

Instruction Manual



Gershman  Acoustics



Gershman Acoustics Sound and Listening Room

Congratulations,

We appreciate that you have granted us a special place in your living environment and your daily life.

Gershman Acoustics is a designer and manufacturer of meticulously handcrafted loudspeakers for top performance and style.

Our point to point crossovers are made by hand, and composed of the best quality components and meticulously assembled.

Our designers customize the drivers, each driver being unique to its application.

All enclosures are handcrafted of the highest quality HDF by master carpenters.

Gershman Acoustics loudspeakers are hand-painted and hand-polished to a high lustre. While the finish seems quite dry to the touch, final curing, and complete hardening occurs over several weeks.

These speakers are of a superior design and will perform remarkably well in a variety of spaces. Keep in mind that a room with a variety of materials will deliver a much more harmonized sound.

Because our speakers have wide dispersion, in both the vertical and horizontal axis, they can be placed in extremely varied positions yet still produce a large and accommodating, non-shifting soundstage.

We know that by owning Gershman Acoustics speakers you will rediscover all your favourite music as well as enjoy and discover wonderful new music for many years to come.

Regards,

The Gershman Acoustics Team

BEFORE UNPACKING AND PLAYING YOUR SPEAKERS, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING MANUAL FULLY. IT WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH DIRECTIONS FOR PROPERLY SETTING UP, POSITIONING, CONNECTING AND CARING FOR YOUR SPEAKERS. FOLLOWING THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL ENSURE A SMOOTH INSTALLATION AND OPTIMUM SPEAKER PERFORMANCE.

Please note that Gershman Acoustics reserves the right to change, replace, modify, or eliminate parts, components and specifications without prior notice.

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Set-up

Every room is different, but there are several speaker placement and setup tips that will make your system sound better.

We recommend starting with the Triangle rule.

If your room permits, try placing the speakers about 3 feet from the front wall.

The distances from the side walls are equally important. The speaker's distance to the nearest side wall should be at least 1.6 times its distance from the front wall. For example, if the distance from the front wall is 3 feet, then the distance to the nearest side wall should be at least 4.8 feet for each speaker (or vice versa if your room is wider than longer).

Once the speakers are in the ideal spot, angle them in by approximately degrees to face the listening spot. Essentially, you want the two speakers and the listener to create an equilateral triangle. Keep in mind that you don't want the listener's head to be exactly at the apex of the triangle. Sit several inches closer so that the apex is located just behind the head.

Now turn the speakers inwards slowly, until you hear a "sweet spot" where the music seems to lock into place creating a natural and incredible 3D soundstage.

A good soundstage gives you a clear sense of the physical space where the musicians are playing, like on stage or in a studio. A good musical image means you can clearly visualize where each instrument or voice is located.

Another adjustment that can be made is to your listening positioning, moving forward or backward. Your listening position is as important as the speaker position to achieve the best sound quality.

Do not be afraid to experiment. We recommend experimenting with your speaker placement to see where they sound the best. And have some fun with the tweaking process!

Please note, the above are just general set-up suggestions. Your listening room may have a different shape or factors to be considered. If you have any questions, please contact your dealer or Gershman Acoustics.

Grills

Although our grills are well designed, transparent and stylish. Even so, whenever you place anything in front of the speakers some micro-details can be lost. Given Gershman Acoustics' absolute dedication to phase coherency and subsequent holographic sound stage, the almost interactive soundstage is slightly altered with the grilles attached, and while the effect is admittedly extremely small it is not insignificant. Our critical listening sessions are conducted without a grille and we recommend that you do the same.

Tip-toes installation

Before installing the Tip-toes, set up and fine-tuning of your loudspeaker should be completed. Use masking tape to carefully mark the position so the speaker can be easily returned to its optimized location.

Install the tip-toes on the four corners at the bottom of the speaker (or bass trap on the Grand Avant Garde).

Now grasp the top of the speaker and gently rock it back and forth. This will identify whether any tiptoe is out of level from the other three. If there is movement, lengthen or shorten the appropriate tip-toe until the speaker sits solidly on the floor.

Connecting your speakers

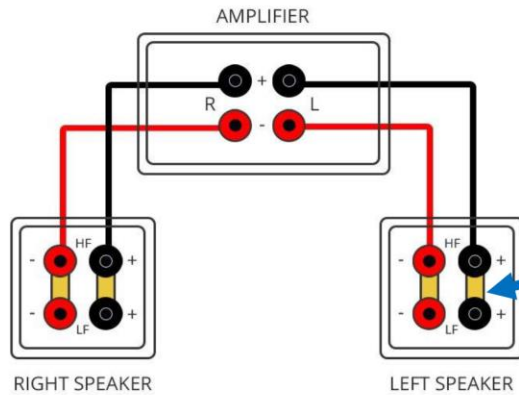
Conventional connection

Wires must be connected correctly on *both* the receiver or amplifier and the speakers. The positive speaker terminal (usually red) on the receiver or amplifier must be connected to the positive terminal on the speakers, and the same applies to the negative (usually black) terminals on the equipment. When done properly, speakers are said to be "in phase," which means both speakers are operating the same way. If one of these connections ends up reversed (i.e., positive to negative instead of positive to positive), then the speakers are considered "out of phase." This situation can cause serious sound quality problems. It will not damage your components, but you will hear a severe degradation in sound quality. Examples are:

- Very thin, lean-sounding bass
- No discernable center image
- A general sense that the system just does not sound right

Of course, other issues can create similar sound problems, but the incorrect speaker phase is one of the most common mistakes made when setting up a stereo system. This can be easily overlooked, especially if you are dealing with a cluster of audio and video cables. So, take your time **to make sure that all speakers are in-phase: positive-to-positive (red-to-red) and negative-to-negative (black-to-black).**

CONVENTIONAL SETUP

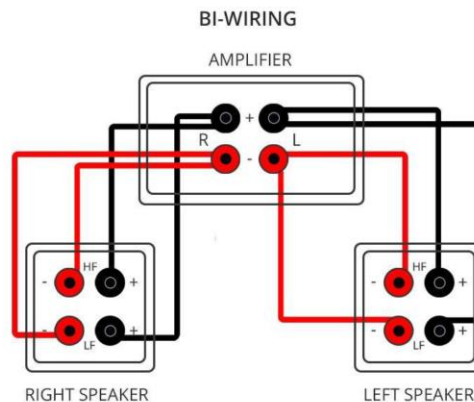


*Conventional
setup*

HOW TO BI-WIRE YOUR SPEAKERS

To bi-wire your speakers first remove the jumpers (links) from your speaker terminals and use two sets of speaker cables. If you are using speaker cable specifically designed for bi-wiring, connect the single pair of connectors to the amplifier positive and negative terminals of the amplifier, just as with the single wiring example. At the speaker end connect the two pairs to the two positive and two negative terminals, as shown in the diagram. If you are using two sets of conventional speaker cables, join them together at the amplifier end, but be very careful that they don't accidentally touch and short circuit the amplifier.

You must use identical cables. They should be the same brand, model, and the same length. If not, you are changing the electrical properties of the cable and as a result, altering your sound. As with any speaker connections, make sure they are all solid and tight and confirm the positive is not touching the negative side.

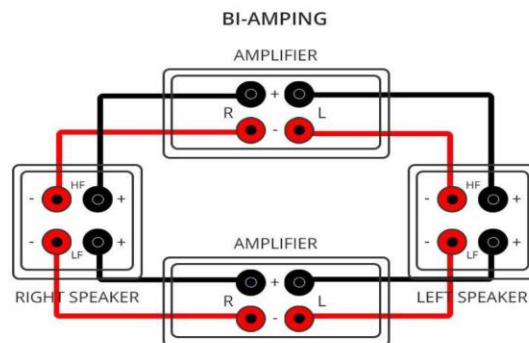


How to Bi-amp your speakers

Bi-amping takes things one step further by using a separate amplifier for the bass connection to your speaker and another one for the treble connection.

We believe that you can never have too much power driving your speakers. It's similar to driving a high-performance car. You may not need the power all of the time, but when you do, it can perform effortlessly. Musical demands are very similar to a drive through the mountains -- sometimes you're coasting but other times (think loud dynamic passages) you need lots of power reserve.

Since bi-amping uses two amplifiers it gives you the advantage of more power to handle the dynamic peaks and reduces intermodulation distortion in the amplifier, combined with the benefits of bi-wiring.



Break-in Period

For a proper break-in, we generally recommend around 70 to 100 hours of at least mid-level playback before doing any critical listening. You may play pink noise while you are away, such as while you are at work, to help the process along but we'd recommend just listening to your speakers normally at a medium level during the break-in period. After about 100 hours of use your speakers should be broken in. The speaker surround and spider materials will loosen up the more the speaker is used. Breaking-in your new speaker is a simple and crucial thing to do to make your speakers sound at their best.

Care of the Finish

The beautiful paint finish of the Gershman speakers must be dusted carefully with dust or Microfiber cloth. We recommend that the following procedure be observed when dusting the speakers:

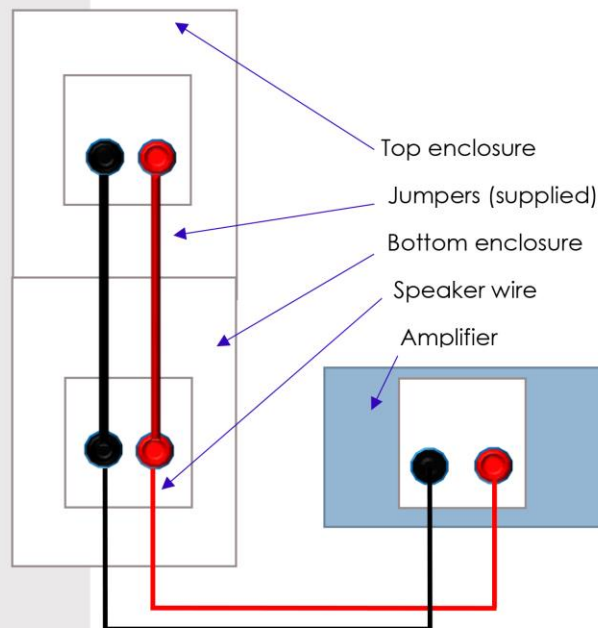
Blow off all loose dust, using the special dust cloth as a brush, gently whisk off any remaining loose dust. Remove the dust, using linear motions in one direction parallel to the floor. Our special paint requires several weeks to fully cure, therefore, we recommend that no cleaning agents, such as glass cleaners etc., be used during this initial period. When the paint is fully cured, heavy fingerprints and other minor smudges may be removed with a damp microfiber cloth. Always use the dust cloth. Stronger solvents are not recommended under any circumstances. To maintain the high luster/ hi-gloss of the finish, some polishing may be desired, we recommend a nonabrasive carnauba-based wax and a soft microfiber cloth (frequent polishing is not recommended).

***Tweaking the Grand Avant Garde** (only)*

*In some systems it can be beneficial to reverse the phase **on the speakers only** (both speakers) so that the red speaker wires are connected to the black connector of the speakers and the black speaker wires are connected to the red connector of the speakers (on both speakers).*

You will find that in most systems, the standard connection works perfectly, but this is a tweak you should try in some rare cases.

Connecting the Grand Studio II



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