
Subject: Going without a subwoofer.... even with smaller drivers?

Posted by [GreggoEggo](#) on Thu, 19 Nov 2009 11:24:39 GMT

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Anyone have experiences to share regarding bass coupling between multiple woofers and how an array of woofers performed in bass output that was or "sims" to be very different than one or two of said woofers in a more conventional design?

I am looking at possibly doing my own take of the dual line of woofers flanking a narrow line of tweeters (neo3) and was wondering if I could get away with 5 inch woofers versus 6 or 7 and still be able to run without a sub and not regret it. For instance, I am thinking about the SB Acoustics SB15NRXC30-8-UC which is a 5 inch woofer with an fs of 38 Hz, running 18 of them per side:

http://www.madisound.com/catalog/product_info.php?cPath=45_228_254&products_id=8675

But I would be interested in anyone's comments regarding any driver 7 inches or less in cone/surround diameter. I am sure that just about any array with 6 or more drivers with an fs of 60 Hz or less would have the potential for adequate bass response for general music via good crossover/cabinet design or via digital correction... but I am hoping to get more than adequate bass out of an array like this (for movies and music) and was curious as to any observations regarding how small drivers can perform greater feats of bass strength when allowed to operate as a team of many rather than stand alone, especially with digital correction taken to the point of delivery the great results with bass response but still not stressing the drivers to their very limits.

And finally, two points of clarification.... I did not mean to imply that good design and digital correction are exclusive to each other! And my own definition of good bass response is an "in room" measurement that shows 36 Hz no more than 2 db down and 24 Hz no more than 5 db down and I don't care about anything below that... but I would want the bass to be just as clear and dynamic as the rest of the range and compete with the top tier of commercial products out there in the high end audio world.

Regards,

Greg J.