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Subject: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Lancelot](#) on Tue, 11 Jan 2011 07:29:35 GMT

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How many speakers would you recommend to make the movie watching as pleasurable as it can be? I'm using my computer to watch movies and I'm planning to insert additional speakers into the computer.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Adveser](#) on Tue, 11 Jan 2011 15:59:28 GMT

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Movies -> 5.2 (that's not a typo)

Music -> 2 or 2.2

In case you are wondering, the decimal numbers represent subwoofer channels. I guess the reasoning is they are not full range and thus, not a whole channel.

Adding extra speakers for the same channel for the sake of extra speakers is basically useless unless you have a very large space or are planning a huge concert.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Lancelot](#) on Tue, 18 Jan 2011 16:16:06 GMT

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So does that mean I need 5 speakers and 2 subwoofers for movies? If I can remember correctly, there was a topic here about multiple subwoofers and it is good to have at least 2 subwoofers.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Jenny76](#) on Wed, 19 Jan 2011 01:10:26 GMT

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It really depends on your taste and how much bass you want. I personally like having just one sub-woofer, but multiple can sound really cool. If you live in an apartment though, I wouldn't advice it.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Adveser](#) on Wed, 19 Jan 2011 05:10:01 GMT

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Lancelot wrote on Tue, 18 January 2011 10:16 So does that mean I need 5 speakers and 2

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subwoofers for movies? If I can remember correctly, there was a topic here about multiple subwoofers and it is good to have at least 2 subwoofers.

Yes. And you must wire them in stereo and not dual mono. The encoding of DVD will not be improved, but music will be far better that way. Just because someone has not learned critical listening skills a producer of music would know does not mean your ears and brain haven't noticed.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 19 Jan 2011 16:18:06 GMT

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Jenny76 wrote on Tue, 18 January 2011 19:10 It really depends on your taste and how much bass you want. I personally like having just one sub-woofer, but multiple can sound really cool. If you live in an apartment though, I wouldn't advice it.

The multiple subwoofer technique is done to smooth room modes, not to "make more bass". There is some information about it in the document below, last few pages (including references to several other papers on the subject):  
High-Fidelity Uniform-Directivity Loudspeakers

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Lancelot](#) on Fri, 21 Jan 2011 01:19:43 GMT

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Adveser wrote on Tue, 18 January 2011 23:10

Yes. And you must wire them in stereo and not dual mono. The encoding of DVD will not be improved, but music will be far better that way. Just because someone has not learned critical listening skills a producer of music would know does not mean your ears and brain haven't noticed.

Thanks for the confirmation. Will it make any difference for when I'm listening for music if I have a setup of 2.2 rather than just 2? I guess having a 5.2 setup for movie watching is enough if the player used for movies and music is the same.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Adveser](#) on Fri, 21 Jan 2011 03:02:52 GMT

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Lancelot wrote on Thu, 20 January 2011 19:19 Adveser wrote on Tue, 18 January 2011 23:10  
Yes. And you must wire them in stereo and not dual mono. The encoding of DVD will not be improved, but music will be far better that way. Just because someone has not learned critical

listening skills a producer of music would know does not mean your ears and brain haven't noticed.

Thanks for the confirmation. Will it make any difference for when I'm listening for music if I have a setup of 2.2 rather than just 2? I guess having a 5.2 setup for movie watching is enough if the player used for movies and music is the same.

It will make a big difference if you have the ability to output the lower frequencies flatter for music. It will be like a Bass Boost button that is smooth and not wobbly and you'll hear new things that were too quiet before that you can't get by simply boosting the bass elsewhere.

I am not sure if the amp will turn the subwoofers on in stereo and now that you mention it, it would be a good idea to check. Mine does this with a button that turns off the lowest of the lows going to the mains. I'm not sure if your system will output the subs all the time, unlike the center and surround speakers, which you usually have to use a 6 channel mode instead of stereo, but everything I've ever had ran the subs all the time.

If you are using dedicated sub amps, you aren't going to have any problems of this sort anyway.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers  
Posted by [Lancelot](#) on Wed, 26 Jan 2011 09:00:18 GMT  
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Please correct me if I'm wrong but I think that we cannot hear the sounds made from the subs but we only feel them. The lower the bass, the more we can't hear it but it would be felt if amplified.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers  
Posted by [Adveser](#) on Wed, 26 Jan 2011 21:29:04 GMT  
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Your ear can hear down to 20hz. Your ears can also pick up sound by it conducting through the inner ear bones and it can cause resonance in your body.

You are hearing it too, our ears start rolling bass off though so the conduction is more pronounced at these frequencies. That's probably because we amplify it elsewhere in the body and it has a bigger effect. Bass can physically move air like a blow dryer just as treble can feel like it is melting the hair on your ears as it screams by.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [jazzlover](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2011 03:22:03 GMT

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This is an interesting thread. I'm most curious about the 5.2 set up. Frankly it's my first time to hear about it. I'm familiar with the 5.1, wherein the audio inputs from the player are fed to the subwoofer. The subwoofer then distributes audio output to the 5 speakers.

In a 5.2 set up, how are the connections done? Secondly, is this something you assemble yourself? or is this something available in the market for people to buy for their homes?

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [Adveser](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2011 05:10:43 GMT

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You can buy an amp with multiple sub outs or you could use the A/B wiring common on most amps, for starters.

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Subject: Re: Multiple Speakers

Posted by [GoodVibrations](#) on Sat, 29 Jan 2011 21:49:37 GMT

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That's interesting that you are using your computer to watch movies and want to add speakers. I'm assuming you want the high definition available on the computer that may not be available on your TV?

I don't have an HD TV yet and I was thinking of watching movies on my computer as well. Problem with my computer is that it is in my office and I have no comfortable chairs to relax in while I watch. Plus my office is too crowded to make it comfortable for 2 people.

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