

Harbeth®

Manual

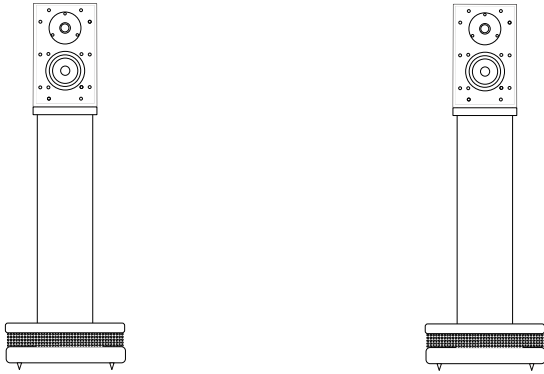


Nelson®

Subwoofer + stand solution

DRAFT COPY

We reserve the right to make changes



## Owner's manual

*At Harbeth, we are dedicated to reproducing the musicality and warmth of natural sound. With careful use, our loudspeakers will give you years of listening pleasure and will prove to be the ultimate audio investment. I warmly welcome you to join the Harbeth User Group and share your experiences with other Harbeth owners. Thank you for supporting us.*

*Alan Shaw, Managing Director*

### 1. Introduction

Every Harbeth product benefits from thoughtful installation, so may we suggest that you take some time to read this guide before beginning the installation process.

We'll make a few suggestions, but your own experience must ultimately lead you, and what really matters is what sounds best to you in your room, with your music, your taste and your equipment. Don't hesitate to turn to the Harbeth User Group for help and advice.

### 2. Environmental Information

All Harbeth products are designed to comply with international directives on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) in electrical and electronic equipment and the disposal of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). These symbols indicate compliance and that the products must be appropriately recycled or processed in accordance with these directives. Consult your local waste disposal authority for guidance.

Product packaging recycling information



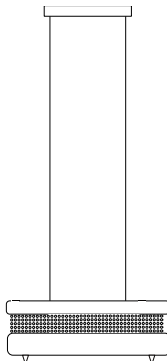
Product compliance information can be found on the Harbeth website.

### 3. Carton Contents

Check in the carton for:

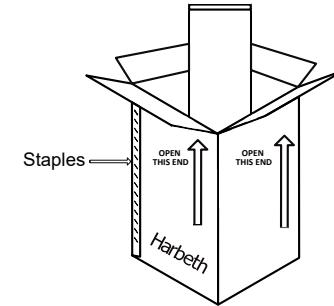
- A) 1 Nelson.
- B) 1 Power Supply (may be externally supplied)
- C) 1 Accessory pack containing:
  - 5 M6 spike feet
  - 5 Silicone pads

A)



B)		1
C)		5
C)		5

### 4. Unpacking



Please remove any jewellery and belts to negate the risk of scratching the product's surface finish or catching the fabric during the unpacking.

Before you attempt to lift the Nelson from its carton, please take note of the staples running top to bottom along one edge of the carton. Keep an eye on where they are as you lift the stand from the carton.

To remove the Nelson from its transport carton, open the carton's top flaps, remove the packing cap and hold on to the top plate whilst carefully withdrawing the product.

Note: only lift the product from the designated end of the packaging, which is clearly indicated on the outside of the carton.

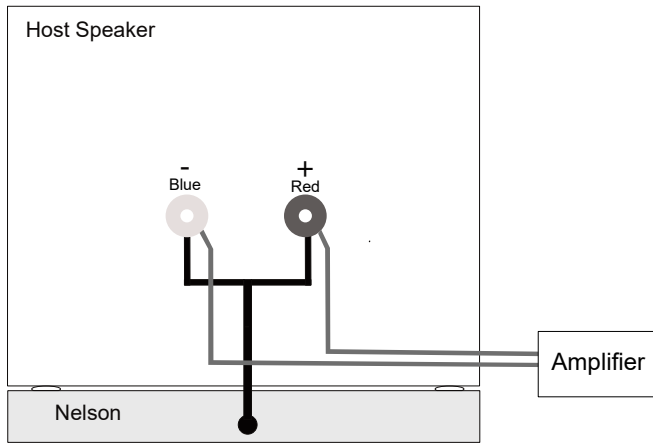
Warning: please be aware that the Nelson in its packaging is an unbalanced load and may tip over if stored upright on an uneven surface. Additionally, exercise caution when moving the carton while it is loaded.

### 5. Installation

Before placing the host speaker onto the Nelson, it is recommended to fit the silicone pads to the underside of the host speaker or to each corner of the top plate and the spike/rubber feet to the product's base (see section 9).

Note: ensure your system amplifier and the Nelson product are turned off during the connection process.

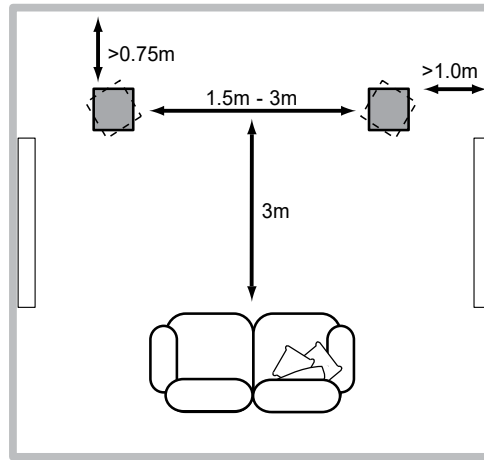
To connect the host speaker to Nelson, place the connecting wire from the top plate to the host speaker's terminals (as shown below). Please check that all connections are secure, the proper phase relationship between the left and right channels is made and that you have decided on the product positioning (section 6) before powering up the system.



## 6. Positioning

Optimising your speakers in your room needs experimentation. When a loudspeaker is close to a boundary wall (floor, wall, ceiling or corner), the speaker becomes 'acoustically coupled' to the surfaces, as if it is attached to it. The speaker would no longer operate in free space with a predictable frequency response but with a sound output that is elevated in the low-mid frequency range. Well-stocked bookcases behind or beside speakers can greatly improve the quality of low frequency, as can an asymmetrical placement of the speakers in the room.

A sonic compromise should be reached between placing the speakers near walls or positioning them farther out in the listening area. Some listeners say that the most natural sound-stage is achieved when the speakers are somewhat closer to each other than they are away from the listener – please experiment for yourself to see what sounds best to you.

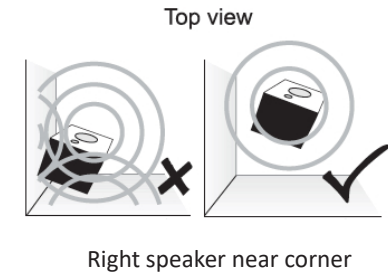


Here is a typical set-up in a normal living room. The side walls have been optionally treated with sound absorption panels or heavy curtains.

Parallel surfaces such as opposite walls, floors, and ceilings encourage and sustain certain musical notes. Flexible plasterboard walls and wooden floors over cavities such as a basement or garage may resonate and cause a boom. The general rule is the more absorption in the room, the less the room influences the overall reproduced sound.

Echoes or reflections can be readily identified by moving around your room and loudly clapping your hands as you listen to the sound decay into silence. In the middle and upper frequencies, soft-fabric treatments are an easy solution to damping a 'live' room. Curtains, thick carpets, rugs and bookcases strategically positioned to minimise reflections in the room can make dramatic improvements in fidelity. Pleated curtains on tracks across windows or side walls are an excellent way of temporarily adjusting room acoustics.

Progressively add absorption and listen again until there are no obvious acoustic issues; don't overdo sound damping – add just enough to tame reflections and no more!



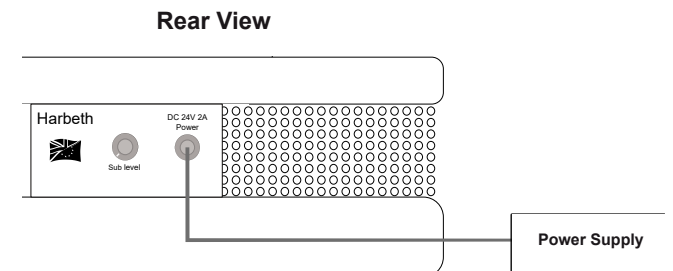
Tone controls and modern digital signal-processing room correction systems can, when used carefully, offer an effective solution to getting the best sound in your room, especially in the lower frequencies where domestic rooms have little absorption.

Once you have decided on the intended listening position, turn on the rest of your system (without Nelson) and play some audio to check that the Host speakers are working as normal and are in-phase. Once confirmed, it is now time to power up the Nelsons.

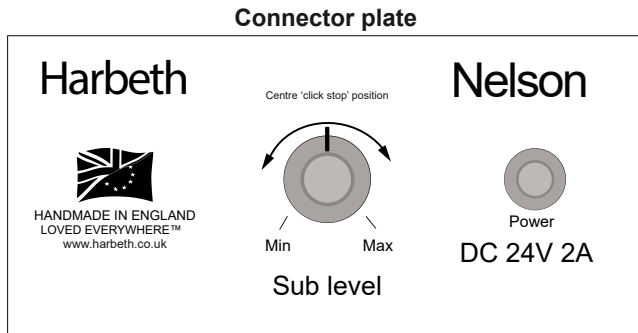
## 7. Application

If supplied separately, connect the IEC cable to the 24V D.C. power supply before plugging the 24V D.C. power supply into the power socket on the Nelson connector rear plate (shown below). Once this is done, you may connect the power supply to the mains socket to turn on the Nelson.

Note: The Nelson electronics are floating and transformer-isolated from the host Hi-Fi system. Therefore, they do not require an earth when in use.



## 8. Control



The Nelson connector plate features a sub level control that allows you to adjust the bass (up and down) to suit your music taste and preferences. Please remember that each Nelson is independent, requiring its own separate setup.

It is recommended to set the sub level volume control to the centre detent position before playing for the first time.

## 9. Power consumption

Nelson and its power supply meet the latest Eco specifications for low-energy standby mode. This means that when they are active with no signal, they will only consume 1720mW of power. After five minutes of silence, the Nelson will enter standby mode, and the power consumption will fall to 60mW. To restore the Nelson from standby mode, play some audio through the system. In some instances, depending on the programme material, this may take a few seconds. If you want to reduce the power consumption further, you can turn Nelson off by unplugging it from the mains power supply.

## 10. Spikes



**Important Safety Notice**  
Sharp spikes, do not touch.

Nelson is for indoor and floor-mounted use only. It is necessary to ensure the stands are levelled perfectly on the floor using the supplied feet whenever possible.

To add the spikes, carefully lower the stand onto its side on a soft, non-abrasive surface. Please do not invert the stand, as

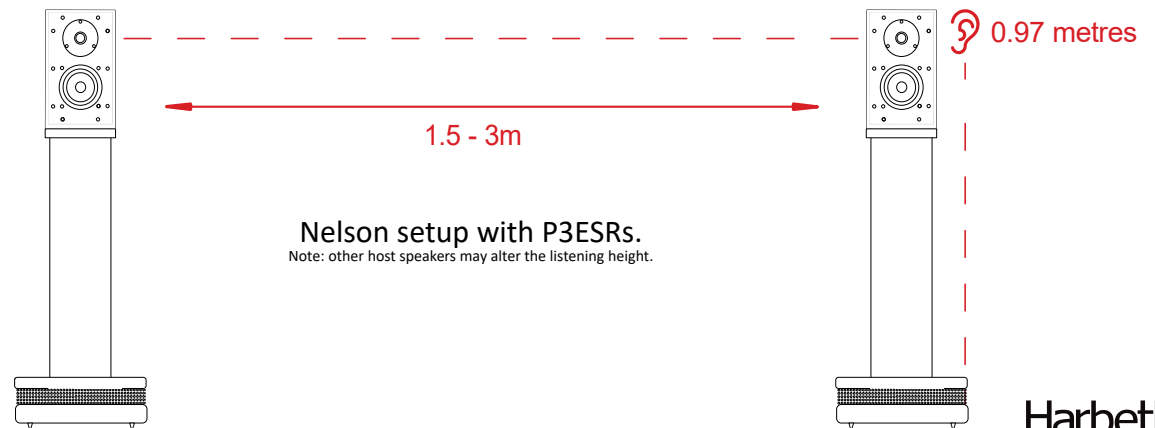
there will be a risk of unbalance. Carefully insert all five spike feet into the M6 threaded holes and then return the stand back to an upright position. To make the stand level, adjust each spike using a spirit level on the top plate to confirm.

If there is no carpet and you wish to avoid scratching the floor surface, fit M6 rubber feet or use a protective metal disc (a puck, perhaps) between the spike and the floor. Please fit the rubber feet and level in the same manner as with the spike feet.

## 11. Aftercare

To maintain your Nelsons, occasionally wipe over the wood with a slightly damp cloth rinsed in a suitable diluted detergent. Please avoid direct sunlight, radiators, draughts, smoke, ozone and other chemicals on or near Nelson and the host speaker. To clean the fabric, lightly brush them with a soft, dry paintbrush.

Warnings: No modifications, including the use of a different power supply, must be made to the product at any time. Replacement parts must be purchased through official Harbeth channels. Spare parts purchased outside of the official channels will invalidate the warranty cover and may pose a safety risk. Do not unplug the power supply from the unit whilst it is on. Never expose the unit to rain or moisture. Do not open the product at any time.



Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this manual is accurate. Harbeth is not responsible for printing or clerical errors.

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## 12. Product Registration

Thanks to rigorous quality in design and production, Harbeth products will give a long, trouble-free service life.

In the event you need to speak with your dealer about your Nelson product, you will need to quote the Serial Numbers, which can be found within this User Manual (certificate of ownership section) or on the outside of the transport carton, and provide evidence of purchase. Only buy from official outlets listed on the Harbeth website.

The ex-factory Warranty can be extended (subject to conditions) by registering the product on the Harbeth website.

Finally, thank you; we wish you many great years of satisfying listening.

**Harbeth**

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