Subject: 3 Pi versus Magnepans
Posted by FredT on Mon, 30 Jan 2006 01:16:35 GMT
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The biggest difference is about 12-15dB sensitivity. The 3 Pi will play louder with a 2 watt amp than the Maggies will play with 200 watts. The Magnepan 3.6's are the best sounding speakers I have owned, but I sold them because they would clip a 110w/ch Sonic Frontiers Power 2 amp, and to my ears the smaller amps, especially SET's, sounded better. So for about $4,500 you can get one of the best speakers in the world, but you will need to spend another $10K minimum to get the amount of tube power needed to drive it. The 3 Pi doesn't have the resolution of the Magnepan, but I prefer to listen to it with my 3 watt Bottlehead Paramours over the Maggies with a monster amp. Other than that it's hard to compare them because two speakers couldn't be more different than the 3 Pi's and the Maggie 3.6's. Try to imagine two women: One is tall & thin, PHD in Economics, high $ net worth, sophisticated, enjoys opera, likes to dine at expensive restaurants, but with a personality that's a bit on the cool side. The other is short & curvey (but not fat), high school diploma, has $500 in her checking account, enjoys C&W music, likes Shiner beer and backyard barbeques, is warm hearted, and cooks the best apple pie in town. Which would you be happier with?