INSTALLATION SHEET FOR BME84 & BME87 BLIND MOUNT ENCLOSURES

FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2

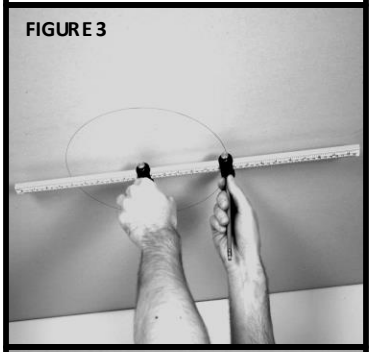
The Lowell "BME Series" blind-mount enclosures are used when a speaker enclosure must be installed from below a drywall or plaster ceiling because access above the ceiling is not available. The BME84 assembly is 4" deep (shown in **Figure 1**) and the BME87 assembly is 7" deep, (shown in **Figure 2**). Both the BME84 and BME87 mount in the same way, so for this instruction sheet, only the BME84 will be shown in the illustrations. Both enclosures are shipped from the factory with a twist-in ring and four (4) 8-32 screws.

Installation:

Step-1: Check to see that there are no obstructions above the ceiling. There's nothing worse than cutting a large hole in a ceiling only to find out that some obstruction above the ceiling will make the installation at that location impossible. Patching and painting such a large hole can be an expensive and time consuming task. For some helpful hints about how to check above the ceiling for obstructions, see "Checking Above the Ceiling Before You Cut" in the technical papers section of the Lowell Manufacturing website at: http://www.lowellmfg.com/resources/white-papers.php

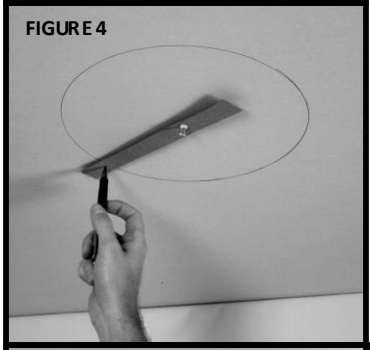
Step-2: Once you have checked for obstructions above the ceiling and the location for your speaker enclosure installation has been determined, draw a circle with a radius of 6.125" (diameter 12.25") on the ceiling. This can be done with using a fancy bar compass if you have one (shown in **Figure 3**), or a simple cardboard compass can be constructed using a stick pin, piece of cardboard, and a pencil (shown in **Figure 4**).

FIGURE 3



Step-3: Using a saw of your choice, cut out the 12.25" diameter hole in the ceiling. Note that a rotary drywall saw (shown in **Figure 5**) is ideal for this task, but any saw that you have available that will cut a circle will work.

FIGURE 4



Step-4: Before pushing the speaker enclosure up into the ceiling, it's important to prepare the enclosure to accept the speaker wiring. A 3/8" diameter knockout and a combination ½"-¾" conduit knockout are available in four (4) different locations on the metal enclosure. The 3/8" knockout can be easily removed by pushing it in with a screwdriver (shown in **Figure 6**). We recommend that the installer provide a plastic bushing or rubber grommet so the hole in the metal does not cut the insulation of the speaker wire. Another option that is commonly used by sound contractors, is to remove the inner ½" conduit knock-out (the center portion of the combination ½"-¾" combination knock-out) and insert a ½" Romex connector. The portion of the Romex connector with the squeeze clamp goes on the outside of the enclosure, and the nut is used to tighten the connector in the hole (shown in **Figure 8**). Using a Romex connector provides a much larger hole for wires to enter and exit the speaker enclosure. This becomes especially important if a speaker wire needs to enter the enclosure to feed this local speaker, and also speaker wires need to exit to feed other speakers in the string. The Romex connector is large enough to allow multiple typical speaker cables to pass through the same connector.

FIGURE 5

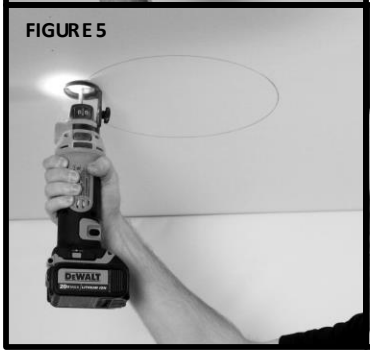


FIGURE 6

FIGURE 7

FIGURE 8

Lowell Manufacturing Company • 100 Integram Drive • Pacific, Missouri 63069 U.S.A.
Call: 800-325-9660 Fax: 636-257-6606 Click: www.lowellmfg.com
Printed 2-15-16

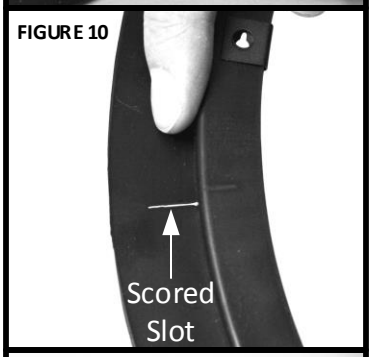
INSTALLATION SHEET FOR BME84 & BME87 BLIND MOUNT ENCLOSURES

FIGURE 9

Step-5: If flexible conduit is required for the installation, install the proper flex conduit fitting in one of the ½"-¾" conduit knockouts (shown in **Figure 9**).

Step-6: Now that your enclosure is prepared to accept the speaker wiring, take the trim ring (supplied with the BME84 or BME87) and snap the ring at the scored slot location (shown in **Figure 10**).

FIGURE 10

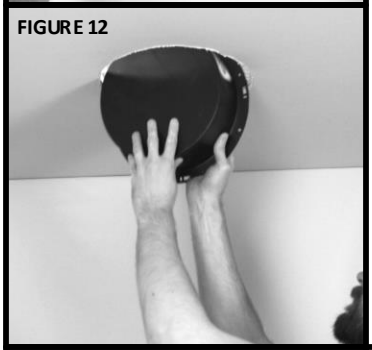


Step-7: Now that the ring has been snapped, take one end of the ring and place it through the hole in the ceiling (shown in **Figure 11**). Twist the ring until the entire ring is above the ceiling. Place the ring to the side above the ceiling and out of the way.

FIGURE 11

Step-8: Push the metal enclosure through the hole in the ceiling (shown in **Figure 12**).

FIGURE 12



Step-9: Slip the ring over the enclosure with the bottom lip of the ring toward the bottom lip of the enclosure (as shown in **Figure 13**).

Step-10: Rest the ring and enclosure on the ceiling at the edge of the hole. Insert the four (4) 8-32 screws provided through the four (4) open holes in the lip of the enclosure into the four (4) threaded Tinnerman clips on the plastic trim ring. To make tightening the screws easier, spin the ring and enclosure so the screw you are inserting is at the center of the hole in the ceiling (shown in **Figure 14**).

Step-11: Use whatever wire entry method you chose in **Step-4** or **Step-5** and bring the speaker wire into the speaker enclosure (as shown in **Figure 15**).

Step-12: Finally, rest the speaker enclosure in the hole in the ceiling (as shown in **Figure 16**).

Note: When installing the speaker and grille, the four (4) white screws (provided with the grille) will screw into the four (4) threaded Tinnerman clips in the lip of the metal speaker enclosure. Those four (4) screws will sandwich the ceiling between the grille and enclosure so the grille pulls up tight to the finished ceiling and the metal enclosure pulls tight to the rear of the ceiling.

FIGURE 13

FIGURE 14

FIGURE 15

FIGURE 16