

More Bass In Your FSJ

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Kevin, If you want more BASS you need one of two things or both. Power and larger drivers. Bigger drivers push more air and also tend to have a lower FS (Free air resonance).

Here is a quick test for correct phase on speakers. Balance control set to center-little or no bass, balance turned to left or right and bass improves? You have a speaker out of phase. If you have one speaker wired correctly and the other reversed (+&-) the 2 speakers will cancel each other out and low frequencies will be reduced. Also, the rear of the speaker must be sealed or separated from the front. My guess is that since they are under the dash, they are not sealed. You need to either put them in an enclosure or for a couple of bucks put a foam baffle on the rear of the speaker. These are premolded and come in all speaker sizes and come in two different depths (reg & slim line).

If the first two things didn't work, get your checkbook out. First check the max RMS or continuous power rating of your speakers. If the RMS power of the radio is only 7 watts per channel and your speakers are rated for 100w RMS you will need an amplifier in the 100 w range. Ignore all peak power ratings on speakers and amps they are meaningless but, look great for advertising. Always go with RMS values. When choosing an amp it is always better to have a little too much power than not enough. Golden rule: stay within 10% +/- of the max RMS power rating of speaker. If you do all of this and you still need more bass, you need to move more air. Since you don't want to pull the side panels or lose cargo space I'd say you have two options. Either something like an Amplified Bazooka 8" or 10" bass tube mounted to wheelwell or if you've got a 2dr you could mount it vertically just behind the B-pillar. Might make it a little tight for someone getting in the back though. If you want to keep it clean go with either a 6 1/2" or 8", if it will fit, mounted under each seat and build the enclosure yourself. Just make sure the speaker is designed to work in a small box. Check the cu ft of box/enclosure and match with recommended box size of speaker. $H \times W \times D$ divided by 1728 = cu ft. Use the 10% rule here too, And of course you will need an amp for this. General rule: sealed boxes sound tighter/more accurate but aren't as loud. Ported boxes loud and "boomy". Enjoy!

Kevin wrote: "Installed a Pioneer deck and some Kenwood 6" round speakers under the dash. The problem I have now is base, I need base. I don't want to tear into the doors and don't plan on tearing into the panels in the cargo area, already got those reinforced with metal and installed locks. What are my options now??"

Dan76 360/400/QT/WT