

**Kii THREE**

**OWNER'S MANUAL**







Warranty Information:

**Kii Audio provides a full FIVE (5) YEAR WARRANTY on the Kii THREE.**

Beginning of the warranty period is the date of purchase.

## Kii AUDIO - OWNERS CARD

Thank you for purchasing the most advanced loudspeaker to date.

We truly believe that music is the common language of the world.

It can make you laugh, it can make you cry and it can share emotions unlike any other medium.

We hope the Kii Three provides you with many of these joyous moments with your music collection.

- It's all about the music!



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## Unpacking your Kii THREE - what is in the box?

**Each pair of Kii THREE speakers is delivered in two identical packed boxes, each box contains:**

1x Kii THREE Speaker

1x Power Cable

1x Cat5 Cable (5m)

1x Owner's Manual

## Installation + Connector Panel

Power - The Kii THREE has no power switch.

Simply plug the power cable into the IEC socket (f) and if no audio signal is present, the speaker will automatically go into standby mode.

As soon as the input detects any audio signal (analog or digital) it will automatically power on. This can take up to 7 seconds.

Here is an overview of the connector panel from left to right:

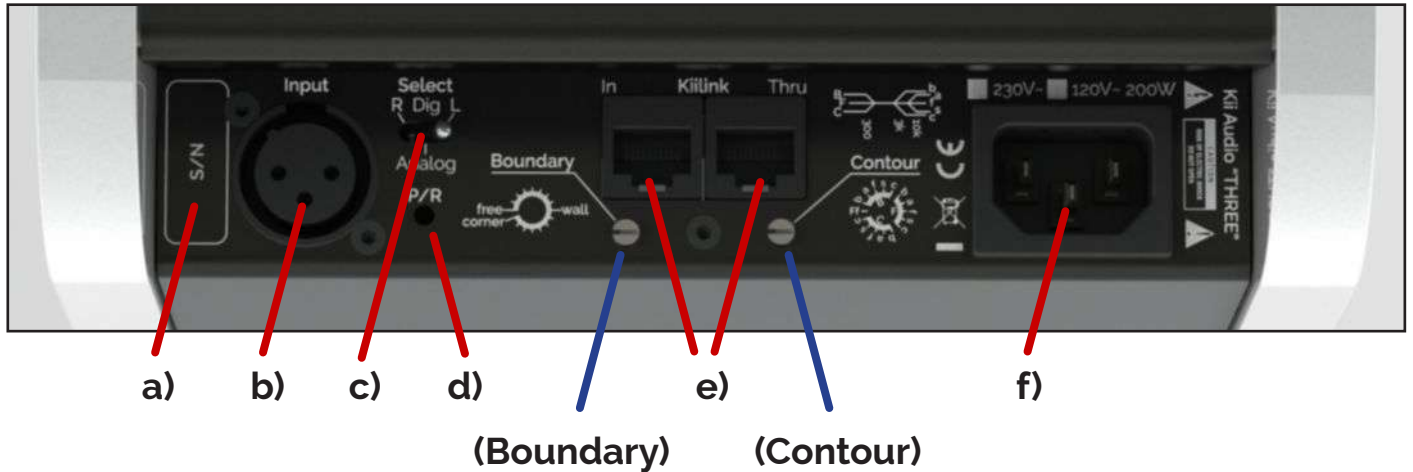
- a) **SERIAL NUMBER** - This is the individual Serial No. for each speaker.
- b) **XLR INPUT** - This is the single XLR Input connector which can be set to process analog or digital audio signals, depending on how the Select switch (c) is set.
- c) **SELECT SWITCH** - this three position mini switch selects whether the XLR Input functions as an analog input for this individual speaker, or if either the right or left channel of the AES signal will be played by this speaker.
- d) **P/R button** - Pair (WISA source) / Reset, this button will be used for interaction with future Kii Audio products.



e) **Kiilink** - Input and Thru (or Output) - When a digital input (AES) is used, both channels of the stereo signal will be sent together via a single digital cable from your source.

You simply choose the speaker that is located closest to your digital source and connect the AES cable to its input, this is now the Master speaker. While we call the other one the Slave speaker. The slave speaker gets its signal directly from the master speaker.

Both speakers are connected with the supplied CAT5 cable. Simply plug it into the right CAT5 port (labeled Thru) of your master speaker and into the left CAT5 port (labeled In) of your slave speaker.



## Boundary Switch explained

The Kii THREE has a very controlled and well behaved dispersion, different from most common speaker designs. The complete frequency spectrum from 40Hz on upwards has a cardioid radiation pattern thanks to our **Active Wave Focusing** technology.

The result is that the sound is directed only towards the listener, thus eliminating the most common negative acoustical problems of the average listening room in the low to mid frequencies.

Only the very low frequencies below 40Hz (down to approx. 19Hz/-3dB) are radiated omnidirectional around the speaker.

If you place the Kii THREE freestanding in your room, the Boundary switch should be set to *Free*. This means the speaker has a flat frequency response and will put out equal energy over its whole frequency range.

With the help of the Boundary switch the Kii THREE can be placed very close against the wall or even into corners, while the DSP in the speaker will compensate the natural overemphasis in bass response in these positions.

The result is that you always have an even energy response at the listening position. A nice side-effect of positioning the Kii THREES against the wall is, that the headroom is improved (because they have to put out less bass energy) and the speakers can play even louder than in a free standing position.

## Setting up is easy

Start by setting the Boundary switch according to the positioning in the room first (free/wall/corner) and then adjust it by ear if necessary. Both switches (Boundary and Contour) have a groove, which has a visible hole in one end, this is the pointer of the dial.

Dial the switch counter-clockwise (towards free) for more energy/level below 40Hz and likewise clockwise (towards corner) for less energy/level below 40Hz.

Depending on the size and construction of your listening room and its boundaries, a few clicks towards either side can help to even out the bass response in the listening spot perfectly.

The default setting of the Boundary switch upon delivery is free standing (9 o'clock position, free).

### Advanced tweaking:

Unlike any passive speaker system the Kii THREE offers the ability to adapt to a non-symmetrical room. It often happens in regular living rooms, that your walls are different behind both speakers.

For example a window behind the left speaker on one side and a concrete wall behind the right speaker on the other side.

In such a case setting the right speaker 1-2 clicks further down (towards the corner setting) can help to achieve a perfectly symmetrical center image.

## Contour Switch explained

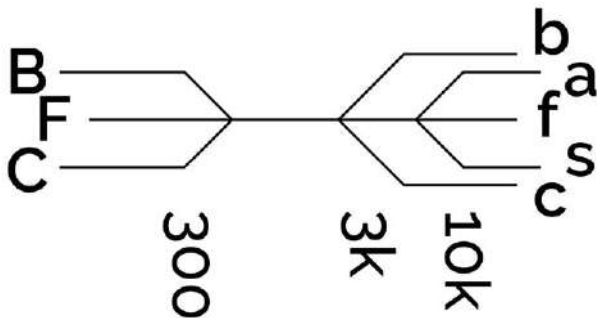
The Contour switch provides an easy method to slightly tailor the speaker's linear frequency response to your personal taste.

The default setting of the Contour switch upon delivery is linear (9 o'clock position, Ff).

For the Kii Three we use a single 16 position rotary dial that provides 14 different presets.

Whenever the slot of the Contour switch is in a horizontal position (no matter if pointing to the left or right), the frequency response is set to flat (marked Ff).

Always start listening in the flat position and try out different settings in comparison.



Three different filters are implemented.

A low-shelf at 300Hz

A high-shelf at 3kHz

A high-shelf at 10kHz

You can either use a single one, or a combination of low and high shelf.

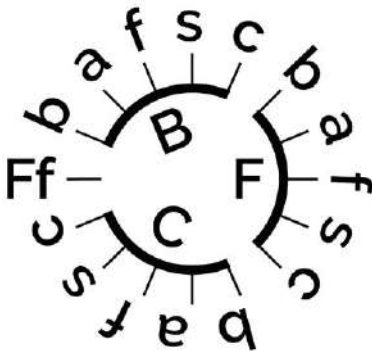
Choosing a preset is easy. Each of the 14 different EQ positions is marked with two letters.

The first upper case letter (B/F/C) marks the setting of the bass shelf.

The second lower case letter (b/a/f/s/c) marks the choice and setting of one of the two different high shelves.

Simply choose a combination of upper and lower case letter to find the preset you prefer.

*Please use the graph to document your personal settings in this manual:*



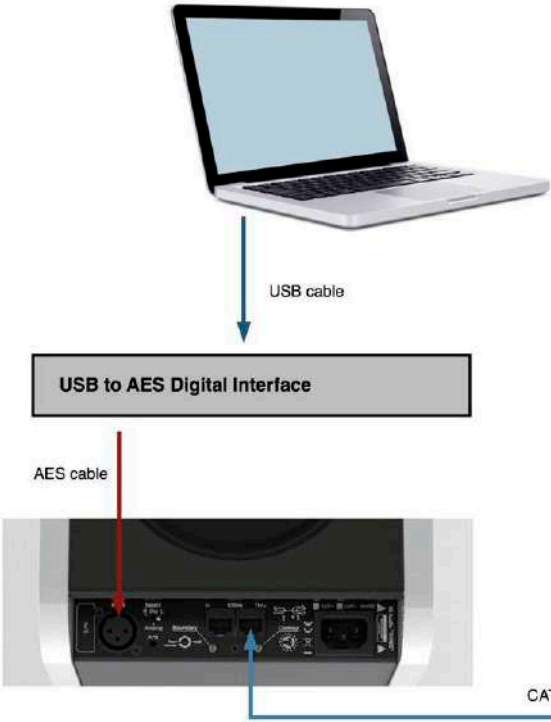
**B = Boost**  
**F = Flat**  
**C = Cut**

enhanced low frequencies < 300Hz  
no change to the low frequencies  
reduced low frequencies < 300Hz

**b = boost**  
**a = air**  
**f = flat**  
**s = soft**  
**c = cut**

enhanced high frequencies > 3kHz  
enhanced high frequencies > 10kHz  
no change to the high frequencies  
reduced high frequencies > 10kHz  
reduced high frequencies > 3kHz

**Setup examples** a) Kii THREE used with computer + USB to digital interface.

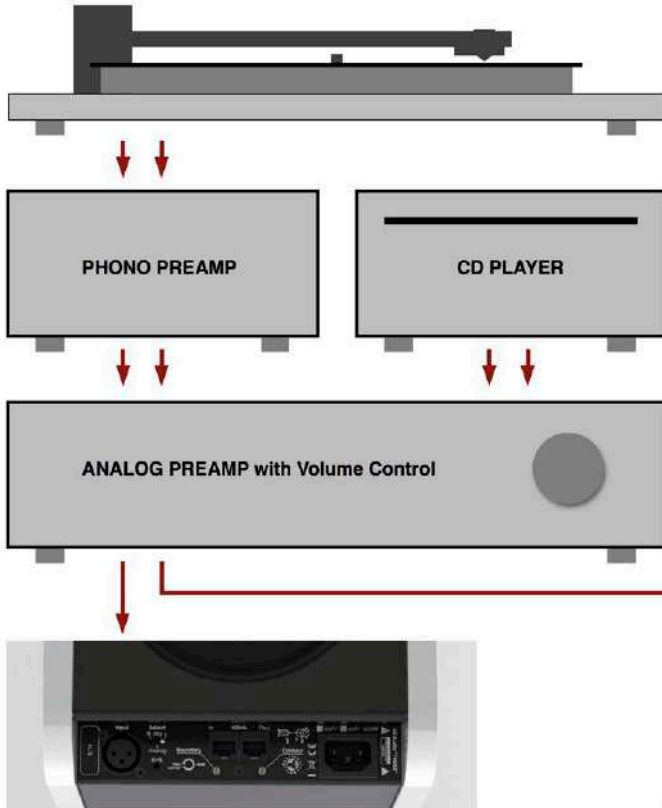


You can use any third party USB interface that provides a digital output in AES or SPDIF format to connect the Kii THREE to your computer or laptop.

If your interface has an SPDIF output via RCA, a simple adapter cable can be used between the interface and the Kii THREE (RCA to XLR)

In this use case the internal volume control of the playback software is used, therefore we recommend a good player like JRiver, Roon or Audirvana.

b) Kii THREE used as an active speaker within a regular, classic Hifi system.



The Kii THREE simply replaces a poweramp (or two monoblocks) and the passive speakers.

Multiple sources can be connected to an analog preamp which provides source selection and volume control.

The preamp outputs are connected to the analog inputs of the Kii THREE:

(Select switch in middle position)

No CAT5 connection is necessary.

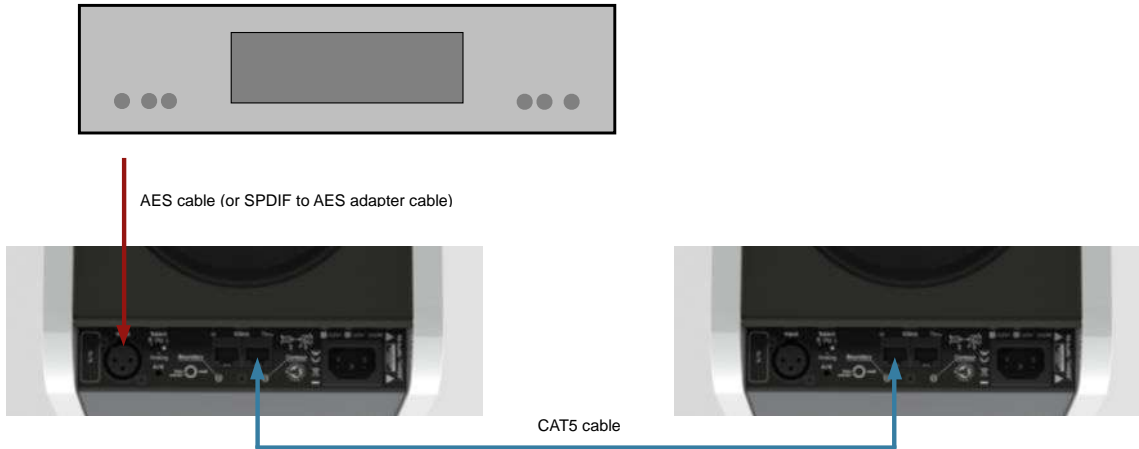
c) Kii THREE used with a Streaming Bridge / Network Music Player / Music Server

Some high quality streamers have built-in digital volume control. This provides the most elegant and straightforward setup, only consisting of the streamer/network player and a pair of Kii THREES.

If your streaming bridge or network player doesn't provide a high quality digital volume control, there are two other options:

The streamer offers a good DAC and preamp functionality, so you can connect its analog outputs directly into the Kii THREES and set the Select switch to Analog.

Another option is to use a third party device like a Weiss INT203 inbetween streamer and the Kii THREE, to provide digital volume control.





## Technical Specifications:

Compact DSP controlled monitor speaker  
4x 6.5Awoofer, 1x5A midrange, 1A waveguided tweeter, all individually driven  
Amplification: 6x250W full-custom Ncore  
Active Wave Focusing crossover filter  
Frequency response: 20Hz to 25kHz +/- 0.5dB  
Phase response: minimum (best possible time coherence).  
Long term SPL(\*): 105dB  
Short term SPL(\*): 110dB  
Peak SPL: 115dB  
Controlled Directivity: 4.8dB (80Hz - 1kHz, slowly rising thereafter)  
Size: 20x40x40cm, 8A x 16A x 16A (W x H x D)  
Weight: 15kg (33lbs)  
Inputs: Analogue, AES/EBU  
Selectable correction for free-standing, near wall or in corner

(\*IEC60268-5 Paragraph 20.6

## Safety Warning:

### **KiiLink is NOT a standard network connection !!**

Although common CAT5 cable and RJ45 connectors are used, KiiLink employs its own proprietary protocol..

Connecting a KiiLink port to a non-Kii product can cause permanent damage to your Kii THREE.

**NEVER connect a Kii THREE to a home network!**

**NEVER connect a Kii THREE to the Ethernet port of a computer!**

## Instructions for safe operation:

1. Dangerous voltage is inside this apparatus.  
Opening is only allowed by qualified service personnel.
2. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the safety earth connection. Use the provided three-prong power cord to insure the product is connected to safety earth. If the provided mains cord does not fit your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
3. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.

4. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water. Do not expose the apparatus to dripping or splashing. Do not place objects filled with liquids (flower vases, drink cans, coffee cups, etc) on the apparatus. Do not use this apparatus out of doors.
6. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus that produce heat. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight.
7. Use only with a speakerstand or table designed for use with audio or music equipment. In any installation, make sure that injury or damage will not result from cables pulling on the apparatus and its mounting.
8. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as when the power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
9. To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

**Any damage resulting from the violation of these safety measures (especially by opening the apparatus or connecting non-Kii devices via the KiiLink ports) is not covered by the warranty.**

*Please be careful and reasonable with your extended listening levels.  
Excessive sound pressure levels during longer periods of time can cause irreversible damage to your ears and health.*

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Kii THREE Manual (v1.0)

