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OWNER'S MANUAL | **>> SOUNDBARS**

ES-500-SNDBAR-40   ES-500-SNDBAR-50

OVERVIEW

Welcome to Episode® Speakers. We appreciate your purchase and are committed to providing the highest-quality products possible.

The Episode® Soundbar models are a superb choice for almost every type of home theater or home audio installation. They have been designed with advanced technological components that allow for high performance and a lifetime of enjoyment.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Read and understand all instructions.
Before beginning installation, carefully plan location accounting for potential electrical, plumbing or other obstacles.

RECOMMENDED AMPLIFIER POWER

To get the best performance from the Soundbar, an amplifier or receiver with the following power rating is recommended:
ES-500-SNDBAR-40 - between **20** and **110** Watts RMS per channel
ES-500-SNDBAR-50 - between **20** and **110** Watts RMS per channel

SPEAKER WIRE

To connect the Soundbar to an AV Receiver or Amplifier, high-quality 14 to 16 gauge stranded speaker wire is recommended. The wire may be connected directly to the speaker's binding posts. Remember that you will need 3 runs of speaker wire to the Soundbar location as it contains the left, center, and right speaker. A special wire management channel has been included in the rear of the speaker so that a wall mounted speaker can sit flush on the wall.

Features
• Replaces Left, Center, and Right channels in one convenient speaker
• Low-Profile, Extruded Aluminum Cabinet
• Knockout for Hidden IR Receiver
• Flexible Mounting Options
  – *Cabinet Top or Shelf Placement with included kickstands*
  – *On-Wall with included mounting plate*
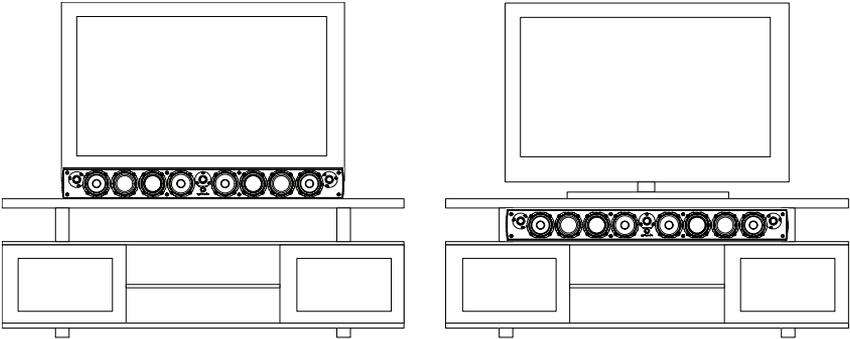 – *Flat-Screen with optional accessory that attaches to TV moun*t

What's Included
(1) ES-500-SNDBAR-40
   or ES-500-SNDBAR-50
(2) Kickstands for Cabinet placement
(2) Shoulder bolts for Kickstand and Wall Plates
(2) Large Flat Washers for Kickstands

(4) Rubber Feet
(1) Wall Plate Bracket
(4) Wood Screws for Wall Plate
(4) Small Flat Washers for Wall Plate
(1) IR Receiver Spacer

INSTALLATION

SPEAKER PLACEMENT
The ES-500-SNDBAR is designed to be the Left, Center, and Right speakers of a home theater surround system. For most applications, placement should be below a flat screen TV on a cabinet top or shelf.   Other options for placement include On-Wall using the included bracket, or attached to a Flat Panel mount using the optional Strong mount brackets.
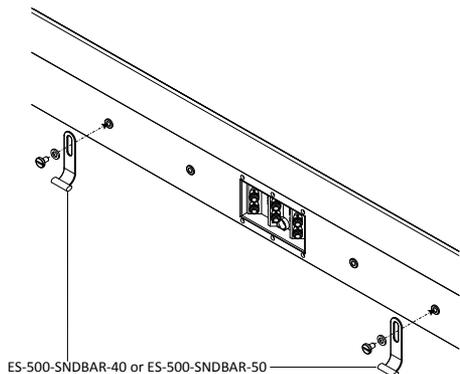
Installing On or In a Cabinet

Considerations for Placement
When placing the Soundbar on a cabinet shelf, the front edge of the speaker should be flush with the front of the shelf. Placing the speaker further back on the shelf will degrade the sound quality of the speaker.

Attaching the Kickstand
The kickstand for the Soundbar allows for the angle of the Soundbar to be adjusted to maintain proper audio performance. When placing the Soundbar, adjust the kickstand height to angle the Soundbar towards the listener's ears. See Adjusting the Kickstand for more information.
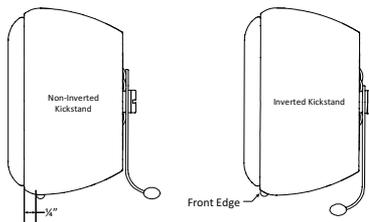
1. Remove the 2 screws on the back of the Soundbar.
2. Place the included Kickstand on the rear of Soundbar.
3. Hand Tighten the screws to secure the
   kickstand to the Soundbar.

ES-500-SNDBAR-40 or ES-500-SNDBAR-50
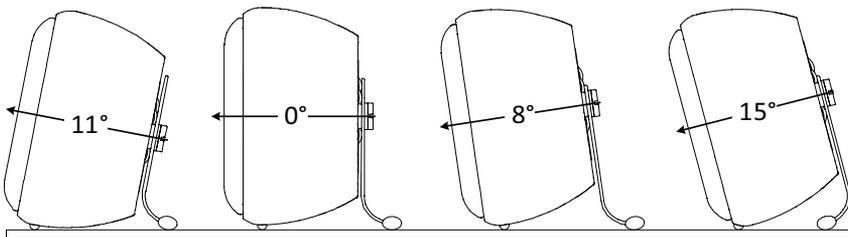
Attaching the Feet

To ensure that the Soundbar will not slip when using the kickstands, (2) rubber feet have been included. The feet must be installed when using the kickstand. Place the feet 3" from the left and right outer edge, and ¼" from the front edge of the Soundbar.

Note: When using the kickstand in the inverted position, the feet should be placed at the front edge of the speaker.
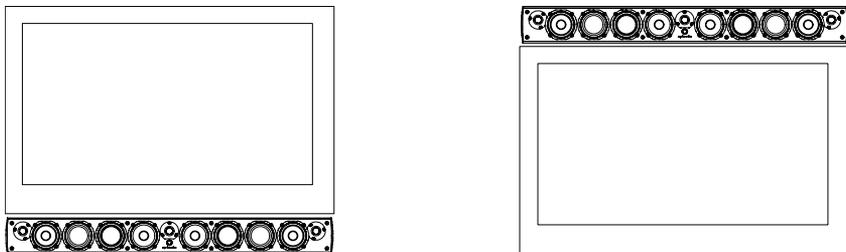

Adjusting the Kickstand

After installing the kickstand and placing the Soundbar, adjust the angle of the speakers towards the listener's ears. If the speakers point away from the listener's ears, slide the kickstand up or down to achieve the proper angle. Note that the kickstand can be inverted when the Soundbar is pointing down.

Mounting on a Wall

Considerations for Wall Mounting

To maintain a high level listening experience, the Soundbar should be as close to the TV as possible. Placing the Soundbar more than 3" from the screen will separate the audio from the video and provide a poor viewing and listening experience, keep this in mind when locating the Soundbar.

Attaching the Wall Bracket
Note: For ease of installation of the bracket and the Soundbar, we recommend that the TV be removed from the mount. This allows for the Soundbar to be placed properly.

Before Installing the Mount
- Locate and install the TV mount.
- With the TV on the mount
  - Mark the position of the bottom of the TV.
  - Mark the position of the TV's Center Point.
- Remove the TV from the mount
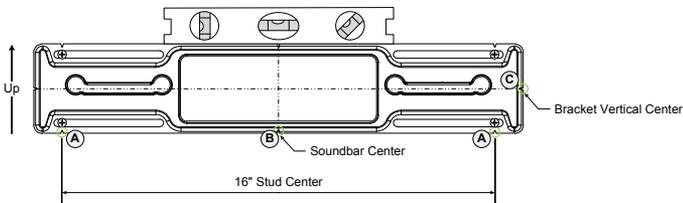
Installing the Mount 1.
1. Locate wall studs using a stud finder (not included).
2. Place the Bracket on the wall with the flat side towards the wall and the holes for the mounting slots facing up.
   A. Position the 16" Stud Center (A) v groove over the wall studs aligning the Soundbar Center (B) v groove with the center point of the TV.

Note: If wall studs cannot be used, a wall molly or anchor with the appropriate weight rating for the Soundbar can be used.
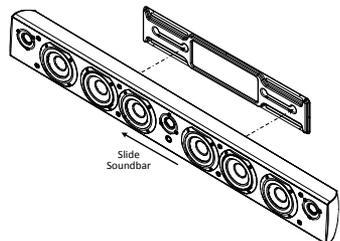   B. Position the Bracket Vertical Center (C) v groove 2 ¼ " from the bottom of the TV. This will place the Soundbar flush with the bottom of the TV.

Tip: To allow for extra clearance, position the Bracket Vertical Center (C), 2 5/16" from the bottom of the TV. This will provide an extra 1/16" clearance (recommended for Tilt Mounts) allowing for the any tolerance differences that may occur.

3. Level the bracket and secure to the wall using the included screws.

4. Attach the supplied shoulder bolts to the inner bolt locations on the rear of the Soundbar.
5. Place the Soundbar onto the wall bracket with the rear screws in the slots. Slide the Soundbar onto the bracket. Adjust for proper centering with the TV. Your install is now complete.
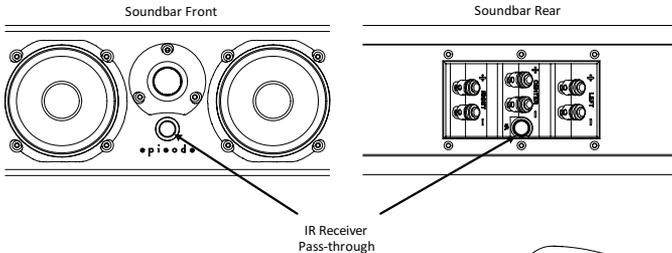
Installing on a Flat Panel Mount

The ES-500-SNDBAR can be mounted directly to a Flat Panel Mount with the Strong™ SM-SBAR-BKT bracket (available separately). Using the Flat Panel mount bracket allows for the speaker to move with the TV when mounted to articulating arm mounts. This provides an optimum listening experience for these installations.
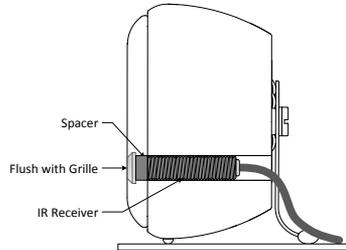
Installing an IR Receiver

The ES-500-SNDBAR has the option of installing an optional IR Receiver directly into the speaker behind the grille cloth, eliminating the need to surface mount a stick-on receiver. Simply punch out the center of the pass-through and slide the IR Receiver through the exposed hole.

Soundbar Front   Soundbar Rear

IR Receiver
Pass-through

To maintain accurate IR reception, a spacer has been included to allow for the front edge of the IR receiver to be flush with the back of the grille cloth. This will ensure that IR reception is at its maximum level.

TIP: With some IR receivers, a layer of electrical tape around the threads can create a more snug fit within the Soundbar.

Spacer

Flush with Grille

IR Receiver

Connecting and Calibrating

Proper Connections are important to the performance of any loudspeaker within an audio system. Performing the following steps will ensure proper connections for optimum speaker performance:

1. At each loudspeaker connection, ensure that the outer jacket is separated by at least 2 inches.

2. Strip the insulation on each conductor approximately ¼" and insert into the speaker terminals.

    A. Ensure that there are no stray strands of wire protruding from the connectors.

    B. Observe proper polarity (+ to + and – to –) for each speaker and at the amplifier).

3. Turn on the home theater receiver and calibrate all loudspeakers in the system according to the receiver (or surround processor) manufacturer's instructions.

Verifying Phase

When proper polarity is not maintained, the speakers play at the opposite 'time' from each other, or out of phase. The result is audio with lack of bass and vocals that sound thin or distant. If during or after calibrating your receiver you suspect the sound is not right and you cannot see any markings on the wire to verify polarity is correct, try this simple test:

1. Sit in the normal listening position for the system.

2. Play some music with your receiver set to Mono.

3. Listen to the music and observe the audio.

    A. Does the bass sound full and even with the other audio?

    B. Do the vocals sound centered and even in volume?

    If either of the answers are YES, follow steps 3 and 4 with the other loudspeakers in the system.

4. Turn off your receiver and reverse the connections for one of the speakers.

5. Repeat your test at the same volume level. When the sound has the loudest and best sounding bass, and vocals are centered and clear, your connections are correct and in-phase.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

INSTALLING AND REMOVING THE GRILLE

•The grill is held by pins. To remove the grill, pull gently around the edge away from the speaker, slowly working your way from one end of the speaker to the other .
•To re-install, align the grill pins with the cups in the speaker and push into place.

CLEANING

•Use a dampened soft cloth or paper towel to clean the cabinet. The grill is best cleaned by brushing it off with a lint-free cloth.

WARRANTY

Limited Lifetime Warranty

Episode Soundbar Speakers have a Lifetime Limited Warranty. This warranty includes parts and labor repairs on all components found to be defective in material or workmanship under normal conditions of use. This warranty shall not apply to products which have been abused, modified or disassembled. Products to be repaired under this warranty must be returned to SnapAV or a designated service center with prior notification and an assigned return authorization number (RA).

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