
Subject: SPL meter confusion (long)

Posted by [newsjeff](#) on Fri, 19 Dec 2003 03:02:25 GMT

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I was playing around with my Radio Shack SPL meter today. I was measuring the sound in my home theater, using only the front speakers and a sub. The meter was set at 80db, C weighting, slow response. I used the Stereophile Test CD #3, tracks 17, 18 and 19. These tracks use 1/3 octave warble tones. Below are the results, with and without meter corrections done by Michael Sims of Prairie State Audio Construction Society. My numbers may not be that exact. This was actually a test before I examine my main listening room and main stereo. By the way, my home theater is 17X12 with 9 foot ceilings and hardwood floors. There are windows against my back wall (behind the TV and stereo) covered with curtains. The only furniture I have in the room is a couch. Needless to say, this is a very live room.

	Uncorrected	Corrected
76	83.5	25Hz
78.5 50Hz	73	74.563Hz
88100Hz	87	89125Hz
82	79.5250Hz	80
84500Hz	84	83.5 630Hz
81	811.25Khz	80
77.52.5Khz	79	77.5 3.15Khz
84	82.5 6.3Khz	86
-12.5Khz	-	-16Khz

83 88 31.5Hz 81 84 40Hz 76
81 83 80Hz 86
85.5 160Hz 82 81.5200Hz
84 82.5400Hz 84
81 800Hz 82 821khz
81 81.52Khz 79
79.5 4Khz 82 80 5Khz
79 87 10Khz -
-20Khz - - If you graph the numbers, there is a peak at 25Hz, a dip at 50 Hz, and another peak at 6.3Kh. A dip starts at 8Khz and continues down and off the scale from 10Khz to 20Khz. Can anyone tells me what these numbers mean? Is it normal for speakers to fall off at 8Khz on? The only room treatments I am considering are Risch DIY tube traps and HF panels. Will these help? Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.
