

**SERIES**  
LOUDSPEAKER SYSTEMS

OWNERS MANUAL



PROFESSIONAL LOUDSPEAKERS

Community Professional Loudspeakers

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DnD021504 WML

## CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

1. Don't let the frenzy of setting up the system get in the way of common sense. If it takes just a bit longer to set up your system because you double-checked your connections, or the way you stacked, mounted, or suspended the speaker systems - so be it. Make it a habit - you won't regret it.
2. Don't stick your head up to the speaker to see if you can hear any background noise or hiss. That is just when someone else will decide to see if the system really can attain an output of 150 dB SPL at 6 inches (your ears)!
3. While sustained feedback can be irritating to a listener, it can spell death to high-frequency diaphragms.
4. If you mount the speaker enclosure on a stand or support, be sure it is sufficiently rigid to support the enclosure.
5. Know how to pick up heavy items (such as speaker enclosures). If you must lift something very heavy by yourself, use your legs and arms to do the lifting - not your back. Better still, get someone to help you.
6. Save your packaging. In the unlikely event that your product must be shipped to the Factory (or elsewhere) for service, it must be shipped in the original packaging to prevent shipping damage!

### **LOUD SOUND - PLEASE BE CAREFUL!**

Community loudspeakers are capable of generating high sound pressure levels. Long exposure to sustained loud sound may cause hearing impairment. In the U.S. there are specific Federal noise exposure guidelines set down by OSHA (Occupational Health and Safety Administration). Certain local sound level restrictions may also apply. If you will be exposed to excessive sound levels when operating your speakers, you should use proper hearing protection devices. Use special care when you or others are very close to the speaker systems, such as during setup or if someone has their ears right up to the speaker.

If you ship your product be sure to include the following information:

1. Your complete name, daytime phone number, return street address and **return authorization number**.
2. The serial number of the product you are returning and retail sales receipt, if possible.
3. A complete description of the problem(s) you have been experiencing including a brief description of how the equipment is being used and with what type/size of amplifier.

Upon receipt, the Service Center will determine if the problem is covered under warranty. If covered under this warranty, the product will be repaired or replaced, at Community's option, and returned to you freight prepaid. If the problem is not covered under this warranty, you will be notified of the problem with an estimate of the repair costs. For service outside the United States, contact your authorized Community Export Distributor.

This Community warranty is not extended by the length of time which you are deprived of the use of the product. Repairs and replacement parts provided under the terms of this warranty shall carry only the remaining portion of the warranty.

Community reserves the right to change the design of any product from time to time without notice and with no obligation to make corresponding changes in products previously manufactured. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, you may also have other rights that vary from state to state. No action to enforce this warranty shall be started later than ninety days after expiration of the warranty period. **THIS STATEMENT OF WARRANTY SUPERSEDES ANY OTHERS FOR COMMUNITY PRODUCTS.**

# Owner's Manual Community's DnD Loudspeaker Systems

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## WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY FAMILY!

*You've joined a group of people that have chosen exceptional Community loudspeaker systems and components for over 35 years. Thanks! We'll do our best to make sure you're satisfied!*

### COMMUNITY DnD™ LOUDSPEAKER SYSTEMS

DnD™ Loudspeaker Systems are a series of systems for musicians and DJ's; designed by Musicians and DJ's. The models include the DnD12, 12" 2-way full-range system and the DnD15, 15" 2-way full-range system.

### INSPECT THE PACKING MATERIALS AND THE SPEAKER ENCLOSURE:

Community employs excellent materials, components and assembly techniques to help ensure the best quality product possible. The packaging and shipping materials used should assure that the unit arrives in factory-fresh condition. It is possible; however, that something could happen to the system on its journey from the factory to you. Take a little time to carefully inspect the loudspeaker system. Look for damage to the carton (rips, tears, punctures, crushed corners, etc.) and to the loudspeaker itself. If you notice a problem, immediately contact the dealer where you purchased the products. If you feel the situation cannot be handled by the dealer, please call Community at (610) 876-3400 or contact your country's Community Distributor.

This warranty is void if the serial number has been defaced, altered or removed. Products covered by this warranty will be repaired or replaced at the option of Community, without charge for materials or labor, provided all the terms of this warranty have been met.

**Consequential and Incidental Damages:** Community is not liable for any consequential or incidental damages including, without limitation, injury to persons, property or loss of use. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitations of consequential or incidental damages, so the above limitations and exclusions may not apply to you.

**Obtaining Warranty Service:** Warranty service may be handled by the factory, factory-authorized Field Service Stations, or Export Distributors.

To obtain factory or field warranty service for products purchased in the United States, return the product for inspection to the address below, freight prepaid, in the original packaging. If the original packaging is not available, call or write Community factory service to obtain proper packaging materials or hand carry the product to your nearest Field Service Station.

Factory Service Center  
Community Warranty Service  
333 East 5th Street  
Chester, PA 19013-4511

Call (610) 876-3400 for the name of your nearest Authorized Field Service center. For factory service, please call (610) 876-3400 for a Return Authorization (R/A) number before shipping.

## TRANSFERABLE 5-YEAR WARRANTY

Community products are guaranteed to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a specified period as noted, by product group, below:

The DnD™ Loudspeaker Systems are covered by this warranty for a period of five years. The warranty period is determined by one of the following two methods, whichever is longer:

1. Starting from the date of retail purchase, as noted on the sales receipt from an authorized Community Dealer, or
2. Starting from the date of manufacture, which is coded in the serial number, if the sales receipt is not available. This warranty applies to the product; therefore, the remainder of the warranty period will be automatically transferred to any subsequent owner.

This warranty applies only to failure of Community products caused by defects in materials and workmanship during the stated warranty period. It does not apply to products that have been subjected to abuse, accident, modification, improper handling or installation, or repairs made without factory authorization or by anyone other than authorized Community Field Service Stations.

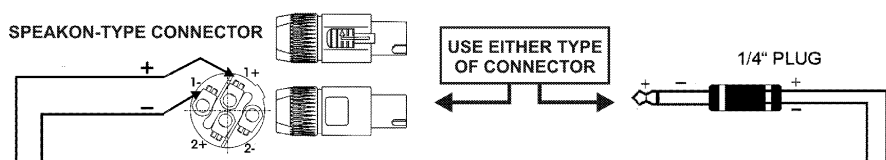
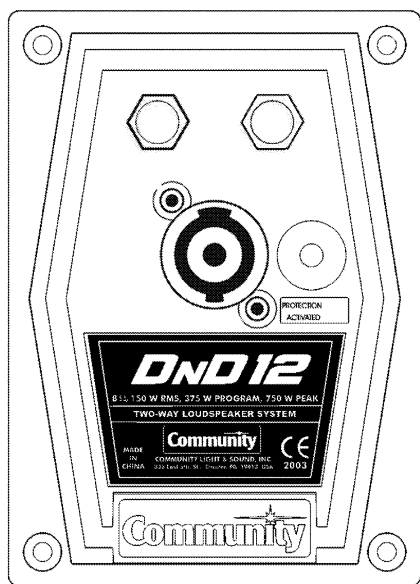
### **Special Limited 2-Year No-Fault Warranty in the U.S.A Only**

DnD Series loudspeaker systems purchased from an authorized dealer in the U.S.A. are warranted against any failure in the drivers and crossovers one time for two years from the date of purchase – no questions asked. This special 2-year no-fault “one time” warranty is not transferable and only protects the original purchaser of the product. Serial numbers must be provided for coverage.

## WIRING UP YOUR SPEAKERS TO YOUR AMPLIFIER

You need to use proper cable and good quality connectors for speaker wiring. Using guitar cords or zip cord (used for table lamps) may degrade the performance of your loudspeakers. If your speaker cables will be less than 25' long, 16-gauge (1.5 mm) stranded twisted-pair cable will be adequate. If you need longer cables, you should use 14- or 12-gauge (2.5 mm or 4 mm) stranded cable. Rubber-jacketed cable is an excellent choice if you wish to have reliable performance, as this type of cable will survive heavy use and remain flexible even if exposed to cold. If it is likely that people will walk on it or that heavy objects will be rolled over the cables you may wish to use cable with a rubber-jacket, ask your supplier for type S, SO, or SJ cable, all of which will be suitable.

The loudspeaker connection panel is supplied with two 1/4" phone jacks and one locking connector all wired in parallel. Keep in mind that the contact surface of the tip of a phone plug is very small and if the jack or plug gets dirty or the plug is accidentally kicked or hit, the connection may become intermittent.



*Typical DnD™ Series Input Panel*

It's very important to wire your phone jack connectors exactly the same at each end of the cable. This is necessary to maintain proper polarity. All quality cables have either color-coded insulation or a very clear way of marking the wires that make up the cable. If the insulation is not color-coded, there may be a rib molded into the side of the jacket material. If the cables are wired incorrectly, there will be significantly less low-frequency output from your system.

## RETURN SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

The most common reason for returning a product to the factory is that repair is required. The very first step should be to contact the dealer where the unit was purchased. With the support of the dealer you should be able to determine the cause of the problem and obtain the proper replacement or repair part so that a return shipment is not necessary. If this is not possible, contacting your nearest Field Service Station or the Distributor for your country should be your next choice.

### IF THERE'S A PROBLEM:

Both Community and your dealer want to be sure you are happy with your new loudspeaker systems. If there seems to be a problem of any type with the loudspeakers, please contact the dealer where you purchased these products. If you are unable to discover the cause of a problem or need the name of your nearest Field Service Station or Distributor, please call Community and discuss the situation with the Service Department.

**Important:** All return shipments to Community must have a return authorization number. If it is determined that it is necessary to return the unit to Community, please contact the Community Service Department at 610-876-3400 to obtain a R.A. number prior to shipping.

ALL RETURN SHIPMENTS MUST HAVE A RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER OBTAINED FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT!

## STACKING OR INSTALLING LOUDSPEAKER ENCLOSURES

Common sense is a good guide. If you stack speakers, be sure they are on a stable surface. If there is any danger of the speakers being knocked over when stacked, don't stack them! You need to get the speakers up high enough so that the sound doesn't "blow away" the people nearest to the speakers, but piling speakers on top of a small pedestal table is asking for trouble.

DnD loudspeakers have a socket for use with tripod stands. Be sure to position them so that no one can trip over the stand or knock over the loudspeaker.

Community DnD12 and DnD15 loudspeaker enclosures are provided with 5/16"-18 thread "T-Nuts" (captive threaded inserts) in the sides of the enclosures for hanging or mounting. The accessory "STRAPKIT" provides three steel straps that attach to these inserts for connecting rigging to the enclosure. They may be mounted from walls or ceilings by using the accessory WB-1.

**WARNING:** For your protection, under no circumstances should any loudspeaker be mounted or suspended in a public place unless the mounting method has been approved and certified by a registered Professional Engineer. Do not suspend from handles.

## WHAT AMPLIFIER SHOULD YOU USE?

There are several things you should keep in mind when selecting an amplifier. First, you need an amplifier with enough output power. Even if you are not planning to run your system very loud, an amplifier needs to have enough power so that the dynamics of speech and music will not cause "clipping." An amplifier that is pushed beyond its output power capability will clip signals. Not only does this sound bad, but the effect on a low frequency speaker or mid or high-frequency driver is similar to hitting the cone or diaphragm with a hammer. Because of this, **too small an amplifier can be more damaging to speakers than one that seemingly has too much power.** Peaks in speech or music signals can easily exceed the average power levels by a factor of ten. If your amplifier is not big enough, these peaks become clipped and distorted.

### So how many watts can this baby handle?

You've heard this question a thousand times. The answer is "it depends on the thermal/mechanical limits of the drivers and crossover components." It also depends on the input signal, its peak/average ratio, rise times, and spectral (frequency) content. Actually the question is not what is the power handling, but what is the OPTIMUM power to use? For Community loudspeakers the best answer lies in the PROGRAM power rating. This is the size amplifier you should use. If you can't find an amplifier with that exact rating, multiply the PROGRAM power rating by .80 and again by 1.2 to find the recommended power range. For example, the range for a 500W PROGRAM power rating is from 400W (.80 X 500) to 625W (1.2 X 500). Anything larger is potentially excessive. Anything smaller will be more likely to cause damage because the amplifier will clip before activating the DnD thermal protection circuits.

Our RMS rating represents the thermal power limit for the loudspeaker. It is also a standard number for comparing to other products. The impedance or speaker load the amplifier "sees" is very important. If the amplifier is not rated for the impedance load, the internal protection circuitry of the amplifier may prevent full-power output. Additionally, if the amplifier is not of high enough quality or does not have good internal protection against over-load, the amplifier may be damaged - or the speakers connected to the amplifier may be damaged.

When you connect two speakers together so that both speakers work off one amplifier channel, you are connecting them in parallel. Two speakers connected in parallel do not have the same impedance as one speaker. Knowing the combined impedance is very important when selecting an amplifier. You need to select an amplifier that will operate at the combined impedance and produce enough power for both speakers. Check to make sure the amplifier you wish to use will match this requirement. To figure out how much power you need, just add the program power of the two speakers.

### **POWERSENSE™ DRIVER PROTECTION**

There are two separate protection circuits in the DnD speaker systems, one for the LF section and one for the HF section. The DnD HF drivers are piezoelectric. Piezoelectric drivers can be damaged by long term excessive power or like any other driver they can also be damaged by excessive peak voltage. The HF protection in the DnD system prevents damage from both excessive power and from high transient voltage peaks. A pair of HPCCR bulbs deal with the excessive power. The combination of these two protection methods will make it very difficult to damage the HF section of a DnD system. This circuitry provides dynamic protection as a limiter that converts excessive current into heat and light. The more excess current flowing through the circuit the higher the impedance of the circuit. This reduces the current, and thus the power, to the driver. The protection circuit for the LF section of the DnD systems is a two stage circuit. When the power applied to the system becomes excessive, the first stage of the protection circuit will activate. When this happens the output level will be reduced by approximately 4dB, and the red LED indicator on the input panel will illuminate. If the power level to the system is reduced, the protection circuit will reset and the LED will go out. If the power level is not reduced, the speaker will continue to operate in the first stage of protection. If the power level is increased further, the second stage of protection will activate. The second stage of protection virtually shuts the cabinet off, and it is purely for protection of the drivers. The cabinet essentially does not operate in the second stage of protection. The red LED indicates that the first stage has been activated. The LF protection was designed for those accidental peaks or short moments of disregard. It does not mean you can be irresponsible with your loudspeaker systems. Remember, loudspeakers bare the blunt of all previous mistakes in the signal chain. So if you put a good signal in, you are sure to get good sound out.