Roadster Sound MINI R56 Sub Enclosure

System Specs:

2007 BMW R56 MINI Cooper S

Hi-Fi Sound Package

Amplifier: Alpine MRP-M500 Mono Subwoofer: Earthquake SWS-12 Rear Speakers: Focal 690 CA1



Overview

This installation procedure is for installing the Roadster Sound enclosure and replacing the rear 6x9 drivers. I would recommend a full day or two; it took me a few days, after day job, to complete the install. Create a safe, clean place in your garage for your Mini's rear seats and interior pieces.

Interior Gutting

Remove boot cargo false floor.

Remove interior pins holding boot latch cover, and then remove boot latch cover.

Fold rear seats down.

Flip up rear seat latches.

Remove plastic seat latch plastic backing.

Remove the single screw and interior pins for both boot liners, remove boot liners.

Remove the lower rear seat splashing.

Remove rear seat lowers.

Remove the 3 torx bolts attaching the rear seats to the vehicle's frame.

Remove the rear seat uppers.

Remove AirBag covers on the B-pillars, remove torx bolt behind. Remove B-pillar covers.

Remove Airbag covers on the C-pillars, remove torx bolt behind. Remove C-pillar covers.

Remove both interior plastic fascias.



Enclosure Prefit

Place enclosure in boot floor.

Follow Roadster's installation procedure for bolting to floor.

Measure all wires to needed lengths. (Remember they will need to go behind the boot liners!!!! I took length and added 20%)

6x9 Replacement

Remove the 4 bolts holding speaker in place.



Disconnect OEM speaker, laugh at its construction.

Wire new speakers (I chose to solder).

Replace 4 torx bolts and behold new speaker's beauty.

Orient the tweeter as desired.

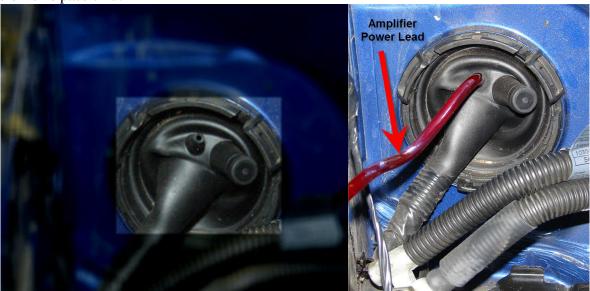
Test for signal integrity and phase orientation. I chose both a sinusoidal track with phase matching and Paul Van Dyk's Vega. Be sure to check balancing! Behold the Focal's awesome bass response.

Remove battery compartment covering.

Disconnect and remove battery (Funny, you only lose the clock, but not your radio stations).

There is a plastic shroud covering the battery pass through the firewall, remove this and you will find a rubber boot.

Clip nipple off this pass-thru.

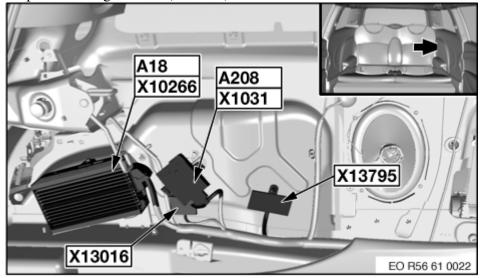


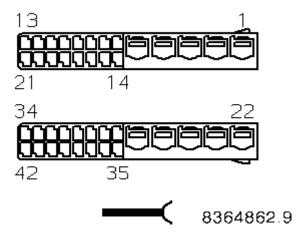
Using a high-tech coat hanger, feed your amplifier main through this pass-thru, secure as necessary. I installed a secondary inline fuse to the amplifier main, tucked inside this battery compartment.

Run amplifier main down fuse panel, along passenger side foot guards, behind rear plastic fascia, to right side of boot.

In the rear, there is a cluster of brown cables attached to a block, bolted to the vehicle's frame, this provides a stable ground point.

Disconnect factory amplifier wiring harness (X10266).





The pinouts are as follows:

	+	Color	-	Color
Right Rear	8	BR/OR	16	GE/RT
Left Rear	37	BL/BR	29	BL/SW
Right Front	9	GE/BR	17	GE/SW
Left Front	38	SW/RT	30	SW/VI
Remote Turn On	18	OR/GN	n/a	n/a

German		English	
BR	Braun	Brown	
OR	Orange	Orange	
GE	Gelb	Yellow	
RT	Rot	Red	
BL	Blau	Blue	
SW	Schwarz	Black	
VI	Violett	Violet	

The amplifier I chose utilizes both RCA and high-level inputs. I chose to use the high-level inputs. Attach your signal wires to the appropriate cables in the vehicle.

Wire everything up for a quick test.

Reconnect battery.

Test.

Paul Van Dyk plays as if I were at a show.

Sinusoidal track, plays if I were listening to a sinusoidal track.

Disconnect battery.

Tidy Up

I chose to create quick disconnect (Molex style) plugs for both signal and power, in the event I need to remove the enclosure for track or cargo.

Reinstall interior panels in reverse order from initial removal.

Place enclosure in boot, connect cables.



Place false floor on top of enclosure, trim excess carpeting.



Reconnect battery.

Close bonnet.

Start engine.

Hit Play.

Find an awesome canyon drive.

Enjoy truly amazing bass inside your MINI!

Remarks

I could not be more happy with this subenclosure: it is not an eye-sore, does not take up the entire boot space, and sounds absolutely AMAZING. Overall the actual enclosure installation was quite straight forward. Installing the driver and amplifier is as easy as screwing in screws. The false boot floor was also just as easy to assemble (mounting the grilles to the wood substrate). All music is greatly enhanced; my quick test consisted of Dvorak's 9th, Kanye West, Counting Crows, Pearl Jam, Sigur Ros, Paul Van Dyk, Jason Mraz and Paramore. You'll like what you hear.

This box can be tuned to nicely compliment music, to add that extra dimension of acoustic goodness, or detuned to make a bumpin' Mini. I prefer the former. I honestly have a tough time remembering how I "enjoyed" music without this sub box.

You can experiment with the seats up and seats down. I discovered with only one seat folded down, the cabin had a more filled acoustic feeling. Both seats down was a bit bassy for me.

Cheers.

Notes

The remote turn on maintains a +12V signal for several minutes after radio has been turned off, or vehicle has been locked.

If you break any of the interior clips, they are readily available at your local MINI dealership. I broke several. ©