

**Bose® Acoustimass®-HT**  
**Complete Home Theater Speaker Package**

Owner's Guide

Brugervejledning

Bedienungsanleitung

Guía del usuario

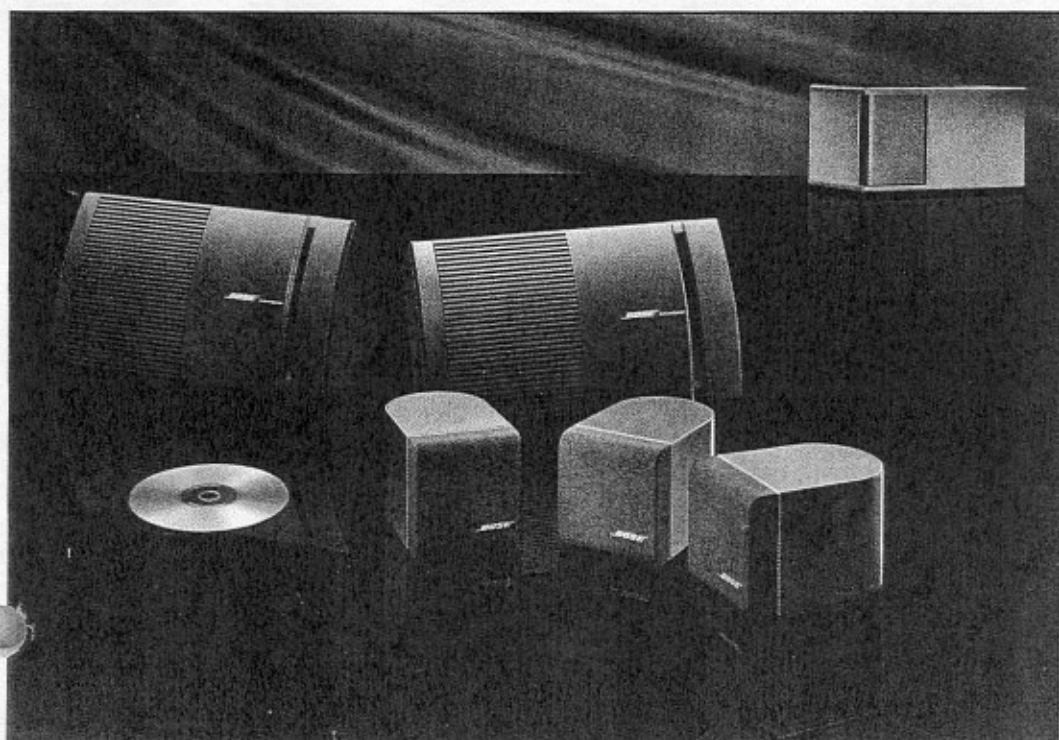
Notice d'utilisation

Manuale di istruzioni

Gebruiksaanwijzing

Bruksanvisningen

***BOSE***



## Thank you

Congratulations on your purchase of the Acoustimass®-HT complete home theater speaker package from Bose®. Advanced speaker technologies, quality construction, and all-in-one convenience make this speaker package a superior choice for full enjoyment of home theater. Engineered for rich, natural sound, Acoustimass-HT speakers offer a performance that invites greater listening pleasure.

## For your records

A serial number is located near the connection panel on the Acoustimass bass module. The date of manufacture (DOM) is printed on the back of both surround speakers.

Bass module serial number: \_\_\_\_\_

Surround speaker DOM: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 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®-HT speakers**

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

**19 September 1995**

Bose B.V., Nijverheidstraat 8  
1135 GE Edam, The Netherlands

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Paul Olean'.

Paul Olean, General Manager, Bose  
Europe, Manufacturer's authorized  
EU representative

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## Before you begin

Thank you for choosing the Bose® Acoustimass®-HT complete home theater speaker package. It includes five speakers and a bass module, brackets, speaker cable, and protective rubber feet. This package is designed for use with audio for video (A/V) surround sound components that have five amplified speaker outputs.

Acoustimass speaker technology is known for producing bold, lifelike sound. It also allows you to hide the bass module from sight, so all of the front and center channel sound appears to come from the cube speakers alone. These Virtually Invisible® speakers take up very little space, which adds to their impact.

The surround speakers in this package feature other Bose technologies, including the 4.5-inch StarDriver™ full-range driver. It delivers performance that's usually associated with much larger speakers.

You can mount the surround speakers at the rear of your room, using the custom-designed brackets included in this package. A second set of brackets provides mounting for the left and right cube speakers at the front. This makes out-of-the-way speaker placement both simple and convenient.

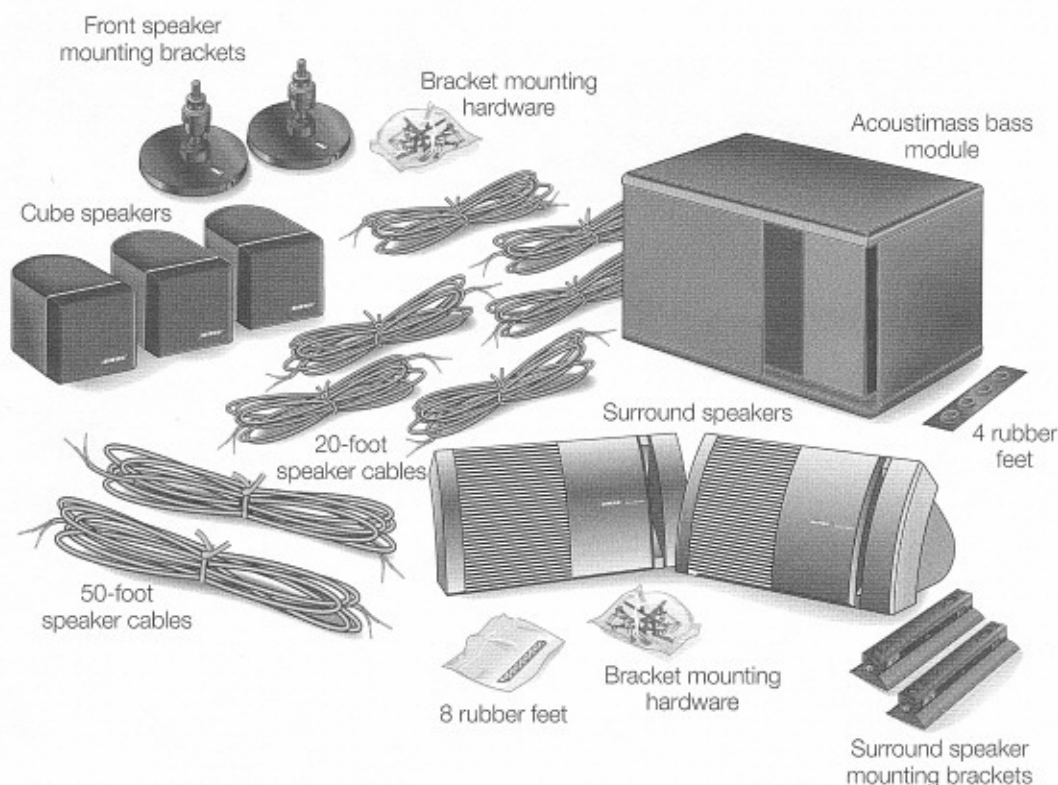
Quality construction, advanced technologies, and convenience make the Acoustimass-HT speaker package a superior choice for full listening, and viewing, enjoyment. This system is also significantly different from conventional speakers, so be sure to read this guide. It will help you set up and use your speakers properly.

## Unpack the carton

Carefully unpack the carton. Save all packing materials for possible future use.

Inspect the speakers (Figure 1). If any part appears damaged, do not use them. Repack all parts in the original carton and call your authorized Bose dealer immediately.

**Note:** Now is a good time to record the serial number and the date of manufacture (DOM) on page 2 of this guide and on your warranty card.



**Figure 1**

What comes in the carton

- Acoustimass bass module
- 2 surround speakers
- 3 cube speakers
- 6 20-foot speaker cables
- 2 50-foot speaker cables
- 4 rubber feet (for the bass module)
- 8 rubber feet (for the surround speakers)
- 2 front speaker mounting brackets
- 2 surround speaker mounting brackets
- 2 packets of bracket mounting hardware

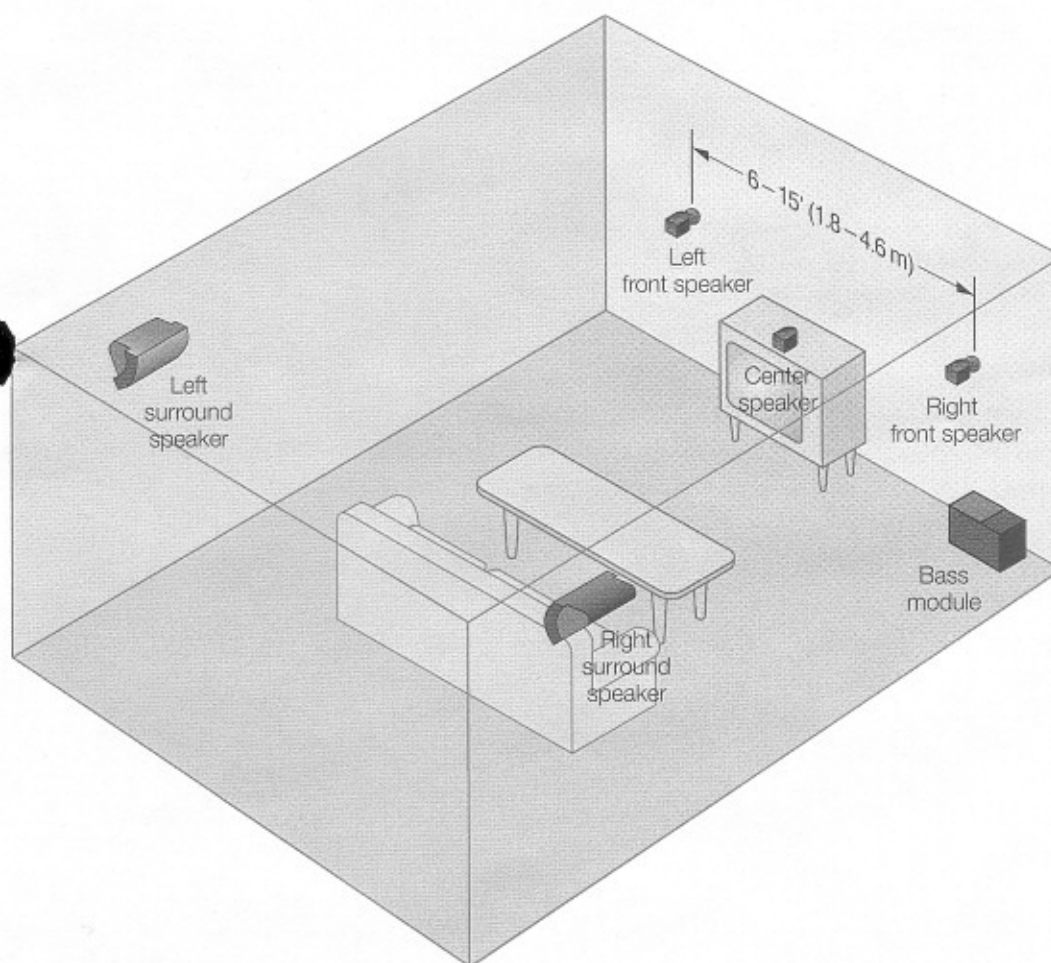


## Where to put your Acoustimass®-HT speakers

Bose® designed your Acoustimass-HT complete home theater speakers to provide high performance and flexibility.

The identical cube speakers are magnetically shielded, allowing you to place them near a TV screen without causing interference. The bass module, which is unshielded, should be at least 2 feet (.6 m) from your screen, but at the same end of the room as the cube speakers. The surround speakers, which are also unshielded, should be placed toward the rear of your room and at least 2 feet (.6 m) from your screen.

Keep these guidelines in mind, and be aware that pure bass tones are multi-directional. That means you can actually hide the module behind curtains or under furniture. Without audible distortion to give away the location of the bass module, all the sound will seem to come from the small speakers around the room.



**Figure 2**

Where to place Acoustimass-HT speakers

## Cube speakers

The cube speakers reproduce the left, right, and center channel sound directed to them by an A/V receiver with surround decoding circuitry. This decoding sends much of the movie dialogue to the center channel speaker, for example.

For accurate video sound:

- Place the center channel speaker directly above or below your television (Figure 2).
- Place the left and right front speakers at least 6 feet (1.8 m) apart. You may prefer them up to 15 feet (4.6 m) apart.
- If you mount the left and right speakers on the ceiling, remove the front grilles and turn them so the logo appears right side up.
- Where each speaker is placed determines whether it connects to the RIGHT, CENTER, or LEFT outputs on the bass module.

**Note:** If you do not use brackets to mount them, be sure to place cube speakers only on surfaces that are stable and level. For some surfaces, such as marble or glass, we recommend that you use rubber feet to prevent speaker movement due to vibrations. Bose® will provide these rubber feet free of cost. To request them, contact Bose (see the inside back page) or your local Bose service agency and ask for Part Number 178321.

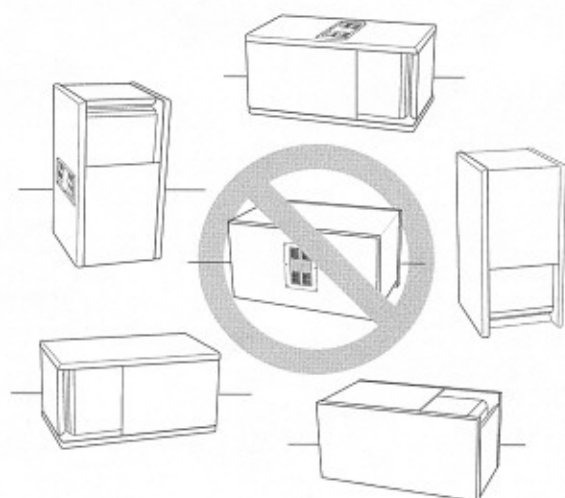
## Bass module

For a good balance of sound, Bose recommends putting your bass module and cube speakers at the same end of the room. You can stand the module vertically or horizontally (Figure 3), allowing you to hide it behind or under furniture. Place the open end toward, along, or away from a wall, making sure not to block the opening.

For the sound you prefer:

- Place the module along a wall near the corner, with the openings toward the wall to increase the bass or away from the wall to decrease the bass.
- To get the most bass output, place the opening end 2 to 3 inches (5 to 7.6 cm) from a wall. (Leave at least 2 inches between the bass module openings and any surface.)
- To reduce the bass, move the module away from the corner, more toward the center of the wall.
- To prevent interference, keep the module at least 2 feet (.6 m) from any TV.

When you have decided how you will position the module, attach the supplied rubber feet to the bottom surface. They provide additional stability and protection.



## CAUTION:

Before mounting speakers to a wall or ceiling, be sure to read all of these guidelines and use only the supplied brackets. Refer to the bracket instructions in the Appendix. Do not connect the speakers before looking over those instructions.

**Figure 3**

Bass module positions

## CAUTION:

Be sure to attach rubber feet to the bottom surface. If the terminal side of your bass module faces down, the rubber feet will minimize pressure on the wires, floor scratches, and speaker movement.

## Surround speakers

These speakers provide surround sound effects at the rear of your viewing area (Figure 2).

Brackets that come with these speakers allow you to mount them on the wall or ceiling in a vertical or horizontal position (see Note below). If you prefer, set the speakers on a table or shelf.

For accurate surround sound:

- Place the speakers as far apart as your room allows.
- Make sure they are behind the general viewing area, along the rear wall or to the rear of side walls.
- Place both speakers at the same height.
- Keep these speakers at least 2 feet (.6 m) from your TV.
- Where each speaker is placed determines whether it connects to the receiver outputs marked LEFT or RIGHT.
- When you mount the speakers on brackets, be sure their position allows for room to tighten the bracket screw using a screw driver.

**Note:** If you use the supplied brackets, refer to the bracket instructions in the Appendix. Do not connect the speakers before reading those instructions.

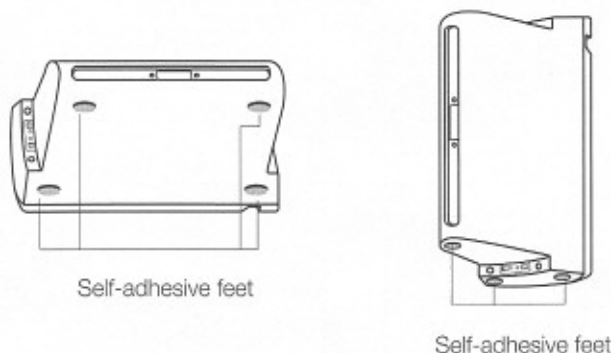
- To stand them vertically or horizontally without using brackets, apply the rubber feet to the bottom surface of the speakers (Figure 4).

### CAUTION:

Do not place the surround speakers within 2 feet (.6 m) of a TV or computer screen. The speakers are not magnetically shielded and will cause serious video interference if placed too close to a screen.

### CAUTION:

The bracket screw must be inserted from the bottom on a vertically mounted bracket.



**Figure 4**

Self-adhesive feet attached to a speaker in horizontal or vertical position

## Connect the speakers

Use the supplied 20-foot speaker cables to connect the cube speakers to the Acoustimass® module and the module to your receiver. Use the 50-foot cables to connect the surround speakers to your receiver.

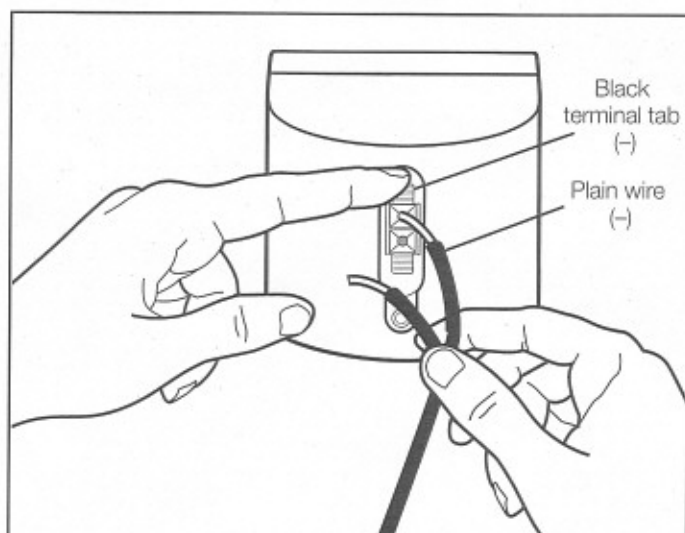
**Note:** If you need longer speaker cables, splice in 18-gauge (0.75 mm<sup>2</sup>) or thicker cable. Make sure to attach the wires positive to positive and negative to negative.

Speaker cable consists of two insulated wires. The insulation around one wire is marked with a red band or stripe. This wire is always positive (+). The plain wire is always negative (-). These correspond to the positive (red) and negative (black) terminals on the back of each speaker or receiver. Be sure to connect each wire to the proper terminal, positive to positive and negative to negative.

### Cube speakers

For each connection to the cube speakers, push the terminal tab down and insert the appropriate wire into the exposed hole (Figure 5).

1. Connect one end of a 20-foot cable to the right cube speaker.
2. Connect the other end to the RIGHT OUTPUT TO CUBE SPEAKERS terminals on the Acoustimass bass module (see Figure 6 on page 10).
3. Repeat to connect the left cube speaker to the LEFT OUTPUT TO CUBE SPEAKERS terminals.
4. Repeat to connect the center cube speaker to CENTER OUTPUT TO CUBE SPEAKERS terminals.



### CAUTION:

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

### CAUTION:

Do not connect the cube speakers directly to the receiver.

**Figure 5**

Inserting wire into cube speaker terminals



### Bass module

Pay careful attention to connecting all cable wires positive to positive and negative to negative (in phase). Out of phase wiring can cause total loss of bass module output.

Your receiver may have more than one pair of front speaker outputs. They are usually labeled Speakers A and Speakers B. Use either set of outputs unless one is designated for a particular ohm rating. In that case, use the outputs intended for use with speakers rated 8 ohms (8Ω) or less.

1. Connect the end of a 20-foot speaker cable to the RIGHT INPUT FROM RECEIVER OR AMPLIFIER terminals on the Acoustimass® bass module (see Figure 6 on page 10).
2. Connect the other end to the RIGHT FRONT SPEAKER outputs on your receiver.
3. Repeat 1 and 2 to connect the LEFT INPUT FROM RECEIVER OR AMPLIFIER terminals to the LEFT FRONT SPEAKER outputs on your receiver.
4. Repeat to connect the CENTER INPUT FROM RECEIVER OR AMPLIFIER terminals to the CENTER SPEAKER outputs on your receiver. If there are two sets of center channel outputs, use either set.

**Note:** If your receiver's center channel is not amplified you must connect an amplifier to your receiver. Use RCA cable to connect the center channel RCA-type output on the receiver to the RCA-type input on the amplifier. Then connect the Acoustimass bass module directly to the amplifier, instead of to the receiver.

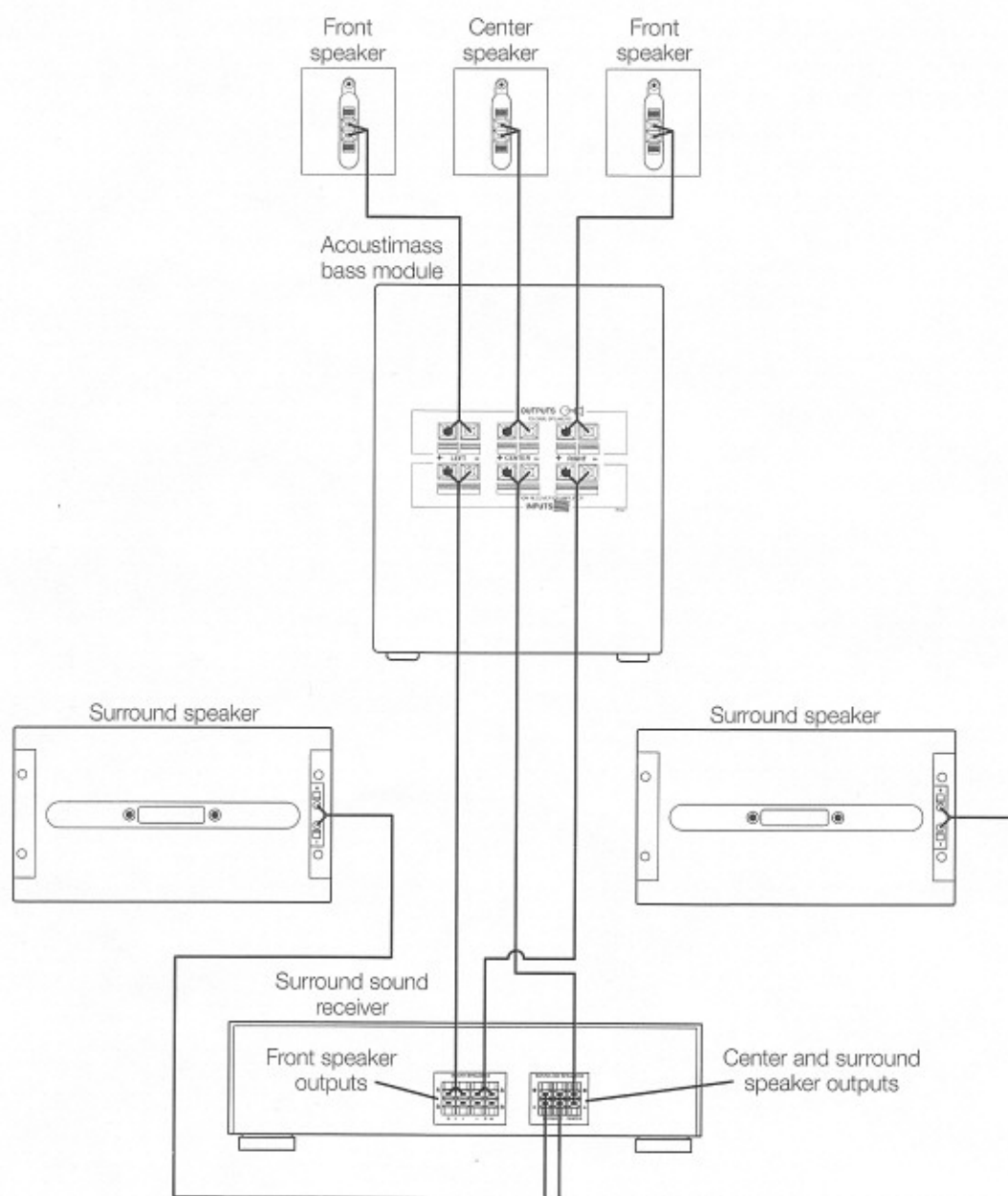
### Surround speakers

For connections to the surround speakers, slide one terminal lever aside to insert the appropriate wire. Release the tab to secure the wire

1. Connect one end of a 50-foot cable to one speaker.
2. Connect the other end to the RIGHT SURROUND SPEAKER outputs on your receiver.
3. Repeat 1 and 2 to connect the cable from the other speaker to the LEFT SURROUND SPEAKER outputs.

### CAUTION:

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



**Figure 6**

Completed Acoustimass®-HT speaker connections

## Check connections

Check all connections from the receiver to the bass module and the bass module to the cube speakers (Figure 6). Make sure all speakers are connected to the proper terminals according to their position in your room.

Check to make sure you connected the wires positive to positive and negative to negative (in phase). Out of phase wiring can result in a total loss of bass module output. Do not allow exposed wires to brush against each other, which could damage your components.

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

## For realistic home theater sound

Each speaker produces only the sound directed to it by the steering logic in your A/V component. For example, right front channel sound is reproduced by the speaker connected to the RIGHT FRONT SPEAKER outputs of an A/V receiver.

Notice that the surround speakers, which play only when specific sounds are directed to them, deliver subtle effects that add to the overall realism. They are seldom, if ever, as loud as the front speakers.

### How to set your receiver

For use in video applications, be sure the SURROUND SOUND setting of your receiver is on NORMAL (Figure 7).

Follow your receiver owner's guide instructions for testing and adjusting the balance of each speaker. Many of these products provide a reference test signal for balancing the sound. Instructions for this process vary, depending on the brand and model of equipment you are using.

Your speakers are designed to provide full, natural sound reproduction in audio as well as video applications. The type of receiver you use also determines your options. Some receivers limit the use of the center speaker to video applications only. Refer to your receiver owner's guide for details.

### Bass and treble adjustments

Upholstered furniture, wall-to-wall carpets, or heavy drapes can muffle treble (high notes), making your speaker system sound too deep. Bare floors and walls and hard surface 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.

You can use the bass and treble controls on your receiver. Or move the bass module closer to a wall or corner to increase bass. Move it farther from a wall or corner to decrease bass.

**Figure 7**

A receiver set for NORMAL surround sound



## How to clean your speakers

Wipe the cabinets using a soft cloth dampened with 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 or the speaker grilles. If necessary, you can vacuum the grilles carefully. Avoid using much pressure because the drivers are directly behind the grille cloth.

No other regular maintenance is required.

## Troubleshooting problems

If you have a problem with your Acoustimass-HT speakers, turn off your sound source and try the solutions below. If one of these solutions doesn't solve your problem, contact your Bose® dealer to arrange for service. Or, to contact Bose directly, refer to the inside back cover of this guide. Bose Corporation will make every effort to remedy any problem within the terms of your limited warranty.

<b>Problem</b>	<b>What to do</b>
No sound from any speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure the receiver is plugged in and turned on.</li> <li>• Check the volume control.</li> <li>• Check the MUTE button. It should not be selected.</li> <li>• Make sure headphones are not connected to the receiver.</li> <li>• Check the surround sound settings on your receiver. Refer to the owner's manual for that component.</li> </ul>
No sound from one of the cube speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check connections of the cube speaker to the bass module, and the bass module to the receiver. Refer to "Cube speakers" on page 8 and "Bass module" on page 9.</li> <li>• Make sure your receiver has an amplified center channel.</li> </ul>
No sound from one or both surround speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check connections of that speaker to the receiver. Refer to "Surround speakers" on page 9.</li> <li>• Be sure your receiver is set properly for surround sound.</li> <li>• Check the audio source material to be sure it is encoded for surround sound. Remember that surround speakers, which deliver subtle effects, may not have sound directed to them continually.</li> </ul>
Little or no sound from the bass module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check connections of the bass module to the receiver. Make sure it is connected in phase (positive to positive and negative to negative). Refer to "Bass module" on page 9.</li> <li>• Make sure the openings on the module are not blocked.</li> </ul>
Sudden loss of sound from the front speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the output level from your TV or other components connected to the receiver. This will prevent the automatic protection circuitry from limiting input to the speakers.</li> </ul>



Problem	What to do
Sound from the cube speakers does not match the image on the screen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure the cube speaker on your right as you face the screen is connected to the RIGHT OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS on the bass module. Check the other cube speaker connections.</li> </ul>
Sound is distorted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check the speaker cord for damage.</li> <li>• Reduce the output level from your TV or other components connected to the receiver.</li> </ul>
Hum or noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn off any other electronic equipment in the room to see if noise stops.</li> <li>• Check the receiver owner's manual for the recommended distance between it and other electronics.</li> </ul>

## **Warranty period**

Bose® Acoustimass®-HT speakers are 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 (refer to the serial number information you recorded on page 2 of this guide). Then address the card, detach, and mail to Bose.

## **Technical information**

### **Features**

- Virtually Invisible® speaker design
- Acoustimass speaker technology
- Identical magnetically shielded cube speakers
- Two sets of mounting brackets included
- Automatic system protection circuitry
- Syncom® computer quality control

### **Speaker driver complement**

- One 5.25" (13.3 cm) dual voice coil low-frequency driver in bass module
- Three 2.5" (6.4 cm) magnetically shielded wide-range drivers in three cube speakers
- Two StarDriver™ 4.5" (11.4 cm) unshielded full-range drivers in two surround speakers

### **Compatibility/Impedance**

- Compatible with A/V receivers rated from 10-80 watts per channel; rated 4 to 8 ohms impedance

### **Finish**

- Acoustimass module: Scratch-resistant black or white satin vinyl veneer
- Cube speakers: Grey or white polymer finish
- Surround speakers: Grey or white polymer finish

### **Size/Weight**

- Acoustimass module: 8"H x 14"W x 7<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>"D (20 x 35.9 x 19.2 cm)
- Cube speaker: 3"H x 3"W x 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"D (7.9 x 7.9 x 12 cm)
- Surround speaker: 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"H x 11"W x 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>"D (14.6 x 28.0 x 16.5 cm)
- Weight, unpacked: cube speaker 1.1 lb (.5 kg)  
                                    module 12 lb (5.44 kg)  
                                    surround speaker 3.2 lb (1.47 kg)
- Weight of system, packed for shipping: 36 lb (16.3 kg)

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 1-800-288-BOSE (1-800-288-2673)  
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