# User Manual for the Noble & Noble speakers

Thank you for having purchased the Noble & Noble speakers.

Now that you have unboxed the speakers it is time to get the maximum out of them, right? Right! But how? By carefully reading this User Manual fully.

In case you wish to view this User Manual on a screen please scan the QR code or Copy and Paste this link into the search bar: https://www.noble-noble.com/en/manuals

In case you wish to visit the Noble & Noble website please scan the QR code or Copy and Paste this link into the search bar: https://www.noble-noble.com/

If you have any questions and/or suggestions there are two ways to contact us:

First, please contact your authorized Noble & Noble dealer. Noble & Noble maintains a network of dedicated dealers who will be able to help

 you should you have any questions and/or suggestions. Just scan the QR code or Copy and Paste this link into the search bar: https://www.noble-noble.com/en/where-to-listen

Alternatively, you can contact us directly via the Contact Us form on the website. Just scan the QR code or Copy and Paste this link into the

 search bar: <u>https://www.noble-noble.com/en/contact-us</u>









# NOBLE & NOBLE

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Please keep this User Manual in a safe place. You may need it some time later on.

# Accessories you will need to get the speakers playing

Quantity	Item				
1	User Manual. Please read it fully and carefully before connecting your speakers.				
2	White gloves for a better grip to take the speakers out of the packaging.				
1	Hex key / tool to unlock the transport screw at the back of each speaker. The chapter <i>How to loosen the transport screw</i> can be found on page 4.				
1	Interlink, to go from one speaker to the other. The chapter <i>How to get the speakers playing or the connections</i> can be found on page 5.				
2	Power Cords to power up the speakers. The chapter <i>How to connect the speakers to the power grid</i> can be found on page 5.				
1	Remote control. For the functions of the <i>Remote Control</i> please go to page 10.				
8	Felt Discs. Please see this User Manual, chapter <i>Leveling</i> , for more information. You will find it on page 11.				
2	Front spikes which each go into the 7th side of each speaker. Please see this User Manual, chapter <i>Positioning and Leveling</i> , for more information. You will find it on page 11.				
1	Lint-free cloth to clean your speakers. You will find more information on page 18.				

Inside one of the speaker cardboard boxes you will find these necessary accessories:

## How to loosen the transport screw

Before you go to the chapter "*How to get the speakers playing or the connections*" please make sure that you have loosened the transport screw, located at the top on the back side of the speaker, by turning it  $\pm$  two times fully to the left in order that the 7th side becomes loose and perfectly aligned with the rest of the speaker.





FYI, the transport screw is the ONLY screw which needs to be touched / loosened!

**DO NOT TAKE OUT / PUSH OR PULL the 7th side itself.** The 7th side is fixed inside the bottom plate and needs to stay that way. The transport screw is all that should be loosened as mentioned above.

DO NOT TURN / LOOSEN any other screws such as the two mentioned below:

As mentioned on page 14 <b>DO NOT</b> screw or unscrew / tighten or loosen the flange nut next to the spike which you will find on the bottom plate.
As mentioned on page 5 <b>DO NOT</b> screw or unscrew / tighten or loosen the flange nut next to the connections plate which you will find on the back side.

## How to get the speakers playing or the connections



### The speakers must always be connected to a grounded / earthed outlet.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

• Always make sure that the speakers are connected to a grounded / earthed power outlet.

• Always make sure that a 75 Ohm S/PDIF cable is connected between the left and the right speaker.

- Standard, a three meter cable length is provided. If you need a longer cable length you can order this, Free of Charge, when you place the order or later down the time-line.

- Standard, the left speaker is the one with the LED just above the bottom plate. The right speaker does not feature a LED.

- Standard, the left speaker is the Master speaker and the right speaker is the Slave speaker.

- FYI, the Master / Slave configuration can be changed the other way round by the factory only. This requires a change in the software settings.

• Never connect devices such as a Power Amplifier.

- Devices such as a pre-amplifier, CD player or a Music Streamer / Server may be connected.

• As pictured on page 4 **DO NOT** screw or unscrew / tighten or loosen the flange nut next to the Connections plate which you will find on the back side.

## Using a digital input e.g. a Music Streamer or Server:

In this example the first speaker (default will be the left channel) will be connected to the second speaker using an S/PDIF connection. The first speaker will only process the left channel signal. The second speaker (default will be the right channel) will be connected to the first speaker through an S/PDIF cable. This S/PDIF cable will carry the audio signal for the right channel and provide a communication link for the remote control in order to synchronize volume levels and selected input between both channels.

## I. Using one source e.g. a Music Streamer or Server:

A. Digital sources:

1. AES in.

Use an AES / XLR cable from the Music Streamer to the left speaker. The signal for the right speaker will come from the left speaker via the connected S/PDIF cable.

2. S/PDIF in.

Use an S/PDIF cable from the Music Streamer to the left speaker. The signal for the right speaker will come from the left speaker via the connected S/PDIF cable.

**3.** Toslink cable in.

Use a TOSLINK cable from the Music Streamer to the left speaker. The signal for the right speaker will come from the left speaker via the connected S/PDIF cable.

### **B.** Analogue sources e.g. a turntable:

**1.** XLR (balanced) cables.

Use XLR cables from your turntable to the left and the right speaker. The S/PDIF cable will be the communication link for the remote control in order to synchronize volume levels and selected input between both channels.

**2.** RCA (unbalanced) cables.

Use RCA cables from your turntable to the left and the right speaker. The S/PDIF cable will be the communication link for the remote control in order to synchronize volume levels and selected input between both channels.

## II. When using more than one source e.g. a CD player, next to the Music Streamer or

# Server, it is recommended to use the digital outputs from all sources.

**1.** S/PDIF in.

Use an S/PDIF cable from the CD player to the left speaker. The signal for the right speaker will come from the left speaker via the connected S/PDIF cable.

**2.** AES in.

Use an AES / XLR cable from the CD player to the left speaker. The signal for the right speaker will come from the left speaker via the connected S/PDIF cable.

**3.** Toslink cable in.

Use a TOSLINK cable from the CD player to the left speaker. The signal for the right speaker will come from the left speaker via the connected S/PDIF cable.

## The source selection

#### Source select

Option 1: Automatic source select automatically locks on to the first available source. The input scanner scans in the following order and cycles: XLR | RCA | S/PDIF | AES | Optical | Future Option During the scan cycle the output will be muted (LED blinking). When no signal is detected on the active input for 15 seconds the cycle will start over again.

The source can also be selected manually:

- Manually selecting a source can be done by pressing the left (<) and right (>) arrow buttons on the remote control. These buttons will cycle the available inputs in the order mentioned above.

#### Setup with preamp or directly from source

Use your (existing) preamp for source selection, volume etc. The speakers can be connected analogue or digitally, depending on your preamp. This setup can be used with or without an optional remote.

NOTE 1: Upon turning on the speakers, from standby, the volume level will be set to -20dB.

**NOTE 2:** It is highly recommended to have all your sources at the same / maximum output level provided this can be set. Once this is done you can change the volume of the speakers with the supplied Remote Control.

NOTE 3: Please note that the Nobilis Sonum Speakers mute when switching between sources. What does this mean for you?

- This means that if you have one source set at a different output level from another source you will, I repeat you will, get a different volume level coming from the speakers upon switching between sources.

## The features

### Signal detect / Auto power off

The speakers feature an automatic signal detection function. It will scan the input for an active signal and turn on the amplifiers when a signal is detected. When no signal is detected for 15 minutes, the speakers will switch to a standby or low-power mode (explained below). Note: when the speakers are switched off by the remote control, signal detection will switch it back on when a signal is detected after the time-out period has elapsed.

#### **Power modes**

Standby

- Meets 2013 ERP Lot 6 0.5W. In this mode the speakers scan for an analogue input only. If a signal is detected on any of the analogue inputs, the speakers will automatically switch on.

#### Wake up on line

The speakers will automatically switch on when connected to the mains voltage, regardless of a signal being detected.

#### Thermal protection

All Noble & Noble speakers produce heat. Therefore, the speakers have an internal thermal protection.

<sup>(2)</sup> Thermal limiting.

If the amplifier is close to its maximum temperature, the output is lowered by 6dB. Additionally, you will be notified by the LED on the front of the speakers as it starts blinking once every second.

⑦ Thermal shutdown.

If the maximum temperature is reached, the amplifier is switched off to protect it from damage. Additionally the protect indication starts blinking twice every second.

When the amplifier has cooled down to a safe operating temperature, the thermal protection resets and the speakers resume to normal operation.

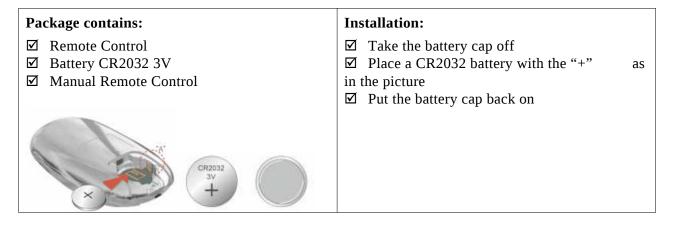
To prevent overheating, install the speakers according to the installation instructions. Never cover the ventilation holes or place the speakers near a heat source.

### **Critical failure**

If a critical failure is detected, i.e. a DC error, the amp shuts down immediately and the protect indication will be enabled. A critical error is latching, meaning only a power cycle might solve the issue. If a power cycle does not work, please contact our support department.

Balanced analogue = XLR:	Digital channel selection:
	The digital signal carries both left and right
Balanced analogue input and through	signal. When a digital source is selected, the
output. Please refer to Technical	current channel setting can be displayed by
Specifications chapter for more information.	holding the select button for 3 seconds until the
	selected channel mode starts blinking.
<b>2</b> Unbalanced analogue input = RCA:	Left: left digital channel selected Right: right digital channel selected
	L/R: Both digital channels mixed into mono
A stereo input signal is internally mixed to mono. For mono use, simply connect only the	L/R. Doth digital channels mixed into mono
relevant channel.	To change the selected channel mode, hold the
recevant channel.	select button pressed. Every 1.5 seconds, the
	channel mode is switched.
<b>3</b> USB:	
Can only be used by the manufacturer to	<b>5</b> AES digital I/O:
configure the speakers. This connection	<b>C</b>
does not support USB audio.	AES3 (2-channel digital audio) Max.: 24 Bit / 192 kHz.
	Max 24 Dit / 152 KHZ.
4 LED Indicators and button:	
Clip or Limit indication	<b>6</b> S/PDIF digital I/O:
Protection:	S/PDIF (2-channel digital audio)
Random blinking: Amplifier limits	Max.: 24 Bit / 192 kHz.
Steady on: Fatal /DC Error	
Blink once per second: High temperature	<b>7</b> EIAJ optical:
Blink twice per second: Temperature limit	
has been reached	EIAJ optical /Toslink (2-channel digital
Dresst	audio) Max.: 24 Bit / 96 kHz.
<b>Preset:</b> F1: Preset 1 selected	Max 24 Dit / 50 Ki12.
F1: Preset 2 selected	LED indicator:
F3: Preset 3 selected	The bi-color LED can indicate the following:
All presets are not user-configurable; they can only	₀ Green: Unit on
be configured by the manufacturer.	• Green, flashing: IR command received
	<ul> <li>Green, red flashing: signal clipping</li> </ul>
	• Green, slowly blinking: output muted or
	auto-source detection.
	<ul> <li>Red: fatal error, switched off</li> </ul>
	• Red, blinking 1 x per second: high
	temperature, output limited
	<ul> <li>Red, blinking 2 per second:</li> </ul>
	temperature limit has been reached,
	the output will be switched off Off: unit is in standby.

# The Remote Control

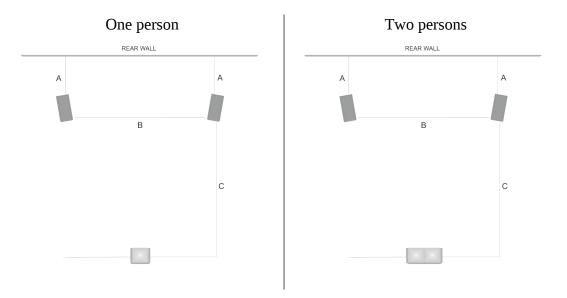


<b>Control Buttons</b>		Functions	<b>Control Buttons</b>	
		Power	Power	
	+	Volume up		
() F1 F2 F3	-	Volume down	▼	
	•	Select source left direction	-	
►		Select source right direction	•	
		Mute	Mute	
		Tweeter 0 dB or Neutral	F1	
		Tweeter + 1.5 dB	F2	
	F3	Tweeter – 1.5 dB	F3	
F4 Knobs which have no user service			SET – M	ENU – BACK

F1	White	Tweeter 0 dB	
F2	Red	Tweeter + 1.5 dB	
F3	Blue	Tweeter – 1.5 dB	

Warranty:	
The Remote Control carries a warranty of 12 months	For technical matters and/or questions about this
for all material and/or production defects starting	product please contact us via: www.noble-noble.com
from the date of purchase. All damage caused by a	or
wrong action and/or an inappropriate action is	email us at: info@noble-noble.com
excluded from the warranty.	

# The speakers localization: Positioning and Leveling



Model	Letter	Spacing in meters	Spacing in inches
Nobilis Sonum 98	А	0.50 - 1.50	20 - 60
	В	2.50 - 3.50	100 - 140
	С	2.50 - 4.50	100 - 180

Model	Letter	Spacing in meters	Spacing in inches
Nobilis Sonum 112	A	0.70 - 2.00	28 - 80
	В	3.00 - 4.00	120 - 160
	С	3.00 - 6.00	120 - 240

Model	Letter	Spacing in meters	Spacing in inches
Nobilis Sonum 126	A	1.00 - 3.00	40 - 120
	В	3.50 - 5.00	140 - 200
	C	3.50 - 8.00	140 - 320

Listening alone gives you the hot seat as far as listening experiences are concerned. Of course, nothing beats listening together, as a couple, and enjoying the musical pleasures together.

## Positioning

It is recommended that your Noble & Noble speakers are unboxed, installed and adjusted by an authorized Noble & Noble dealer.

To get the best from your Noble & Noble speakers, it is important that they are positioned and leveled correctly. This part is about the positioning. The leveling part will follow next.

Note:

- Each Noble & Noble speaker has a spike coming from the 7th side (please see the pictures) which must not be obstructed. This spike is only put in at the last moment. Please see point 5 for further information. To get the maximum sound quality and to avoid operational problems it is mandatory that you put the speakers on a flat and rigid floor.

The single most important factor in getting the optimum sound quality from your speakers is the positioning of the speakers in combination with the main listening position. Just by moving your speakers around you can dial-in the speakers overall tonal balance, the quantity and quality of bass, sound-stage width and depth, mid-range clarity, and imaging. As you make large changes in the speakers' placements and then fine-tune these positions with smaller and smaller adjustments, you'll hear in the sound a new-found musical rightness and seamless harmonic integration. When you get it right, your speakers will come alive even more.

Here are four simple techniques that will make your speakers come alive. Please note: The below mentioned techniques are a matter of trial and error. There are no shortcuts.

1. The relationship between the speakers and the music lover is of paramount importance. - The music lover and the speakers should form an equilateral triangle; without this basic setup, you'll never get the maximum result regarding sound-staging and imaging. It is strongly suggested that you, the music lover, sit exactly between the two speakers (called the "sweet spot"), at a distance away from each speakers that's slightly greater than the distance between the speakers themselves. If you don't have this fundamental relationship, you'll never get the maximum result regarding good sound-staging.

Setting the distance between the speakers is a trade-off between a wide sound-stage and a strong center or "phantom" image. The further apart the speakers (assuming the same listening position), the wider the sound-stage will be. As the speakers are moved farther apart, however, the center image weakens, and can even disappear. If the speakers are too close together, the sound-stage narrows.

If the speakers are placed at the optimal distance apart they will produce a strong center image and a wide sound-stage. A musical selection with a singer and sparse accompaniment is ideal for setting the speakers spacing and ensuring a strong center image. With the speakers fairly close together, listen for a tightly focused image of the singer, especially the size of the mouth, exactly between the two speakers. Move the speakers a little farther apart and listen again. Repeat this move/listen procedure until you start to hear the central image become larger, more diffuse, and less focused, indicating that you've gone slightly beyond the maximum distance your speakers should be from each other for a given listening position.

**2.** Proximity of the speakers to walls affects the amount of bass, also known as "bloom". - The nearer the speakers are to walls and corners, the louder the bass. You can reduce excessive bass by moving your speakers farther out into the room. How far into the room the speakers are positioned also affects the clarity of the bass because certain speakers' locations don't excite the room's resonant modes as strongly. You can reduce these resonances by following the "rule of thirds" which states that, for the best bass response, the distance between the speakers and the wall behind them should be one-third the length of the room. This is often impractical, but one-fifth the room length is generally the next-best location.

**3.** The farther out into the room the speakers are, the better the sound-staging especially its depth. - Positioning the speakers close to the wall behind them can destroy the impression of a deep sound-stage. Acoustically reflective objects such as a fireplace near the speakers can also degrade sound staging. A deep, expansive sound-stage is rarely developed with the speakers near the back wall; pulling the speakers out a few feet can make the difference between poor and spectacular sound-staging.

**4.** Toeing-in the speakers affects tonal balance, sound-stage width, and image focus.

- Toe-in is pointing the speakers inward toward the music lover rather than aiming it straight ahead. Toe-in is a powerful tool for dialing-in the sound-stage and treble balance. There are no rules for toe-in; the optimal amount can vary greatly with the speakers and the room. You can find the best balance simply by listening and adjusting.

- A good starting point is to have the speakers point directly at you and try out different positions from there onwards.

### Note:

Once you have found the optimal position, for each speaker, it is recommended to check if they are level. If yes, please leave them as they are. If not, please level them, a final time. On *"how to level"* please see the next pages.

**5.** Once the speakers are level please put the spike into the 7th side.

**6A. DO NOT** screw or unscrew / tighten or loosen the flange nut next to the spike. **6B. DO NOT** take out / push or pull the 7th side itself. The 7th side is fixed inside the bottom plate and needs to stay that way.



Now, you are ready to start enjoying your favorite music. From all of us at Noble & Noble: Enjoy the music.

## Leveling

It is recommended that the Noble & Noble speakers are unboxed, installed and adjusted by an authorized Noble & Noble dealer.

To get the best from your Noble & Noble speakers, it is important that they are positioned and leveled correctly. The positioning part has been taken care of. Now, it is time to do the leveling part.

#### Leveling tools

Leveling tool / Bubble level for Android phones



Leveling tool / Bubble level for iPhones

You will find the bubble level in your standard Apps, please see the next page.

Every speaker benefits from leveling, including the Noble & Noble speakers. A properly leveled speaker will always perform at its maximum. Felt discs are included to enable leveling on uneven floors; however these adjustments are subtle and will not compensate for (excessively) irregular floors.

The procedure for leveling each speaker should be as follows:

#### Horizontally:

Very carefully (do not scratch the cabinet), use the App bubble level to check if it is sitting horizontally level in all directions, both North – South as well as

East – West or Front to Back as well as left to right. If it is, no adjustment with the felt discs is necessary. Felt discs are only included to enable leveling on uneven floors; however these adjustments are subtle and will not compensate for excessively irregular floors.

#### Vertically:

Once you have leveled the speakers horizontally in both directions it is automatically leveled in the vertical sense.

# Leveling tool / Bubble level for iPhone



# The running-in process

Right out of the box, during the first few days, the speakers may sound different from the final result aka the result you are looking for. There is no need to worry; this merely means that the speakers need running-in.

To get the best from your Noble & Noble speakers several days of running-in are necessary which is playing actual music. This is necessary in order to reach the sound quality you have chosen for and that you will become accustomed to. Rest assured: you do not need to repeat this process every time you listen. Once they are run-in they will retain the Noble & Noble sound quality for many, many years to come.

After a couple of days of running-in please do not hesitate to let the speakers play quite loudly for some time before attempting any positioning and/or leveling again.

DO NOT attempt to accelerate the running-in process by playing sine waves, tone sweeps, running-in CD's of any sort or any other generated signals. Music is all it takes.

## How to clean the speakers

To clean the speakers it is recommended that you use a lint-free clean, soft, damp cloth. Only dampen it with water. Never use abrasive or harsh cleansers e.g. products containing sodium carbonate. This may damage the speakers beyond repair.

On the back side you will find the identification / connections plate which is made out of anodized aluminum. Simply clean it with the supplied lint-free clean, soft cloth, without any chemical solution.

# Troubleshooting

### No power:

Check the power outlet.

- The (external) fuse at the power inlet on the rear of the speakers might be blown.

## No Sound:

- A protection might be triggered.
  - Is the module overheated? Try cycling the mains power.
- Check the volume level of your source and/or speakers with the remote.
- Are the speakers muted?
- Check the source signal.
- Check the cables.

- Make sure an S/PDIF cable is connected between the S/PDIF output of the left speaker and the S/PDIF input of the right speaker.

## Poor sound or noise:

- o Clipping?
  - Is your input signal too low or too high?

• Check all connections and confirm whether the cables used are of high quality and appropriate length?

• Make sure your source devices and media are of high quality.

## Hum:

• Try using a digital connection (S/PDIF/AES/TOSLINK) to connect your source. When using an analogue source, check if it has a balanced output and preferably use that output.

• Make sure that the speakers are plugged into a grounded/earthed power outlet.

## **Remote Control:**

- The Remote Control does not respond.
  - Is the battery charged enough?

## Disclaimer

Noble & Noble makes this manual and the contained information available on "as is" basis.

All warranties and representations of any kind with regard to said information is disclaimed, including the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular use.

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