

STONES SOUND STUDIO

RIBBON SPEAKER KIT

MANUAL



260C

360

260

Designed

By

Russell Storey

Loudspeaker Description and Building Instructions

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Loudspeaker Description

The Ribbon Speaker Performance

Here at Stones Sound Studio we have engineered Super High Definition Ribbon Speakers to reproduce all analogue and digital stereo programs including CD, HD-DVD, SACD analogue turntables and multi channel A/V home theatre sound systems

The 260 260c & 360 Ribbon Speakers provide excellent depth of field, holographic 3D sound staging, fast tight bass midrange, crystal clear top end detail, extreme dynamic range with very low distortion on any type of program material from low to high volume levels

The 260C centre channel speaker complements the 260 and 360 ribbon speakers for high-end Home Theatre A/V systems. I recommend complementing the ribbon speakers with the high quality R1000 12" subwoofer for very low frequency articulate bass for medium to large rooms

The 260 and 360 ribbon speakers have been designed to become a sound reference for both home theatre and audio systems enabling listeners to hear finer instrument detail in analogue and digital recordings

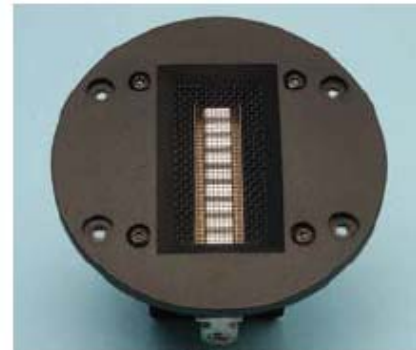
The low distortion, wide bandwidth and large dynamic range provided by this Ribbon Speaker series enables listeners to appreciate the effects of any upgrades or changes made to their electronic equipment , cables ,components and program material providing many years of enjoyable listening.

Russell Storey

Loudspeaker Description

Ribbon Speaker Kit Design Concept

The aim of a good high definition loudspeaker is to reproduce any instrument or sound as realistically and as close as possible to the original sound source. While these attributes are achievable to a degree using a standard woofer /soft, dome tweeter combination an even better solution is a woofer /ribbon tweeter loudspeaker. I chose a Pure Ribbon tweeter because of the speed low mass and detail to enable a speaker design with true super high definition sound reproduction of any instrument or sound effect



832873 5"

830883 6.5"

JP3.0

Tweeter: Fountek Ribbon

The Fountek Jp3.0 pure ribbon tweeter with high frequency transformer has the ability to deliver extremely fast transient detail and low distortion from very low to high volume levels and enables a truly realistic sound when compared to planar ribbon or dome tweeters.

The Jp30 ribbon tweeter diaphragm has a very low moving mass of only 11mg (dome tweeter > 300mg) and is fitted with High Flux density rare earth neo magnets. To convert very the low impedance of the ribbon diaphragm to an 8-ohm primary the Jp3.0 is fitted with an ultra wide bandwidth 120 KHz transformer, resulting in a flat frequency response minimum phase change from 1 to 40 kHz.

Woofer: Peerless Bass/Midrange

To complement the speed ,dynamics and accuracy of the JP3.0 ribbon tweeter the Peerless HDS 832873 5" and HDS 830883 6.5" with Nomex paper cones were selected for their natural sound signature, excellent bass lower mid range detail very low distortion , wide dynamic range , fast transient time , phase and frequency response.

Loudspeaker Description

The Ribbon Speaker Enclosures

The Bass Reflex enclosure was developed using LEAP 5 wave diffraction analyzer and FFT vibration analysis. An Extended Bass Shelf (EBS) / Butterworth low pass filter response was implemented with the enclosure to ensure optimum low extended bass and fast transit speed from the woofers.

The Enclosures feature flush mounted ribbon tweeter, rear port and are manufactured from 18mm MDF.

The Front Baffle is 36mm thick laminated MFD which ensures minimum movement of driver chassis and maximum enclosure damping for very tight bass and low cabinet resonance.

Centre Speaker

The 260C Centre Speaker has a wide horizontal sound field due to the use of an MTM speaker configuration and provides excellent detail of voice and home theatre effects. The enclosure and crossover network are the same as the 260 except the ribbon tweeter has been rotated 90 degrees on the front baffle to complement the woofer sound fields.

Enclosure Bracing Rib

Acoustically bullet shaped internal bracing ribs are fitted the side and top panels to provide strength and further improve bass transients and reduce panel resonance modes.

Enclosure Felt Damping

The enclosure is fitted with acoustic felt damping to the top bottom left & right and rear internal panels of the woofer chamber to reduce internal mid frequency standing waves and slightly damp the mid frequency back waves from of woofer cones. In addition, two layers of acoustic felt are fitted inside back panel.



Loudspeaker Description

- **Enclosure Rear Port**

A rear port was employed in the ribbon speaker design to ensure a reduction of overall transducer distortion and cross modulation generated by front ports.

With a front port a form of speaker (low frequency) distortion and cross modulation is generated by the chamber compressed air exiting the port out of phase with the woofer creating (modulation) interference of the woofer cone and ribbon diaphragm .This interference of the woofer cone occurs at medium to high playback levels (port velocity) and is one of the factors reducing over all dynamic range or head room of the transducers and speaker system.

This mechanical process is similar in principal to FM & AM radio wave modulation only in this case, the radio carrier wave is the transducer cone or ribbon diaphragm and the modulator is the low frequency compressed air radiated from the port.

Port Flare

A simple 63 mm (ID) port size with small flared ends was chosen over large flared ports to provide minimum port velocity, cone excursion and minimum woofer power compression at average to high volume levels.

At average to high volume levels, large radius ports cause eddy current airflow resistance at the inlet, exit flare, and thus more power compression, less dynamic range and increased driver distortion.

Enclosure Bracing and Felt Acoustic Damping:

An MDF timber acoustic bracing rib was designed with a bullet round over on the edges to reduced unwanted chamber resonance, standing waves (pressure particle bunching) caused by the back waves of the bass/ mid woofer and to reduce unwanted side panel resonant modes

Grey Felt 6mm thick acoustic material is fitted to the top,bottom,left,right and rear panels and carefully folded over the bracing rib to act as an absorber (air brake) on lower midrange frequencies that cause modulation of the cone and port vent . Two layers of 6mm felt are added to the inside of the rear panel and further damping is added the rear of the ribbon tweeter to reduce air turbulence of the rear port and interference from the back of tweeter magnet assembly

Grill Panel

The grill panel is located on the front baffle by grill pegs and cups and incorporates the use of low loss acoustic grill cloth. The grill frame features round over of the timber grill frame internal and external edges which reduce diffraction of the sound generated by the speaker drivers .A special low loss grill cloth has been used to reduce attenuation of high frequencies from the ribbon tweeter and woofer. *“ To enable the very best sound quality and listening experience I recommend the grill panel be removed from the speaker box “*

Enclosure Features Summary:

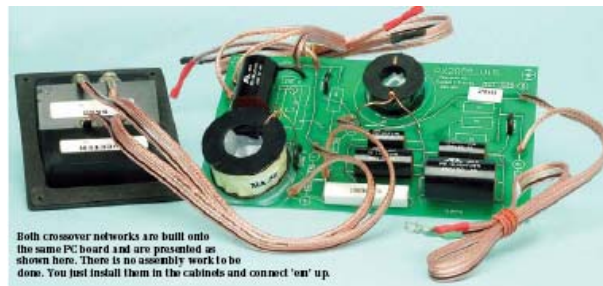
- Low resonance baffle design with 36mm thick laminated 18mm MDF
- High volume level High Velocity low compression port with round over at both ends
- MDF acoustic bracing rib with bullet shaped round over on edges
- Acoustic felt damping on all walls and rear panel
- Acoustic Felt cover behind ribbon tweeter
- Acoustic grill panel cloth Low loss
- Grill panel frame internal & external frame round over's
- woofer hot cut outs 16mm roundovers on inside edge

Loudspeaker Description

Crossover 260 260C 360

The Linkwitz Riley (Bessel /Butterworth) crossover unit was developed to enable good linear phase and minimum THD distortion through the pass band and overlap regions of both the woofer and ribbon tweeter whilst providing wide dynamic range and excellent low mid and high level continuity of detail .

A 2nd order low pass with a 3rd order high pass filter slope was chosen after evaluating many different design combinations to provide optimum isolation between low and high frequencies. Time compensation of the driver xyz location and rising peaks response in the woofer and tweeter on and off axis were reduced by fine tuning crossover component values thus enabling coherent coupling from bass to tweeter combination through out the crossover region. The fully finished crossover PCB includes all components, high quality internal wiring and Velcro mounting tabs



Components used in the Ribbon Speaker crossover are High quality Non-Inductive resistors, Copper Air core Inductors, SCR 400V metalized MKP capacitors.OFC 384 strand copper wiring

Crossover Features Summary

- Fully finished PCB includes all components and wiring ready to install
- Soldering: None required Wiring cable: Internal speaker cable high quality OFC 384 strand with push on connections
- Speaker terminals: 4mm twin gold plated binding post
- Filter 2 way off set Bessel / Butterworth, linear phase
- Frequency: 260 260c 3.8 KHz 360 Freq 3.2Khz
- Order: 2nd Lp, 3rd Hp

Speaker Cable type internal wiring & amplifier

OFC 384-speaker cable is made from a low loss pure OFC copper. The cable is a type of Litz wire construction formed from 384 thin copper wires woven into a low profile flat rectangular shape and then insulated with a clear polymer jacket. This excellent combination of shape and size ensures the OFC 384 speaker cable has minimal HF loss from the skin effect found in round conductors and also enables a lower overall impedance which provides better bass depth, midrange transients and dynamics.

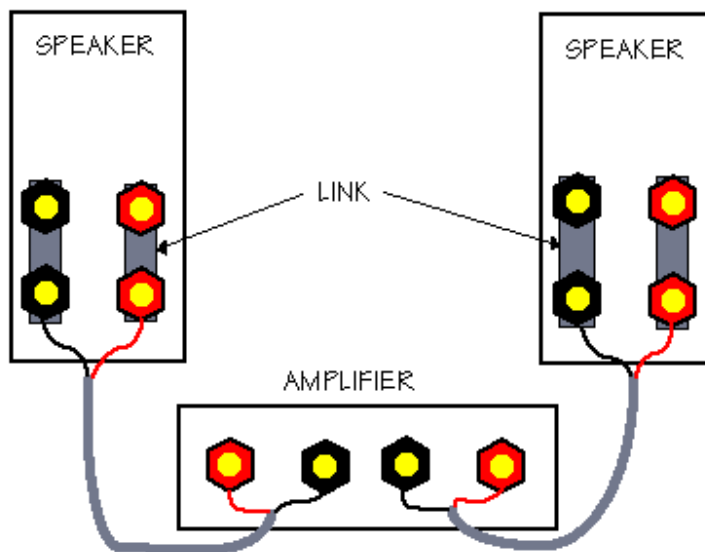
Other speaker cable I recommend to are QED Nordost Chord Kimber Audio Quest

Loudspeaker Connection

260 260C 360

Speaker Cable Wiring (Standard)

Connect the speaker cables to the bottom pair of terminals on the rear speaker terminal cup for a standard connection to your amplifier



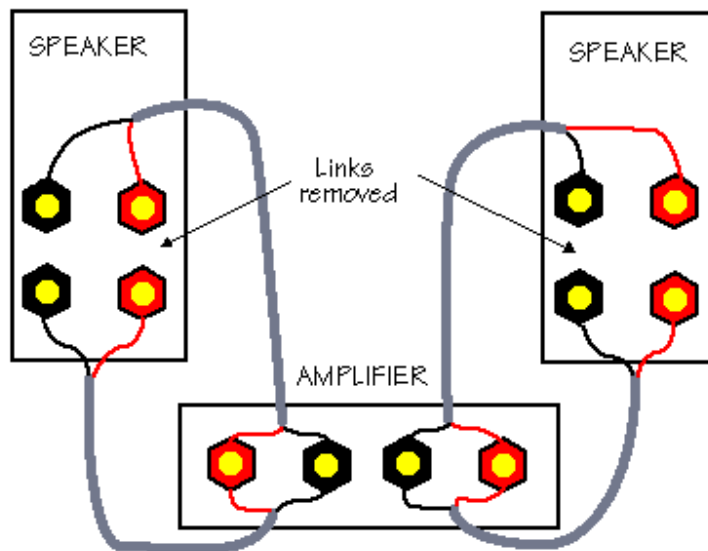
Loudspeaker Connection

260 260C 360

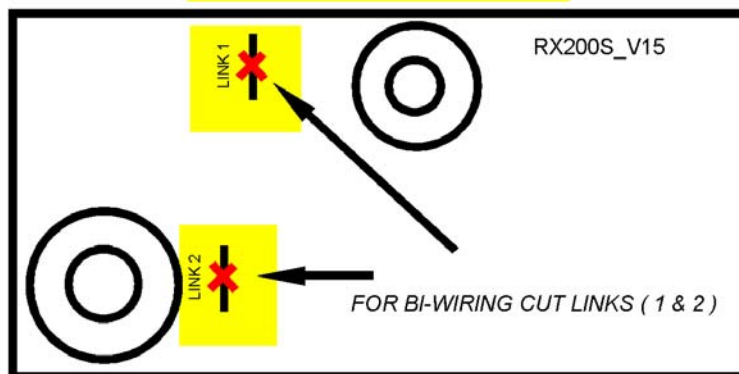
Speaker Cable (BI Wiring)

The term bi-wire simply refers to the fact that you will be running *two sets* of loudspeaker cables from your amplifier to *each* of your speakers.

- ✓ Remove the 2 links from the *rear* speaker terminal cup .
- ✓ Cut links (1,2,) on the *internal* crossover board



CROSSOVER BOARD BI-WIRING



Building Instructions

260 260C and 360

Installation of the Woofer & Crossover PCB

1) Crossover Board (Bottom) 260-260C 360

- ✓ Fit Velcro Tabs to underside of the crossover PCB (see p17)
- ✓ Fit crossover assembly through lower woofer hole and secure with 5 Velcro tabs onto the felt at bottom of speaker box (see p18)
- ✓ Fit speaker 4 terminal plate through felt and rear panel mounting hole then secure with 4 MDF countersunk wood screw(see p19 p20)

2) Woofer (Bottom) 260-260C 360

- ✓ Fit Lower bass /mid speaker crossover cables through the front baffle hole (see p21)
- ✓ Fit push on connectors from the crossover speaker cables Red (+V) and Black (-ve) to the speaker terminals of the lower woofer (see p21)
- ✓ Fit lower bass /mid speaker to the front baffle with six Allen head screws using a 3mm Allen key
- ✓ Re check all driver screws but do not over tighten (see p22 23)

3) Fountek Jp3.0 Ribbon Tweeter (Installation Check List)

- ✓ Check acoustic felt cover is fitted behind tweeter cut out hole before installing tweeter
- ✓ Do not connect a battery or dc (direct voltage) across ribbon terminals .Ribbon has been pre tested in factory
- ✓ *Do not remove Ribbon protection label until speaker box the installation and dc testing is completed (see 27*

4) Fountek Jp3.0 Ribbon Tweeter 260-260C 360

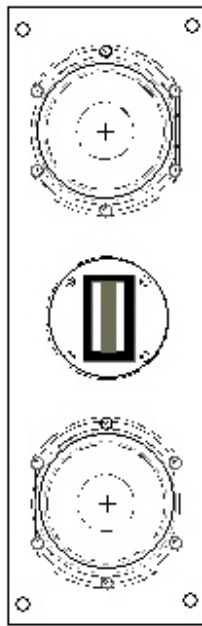
- ✓ Fit ribbon tweeter crossover cables through the bottom edge of felt cup through the front baffle hole and secure the 2 cable lugs **Red (+V)** and **Green (-ve)** to the ribbon terminal posts with a small wrench and tighten nuts firmly but do not over tighten **See (photo p24)**
Hint: Angle tweeter cable lugs to allow enough room between felt cover and back of the tweeter when installing
- ✓ Fit ribbon tweeter to the front baffle with four Allen head screws using a 3mm Allen key Re check all screws but do not over tighten

5) Woofer (Top) 260 260C

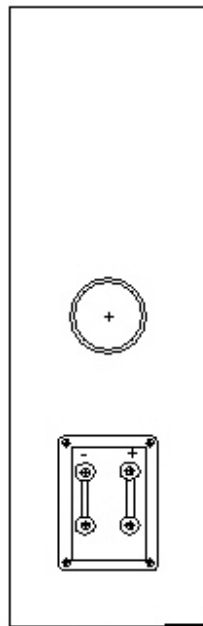
- ✓ Fit upper bass /mid speaker crossover cables through the top front baffle hole
- ✓ Fit push on connectors from the crossover speaker cables Red (+V) and Black (-ve) to the speaker terminals of the top woofer (see p21)
- ✓ Fit upper bass /mid speaker to the front baffle with six Allen head screws using a 3mm Allen key
- ✓ Re check all driver screws but do not over tighten
- ✓ **6) Ribbon 260C Centre Speaker**
- ✓ Fit Crossover Board ,bottom woofer , top woofer and ribbon tweeter as per 260 Installation steps (1,2,3,4,5) above (see Centre Speaker tweeter location p22 ,23)

Building Instructions

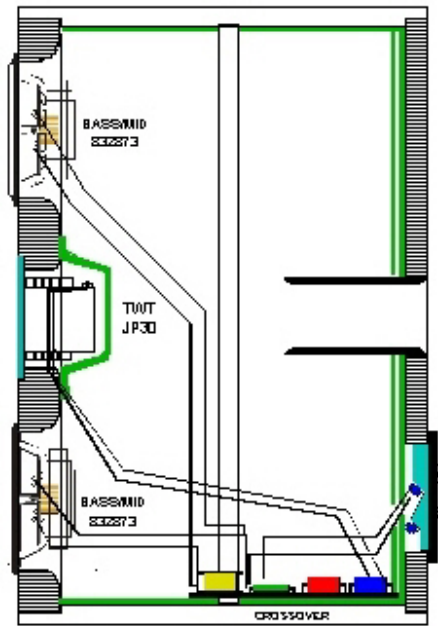
Location of Crossover PCB and Wiring 260



FRONT VIEW

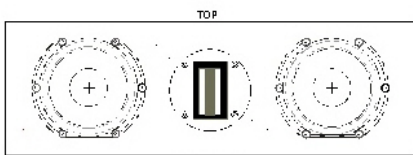


REAR VIEW

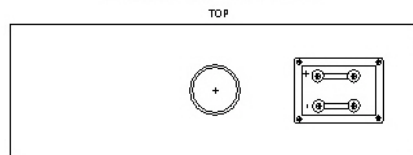


SIDE VIEW CROSSOVER LOCATION

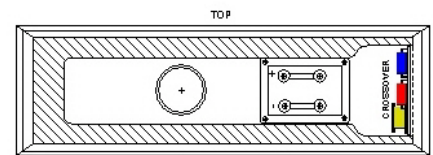
260C CENTRE



FRONT VIEW

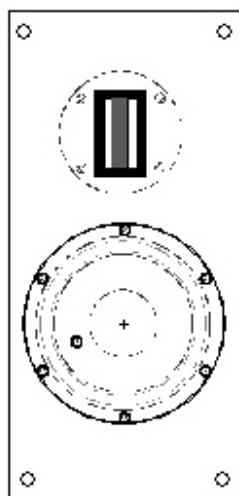


REAR VIEW

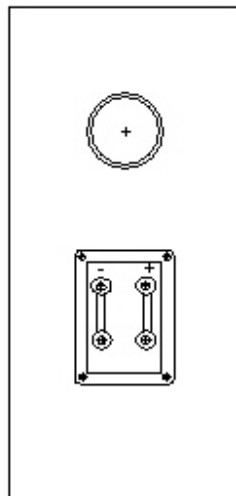


REAR VIEW - NO BACK PANEL

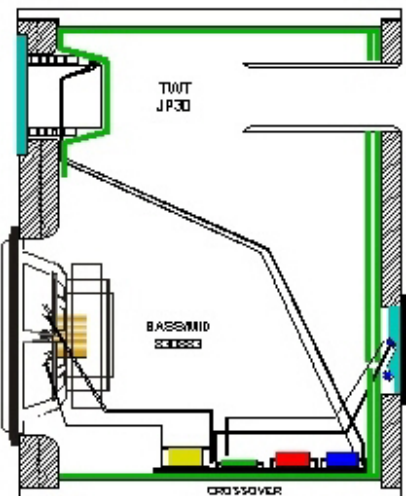
360



FRONT



REAR VIEW



CROSSOVER

Building Instructions

260 260C and 360

Testing the Finished Speaker Box

Bass Speaker phase test (dc only) is all that is normally required to test the pre built crossover wiring and speakers. Connect a 1.5v battery with a pair of clip leads across the bottom pair of speaker terminals (+ve to +ve) RED and (-ve to -ve) BLACK. Check that the battery is connected as per photo (**Photo 2 page 14**).

Observe that the woofers cone moves out as per (**Fig1 below**).

This means the speaker and crossover wiring is connected in phase.,

If the speaker cone moves in then the connection of the bass speaker or crossover wiring are incorrect out of phase

Crossover Network Resistance (dc only). (DIY optional extra for experienced Diy speaker builders and technicians)

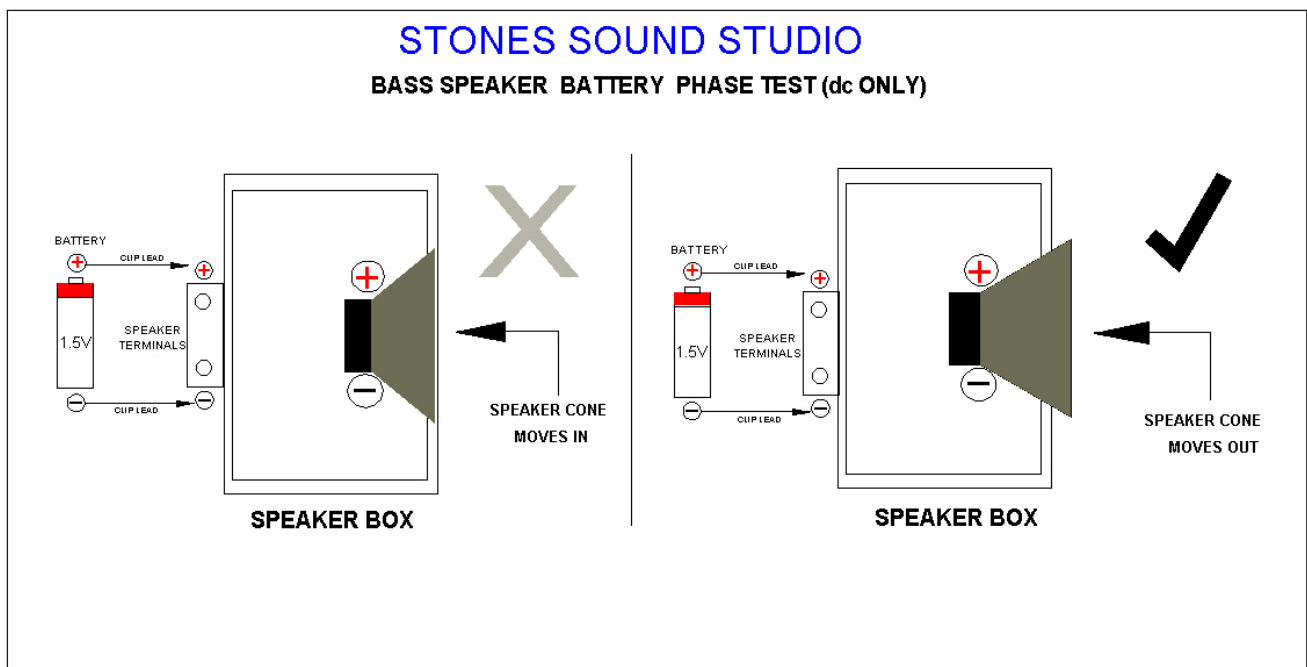
Connect a DMM (digital multi-meter) across the bottom pair of speaker terminals then switch the DMM to the ohms range and measure the (dc resistance) of the crossover network. see DMM photo (**Photo 3 page 14**)

Digital Multi Meter (DMM) Readings (average)

260 260c	DMM reading range > 3.4 to 4.4 ohms	(Nominal 3.9 ohm)
360	DMM reading range > 5.8 to 6.7 ohms	(Nominal 6.1 ohm)

Warning: If the DMM meter ohm readings are lower than the range given above then contact the Kit dealer for advice

Fig 1



Building Instructions

260 260C and 360

Testing the Speaker Box Photos 2 & 3

Photo 2

Bass Speaker Battery phase test (dc only)



Photo 3 DMM ohm measurement of the 260-260C speaker Crossover Network Resistance (dc only)



DMM ohm measurement 3.9 ohms 260-260C speaker

DMM ohm measurement 6 ohms 360 speaker

Building Instructions

260 260C and 360

Installation Photographs



Crossover PCB assembly includes pre-wired (soldered) 4 terminal speaker cup



Crossover PCB assembly with 260 enclosure



Fit crossover assembly through lower woofer hole and secure with the Velcro tabs onto the felt at bottom of speaker box



Fit crossover assembly through lower woofer hole and secure with six Velcro tabs



Fit speaker 4 terminal cup through felt and rear panel mounting hole then secure with 4 MDF countersunk wood screw



Note: Fit speaker 4 terminal cup so terminal post faces toward the top of the box

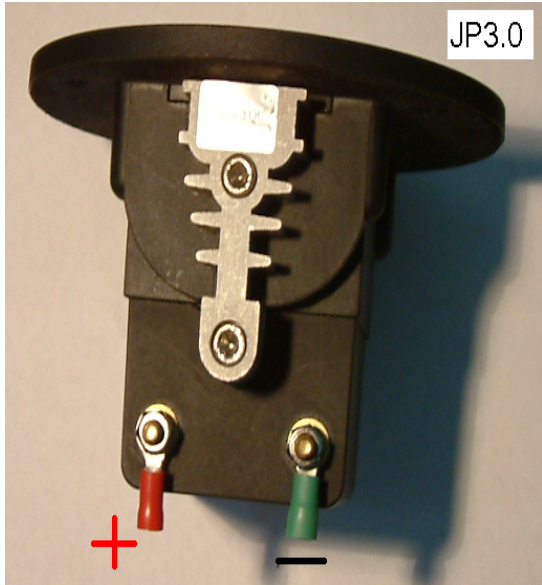


Speaker push on connector cables fitted through front speaker mounting whole cutouts



260 FRONT showing ribbon tweeter and Woofer with 3mm Allen key





JP3.0 Ribbon

Terminal polarity Models 260 and 360 (top view)



260 C CENTRE ribbon tweeter terminals





260 C CENTRE showing peerless bass/mid connections



260 C CENTRE ribbon tweeter with protection label

Fully Assembled 260-260C



260

260C Centre

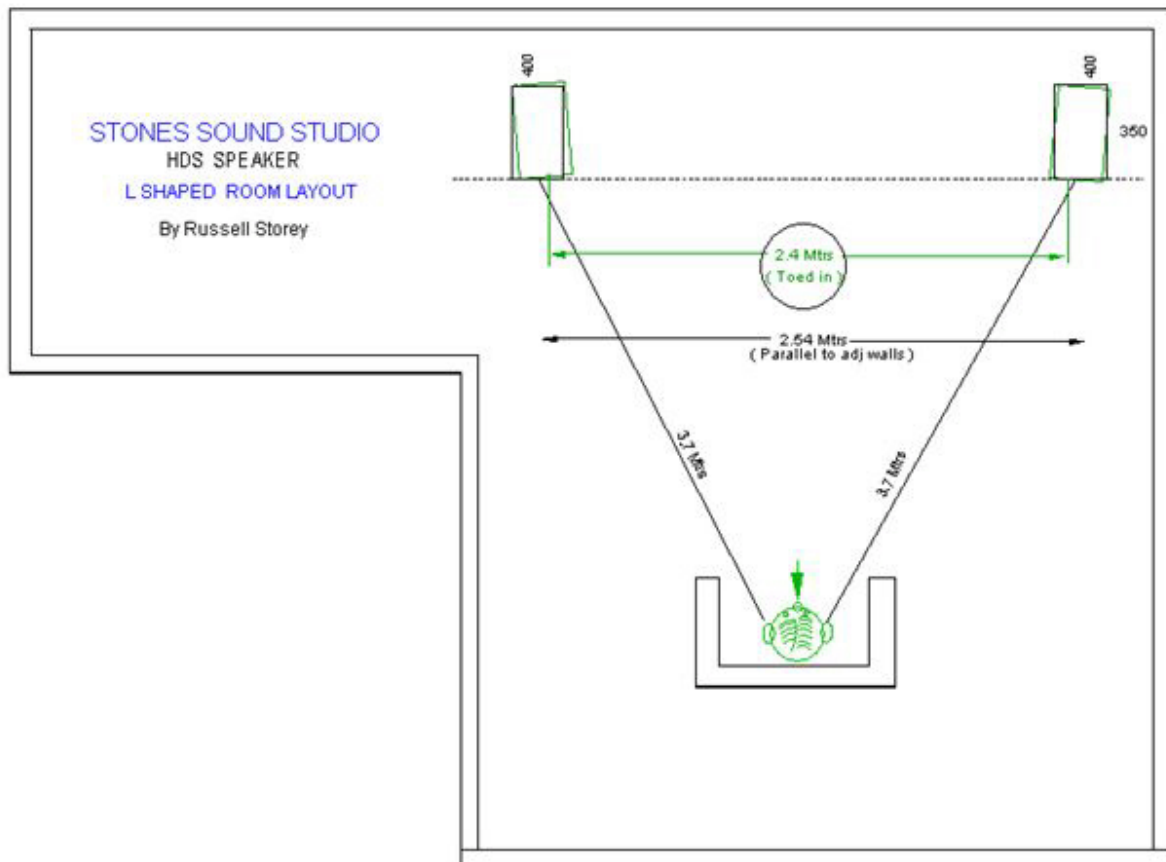
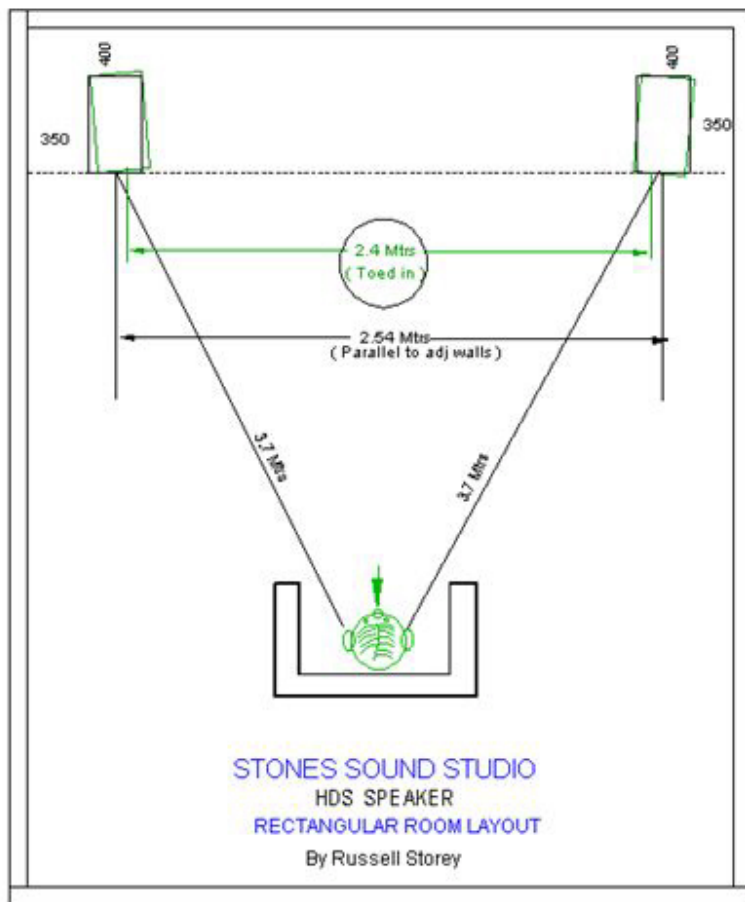
260

Fully Assembled

360



Recommended Loudspeaker Room Location



NOTES

260 260C 360

Enclosure Felt Damping

Use Furniture Felt Pad 540gms / Kg around 7mm thickness

Available in Australia from Home wrap <http://www.homewrap.com.au/>

The screenshot shows the Homewrap website interface. At the top left is the Homewrap logo with the tagline 'Packing & Supplies Pty Ltd'. To the right are links for 'Australian Homepage' and 'New Zealand Homepage'. A search bar with a 'Go!' button is located below the logo. A navigation menu includes 'Removalists', 'Packing & Shipping', 'Self Storage', 'General Packaging', and 'All Products'. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with links for 'About Us', 'Products', 'Services', 'Specials', 'Contact Us', and 'Login'. Below this menu, it states 'We are proud members of' followed by logos for 'Australian Furniture Removers Assoc.' and 'Self Storage Assoc. of Australasia'. The main content area is titled 'Products' and 'All Products - Furniture Protection - Pads & Wraps - Furniture Felt'. It features a large image of a folded grey felt pad. To the right of the image, the product name 'Furniture Felt Pad' is displayed with the code 'TRUP3.3'. Below this, the dimensions are listed: Length 3.3m, Width 1.83, and Thickness 540GSM. At the bottom of the image area, there are two buttons: 'View Enlargment' and 'PDF Brochure'.

NOTES

260 260C 360

Enclosure Felt Damping

Application

Cut Furniture Felt Pad to size to fit box panels

Fit Furniture felt pad with staple gun or Water based vinyl tile glue

Fold Furniture felt pad over bracing ribs

Fit Furniture felt pad to top bottom left right and rear panels of cabinet

Fit 2 pcs of Furniture felt pad to rear panel only

Fit Furniture felt pad TWEETER cover to inside wall front baffle cabinet with air tight seal

