

**JBL**®

**PERFORMANCE™  
SPECIALIST**

SS6, SS6C, SS8, SS8C,  
SSLCR, SS6DT

## OWNER'S GUIDE

# THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING JBL

For more than 60 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.

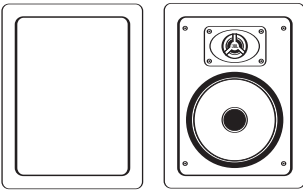
We're confident that the JBL loudspeakers you have chosen will provide every note of enjoyment that you expected – and that when you think about purchasing additional audio equipment for your home, car or office, you will once again choose JBL.

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.

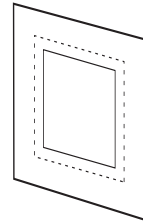
JBL Consumer Products

## INCLUDED

### SS6, SS8

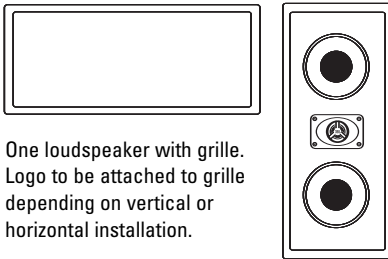


One pair of speakers with grilles.

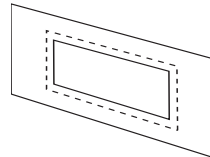


Template/paint shield  
(punch out at perforation).

### SSLCR

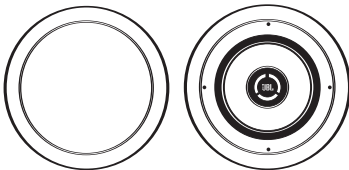


One loudspeaker with grille.  
Logo to be attached to grille depending on vertical or horizontal installation.

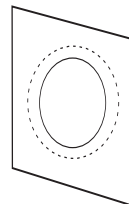


Template/paint shield  
(punch out at perforation).

### SS6C, SS8C, SS6DT



One pair of speakers with grilles.  
Model SS6DT includes one loudspeaker, since it is capable of reproducing two channels of audio.



Template/paint shield  
(punch out at perforation).

# SPEAKER PLACEMENT

Proper placement of the speakers is an important step in obtaining the most realistic soundstage possible. You can use these recommendations as a guide for optimal placement. Slight variations will not diminish your listening pleasure.

The front speakers should be placed the same distance from each other as they are from the listening position, at about the same height from the floor as the listeners' ears will be, with the tweeters aimed toward the listening position at ear-level height.

Model SSLCR is suitable for the front left, center and right posi-

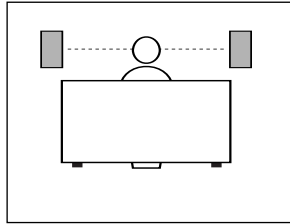
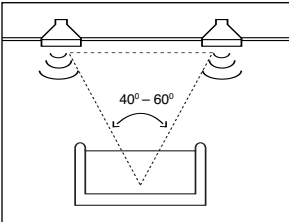
tions, and may also be used as a side surround or surround back speaker. It may be mounted horizontally or vertically, but make sure to position it so that the tweeters for all of the front speakers are at the same height (or differ by no more than 2 feet). You may rotate the tweeter to correctly orient the JBL logo.

In a home theater configuration, the two surround speakers should be placed slightly behind the listening position and, ideally, should face each other and be at a level higher than the listeners' ears. If that is not possible, they may be

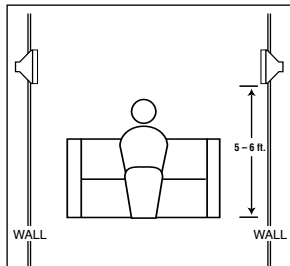
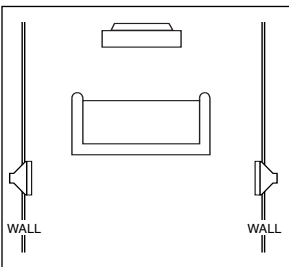
placed in a wall behind the listening position, facing forward. The rear wall is the required mounting position for the surround back speakers in 6.1- and 7.1-channel systems.

The surround speakers should not call attention to themselves. They should provide a diffuse, ambient sound accompanying the main program material heard in the front speakers. In Dolby® Digital and DTS® systems, aim the tweeters toward the listening position at ear-level height.

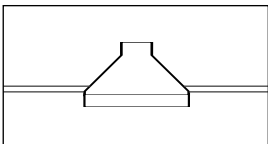
## FRONT SPEAKERS (SS6, SS8, SSLCR)



## MODELS SS6, SS8 AND SSLCR AS REAR SPEAKERS



## MODEL SS6DT IN-CEILING



Model SS6DT has the capability of playing two channels through one loudspeaker, thanks to its dual-tweeter/dual-voice-coil construction. Since the tweeters are close together, in general

they should be aimed away from each other for best coverage.

For two-channel (stereo) applications (e.g., as a single speaker in a remote room of a distributed audio system), install the SS6DT

speaker centrally in the ceiling for best stereo imaging, swiveling the tweeters so that one points toward the left and the other toward the right of the listening position, aimed at ear-level height.

The SS6DT may also be used to play the left and right surround channels in a 5.1-channel home theater system, in which case it

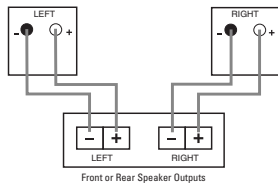
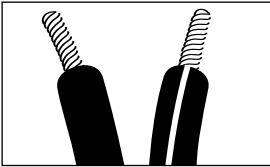
should be mounted in the ceiling slightly behind the listening position, centered from left to right and with the tweeters pointing toward the left and right of the listening position, aimed at ear-level height.

For 7.1-channel systems where it is desired to use two SS6DT speakers, one to play both the left surround and surround back

channels and the other to play both the right surround and surround back channels, mount each SS6DT speaker in the ceiling, slightly behind the listening position. Place one closer to the left side of the room and the other closer to the right side. Aim the tweeters away from each other, toward the front and rear of the room.

## SPEAKER CONNECTIONS

### CONNECTION TIPS



The wires for both speakers should be the same length. If one speaker is placed closer to the amplifier than the other, hide the excess wire behind the wall.

Speakers and electronics terminals have corresponding (+) and (-) terminals. Most manufacturers of speakers and electronics, including JBL, use red to denote the (+) terminal and black for the (-) terminal. It is important to connect both speakers identically: (+) on the

speaker to (+) on the amplifier and (-) on the speaker to (-) on the amplifier. Wiring "out of phase" results in thin sound, weak bass and a poor stereo image.

With the advent of multichannel surround sound systems, connecting all of the speakers in your system with the correct polarity remains equally important in order to preserve the proper ambience and directionality of the program material.

### WIRE LENGTH

Up to 20 ft.

Up to 30 ft.

Greater than 30 ft.

### RECOMMENDED SIZE

16-Gauge

12-Gauge

10-Gauge

## INSTALLATION

Performance Specialist in-wall speakers are designed to be easily installed. However, if you are unsure of your ability to properly install these loudspeakers, please contact your dealer or a qualified installer.

### TOOLS NEEDED



Pencil



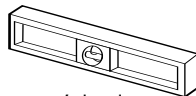
Phillips #2 screwdriver



Measuring tape



Utility knife



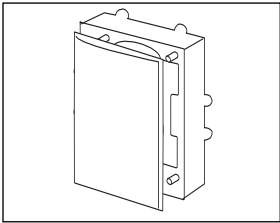
Carpenter's level



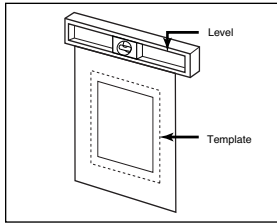
Awl

# EXISTING CONSTRUCTION

## SS6, SS8, SSLCR

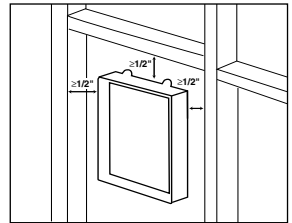


Remove the grille from the speaker frame by pulling on the paper tab. If the tab is missing, to avoid scratching the grille or baffle you may unfold a paper clip, insert the straight end through one of the holes in the grille, and gently pull up.

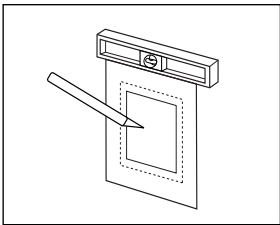


Determine the correct speaker location.

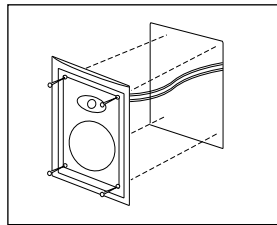
**Note:** Remove the inner template, which is the paint shield, at the perforation. Use the outer template when cutting the drywall. Although the SSLCR may be oriented either horizontally or vertically, the installation procedure is the same.



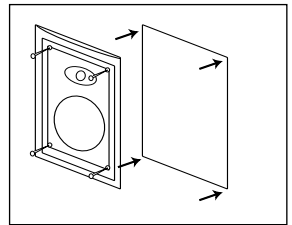
**Note:** Always allow at least one-half inch between a wall stud and the speaker cutout, or the locking tabs will not be able to swivel into place.



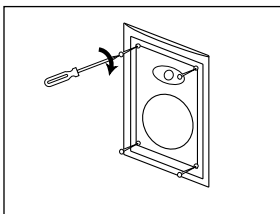
Cut the drywall.



Connect the speaker wires to the speaker.

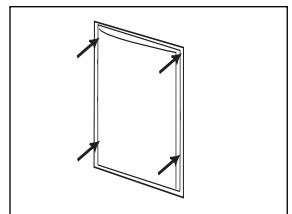


Place the frame assembly in the wall.



Screw down each of the four (six for SSLCR) Phillips-head screws. The locking tabs will swivel into place and secure the unit to the rear surface of the drywall.

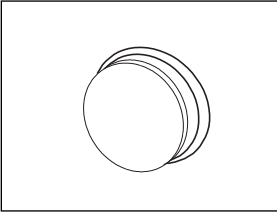
JBL Performance Specialist speakers feature unique swivel mounts for the tweeters that enable you to aim the very directional high frequencies toward the listening position, at ear-level height. Before installing the speaker grille, gently press on the outer edge of the tweeter mount to adjust the position of the tweeter. The tweeter will not swivel more than 15 degrees in any direction; do not attempt to force it to move further. You may also rotate the tweeter to orient the JBL logo as desired.



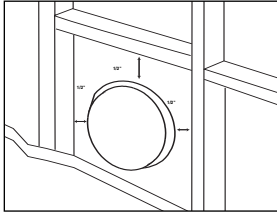
Replace the metal grille. For the SSLCR only, attach the JBL logo to the grille to correspond to vertical or horizontal installation.

# EXISTING CONSTRUCTION

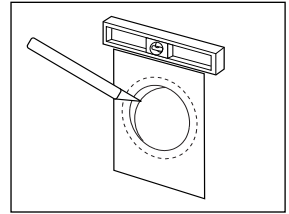
## SS6C, SS6DT, SS8C



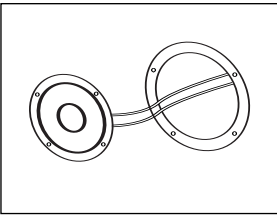
Remove the grille from the speaker frame by pulling on the paper tab. If the tab is missing, to avoid scratching the grille or baffle you may unfold a paper clip, insert the straight end through one of the holes in the grille, and gently pull up.



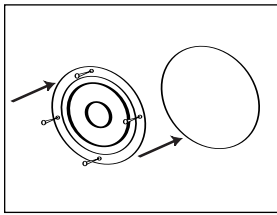
Determine the correct speaker location. **Note:** Remove the inner template, which is the paint shield, at the perforation. Use the outer template when cutting the drywall.



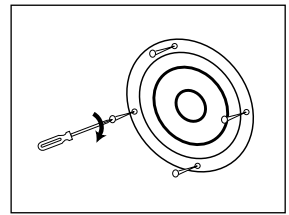
Cut the drywall. **Note:** Always allow at least one-half inch between a wall stud and the speaker cutout or the locking tabs will not be able to swivel into place.



Connect the speaker wires to the speaker.

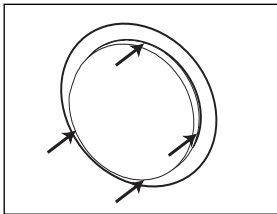


Place the frame assembly in the wall.



Screw down each of the three Phillips-head screws. The locking tabs will swivel into place and secure the unit to the rear surface of the drywall.

The SS6C and SS8C speakers feature unique swivel mounts for the tweeters that enable you to aim the very directional high frequencies toward the listening position, at ear-level height. Before installing the speaker grille, gently press on the outer edge of the tweeter mount to adjust the position of the tweeter. The tweeter will not swivel more than 15 degrees in any direction; do not attempt to force it to move further. You may also rotate the tweeter to correctly orient the JBL logo as desired.



Replace the metal grille.

# NEW CONSTRUCTION

You will need to purchase the correct rough-in frame kit for your model:

<b>SPEAKER MODEL</b>	<b>ROUGH-IN FRAME KIT</b>
SS6	RIF6
SS8	RIF8
SSLCR	RIF55
SS6C, SS6DT	RIF6C (pair pack)/RIF6CS (single pack)
SS8C	RIF8C

Detailed installation instructions are supplied with the rough-in kit.

## PAINTING THE SPEAKER FRAME AND GRILLE

Performance Specialist loudspeakers can be painted to match any décor. If you wish to change their color, the satin finish on the grille and frame will function as a primer coat. Before painting, install the paint shield (in the assembly kit) securely into the recess in the baffle. This will protect the speaker compo-

nents and baffle from paint residue. Use a high-quality spray paint, and apply a thin coat of color.

**Be certain the grille perforations remain free of paint. Filling them with paint will diminish the sound quality.**

**Note:** Gently remove the acoustical foam blanket from the grille before painting. Reattach the blanket after the paint has dried.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

### **If there is no sound from any of the speakers:**

- Check that receiver/amplifier is on and a source is playing.
- Check all wires and connections between receiver/amplifier and speakers. Make sure all wires are connected. Make sure none of the speaker wires are frayed, cut, punctured or touching each other.
- Review proper operation of your receiver/amplifier.

### **If there is no sound coming from one speaker:**

- Check the "Balance" control on your receiver/amplifier.
- Check all wires and connections between receiver/amplifier and speakers. Make sure all wires are connected. Make sure none of the speaker wires

are frayed, cut, punctured or touching each other. In multi-channel applications, make sure that your receiver or processor has been configured to enable all channels that you are using.

### **If there is low (or no) bass output:**

- Make sure the connections to the left and right "Speaker Inputs" have the correct polarity (+ and -).
- Consider adding a powered subwoofer to your system.
- In Dolby Digital or DTS modes, make sure your receiver/processor is correctly configured. When using a subwoofer, make sure the subwoofer output of the receiver/processor has been enabled. If no subwoofer is being used, make sure the left and right front and rear speakers have been config-

ured as "LARGE." See your receiver/processor's owner's manual for further information on correct speaker configuration in Dolby Digital, DTS and other surround sound modes.

### **If the system plays at low volumes but shuts off as volume is increased:**

- Check all wires and connections between receiver/amplifier and speakers. Make sure all wires are connected. Make sure none of the speaker wires are frayed, cut, punctured or touching each other.
- If more than one pair of main speakers is being used, check the minimum-impedance requirements of your receiver/amplifier.

# SPECIFICATIONS

SS6	SS8	SSLCR	SS6C	SS6DT	SS8C
<b>Frequency Response</b> 38Hz – 20kHz (-10dB)	<b>Frequency Response</b> 30Hz – 20kHz (-10dB)	<b>Frequency Response</b> 40Hz – 20kHz (-10dB)	<b>Frequency Response</b> 40Hz – 20kHz (-10dB)	<b>Frequency Response</b> 40Hz – 20kHz (-10dB)	<b>Frequency Response</b> 32Hz – 20kHz (-10dB)
<b>Recommended Maximum Amplifier Power</b> <sup>†</sup> 100 watts	<b>Recommended Maximum Amplifier Power</b> <sup>†</sup> 120 watts	<b>Recommended Maximum Amplifier Power</b> <sup>†</sup> 120 watts	<b>Recommended Maximum Amplifier Power</b> <sup>†</sup> 100 watts	<b>Recommended Maximum Amplifier Power</b> <sup>†</sup> 120 watts (60 WPC)	<b>Recommended Maximum Amplifier Power</b> <sup>†</sup> 120 watts
<b>Impedance</b> 8 ohms nominal	<b>Impedance</b> 8 ohms nominal	<b>Impedance</b> 8 ohms nominal	<b>Impedance</b> 8 ohms nominal	<b>Impedance</b> 8 ohms nominal per input	<b>Impedance</b> 8 ohms nominal
<b>Sensitivity</b> 88dB (2.83V/1m)	<b>Sensitivity</b> 90dB (2.83V/1m)	<b>Sensitivity</b> 88dB (2.83V/1m)	<b>Sensitivity</b> 88dB (2.83V/1m)	<b>Sensitivity</b> 89dB (2.83V/1m)	<b>Sensitivity</b> 90dB (2.83V/1m)
<b>Crossover Frequency</b> 2,800Hz	<b>Crossover Frequency</b> 2,000Hz	<b>Crossover Frequency</b> 2,800Hz	<b>Crossover Frequency</b> 2,400Hz	<b>Crossover Frequency</b> 2,900Hz	<b>Crossover Frequency</b> 2,200Hz
<b>Woofer</b> 6-1/2" Polymer-coated aluminum cone w/rubber surround	<b>Woofer</b> 8" Polymer-coated aluminum cone w/rubber surround	<b>Woofer</b> Dual 5" polymer-coated aluminum cone w/rubber surround	<b>Woofer</b> 6-1/2" Polymer-coated aluminum cone w/rubber surround	<b>Woofer</b> 6-1/2" Polymer-coated aluminum cone w/rubber surround	<b>Woofer</b> 8" Polymer-coated aluminum cone w/rubber surround
<b>Tweeter</b> 1" Pure-titanium dome, w/Elliptical Oblate Spheroidal™ (EOS) waveguide, and swivel mount	<b>Tweeter</b> 1" Pure-titanium dome, w/Elliptical Oblate Spheroidal™ (EOS) waveguide, and swivel mount	<b>Tweeter</b> 1" Pure-titanium dome, w/Elliptical Oblate Spheroidal™ (EOS) waveguide, and swivel mount	<b>Tweeter</b> 1" Pure-titanium dome, w/swivel mount	<b>Tweeter</b> Dual 3/4" pure-titanium dome, w/swivel mount	<b>Tweeter</b> 1" Pure-titanium dome, w/swivel mount
<b>Plate Size (W x H)</b> 8-1/8" x 11" (216mm x 279mm)	<b>Plate Size (W x H)</b> 10-1/8" x 13-1/8" (257mm x 333mm)	<b>Plate Size (W x H)</b> 15-3/8" x 7-1/2" (391mm x 191mm)	<b>Plate Size (Diameter)</b> 9-3/16" (233mm)	<b>Plate Size (Diameter)</b> 9-3/16" (233mm)	<b>Plate Size (Diameter)</b> 10-7/8" (276mm)
<b>Mounting Cutout Size (W x H)</b> 7-1/8" x 9-11/16" (181mm x 246mm)	<b>Mounting Cutout Size (W x H)</b> 10-1/8" x 11-13/16" (225mm x 300mm)	<b>Mounting Cutout Size (W x H)</b> 13-7/8" x 6-3/16" (352mm x 157mm)	<b>Mounting Cutout Size (Diameter)</b> 7-7/8" (200mm)	<b>Mounting Cutout Size (Diameter)</b> 7-7/8" (200mm)	<b>Mounting Cutout Size (Diameter)</b> 9-1/2" (241mm)
<b>Mounting Depth</b> 3-7/8" (98mm)	<b>Mounting Depth</b> 4" (102mm)	<b>Mounting Depth</b> 3-7/8" (98mm)	<b>Mounting Depth</b> 4-1/4" (108mm)	<b>Mounting Depth</b> 4-1/4" (108mm)	<b>Mounting Depth</b> 4-1/4" (108mm)
<b>Weight per Speaker</b> 4.7 lb (2.1kg)	<b>Weight per Speaker</b> 5.5 lb (2.5kg)	<b>Weight per Speaker</b> 5.7 lb (2.6kg)	<b>Weight per Speaker</b> 4.2 lb (1.9kg)	<b>Weight per Speaker</b> 4.2 lb (1.9kg)	<b>Weight per Speaker</b> 4.6 lb (2.1kg)

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Dolby is a registered trademark of Dolby Laboratories.

DTS is a registered trademark of DTS, Inc.

† The maximum recommended amplifier power rating will ensure proper system headroom to allow for occasional peaks. We do not recommend sustained operation at these maximum power levels.

All features and specifications are subject to change without notice.

## Declaration of Conformity



We, Harman Consumer Group International  
2, route de Tours  
72500 Château du Loir  
France

declare in own responsibility that the products described in this owner's manual are in compliance with technical standards:

EN 61000-6-3:2001  
EN 61000-6-1:2001

Laurent Rault  
Harman Consumer Group International  
Château du Loir, France 3/06

## OWNER'S GUIDE

### PRODUCT LINE:

**PERFORMANCE™ SPECIALIST**

### MODELS:

**SS6, SS6C, SS8, SS8C, SSLCR, SS6DT**

**DESIGN GOAL:** Combine the superior performance of traditional JBL loudspeakers with the convenience of in-wall installation.

**TWEETER TYPE:** Pure-titanium dome with Elliptical Oblate Spheroidal™ (EOS) waveguide, and swivel mount

**WOOFER TYPE:** Polymer-coated aluminum cone with rubber surround

**CROSSOVER NETWORK:** Straight-Line Signal Path™ (SSP)

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE:** Studio Monitor

**PRO SOUND  
COMES HOME™**

JBL, Incorporated  
250 Crossways Park Drive, Woodbury, NY 11797  
8500 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91329  
516.255.4JBL (4525) (USA only) www.jbl.com

**NOTE:** For new-construction applications, be sure to purchase the correct rough-in frame kit.

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