

VIBE CBR12 EVO SUBWOOFER

ACTIVE SUBWOOFERS HAVE BECOME POPULAR RECENTLY AND THERE IS GOOD REASON FOR THAT. WE PUT VIBE'S CBR 12 EVO ACTIVE UNIT TO THE TEST.



TEXT MARK PAKULA
PHOTOS MARK PAKULA



STEP 1

Space was cleared for the sub box.



STEP 2

The door sill panels were removed.



STEP 3

The positive power and remote turn on cables were taped together.



STEP 4

The cables were passed behind the trim panels.



STEP 5

The existing amp's remote turn on lead was joined to the Vibe cable.



STEP 6

Positive power was connected to the distribution block.



STEP 7

The four leads were ready for the amp with the RCAs kept well away from the power leads.



STEP 8

The RCAs were also connected to the output of the existing amp.



STEP 9

The supplied earth cable was connected with an existing earth point near the sub box.



STEP 10

The power, remote and RCAs were plugged to the sub box's amplifier terminals.



UP CLOSE

WHAT VIBE CBR 12 EVO ACTIVE SUBWOOFER
FOR ALL CARS
FROM ICE DISTRIBUTION
PRICE \$699

SCORE

PRICE 91%
EFFECTIVENESS 89%
QUALITY 90%

OVERALL

91%

FOR INTEGRATED BASS SOLUTION
AGAINST SECURE STRAP NOT SUPPLIED

ASSESSMENT

COMBINATION sub and amplifier solutions are becoming increasingly popular. The subwoofer, enclosure and the amplifier are designed from the get-go to work as one unit. This removes the guess work out of choosing a sub and amp combo, and then designing a suitable box. The VIBE CBR 12 Evo Active is a combo box that has all the right moves on paper – a 12-inch 1600W (peak) sub with a honeycomb fibreglass cone and a 300W RMS amplifier all in a 515 x 370 x 415 box. On top of that, VIBE adds the feature of a tuneable enclosure. VIBE's Portplug technology is based on

a simple premise, but can work wonders for the car. It allows the box to change from a sealed enclosure, to a bass reflex setup in seconds.

Initially, the sound quality and output from the CBR 12 was not strikingly impressive, however with some careful tuning the system revealed its true colours. The crossover frequency was adjusted, the gain control tweaked and all three port configurations (fully sealed, one plug out and both plugs out) were trialled. In our test vehicle, a station wagon, it was found that opening one port produced the best balance between output level and

bass quality in our car. So, the result was a unit that punched out fast and responsive bass, easily shaking the entire car.

If we were to have one criticism, is the system comes with all the wiring required for installation, but there is no strapping or mounting hardware.

VIBE has a huge presence in the UK, and now is being heavily pushed by ICE Distribution in Australia. Their CBR 12 Evo Active is an integrated solution which does everything promised. It's the perfect solution for those who want plug and play bass with quality. 🐾