Subject: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by JakeQ on Tue, 08 Mar 2011 17:33:29 GMT
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Instead of a professional theater, we are holding our year end band, guitar and choir concert in the school's gymnasium. I've been told it's going to be too hard to set up the sound. What do you think?

Subject: Re: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by MusicJunkie on Thu, 05 May 2011 01:36:11 GMT
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Gyms are hard acoustically because they are usually so large and open. That being said, all my high school band and choir concerts were in the gymnasium. If you want to do it there you can always find a way.

Subject: Re: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 05 May 2011 14:54:23 GMT
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It isn't the "large and open" that's the problem unless you don't have enough power. It's the hardness of the walls and the fact that there's nothing in there to absorb any sound (except the people). It will sound very different once people are inside and won't sound too bad but when it's empty or if there aren't many people there, it will be way too lively. Directional speakers help.

Subject: Re: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by audioaudio90 on Thu, 05 May 2011 15:59:21 GMT
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Yes, it's the hard surfaces that make it sound terrible during rehearsal. We also had concerts in the gym, though, and once the entire school was packed in there, they absorbed a great deal and made it sound better.

Subject: Re: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by brian21 on Sun, 15 May 2011 05:17:37 GMT
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That's interesting, I remember back in high school band I also used to think it was the gym being so open that affected the sound the most. I imagine that is a common misconception. I remember

my band teacher used to freak out about the sound when we would rehearse there before the concert. I wonder if she knew much about acoustics. Now that I've learned a little more, the fact that the sound absorption is the issue makes perfect sense. No wonder our actual concerts usually turned out fine.

Subject: Re: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by Nymeria on Fri, 27 May 2011 18:52:40 GMT
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We always had our concerts in the gymnasium when I was in school. It wasn't ideal, but once the audience was seated, usually the sound turned out ok.

Subject: Re: Sound for Gymnasium
Posted by Doppler on Sun, 12 Jun 2011 13:27:15 GMT
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In high school, events such as concerts and other performances were almost always held in the gym. I also thought that it's the space being open and large that creates a difference in the sound. I wasn't aware that it's the hard surfaces that cause reverberations.
