

---

Subject: Sound in basement

Posted by [Newjack](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2018 02:55:41 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I'm thinking of setting up a guitar practice room in my basement. I'm wondering if the sound is going to be horrible due to all the concrete? Does anyone have any tips for setting up a music room in a basement?

---

---

Subject: Re: Sound in basement

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2018 15:36:14 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Yes, the hard surfaces will cause problems - Room modes will be very strong. So at any position in the room, certain bass notes will be very strong and others will be very weak. The tonal balance will change in different places in the room - What's weak in one place will be strong in another and vice versa. Fixing that requires large panel dampers and or bass traps.

And the hard flat surfaces may also make the treble sound shrill. That's much easier to solve, because any sound absorbent material can fix high-frequency reflection problems. Acoustic wedges, thick furniture and carpets can all be used to damp medium and high frequencies.

So install lots of damping. And sit very close to your speaker.

---

---

Subject: Re: Sound in basement

Posted by [Newjack](#) on Fri, 21 Dec 2018 17:28:17 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi Wayne, thank you for your helpful suggestions. I'll take a look around at dampers. Would they need to be in the entire room or just the section that I plan on sitting in? I do have thick furniture in the basement, but no carpets.

---

---

Subject: Re: Sound in basement

Posted by [sawyer25](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2019 08:32:13 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Wayne Parham wrote on Thu, 20 December 2018 09:36

Yes, the hard surfaces will cause problems - Room modes will be very strong. So at any position in the room, certain bass notes will be very strong and others will be very weak. The tonal balance will change in different places in the room - What's weak in one place will be strong in another and vice versa. Fixing that requires large panel dampers and or bass traps.

And the hard flat surfaces may also make the treble sound shrill. That's much easier to solve,

---

because any sound absorbent material can fix high-frequency reflection problems. Acoustic wedges, thick furniture and carpets can all be used to damp medium and high frequencies.

So install lots of damping. And sit very close to your speaker.

This is such a good point because I have also been thinking of setting up a similar room in the basement, but not necessarily for practice. Hopefully setting it up correctly isn't going to be too costly because I only intend to use a little space.

---

Subject: Re: Sound in basement  
Posted by [Kingfish](#) on Thu, 14 Nov 2019 14:22:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

If all a person is going to do is practice in a basement, I would just go ahead and experiment. You're not only practicing songs at that point, but you're also practicing how to get the best sound in different acoustic environments.

---

Subject: Re: Sound in basement  
Posted by [Concorde](#) on Tue, 19 Nov 2019 02:59:16 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I would start with dampers on the walls and then work my way in. I'm thinking on a budget here with a little bit at a time.

---

Subject: Re: Sound in basement  
Posted by [Mica](#) on Wed, 04 Nov 2020 21:33:50 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

This is very interesting and very helpful. We are going to set up a movie viewing room in our basement. I want it to sound amazing and I would think we would have the same problems (even if it just the TV, instead of instruments). I am going to have to look into dampers. I know nothing about these.