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Subject: Best music for testing speakers?

Posted by [Cortney](#) on Mon, 06 Mar 2017 22:13:53 GMT

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Is there some music that is better than others when you're testing speakers? If there is, what is it and why would you consider it better?

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 06 Mar 2017 23:33:03 GMT

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The best way to test speakers is with test equipment that uses a test signal. Some test signals are sequences that sound like noise, some are actual noise and some are sine waves and swept sines.

But I think you're looking for an informal "seat of your pants" test. In that case, use material you are familiar with so you already know what to expect.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?

Posted by [cwemoy](#) on Tue, 09 May 2017 17:19:30 GMT

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I'd never thought of a certain genre of music as an elaborate way of testing speakers. Like Wayne asserts, it is best to use equipment that use test signals.

Now that you've mentioned it, hip hop would probably bring out your speaker's bass.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 10 May 2017 02:59:16 GMT

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Hi, I'm with Wayne sort of. I use a computer with calibrated mic and octave analyzer. Feeding in pink noise (the program can cancel out existing ambient noise) and looking at the display. That gets the overall balance right and eliminates large nulls and peaks. Then critically listening to music I and familiar with. Usually several types. Some vocals, some just instruments and several different genres. This part can tell if the presentation spatially is good. The PC can't tell you too much about that and while the display might be flat from a power perspective it might be way off on reflections.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?  
Posted by [drake](#) on Wed, 10 May 2017 20:19:20 GMT  
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gofar99 wrote on Tue, 09 May 2017 21:59Hi, I'm with Wayne sort of. I use a computer with calibrated mic and octave analyzer. Feeding in pink noise (the program can cancel out existing ambient noise) and looking at the display. That gets the overall balance right and eliminates large nulls and peaks. Then critically listening to music I and familiar with. Usually several types. Some vocals, some just instruments and several different genres. This part can tell if the presentation spatially is good. The PC can't tell you too much about that and while the display might be flat from a power perspective it might be way off on reflections. This sounds quite complicated but I suppose this is one of those things that we all need to learn somehow. A lot of people are only content with any sound that emanates from an audio equipment. There's a great need to ensure that proper testing is done.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?  
Posted by [Jethro](#) on Tue, 20 Nov 2018 00:09:27 GMT  
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I would say, in my simple opinion, that classical music is a good way to test speakers. A classical music usually has a mixture of many musical components, like loudness, timbre, tempo, and pitch.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?  
Posted by [AcousticJack](#) on Sun, 30 Jun 2019 10:33:27 GMT  
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I have used a list of tracks in different music genres to test my speakers in the past, and it seemed quite decent. Maybe this will help you:  
<https://www.frontrunnersmagazine.com/7-best-songs-for-testing-speakers-or-headphones/>

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?  
Posted by [Kingfish](#) on Sun, 25 Oct 2020 07:33:05 GMT  
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Since a solid argument can be made that no one person or band has yet to match Pink Floyd's expertise, I would go with Pink Floyd.

Dark Side Of the Moon especially has every type of sound a person could hope for if they want to test their system.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?

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Posted by [Souldude](#) on Fri, 19 Feb 2021 09:37:33 GMT

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Electric and acoustic music might be good for testing the quality of speakers but there's no harm in trying different genres to be better assured of the sound quality. High-pitched songs are also a good tester because they'll help you know if the speakers will produce crack sounds.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?

Posted by [Csharp](#) on Sun, 20 Aug 2023 20:15:15 GMT

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Between testing equipment, different genres of music and different methods of playing the music, CD, vinyl, etc.... you should be able to test a system thoroughly.

As always, go with the cheapest method first until you're satisfied.

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Subject: Re: Best music for testing speakers?

Posted by [Strum Drum](#) on Thu, 25 Jul 2024 04:00:43 GMT

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How serious are you about this experiment? If you want to get down into the nitty-gritty, measurable testing that's backed by science, then you should focus more on the testing equipment and your room's acoustics, rather than the genre of music that you're testing. On the other hand, if you're just looking to get the most out of your speakers in a simple, but actionable way, then I suggest using the music that you most enjoy during the testing process, since that's what you're dialed into.

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