

I NEED MORE POWER!!!

No you don't. Let us explain...

You do not need more power. We get asked this question on a daily basis and the comments/questions usually go something like this: "I heard you need 1,500 watts instead of 1,000 to get the sub moving" or "Is 1,000 watts really enough?" Unfortunately there is a lot of misinformation out there on the interwebs these and here is the truth:

1) Marginally increasing your power will NOT give you a massive bump in SPL.

- In theory it takes twice the power to get a 3 dB increase in output from your subwoofer. You would need to go from 1,000 watts to 2,000 watts of power to go from 120 dB to 123 dB. And most of you that are reading this article will only be able to notice an increase in output at 3 dB. For a BIG noticeable increase in output the system would need to go from 120 dB to 130 dB. Now read that first sentence again.

2) Doubling the power to your subwoofer(s) will most likely damage them.

- Doubling the power to your subwoofer will likely cause thermal failure. If you are starting out with a subwoofer rated for 1,000 watts and you send it 2,000 watts for that theoretical 3 dB gain you are massively increasing the temperature of that subwoofers voice coil. Manufacturers rate their products for a specific amount of power for a reason. They know more than you do, so trust them and do what they say.

3) You most likely don't have the electrical system in your car to support 2x the power.

- An average car audio user has a stock electrical system. Stock alternator, stock battery, one run of zero gauge power wire ran to the amp, etc. Going from a 1,000 watt class D amp to a 2,000 watt class D amp will put a larger drain on your electrical system. Larger drain = lower voltage during playback. Lower voltage during playback means the bigger amp is working harder and harder to try to keep up with the higher output demand. A harder working amp equals higher distortion. Distortion = heat. Too much heat = speaker no work no more.