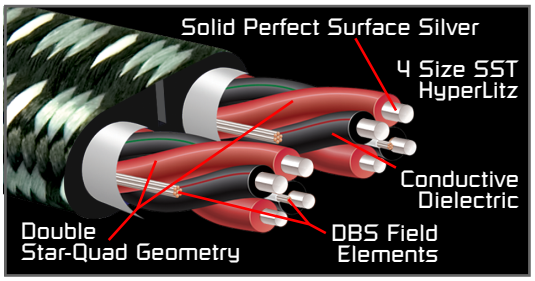
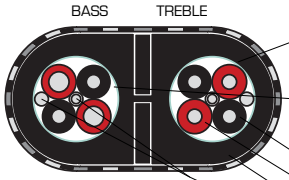
audioquest



K2
Speaker Cable: Double Star-Quad Geometry



Double Star-Quad Geometry

Overall: 2 x 12 AWG (3.19 mm^2)

- **Treble Group**:
  - 2 x 20 AWG Solid **Perfect-Surface Silver** (PSS) Conductors
  - 2 x 17 AWG Solid **Perfect-Surface Silver** (PSS) Conductors
- **Bass Group**:
  - 2 x 19 AWG Solid **Perfect-Surface Silver** (PSS) Conductors
  - 2 x 16 AWG Solid **Perfect-Surface Silver** (PSS) Conductors
- PVC Insulation (Positive Conductors)
- **Carbon-Loaded PE Insulation** (Negative Conductors)
- Nylon Braid Black/Grey
- **DBS Field Elements**

Conductors: All eight of K2's conductors are solid. Solid conductors prevent strand interaction, a major source of cable distortion. Electrical and magnetic interaction between strands in a conventional cable is the single greatest source of distortion, often causing a somewhat harsh, dirty and confused sound. Solid conductors are the most important ingredients enabling K2's very clear sound. Whether a conductor is solid or stranded, skin effect is a prime distortion mechanism in speaker cables. K2 very simply keeps this effect out of the audio range by using conductor sizes that are below the threshold for audible distortion.

Metal: Extreme high-purity Perfect-Surface Silver™ (PSS) minimizes distortion caused by grain boundaries that exist within any metal conductor, eliminating harshness and greatly increasing clarity compared to all other conducting materials.
PSS has an astonishingly smooth and pure surface. Proprietary metal processing technology protects the wire's surface at every stage of drawing and fabrication. When high-purity low-oxide copper is kept as soft, pure and smooth as possible, it becomes the wonderfully low distortion PSC conductor used in many AudioQuest models. PSS's extreme transparency is made possible by applying Perfect Surface Technology to ultra pure solid silver. PSS is the ultimate example of how far this remarkable technology can take us.

SST (Spread Spectrum Technology): Any single size or shape of conductor has a specific distortion profile. Even though radially symmetrical conductors (solid round or tubular) have the fewest discontinuities, any particular size does have a sonic signature. SST is a method for significantly reducing the awareness of these character flaws by using a precise combination of different size conductors. The four different SST-determined conductor sizes used in K2 allow an exceptionally clear, clean and dynamic sound.

Dielectric Bias System (DBS) (US patent 7,126,055): Greatly improved performance is made possible by a constant 72 volt charge on all K2's insulation.
Similar to how the earth's magnetic field makes all compasses point north, the AQ DBS system creates an electrostatic field which causes the molecules of the insulation to all point in the same direction. This minimizes the multiple nonlinear time-delays. Sound appears from a surprisingly black background with unexpected detail and dynamic contrast. Because DBS battery packs are attached when K2 cables are assembled, K2 does not require any additional run-in period. Because there is no "load" on the easily replaceable batteries, they will last for years. A test button and LED allow for occasional verification of battery performance.

Double Star-Quad Geometry: The relationship between conductors defines a cable's most basic electrical values (capacitance and inductance). However, even when those variables are kept in a reasonable balance, the relationship between conductors can be varied in ways that greatly affect the sound. The Double Star-Quad construction of K2 allows for significantly better dynamic contrast and information intelligibility than if the same conductors were run in parallel. The specific 4-cross geometry used in each half of K2 maximizes this advantage. In addition, K2 is an exceptional Single-BiWire cable. When the halves are separated at the speaker end, the Double Star-Quad design turns K2 into a true Double-BiWire set thanks to the magnetic autonomy of each star-quad. When separated the Dual Star-Quads let K2 be a maximum performance Double-BiWire in a single cable.

Cold-Weld Terminations: Superior AudioQuest connectors allow K2 to be securely attached to any type of equipment. AQ ends are dull looking because there is no harsh sounding shiny nickel layer underneath the silver (or gold). The connection between the plug and conductors is made using AQ's Cold-Weld system which provides a superior connection that ensures that the structural integrity of the conductor is kept completely intact. The Cold-Weld system refers to a combination of high pressure at the point of contact and the use of copper or silver impregnated paste. (K2's silver conductors get silver paste.) A controlled amount of pressure is used to essentially make the conductor and connector mechanically "as one" without the use of heat. The silver bearing paste acts as both a silver sulfide retardant, and as well as a very effective contact enhancer. AQ's Cold-Weld system ensures a practically perfect connection