Subject: How many subwoofers
Posted by Lizah on Sat, 01 Oct 2016 13:04:30 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

How many subwoofers are too many in a room? I have a friend that has different subwoofers in a room and it sounds too much like they are producing a one note tone and it's difficult to hear. He said that GIK recommended that he starts with four. Is that what the problem is?

Subject: Re: How many subwoofers
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 01 Oct 2016 14:46:19 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

More is better. Place them around the room to smooth room modes.

Going from one to two makes a huge difference. If you have two, I suggest making them flanking subs. Two to three makes a big difference in smoothness too, especially in the deepest bass, because two can be run as flanking subs and one other can be run as a distant distributed multisub. If you can use four, then place two flanking the left and right mains, and run two more distant. When using four subs, placement of the distant subs is less important than if there's just one distributed sub. Where there are just three subs, the third one really benefits from measurements to place it whereas four subs, placement almost doesn't matter. More subs than four make the sound field smoother, but you're getting to the point of diminishing returns past four.

Subject: Re: How many subwoofers
Posted by Bercle on Mon, 08 Jun 2026 08:20:19 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I don't think having 4 subwoofers is a lot to cause that issue where the sound is not clear. I think the issue might come from using different brands of subwoofers instead of picking one and getting everything from there. This is why I always go with JL Audio subwoofers, and they have always delivered tight, musical bass without making one feel uncomfortable.

Another thing that might be the issue is the way the setup is done. You can ask your friend to reposition the subs or better still get identical subs, which I would say is the best move.

Subject: Re: How many subwoofers
Posted by jtwrace on Mon, 08 Jun 2026 23:59:35 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Four properly placed and setup subs with mains is hard to even describe. It's truly THAT good!

Subject: Re: How many subwoofers
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 09 Jun 2026 02:10:10 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I couldn't agree more, Jason. You're absolutely right.

Subject: Re: How many subwoofers
Posted by George on Thu, 25 Jun 2026 18:38:03 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

jtwrace wrote on Mon, 08 June 2026 18:59Four properly placed and setup subs with mains is hard to even describe. It's truly THAT good!
You are right. Once done well, the sound quality is always topnotch.

Subject: Re: How many subwoofers
Posted by Prince on Sat, 08 Aug 2026 05:38:52 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

jtwrace wrote on Mon, 08 June 2026 18:59Four properly placed and setup subs with mains is hard to even describe. It's truly THAT good!
That's right.

It is necessary that one set them in places where they can give the best sound quality.

I wouldn't argue against having more than 4, but 4 subwoofers should be a starting point.