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For more than 50 years, JBL has been involved in every aspect of music and film recording and reproduction, from live performances to monitoring the recordings you play in your home, car or office.

We're confident that the JBL speaker and back box you have chosen will provide every note of enjoyment that you expect – and that when you think about purchasing additional audio equipment for your home, car or office, you will once again choose JBL. Please take a moment to register your product on our Web site at [www.jbl.com](http://www.jbl.com). It enables us to keep you posted on our latest advancements, and helps us to better understand our customers and build products that meet their needs and expectations.

JBL Consumer Products

### INCLUDED HT188BB

- One HT188BB back box (shown installed between 16" on-center wall studs)
- (4) L-brackets
  - (8) #10 32 x 1" screws  
(L-brackets to back box)
  - (8) #10 split washers  
(L-brackets to back box)
  - (8) #10 flat washers  
(L-brackets to back box)
  - (8) #8 x 3/4" wood screws  
(L-brackets to wall studs)
  - (2) wood centering bars
  - (4) #10 32 x 1-1/2" flat-head screws  
(centering bars to back box)
- NOTE: The back box is shipped with the two centering bars attached to it using the four flat-head screws.

## SPEAKER PLACEMENT

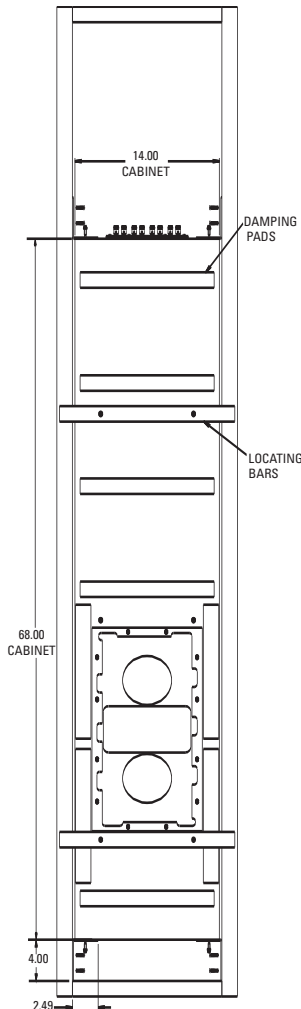
It is best to establish the locations for the speakers in advance, to avoid having to correct errors after installation has already begun. Refer to these guidelines, and also see the owner's guide for the HT188 subwoofer for more information.

It is generally recommended that you install your HT188 in-wall subwoofer along the same wall as the front loudspeakers. The HT188 subwoofer is not video-shielded and should not be placed near a video

display. Installing the HT188 near a corner will tend to maximize low-frequency output. Be cautious when installing in a corner, to avoid a "boomy" sound. Also take into consideration any unusual features of the room, such as an alcove, which may tend to create a localized node that may affect bass response in that area of the room.

It is generally recommended that the speaker be installed so that the bottom of the speaker is approximately 12" from the floor. Note that installing the speaker within the HT188BB back box as shown in the illustration to the left will achieve the recommended height. This is to help with the low-frequency loading (bass reinforcement). This also helps hide the speaker in a less visible place.

Remember that these are just guidelines. Since every listening room is different, JBL strongly recommends experimenting with the positioning of your subwoofer prior to cutting the wall to obtain the most pleasing results in your room. One technique that can help you find the ideal subwoofer location is to temporarily borrow a stand-alone subwoofer and place it near the main listening location. Then move around the room and determine where you hear the most pleasing bass performance. This would then be the ideal location for the subwoofer.



**OWNER'S GUIDE**

# SPEAKER CONNECTIONS

## Connection Tips

Refer to page 4 of the HT188 subwoofer owner's guide for general information on speaker-wire connections. This manual includes connection guidelines that are specific to the HT188BB back box.

To use the push-type terminals on the connections panel supplied with the HT188BB back box enclosure, depress the colored cap until the pass-through hole in the binding post is revealed. While holding the cap down, insert the bare end of the wire, or a banana plug, into the pass-through hole. Release the cap and tug gently on the wire to ensure that it is secure.

Since the HT188 is a passive loudspeaker, only speaker-level connections are available. Depending on whether you are using a dedicated subwoofer amplifier or your main receiver/amplifier to power the HT188, select one of the two connection methods that follow.

### Connection Method #1

Use this method when you are using the HT188 with your main receiver/amplifier. Connect the main left and

right speaker-level outputs on your receiver/amplifier to the Input 1 (for left channel) and Input 2 (for right channel) connectors on the HT188 connection panel. Connect the Output 1 terminals to the corresponding terminals on your front left speaker, and the Output 2 terminals to the corresponding terminals on your front right speaker.

**NOTE:** When using Connection Method #1 with only one HT188, the shorting straps must be removed.

If you are using two HT188 subwoofers, connect the left speaker outputs on your receiver/amplifier to Input 1 on one subwoofer's connections panel, and the right speaker outputs on your receiver/amplifier to Input 1 on the second subwoofer's connections panel. Then connect Output 1 from the left-channel subwoofer to the inputs on your main left speaker, and Output 1 from the right-channel subwoofer to the inputs on your main right speaker. When using the HT188 in this mono mode, you should not remove the shorting straps.

### Connection Method #2

Use this method when you are using the HT188 with a dedicated subwoofer amplifier. Connect your main receiver/processor's line-level subwoofer output to the line-level input on your subwoofer amplifier.

Connect the speaker terminals on your subwoofer amplifier to either Input 1 or Input 2. If your amplifier has stereo outputs, you may connect one channel to each of Inputs 1 and 2. However, you must remove the shorting straps when using stereo mode. Alternatively, you may connect each channel to a separate HT188. When using only one input on an individual HT188, you should leave the shorting bars in place.

### Using the HT188BB Back Box

Whichever connection method you choose, to install the HT188BB back box, you will need to connect all of the eight wires coming out of the bottom of the back box to the appropriate terminals on the loudspeaker. The wires are color-coded as follows:

INPUT 1 (-): Yellow with black stripe

INPUT 1 (+): Solid yellow

INPUT 2 (-): White with black stripe

INPUT 2 (+): Solid white

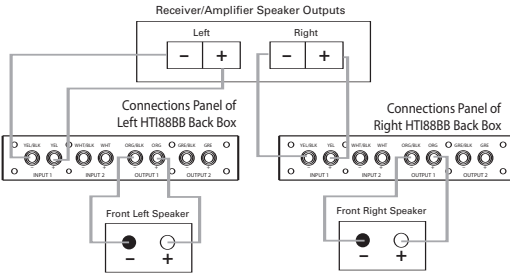
OUTPUT 1 (-): Orange with black stripe

OUTPUT 1 (+): Solid orange

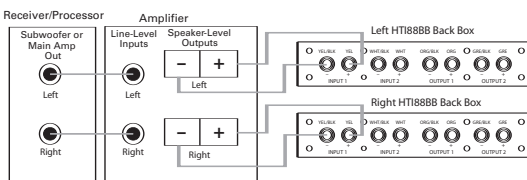
OUTPUT 2 (-): Green with black stripe

OUTPUT 2 (+): Solid green

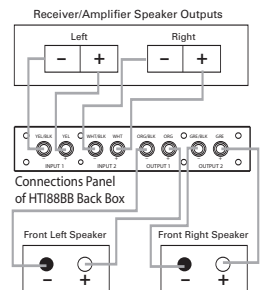
Connection Method #1, Using Two HT188 Loudspeakers With Back Boxes (Use Shorting Straps)



Connection Method #2, Using Two HT188 Loudspeakers With Back Boxes (Use Shorting Straps)



Connection Method #1, Using One HT188 With Back Box (Remove Shorting Straps)



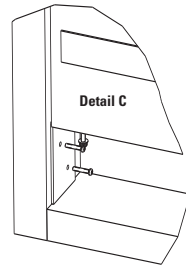
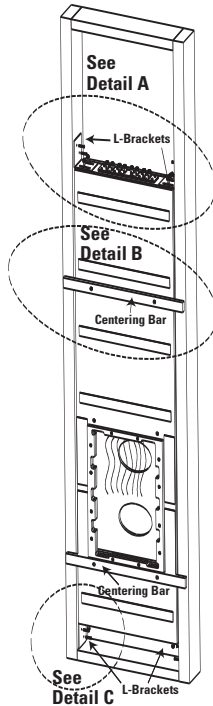
## INSTALLATION

Although the JBL HTI Series in-wall speakers were designed to be easily installed in existing construction applications, it is recommended that installation of the HTI88BB back box in new construction be reserved for professionals. See the manual for the HTI88 subwoofer for instructions on installing the speaker in existing construction without using the back box.

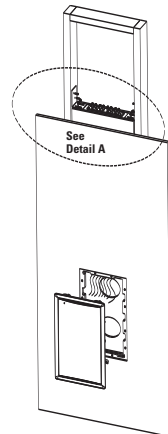
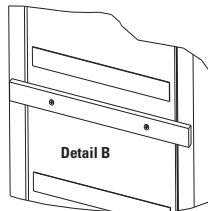
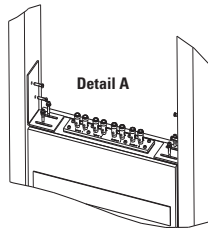
The HTI88BB back box is an optional installation accessory for the HTI88 in-wall subwoofer. When used, the HTI88BB back box is installed during new construction before the wallboard.

### Installation

- Using the four flat-head screws, install the two centering bars as shown in Detail B in the drawings. The centering bars are for setting the depth of the enclosure. They also help locate the left/right position of the enclosure as they can be mounted into the studs on the left and right to hold the enclosure in the correct location before final mounting.
- Using the eight #10 32 x 1" screws, install the four L-brackets at the four corners of the enclosure. Each of the eight screws should have both the split washer and flat washer installed; the split washer goes on first. Leave the screws a half-turn loose at first to allow for adjustment later (see Detail A). Do not screw the L-brackets to the wall studs at this time (see step 6).
- Fit the enclosure into the wall. The bottom edge of the bottom L-brackets will rest against the baseboard 2 x 4. At this time, make note of adjustments necessary to square the enclosure into the wall (see Detail C).
- After refitting and tightening the L-brackets into the enclosure (but not the wall studs yet), fit the enclosure into the wall once again.



- Screw the L-brackets into the studs, using the eight wood screws.
- Remove the wood centering bars and replace the flat-head screws into the holes left over (the holes left in the cabinet face underneath the bars are also counterbored to accept the flat-head screws).
- The enclosure is now installed and ready for the wallboard to be installed over it.
- Make the connections from your receiver/amplifier to the HTI88 back box connections panel, and to any other speakers as appropriate for your system, following the instructions on the previous page. Connect the eight wires hanging from the bottom of the HTI88BB back box to the correct terminals on the HTI88 loudspeaker (see the previous page).



- At this time, you may want to screw through each side of the wood centering bars to mount the enclosure to the studs. This will help hold the enclosure in position before the L-brackets are mounted to the studs.

# SPECIFICATIONS

## HTI88BB

**Cabinet Dimensions (H x W x D):** 68" x 14" x 4" (1727mm x 356mm x 102mm)

**Cabinet Weight:** 39 lb (17.7 kg)

All features and specifications are subject to change without notice.

**JBL**

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## OWNER'S GUIDE

**PRODUCT LINE:**

**JBL Home Theater In-Wall Series**

**MODEL: HTI88BB**

JBL Consumer Products

250 Crossways Park Drive, Woodbury, NY 11797

8500 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91329

516.255.4JBL (4525) [www.jbl.com](http://www.jbl.com)


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