
Subject: Re: Pete's Home Theater Build

Posted by [petew](#) on Tue, 13 Oct 2026 17:23:02 GMT

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Six month update here...

One of the used JBL drivers had a ton of distortion at low volume. Probably a dragging voice coil. I found three open box units at Parts Express. I went ahead and ordered all three so my front soundstage matches. Problem solved.

I calibrated the system with the Audyssey MultEQ X windows program. This is a \$200 license upgrade and worth every cent. It made a massive difference vs. standard AVR internal calibration with Audyssey.

I'm going to relocate one of the 15" sub stacks to the right side of the room, rear of the right surround. I also have two 12" HSU buyout drivers on hand and plan to build two more subs sized as stands under the left and left rear surrounds. The 15" stacks are wired in series and powered by one channel per stack of an Emotiva XPA-2 gen 2. Each 12" sub will be driven by one channel of a Rotel RB-991. These are both powerful class AB amplifiers.

I'm moving the LCR to a Rotel RB-993 three channel amp to lighten the load on the receiver amps.

My audio upgrade path is to replace the X3600H with a Marantz Cinema 30 and use the full Dirac suite. It will utilize the four subwoofers, the massive front stage and capable surrounds for its Active Room Treatment (ART). That actively cancels room modes by using every speaker in the system to cancel room modes. Impressive technology indeed.

On the video side, I plan to install a madVR Envy Core video processor. It has a lot of functions but the main two for my use is automatic aspect ratio switching and tone mapping to let my JVC projector properly display HDR content. That will breathe new life into my aging but still excellent projector, and eliminate the biggest annoyance which is aspect ratio switching.

The next immediate task is to build a proper screen with Seymour AV XD acoustically transparent material. I'll post updates as they happen!
