Subject: Should I build (2 or 3) 4Pi Mains?
Posted by Maxjr on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 07:57:17 GMT
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I'm in the process of deciding how many 4Pi mains to build for my home theater. I can't decide between two or three. I can't wait to hear everyones opinions building two will definitely be cheaper, so how much better will it sound with a 4Pi center channel?

Subject: Re: Should I build Two or Three 4Pi Mains?
Posted by petew on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 12:15:17 GMT
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Give us some specifics about your room and other gear. Are you using a projector? What size is your room? How many seats?

Phantom center works well, but anyone sitting way off axis will not get the "effect". The fours have a wide sweet spot, so depending on the specifics of your setup, two may work great.

Subject: Re: Should I build Two or Three 4Pi Mains?
Posted by Maxjr on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 20:33:15 GMT
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petew wrote on Fri, 02 September 2011 07:15Give us some specifics about your room and other gear. Are you using a projector? What size is your room? How many seats?

Phantom center works well, but anyone sitting way off axis will not get the "effect". The fours have a wide sweet spot, so depending on the specifics of your setup, two may work great.

I currently have my theater setup in my living room. I have a 50" plasma, and two couches, but will be remodeling later this year and do a DIY screen with projector and individual seats. I will probably have six seats as there is normally only three of us that watch movies together on a regular basis. My room is 19' x 22' x 10'.

Do you think two 4Pis will work while I use the plasma, and add a third when I do the projector setup? I don't foresee the seating positions ever being really wide (probably 2 rows of 3 seats). Maybe I won't even see the benefit of a center with narrow setup?

Subject: Re: Should I build Two or Three 4Pi Mains?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 03 Sep 2011 03:59:44 GMT
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Our plasma TV is 50" also. The speakers are outside that, angled in as described in the "High-Fidelity Uniform-Directivity Loudspeakers" whitepaper. There is absolutely no need for a

center channel using this setup. Personally, I wouldn't even consider a center channel unless the seperation between R/L channels was greater than 20 feet.

Subject: Re: Should I build Two or Three 4Pi Mains?
Posted by tom-m on Sat, 03 Sep 2011 04:33:14 GMT
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In my opinion, I would build 4 speakers, and buy a vintage Marantz quadraphonic receiver to power them.
A fully retro system!

Subject: Re: Should I build Two or Three 4Pi Mains?
Posted by Maxjr on Sat, 03 Sep 2011 05:05:07 GMT
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Wayne Parham wrote on Fri, 02 September 2011 22:59
Our plasma TV is 50" also. The speakers are outside that, angled in as described in the "High-Fidelity Uniform-Directivity Loudspeakers" whitepaper. There is absolutely no need for a center channel using this setup. Personally, I wouldn't even consider a center channel unless the seperation between R/L channels was greater than 20 feet.

Thank you for the clear and succinct response, Wayne! I'm happy to hear this and only build two as that will reduce the costs by 50% ! I need to rereading that Hi-Fi Uniform Directivity Loudspeaker whitepaper again.

Subject: Re: Should I build Two or Three 4Pi Mains?
Posted by Danny on Sat, 03 Sep 2011 13:16:20 GMT
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Wow, that's a great room! It's like that spot was just made for your setup there. And the lighting and view are just awesome!
