Subject: Re: Furniture & Room Sound
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 13 Apr 2011 15:36:44 GMT
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Definitely. Most rooms are pretty lively empty. Large (padded) furniture does a world of good damping midrange frequencies and higher. Shelves can diffuse sound, which can be especially helpful along the opposite wall, where the speakers are facing.

One piece of furniture that isn't helpful is a large coffee table placed in front of the listeners, between them and the speakers. This can cause a very large midrange notch. Best to avoid that, use end tables instead.

Bedrooms are sometimes pretty good acoustically, in spite of the fact they are usually smaller than living rooms, dens or home theater rooms. The bed damps the lower midrange, prevents what would otherwise be a floor bounce notch. It's the opposite of a coffee table, in that the bed absorbs sound rather than reflecting it. It is also usually closer to speaker height, so the path length delta isn't as great. Of course, the speaker must be above the bed surface a little bit, maybe a foot or two.