

# Encapsulated Architectural Tribe Series

BY **TOTEM**   
ACOUSTIC

---



Beyond sonic performance, Totem has given tremendous consideration to the home integrator. New construction or retrofit, the Tribe Architectural speakers are easy to install and their integrated back box ensures consistent performance in almost every situation and application.

## USER MANUAL

**TRIBE AIC- TRIBE LCR  
TRIBE IW**





# TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Page 3</b>	<b>Painting Grill</b>	<b>Page 8</b>
<b>Contents/ Tools Needed</b>	<b>Page 4</b>	<b>Positioning</b>	<b>Page 9</b>
<b>Speaker Placement</b>	<b>Page 5</b>	<b>Limited Warranty</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>Application</b>	<b>Page 6</b>	<b>Environmental Information</b>	<b>Page 11</b>

# WELCOME

---



Thank you for choosing the Totem Acoustic Encapsulated Tribe Architectural Series.

Please take the time to fully read this manual prior to beginning set-up. The manual will clearly guide you to achieve the best possible sound that these newly acquired Totem speakers can provide.

Beyond sonic performance, Totem has given tremendous consideration to the home integrator. New construction or retrofit, the Kin Architectural speakers are easy to install and their integrated back box ensures consistent performance in almost every situation and application.

## CONTENTS IN EACH BOX:

1 Encapsulated Tribe Architectural speaker: Tribe AIC / Tribe LCR or Tribe IW  
1 stainless steel PAINTABLE magnetic grill,



## TOOLS NEEDED:

- Drywall saw
- Wire stripper
- Drill
- Measuring Tape
- Fish tool
- Speaker wire
- Pencil
- Stud Finder
- Metal hanger
- Spray paint-optional

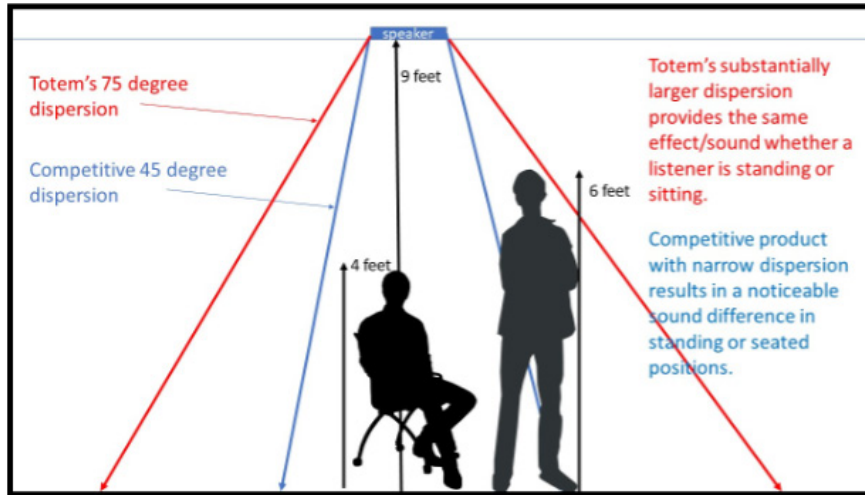
## Precaution Prior to Installation

Check for obstructions. Use an electronic stud finder to check for ceiling joists, heating and ventilating shafts, or wall studs that may hinder cutting the required opening or the running of the cable to your desired location.

In order to ensure proper hole size, attach the cutout template and drill a hole in the center of the outline. Cut approximately 1' (30cm) of coat hanger wire and bend it to a right angle in the middle. Insert in the hole and rotate to check for wires, pipes, studs or other obstructions.



# Speaker Placement Guidelines



Tribe Architectural series diffuse sound in an enormously wide, expansive manner comparable to a flood light and illuminate a room with Totem's holographic sound whereas most others function like a focused, narrow spotlight, creating small acoustic "hot spots".

Tribe Architectural custom speakers disperse at 75 degrees, almost twice as broadly as competitive speakers. The soundstage and acoustic coverage is totally present throughout the entire listening area, so it takes fewer Totem speakers to thoroughly fill a room than competitive brands. In-walls create a soundstage with remarkable height and width, often beyond the boundaries of the room itself. The enormous dispersion of the in-ceilings allows the listener to enjoy the same sound whether a seated or standing, simplifying placement.

Ceiling Height	Distance Apart	
	Feet	Meters
8ft Ceiling	10.8	3.29
9ft Ceiling	12.15	3.7
10ft Ceiling	13.5	4.11
12ft Ceiling	16.2	4.93
14ft ceiling	18.9	5.76
15ft Ceiling	20.25	6.17

The following chart for in-ceiling speaker spacing was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{ANGLE (dispersion)} \times .018 \times \text{DISTANCE (ceiling height)} = \text{SOUND COVERAGE radius}$$



## Recommended Speaker Wire

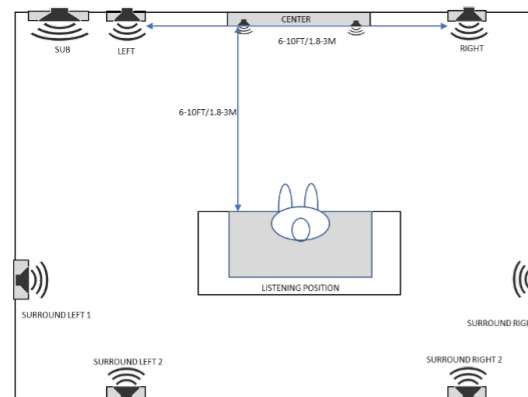
Length of Run	Suggested Wire Gauge
Up to 75 feet / 22.86 meters	16 gauge
75-200 feet / 22.86 to 60.96 meters	14 gauge
Over 200 feet / over 60.96 meters	12 gauge

## General Placement Guidelines

Always bear in mind that corner locations cause acoustic directionality, limit dispersion and emphasize low frequencies.

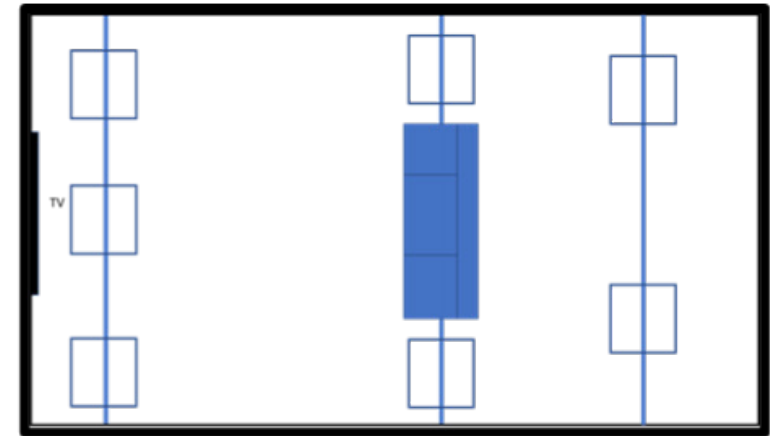
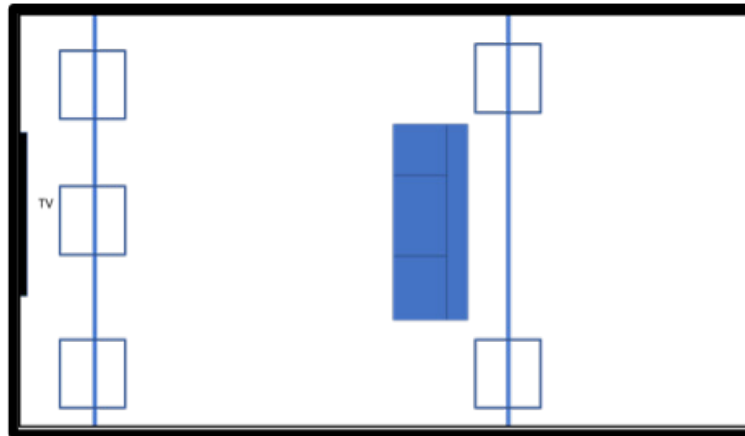
## Inwall Placement

*When using in-wall speakers as main channels, optimal sound will be achieved when they are mounted at or slightly above ear level. The listening distance should be no closer than the distance between the speakers themselves. If they are used as surround channels, typical placement is adjacent and behind the listener at a height of approximately 6 feet.*



## MULTI-CHANNEL AUDIO / HOME THEATER APPLICATIONS

In a 5.1 set up, the Left, Center, and Right should be along the same plane with the Left and Right Surround in back and adjacent to the sitting area.



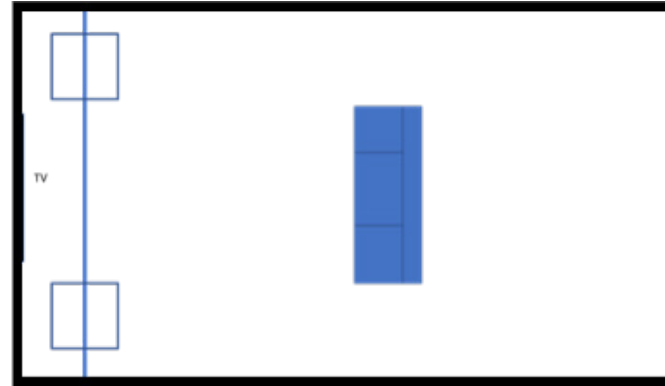
*In a 7.1 set up, the Left, Center, and Right should be along the same plane with the Left and Right Surround parallel to the listening area, and the Surround channels in back and adjacent to the sitting area.*

*If using in-wall speakers, the spacing is accurate, but the speakers would be installed in the wall. In the case of the 7.1 system, the rear speakers can also be installed into the rear wall.*

*True to both Totem and Kin heritage, all models possess our characteristic phase linearity for uncanny realism, a full range response for truly dynamic performance, and remarkably huge dispersion that facilitates placement and fills the room. They can also intermix harmoniously with any existing traditional, on-wall, or architectural Totem speaker for a variety of multi-channel options. For example, if you are using TRIBE On-Wall speakers for your front three channels you can seamlessly blend Kin Architectural for your rear speakers.*

## Stereo Audio Application

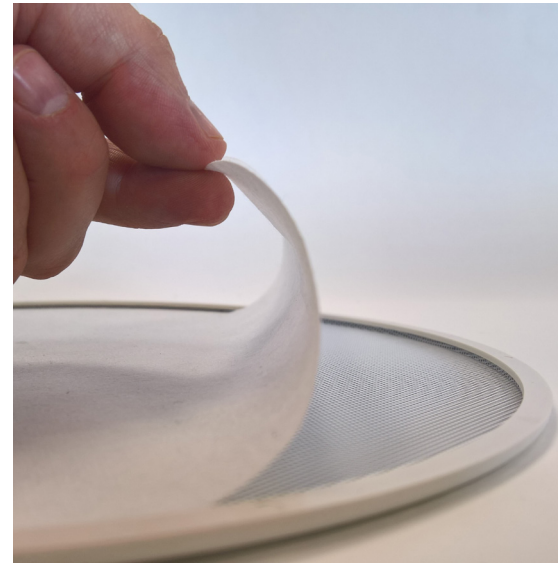
When a pair of Tribe Architectural Series speakers are used for conventional stereo reproduction, OR in conjunction with a TV, they should be placed in front and adjacent to the TV. Whenever possible, leave some distance from rear and side wall boundaries.



## Painting The Grills

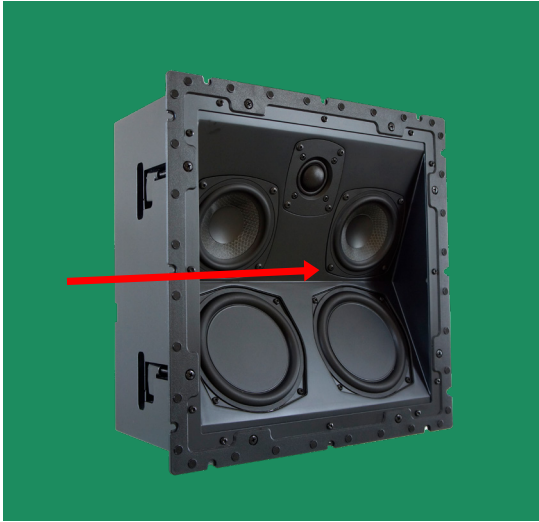
The stainless steel grilles can be painted to suit personal tastes and match aspects of the décor.

The grill incorporates a scrim-cloth to hide the drivers when installed. This scrim-cloth is adhered to the grill with a light adhesive and must be **removed** before painting but maintains its adhesion qualities and will reattach once painted. To remove it, gently peel from the small tab inconspicuously located along the trim. Ideally the process would be done with spray paint or a spray gun set to a low setting which lessens the chance of plugging the holes. After the paint is dry, re-apply the scrim-cloth.





## Positioning the Angled In-Ceiling Speaker



The TRIBE AIC is composed of three active drivers on one portion of the angled baffle, and two passives on the other. The active drivers should be directed towards the listening area for the most direct signal and best overall performance.

This generally means the portion with active drivers are positioned closest to the wall and angled towards the listening area. The passives are positioned closer to the listening area with the drivers towards the wall.

### Installation



1-Use the provided template to trace a rectangle in pencil for the intended location. TIP: Make a small hole in the center of the outline. Use approximately 1' (30cm) of coat hanger wire and bend it to a right angle in the middle. Insert in the hole and rotate to check for wires, pipes, studs or other obstructions.

2-Carefully cut out the speaker cavity with a drywall saw or similar tool. Remove the cutaway and lightly compress the insulation, if any.

3-Fish the speaker cable from the amplifier and out through the recently cut speaker cavity. Allow yourself at least 1' (30cm) of slack to protrude to facilitate the installation. Strip 3/8" (1cm) off the ends of the speaker wires and connect to the speaker terminals. Note: Make sure to respect polarity of the wire, connecting the negative and positive leads to the right inputs.

4-Ensure the "Dog Ears" are in their original position, flush set within the frame, and insert the speaker in the wall or ceiling. Gradually tighten the Philips screws on the speaker frame to fix the speaker in place. They can handle strong torque settings, but ideally lower torque setting should be used to prevent accidents and ensure a proper installation. Textured terminals provide extra grip on any material, guaranteeing a solid, tight installation.

5- Place grill on speakers to complete the installation.

# Limited Warranty

All Totem products are created with the utmost care and quality in mind. If ever a problem should arise, Totem's speakers are covered by a five (5) year limited warranty, (excluding subwoofers) starting from the date of purchase.

The Totem limited warranty applies to products in normal home use only. The warranty is void if serial numbers have been altered or removed. The warranty is void if products show signs of abuse.

The warranty is void if the speakers have been tampered with.

Totem speakers must be purchased from a TOTEM AUTHORIZED DEALER.

Keep your original bill or receipt obtained from your Totem Authorized Dealer. Retain the sturdy carton and all packing material; if needed, it will prove invaluable for damage-free transport or storage and upgrade purposes.

The speakers require at least 75-100 hours of actual music playing time as a minimal break-in period. During this time, refrain from playing them at very loud levels. You will notice a definite gradual improvement in the cohesiveness of the music reproduction as this occurs.

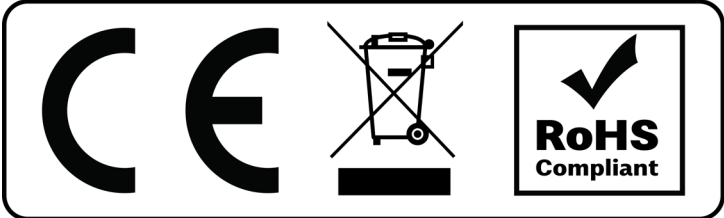
If you require additional information or further assistance on the Totem you've discovered, contact your TOTEM AUTHORIZED DEALER or visit the Frequently Asked Questions under warranty section of the Totem website at: <https://totemacoustic.com/faq/>

# Environmental Information



All Totem products are designed to comply with international Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and CARB certification.

This appliance is labeled in accordance with European Directive 2002/96/ EC concerning waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). This label indicates that this product should not be disposed of with household waste. It should be deposited at an appropriate facility to enable recovery and recycling.



We sincerely hope you enjoy your Totem speakers and greatly appreciate your patronage. New products are consistently being developed so be sure to periodically visit your authorized Totem dealer or our website to keep informed on everything Totem has to offer.

If you already purchased a Totem product, we very much would appreciate if you took the time to register your product online. Product registration leads to quicker assistance and more efficient support in the rare case that your speaker should have a problem. This can be done quickly and easily in the support section of our site: <https://totemacoustic.com/register-your-product/>

Follow and Like us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram



---

# THANK YOU