

Otello

OWNER'S MANUAL

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Information contained in this manual is subject to change without notice. Verity Audio has reviewed this manual thoroughly in order that it will be an easy-to-use guide to your Verity Audio loudspeakers. All statements, technical information and recommendations in this manual or any related documents are believed reliable. The accuracy and completeness thereof are not guaranteed and they are not intended to be, nor should they be understood to be, representations or warranties concerning the products described. Your loudspeakers have been sold to you subject to the limited warranty set forth in the warranty card enclosed with your product.


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Safety Instructions


In these safety instructions the word "product" refers to the Verity Audio OTELLO and all its accessories.

1.  Read Instructions - All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the product is operated;
2.  Retain Instructions - The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference;
3.  Head Warnings - All warnings on the product and in the owner's manual should be followed;
4.  Follow Instructions - All operating and maintenance instructions should be followed;
5.  Cleaning - Unplug this product from your power amplifier before cleaning. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners. The product should be cleaned only as recommended in this manual;
6.  Accessories - Do not use accessories not recommended in this manual as they may be hazardous;
7.  Water and Moisture - Hazard of electric shock - Do not use this product near water or in rainy / moist situations;
8.  Heat - Avoid placing the speakers near a heat source;
9.  Placing or moving - does not place on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The product may fall causing serious injuries, and serious damage to the product. A product with cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the product cart combination to overturn;
10.  Power amplifier - Hazard of electric shock - Do not manipulate, move, clean or disconnect your product while your power amplifier is turned on;
11.  Moving when Packed - The product comes packed in two double cardboard boxes. These boxes are heavy and cannot be carried by a single person. Attempting to move a transportation box alone could cause serious injuries;
12.  Isolating Base - The underneath product isolation base assure a proper coupling with the floor. The product is not attached to its Isolating Base and must be manipulated with extreme care. Do not lift the product altogether with the Isolating Base. Attempting to do this could cause damages or serious injuries;
13.  Input power - To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not allow an input power over 150 watts rms (30.0 volts rms) to the product;
14.  Unpacking and Packing Instructions - The product should be packed and / or unpacked only as indicated on the packing/unpacking instruction sheets;
15.  Ancillary equipment - Do not connect or play the product before making certain that the associated equipment is in good condition;
16.  Object and Liquid Entry - Never push object of any kind into this product through openings as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Do not spill liquid of any kind onto or into the product;
17.  Servicing - Do not attempt to service the product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel;
18.  Damage Requiring Service - Turn off your power amplifier(s) and disconnect all cables from the product, and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
 - a. When the product exhibits a distinct change in performance;
 - b. If any liquid has been spilled into, or objects have fallen into, the product;
 - c. If the product has been exposed to rain or water;
 - d. If the product does not operate normally even if you follow the operating instructions. Connect only your product as recommended in your owner's manual. Improper connections may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to its normal operation;
 - e. If the product has been dropped or the cabinet has been damaged.
19.  Replacement Parts - When replacement parts are required, make sure the service technician use only original parts as specified by Verity Audio. Unauthorized substitution may result in fire, electric shock or other hazards;
20.  Safety Check - Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in safe operating order.

 *Your product is a passive device. Risk of electric shock is only possible when it is hooked up to a power amplifier.*

 *To reduce the risk of shock, do not expose this product to rain or moisture.*

 *To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not open the product and remove no user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified personnel.*

 *Do not make any changes or modifications to the product unless otherwise specified in this manual. If such changes or modifications should be made, you could be required to stop operation of the product or lose your warranty privileges.*

Using this Manual

Please take the time to carefully read this instruction manual prior to installation or use of your OTELLO loudspeaker. Your reading efforts will be rewarded by the satisfaction of getting a full performance achievement and a long service life. We believe that a thorough understanding of your new loudspeakers can save you a lot of anxiety.

This manual will guide you for setting up and operating your loudspeakers and will teach you how to unpack, repack, clean and service your product. Furthermore, we have included a few informative sections for the benefit of your own OTELLO familiarization.

We are pleased to count you among the most privilege owners of a unique product that will yield a very enjoyable experience for years to come.

Product Overview

Your new OTELLO is a mature-engineered high-quality audio component. The OTELLO brings a substantial improvement to any audio system and gives its full potential when associated with the finest ancillary equipment.

The OTELLO is based on the same cabinet construction principles as all our Verity Audio acclaimed loudspeakers. It uses carefully selected quality components that integrate harmoniously in a complete floor-standing loudspeaker that will give hours of enjoyment.

The result is a high-quality loudspeaker that gives a great sense of liveliness, scale, and presence in the listening space. Your OTELLO, without any doubt, will sound naturally even throughout a wide frequency spectrum and dynamic range.

Features and Benefits

The OTELLO's ability to reproduce music with a high degree of sound intelligibility comes from many useful features.

Consistent Uniformity

Very strict and sophisticated Verity Audio CAM system (computer-aided matching) provides a wide soundstage imaging stability.

Effortless Neutrality

Proprietary low-distortion, high-headroom transducers with highly inert cabinet topology allows for a great musical integrity.

Graceful Adaptability

Modest-size cabinets make the installation easy and effective in any environment.

Long-lived Reliability

Strong manufactured components with high-reliability finishing for years of enjoyment.

Spacious Bottom-End

Outstanding transducer displacement uniformity along with a unique cabinet tuning offers a dynamic and full-bodied bass performance.

Exquisite Finishing

Splendid Italian finishing of sumptuous brilliance and impeccable coating that will last for years.

Compact Design

Accommodating size with no performance impairment that grants dazzling sound in any listening environment.

All these features synthesize Verity Audio's commitment for bringing the music back to its essence: «pure and exalted emotions».

Description

The Verity Audio OTELLO loudspeaker will give outstanding results with a wide variety of equipment. They have been designed to offer outstanding performance in moderate size rooms. Their design renders a highly accurate and focused image, an amazing blend of lightning speed and sweetness as well as a cathedral soundstage.

OTELLO

The OTELLO is a 3-way system that integrates two woofer drivers working in parallel increasing the OTELLO overall dynamic range and allowing reproducing low frequencies; a proprietary wide-bandwidth midrange transducer covering the most critical human ear frequency spectrum; and a soft-dome tweeter capable of extended frequency range. The crossover used in your OTELLO combines 1st. order slopes between the woofer and midrange units and 3rd. order slopes between the mid and high frequency units.

Just like all Verity Audio loudspeakers, The OTELLO works with the room reinforcement characteristics to produce quick and solid bass performances. Despite its small size, the OTELLO loudspeaker provides a low frequency extension down to a deep 30 Hz.

The midrange woofer unit has been optimized for maximum cone rigidity without breakup resonance. This special unit is offering a low level of distortion, extended dynamics range, high-power handling, and simple dividing network.

The tweeter has been specifically designed to give extended, natural and resonance free reproduction of the harmonic content of all musical instruments. These units have been integrated with a very carefully designed crossover that allows each driver to deliver its full potential. Moreover, all components used are carefully computer-matched and indexed to enable optimum sound staging performance.

Packing and Unpacking

Before they left the factory, your OTELLO cabinets passed an exhaustive quality control procedure to guarantee their genuine state. Please observe carefully the provided unpacking instructions for maximum product safety. Once your OTELLO cabinets will be unpacked, inspect them carefully for any physical damage. If any transit damage can be noticed, please notify your dealer immediately and request the carrier's name so a written claim can be initiated.

Your OTELLO comes packed in a double cardboard box complete with all the necessary protection accessories. For transportation purposes,

we strongly recommend you to keep and store all your packaging hardware.

Unless the carrier is notified promptly and all the shipping cases are available for inspection, the right to claim can be forfeited.

Installation

This section depicts how to assemble and connect the OTELLO loudspeaker.

To identify a proper location for the installation of your OTELLO, please refer to the Room Placement section of this manual or follow the recommendations of either Verity Audio or your dealer.

Once the speakers are properly installed, connect them to the amplifier using quality speaker cables. Make sure that the polarities are respected at both ends and that your cables are installed in the proper direction. The positive input is identified by either the (+) sign or red connector and the negative input is identified by either the (-) sign or the black connector located on the connector plate.

For vacuum tube equipment that has multiple output impedance taps, the eight-ohm taps should provide the best interface with the OTELLO.

Isolating Base

Your OTELLO loudspeakers are designed to lie on top of a floor isolation stand which improves the acoustic performance by controlling undesired stray energy. Your floor isolation stand is a shell containing special materials that act as an acoustic resonator and filter. It rests on four adjustable cushioned feet.

Installing the loudspeaker on the floor isolation stand is easy. Simply put the stand on the floor at the chosen location, then carefully lay down the cabinet on top of it. The stand is shaped like the loudspeaker bottom, an elegant design that also guarantees optimal isolation. For ideal performance, make sure the loudspeaker lies straight on top of the floor isolation stand. The stand and loudspeaker should perfectly match.

Once the speaker lies on the stand, it is best to level the whole loudspeaker by adjusting the height of each individual foot. No tool is required: simply screw or unscrew the knurled feet by hand. Each foot can be adjusted individually, which allows you to level the unit even if it stands on an uneven floor.

The feet of the floor isolation stand are cushioned, allowing you to easily move the OTELLO by gently pushing them. Do not push the unit from the top, as the speaker might tip over but push it at its base, near the floor. Once assembled, the loudspeaker and stand are designed to remain coupled through high friction material. Therefore, you don't need to lift the unit or lift the speaker from the stand if you wish to move your OTELLO. Never try to lift both the loudspeaker and the isolation base altogether. Unlike the spikes that are the industry standard, the cushioned feet of Verity's floor isolation stand do not damage floors and allow you to easily and quickly move your loudspeakers. You can thus easily adjust the placement of your speakers inside your listening room or move them around as needed.

Please note that the loudspeaker may no longer be level after it is moved. For your speakers to deliver their best performance, we recommend that you double-check whether your loudspeaker remains level after being moved, then adjust the feet of the floor isolation stand to restore the proper alignment if necessary.

Room Placement

Indoors, acoustic intelligibility is of great concern for a variety of reasons. It requires low background noise levels and "good" acoustical design. In any room, the reverberant sound pressure level increases as the acoustic power increases and decreases as sound absorption in the room increases and / or sound power flows from the room. The sound field in a room is composed of two parts, the direct field and the reverberant field.

The complex theories of physical acoustics, the uncertainties in predicting the property variations of both natural and manufactured room materials, and the none negligible effects of painting, sealing, bracing, furring, and draping all keep the specification and prediction of room acoustics from being an exact science. Adding together, loudspeaker characteristics, the auditory personal taste and ergonomics make, by practical means, the equation impossible to solve. The frequent need to evaluate the final result by listening rather than by purely quantitative methods gives acoustical tuning a somewhat subjective aspect.

Nevertheless, knowing what the OTELLO is capable of doing will be your major asset in establishing the best setup for your loudspeaker. Here are a few simple rules that will guide you. A good setup will give you fast transients from the bottom end to top-end, proper image height and a wide and deep soundstage.

Having that in mind, the following guidelines are based on our own experience with the OTELLO. We recommend that you start with these and later on (after getting familiar with your OTELLO) bring your own modifications that will optimize your setup.

First, the distance from the rear wall to the speaker woofer (dust-cap center) should be equaled to the length of your room multiplied by 0.1459. Then the distance from the side wall to the speaker woofer (dust-cap center) should be equaled to the width of your room multiplied by 0.1459. Finally, your listening position should be width-centered and the distance from the rear wall to your ears should be equaled to the length of your room multiplied by either 0.1459, 0.2360 or 0.3819.

Note that the above method should be considered as a rudimentary guideline. Loudspeaker room placement is an art in itself and the best setup will most likely require trials and errors. For best results, we simply recommend that you contact Verity Audio (info@verityaudio.com) and ask for advice. Our acousticians are knowledgeable and will propose a few loudspeaker placements according to your room specifications and restrictions. We have been helping our customers for years in finding the best location for their loudspeakers. Please note that there is no distance limitation with the rear woofer and back wall, simply make sure that the vent clearance is more than 8-inches.

We suggest that you start with the speakers aligned directly at you. Then open them (angle increase) slowly until you get the best soundstage without losing too much center-stage definition. In most cases,

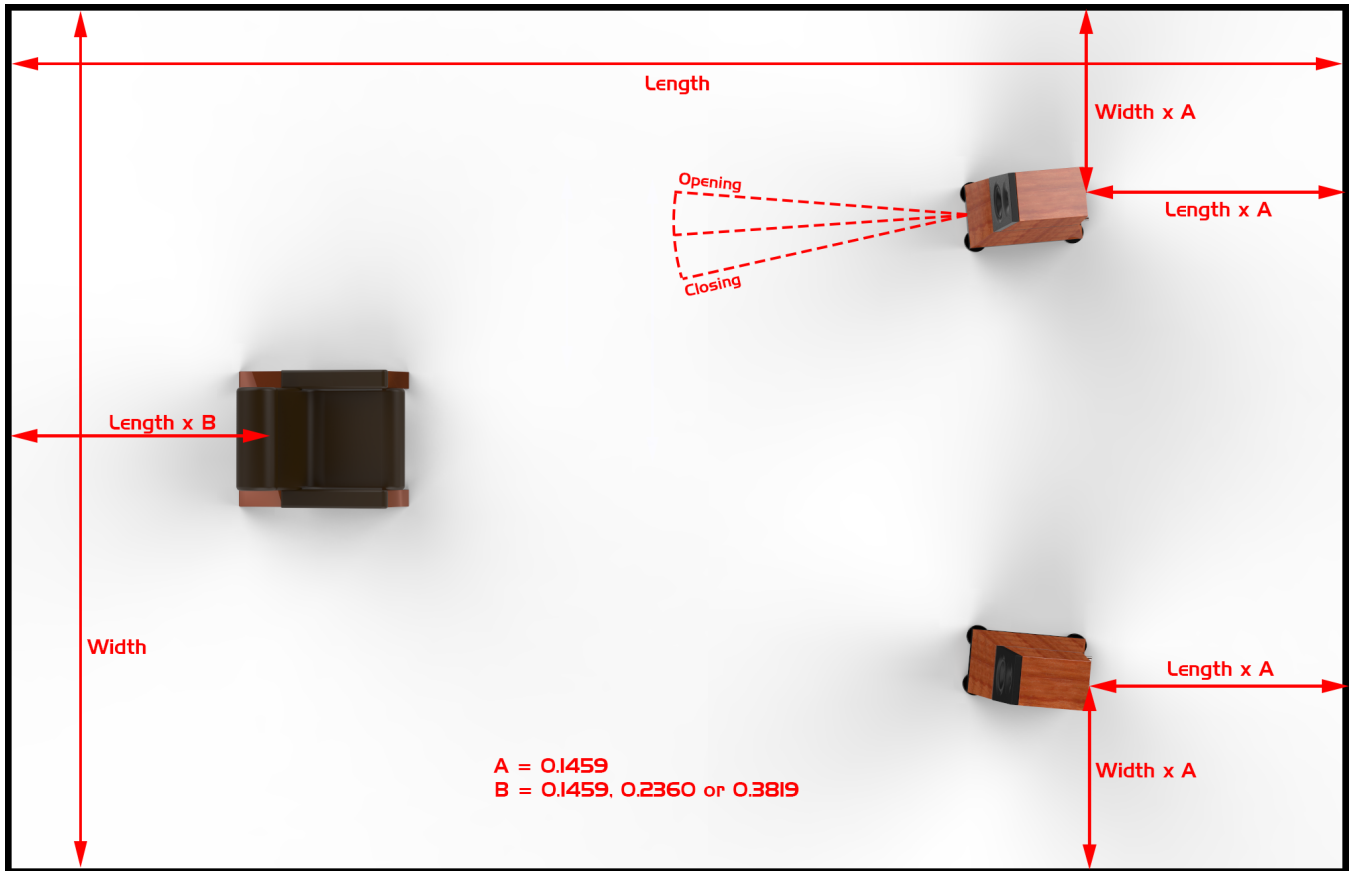


Fig 1

the left speaker should be aligned toward your left shoulder and the right speaker should be aligned toward your right shoulder. Opening them will improve your image width and closing them will improve your image center definition.

Room Treatment

The OTELLO gives its best performance in an average-furnished domestic listening room. It requires a minimum of room treatment. Before investing in room treatment, we strongly recommend that you take the time to listen and get familiar with your speakers. The OTELLO has proven to be a standalone loudspeaker that rarely needs to be acoustically corrected. A good room placement is usually the most effective approach.

You should always start to position your speakers without any treatment. If speaker positioning cannot solve standing waves or reverberation problems read the following.

The principal design factor for internal acoustics of a room, in addition to shape and size, is the control of sound absorption and reflection. The total absorption required to give optimum reverberation is inherent to your room characteristics, i.e., which surfaces are absorptive or reflective, the area of these surfaces and the selection of acoustical materials.

A flutter echo is a rapid (usually regular) succession of reflected pulses

resulting from a single pulse. Clapping your hands while walking in the room can easily identify them. They are frequently located at the ceiling corners or at the center of the ceiling-wall intersections. If flutter echoes are prominent, please consult your dealer to get proper assistance on that matter.

The reverberation in the room is the resulting tendency for sound levels in the room to persist after direct sound ceases. The optimum reverberation time for a room depends upon room volume, sound frequency, and the type of sound or reproduced music. The OTELLO performs at its best in lively listening rooms. Overly damped room will be detrimental to most loudspeaker performance. Optimum reverberation time (at 500 to 1,000 Hz) should be between 0.4 and 0.6 second.

Standing waves are reflections from opposing parallel surfaces resulting in audible peaks and dips in the reverberation time / frequency curve. In properly proportioned rooms, resonances can be effectively reduced and standing waves practically eliminated by introducing sound treatment devices. The object is to prevent sound reflection from going back to the point of origin until after several reflections and/or after being considerably attenuated. Once again if you feel having a standing wave problem in your room, please consult your dealer to get proper assistance on this matter.

Early reflections are the very first sound reflections reaching the listening position. If strong, they could alter the overall loudspeaker performance. In order of importance, they respectively come from the floor,

the sidewalls and the ceiling. Placing diffusors or absorbers at their image location can help control their amplitude. Your dealer can be of good assistance in properly helping you with this matter.

We usually privilege diffusion over damping, keeping a proper in-room reverberation time. An overly damped room will quickly sound dull or lose its liveliness.

If you choose to work with a specialized room treatment device, the manufacturer's instructions should be followed.

Ancillary Equipment

Your new OTELLO is an extremely precise instrument that can clearly reveal the qualities of your upstream equipment. Your OTELLO performance will be closely related to the excellence of its associated equipment. Subsequently, it would be wise to invest in high-quality ancillary equipment, as your enjoyment will be consequently rewarded.

The OTELLO shows an easy impedance load for most power amplifiers. It has been evaluated with a wide variety of power amplifiers and has shown consistent results with quality solid state and vacuum tube equipment. Superb performance can be realized from either design.

The high quality binding posts on the Verity Audio OTELLO accept banana plugs, spade connectors or bare wires. For best results, we recommend the use of spade connectors.

When choosing speaker cables, experimentation is the best way to find out which ones will be the most satisfying in your installation. Your Verity Audio Dealer can be of assistance in making recommendations.

Power Handling

The power tolerance of a loudspeaker is correlated to its maximum voice-coil heat dissipation and to its maximum cone displacement. These parameters are in turn stimulated by the time, amplitude and spectral characteristics of the applied musical energy. At low frequencies, the maximum cone displacement is normally reached before maximum voice-coil temperature.

With the OTELLO's transducers, because of their superior ventilation system, the voice-coils will most likely never reach critical temperatures. But low frequencies played at high levels can ask for a larger cone displacement than allowed by the driver suspension. A driver reaching its maximum displacement will not break unless this situation is maintained for an inordinate period of time. Before a driver reaches its maximum displacement, its distortion level will increase greatly and will become audible. So when a speaker starts sounding bright and hard or if any "cracking noise" can be heard, just lower the level until it sounds comfortable again.

The OTELLO has to be played unexpectedly loud before any occurrence of compression or distortion appears.

Cabinet Resonance

Cabinet resonances are controlled in a unique way. Their amplitudes are lowered and their frequencies are increased becoming more directional and less likely to reach the listener. In an average furnished listening room, this stray energy will be quickly dissipated. Also, traveling high-frequency sonic waves attenuate faster than their low frequency counterpart. A unique cabinet bracing arrangement can break a wall resonance into multiple higher frequency resonances that are not harmonically related. By doing so, their amplitudes are greatly reduced. The cabinet construction tolerances are so tight that only computer-controlled tooling can cut panels with acceptable accuracy.

The cabinet rigidity lowers, even more, any chances of coloration caused by unwanted vibrations. Special materials are used to ensure stability of the cabinet in any acoustical environment.

Care of the Finish

The high quality finishing applied on the OTELLO is composed of high-grade lacquer. You will only find them on luxury pieces of furniture. They are long-lasting finishes and need little care.

Never use any solvent or abrasives to clean your speakers. To remove fingerprints, use a lint-free cloth moistened with a few drops of water. You can dry clean your finish with a microfiber cloth. A window cleaner liquid can also be used with caution if necessary.

Maintenance

Verity Audio products are offering years of trouble-free performance. If for any reason, your speaker needs servicing, contact your authorized Verity Audio dealer or call the Verity Audio service Department at **(418) 682-9940** (North America) or email us at support@verityaudio.com. Help is available from Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST), except on holidays.

If you seem to have an operational problem, try to solve it by referring to the information in the Troubleshooting section of this manual. If you cannot quickly resume normal operation, contact Verity's experienced support personnel at the above phone number.

Before contacting your Verity Audio authorized service representative, make sure you have the following information in hand.

- Serial numbers
- Place of purchase
- Nature of the problem
- Steps you have taken to solve the problem, and obtained results

A return authorization number is required for servicing any of our products and it should be clearly identified on the packaging before any shipment to our facilities. Every unit shipped without return authorization number will be returned to the sender.

Troubleshooting

This section describes how to solve common problems you may encounter when using your loudspeakers. Many problems have simple solutions, so try these suggestions before you call your dealer or Verity Audio support (see the Maintenance section of this manual).

This section contains problems and solutions related to the operation of your hardware. Try the solutions in the order listed within each section.

OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS

Make sure:

1. all your audio apparatuses are plugged into a power source and turned on. Their respective power light indicators should be on;
2. every interconnect cable is connected properly and firmly;
3. every interconnect cable conduct signal normally;
4. your audio equipment selectors and controls are suitably adjusted (source selector, volume control(s), mute selector, etc.);
5. your software (CD, LP, Tape, etc.) is properly installed and currently running;
6. the connections are secure and there are no leads touching each other. See the Installation section for details about connecting your loudspeaker.

SONIC PROBLEMS

Make sure:

1. every transducer is currently working and that none of them seems to make any abnormal noises;
2. all polarities are respected and that all cables are properly installed;
3. every transducer is properly sealed and that no air leak seems to occur around the transducers while playing.

The sonic performance is closely related to your room inherent characteristics, your speaker positioning and your ancillary equipment. We recommend that you experiment with these to find the best solution. For help, contact your dealer or your Verity Audio service representative at (418) 682-9940 or email us at support@verityaudio.com.

Customer Support

Verity Audio provides customer support and service for all Verity Audio products. If you have any questions regarding your new loudspeaker, call the Verity Audio help desk at **(418) 682-9940** or email us at **support@verityaudio.com**. Help is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST), except on holidays.

If you seem to have an operational problem, try to solve it by referring to the information in the Troubleshooting section. If you cannot quickly resume normal operation, contact your dealer or Verity's experienced support personnel at the help desk.

OTELLO

Specifications

Bandwidth:	30 Hz to 50 kHz @ 3.0 dB
Woofers:	2 x 7-inch Edge coated Reed paper-pulp cone
Midrange:	5 inch doped polypropylene cone 2-inch SD voice coil
Tweeter:	1-inch neo-ring dome
Power handling:	100 watts music power
Sensitivity:	93 dB @ 1w @ 1 m
Nominal impedance:	8 ohms
Minimum impedance:	3.8 ohms
Break in time:	75 hours (63%), 400 hours (99%)

Dimensions & Weights

Height:	43.6 in. (107.3 cm)
Width:	10.9 in. (27.6 cm)
Depth:	18.6 in. (47.2 cm)
Weight:	150 lbs (75 kg) / pair
Gross weight:	190 lbs (86 kg) / pair

Features

Connectors:	Pure Silver • Five ways
«MASI» Isolation Base	Included

Available finishes

Standard	High gloss black, white
Special Order	Makore High Gloss

Limited Warranty

Verity Audio products are covered by a limited warranty against defects in material and workmanship for a period of five years from the date of shipment to the authorized Verity Audio dealer.

The product shipped for services under this warranty shall be delivered by the owner, along with a return authorization number clearly written on the box. Products shipped without return authorization number will be refused.

The included warranty registration card should be properly filled and returned to the factory within ten (10) days from the date of purchase. The registration can also be filled online at <http://www.verityaudio.com/en/online-registration>

Damages resulting from negligence, misuse or accident, improper repair procedures or alterations, or operation that is contrary to the manufacturer's instructions are excluded from this warranty.

Unauthorized product aesthetic, operational or physical alteration(s) that significantly modifies the performance of the product could void the warranty.

Verity Audio reserves the right to modify or change the equipment, all or in part, at any time, in order to include any refinements deemed appropriate by Verity Audio.

This warranty is expressly in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied and all other obligations or liabilities on the part of Verity Audio. No other person (s), including dealer, agent or representative is authorized to assume for Verity Audio any liability on its behalf or on its name except to refer purchasers to the present warranty.

Verity Audio liability to any purchaser shall be to replace any part of the product itself because of defective materials or workmanship, and Verity Audio shall not be liable for any consequential damage as a result of defects in material or workmanship.

Notes

