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Polk Audio AM5047-A

Polk Audio SurroundBar 50 Surround System Instruction Manual

Model: AM5047-A



1. INTRODUCTION

The Polk Audio SurroundBar 50 is a high-performance, single-speaker surround sound system designed to enhance your television audio experience. It integrates multiple drivers into a sleek, 51-inch enclosure, providing immersive sound without the need for separate rear speakers. This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your SurroundBar 50.

Key features include:

- **SDA Surround Technology:** Patented technology creates a wide, enveloping sound field from a single speaker.
- **Integrated Drivers:** Features nine 3.5-inch composite cone mid/bass drivers and three 0.75-inch silk dome tweeters for clear, detailed audio.
- **Dual Front Ports:** Engineered for superior clean, low-distortion bass response.
- **Magnetic Shielding:** Allows safe placement near televisions without interference.
- **Versatile Placement:** Can be wall-mounted or placed on a stand or shelf.



Image: Front view of the Polk Audio SurroundBar 50 Surround System. The speaker bar is long and slender, featuring a metallic silver finish and a dark grille covering the drivers. It is designed to be placed horizontally below a television.

2. SETUP

Proper setup ensures optimal performance of your SurroundBar 50. Follow these steps for installation and connection.

2.1 Unpacking

- Carefully remove all components from the packaging.

- Verify that all included items are present: SurroundBar 50 unit, wall mount kit, and stand/cradle.
- Retain packaging for future transport or storage.

2.2 Placement Options

The SurroundBar 50 offers flexible placement to suit your home theater setup.

- **Under/Over TV:** Place the SurroundBar 50 directly below or above your television using the included stand/cradle. Ensure it is centered with the TV screen.
- **Wall Mounting:** Use the provided wall mount kit to secure the SurroundBar 50 to a wall. Refer to the wall mount kit instructions for detailed installation steps. Ensure the bar is level and securely fastened.
- **Shelf/Furniture Placement:** The SurroundBar 50 can also be placed on a sturdy shelf or entertainment unit.

For optimal sound, position the SurroundBar 50 at approximately ear level when seated, if possible. Avoid obstructing the front of the speaker.

2.3 Connecting to a Receiver

The SurroundBar 50 connects to any surround sound receiver. It is designed to function as the front left, center, and right channels, as well as the surround left and right channels, all from a single unit.

1. **Identify Speaker Outputs:** Locate the speaker output terminals on your surround sound receiver. You will typically connect to the Front Left, Center, Front Right, Surround Left, and Surround Right terminals.
2. **Connect Speaker Wires:** Use high-quality speaker wire to connect the corresponding terminals on your receiver to the color-coded input terminals on the back of the SurroundBar 50. Ensure positive (+) terminals connect to positive (+) and negative (-) terminals connect to negative (-).
3. **Subwoofer Connection (Recommended):** For full-range audio and enhanced bass, connect a powered subwoofer to your receiver's subwoofer output. The SurroundBar 50's bass performance is significantly complemented by a dedicated subwoofer.
4. **Power On:** Once all connections are secure, power on your receiver and the SurroundBar 50.

Note: The SurroundBar 50 is designed to work with receivers providing up to 150 watts per channel.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Using your Polk Audio SurroundBar 50 is straightforward once connected to your receiver.

3.1 Initial Audio Setup

- **Receiver Calibration:** If your receiver has an automatic speaker calibration system (e.g., Audyssey, MCACC), run it after connecting the SurroundBar 50 and any subwoofer. This will optimize sound levels and equalization for your room.
- **Manual Adjustment:** If your receiver does not have auto-calibration, manually set the speaker sizes (typically "Small" for the SurroundBar 50 to direct bass to the subwoofer) and distances. Adjust channel levels to ensure balanced sound.

3.2 Enjoying Surround Sound

The SurroundBar 50's SDA Surround technology automatically processes audio signals to create an immersive 5-channel surround experience. No special settings are required on the soundbar itself.

- **Source Selection:** Select your desired audio source (e.g., TV, Blu-ray player, streaming device) on your receiver.
- **Volume Control:** Adjust the overall volume using your receiver's remote control.
- **Sound Modes:** Experiment with your receiver's various sound modes (e.g., Dolby Digital, DTS, Stereo) to find your preferred listening experience. The SDA technology works with both multi-channel and two-channel sources to create a wide soundstage.

4. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Polk Audio SurroundBar 50, follow these simple maintenance guidelines.

- **Cleaning:** Dust the speaker bar regularly with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, solvents, or liquid sprays, as these can damage the finish or internal components.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate airflow around the SurroundBar 50. Do not block the front ports or place the unit in an enclosed space without proper ventilation.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Avoid exposing the unit to extreme temperatures, high humidity, direct sunlight, or excessive vibrations.
- **Cable Management:** Periodically check all cable connections to ensure they are secure and free from damage.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your SurroundBar 50, consult the following troubleshooting guide before contacting support.

5.1 No Sound

- **Check Power:** Ensure your receiver is powered on and functioning correctly.
- **Verify Connections:** Confirm that all speaker wires are securely connected to both the receiver and the SurroundBar 50, with correct polarity (+ to + and - to -).
- **Source Selection:** Ensure the correct audio input source is selected on your receiver.
- **Volume Level:** Increase the volume on your receiver.

5.2 Poor or No Surround Effect

- **Placement:** Ensure the SurroundBar 50 is centrally located relative to your viewing position and not obstructed.
- **Receiver Settings:** Verify that your receiver is configured for a multi-channel output (e.g., 5.1 or 7.1) and that the SurroundBar 50 is recognized as the primary speaker array. Run receiver's auto-calibration if available.
- **Source Material:** Ensure the audio source you are playing contains surround sound information.

5.3 Distorted Sound

- **Volume Level:** Reduce the volume on your receiver. Excessive volume can cause distortion.
- **Source Quality:** Check if the distortion is present with different audio sources. A low-quality source can lead to poor sound.
- **Speaker Wires:** Inspect speaker wires for any frayed strands or short circuits.

5.4 Lack of Bass

- **Subwoofer Connection:** Ensure a powered subwoofer is connected to your receiver and properly configured.
- **Receiver Settings:** Check your receiver's speaker settings to ensure bass management is correctly configured (e.g., front speakers set to "Small," subwoofer enabled).
- **Subwoofer Volume:** Adjust the volume level on your subwoofer.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number	AM5047-A
Driver Complement	9 x 3.5" composite cone mid/bass drivers
Tweeters	3 x 0.75" silk dome tweeters
Nominal Impedance	8 ohms
Recommended Amplification	150 watts/channel

Frequency Response	80 Hz - 23 KHz
Efficiency	90 dB
Bass Technology	Dual front ports
Dimensions (W x H x D)	51" x 4.5" x 5.1" (129.5 cm x 11.4 cm x 13 cm)
Weight	15 lbs (6.8 kg)
Material	Aluminum enclosure
UPC	747192113520

7. WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Polk Audio SurroundBar 50 is covered by a limited warranty. For specific details regarding warranty coverage, duration, and terms, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Polk Audio website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

8. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or service inquiries, please contact Polk Audio customer support. You can typically find contact information, including phone numbers and online support resources, on the official Polk Audio website:

[Visit Polk Audio Support Website](#)

When contacting support, please have your product model number (AM5047-A) and serial number ready.

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