

**Bose® Acoustimass®-3 Series III Speaker System**

Owner's Guide

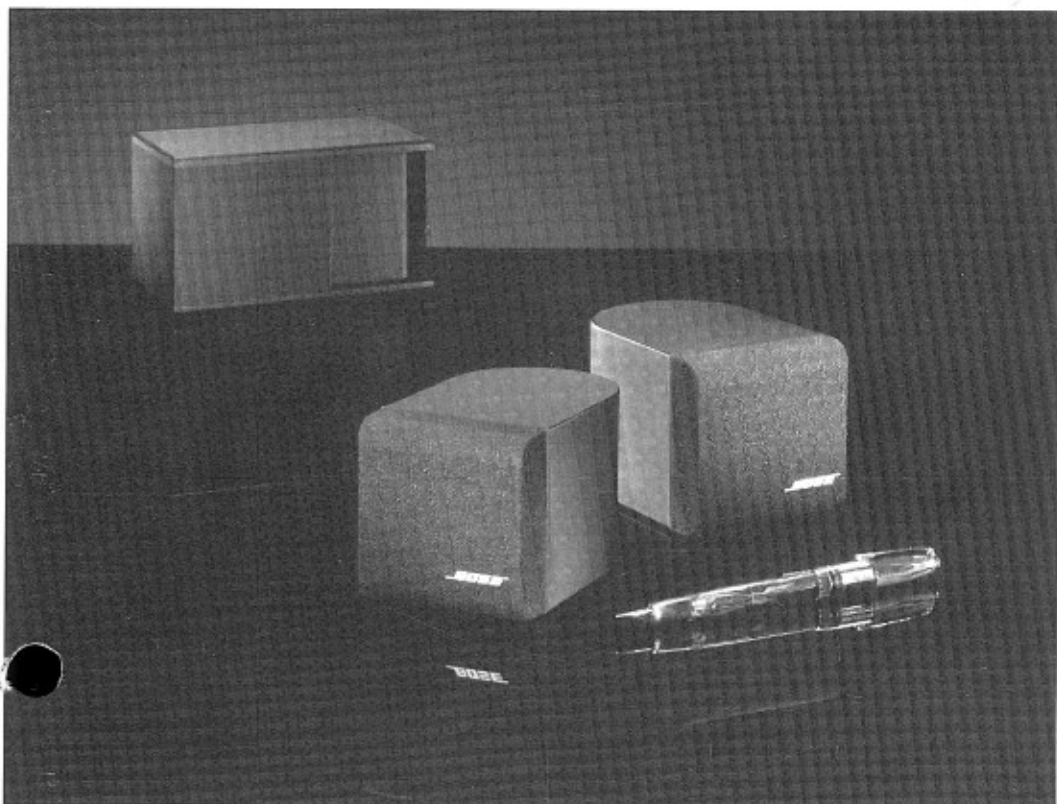
Bedienungsanleitung

Guía del usuario

Notice d'utilisation

Manuale di istruzioni

***BOSE***®



**For your records**

The Acoustimass®-3 system serial number appears on the back of the bass module.

Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Purchase \_\_\_\_\_

Retailer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Retailer's Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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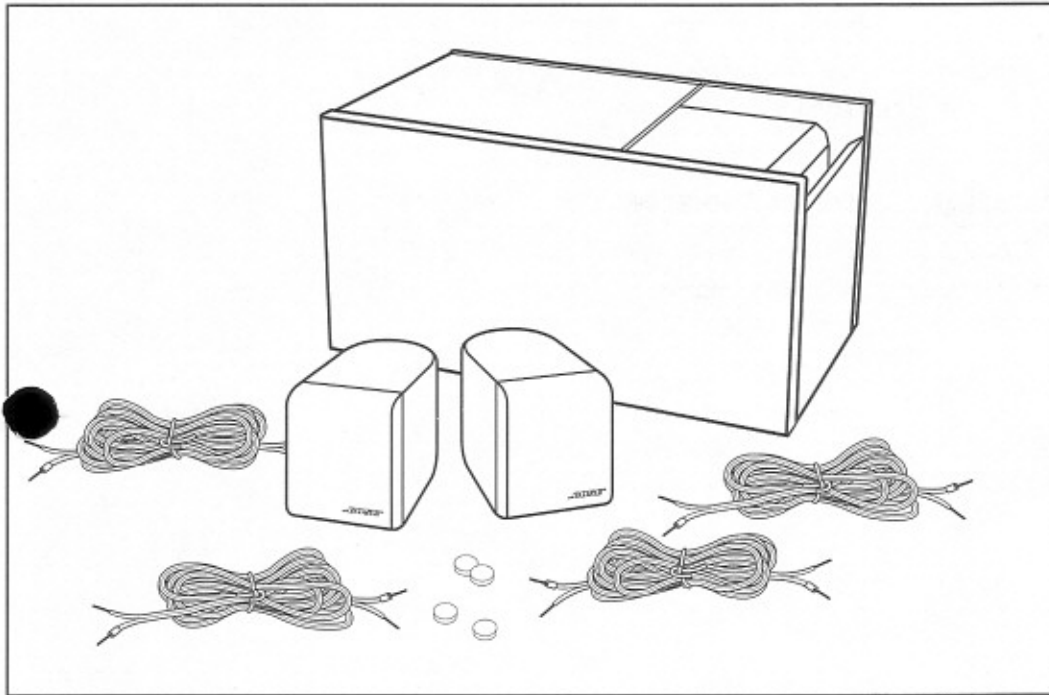
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## Your Acoustimass® system

Thank you for purchasing the Bose® Acoustimass-3 Series III speaker system. Its quality construction and advanced technologies result from years of ongoing research at Bose.

Bose patented Acoustimass speaker technology, for instance, delivers full, natural audio performance. And, for all of the sound it produces, this Virtually Invisible® system takes up very little space. The tiny cube speakers fit almost anywhere, while the Acoustimass module is designed to be hidden behind drapes, under furniture, or in the corner of the room.

Your Acoustimass-3 system is significantly different from conventional speakers. So it is important to read all of the instructions on positioning and connecting the speakers and the module. This is the best way to get the fullest enjoyment from your new system.



**Figure 1**

What the carton contains.

- Two (2) cube speakers
- One (1) Acoustimass bass module
- Four (4) speaker cables, 20 feet long
- Four (4) adhesive-backed rubber feet

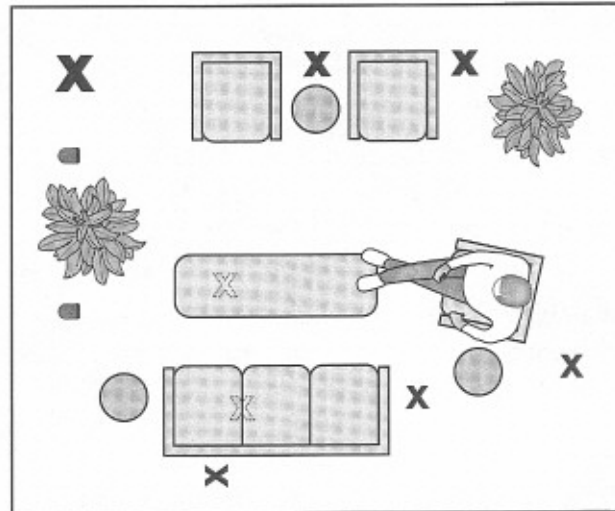
## Unpack the system

Unpack the system carefully. Avoid setting the the bass module down on its connection panel, which could scratch a surface. (Save the carton and packing materials in case you ever want to ship the system.) If any parts appear damaged, do not attempt to use the system. Repack all parts in the original carton and notify your authorized Bose dealer immediately.

**Where to place the cube speakers**

You can place cube speakers anywhere from 3 to 15 feet (.9 - 4.6 m) apart. For the most natural sound in average sized rooms, place them 6 to 12 feet (1.8-3.7 m) apart. Magnetic shielding allows you to place them close to a video screen without causing interference.

Bose® mounting accessories, including wall/ceiling mounting brackets, floor stands, and table stands, add to your choice of where to place the cube speakers. For more information or to order accessories, contact your Bose dealer or call Bose directly at the "Service" number listed on the inside back page.



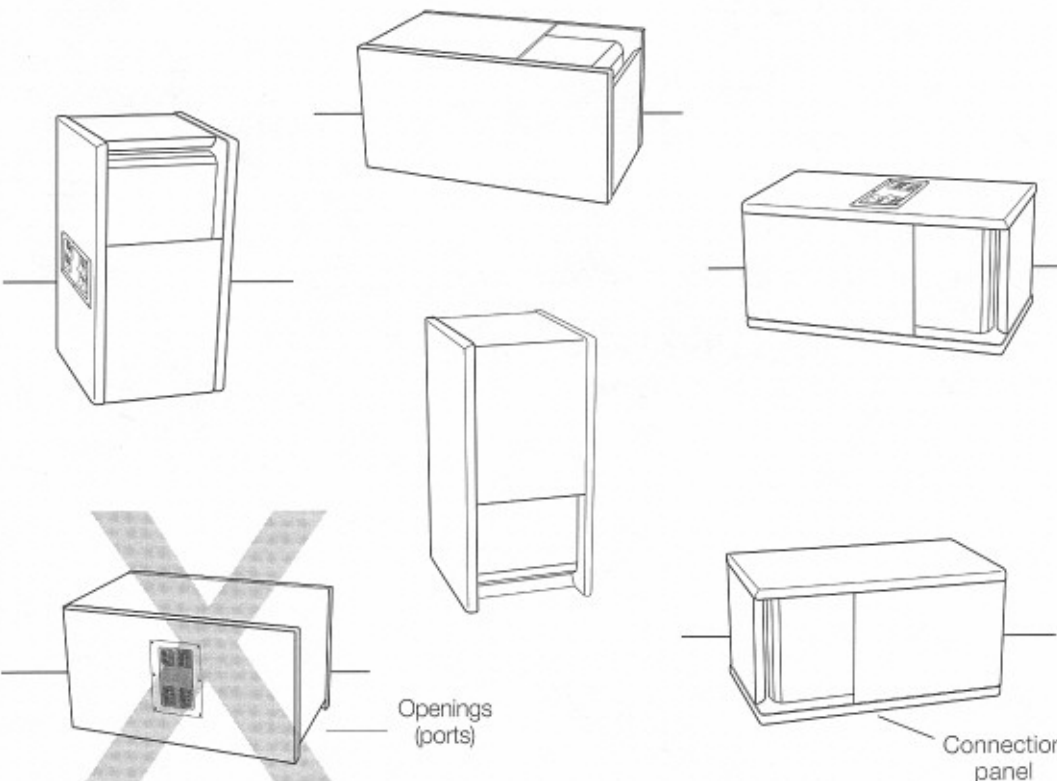
**Figure 2**

Placement of cube speakers and options (X) for placing the bass module in your room.

**Where to place the Acoustimass bass module**

The Acoustimass bass module can be hidden almost anywhere in a room (Figure 2). Use your sound preference and convenience as a guide. Leave at least 2 inches (5 cm) of space between the openings (ports) and the wall. And, to prevent interference, keep the module at least 2 feet (.6 m) from any video screen.

For a balanced sound in most rooms, place the module along a wall within 5 feet (1.5 m) of the corner. To increase bass response, move the module closer to a corner without blocking the openings (Figure 3). To decrease the bass, place the module farther from the corner.



**Figure 3**

Choices on how to position the bass module.

**Note:**

When you decide how you will position the bass module, attach the rubber feet to the bottom surface to protect the module and the floor.

## Use the cables correctly

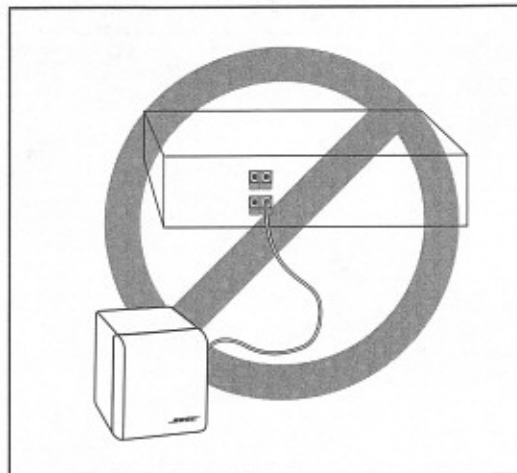
Use the supplied cables to connect the cube speakers to the module and the module to your amplifier or receiver.

To place these components more than 20 feet (6.2-9.2 m) apart, you will need to splice in a length of standard zip cord (2 conductor, 18-gauge wire found at electrical and hardware stores). To place them more than 30 feet (9.2 m) apart, you will need heavier gauge wire. See the wire recommendations on page 9. Or check with your authorized Bose dealer.

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

## Connect the cube speakers

1. Attach the end of one speaker cable to the terminals on the back of a cube speaker. Just press the terminal tab and insert each wire.
2. Use a second speaker cable to repeat step 1 for the second cube speaker.
3. Connect the free end of the first cable to the LEFT OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS terminals on the bass module. Cube speakers do not attach directly to your amplifier or receiver (Figure 4).
4. Repeat step 3 for the second cord, connecting it to the bass module's RIGHT OUTPUTS TO CUBE SPEAKERS terminals.
5. Position the speakers so the cube connected to the LEFT terminals is on your left as you face it to listen, and the cube speaker connected to the RIGHT terminals is on your right.



### CAUTION:

Be sure all components are turned off and unplugged from the power outlet before making the connections.

**Figure 4**

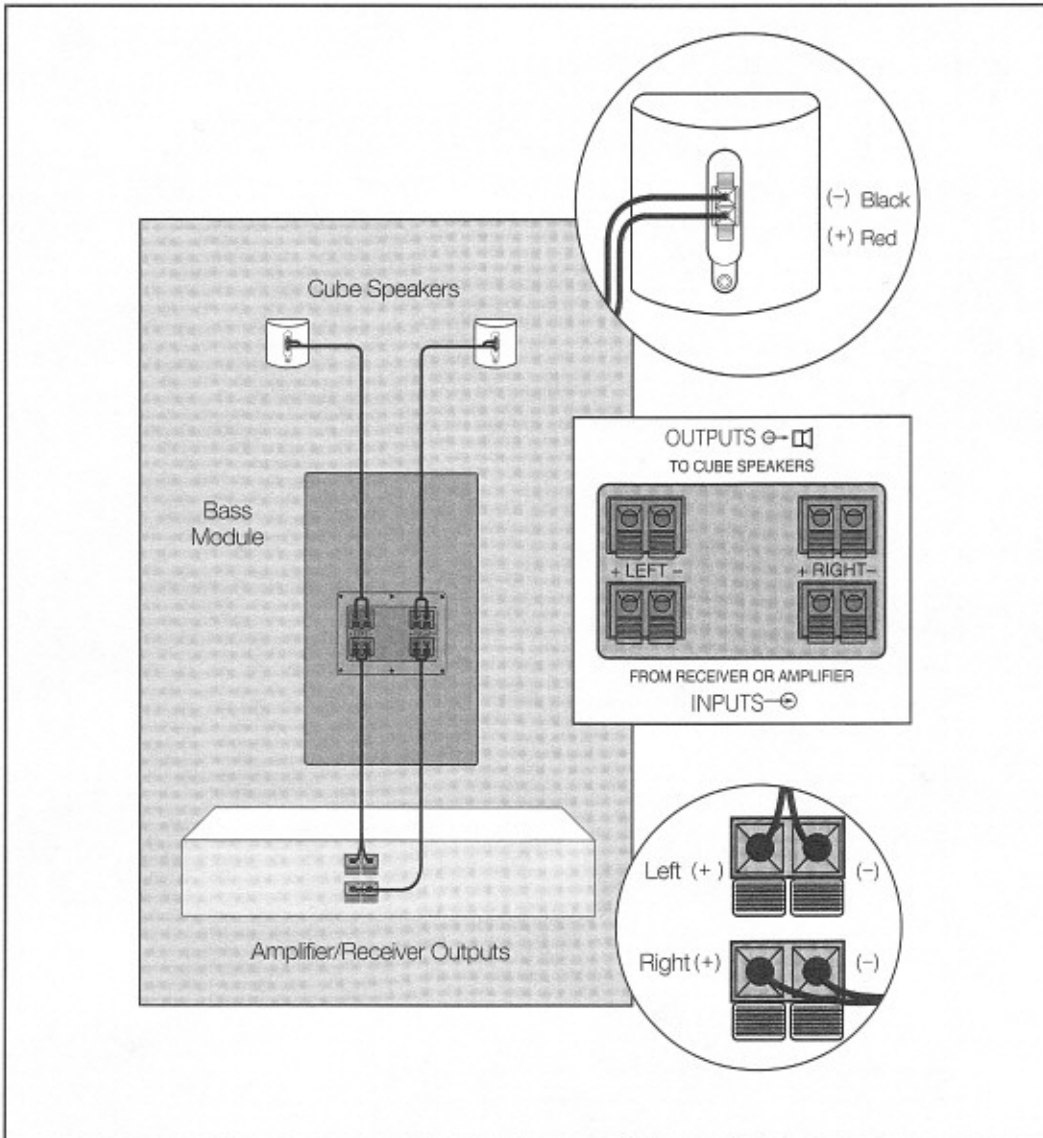
Do not connect cube speakers directly to the amplifier or receiver.

## Connect the bass module

1. Attach one of the the remaining cables to the LEFT INPUTS FROM RECEIVER OR AMPLIFIER terminals on the Acoustimass® bass module.
2. Attach the final cable to the module's RIGHT INPUTS FROM RECEIVER OR AMPLIFIER terminals.
3. Connect the free end of the LEFT INPUTS cable to your amplifier or receiver's LEFT SPEAKER terminals.
4. Connect the free end of the RIGHT INPUTS cable to the RIGHT SPEAKER terminals.

### CAUTION:

Correct wiring is important. Incorrect wiring will result in little or no bass output and could potentially damage the system.



**Figure 5**

Make sure the wires of all cables are connected positive to positive (+ to +) and negative to negative (- to -).

**Check your connections** (Figure 5)

To avoid damaging your speakers, check all connections and correct any problems before plugging in and turning on the amplifier or receiver. Make sure the cube speakers are connected to the bass module and not directly to the amplifier or receiver.

Check to be sure all connections are made positive to positive and negative to negative. Be sure wires do not touch across terminals.

## Check the system

Be sure your system is working properly by following these steps:

1. Turn on your amplifier or receiver.
2. Turn the balance control on your amplifier all the way to the left. You should hear music from the left cube speaker only. You may detect a faint sound from the other cube speaker. (You will also hear the bass module.)
3. Turn the balance control all the way to the right. Now you should hear music from the right cube speaker only. You may also hear a faint sound from the left cube speaker, as well as the bass module.
4. Now play music that includes some deep bass passages. Listen with the balance control in the center position. Compare that sound to what you hear with the balance control in the far left position. Then compare the sound in the center balance position with sound when the control is in the right position. The bass should be the same or louder with the control in the center. Be sure to return the balance control to the center position when you are done.

If your system does not respond as described, check all the wires for proper positive to positive and negative to negative connections. If your system still doesn't respond properly, see "Problems and causes" on page 8.

## Cleaning your speakers

Clean the cabinets of your Acoustimass®-3 system using a damp cloth. If necessary, use a detergent such as dish soap. Do not use any solvents, chemicals, or cleaning solutions containing alcohol, ammonia, or abrasives. Do not allow liquids to spill through the speaker grilles or enter the Acoustimass module.

You can vacuum the speaker grilles. To avoid damaging the drivers located directly behind the grille cloth, use light pressure only.

## Automatic system protection

When played at high volume, the Acoustimass-3 system's automatic protection circuit activates to prevent damage to the system from electrical stress or overload. When this happens, you may notice a slight decrease in volume, which is normal. It indicates that the power input may have exceeded safe levels. Setting the volume at or above this level for sustained periods is not recommended.

### Problems and causes

If you have a problem with your Acoustimass®-3 speaker system, turn off the amplifier or receiver and check all the connections between the cube speakers, bass module, and amplifier or receiver. Since problems are likely to originate with components other than speakers, you may want to refer to your amplifier or receiver owner's guide.

Problem	Possible Cause	How To Find Out
The left cube speaker doesn't play or sounds distorted.	Defective left amplifier or receiver channel.	Disconnect both speaker cables from the amplifier or receiver. Reconnect the cable from the bass module's LEFT INPUTS to the amplifier or receiver's RIGHT SPEAKER terminals. Set the amplifier or receiver's balance control all the way to the right and turn on the power.  If the left cube speaker now plays properly, your amplifier or receiver's left speaker channel is probably defective.
The right cube speaker doesn't play or sounds distorted.	Defective right amplifier or receiver channel.	Follow the above steps, reconnecting the cable from the module's RIGHT INPUTS to the amplifier or receiver's LEFT SPEAKER terminals.
The entire Acoustimass-3 system does not play or sounds distorted.	Defective amplifier or receiver.	Disconnect the amplifier or receiver from the bass module. Reconnect the module to another amplifier or receiver that is working properly.  If the system now works, the problem is in your amplifier or receiver. Refer to your receiver or amplifier owner's guide for further suggestions.

**CAUTION:**

Do not connect the other cube speaker to the channel in question. If the channel is defective, it could damage your Acoustimass-3 system.

If your problem is still not solved, contact your local Bose dealer to arrange for service. Or refer to "Service" on the inside back page. Bose Corporation will make every effort to remedy any problem within terms of your limited warranty.

### Warranty period

The Bose® Acoustimass®-3 Series III 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.



## Features

- Virtually Invisible® speaker design
- Acoustimass® speaker technology
- Identical magnetically shielded cube speakers
- Syncom® computer quality control
- Automatic system protection circuitry
- Acoustimass module: Scratch-resistant black or white satin finish
- Cube speakers: Black or white polymer finish, cloth grilles

## Driver Complement

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

## Compatibility/Impedance

- Compatible with receivers or amplifiers rated from 10 to 100 watts per channel; rated 4 to 8 ohms
- IEC rating: 50 watts per channel

## Wire Recommendations

Based on maximum frequency response deviation of  $\pm 0.5$  dB.

Gauge	Length
18 (0.75 mm <sup>2</sup> )	30 ft (9 m) maximum
16 (1.5 mm <sup>2</sup> )	45 ft (14 m) maximum
14 (2.0 mm <sup>2</sup> )	70 ft (21 m) maximum

## Size

- Acoustimass module: 7.5"H x 14.2"W x 8.0"D (19.0 x 36.1 x 20.3 cm)
- Cube speaker: 3.1"H x 3.1"W x 4.8"D (7.9 x 7.9 x 12.1 cm)
- System weight: 16.5 lb (7.5 kg) in shipping carton

**To contact Bose®****USA**

Bose Corporation, The Mountain  
Framingham, MA 01701-9168  
1-800-288-BOSE (1-800-288-2673)  
Weekdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
ET (eastern time)

**Canada**

Bose Ltd., 8-35 East Beaver Creek Road  
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1B3  
1-800-444-BOSE (1-800-444-2673)  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET (eastern time)

**European Office**

Bose B.V., Nijverheidstraat 8  
1135 GE Edam, Nederland  
TEL 0299-390190 FAX 0299-390109

**Australia**

Bose Australia, Inc., 1 Sorrell Street  
Parramatta, N.S.W. 2150  
TEL 02 204-6111 FAX 02 204-6122

**Belgique/België**

Bose N.V., Limesweg 2, B-3700 Tongeren  
TEL 012-390800 FAX 012-390840

**Danmark**

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

**Deutschland**

Bose GmbH, Max-Planck-Straße 36d  
D-61381 Friedrichsdorf  
TEL 06172-71040 FAX 06172-710419

**France**

Bose S.A., 6, rue Saint Vincent  
78100 Saint Germain en Laye  
TEL 01-30616363 FAX 01-30614105

**India**

Bose Corporation India Private Limited  
W-16, Greater Kailash-II  
New Delhi 110 048  
TEL (011) 648 4462 FAX (011) 648 4463

**Ireland**

Bose Corporation  
Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan  
TEL 042-61988 FAX 042-61998

**Italia**

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

**Japan**

Bose K.K., Shibuya YT Building  
28-3 Maruyama-cho  
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150  
TEL 3-5489-1052 FAX 3-5489-0591

**Nederland**

Bose B.V., Nijverheidstraat 8  
1135 GE Edam  
TEL 0299-366661 FAX 0299-368166

**Norge**

Bose A/S, Solheimsgate 11  
N-2001, Lillestrøm  
TEL 63-817380 FAX 63-810819

**Österreich**

Bose Ges.m.b.H., Vienna Business Park  
Wienerbergstrasse 7 (10.OG)  
A-1100 Vienna  
TEL 01-60404340 FAX 01-604043423

**Schweiz**

Bose AG, Rünenbergerstrasse 13  
4460-Gelterkinden  
TEL 061-9815544 FAX 061-9815502

**Sverige**

Bose A/S, Blandsädsgratan 2D  
S-43146 Mölndal  
TEL 31-878850 FAX 31-274891

**United Kingdom**

Bose Limited, Unit G2  
Trinity Trading Estate  
Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2PD  
TEL 01795-475341 FAX 01795-427227

**Other Locations**

Bose Service, 1 New York Avenue  
Framingham, MA 01701-9168 USA  
TEL (508)766-1900 FAX (508)766-1919

