Subject: Re: help spend my money on an array project
Posted by AudioFred on Sun, 01 Nov 2009 14:14:43 GMT
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At any budget level the final outcome will depend on selecting drivers that are highly compatible and designing an enclosure and crossover that optimizes their strengths. I've designed and built some "buyout" arrays that sounded pretty good considering the cost of the parts, and I've built a few that were complete disasters, but it didn't matter because none had more than $300 in parts. It was worth it for the learning experience, but for anything over $1K I ask the experts for help.

It would be tragic if you spent $10K+ only to find that the "system" you had assembled included some elements whose lack of compatibility resulted in sub-optimal performance. At that budget level any diy speaker pair you build should be a world class performer, at least as good as the most expensive commerical products out there and better than most.

An experienced line array designer will be able to advise you about which combinations of drivers / enclosure / crossover design will provide the best performance. Your cost for the completed design plus all parts (minus the enclosures) will be approximately equal to the retail price of the parts, so there's really no downside.