



## Instructions for:

# *DeskTop Theater™ 5.1*

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## Safety & Regulatory Information

The following sections contain notices for various countries:

### Notice for the USA

FCC Part 15: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, this notice is not a guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician.

CAUTION: To comply with the limits for the Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules, this device must be installed with computer equipment certified to comply with the Class B limits.

All cables used to connect the computer and peripherals must be shielded and grounded. Operation with non-certified computers or non-shielded cables may result in interference to radio or television reception.

### Modifications

Any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the grantee of this device could void the user's authority to operate the device.

### Notice for Canada

This apparatus complies with the Class B limits for radio interference as specified in the Canadian Department of Communications Radio Interference Regulations.

Cet appareil est conforme aux normes de CLASSE "B" d'interférence radio tel que spécifiée par le Ministère Canadien des Communications dans les règlements d'interférence radio.

### Declaration of Conformity

According to the FCC96 208 and ET95- 19

Name: **Creative Labs Inc.**  
Address: **1901 McCarthy Boulevard  
Milpitas, CA. 95035  
United States  
Tel: (408) 428-6600**

declares under its sole responsibility that the product

Trade Name: **Creative Labs/  
Cambridge SoundWorks**

Model Number: **Desktop Theater 5.1,  
CSW3000**

has been tested according to the FCC / CISPR22/85 requirement for Class B devices and found compliant with the following standards:

EMI/ EMC: ANSI C63.4 1992, FCC Part 15 Subpart B

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause harmful interference, and
2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesirable operation.

Ce matériel est conforme à la section 15 des règles FCC. Son fonctionnement est soumis aux deux conditions suivantes:

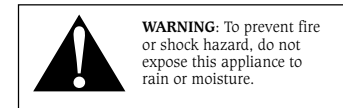
1. Le matériel ne peut être source d'interférences et
2. Doit accepter toutes les interférences reçues, Y compris celles pouvant provoquer un fonctionnement indésirable.

**Compliance Manager  
Creative Labs, Inc.  
August 20, 1998**

### Compliance

This product conforms to the following Council Directive:

- Directive 89/ 336/ EEC, 92/ 31/ EEC (EMC)



### Important Notice

The serial number for the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* is located on the Decoder Amplifier. Please write this number down and keep it in a secure area. This is for your security.

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# IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**READ INSTRUCTIONS** - All safety and operating instructions should be read before the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* amplified subwoofer/satellite system is operated.

**RETAIN INSTRUCTIONS** - The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.

**HEED WARNINGS** - All warnings on the subwoofer and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.

**FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS** - All operating and use instructions should be followed.

**CLEANING** - Unplug the Power Supply Adapter from the wall outlet or other power source before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.

**ATTACHMENTS** - Do not use attachments not recommended by Cambridge SoundWorks as they may cause hazards.

**WATER AND MOISTURE** - Do not use the Decoder Amplifier near water—for example, near a bath tub, wash bowl, kitchen sink, or laundry tub; in a wet basement; or near a swimming pool; and the like.

**ACCESSORIES** - Do not place the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* Decoder Amplifier on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The Decoder Amplifier may fall, causing serious injury to a child or adult, and serious damage to the product. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table recommended by Cambridge SoundWorks, or sold with the product. Any mounting of the satellites or subwoofer should follow the manufacturer's instructions, and

should use a mounting accessory recommended by Cambridge SoundWorks.

**VENTILATION** - Slots and openings in the Decoder Amplifier are provided for ventilation and to ensure reliable operation of the Decoder Amplifier and to prevent it from overheating. These openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. The Decoder Amplifier should not be placed in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided or Cambridge SoundWorks' instructions have been adhered to.

**HEAT** - The Decoder Amplifier should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, and other products (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

**POWER SOURCES** - The Decoder Amplifier should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the marking label. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your product dealer or local power company. For products intended to operate from battery power, or other sources, refer to the operating instructions.

**POLARIZATION** - The power supply may be equipped with a polarized alternating-current line plug (a plug having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert

the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug should still fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.

**POWER-CORD PROTECTION** - Power supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the Decoder Amplifier.

**LIGHTNING** - For added protection for the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* system during a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet. This will prevent damage to the Decoder Amplifier due to lightning and power-line surges.

**OVERLOADING** - Do not overload wall outlets, extension cords, or integral convenience receptacles as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.

**OBJECT AND LIQUID ENTRY** - Never push objects of any kind into the Decoder Amplifier through openings as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on the speakers or the Decoder Amplifier.

**SERVICING** - Do not attempt to service the any part of the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* yourself as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage or other hazards. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

**DAMAGE REQUIRING SERVICE** - Unplug the power supply from the wall outlet or other power source and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:

- a) When the power supply cord or plug is damaged.
- b) If liquid has been spilled, or objects have fallen into the subwoofer.
- c) If the Decoder Amplifier has been exposed to rain or water.
- d) If the subwoofer does not operate normally by following the operating instructions; or exhibits a distinct change in performance.
- e) If the product has been dropped or damaged in any way.

**REPLACEMENT PARTS** - When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by Cambridge SoundWorks or have the same characteristics as the original parts. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, or other hazards.

**SAFETY CHECK** - Upon completion of any service or repairs to the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* system, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* system is in proper operating condition.

**WALL OR CEILING MOUNTING** - The *DeskTop Theater 5.1* satellites should be mounted to a wall or ceiling only as recommended by Cambridge SoundWorks.

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## Introduction



**T**hank you for purchasing *DeskTop Theater 5.1* by Cambridge SoundWorks. *DeskTop Theater 5.1* lets you experience the full potential of Dolby Digital® multichannel sound from your computer. It makes the most of your computer DVD player, processing both Dolby Digital and Dolby Surround® program material. It will decode the Dolby Surround cut-scenes in many of today's best CD-based action games, and it's ready for the new era of DVD-based games.

*DeskTop Theater 5.1* offers discrete four-channel support for Microsoft® DirectSound®3D and its other derivatives.

Also included is Creative Multi Speaker Surround, which lets you hear all of your favorite stereo program material with a new and exciting three-dimensional quality.

### **Cambridge SoundWorks**

**1-877-YES-HIFI  
(1-877-937-4434)**

24 hours a day,  
every day

In Canada: 1-800-987-9104

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Fax: 617-527-3194

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[info@cambridgesoundworks.com](mailto:info@cambridgesoundworks.com)

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## Inspecting For Damage

Examine each unit carefully for signs of shipping damage. If there is any damage, do not install the system. Consult the store where you purchased the system or call the appropriate Creative Technology, Ltd. support group at the number listed at the end of this publication. Save the shipping carton and inserts in case you have to transport the system later.

All the items shown in the illustration should be included. If anything is missing, notify the retailer.

## Important Notes

These instructions assume you have a DVD player with a SPDIF output jack. This jack should provide the Dolby Digital (AC-3) compressed data stream (for example, the Creative Labs PC-DVD Encore). These instructions also assume your sound card supports processing of DirectSound®3D, including front and rear two-channel minijack line outputs (like Creative Labs Sound Blaster PCI 64, PCI 128 or Sound Blaster Live!). Conventional 2-

channel sound cards such as Sound Blaster 16 or the Sound Blaster AWE series can also be used with *DeskTop Theater 5.1*, but these cards will not provide rear channel output when playing games using DirectSound®3D or its derivatives.

One pair of satellites has cables that are 3 meters (9 feet) long. The other pair has cables that are 4 meters (12 feet) long. Typically, the two satellites with the longer cables will be used on the surround channels, but the satellites are otherwise identical. If you need extra cable length for the front

channel satellites, use the pair with the longer cables instead.

One satellite of each pair has a white plug. The other satellite has a red plug. Use a satellite with a white plug in the Left Front and Left Surround positions. Use a satellite with a red plug in the Right Front and Right Surround positions.

The Subwoofer and Center Channel speakers both have black plugs on their cables to help distinguish them from the smaller satellites.

All the speakers are magnetically shielded, including the subwoofer.

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## Installation Sequence

1. Read all of the instructions before installing the speaker system.
2. Using the placement instructions as a guide, position the satellites, the center channel speaker and subwoofer around your computer. Install the Desktop Stands and Floor Stands as appropriate.
3. Connect the satellite speakers, center channel speaker, and subwoofer to the back of the Decoder Amplifier. Be sure to connect the subwoofer's black plug to the **LFE** output jack and the center channel speaker's black plug to the **C** output jack.
4. Connect the SPDIF output of your digital program source to the Decoder Amplifier. Connect the stereo output of your sound card (line out) to the LINE IN of the Decoder Amplifier. If present, connect the rear stereo output of your sound card to the REAR IN input of the Decoder Amplifier.
5. Verify the Decoder Amplifier's power switch is in the "off" position. Connect the power supply adapter to the Decoder Amplifier.
6. Turn on the power. Set the Volume Control to approximately "10 o'clock." Press the Speaker Test button. Use the test sound to verify that each speaker is operating properly. Then adjust the position of each loudspeaker so each can be heard clearly. Finally, adjust the Center, Subwoofer and Surround level controls for balanced output between the speakers. Press the Test mode button again, if necessary.
7. You may wish to experiment with speaker placement briefly before concealing the connecting cables and making the installation more permanent.
8. The unit is ready for you to enjoy. Refer to the Quick Reference guide for information about settings for specific program sources like DVD, CDs, Video CD and games.

## Speaker Placement

**The Front Satellites.** The front satellites play stereo music, the off-screen sounds of video playback and the front channels of four channel games.

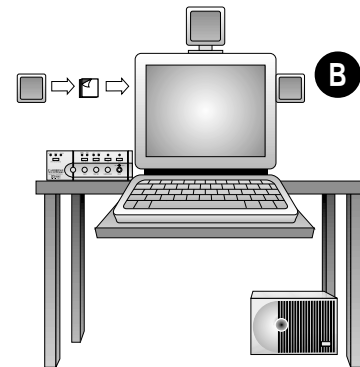
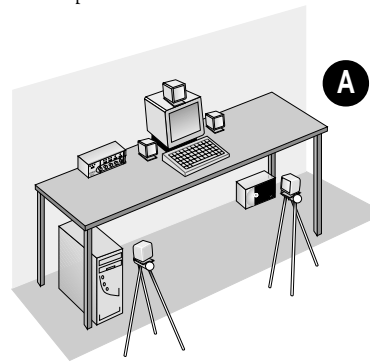
These satellites should be placed to the sides of your monitor (see **Diagram A**). Be sure to have a clear line of sight from your listening position to these satellites. The satellites intended for front placement have 3 meters (9 feet) of cable.

Install the satellite's Desktop Stands when using them on the desktop. Be sure to apply the self-adhesive feet to the Desktop Stands. The feet prevent movement on the desktop.

The satellites may also be hung on the wall behind the monitor using the screw and wall anchors provided (see "Mounting The Speakers," page 7).

If you wish to save desktop space, use the hook and loop fasteners to attach the satellite speakers to the sides of the computer monitor (see **Diagram B**).

**The Center Channel Speaker.** The center channel speaker provides the on-screen dialog and sounds in Dolby Digital, Dolby Surround or Creative Multi Speaker Surround modes. It should be placed as close to the center of your computer monitor as possible.



The center channel speaker may be used with either of its two stands (Monitor Stand or Center Desktop Stand). It can be attached directly to the top of a monitor.

The Monitor Stand attaches with hook and loop fasteners to the top of the computer monitor. It directs the sound down towards the listener (see **Diagram C**).

If your computer monitor's construction directs the sound of the center channel satellite towards you (without a stand), attach the

satellite directly to the top of the monitor, using the hook and loop fasteners (see **Diagram D**). Position the face of the center channel so that it is as far forward as possible.

The Center Desktop Stand lets you place the Center Speaker in front of the monitor. It directs the sound up towards the listener (see **Diagram E**).

The Center Speaker may also be hung on the wall behind the monitor using the screw and wall anchors provided (see "Mounting The Speakers," page 7).

**The Rear Satellites.** The rear satellites provide the surround effects in Dolby Digital, Dolby Surround and Creative Multi Speaker Surround modes. They also provide the discrete rear sounds produced in four channel gaming.

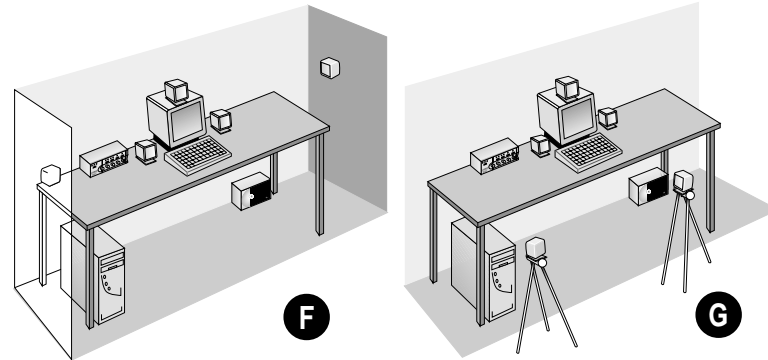
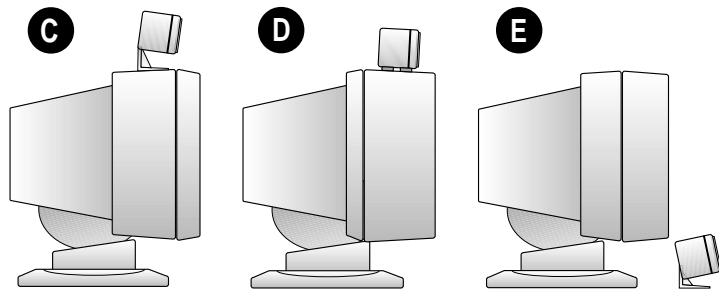
4 meters (12 feet) of cable is provided with the two remaining small satellites for more flexibility in rear channel placement.

The rear satellites may be placed in any convenient sites alongside the listener, including sites slightly forward of the listening location. The rear satellites do not have to be

at exactly the same height, nor at the same height as the front satellites.

If you have side walls close to your listening position, excellent placement for the rear satellites is slightly behind your listening position, slightly above ear level (see **Diagram F**). The satellites may be hung on the wall using the screw and wall anchors provided (see "Mounting The Speakers," page 7).

Do not be concerned if this placement is not practical. Any rear satellite placement to the left and right side of the listening position will provide strong directional and surround effects.



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The rear satellites may be installed on their convenient floor stands. While listening, the stands should be positioned to the left and right of your listening position (see **Diagram G**).

The Floor Stands are small enough to be stowed underneath a desk when not in use. See page 7 for floor stand assembly instructions.

Larger work surfaces can accommodate both front and surround pairs of satellites on their stands. Try the extreme corners of a desk using the Desktop Stands (see **Diagram H**).

Also, you may attach the rear satellites under a desktop or at the sides of a desk using the hook and loop fasteners (see **Diagram I**).

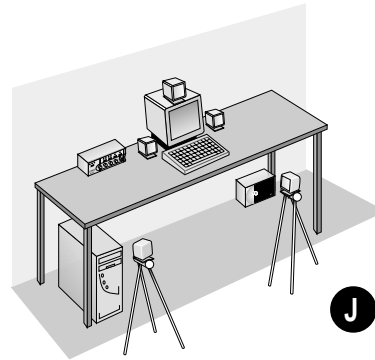
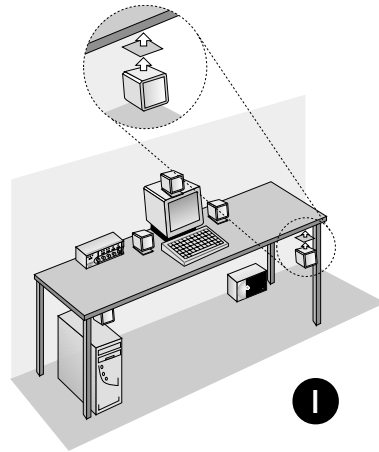
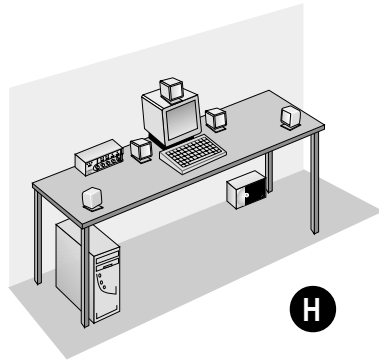
After you positioned the rear satellites, use the test sound to make sure each speaker can be heard clearly.

**The Subwoofer.** The subwoofer's optimum position is on the floor against the wall under the computer desk. The nearer the subwoofer is to the corner of the room, the stronger its maximum bass output will be. We strongly

recommend placing the subwoofer on the floor (see **Diagram J**).

Leave at least 8 cm (3 inches) of space between the subwoofer face and a wall. Small objects in front of, but not touching the subwoofer (table legs, for instance) will have no effect on its sound.

If you have no available floor space, the subwoofer can be placed on a shelf, desktop or other sites, but its maximum output will be reduced. The subwoofer is magnetically shielded, allowing placement near computers or monitors.





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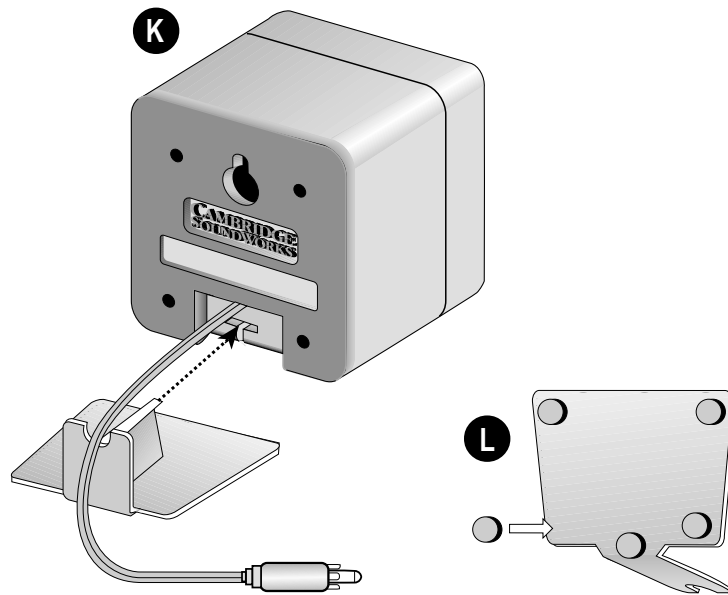
## The Satellite Desktop Stands

Install a Satellite Desktop Stand by inserting it into the "T"-shaped socket in the back of each satellite, feeding the cable through the stand's cut-out (see **Diagram K**).

Apply the five self adhesive feet to the base of the Desktop Stands (see **Diagram L**). The feet prevent a

satellite from sliding across the desktop should it be inadvertently bumped or jostled.

**Note:** If you wish to install the rear Satellites in the Floor Stands, do not apply the self adhesive feet to the base of their Desktop Stands.

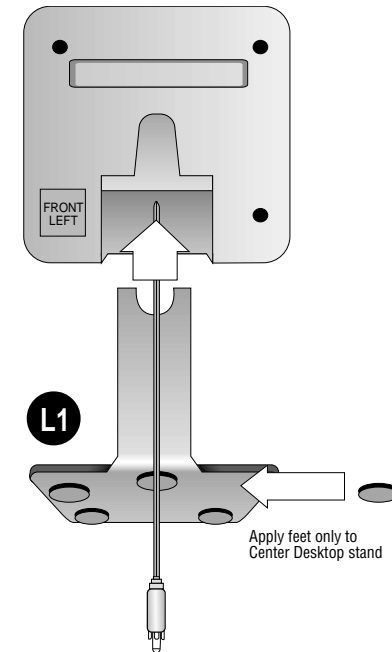
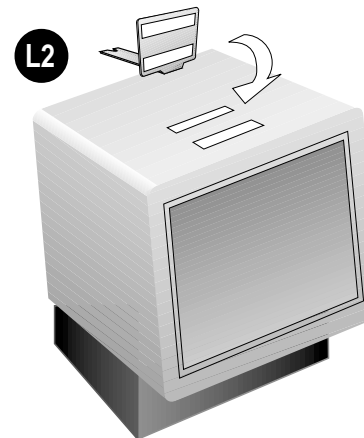


## The Center Channel Stands

The stands for the center channel speaker are installed by inserting the strut of the stand into the recess in the back of the Center Channel speaker (see **Diagram L1**).

If using the Center Desktop Stand, apply the provided self-adhesive feet to its bottom surface. The feet prevent a satellite speaker from sliding across the desktop should it be inadvertently bumped or jostled.

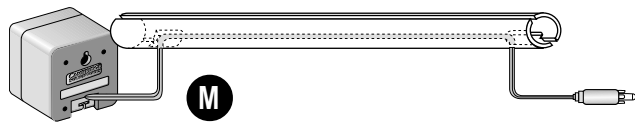
Use the provided hook and loop fasteners to adhere the Monitor Stand to the top surface of the monitor (see **Diagram L2**).



## The Floor Stands

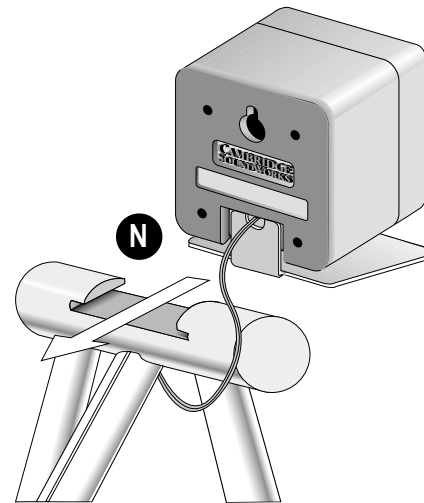
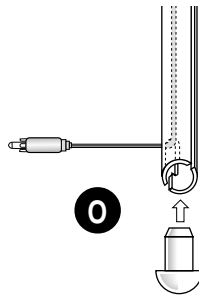
The rear satellites (with their Desktop Stands attached) may be installed in their floor stands.

- Two of the six floor stand legs have a full length slot, with short notches opposite the slot at each end. The slot allows the satellite cable to be concealed. Insert a satellite cable inside one of these legs by feeding it down the length of the full length slot. At each end, feed the cable through the short notches (see **Diagram M**).
- Insert the satellite end of the leg/cable assembly into the *middle* socket of the apex joint. Make sure the satellite cable exits through the short notch and not the full length slot (see **Diagram N**).
- Insert the two solid legs into the *outside* sockets in the apex joint.
- Slide the back edge of the satellite's desktop stand into the *front* of the slot in the apex joint (be sure there are no feet attached to the base of the desktop stand).



The front of the slot is the side further away from the rear leg socket. Make sure the stand is securely pressed into the slot.

- At the base of the rear leg, gently pull on the satellite cable to remove any unnecessary slack in the cable.
- Insert a rubber plug into the base of each leg, taking care to feed the cable out the short notch in the rear leg (see **Diagram O**).

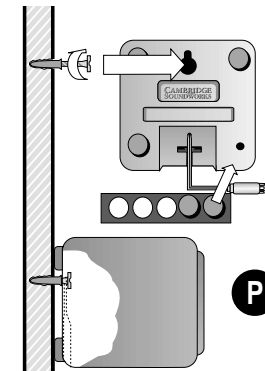


## Mounting The Speakers

Screw Mounting: The Satellite and Center Channel speakers may be hung on a wall using a No.10 screw and their keyhole openings.

First attach four self-adhesive feet to the back of each satellite (see **Diagram P**), Insuring a vibration-free, secure installation. Leave about  $\frac{3}{8}$ " of the screw-head exposed to fit into the back of the speaker.

Plastic anchors may be needed to secure the screws into particularly hard or soft material. If so, drill the appropriate sized holes in the wall and tap the anchors into the holes until they are flush with the wall. Insert the screws into the anchors until they protrude  $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the wall.



**Hook and Loop Fasteners:**

When mounting speakers with hook and loop fasteners, make sure that all surfaces are clean and free of dirt and grease. Hard, flat, unpainted surfaces work best with hook and loop fasteners (see **Diagram Q**).

Attach the fastener to the speaker first, remove the backing and adhere to the chosen surface.

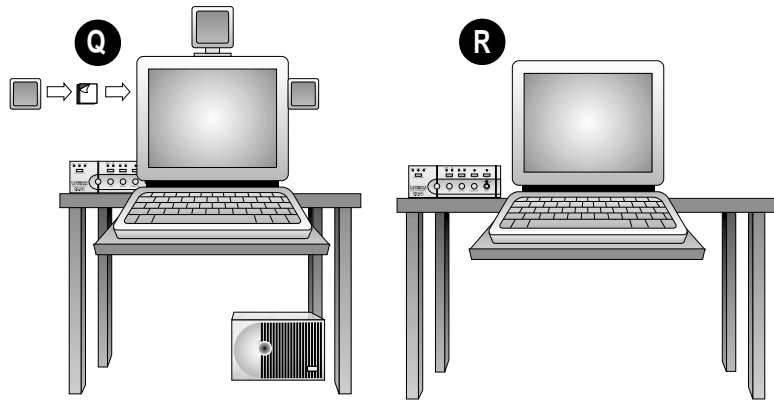
## Decoder Amplifier Placement

The Decoder Amplifier can be placed on the desktop, a shelf or any site that makes the controls convenient.

The Power Adapter cord must be able to reach from the Decoder Amplifier back panel to your AC power receptacle.

Place the Decoder Amplifier on a hard, flat surface.

There are ventilation slots on the bottom and top of the Decoder Amplifier's enclosure. Don't block the ventilation slots by placing material on top of or below the Decoder Amplifier.



## Making Connections

Consult the **Wiring Diagram** on the next page before making any connections.

**Speaker Connections.** Insert one satellite's plug into the corresponding Speaker Output on the Decoder Amplifier. Repeat this process for the remaining satellites and subwoofer.

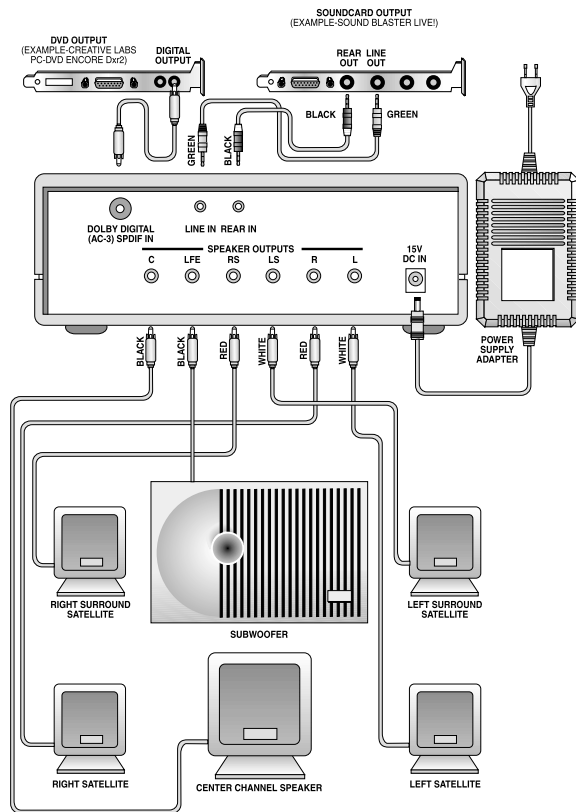
**Signal Connections.** Connect the Dolby Digital/SPDIF output of your signal source to the Decoder Amplifier using the cable with RCA plugs at each end.

Use the signal cable with green stereo miniplugs at each end to connect the stereo line output of your sound card to the LINE IN input of the Decoder Amplifier.

Use the signal cable with black stereo miniplugs at each end to connect the rear output of your sound card (if present) to the REAR INPUT of the Decoder Amplifier.

**Power Supply Adapter Connections.** Confirm the power switch is in the "OFF" position. Insert the power supply's AC plug into an appropriate receptacle. Insert the small DC connector into the "15V DC IN" receptacle on the back of the Decoder Amplifier.

## Wiring Diagram



## Decoder Amplifier Functions

When the power is switched "ON", the green indicator lights on the face of the Decoder Amplifier will sequentially light from the right to the left. The CMSS Music light will remain illuminated after start-up. The indicator light for Dolby Digital will illuminate automatically if a Dolby Digital program is playing.

- 1) **ON/OFF:** Switches *DeskTop Theater 5.1* power on and off. An indicator light signals the power is on.
- 2) **Master:** Adjusts the volume of the entire system.
- 3) **Center, Subwoofer and Surround:** These controls adjust the level of the indicated channels. Their output level should be balanced with the fixed output level of the Left and Right front speakers.

A Quick Reference Guide is provided separately. Consult this guide for advice about playing different program sources. Slip it underneath the Decoder Amplifier for future use.

### Top Row

#### 4) Creative Multi Speaker

**Surround:** CMSS processes analog program material. Repeated presses of this button steps through four different operation modes.

**Music:** Creates a 5.1 speaker soundfield appropriate for music from any analog sound source.

**Movie:** Creates a 5.1 speaker soundfield appropriate for movie or game enjoyment from an analog sound source.

**Stereo/FourPoint:** This mode provides conventional, two-channel stereo sound reproduction. If you have a four-channel sound card, use this mode for four-channel positional audio effects.

**No lights illuminated:** Mutes any analog stereo or CMSS output. Use this setting if you wish to play an analog stereo signal through the Dolby Pro Logic processor.

For more information about Creative Multi Speaker Surround, see page 12.

**5) Dolby Digital indicator light:** This light turns on whenever a Dolby Digital signal is detected at the SPDIF input of the *DeskTop Theater 5.1*. For Dolby Digital 5.1 sound reproduction, make sure only this light is illuminated.

**6) Surround Mode:** This button cycles between Dolby Pro Logic processing of the digital input, then the analog input and no Pro Logic processing.

**7) Audio Mode:** Use this button to play just the left or right channels of a stereo digital signal

(PCM from an audio CD, a Video CD or a stereo signal from a DVD). Use this when, for example, a Video CD has different languages on the left and right channels.

Repeated presses of the button selects which channel is fed to both the Left and Right front speakers.

**LL**-Left channel programs to both Left and Right front speakers.

**RR**-Right channel program to both Left and Right front speakers. See "Audio Mode Selection," page 12 for further information about this feature.

**8) Speaker Test:** Press this button to start the "test sound" generator. Use this test sound to position all the speakers and to balance their relative output.

The test sound moves in sequence from the left satellite, the center speaker, the right satellite, then to the right surround satellite and the subwoofer. All of the indicator lights will blink on and off while the test sound generator is in operation.

The test sound will operate for three complete cycles and then stop. You can terminate the sound at any point by pressing the Speaker Test button again.

First use the test sound to verify that each speaker is operating.

Then make sure the speakers are positioned so that the test sound can be clearly heard.

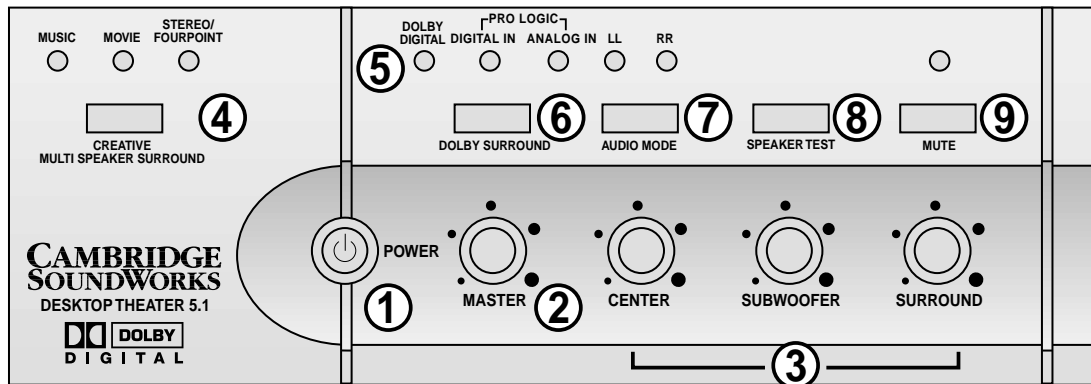
Finally, adjust the front panel level controls for the center, subwoofer and rear speakers. Adjust each control so its speaker achieves a balanced output level with the left and right satellites (which provide a fixed "reference" output level).

All Decoder Amplifier functions except for the level controls are disabled while the test sound is running.

The speaker level controls operate at all times. If desired, you may adjust these controls during program material to fine-tune the balance.

**9) Mute:** Mutes all output from the *DeskTop Theater 5.1*. Press the button once to mute. Press a second time to restore audio output.

The CMSS, Dolby, Audio and Speaker Test buttons operate during mute.



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# Surround Reference

## Dolby Digital

Dolby Digital (earlier called AC-3) delivers five discrete full-range channels (left front, center, right front, left surround and right surround) plus a separate Low Frequency Effects (LFE) channel. Many soundtracks on the latest generation laser discs, DVDs and High Definition Television (HDTV), are encoded with Dolby Digital technology.

When a 5.1 channel Dolby Digital program source is playing, such as from a Creative PC-DVD player, the Dolby Digital indicator light will illuminate automatically.

Note: Not every section of a DVD will be 5.1-channel encoded. On many DVD's, only the main movie program will be available in 5.1 channel sound. Other supporting chapters (like a "Director's Comment" section) may be in stereo or mono. These sections will not light the Dolby Digital indicator even though

the sound will be properly reproduced by the *DeskTop Theater 5.1*.

When listening to DVD movies with 5.1 channel Dolby Digital sound, be sure to listen only to the digital program source and not a mix of the digital and analog signals that may be present. You can insure this by:

- 1) making sure all three CMSS indicator lights are off (MUSIC, MOVIE and STEREO/FOURPOINT).

- 2) muting the "CD" input of your computer's software.

When playing a DVD game with a mix of Dolby Digital 5.1 sound (a digital signal at the SPDIF input) and sound card wavetable output (a signal at the analog input), be sure to engage one of the three CMSS settings.

## Dolby Pro Logic

Dolby Surround is an earlier surround sound standard which is decoded with a Pro Logic processor in the DeskTop Theater 5.1. The Pro Logic steering circuitry derives separate center and rear channels from encoded stereo program sources.

Pro Logic processing provides a convincing movie soundfield when the material is specifically encoded for Dolby Surround. Most older stereo movie soundtracks will only be encoded for Dolby Surround, even though the program source may be a DVD's digital output. Most DVD's containing Dolby Surround program material will cause both the Dolby Digital and Digital Pro Logic lights to illuminate. *DeskTop Theater 5.1* will decode these Dolby Surround programs through the digital Pro Logic decoder automatically.

CD-ROMs and CD's with Dolby Surround encoding will feature the Dolby Surround logo at the beginning of the program or on the packaging. Process these programs by making sure all CMSS indicator lights are off and selecting the Pro Logic Analog Input setting of the Surround Mode button.

Do not select a Pro Logic decoding mode if the program material is not encoded for Dolby Surround. Excessive center channel output will result, and most stereo effect will be lost. Use CMSS "Movie" or "Music" modes to upmix stereo programs to a realistic 5.1 channel sound field.

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## Creative Multi Speaker Surround (CMSS)

CMSS is a 2 to 5.1 channel sound processor similar in some aspects to a Dolby Surround with Pro Logic processor.

CMSS Music mode creates a convincing 5.1 channel surround soundfield with typical stereo sources, whether they are Dolby Surround-encoded or not. It works well with Dolby Pro Logic, WAVE, AVI and MIDI program material. In essence, CMSS Music mode puts you "on the stage" for the music's performance, surrounding you with the performers.

In a similar manner, CMSS Movie mode provides the sonic impression of being front and center at a movie screening. Dialog and all

normally centered sounds from a stereo program are heard through the center speaker. Use this mode whenever a music program has sounds you want to blend with on-screen action or dialog.

Unlike Pro Logic decoding, CMSS Music and Movie modes are appropriate for use with multi-coded sources such as DVD games. In some game titles, the movie sequences may be encoded in Dolby Surround but the game sequences may be in the WAV format. CMSS Movie mode supports 6-channel output for .WAV, .AVI, .MIDI and other audio software files. Dolby decoding cannot decode WAVE formatted sources.

## Audio Mode Selection

The stereo soundtracks of some movies on the Video CD (VCD format) contain different languages. For example, a two channel soundtrack may contain Mandarin on the right channel and English on the left channel. The VCD program literature should indicate the presence of dual-language soundtracks. Similarly, some movies in the DVD format will contain dual-language soundtracks. *DeskTop Theater 5.1* lets you select one of these languages and play it through both the Left and Right speakers.

If there is no indication of which channel is which and you hear two different language soundtracks during stereo playback, select the "LL" and "RR" settings until you find the language soundtrack you want.

The Audio Mode selection feature can only be used with the PCM digital soundtrack of a Video CD or DVD with a stereo soundtrack, not a DVD encoded with Dolby Digital 5.1 sound or Dolby Surround-encoded material. If you have an analog program with separate left and right channels (the analog output of a CD ROM, or the analog stereo output of a "software" video CD, for instance), you will have to use the balance control in your PC's audio software to mute the undesired channel.

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## Specifications

*DeskTop Theater 5.1*  
Six-channel

### Amplifier Specifications

**Left, Right, Left Surround, Right Surround amplifiers, each of**

**four:** One channel driven into a 4 ohm load at less than 1% total harmonic distortion, at 1 kHz–5 watts RMS

**Center Channel amplifier:** One channel driven into a 4 ohm load at less than 1% total harmonic distortion, at 1 kHz–15 watts RMS

**Subwoofer amplifier:** One channel driven into a 4 ohm load at less than 1% total harmonic distortion, at 100 Hz–15 watts RMS

## Important

### Playback Levels

*DeskTop Theater 5.1* is intended for individual or small group listening and will achieve surprisingly high output levels. However, playing the system continuously at overly loud, distorted levels on heavy bass program material may cause its internal fuse to blow.

The fuse can be replaced *only* by a qualified representative. To avoid this inconvenience and a possible non-warranty repair charge, reduce the playback volume when the system shows obvious signs of stress, i.e. it sounds “raspy,” “fuzzy,” and/or “muddy.”

## Technical Support

Inside U.S.A., Canada and Latin America

*Creative Labs Inc. Technical Support*

If you need technical assistance, call **405-742-6622**. Technical support is available seven days a week from 8:00 am to midnight, Central time.

You can get the latest program and driver updates from Creative Labs' bulletin board, 24 hours a day. Call **405-742-6600**; use modem settings:

Baud rate:     **300 to 14400**  
                  (V.32/V.42 bis)  
Data bits:     **8**  
Parity:        **none**  
Stop bits:     **1**

You can also send a FAX at **405-742-6633** or write us at:

**Technical Support**  
**Creative Labs, Inc.**  
**1523 Cimarron Plaza**  
**Stillwater, OK 74075**

To reach Creative Technical support via the Internet, visit our technical support web site at <http://www.creativehelp.com>, for troubleshooting help.

For information about this product and other Creative Labs' products, visit Creative Zone at <http://www.soundblaster.com>. Or, call Customer Service at **800-998-1000**

Faxback information is available by calling **405-372-5227**



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### Operating hours

Mon-Fri: Business Hours

Sat-Sun: Closed

Faxback is a facility that allows you to obtain product and technical information through facsimile services. In Europe, use the following number: +353 1 820 3667.

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## Inside Asia

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#### Operating hours (Singapore Time)

Mon-Thu: 9am-6:30pm  
Fri: 9am-6pm  
Sat-Sun & Public Holidays: Closed

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## 1-Year Limited Warranty

To the original purchaser, Cambridge SoundWorks, Inc. (a division of Creative Technologies, Ltd.) will warrant the *DeskTop theater 5.1* system to be free of defects in material and workmanship for a period of one (1) year from date of purchase. With respect to defects, Cambridge SoundWorks will, at its option, replace the product or repair the defect in the product with no charge to the original purchaser for parts or labor.

This warranty does not extend to any defect, malfunction or failure caused by misuse, abuse, accident, faulty hookup, defective associated equipment or use of the speaker with equipment for which it is not intended.

This warranty is valid only when the speaker is returned to the retailer that sold the *DeskTop Theater 5.1* to the original purchaser.

This is the sole and express warranty. This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied, of merchantability, fitness for purpose or otherwise. In no event shall Cambridge SoundWorks be liable for incidental or consequential damages or have any liability with respect to defects other than the obligations set forth as stated.

To ensure warranty coverage, it is incumbent upon the original purchaser of *DeskTop Theater 5.1* to inform the retailer of the defect within the warranty period. The only acceptable method of establishing warranty status is a copy of the original proof of purchase indicating customers name and purchase date.

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