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## WHARFEDALE Diamond 12.4 Black Oak Podnostojeći Zvučnik

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Since 1982, Wharfedale's famous Diamond speakers have served as the classic entry point to true high-fidelity sound, their exceptional sonic value for money earning numerous 'product of the year' accolades in the UK and around the world. This autumn, with the introduction of the all-new Diamond 12 Series, Wharfedale once again raises

the bar for affordable, high-performance

loudspeakers.

To develop the new range, Wharfedale has collaborated with world-renowned speaker designer Karl-Heinz Fink for the first time. Fink's track record of delivering class-leading sound from modestly priced speakers is exceptional and with the Diamond 12 Series, he and Wharfedale's team of acoustic engineers have achieved a new entry-level benchmark.

Wharfedale determined that the Diamond 12 Series should be an opportunity to start afresh. A challenge was issued to Mr Fink: how much sonic performance can you wring from a range of speakers at classic Diamond price points? And so, he and Wharfedale's team set to work, delivering clean-sheet designs without a single part unaltered from the outgoing – and more costly – Diamond 11 Series.

Klarity
- The
Difference
is Clear

Since
the
Diamond
8 Series
in 2001,
Wharfedale
has
made
the
mid/bass
cones
for every

Diamond generation from Kevlar. 19 years and many awardwining ranges later, Wharfedale has developed a new composite called Klarity™. The chief ingredient of Klarity™ polypropylene, material that has been used to make speaker cones since the BBC researched its use for this purpose in the 1970s. Polypropylene cones are renowned for their characteristically low distortion and controlled 'breakup', as well as their resistance to moisture in the air. They also have a

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reputation
in some
quarters
for
sounding
a little
'unexciting'
- a
perception
that is
largely
          Bass/Mid
the
          Drivers
result of
          - Cone
mediocre Surround,
engineerin Magnet
When
          and
designed Voice
and
          Coil
implemented
optimally,
polypropylene
cones
          In the
can
          past,
sound
          polypropylene
enthrallingcones
          have
          often
          been
          combined
          with
          high-
          damping
          surrounds
          to
          achieve
          smooth
          response
          curve.
          However,
          the
          hysteresis
          of these
          surrounds
          can
          restrict
          dynamics
          and
          make
          bass
          sound a
          little
          'soft'.
          For the
          Diamond
          12
          Series,
          the aim
          was to
          combine
          the
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Klarity™ cone with a lowdamping surround, thereby achieving both low colouration and expressive dynamics. This was not a simple task but, by simulating many different cone shapes and adding ribs to provide further stiffening, a flat response curve was achieved without resorting to a highdamping surround, thereby striking the ideal balance. The Klarity™ diaphragms are driven by a precisionmade

driven
by a
substantial,
precisionmade
magnet
system
with an
aluminium
compensation
ring to
minimise
the

effect of variations inductance as the voice coil travels. This contributes to an **Treble** absence Unit of and distortion Crossover and intermodulation generated by the The motor Diamond system. 12 The Series' voice treble coil is unit wound sports a on a 25mm highdome power made epoxy/glassom a fibre woven bobbin polyester highly film with unusual a highin loss speakers coating at this to price deliver level. open This has and the smoothly advantage<sub>extended</sub> of not high adding frequencies. eddy The currents magnet and system delivering and the greater front power plate handling have than an been  ${\sf aluminium}_{\sf optimised}$ bobbin, for wide whilst dispersion also and being uncompressed much behaviour. stiffer The than the front Kapton plate is type. flat and exposes

the dome as much as possible, with a short duct to balance the acoustic load and improve the SPL (sound pressure level) measurement. The treble unit combines seamlessly with the mid/bass driver via a crossover network using an acoustic **LKR** 24dB topology. This includes air core inductors of the type more commonly found in high-end speakers, selected because they produce the lowest distortion of all inductor types. As the resistance of the coil is higher than a standard

laminated steel or ferrite core inductor, the magnetic structure of the mid/bass driver **Cabinet** has Construction been modified to compensatene resulting cabinet in fast, is a clean critical bass part of with no any distortion highfrom the performance inductor. loudspeaker. At entrylevel price points, corners are often cut to constrain cost, but this is a mistake; no matter how good the drive units, their performance will be wasted if the cabinet's construction is suboptimal. For this reason, Diamond 12 Series speakers feature cabinets constructed with a

level of sophistication usually reserved for much more expensive designs. The rearported enclosure of each model is precisely sized so that the internal volume works in harmony with the drive unit system to deliver the desired sonic result. The cabinet walls are made from sections of wood fibre board of varying thickness, constructed in such a way as to subdue the identifiable characteristics of the cabinet's 'sound' and ensure the drivers' output remains unsullied. The

resonant properties

of each

element

- even

the glue

- were

considered

to

determine

the ideal

combination

of

materials

and

placement.

Inside

the

cabinet,

Intelligent

Spot

Bracing

connects

opposing

walls

with a

specific

form of

wood

brace to

achieve

optimal

reduction

of

cabinet

resonance.

These

braces

are

precisely

modelled

by

computer

simulation

to

improve

upon the

commonplace

'figure of

eight'

brace,

which

can

have the

effect of

transferring

resonance

from one

wall to

another.

Speaker type	2.5-way floorstand
Enclosure type	Bass reflex
Treble driver	25mm textile dome
Mid/bass driver	150mm Klarity™ c
Dedicated bass driver	150mm Klarity™ c
Sensitivity (2.83v @ 1m)	89dB
Recommended amp power	30-200W
Peak SPL	102dB
Nominal impedance	8Ω compatible
Minimum impedance	5Ω

Frequency response (+/-3dB)	40Hz-20kHz
Bass extension (-6dB)	35Hz
Crossover frequency	2.1kHz
Dimensions (HxWxD)	1150x200x350mm
Weight (each)	22.4kg