

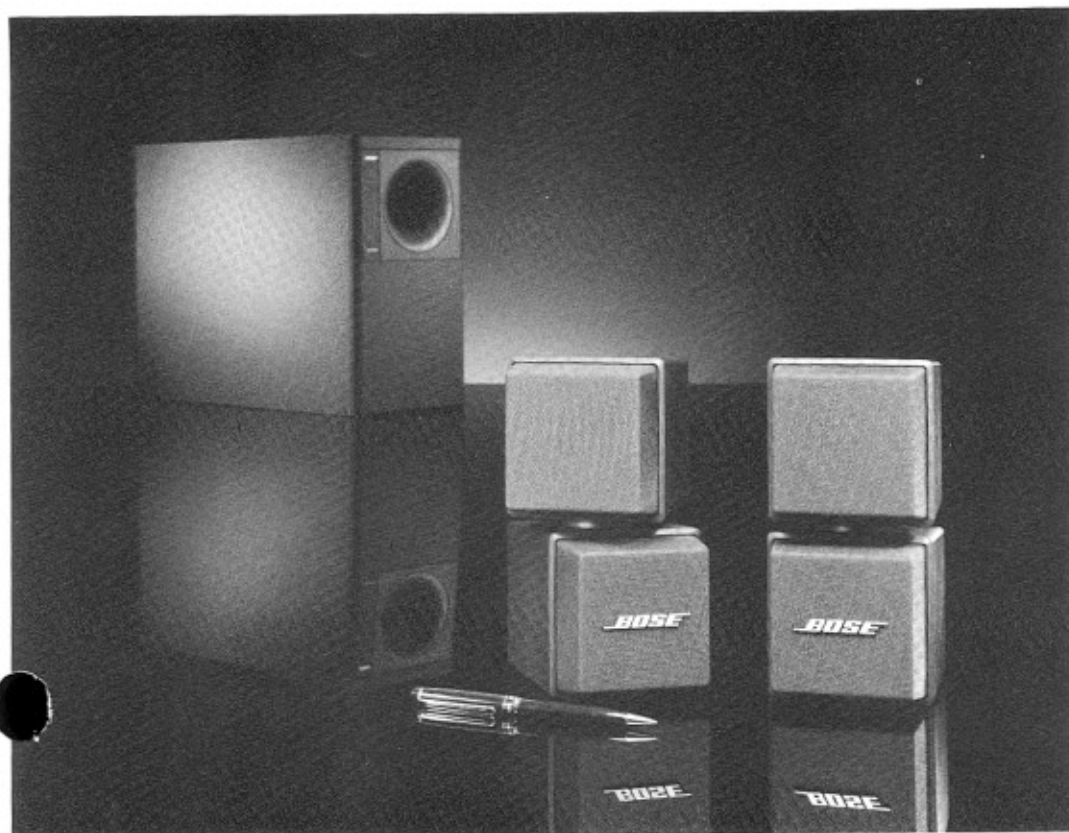
Bose® AM-500™ Acoustimass® Speakers

Owner's Guide

Guía del usuario

Notice d'utilisation

BOSE®



For your records

Serial number (located on the back of the bass module) _____

Date of purchase _____

Retailer's name _____

Retailer's address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

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Your Acoustimass® speaker system

Thank you for choosing the AM-500™ Acoustimass speaker system. Bose® designed this system to provide lifelike music reproduction from small, stylish speakers. Their unique features offer advantages not available from conventional speakers.

- Direct/Reflecting® speaker design re-creates a natural balance of reflected and direct sound.
- Virtually Invisible® speaker design fits almost anywhere, unobtrusively.
- Magnetic shielding lets you safely place cube speakers next to VCRs, televisions, and video tapes.
- Syncom® computer testing guarantees the quality of your speakers.

Your AM-500 Acoustimass speaker system is significantly different from conventional speakers. To get the best results and most enjoyment from your new system, please read all the positioning and connecting instructions in this guide.

The shipping cartons contain everything you need to set up your new speakers (Figure 1):

- One Acoustimass bass module
- Two cube speakers
- Four 20' speaker cables
- Four adhesive-backed rubber feet (for bass module)

Carefully unpack the speakers. Save the cartons and packing materials for future use. If any part appears damaged, do not use the speakers. Repack all parts in their original cartons and call your authorized Bose dealer immediately.

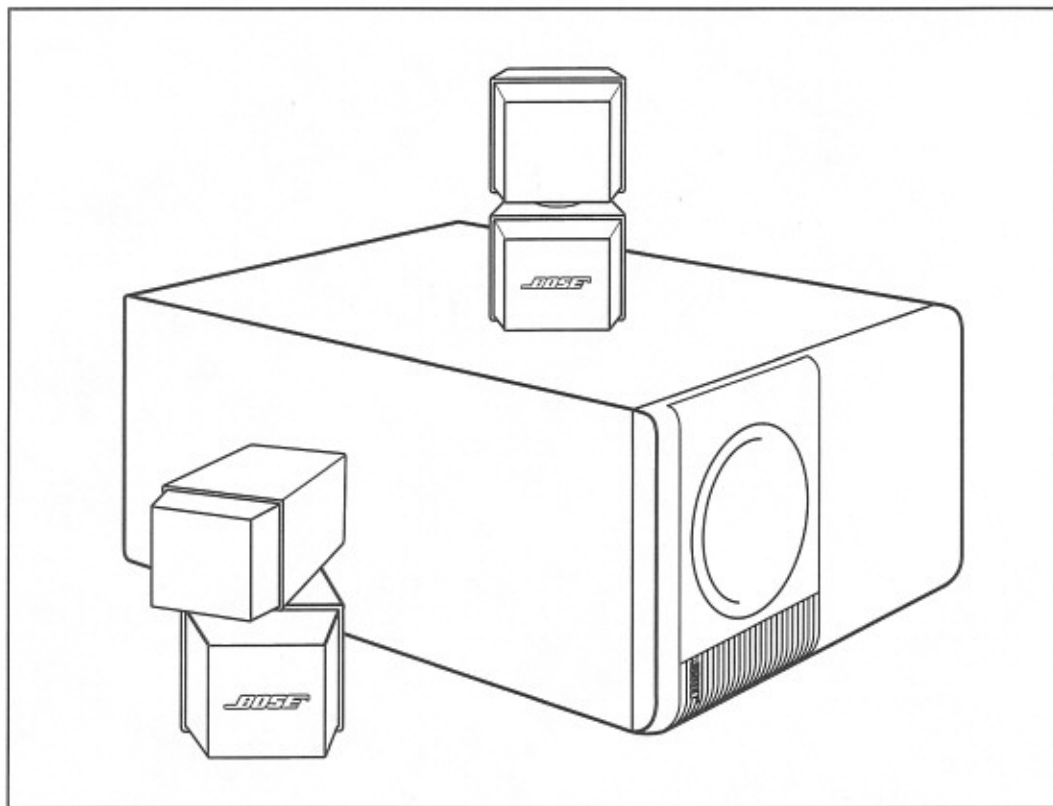


Figure 1

Your AM-500 Acoustimass speaker system

Where to put your Acoustimass® system

Bose® designed your AM-500™ Acoustimass speakers for flexible placement. For the best balance of sound, Bose recommends putting your bass module and cube speakers at the same end of the room, when possible. Refer to the following guidelines and Figure 2 to find speaker locations that fit your needs.

Bass module

You can place your Acoustimass bass module vertically or horizontally almost anywhere in your room (Figures 2 and 3). Consider hiding it in a corner, under a table, or behind a sofa. For the best sound, follow these guidelines:

- Place the module along a wall about 3 to 5 feet (1 – 1.5 m) from the corner.
- Leave at least 2 inches (5 cm) of space between the bass module opening and any surface.
- For more bass, move the module toward the corner and turn the opening toward the wall.
- To prevent interference, keep the module at least 2 feet (.6 m) from any video screen.

Cube speakers

For a natural sound in most rooms, put the cube speakers on either side of the room, 6 to 12 feet (1.8 – 3.6 m) apart. For use with your television, put them on either side of the television screen about 3 feet (1 m) apart. Magnetic shielding in the speakers protects the TV picture from interference.

Note: Set cube speakers only on surfaces that are stable and level. For some surfaces, you may want to use rubber feet for additional stability. Bose will provide these rubber feet free of cost. To request them, contact Bose Service (see the inside back page) or your local Bose Service agency and ask for Part Number 178321.

Bose mounting accessories, including wall and ceiling mounting brackets and floor stands expand your placement options. See "Optional accessories" on page 10.

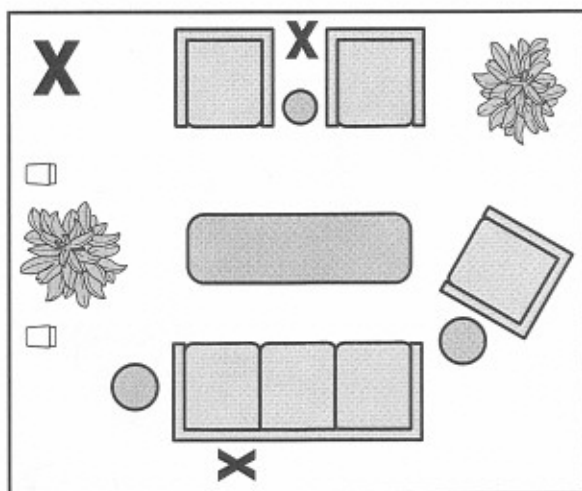


Figure 2

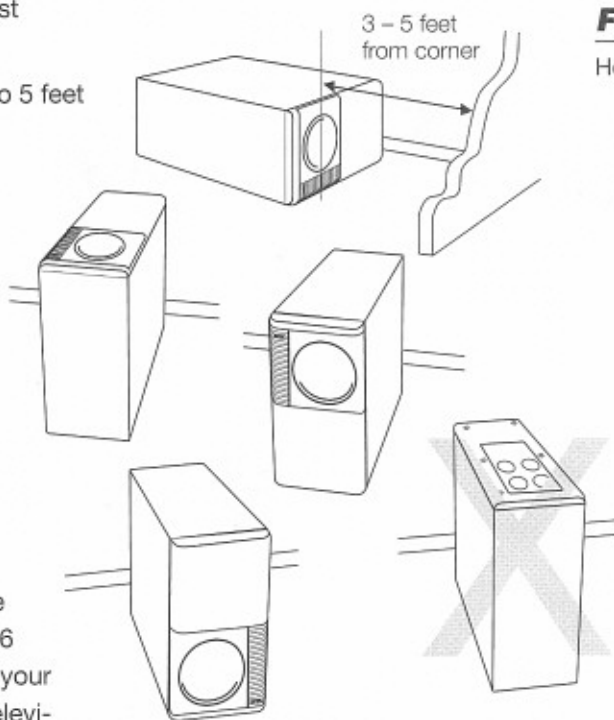
Possible locations for your bass module (x) and cube speakers

CAUTION:

The terminals on the bass module connection panel can cause scratches. To prevent damage, do not put the bass module down on the side with the connection panel. After you decide how to position the bass module, attach the protective rubber feet to the bottom surface.

Figure 3

How to position the bass module



How to connect your Acoustimass® system

The supplied speaker cables have two wires each. The wire with a red band is always positive (+). The plain wire is always negative (-). These wires match the positive (red) and negative (black) terminals on the speakers. Always connect the wires to the matching terminals (positive to positive and negative to negative).

For each connection, push the terminal tab down and insert the appropriate wire into the exposed hole (Figure 4). Release the tab to secure the wire.

Note: If you need longer speaker cables, lengthen them with similar or thicker cable. Splice the wires together positive to positive and negative to negative.

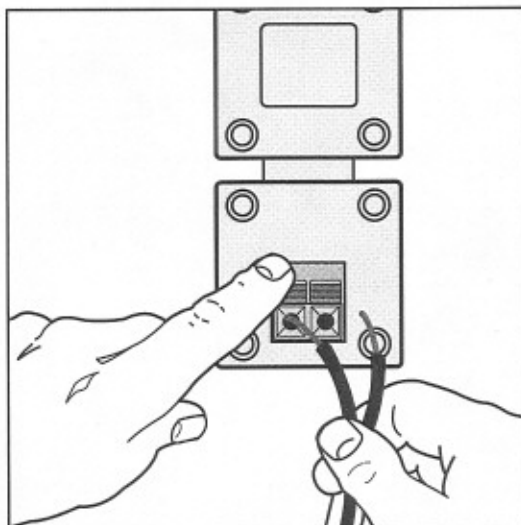


Figure 4

How to connect speaker cables

CAUTION:

Be sure to unplug all components before making any connections.

Bass module

1. Connect the end of a speaker cable to the R INPUTS FROM AMP OR RECEIVER terminal on the Acoustimass® bass module (Figure 5).
2. Connect the other end to the right speaker terminal on your music source.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to connect the L INPUTS FROM AMP OR RECEIVER terminal on the bass module to the left speaker terminal on your music source.

Cube speakers

1. Connect one end of a speaker cable to the right cube speaker.
2. Connect the other end to the bass module terminals marked R OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS (Figure 5).
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to connect the left cube speaker to the bass module terminals marked L OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS.

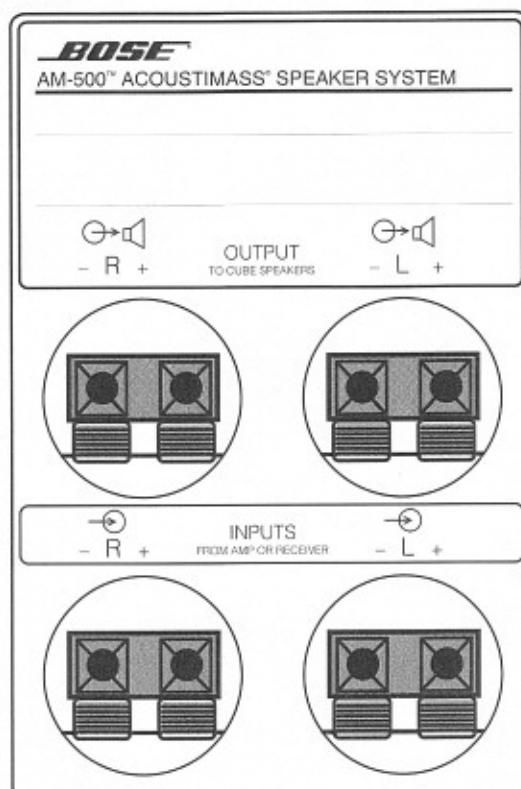


Figure 5

The bass module's connection panel

CAUTION:

DO NOT connect cube speakers directly to your music source.

Check connections

Check all connections from the bass module to the cube speakers and from the music source to the bass module (Figure 6). Be sure you connected wires positive to positive and negative to negative. Exposed wires should not brush against each other. Incorrect wiring decreases bass output and could damage the speakers.

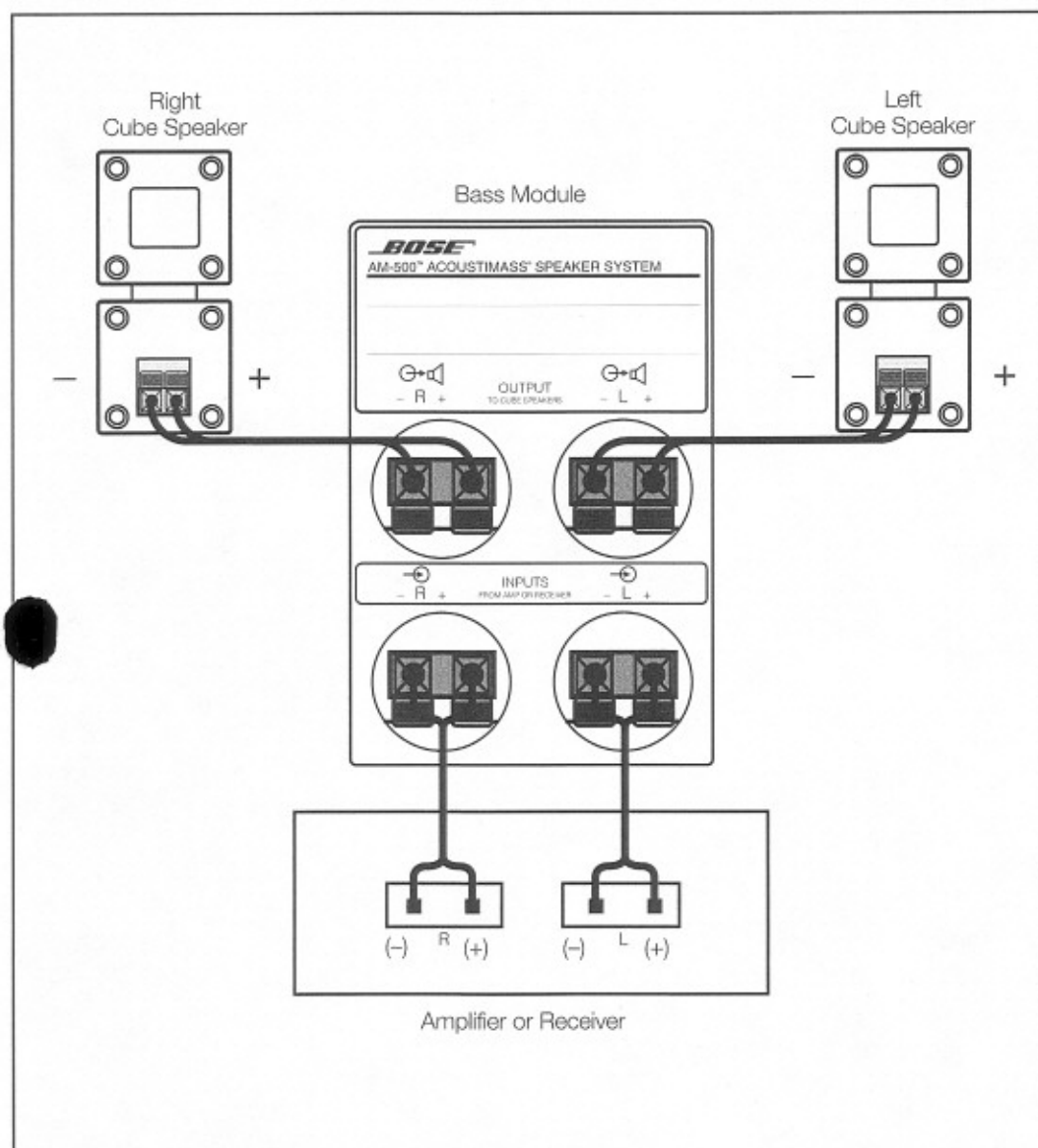


Figure 6

Completed connections

Fitting the sound to your room

These guidelines will help you adapt your AM-500™ Acoustimass® speaker system to your listening room.

Bass and treble

Upholstered furniture, wall-to-wall carpets, or heavy drapes can muffle the treble (high notes), making your speaker system sound too deep. Bare floors and walls and unupholstered furniture can make your speaker system sound too shrill. After listening to your speakers, you may wish to adjust the balance of bass and treble. Use the bass and treble controls on your music source. Or move the bass module closer to a wall or corner to increase bass, or closer to the center of the room to decrease it.

Cube speakers

The cube speakers swivel to provide a lifelike balance of reflected and direct sound. Experiment with cube positions for the results you prefer (Figure 7).

For video applications, angling the top half of the speaker slightly inward will improve on-screen localization.

You can also use the cube speakers with both cubes facing forward. This eliminates the benefits of combining reflected and direct sound, but may be appropriate for small listening areas (such as on desks or in cubicles).

Automatic system protection

Electrical stress or overload caused by playing music too loudly can damage your speakers.

The Bose® built-in automatic protection circuit prevents this damage. You may notice a slight decrease in volume when the protection circuit is on. This is a normal response to exceeding safe power levels. Bose does not recommend setting the volume at or above this level for long periods.

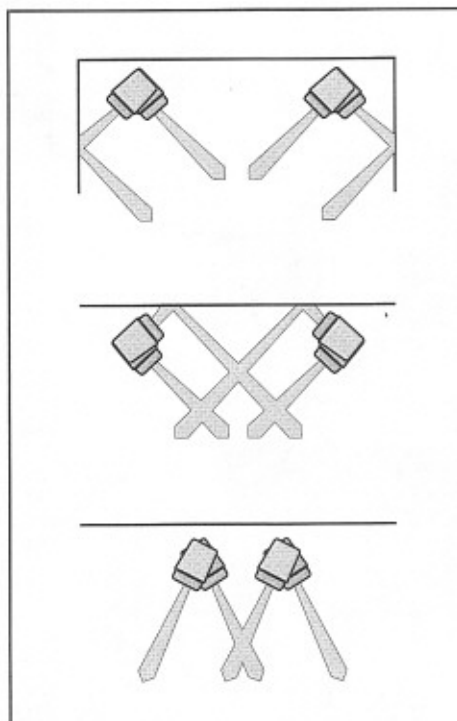


Figure 7

How to adjust the combination of reflected and direct sound

How to clean your speakers

Cabinets

- Wipe with a damp cloth. If necessary, use a mild detergent (such as dish soap).
- Do not use solvents or chemicals.
- Do not allow liquids to spill or objects to drop into the bass module.

Grilles

- If necessary, vacuum carefully. The drivers are directly behind the grille cloth. Protect them by vacuuming lightly.
- Do not allow liquids to spill or objects to drop into the grilles.

Troubleshooting problems

If you have a problem with your AM-500™ Acoustimass® speaker system, turn off your music source and try one of the solutions below:

Problem	Possible cause	How to find out
The speakers don't play or sound distorted	Connections	Make sure you made all connections. (See "Connections" on page 6.) Make sure wires are not touching each other, causing a short circuit.
	Music source	Make sure the music source is plugged in, turned on, and playing. Make sure the volume on the music source is loud enough.
A cube speaker doesn't play or sounds distorted	Connections	Make sure you completely inserted the wires connecting the cube speakers to the bass module and bass module to the music source. Disconnect the speaker cables from both cube speakers. Reconnect them to the opposite speakers. Turn on the music source. If the cube speaker now works properly, the problem may be your music source. Refer to its owner's guide for further suggestions.
Not enough bass	Connections	Make sure you connected all wires positive to positive and negative to negative.
	Bass module location	Make sure the opening on the bass module is not blocked. Move the bass module closer to a corner, or turn the bass module opening toward the wall.

If one of these solutions doesn't solve your problem, turn off the music source and disconnect the speakers. Contact your Bose® dealer to arrange for service. Or, to contact Bose directly, refer to the inside back cover. Bose Corporation will make every effort to remedy any problem within the terms of your limited warranty.

Warranty

The Bose® AM-500™ Acoustimass® speaker system is covered by a limited 5-year transferable warranty. Details of the coverage are provided on the warranty card that came with your speakers. Please fill out the information section on your card, address it, detach and mail to Bose.

Technical information

Features

- Direct/Reflecting® speaker design
- Acoustimass® speaker technology
- Syncom® computer quality control
- Automatic protection circuitry
- Magnetically shielded cube speakers

Driver complement

- Two 5.25" (13.3 cm) low-frequency drivers
- Four 2.5" (6.4 cm) magnetically shielded wide-range drivers

Compatibility/Impedance

- Compatible with receivers or amplifiers rated from 10 to 200 watts per channel, 4 to 8 ohms

Finish

- Acoustimass module: Scratch-resistant slate vinyl veneer
- Cube speakers: Slate polymer finish

Size

- Acoustimass module: 7 1/2"H x 14"W x 19"D (19.1 x 35.5 x 48 cm)
- Cube speakers: 6 3/8"H x 3 1/8"W x 4 3/4"D (16.12 x 7.9 x 12.1 cm)
- System weight: 22.5 lb (10.2 kg)

Optional accessories

To order accessories, contact Bose Corporation. For telephone numbers and addresses, see the listing on the inside back page.

- Ceiling/Wall mounting brackets – UB-5 (black)
- Floor stands – FS-5 (black)

To use the floor stands, you will need to ask for an adapter with the Part Number 148090, which is available free of charge.

USA

Bose Corporation, The Mountain
Framingham, MA 01701-9168
1-800-367-4008
Weekdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
ET (eastern time)

Canada

Bose Ltd., 80-35 East Beaver Creek Rd.
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1B3
1-800-444-BOSE (444-2673)
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET (eastern time)

European Office

Bose B.V., Nijverheidstraat 8,
1135 GE Edam, The Netherlands
TEL 02993-71055 FAX 02993-68163

Australia

Bose Australia, Inc., 11 Muriel Avenue
Rydalmere, N.S.W. 2116
TEL 02 684-1022 FAX 02 684-1665

Belgique/België

Bose N.V., Essenestraat 15
Ternat
TEL 02-5826200 FAX 02-5823717

Danmark

Bose A/S, Industrivej 7
2605 Brøndby
TEL 43437777 FAX 43437818

Deutschland

Bose GmbH, Max-Planck-Straße 36
Postfach 1125, 61381 Friedrichsdorf
TEL 06172-7104 FAX 06172-710419

France

Bose S/A, 6, rue Saint Vincent
78100 Saint Germain en Laye
TEL 01-30610461 FAX 01-30614105

Ireland

Bose Ltd., Castleblayney
Road Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan
TEL 042-61988 FAX 042-61998

Italia

Bose S.p.A., Via Luigi Capucci 12
00147 Rome
TEL 06-5127641 FAX 06-5115438

Japan

Bose K.K., Harajyuku-R, Building 2F
6-17-10 Jingumae Shibuya, Tokyo 150
TEL 03-5485-2451 FAX 03-3486-0928

Nederland

Bose B.V., Nijverheidstraat 8, 1135 GE
Edam
TEL 02993-69191 FAX 02993-68166

Norge

Bose Norge, Solheimsgt. 11
N-2001, Lillestrøm
TEL 63-817380 FAX 63-810819

Schweiz

Bose A.G., Rüfenbergerstrasse 13A
4460 Gelterkinden
TEL 061-995544 FAX 061-995502

Sverige

Bose A/S, Blandsädsgratan 2D
43146 Mölndal
TEL 031-878850 FAX 031-274891

United Kingdom

Bose U.K. Ltd., Trinity Trading Estate
Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2PD
TEL 0795-475341/5 FAX 0795-427227

Other locations

Bose Service, Otis Street Park
Building 3, PO Box 5045
Westborough, MA 01581-5045 USA
TEL (508) 229-8484 FAX (508) 229-3891

