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Polk Audio RC80i

Polk Audio RC80i 2-Way 8-Inch Round In-Ceiling Speaker Instruction Manual

Model: RC80i

1. Introduction

The Polk Audio RC80i in-ceiling speaker is designed to deliver immersive sound without occupying floor space. It features an 8-inch Dynamic Balance woofer for deep bass and a 1-inch aimable tweeter for clear high frequencies and precise sound direction. This model is suitable for whole-house and multi-room audio installations, blending discreetly into its environment. Its construction includes moisture-resistant materials, making it appropriate for use in damp areas such as bathrooms, kitchens, and covered patios. The RC80i is engineered for consistent performance across various volume levels and is timbre-matched with other Polk speakers for seamless audio integration.

2. What's in the Box

- 2 Speakers
- 2 Grilles
- 2 cardboard templates with paint masks
- Owner's manual
- Registration Card

3. Setup and Installation

Installation of the RC80i speakers is designed to be straightforward. The process involves cutting a hole in the ceiling, routing speaker wires, and securing the unit. Rotating cams ensure a secure, vibration-free fit.

3.1 Installation Steps

1. **Mark the Cutout:** Use the provided cardboard template to accurately mark the desired location for the speaker cutout on your ceiling.
2. **Cut the Hole:** Carefully cut along the marked line. The design includes a lip on the speaker frame to conceal minor imperfections in the cut.
3. **Route Wiring:** Feed the speaker wires through the cutout and connect them to the speaker terminals. Ensure proper polarity.
4. **Insert Speaker:** Gently insert the speaker unit into the cutout.
5. **Secure Speaker:** Tighten the front-mounted screws. This activates the rotating cam system, which will automatically secure the speaker firmly to the ceiling.

3.2 Dimensions

Refer to the diagram below for precise installation dimensions:



This diagram provides essential dimensions for installation. The required cutout diameter is 9 3/8 inches (round), the overall speaker diameter is 10 3/4 inches (round), and the mounting depth is 3 1/8 inches.

3.3 Key Installation Features



This image illustrates key installation and design features. It shows the rotating cam system for secure ceiling attachment, the paintable grille for seamless integration, the aimable tweeter for sound direction, and the moisture-resistant rubber seal for durability in damp environments.

4. Operating the Speakers

The Polk Audio RC80i speakers are designed for optimal audio performance and integration into various sound systems.

4.1 Sound Optimization

- **Aimable Tweeter:** The 1-inch tweeter is mounted in a ball-and-socket swivel, allowing you to aim it towards your primary listening area. This feature helps achieve greater accuracy and sound imaging.
- **Dynamic Balance Technology:** The transducers incorporate Dynamic Balance technology, which minimizes mechanical breakup and distortion, resulting in a clearer and more natural sound reproduction.
- **Klippel Optimization:** Klippel motor optimization ensures consistent, distortion-free performance across a wide range of volume levels, from low to high.
- **Timbre Matching:** The RC80i speakers are timbre-matched with other Polk Audio freestanding speakers (such as Polk Monitor, TSi, and OWM series). This allows for seamless sound integration when used as surround speakers in a home theater system alongside other Polk models.

5. Maintenance and Care

Proper care ensures the longevity and performance of your Polk Audio RC80i speakers.

- **Moisture Resistance:** The speakers are constructed with moisture-resistant materials and feature a rubber seal to prevent moisture intrusion. This makes them suitable for damp environments like bathrooms, kitchens, and covered outdoor areas. However, they are not designed for exposed outdoor use; for such applications, Atrium Series speakers are recommended.
- **Durable Components:** The blue polymer woofers with rubber surrounds are designed to resist deterioration, providing excellent damping and bass response over time. The rugged stainless steel hardware and powder-coated aluminum grille contribute to years of dependable performance.
- **Paintable Grilles:** The grilles can be painted to match your ceiling color, allowing the speakers to blend seamlessly into your interior design. Ensure the paint masks are used during painting to protect the speaker components.
- **Cleaning:** For general cleaning, gently wipe the grilles and speaker surfaces with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.

6. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Polk Audio RC80i speakers. If you experience problems not covered here, please contact customer support.

- **No Sound:**
  - Verify that the speaker wires are securely connected to both the speaker terminals and the amplifier/receiver.
  - Check the amplifier/receiver settings to ensure the correct input source is selected and the volume is turned up.
  - Confirm that the amplifier/receiver is powered on and functioning correctly.
- **Distorted Sound:**
  - Reduce the volume level on your amplifier/receiver. Distortion often occurs when the amplifier is overdriven.
  - Check speaker wire connections for any loose strands or short circuits.
  - Ensure the speaker wires are of adequate gauge for the length of the run.
- **Uneven Sound or Poor Imaging:**
  - Adjust the aimable tweeter on each speaker to direct sound towards your primary listening position.
  - Verify that both speakers are connected with correct polarity (+ to + and - to -). Incorrect polarity can cause phase issues and poor sound imaging.
- **Speaker Not Secure in Ceiling:**
  - Gently re-tighten the front-mounted screws to engage the rotating cam system more firmly. Do not overtighten.

7. Technical Specifications

Model Name	RC80i
Speaker Type	In Ceiling
Speaker Size	8 Inches
Tweeter Diameter	1 Inches
Total Frequency Response	35Hz - 20kHz

Nominal Impedance	8 ohms
Efficiency	90 dB
Recommended Amplifier Power	20 - 100 Watts per channel
Connectivity Technology	Wired (Spring-loaded clips)
Product Dimensions (D x W x H)	3.63"D x 10.75"W x 10.75"H
Cut-Out Diameter	9 3/8" (23.81cm)
Mounting Depth (assumes 1/2 in drywall)	3 1/8" (7.94cm)
Item Weight	9 Pounds
Color	White
Manufacturer	DEI Holdings
Item Model Number	AW0080-B
UPC	747192106898

8. Warranty Information

Polk Audio provides a **Lifetime Speaker Warranty** for the RC80i. Please note the following conditions:

- **Authorized Purchase:** To ensure a valid warranty, Polk loudspeakers must be purchased through an Authorized Polk Audio home or car loudspeaker Dealer (e.g., Amazon.com).
- **Non-Transferable:** The warranty applies only to the original purchaser and is not transferable. Products purchased from private individuals are considered 'used' and do not carry a factory warranty.
- **Voided Warranty:** The warranty is void if the serial number of the speaker has been removed or defaced.

For any questions regarding your warranty coverage or service needs, please contact Polk Customer Service.

9. Customer Support

For assistance, technical support, or warranty inquiries, please contact Polk Audio Customer Service:

- **Phone:** 1-800-377-7655

Our support team is available to help you maximize your experience with your new speakers.

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