

The Bose® Acoustimass® 600 Home Theater Speaker System

Owner's Guide

Guía del usuario

Notice d'utilisation

BOSE



Thank You

We appreciate your choice of the Bose® Acoustimass® 600 home theater speaker system. With these Virtually Invisible® speakers you'll surround yourself with realistic sound, without a lot of equipment.

Please Read This Owner's Guide

The setup and operation of your Acoustimass 600 home theater speaker system is significantly different from other speakers. Please take the time to read this owner's guide carefully. It will help you set up and operate your system properly and enjoy all of its features. Save your owner's guide for future reference.

Declaration of Conformity

We, the offerer:

Bose® Corporation, The Mountain
Framingham, MA 01701-9168 USA

acknowledge our sole responsibility, that the product:



Kind of equipment:

Loudspeakers

Type designation:

**Acoustimass® 600
Home Theater Speaker System**

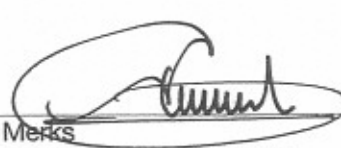
in accordance with EMC Directive 89/336/EEC and Article 10(1) of the Directive,
is in compliance with the following norm(s) or document(s):

Technical regulations: **EN50081-1, EN50082-1**

Accredited by Bose Corporation

3 April 2000

Bose Products B.V., Nijverheidstraat 8
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Nic Merks
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Manufacturer's authorized EU representative

Where to find ...

Setting Up Your Acoustimass® 600 Speaker System	4
Before you begin	4
Unpacking the system	5
Placing your Acoustimass 600 speakers to achieve realistic home theater sound	6
Selecting locations for your speakers	7
Connecting the speakers	9
Checking your connections	12
Attaching the module end cover	13
Operating Your Acoustimass 600 Speaker System	14
Listening to realistic home theater sound	14
Using your Dolby® Pro-Logic® receiver	14
Using your Dolby Digital receiver	15
Maintaining Your Acoustimass 600 Speaker System	16
Cleaning your speakers	16
Troubleshooting	16
Warranty period	17
Customer Service	17
Product Information	18
Technical Information	18
Accessories	18
Bose® Corporation	Inside back cover

English

Español

Français

For your records

Serial numbers are located on the connection panel of the Acoustimass module.

Serial number: _____

Dealer name: _____

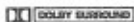
Dealer phone: _____ Purchase date: _____

We suggest you keep your sales slip and warranty card together with this owner's guide.

Before you begin

Bose® Virtually Invisible® speaker technology allows you to enjoy lifelike home performance from the very latest surround sound encoded movies, CDs, and television shows, without a room full of speakers.

Your video sound source (stereo VCR, laserdisc or digital video player, or stereo television) sends the encoded program material to the surround sound receiver, which interprets it by distributing various sounds to particular speakers. Although the sound mix varies with different types of programs, dialogue is usually sent to the center speaker while sounds from the left or right side of the picture go to the left or right front speakers. Ambient sounds and special effects are directed to one or both of the surround (rear) speakers. The unique, easy-to-hide Acoustimass® module delivers bass for all channels. At any point in a surround sound performance, you may hear sound from all or just a few of the speakers, but the overall experience puts you in the center of the action.

To select surround-encoded program material, look for any of the terms Surround, Dolby® Surround, Dolby Pro-Logic and the double-D symbol  * on tapes and discs, and the word "surround" preceding a TV broadcast. Your Acoustimass 600 home theater speakers are also compatible with Dolby Digital® receivers and program material. (Instructions on using your surround or digital receiver with the Acoustimass 600 speaker system are provided on pages 14 and 15.)

You can also enjoy a wide variety of stereo programming that is not surround-encoded with your Acoustimass 600 speakers. Simply adjust your receiver as described on page 14.

* Dolby, Dolby Surround, Dolby Pro-Logic, Dolby Digital, and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.

Unpacking the system

WARNING: The Acoustimass® module weighs 19 pounds (8.6 kg). Use good lifting practice to avoid injury. To avoid danger of suffocation, keep the plastic bags that wrap these speakers out of the reach of children.

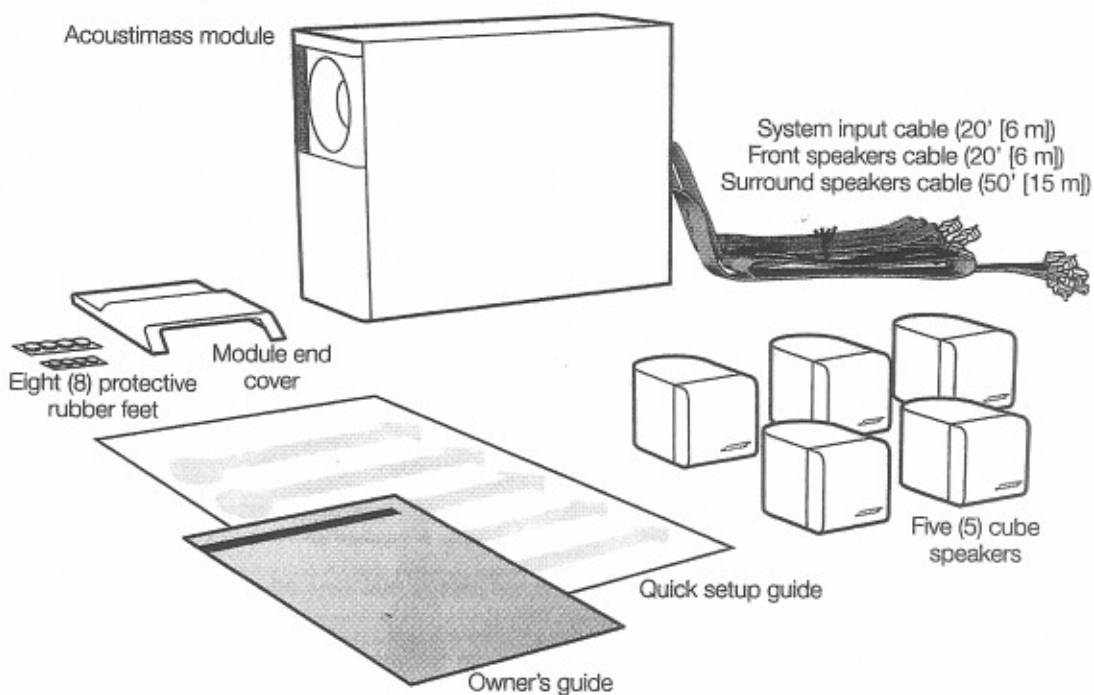
Unpack the system carefully:

1. Remove any staples from the opened carton flaps.
2. Lift out the two brown inner cartons.
3. Remove the five cube speakers from their packaging.
4. Remove the Acoustimass module end cover from its packaging.
5. Gently roll the carton over onto its side and then onto its opening.
6. Carefully lift the carton from around the Acoustimass module and packing cushions.
7. Do not detach the removable cables connected to the Acoustimass module.
8. If the speakers or the Acoustimass module appear damaged, do not use them. Repack everything in the original carton and contact your authorized Bose® dealer immediately.

Note: Now is a good time to record the serial number of these speakers on page 3 of this guide and on your warranty card. It is a good idea to save all packing materials for possible future use.

Figure 1

What comes in the carton



Placing your Acoustimass® 600 speakers to achieve realistic home theater sound

The center speaker localizes action and dialogue on your screen. Sound from the center speaker should seem to come from within the picture.

The left and right front speakers create a sound image wider than the screen that seems natural to viewers sitting anywhere in the room.

The surround speakers add subtle sounds and special effects that expand the visual image, bringing the viewer into the center of the action. The surround speakers should be positioned to allow the sound to reach the viewer from both sides, rather than from directly behind.

You can place the front and center speakers near a TV screen with no picture interference, because all of the cube speakers are magnetically shielded.

The Acoustimass module is not magnetically shielded and should be at least 2 feet (60 cm) from your screen, but at the same end of the room as the front and center speakers. Bose® Acoustimass speaker technology takes advantage of the fact that the source of bass sound is difficult to locate, so you can hide the Acoustimass module conveniently out of sight. Placing it near a corner increases bass output from the module.

A suggested home theater layout that conforms to the guidelines described above is shown in Figure 2.

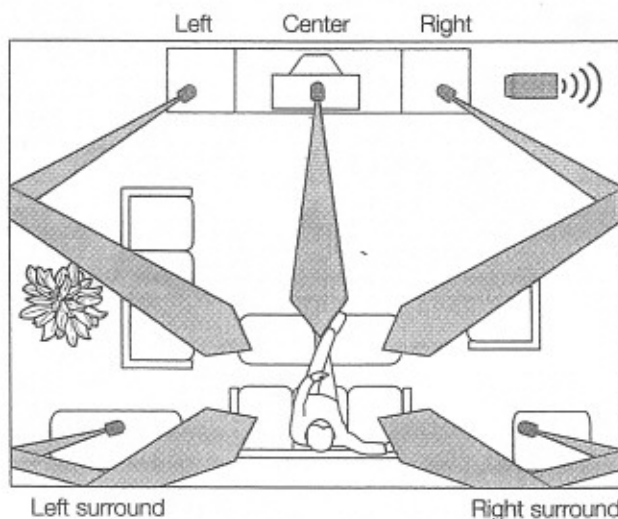
You may choose to place the speakers differently, to take advantage of the sound characteristics of different rooms. For instance, where walls are absent or the room is large, you may prefer not to angle the left and right speakers as shown. You can experiment to find the best position.

Your speakers come with sufficient cable lengths to allow you to have the following distances between components:

- Up to 20 feet (6 m) between the Acoustimass module and the receiver.
- Up to 20 feet (6 m) between the Acoustimass module and the front and center cube speakers.
- Up to 50 feet (15 m) between the Acoustimass module and the surround speakers.

Figure 2

Speaker placement



Selecting locations for your speakers

The lengths of cable supplied with your Acoustimass® 600 system provide a great deal of flexibility in speaker placement. Optional Bose® extension cable, add-on connectors, wall brackets, and floor stands can add to your choices. See "Accessories" on page 18.

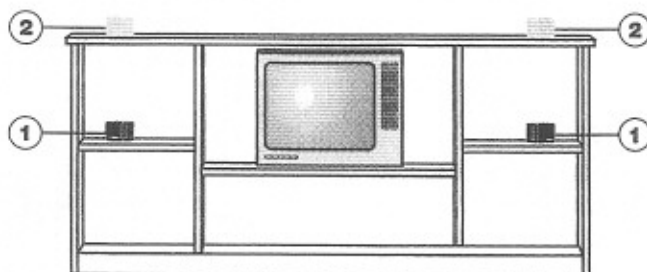
Figure 3

The terminal on the back of a left or right front cube speaker



Figure 4

Suggested choices for left and right front speaker placement



CAUTION: Choose a stable and level surface for your speakers. Vibration can cause the cube speakers to move, particularly on smooth surfaces like marble, glass, or highly polished wood. If you are placing the center speaker on top of the television, use the smaller of the two sets of rubber feet provided. You may obtain additional rubber feet (part no. 178321), free of charge, by contacting Bose Customer Service (see listings on the inside back cover).

Figure 5

The terminal on the back of a center or surround cube speaker



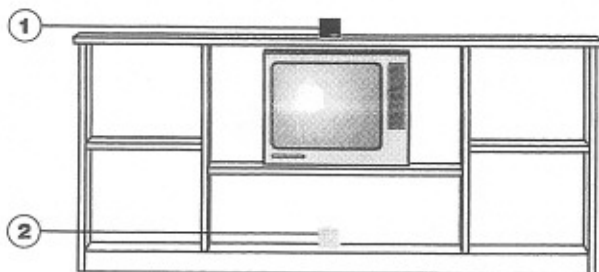
Center cube speaker

Select one speaker with a gray terminal marked C/S as the front center speaker (Figure 5). Sound from the center speaker should seem to come from within the picture. Figure 6 shows suggested positions for the center speaker.

- Place the center cube speaker above, below, or on top of your television. If below, be sure that the cube speaker is not supporting the weight of the television in any way.
- Aim this speaker straight ahead for on-screen imaging.
- Keep it as close to the vertical center of the screen as possible, for the most accurate dialogue reproduction (positions 1 or 2).

Figure 6

Suggested choices for center speaker placement



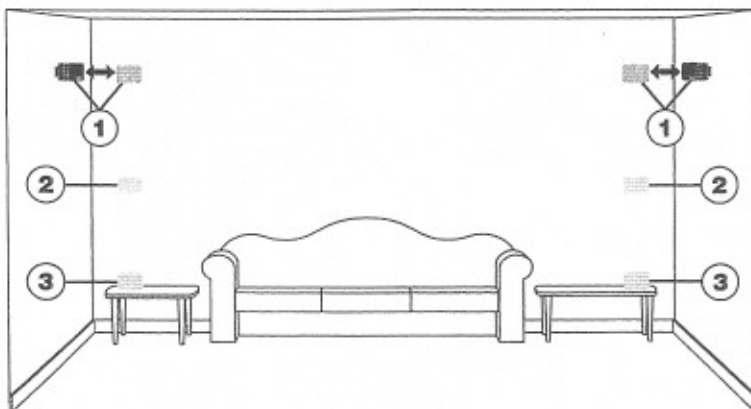
Surround cube speakers

The remaining two speakers with gray terminals marked C/S are the surround speakers. Left and right rear channel sound should reach the viewer from both sides, rather than from directly behind (Figure 7).

- Put one on the left and the other on the right, beside or just to the rear of the home theater seating area.
- Position them so they do not create a direct sound path to the listener's ears (position 1).
- Generally aim them away from the viewers, toward the rear or side walls (position 2 or 3).
- If you want these speakers directly behind the seating area, make sure they are not directed at the viewers.
- The rear speaker to your left as you face the TV connects to the left surround (LS) jack on the Acoustimass® module.

Figure 7

Suggested choices for surround (rear) speaker placement



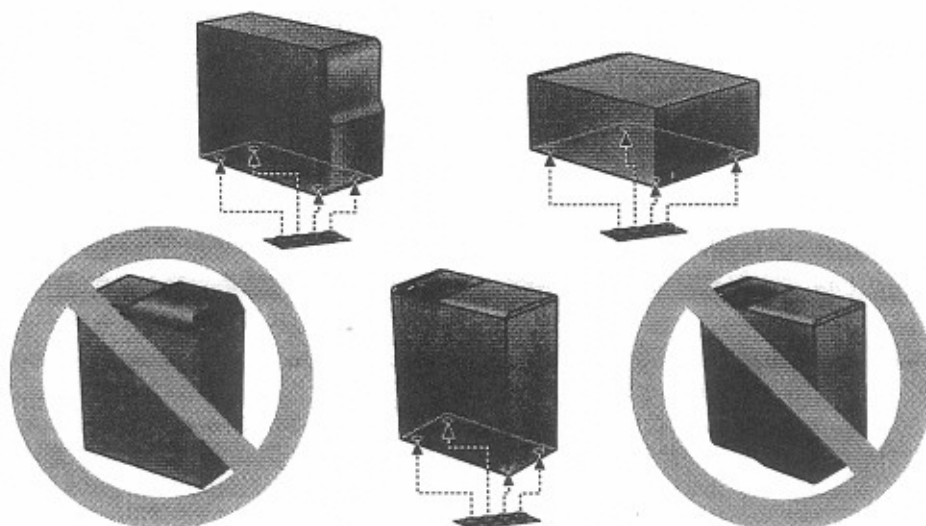
Acoustimass® module

Bose® recommends putting your Acoustimass module at the same end of the room as the television. To prevent interference, keep the module at least 2 feet (60 cm) from the television.

- You may hide the Acoustimass module behind or under furniture, but do not block the opening. Be sure there is at least 2 inches (5 cm) between the opening and any surface.
- Placing the module close to a corner increases the bass output. Moving it toward the center of the wall reduces the output.
- If the opening faces the wall, it further increases the bass. If it faces away, it decreases the bass. For the most bass response, place the opening 2 to 3 inches (5 to 8 cm) from a wall or corner.
- Stand the module vertically or horizontally (Figure 8). Attach the large set of rubber feet to the bottom surface. If you plan to stand the module on the cable connection end, do not use the module end cover, but be sure to attach the large rubber feet to protect the connections.

Figure 8

Acoustimass® module positions



Connecting the speakers

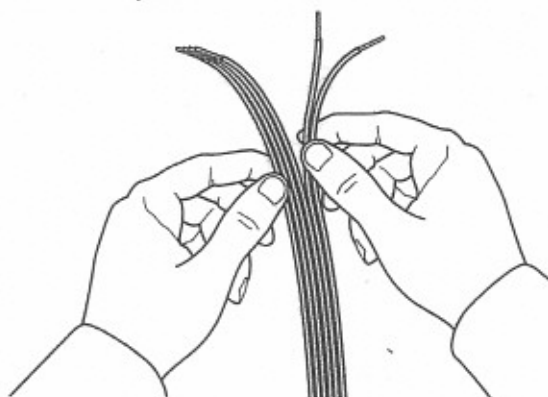
CAUTION: Before making any connections, turn off your receiver or amplifier and unplug it from the outlet (AC power mains). Not doing so may result in damage to your system.

CAUTION: Never use broken or frayed wiring which can result in electrical shock or damage to your system.

The supplied cables make it easy for you to connect your system. The connections at the Acoustimass module are already made for you. There are three sets of cables, joined together to form ribbons, which may be separated or "unzipped" (Figure 9) as needed to comfortably reach the speakers.

Figure 9

Separating cables



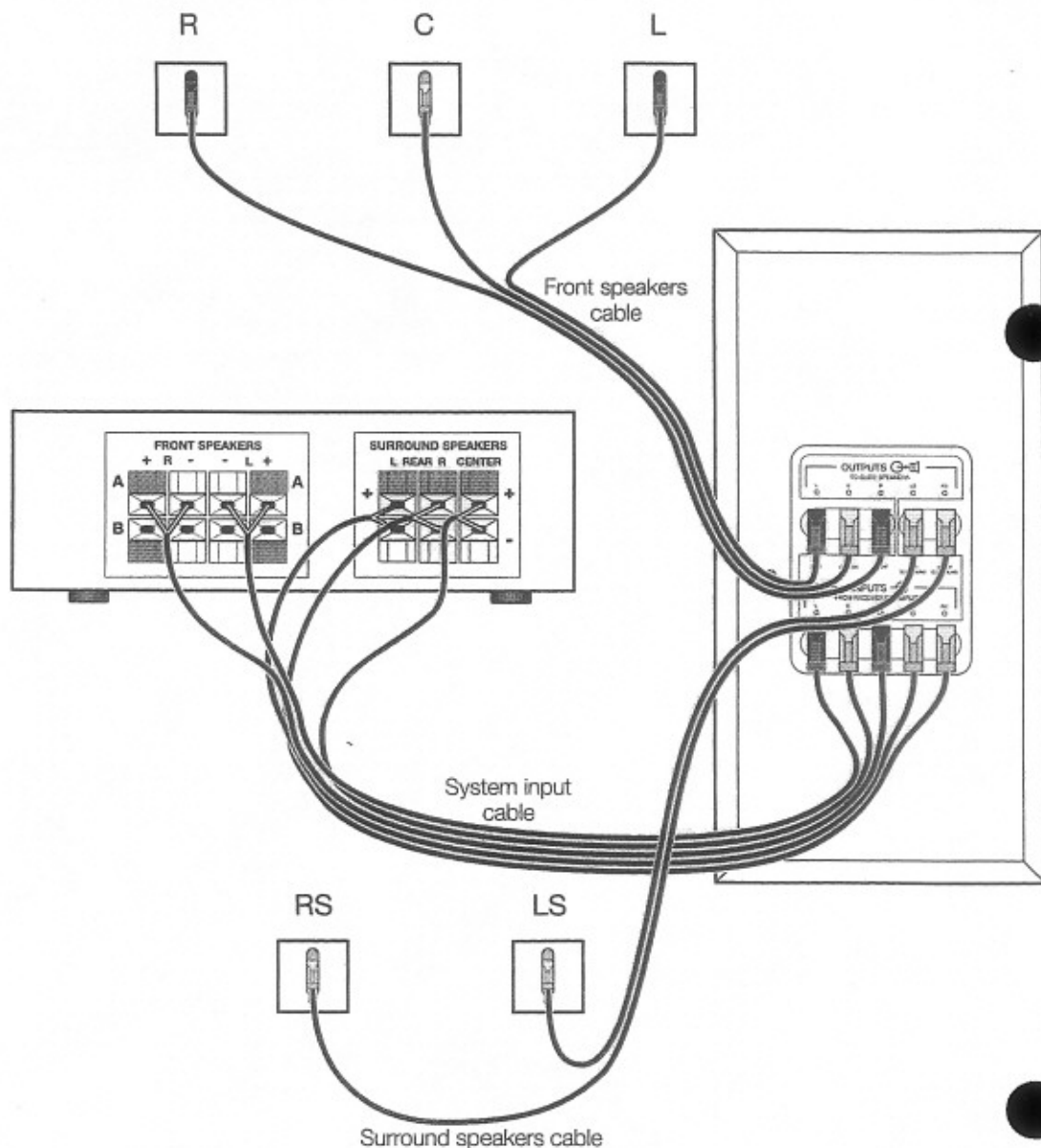
Separate the wire pairs as you lay out the cable lengths. You may want to keep unextended lengths of cable joined, making them easier to hide. Refer to Figure 10 on for an overview of the completed connections.

- Use the 20 foot (6 m) front speakers cable with *three pairs of wires* to connect the Acoustimass® module to the center, left front, and right front cube speakers.
- Use the 50 foot (15 m) surround speakers cable with *two pairs of wires* to connect the Acoustimass module to the left and right surround cube speakers.
- Use the 20 foot (6 m) system input cable with *five pairs of wires* to connect the Acoustimass module to the outputs on the receiver. Separate these wires just enough to reach the connectors.

Note: If you have already installed cable behind walls or under floors, or believe you need to splice the supplied cables for any other reason, inquire about the add-on connectors and extension cable available from Bose® Customer Service. Refer to page 18 for details on these accessories. Bose Customer Service telephone numbers are listed on the inside back cover.

Figure 10

System Connections



Connecting the Acoustimass® module to the center and front cube speakers



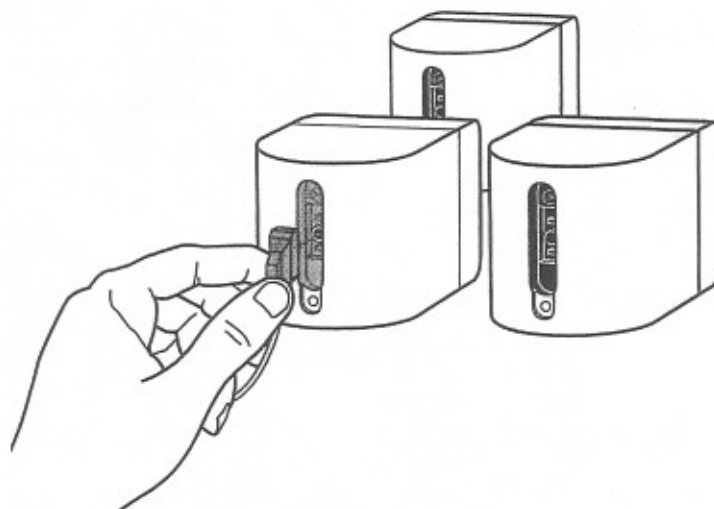
CAUTION: Never connect the cubes directly to the receiver. Always connect the cube speakers to the Acoustimass module, then connect the Acoustimass module to the receiver.

Use the 20 foot (6 m) cable with three pairs of wires to connect the Acoustimass module to the center and front cube speakers. Just press the custom connectors into place.

- The gray connector goes into the gray terminal on the center speaker (Figure 11).
- The black connector marked L goes into the black terminal on the left front speaker (to the left of the TV as you face it).
- The black connector marked R goes into the black terminal on the right front speaker.

Figure 11

Inserting gray connector marked C into the gray terminal marked C/S



At the Acoustimass module, check to be sure the connectors are firmly inserted into the proper OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS jacks.

- The black L connector goes into the L jack.
- The gray C connector goes into the C jack.
- The black R connector goes into the R jack.

Connecting the Acoustimass module to the surround cube speakers

Use the 50 foot (15 m) cable with gray connectors to join the Acoustimass module to the surround speakers.

- The gray connector marked LS goes into the gray terminal on the left surround speaker (to your left as you face the TV).
- The gray connector marked RS goes into the gray terminal on the right surround speaker.

At the Acoustimass module, make sure the gray connectors are firmly inserted into the LS and RS OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS jacks.

Connecting the Acoustimass® module to your receiver



CAUTION: Do not connect the Acoustimass module directly to your television unless the television provides surround decoding circuitry and amplified outputs for all channels.

Use the 20 foot (6 m) cable with five wire pairs to connect the Acoustimass module to your surround sound receiver. Refer to Figure 10.

1. Connect all wires to the receiver in phase (+ to + and - to -).
 - a. Connect each wire marked with a red collar (+) to the appropriate red (+) output.
 - b. Connect each plain wire (-) to the appropriate black (-) output.
2. Match the label on the red collar of each wire pair to the SPEAKER OUTPUT label on the receiver:
 - a. LEFT wires go to the LEFT FRONT SPEAKER OUTPUT connections.
 - b. CENTER wires go to the CENTER SPEAKER OUTPUT connections.
 - c. RIGHT wires go to the RIGHT FRONT SPEAKER OUTPUT connections.
 - d. LEFT SURROUND wires go to the LEFT SURROUND (rear) SPEAKER OUTPUT connections.
 - e. RIGHT SURROUND wires go to the RIGHT SURROUND (rear) SPEAKER OUTPUT connections.
3. At the Acoustimass module, check to make sure all connectors are firmly inserted into the proper INPUTS FROM RECEIVER OR AMPLIFIER jacks. Black connectors go into L and R jacks. Gray connectors go into C, LS, and RS jacks.

Checking your connections

Check all connections from the receiver to the Acoustimass module and the module to the cube speakers. Check to be sure all speakers are connected to the proper terminals according to their position in your room. Refer to Figure 10.

At the receiver, make sure the wires are connected in phase (+ to + and - to -). Incorrect wiring can result in a total loss of Acoustimass module output.

Be sure to correct any wiring problems before you plug your receiver in and turn it on.



CAUTION: Do not allow exposed wires to brush against each other; this could damage your receiver.

Attaching the module end cover

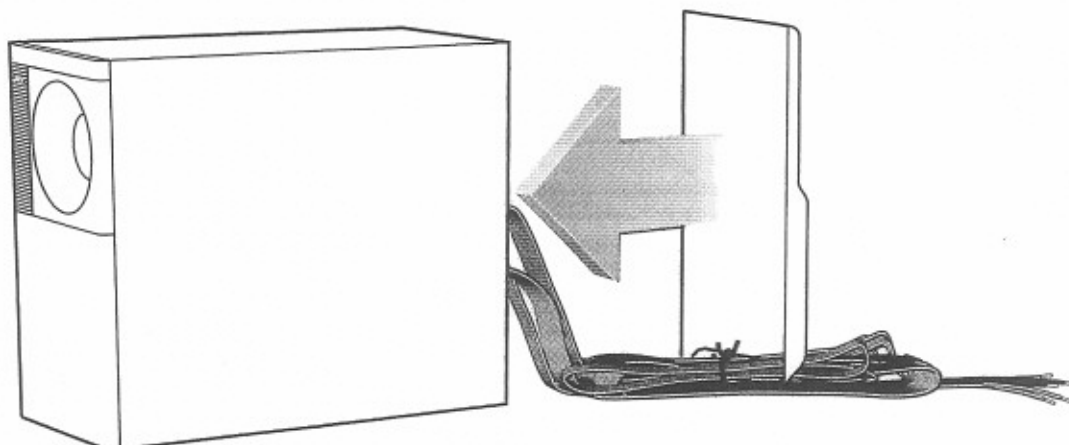
The module end cover is designed to hide the cabling and extend the smooth, clean lines of the Acoustimass® module. However, because the cover has a beveled surface, you cannot stand the module on that end with the cover in place.

If you plan to use the cover, attach it to the cable end of the module after all connections have been checked (Figure 12). Gently push the end cover into the grommets on the Acoustimass module.

Your set up is complete. Enjoy your Acoustimass 600 speaker system.

Figure 12

The module end cover fits over the cables



Listening to realistic home theater sound

Each speaker produces only the sound directed to it by the steering logic in your surround sound receiver. During a surround sound program, the front and center speakers will emit sound almost constantly, while the surround speakers may be silent for periods of time.

🎵 **Note:** If your television has surround sound or any sound enhancement feature built in ("wide" or "enhanced"), turn it off. Set the TV for stereo playback only.

Using your Dolby Pro-Logic receiver

For use in video applications, be sure the SURROUND SOUND *center mode* of your receiver is set to NORMAL (Figure 13). You may depress the Loudness button (Bass Boost or Super Bass on some receivers) to see if you prefer that video sound.

Figure 13

A Dolby Pro-Logic receiver set for NORMAL center mode



Using your receiver's test tone to verify connections and adjust the volume level

1. Press test tone ON at the remote.
2. Listen and confirm that each speaker reproduces sound as the tone moves from speaker to speaker in this order: LEFT, CENTER, RIGHT, SURROUND. One tone should come from both SURROUND speakers at the same time.
3. Adjust the volume levels of the CENTER and SURROUND speakers to achieve the balance you prefer for your listening area.

Instructions for this process vary, depending on the brand and model of receiver you are using. Follow your receiver owner's guide instructions for more details on using the test tone.

Balancing the bass and treble

Upholstered furniture, wall-to-wall carpets, or heavy drapes can muffle treble (high notes), making your speaker system sound bass heavy. Bare floors and walls and hard surface furniture can make your speaker system sound too shrill. After listening to your speakers, you may want to adjust the balance of bass and treble. You can use the bass and treble controls on your receiver.

Listening to spacious stereo sound

Try setting your receiver to the HALL, DANCE, or JAZZ surround mode while listening to music from a CD or cassette tape. This enables you to enjoy a wide stereo image reproduced by the front speakers, plus the ambience and spaciousness provided by your surround speakers.

Using your Dolby Digital receiver

Your Acoustimass® 600 speakers are compatible with the output from Dolby Digital receivers. Take special care to set the channel output according to the specifications listed in the chart below. The Acoustimass speaker system is a full-range system and must be set as LARGE speakers on the Dolby Digital screen menu. An exception is the center speaker, which must be set as SMALL. Turn the subwoofer OFF and turn the LFE (low-frequency effects) ON.

Receiver channel output	Proper setting
Left and Right Front	LARGE
Center	SMALL
Left and Right Surround	LARGE
Subwoofer	OFF
LFE (low-frequency effects)	ON

Follow the receiver owner's guide instructions for using the receiver test tone to verify your connections and to adjust the volume levels of the speakers.

Cleaning your speakers

Wipe the cube speakers using a damp cloth. Do not use solvents or chemicals. Do not allow liquids to spill on or objects to drop into the Acoustimass® module or the speaker grilles. You may vacuum the grilles carefully; the drivers are directly behind the grille cloth. No other maintenance is needed.

Troubleshooting

If you have a problem with your Acoustimass 600 speaker system, turn off your sound source and try the solutions below. If you still have a problem, contact your Bose® dealer to arrange for service. To contact Bose directly, refer to the inside back cover of this guide.

Problem	What to do
System does not function at all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure the power cord of the receiver is plugged into an operating AC wall outlet and the receiver is turned on.• Be sure to select a source at the receiver (video, CD, tuner).
No sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check the cube speaker and Acoustimass module connections. Turn on the receiver.• Check connections of external components to the receiver.• Increase the volume.• Disconnect any headphones.
No surround sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If your surround sound receiver is Pro-Logic, be sure your receiver is connected to a stereo sound source (TV, VCR, laserdisc or DSS player) by an RCA stereo cable. If the receiver is connected directly to a stereo television, make sure that all other program sources (VCR, laserdisc or DSS player) are connected to the TV using RCA stereo cables as well.• If your surround sound receiver is Dolby Digital, be sure the sound source (DSS, laserdisc or DVD player) is connected directly to your receiver as shown in the owner's guide.• On your TV, turn off enhanced surround sound, if available. Set your TV for stereo only.

Problem	What to do
Sound is distorted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure speaker cable is not damaged. • Reduce the volume of any external components connected to the receiver.
No bass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure speaker connections at the receiver or amplifier are correct (+ to + and - to -). • If you are using the Dolby Pro-Logic mode, make sure surround sound is turned on and the center channel is set to NORMAL. • If you are using Dolby Digital programming, verify that the settings are correct at the receiver. Also, be sure the source material (laserdisc or broadcast programming) is Dolby Digital.
Not enough or too much bass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move the Acoustimass® module closer to a wall or corner to increase bass. Move it farther from a wall or corner to decrease bass. • Adjust the bass or treble control on the receiver slightly.

Warranty period

The Bose® Acoustimass 600 speaker system is covered by a limited five-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 that card, detach, and mail it to Bose.

Customer Service

For help in ordering accessories or solving problems, contact Bose Customer Service. See the inside back cover for offices and phone numbers.

Technical Information

Features

- Acoustimass® speaker technology combined with Adaptive Energy Summing™ speaker design
- Virtually Invisible® speaker design
- Magnetically shielded cube speakers
- Automatic system protection circuitry
- Syncom® computer quality control

Driver Complement

- Cube speakers: One 2.5" (6.4 cm) magnetically shielded wide-range driver per cube
- Acoustimass module: Two 5.25" (13.3 cm) dual-voice coil low-frequency drivers

Compatibility

- Compatible with A/V receivers rated from 4 – 8 ohms
- Compatible with A/V receivers rated from 10 – 100 watts per channel

Finish

- Cube speakers: Black or Arctic white finish
- Acoustimass module: Scratch-resistant Black or Arctic white textured finish

Size/Weight

- Cube speaker: 3 1/8"H x 3"W x 4 3/4"D (7.9 cm x 7.6 cm x 12.2 cm) / 1.1 lb (.5 kg)
- Acoustimass module: 14"H x 7.5"W x 16.5"D (35.5 cm x 19 cm x 41.9 cm) / 19 lb (8.6 kg)
- Packed system: 20.63"H x 11.13"W x 24.5"D (52.3 cm x 28.2 cm x 62.2 cm)
- Total shipping weight: 36 lb (16.4 kg) in shipping carton

Accessories

Figure 14

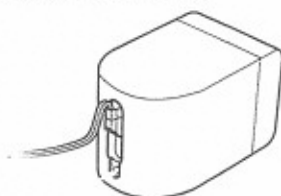
Add-on connector for use with speaker wire



- AC-1 adapter (stripped wire to male RCA connector) (Figure 14)
- Extension cable: PN187092-1 (black) or PN187092-2 (white); 20' (6 m) ribbon cable with five wire-pairs
- Floor stands: UFS-20B (black), UFS-20W (white)
- Table stands: UTS-20B (black), UTS-20W (white)
- Wall brackets: UB-20B (black), UB-20W (white)

Figure 15

Cable connector properly attached to cube speaker for use with bracket or stand



Note: Both UFS-20 floor stands and UB-20 wall brackets fit Acoustimass 600 cube speakers. However, before attaching a stand or a bracket, it is necessary to change the orientation of the cable connector (Figure 15). Turn the connector upside down before inserting it into the terminal on the back of the cube speaker. When it is correctly attached for use with a floor stand or bracket, the cable will run up rather than down from the cube speaker.

