

K151 Bass Instrument Loudspeaker

JBL's new K151 is a powerhouse 18-inch loudspeaker made especially for electric bass, and designed to sound great in horn-loaded or reflex enclosures.

It delivers fantastic low frequency punch, it's extremely efficient and has some very unique differences—like tight, crisp bass and superb definition: characteristics of lead instrument loudspeakers but unheard of from 18-inchers—until the K151 entered the picture.

Listen closely to the sound of an electric bass. You should hear more than just "bass" because this instrument is unusually rich in harmonics and overtones. To capture all of this sound takes a loud-speaker with very special qualities. K151 has these special qualities—play it at thunderous levels and you've still got the true sound of an electric bass. Nothing more. Or less. An important distinction. You hear it the moment a K151 is plugged in.

To get this sound from a loudspeaker that can withstand the brutal output of amplified bass guitars isn't easy. It requires tremendous magnetic energy. Large diameter voice coils that place as much wire as possible in the magnetic gap (more wire means higher efficiency—better sound). And rigid cones of carefully selected materials that are just the right weight to complement magnetic strength.

K151 has it all. 20 lbs. of precision machined Alnico V with high grade iron and steel for a super strong magnetic structure. A big 4-inch voice coil of special ribbon wire which places 24% more wire in the magnetic gap than standard coils of round wire. Finally, a cone that's an optimum combination of stiffness, density and mass. The result is massive amounts of force that give K151 outstanding efficiency, unmatched power handling capacity and sound—from C sharp clear down to low E. Perfectly. Powerfully.



Power Handling Capacity

The K151 is rated at 150 Watts RMS. Since a number of manufacturers continue to use the less stringent "Continuous Program Power" rating, we have included these figures for your reference.

The Continuous Program Power method of rating is acceptable for loudspeakers used at home, because the dynamic range of music they reproduce has been greatly compressed in the recording process and playback levels are relatively moderate. As a result, demands placed on home entertainment loudspeakers are far less critical than those used with amplified musical instruments.

In contrast, musical instrument loudspeakers receive their signal directly from a performer's instrument—with all of its wide dynamic range and explosive transients. Amplifier power and volume level are often very high—especially during live performances.

Because these conditions are so severe, we prefer the RMS method for rating power handling capacity. This laboratory standard test is far more demanding than actual performance situations, and provides a truly credible measure of a loud-speaker's capability.

Loudspeakers can be most easily overdriven where their measured impedance is at its minimum point (impedance actually varies from low to high frequencies in all loudspeakers). For this reason, we require the K151 to withstand its full rated power input (150 Watts RMS) at all frequencies within one-half an octave on each side of its minimum impedance region—and sustain this performance continuously for one hour without damage.

While other methods can be used to achieve even greater RMS power rating figures (such as Instantaneous RMS or Peak RMS), our tests and power ratings provide you with specifications that are very realistic—if anything, conservative.

Warranty

K151 loudspeakers have a five-year warranty which is not limited to the original purchaser and covers any original manufacturing defects in materials or workmanship. JBL will, at its option, repair or replace any K151 if factory inspection reveals a manufacturing defect, without time limitation.

Specifications	
Nominal Diameter	18 in (46 cm)
Voice Coil Diameter	4 in (10.2 cm)
Voice Coil Material	Edgewound Copper Ribbon
Magnetic Assembly Weight	20-1/4 lbs (9.2 kg)
Magnet Material	Alnico V
Sensitivity	
1 Milliwatt Input	50 dB SPL @ 30 fee
1 Watt Input	100 dB SPL @ 3 fee
Power Capacity	
Continuous RMS	150 Watts
Continuous Program	300 Watts
Free Air Resonance	30 Hz
Frequency Range	35-2000 Hz
Flux Density	12,000 gauss
Nominal Impedance*	4 or 8 ohms
Primary Application	Electric bass, organ
Depth	7-9/16 in (19.2 cm)
Baffle Hole Diameter	
Front Mount	16-13/16 in (42.7 cm
Rear Mount	16-5/8 in (42.2 cm)
Net Weight	26-1/4 lbs (11.9 kg)
Shipping Weight	33 lbs (15.0 kg)

^{*8} ohms standard, 4 ohms optional

