

---

# HORIZON MCS 90

## 5.1 Surround Speaker System

---

### Español

MCS 90

Sistema Multicanal Boston

### Français

MCS 90

Haut-parleur multivoix Boston

## Important Safety Instructions



This symbol found on the apparatus indicates hazards arising from dangerous voltages.



This symbol found on the apparatus indicates the user should read all safety statements found in the user manual.



This symbol found on the apparatus indicates double insulation.



**WARNING!** To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.



This symbol found on the apparatus indicates that the apparatus must be placed in a separate collection facility for electronic waste and not disposed of with household waste.

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with dry cloth.
7. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
11. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
12. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
13. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
14. Maintain a minimum distance of 50 mm around the front, rear and sides of the apparatus for sufficient ventilation. The ventilation should not be impeded by covering the ventilation openings or placing on or around the apparatus items such as newspapers, table-cloths, curtains, etc.
15. No naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, should be placed on the apparatus.
16. The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing. No objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.
17. Either the power inlet connector on the rear of the apparatus or the power plug at the wall must remain accessible, to be able to disconnect power from the apparatus.
18. To completely disconnect this apparatus from the AC Mains, disconnect the power supply cord plug from the AC receptacle.
19. The mains plug of the power supply cord shall remain readily operable.

<b>Specifications</b>	<b>Satellites</b>	<b>Center Channel</b>	<b>Subwoofer</b>
<b>Frequency Response:</b>	120Hz – 20kHz	120Hz – 20kHz	40 - 180Hz
<b>Recommended Amplifier Power Range:</b>	10 – 100 watts	10 – 100 watts	—
<b>Sensitivity:</b>	88dB [2.8v at 1m]	88dB [2.8v at 1m]	—
<b>Nominal Impedance:</b>	8 ohms	8 ohms	—
<b>Crossover Frequency:</b>	3,000Hz	3,000Hz	—
<b>Amplifier Output:</b>	—	—	100 watts RMS
<b>Woofers:</b>	3" with Phase Plugs & MagnaGuard®	3" with Phase Plugs & MagnaGuard	8"
<b>Tweeter:</b>	½" (13mm)	½" (13mm)	—
<b>Dimensions (H x W x D)</b>	7⅞ x 4⅞ x 4⅞" (189 x 113 x 93mm)	5⅞ x 12⅞ x 3¼" (145 x 321 x 95mm)	12¼ x 15⅞ x 15⅞" (324 x 390 x 390mm)
<b>Weight</b>	2.5 lbs (1.14kg)	4.6 lbs (2.1kg)	22.7 lbs (10.3kg)

## MCS 90 Introduction

Thank you for purchasing a Boston Acoustics Multi-Channel Speaker System. These speakers incorporate high-quality components that produce the famous Boston sound. The system is ideally suited for use as a 5.1 channel solution in a high-quality home theater or music system. The system is complete with everything you need for the typical speaker system including speaker wire, satellite speakers, a center channel speaker, and a subwoofer. Please check out [Bostonacoustics.com/placement](http://Bostonacoustics.com/placement) for information on placing your speakers.

The MCS 90 speaker system delivers exceptionally articulate on-screen dialog, music, effects, and room filling bass from a small, sleek package. Compact driver placement and quality, system specific crossovers assure a wide uniform dispersion for complete coverage of a listening room. All speakers also feature MagnaGuard® magnetic shielding which ensures the speaker's magnetic field does not interfere with the television's picture.

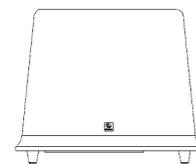
## Unpacking the System

Carefully unpack the system. If there is any sign of damage from transit, report it immediately to your dealer and/or delivery service. Keep the shipping carton and packing materials for future use. Open the package and verify the following contents:

- (4) Satellite speakers**
- (1) Center Channel speaker**
- (1) Subwoofer**
- (2) 40' (12m) speaker wires**
- (3) 15' (4.6m) speaker wires**
- (1) 15' (4.6m) subwoofer cable**
- (8) Rubber bumpers (used for wall mounting)**



(4) Satellite speakers with 1 removable foot



Subwoofer



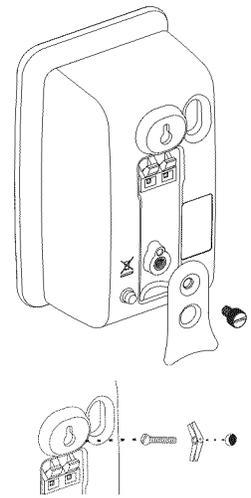
(1) Center Channel speaker with 2 removable feet

## Placement Options

The MCS 90 satellites and center channel are easily placed on a tabletop or wall-mounted. The speakers are configured for tabletop use when you first unpack the system. The foot installed on the rear of the speaker will keep it upright.

The MCS 90 satellites and center channel are designed to easily mount on the wall using the keyhole slot(s) on the back of the speaker. When mounting the speakers to the wall use the supplied rubber bumpers. You must remove the attached foot to wall-mount your speakers. Remove the thumbscrew from the back of the foot. It is slotted for easy removal with a screwdriver or a coin.

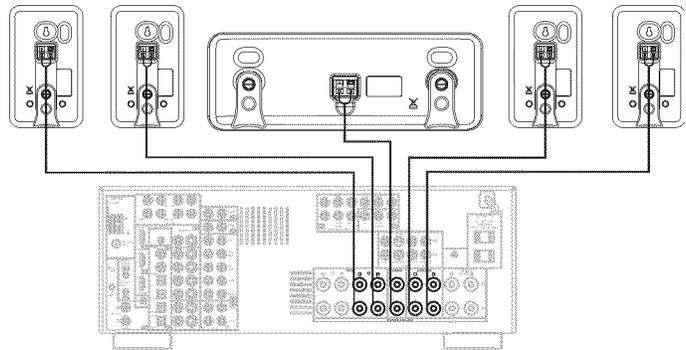
The keyhole mounting option is similar to hanging a picture frame on a wall. Install a #8 screw (not included) into the sheetrock, making sure to go into a stud, and hang the speaker onto the screw head. If a stud is not available, a sheetrock anchor should be used to support the weight of the speaker. It is advisable to connect the speaker wire prior to wall-mounting.



**NOTE:** Because there are so many different kinds of surfaces on which the speakers could be mounted. There is no one type of fastener that we could supply that would work in all the possible situations. So taking into account the surface the speaker is being mounted on, acquire the appropriate type of fasteners. If you're not sure what type of fastener to use, take the mounting bracket to a friendly hardware store, tell them about the wall you're mounting the speaker on, and ask them to recommend an appropriate fastener. Keep in mind the weight of the speaker.

## Speaker Connections

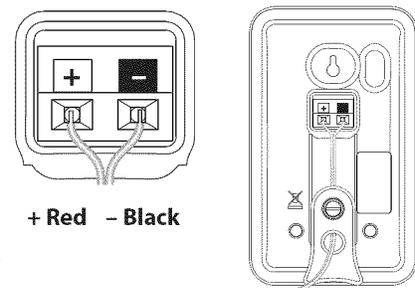
After your speakers are properly placed, you are ready to wire your system. First, turn off all system power. Use the speaker wire included with the system to make your connections. For longer distances, #16 or #18 gauge wire available from your dealer should be used. Please see the illustration for guidance connecting the wires to the MCS 90 satellites and center channel.



For connection to your receiver please refer to its owner's manual.

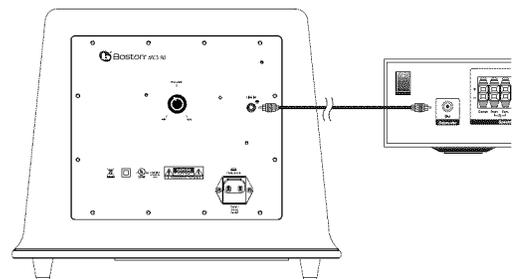
## Important!

To ensure the best performance observe polarities when making speaker connections, as shown in the illustration. Connect each + terminal on the back of the amplifier or receiver to the respective + (red) terminal on each speaker. Connect the - (black) terminals in the same way. If the connections are not made correctly it can cause poor bass response and imaging. Also, to avoid short circuits that may damage your equipment be careful not to let any of the bare wires touch each other.



## Subwoofer Connections

Turn off all power. Use the subwoofer cable included with your system to connect the subwoofer to your receiver's Subwoofer or LFE Output. Connect the other end to the "Line In" on the back of the Subwoofer.



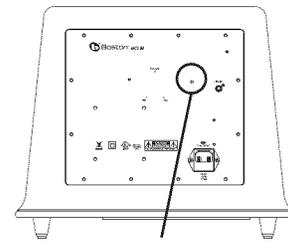
## Subwoofer Controls

### Power On

Plug the subwoofer's AC cord into a wall outlet. We do not recommend using the outlets on the back of the receiver. The subwoofer features auto on/standby. An LED indicator next to the volume control indicates what mode the subwoofer is in.

RED = STANDBY (No signal detected, Amp Off)

GREEN = ON (Signal detected, Amp On)



LED indicator

The subwoofer will automatically enter the Standby mode after several minutes when no signal is detected from your system. The subwoofer will then power ON instantly when a signal is detected.

### Volume Control

Begin by adjusting the Subwoofer Volume Control to the 11 o'clock position. Further adjust the Subwoofer Volume Control until you hear a match in volume between the main speakers and subwoofer. Ideally, bass response should not overpower the room but rather be adjusted so there is a natural blend across the entire musical range.

## Operation

When using the MCS 90 in a Dolby® Digital or DTS™ home theater system, make sure all speakers are set to "Small". When using the system in a Dolby Pro Logic® home theater system, make sure the receiver's center channel mode is set to "Normal."

Some Dolby Digital equipped receivers/processors offer different setup options for each source or surround mode (e.g., CD-stereo, videotape, Dolby Digital, Pro Logic®). In each case, follow your equipment's instructions to ensure that the subwoofer output is turned on and that the speakers are set to "Small" in each mode.

**If your receiver has adjustable crossover settings, we recommend the subwoofer crossover be set at 150Hz.**

Refer to the owner's manual for your AV receiver for any additional recommendations on system operation.

## Maintenance and Service

The satellite and subwoofer enclosures may be cleaned using a soft cloth to remove fingerprints or to wipe off dust. All wiring connections should be inspected and cleaned or remade at least once a year.

If a problem does occur, make sure that all connections are properly made, secure and clean. If a problem occurs in one loud-speaker, rewire that speaker in a different location within the system. Should the problem persist in this speaker the problem is within the speaker. If the speaker sounds fine in the new position it is a strong indication of a more in depth issue with the electronics in the system. In the event that your MCS 90 ever needs service, contact your local Boston Acoustics dealer or visit [www.Bostona.com](http://www.Bostona.com) for a list of dealers in your area.

If your subwoofer does not play, check that all the connectors on the cables are making proper contact and that the AC plug is connected to a "live" receptacle.

## Limited Warranty

Boston Acoustics warrants to the original purchaser of our MCS 90 system that it will be free of defects in materials and workmanship in its mechanical parts for a period of 5 years from the date of purchase. The warranty period for the electrical components of MCS 90 is 1 year.

Your responsibilities are to install and use them according to the instructions supplied, to provide safe and secure transportation to an authorized Boston Acoustics service representative, and to present proof of purchase in the form of your sales slip when requesting service.

Excluded from this warranty is damage that results from abuse, misuse, improper installation, accidents, shipping, or repairs/modifications by anyone other than an authorized Boston Acoustics service representative.

This warranty is limited to the Boston Acoustics product and does not cover damage to any associated equipment. This warranty does not cover the cost of removal or reinstallation. This warranty is void if the serial number has been removed or defaced. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

## If Service Seems Necessary

First, contact the dealer from whom you purchased the product. If that is not possible, write to:

Boston Acoustics, Inc.  
300 Jubilee Drive  
Peabody, MA 01960 USA

Or contact us via e-mail at:  
[support@bostona.com](mailto:support@bostona.com)

We will promptly advise you of what action to take. If it is necessary to return your MCS 90 to the factory, please ship it prepaid. After it has been repaired, we will return it freight prepaid in the United States and Canada.



### For EU Customers Only

This symbol found on the product indicates that the product must not be disposed of with household waste. Instead, it may be placed in a separate collection facility for electronic waste or returned to a retailer when purchasing similar product. The producer paid to recycle this product. Doing this contributes to reuse and recycling, minimizes adverse effects on the environment and human health and avoids any fines for incorrect disposal.

Boston Acoustics continually strives to update and improve its products. The specifications and construction details are subject to change without notice.



300 Jubilee Drive, Peabody, MA 01960 USA  
[www.bostonacoustics.com](http://www.bostonacoustics.com)

Boston, Boston Acoustics, MagnaGuard, Kortec, and the Boston Acoustics logo are registered trademarks of Boston Acoustics, Inc. Dolby Digital, and Dolby Pro Logic are registered trademarks of Dolby Laboratories. DTS is a registered trademarks of DTS, Inc. Specifications are subject to change without notice. © 2008 Boston Acoustics, Inc. 142-003282-0