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Subject: Re: Damping of concrete backwall.

Posted by [Adrian Mack](#) on Fri, 14 Jan 2005 14:47:56 GMT

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Hi Kim Are you looking for room treatment for frequencies handled by the subwoofer or treatment for fullrange speakers? I think the biggest problem concerning bass frequencies in the home is room modes. Standing wave modes are impossible to rid of in any room, and occur across the entire range. There's always nodes and anti-nodes. So it affects not just the subwoofer, but full range speakers too, but the problem's are greatest in the vicinity of the subwoofers operation range. Omni-directional speakers, like subwoofers, tend to excite the most amount of room resonances too. One way to minimize the anti-effects is just place it away from a corner or wall, but that needn't be the case in all situations. You said in another post that you were concerned about absorbing all of the bass from the room. It will actually be pretty hard to do this, it takes over 12inch of concrete to block out a 30Hz soundwave. Remember though that if you're using huge bass traps or hanging other absorbtive material from the walls to fix a bad room in the subbass region, this very same treatment may tremendously absorb mid/high frequencies too. IE: It may give you a very acoustically dead room in this region, which may or may not be what you want. Personally, I like to have a reasonably reflective room as it tends to give a bit of "depth" to the music. Just for interest sakes, heres a comparison of a 100% reflective room and a more acoustically dead room from an article publised in SpeakerBuilder: I'm not sure if screwing wood to the wall would get rid of the 'boong' sound you hear when you knock it, I do think it would help to stiffen it up though so it could be worth a try. It seems like a lot of work to me though. I'd see wheather this wall actually is annoying while listening to music first. I noticed you said all your walls and floor and even the ceiling are concrete, you're going to get a tonne of bass Possibly extra room issues at the same time, however. Adrian

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