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Polk Audio ES55

Polk Signature Elite ES55 Tower Speaker User Manual

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Polk Signature Elite ES55 Tower Speaker. The ES55 is designed to deliver high-resolution cinematic sound for movies, gaming, and multi-channel music, featuring a Dynamically Balanced Acoustic Array, a 1-inch Terylene Tweeter, and two 6.5-inch Mica-Fortified Polypropylene Woofers. It incorporates Polk's Power Port Bass Enhancing Technology for extended, low-distortion bass and is Hi-Res Audio Certified, compatible with Dolby Atmos and DTS:X surround sound systems.





Image 1.1: Front view of the Polk Signature Elite ES55 Tower Speaker in white finish.

2. Safety Information

Please read and follow all safety instructions to prevent injury or damage to your equipment.

- **Placement:** Ensure the speaker is placed on a stable, level surface to prevent tipping. Keep it away from heat sources, direct sunlight, and moisture.
- **Ventilation:** Do not block any ventilation openings. Adequate airflow is necessary to prevent overheating.
- **Power:** This is a passive speaker and requires an external amplifier or receiver. Ensure your amplifier is turned off before making any connections.
- **Cleaning:** Disconnect from power sources before cleaning. Use a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol sprays.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

3. Package Contents

Verify that your package contains the following items:

- Polk Signature Elite ES55 Tower Speaker (1 unit)

4. Setup

4.1 Placement

The ES55 is a floor-standing speaker designed for indoor use. For optimal audio performance, consider the following:

- **Room Acoustics:** Experiment with speaker placement to find the best soundstage and bass response in your listening environment. Generally, placing speakers an equal distance from the listening position and slightly toed-in towards the listener can improve imaging.
- **Distance from Walls:** Placing speakers too close to walls can overemphasize bass. Adjust distance to achieve balanced sound.
- **Stability:** The speaker comes with rubber feet suitable for both carpeted and hard floors, providing stability and minimizing vibrations.

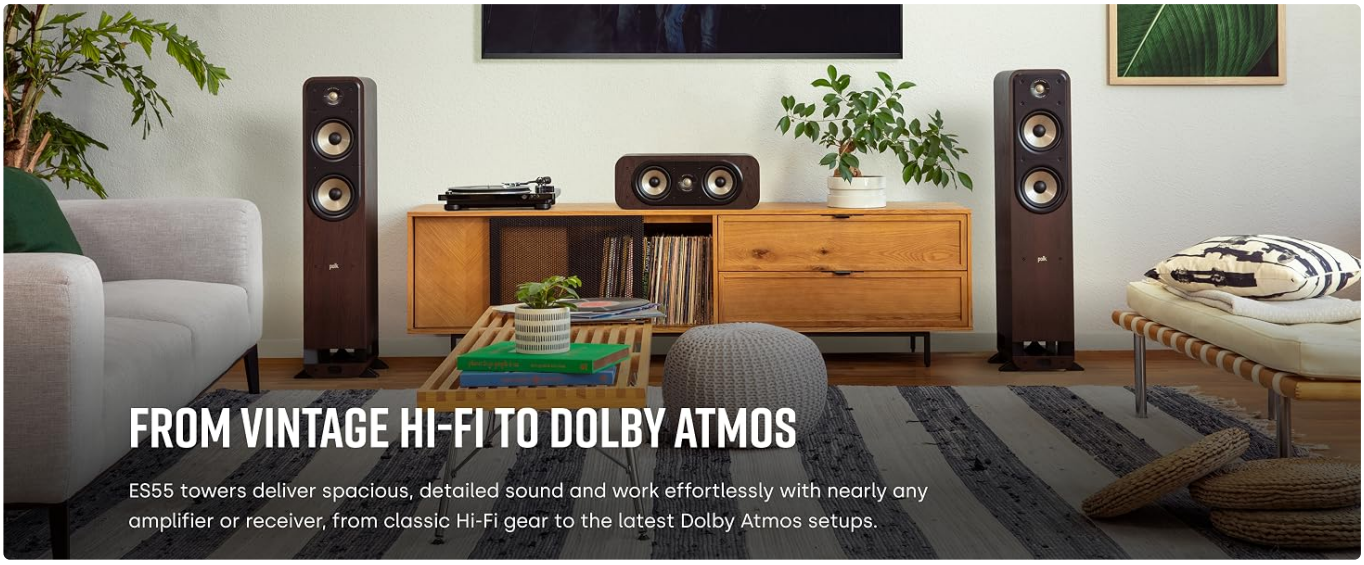

Image 4.1: Example placement of ES55 Tower Speakers in a home theater environment.

4.2 Connections

The ES55 speaker features dual gold-plated 5-way binding posts for secure and high-purity audio connections. These terminals accept bare wire, spade connectors, pin connectors, and banana plugs.

1. Ensure your amplifier or receiver is powered off before making any connections.
2. Connect the positive (+) terminal (red) of the speaker to the positive (+) terminal of the corresponding amplifier channel.
3. Connect the negative (-) terminal (black) of the speaker to the negative (-) terminal of the corresponding amplifier channel.
4. For bi-wiring or bi-amping, remove the metal jumpers connecting the upper and lower binding posts. Consult your amplifier's manual for specific instructions on bi-wiring/bi-amping.

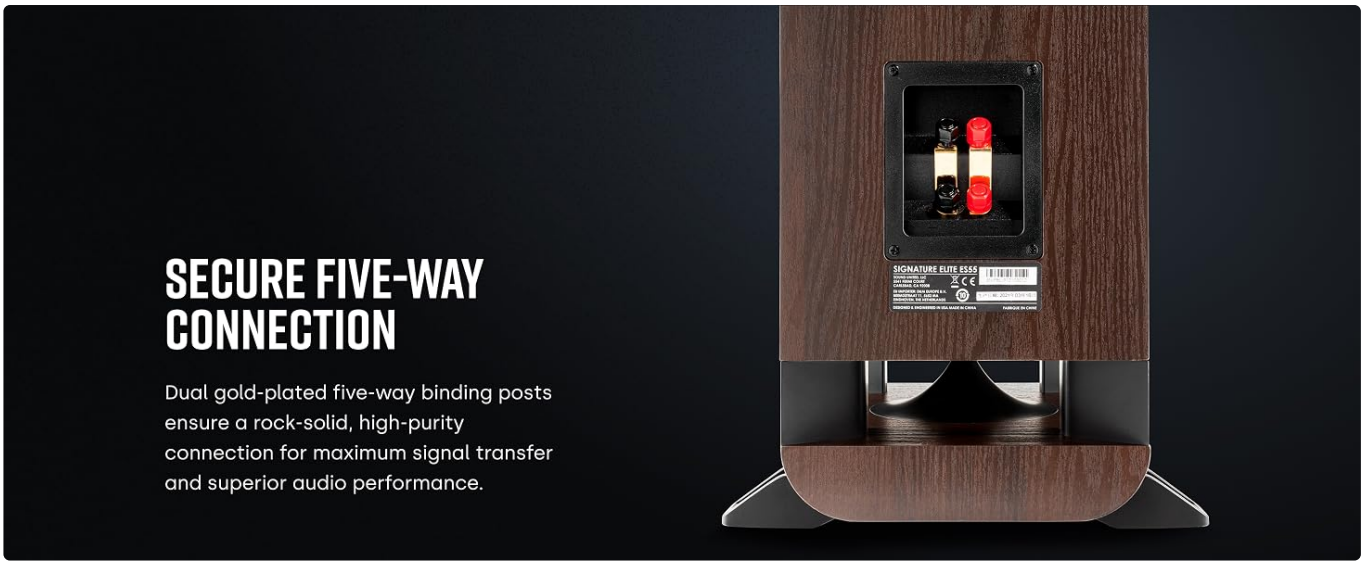

Image 4.2: Detail of the secure five-way binding posts on the ES55 speaker.

5. Operation

Once properly connected to an amplifier or receiver, your Polk Signature Elite ES55 Tower Speaker will reproduce audio from your source components. The ES55 is designed for high-fidelity sound reproduction and is compatible with various audio formats and systems.

- **Hi-Res Audio:** The 1-inch Terylene tweeter is Hi-Res Audio Certified, capable of reproducing frequencies up to 40kHz, ensuring detailed and accurate sound from high-resolution audio sources.
- **Dolby Atmos & DTS:X:** The ES55 is compatible with the latest Dolby Atmos and DTS:X surround sound AVRs and amplifiers, allowing for immersive multi-dimensional audio experiences.
- **Power Port Technology:** Polk's patented Power Port design enhances bass response by smoothly transitioning airflow from the port into the listening area, minimizing turbulence and distortion for deeper, more impactful bass.



Image 5.1: Detail of the Hi-Res Audio Certified Terylene dome tweeter.

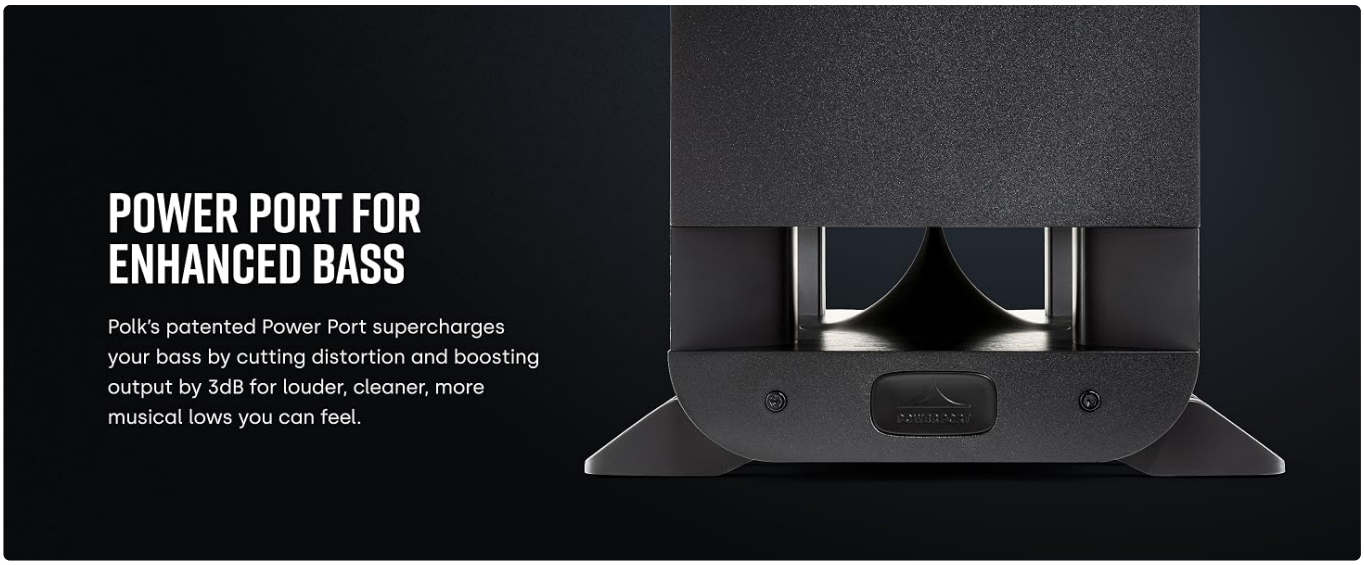

Image 5.2: View of the Polk Power Port technology at the base of the speaker.

6. Maintenance

Proper care will ensure the longevity and performance of your ES55 speakers.

- **Cleaning Cabinets:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the cabinet surfaces. Avoid abrasive cleaners, solvents, or strong detergents, as these can damage the finish.
- **Grilles:** The speaker grilles can be gently removed for cleaning. Use a soft brush or vacuum cleaner with a brush attachment to remove dust.
- **Drivers:** Avoid touching the speaker cones (woofers and tweeter) directly, as this can cause damage.
- **Environment:** Keep the speakers in a climate-controlled environment, away from extreme temperatures, humidity, and direct sunlight.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your ES55 speaker, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Sound:**
  - Check all speaker wire connections at both the speaker and the amplifier/receiver. Ensure they are secure and correctly connected (positive to positive, negative to negative).
  - Verify that the amplifier/receiver is powered on and the correct input source is selected.
  - Check the volume level on your amplifier/receiver.
- **Distorted Sound:**
  - Ensure speaker wires are not frayed or shorting out.
  - Reduce the volume level on your amplifier/receiver. Overdriving the speakers can cause distortion.
  - Check the audio source for distortion.
- **Unbalanced Sound:**
  - Verify that both speakers are connected with correct polarity.
  - Check the balance settings on your amplifier/receiver.

If problems persist after following these steps, consult your amplifier/receiver manual or contact Polk Audio customer support.

8. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Brand	Polk Audio
Model Name	ES55
Speaker Type	Tower
Mounting Type	Floor Standing
Material	Polypropylene
Recommended Uses	Home Theater, Surround Sound Systems
Woofer Diameter	(2) 6.5 Inches
Tweeter Diameter	1 Inch (Terylene)
Impedance	8 Ohm
Maximum Output Power	200 Watts
Tweeter Frequency Response	Up to 40 KHz (Hi-Res Audio Certified)
Connectivity	Dual Gold-Plated 5-way Binding Posts
Product Dimensions (D x W x H)	12.8" x 8.5" x 41.5"
Item Weight	44 Pounds
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant
Indoor/Outdoor Usage	Indoor
UPC	747192134303
Warranty Type	Limited
Included Components	Speaker

9. Warranty and Support

The Polk Signature Elite ES55 Tower Speaker comes with a Limited Warranty. For specific terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or visit the official Polk Audio website.
For additional support, product registration, or to explore other Polk Audio products, please visit the Polk Audio Store.

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