

DIAMOND 8



Wharfedale

Diamonds are forever



Every manufacturer will tell you their speakers are the best and try to justify it with impressive endorsements from reviewers or dealers. Often such endorsements are short-lived, and such is the speed the industry evolves, the product in question is merely flavour of the month. Strange then that this range, the Diamond 8, has a heritage extending over twenty years and has been Britain's best-selling loudspeaker series over this period. Even stranger perhaps when a company that

has experienced such commercial and critical success in the past can continue to deliver the goods year after year – to remain at the very forefront of acoustic technology and strive to make each generation of the Diamond a revolution in loudspeaker design. Even so, it has not been since the very first Diamond in 1981 that a single speaker range has caused such a stir. Once more, the Wharfedale Diamond series sits proudly atop a fine tradition of excellence.



“What was constant regardless of where I sat or stood was astonishing clarity, top-to-bottom cohesion, more than plentiful bass and a midband naturalness that recalled the Quad ESL” – Ken Kessler

The Diamond 8 series is the result of over three years intensive research and development into virtually every aspect of acoustic design.

Firstly, the tweeter in all models is a 25mm textile dome, ferrofluid cooled unit powered with an ultra-strong neodymium magnet for the fastest, most accurate response we have ever achieved.

Next, the woofer cone is made from a bi-directional KEVLAR weave – self-damping in nature, reducing resonant frequencies to virtually negligible levels. The impetus for rapid movement here, is a dual layer, vented voice coil which transmits the signal information with the highest levels of accuracy. The cone is mounted on a nitrile rubber ‘Flexaural surround rim’. A profiled phase plug improves the off-axis performance to project an excellent stereo image across a wide listening area.

All the stereo models are front ported to enable positioning close to a back wall. Gold-plated bi-wire terminals are used for connection and you should take advantage of the increase in openness this offers, even if using a amplifier with single connections.

The final test though, of any loudspeaker is not how much technology is used in the constituent parts, but how these react together to form a coherent package. It’s more about the kind of music synergy that can be created between the various elements to ensure the overall result is much more than the sum of the parts.

It is this elusive element, the ‘musicality’ which separates the Diamond 8s from all the competition and you will not believe the results.





When any product is awarded five stars by What Hi-Fi? Sound & Vision magazine, you can be sure that product is something very special indeed. The notoriously fastidious reviewing team listen to and analyse every single aspect of a product's performance. To date, each product and package reviewed from the Diamond 8 series has been awarded these five stars. The Diamond 8.1s have, in addition beaten very fierce competition to win a coveted best buy at this year's What Hi-Fi? Sound and Vision Awards. Although we are very honoured, as this is praise indeed, we are not surprised, because time after time the country's leading reviewers compare the Diamond 8 series to speakers costing many times as much and discover that the Diamond 8 series is real hi-fi in every way. They have even been mistaken (by experts) for speakers costing over £10,000.

"One listener thought he was hearing the massive Apogee Scintillas sitting behind the Diamonds"
– *Hi-Fi News*

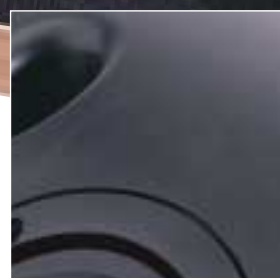
In our development of Diamond 8 series, we have made very significant advances in every single aspect of the performance. Frequency response is smooth and well integrated. Dynamics are involving and dramatic, and the famous Wharfedale trademark of superb stereo imaging has been refined to a seemingly impossible extent.

"A staggeringly good performance for the money" – *What Hi-Fi?*





"The Diamond 8 DFS
uses the same Kevlar and
magnet specification as
the other Diamond 8
products for perfect
tonal matching"





25mm soft dome tweeters

Tonally matched Kevlar drivers

Diamond 8 DFS rear surround



The Diamond 8 DFS from Wharfedale has been designed specifically to generate the perfect rear sound field, a topic that many manufacturers miss-understand. It is simply not enough to use smaller standard loudspeakers to handle the rear effects. A dedicated bi-polar speaker is necessary to convey the true spatial sensation as these alone can produce both the diffuse ambient sound, and the precise stereo image needed to feel truly involved. When placed on a rear wall, a pair of Diamond DFS will create a direct and precise stereo image from the inward facing drivers, while the outward facing drivers fire onto the walls to create both reverb and ambience.

The ambience is necessary to create the spatial awareness and to set the limits of the sound field – when a voice is heard in an enclosed space, it should sound as such, with a slight ambient reverb. Different environments produce different ambient effects. They may only be slight, but are essential to that sense of realism and space.

Pinpoint stereo imaging is also essential. If there is a sound coming from behind you, you want to know where from. Sounds, as well as having ambience, need localisation. Whilst the ambience establishes the soundstage, the

imaging then places sounds and voices within that soundstage. The combination of the two types of sound work in synergy to enhance the experience and draw you into a movie or soundtrack in a way like never before.

Modern, sweeping curves and finishes are the epitome of modern design, but the styling is as much a function of purpose as aesthetic flair, even if we say so ourselves! The profiled baffle provides exceptional dispersion characteristics for an open and revealing sound while the extruded triangular cross-section is essential for the acoustic nature of the rear sound field.

Ultra strong baffles and tonally balanced drive units provide a high-octane blend of music and effects for an enthralling surround sound experience. The high-gauss neodymium tweeter units are developed from our famous 25mm textile dome units – accurate and detailed enough to position sounds within a three-dimensional soundstage well beyond the confines of the listening area. Allied with matched KEVLAR woven cones, driven in turn with double hand-wound voice coils, the overall effect is a seamlessly integrated sound field with sparkling musicality perfectly tuned to complete your Diamond 8 surround system.

For ideal listening, a pair of Diamond 8 DFS speakers should be mounted on a rear wall behind your normal listening position.

The Powercube 8A and 10A Subwoofers in Diamond 8 finishes



No full Home Cinema system is complete without some added impact at the bottom end of the frequency range. In a multi-channel system, a sub is recommended to handle the 'LFE' or Low Frequency Effects channel of Dolby Digital or DTS sound. The Diamond 8 finish subwoofers provide the impact and dynamics to really bring a soundtrack to life, yet retain tight control.

Two channel stereo systems can also benefit from the addition of a sub-woofer. The extended lower frequency response can be tuned to integrate seamlessly with bookshelf or floorstanding loudspeakers. A continuous crossover and phase adjustment control means that you can extend your system response well into sub-sonics, yet retain the musicality of your system.

The Powercube 8A features an 8" downward firing long-throw driver, with a built in 100W_{RMS} amplifier more than capable of outstanding sound pressure levels, but with the delicacy to add impact, even at relatively low volumes.

The Powercube 10A uses the same amplifier module but with a 10" driver and slightly larger cabinet enclosure volume. Both models are rear ported and feature gold-plated terminal connections, continuously variable crossover, high and low level inputs and phase adjustment.

When set up, the sub is not just unobtrusive; it's an elegant and solid piece of furniture, with a choice of finishes to match the Diamond 8 series, it can co-ordinate with virtually any interior.





“Wharfedale has instantly set the level to which its rivals must now aspire” – *Gramophone*

Specifications



Model	Diamond 8.1	Diamond 8.2
Drivers	130mm KEVLAR, 25 mm silk dome	165mm KEVLAR, 25 mm silk dome
Recommended Amp Power	20 – 120Wrms	20 – 120Wrms
Nominal Imp.	6 ohm*	6 ohm*
Sensitivity	86dB for 2.83v at 1m	86dB for 2.83v at 1m
Frequency Resp.	55Hz to 20kHz	45Hz to 20kHz
Size (H x W x D)	296 x 198 x 181mm	364 x 213 x 258mm



Model	Diamond 8.3	Diamond 8.4
Drivers	165mm KEVLAR, 25 mm silk dome	2 x 165mm KEVLAR, 25 mm silk dome
Recommended Amp Power	20 – 120Wrms	20 – 150Wrms
Nominal Imp.	6 ohm*	6 ohm*
Sensitivity	86dB for 2.83v at 1m	86dB for 2.83v at 1m
Frequency Resp.	40Hz to 20kHz	30Hz to 20kHz
Size (H x W x D)	800 x 213 x 258mm	900 x 213 x 295mm

				
Model	Diamond 8 DFS	Diamond 8 Centre	Powercube 8A	Powercube 10A
Bass	130mm x 2	2 x 130mm KEVLAR,	200mm	250mm
Tweeter	25mm silk dome x 2	25 mm silk dome	–	–
Recommended Amp Power	20 – 120WRMS	20 – 120WRMS	100W built-in amplifier	100W built-in amplifier
Nominal Imp.	6 ohm*	6 ohm*	n/a	n/a
Sensitivity	90dB 1W @ 1m	88dB for 2.83v at 1m	250mV for 75W	250mV for 75W
Frequency Range	70Hz – 20kHz	60Hz – 20kHz	40Hz to 170Hz	32Hz to 170Hz
Crossover Frequency	3kHz	3kHz	n/a	n/a
Size (H x W x D)	365 x 415 x 175mm	176 x 451 x 181mm	345 x 295 x 295mm	385 x 335 x 335mm

*Compatible with 8 ohm amplifier outputs

The Diamond 8 Series is available in a number of vinyl and veneer finishes. Contact your retailer for more information about colour options.



Diamond 8.1 – Awards 2001



Diamond 8.2 – July 2001



Diamond 8.3
Supertest winner December 2001



Diamond 8 Cinema – September 2001

“Sections of an orchestra, or even individual performers, are precisely located in a well-focused sound stage picture”
– Gramophone



Wharfedale

Wharfedale International Ltd.

IAG House,

Sovereign Court,

Ermine Business Park,

Huntingdon. PE29 6XU

Tel : 0845 458 0011 / +44 (0) 1480 447700

Fax : +44 (0) 1480 431767

www.wharfedale.co.uk