimline Sub Review - Callum Speirs

It all starts with the two 12" Subs staring you down with their shiny chrome rings. The three Option Audio logos make sure there is no mistaking who created this well presented package. Just to finish it off, the new style 'S' with a small 'l' to represent the new slimline range.

Such a compact enclosure first made me raise the question; 'Is this going to have much power at all?' Only imagining how big the driver on this sub is, Option Audio have definitely managed to make something from nothing. I was pleasantly surprised, when given the power the OA12SL11DBOX is nothing short of teeth chattering for its size and massive technical name.

Along with a double sized part number Option Audio presents a dual voice-coil design, each coil with an impedance of 4Ω , meaning they can be wired in series at 4Ω or set in parallel at 2Ω . All brought down to a quad press-lock terminal block found right in the middle at the back of the enclosure. (Which is not what the Option Audio website picture represents.)

Option Audio have taken the idea of a subwoofer enclosure to the next level in comparison to the competitor, not only is it finished off with the fancy black synthetic 'carpet' and the never seen before material on the face panel but the Option Audio logo being embroidered on the back of the box shows Option Audio's dedication to delivering a quality product at a price that can't be confused for a phone number.

Then contrasting with the ultra strong carbon Kevlar cone covered up by an integrated Silver Plastic dust cap flaunting the OA logo all to be finished off with some white stitching just to give it an edge.

Hoping that the visual appeal would continue inside the box, I was a little disappointed when looking at the rear of the sub, I suppose when space is a major factor in the design scheme it came down to function over fashion. Eight aluminium 'legs' finished off in black create the 'cage' allowing the 2 inch aluminium voice coil sufficient room to breathe. Finally, the magnet which is centred and given a chrome plate engraved with the OA logo and Option Audio's slimline logo.

All excited I loaded my USB up with music and hit the road. Made with the massive rubber roll surround, makes sure for the largest possible cone travel giving

those low notes the air pushing feeling that we all love. The sound is very smooth and clean, delivering your favourite songs in a whole new light.

When I cranked the volume the subs did quite well, however they did max out fairly quickly, but given that I have a larger car, when put in a space limited vehicle as they're designed for, they wouldn't be pushed for a mirror shaking experience.

I decided to play around with the cross over point and find out what these things could play. Down low Option Audio are delivering a solid clean sound that it almost faultless however I did find that when playing over about 95Hz the sub started to crack up giving a muddy sound that is more likely to give you a headache. It's a bit of a personal preference as to how you like your sub tuned, I didn't find this to be too much of an issue because at the end of the day, subs are for low notes and that's what this does best.

When considering the size and concept for this design, Option Audio have taken a hold of their build quality delivering a heart racing little sub system for all you people driving utes and small hatch backs which would more than satisfy your needs, senses and your wallet.

Type: 12" dual voice-coil subwoofer with dedicated enclosure

Power Handling: 700 Watts / 350 WRMS (per Sub)

Impedance: Dual 4Ω

Freq Response: 10-1.8 KHz

Magnet Structure: 5.1 Kg

RRP Price: \$499 (Including Enclosure)

Pros:

- Massive sound for such a compact unit
- Very visually appealing
- Top notch Build Quality

Cons:

- Rear of Subs not very appealing
- Sound distorts over ~95Hz



ABOUT CALLUM

Callum owns a Mazda 323 with 2 Pro Series Subwoofers, 2 OAX1502 Amplifiers, Hulk Audio Speakers and a Sony Headunit. He works full time and enjoys playing drums and cycling. Callum figured out how to install his first system by following a wiring diagram and has since fine-tuned his skills by doing installs for his friends.