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Subject: Ribbons vs domes

Posted by [Marlboro](#) on Sat, 22 Sep 2007 10:44:35 GMT

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"The use of planars or ribbons is better for the following reasons:1) better sensitivity2) lower interference patterns in the vertical plane3) can be operated at a lower crossover point than the small neo dome tweeters"1. 30 dome tweeters have a sensitivity of 106 db. That's pretty high. 8 planar Dayton's will come in at 105. So that's a wash.2. Theoretically this is certainly true. Sonically, I'm not entirely sure that it's audible. I've not been able to find any research suggesting that it's a viable concern. Certainly neither the Pipe Dreams people nor the McIntosh people have been concerned about this enough to switch to ribbons.3. Operating at a lower crossover point is an important consideration: IF YOU ARE USING 6-7 INCH MID RANGE SPEAKERS. For off axis performance, and for the ability to adequately handle the frequencies between 1200 and 3000, having a lower crossover is very important. However if your mid range units are 3 inches, then off axis performance is less of an issue (especially in your average living rooms anyhow) and coverage in the upper midrange is already assured.-----A three way line array using (per side) 30 c-to-c .9 inch dome tweeters, 17 - 23 three inch cone mid ranges, and one 12 inch woofer is a viable way to get high sensitivity, and quality sound without using ribbon or planar speakers. It all twists on the mid ranges. If you use 6-7 inch mid ranges then you have to use ribbon/planars.Marlboro

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