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Subject: Bonus Room - bad for sound?

Posted by [FloydV](#) on Wed, 22 Feb 2012 05:20:21 GMT

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I'm attaching a picture. The roof is the part I'm referring to.

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### File Attachments

1) [DSC00219.JPG](#), downloaded 1559 times

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Subject: Re: Bonus Room - bad for sound?

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 22 Feb 2012 22:24:30 GMT

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Hi, I guess that depends on the speakers. For me with Electrostatics, that have a bipolar radiation pattern, it might be just fine. For folks with ones that are more conventional it might be a real problem. I expect Wayne might chime in on this one as it is more in his arena.

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Subject: Re: Bonus Room - bad for sound?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Thu, 23 Feb 2012 00:39:57 GMT

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I find that shape particularly bad at ceiling slap in the places where the incidence angle directs reflections from speakers towards the listener. Rooms like that are usually worst in the center of the room, where both angled sections are at right angles, as is the ceiling directly overhead. A similar situation happens in rooms with gently angled cathedral ceilings. They can make a sort of tinitus sounding ringing sound around 2/3rd the way from either wall.

An easy way to test it is to walk around in the room and clap. Do one single sharp clap and listen to the aftersound. You'll find some spots that ring really bad. That will give an indication of what I'm talking about. Then, if it's really bad, you can go a step further and put speakers where you (think) you want them, and play a recording of a similar sort of transient. Gunshot, fireworks or hand clap. A single works best, so you can listen for the ringing. Play this recording and walk around the room to see where it sounds best. You will find some spots that are better than others. You can also try different speaker placements. Naturally speakers with limited HF vertical beamwidth help a great deal.

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Subject: Re: Bonus Room - bad for sound?

Posted by [FloydV](#) on Thu, 23 Feb 2012 19:02:12 GMT

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Thanks to both of you. When someone was discussing ceilings in another post, I realized I had never even given them any thought.

I think Wayne's speakers are good at not sending sound up and down, but this room structure seems particularly bad to me. I'll do some clapping and see.

Floyd

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Subject: Re: Bonus Room - bad for sound?

Posted by [FloydV](#) on Sat, 25 Feb 2012 03:56:28 GMT

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I think we've settled on a house that has a room which is symmetrical and is a rectangle roughly 13 x 15 feet, with thick carpet.

Some time ago I read that the best room would be a rectangle with the main speakers on the shorter end. Also, that the left and right speakers should occupy the the left and right ends of a equilateral triangle, and that the best spot for the listener would be at the remaining corner of the triangle.

Additionally from what has been said, human hearing is not accustomed to sound from above. Therefore, placing surrounds in the ceiling is a bad idea.

Is that somewhat correct?

Floyd

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