

Woofer Foam Surround Replacement Procedure for Audio Note™ AN-K, AN-J & AN-E Speaker Models



Picture 1

It is an undeniable fact that the best sounding material for loudspeaker suspension is compressed foam, it is evenly compliant across a wide range of movement and affect the sound of the driver far less than rubber and other less perishable materials, so it is an unavoidable part of a quality loudspeaker, it only down side is that, depending on environment and climate, it will perish and start hardening after 8 – 12 years. In the tropics it may last as little as 6 years, in a temperate climate probably closer to 15 years, however do not despair, if your speakers' foam has developed into dust help is at hand, and it is neither expensive nor terribly difficult to replace the foam and revitalise the sound of your speakers' to as new condition, here is how!

Picture 1 above & **picture 2, 3, 4** and **5** below,

The pictures in the sequel shows a basic procedure for how to replace the perished foam surround on any of Audio Note's AN-K, AN-J or AN-E loudspeakers and applies broadly also to the Snell Type K, Type J and Type E models and probably most other speakers where the foam has perished as long as the replacement foam surround is the correct type and size, the pictures shows a driver that has been removed from its cabinet, this is not necessary in many cases and it is actually easier to change the surround with the driver in situ in the cabinet.

Audio Note™ is happy to supply anyone with a foam surround for the purpose of replacing perished foam surrounds on older speaker models, we do recommend that unless you are confident that you can perform this task without problem you seek support before damaging the woofer, which will require a complete replacement of the driver itself.

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Whilst we are happy to advise on all matter relating to our products, it must be understood that we cannot be responsible for mistakes or damage caused by anyone trying to follow this set of instructions.

Whether you have removed the driver from the cabinet or it is still in situ the procedure is the same, make a break in the foam and gently peel it off the paper cone as shown on the pictures without tearing the cone itself, if the foam is very brittle you may need to use a very sharp knife or scalpel to gently remove all remnants of the old foam from both paper cone and the metal basket.



Picture 2

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Picture 3

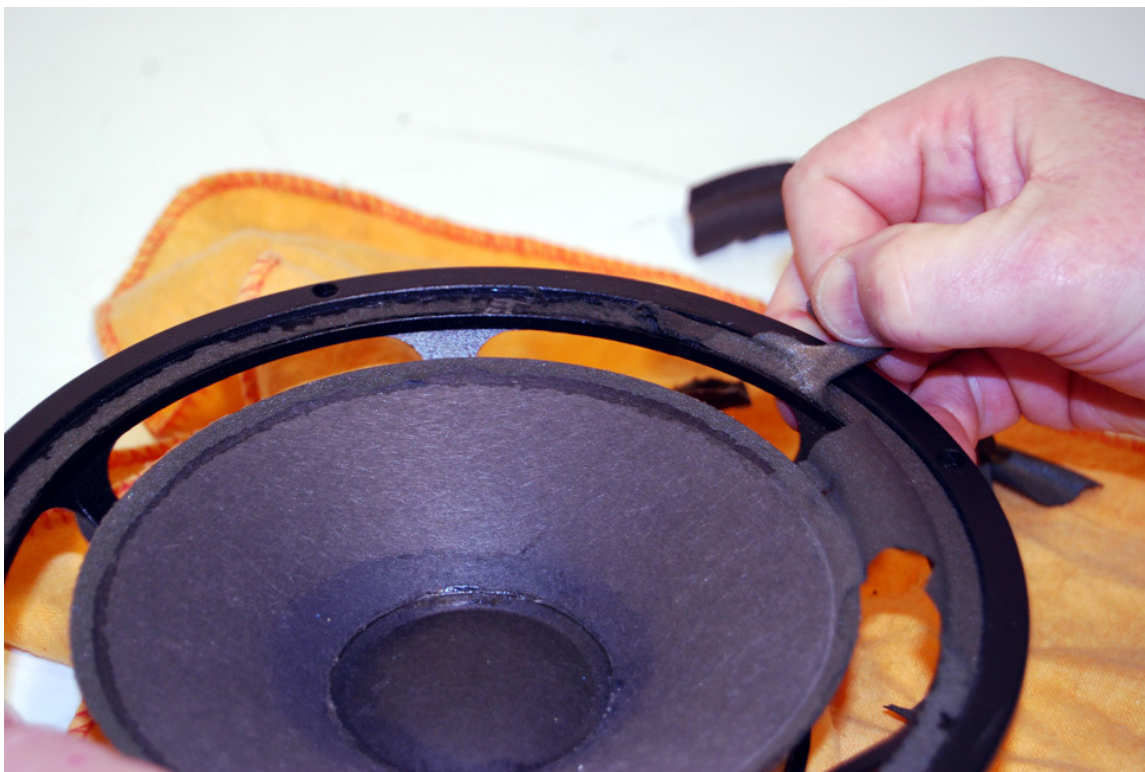


Picture 4

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Picture 5



Picture 6

**Woofer Foam Surround Replacement Procedure for Audio Note™ AN-K, AN-J & AN-E
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Picture 7

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Picture 8

Pictures 6 – 8 show the final process of completely moving the old foam, the fully stripped cone and basket, make sure you clean off any remnants of the old foam before putting a very thin line of glue around the basket to secure the new foam surround.

We recommend using the same glue used to repair old bicycle tyre tubes, it is available almost anywhere in the world, it much be used sparingly though, as if used to excess will melt the new foam surround, which will stiffen the foam and affect the woofer's performance.

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Picture 9

After making a thin circle of glue around the inside rim of the basket and the out side rim of the paper cone, then carefully place the new foam surround around the inside rim of the metal basket to meet the glue.

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Picture 10

Secure the outside of the foam to the rim of the basket then “connect” the circle of glue on the paper cone to the new foam, to retain the performance of the driver, especially in AN and Snell models where the drivers are matched to the crossover, sitting the foam exactly where the old foam was is essential to achieve comparable to “new” performance.

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Picture 11

It is actually not as hard as it sounds when you read this, the cone tends to try to centre by itself, which makes the job easier in most cases.

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The finished result, indistinguishable from the new unit, job well done, back to listening to music and running the drivers in again!