



## BluCube Universal Fire & Acoustic Speaker Hood UFH01

Designed to maintain the fire rating of your existing ceiling when ceiling speakers are fitted



The (patent pending) BluCube Universal Fire and acoustic speaker hood is just that - a fire hood that also performs as an effective acoustic barrier to sound leakage from behind an in-ceiling speaker. Building regulations state that if you cut an aperture in the ceiling of a room, for instance to fit an in-ceiling speaker, you must ensure that the fire integrity of the ceiling is maintained.

Tested and assessed by Warrington Fire, a renowned and accredited UK testing facility, to British Standard 476 Part 21 in a standard domestic timber-joint and plasterboard ceiling, the BluCube Universal Fire Hood comfortably performed to such requirements.

Featuring a double-skin of intumescent fabric sandwiching a fire-proof foam and with a uniquely designed internal flange providing easy-installation, improved fire and acoustic absorbing performance and protection of the speaker from dust ingress, the BluCube UFH01 is a must for every installation. Plus its one-size-fits-(nearly)-all design means it's likely to be the only hood you need.

By using an internal rim design as opposed to an external design makes the hoods:

- Easier to install
- The rim can be fixed using a bead of mastic/sealant/double-sided sticky tape and the swing-out dogs of the speakers clamp to the hood in place
- More air tight - therefore offering better fire protection and acoustic absorption
- Twin-skinned intumescent with fire-retardant acoustic damping foam sandwiched between the skins
- One size fits both 6.5" or 8" speakers (To fit a larger speaker the inner rim can be cut to size using a stitched seam as a guide)
- The foam and stitching is fire retardant
- Made from glass fibre material with fire retardent stitching

### Specification



Internal Depth	150mm
Internal Diameter	310mm
Hood speaker hole diameter (and optional larger cutout diameter)	190mm (240mm)
External Depth	160mm
External Diameter	340mm
Weight	200g

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## FAQs

### How is it one size fits all?

The majority of ceiling speakers have cut-out apertures ranging in diameter from 200-250mm. The aperture of the BluCube Hood as delivered is 200mm but it can be enlarged by simply cutting the fabric. A guide is marked on the flange which is the typical diameter of an 8-inch driver speaker. There is a sewn seam to prevent the fabric fraying. It is preferable to avoid cutting this seam. If however, the hood needs to be cut to fit a speaker located close to a joist, it may be necessary, on occasion to cut the aperture offset from centre to accommodate the location. This is easily achieved and does not affect the performance of the hood. Please check our installation video for more details.

### Why is the inner flange better?

Firstly, it makes the hood easier to fit, but more importantly, it performs significantly better because it is possible to create a much more effective seal. Speakers are fitted from beneath the ceiling not from above. The inner flange means that the flange can be easily fixed to the upper surface of the ceiling plasterboard because the flange is accessible from inside the hood. An external flange is not, and cannot be sealed effectively. An effective seal means the fire protection performance is maximised, as is the acoustic performance. Even a small gap reduces both fire protection and acoustic insulation considerably. Dust ingress is also minimised with the speaker hood ensuring speaker performance on longevity. The inner-flange makes the hood adaptable to many types and sizes of in-ceiling speaker. It also allows for offsetting the aperture where a speaker aperture may be close to a joist. Finally the inner-flange means that the speakers fixings (often referred to as 'swing-out dogs') clamp the fabric of the hood to the upper surface of the ceiling making for a better fit.

### What if my joist height is low?

The standard height of a UK joist is 150mm, in shallower ceiling voids the BluCube hood is compressible without affecting its integrity or performance. Providing your speaker itself has sufficient clearance, you only need 2-3mm additional clearance to accommodate the fabric of the hood. Although the extended height of the hood can accommodate speakers with a depth of up to 200mm, it can be compressed to comfortably accommodate speakers with a smaller depth requirement.

### What if my speaker aperture is close to a joist?

In an ideal world all speakers would be centred between joists, this is very often not the case. Provided that the speaker itself can fit in the aperture and the speaker's fixings to do not foul on the joist you should be able to also accommodate a BluCube hood. There are two ways to do this: The first is simply to scrunch the fabric of the hood against the joist so that the speaker will fit. This will not affect the performance of the hood or speaker. If the aperture is too close to the joist to allow this. The second approach is to cut the fabric of the hood to create an offset (elliptical) aperture. Again, this will not affect the performance of the hood. In this case it may be necessary cut through the sewn seam on the flange and this will expose some of the foam. (you may need to glue this back in place). As the aperture of the hood flange is now enlarged and offset it may be that only some of the speaker fixings clamp the flange the hood fabric, this is perfectly acceptable but it is advised that in this case the flange is firmly affixed to the surface of the plasterboard before fitting the speaker.

### How much acoustic absorption is achieved?

BluCube have conducted extensive tests in this area and we estimate the typical sound reduction to be of the order of 2dB following the addition of our hood. This will vary from installation to installation and so this is a guide only.

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