
Subject: Acoustics in exposed brick and metal room
Posted by [Madison](#) on Wed, 26 Jun 2019 13:33:18 GMT
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The apartment is modern and gorgeous, but the acoustics are horrendous. It's an open concept living room and kitchen with exposed brick on all sides, a concrete floor, and metal plumbing hanging from the ceiling. It used to be an industrial plant I believe. I have already added many thick rugs across the space and it hasn't helped much at all. I got the television off the wall and placed it on a cabinet instead, but things are still a mess. How can I make the acoustics better? Would removing the home theater speakers make a difference? We're renting the apartment on a short-term lease of six months, so I can't making any wild changes. I can't imagine dealing with this for the next five or so months though. The walls are thick and it's nice to not hear my neighbors at all, but everything vibrates and I have to shout in order for Alexa to hear me.

Subject: Re: Acoustics in exposed brick and metal room
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 26 Jun 2019 14:16:00 GMT
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You need sound damping material and directional speakers.

Subject: Re: Acoustics in exposed brick and metal room
Posted by [Madison](#) on Wed, 26 Jun 2019 23:41:26 GMT
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Wayne Parham wrote on Wed, 26 June 2019 09:16
You need sound damping material and directional speakers.

Thank you for responding, Wayne! I thought about adding damping material, but I can't really do anything with the walls. I can hang things like acoustic blankets from the metal pipes though. I guess I'll try that next. I can also set up a clothesline of sorts and drape dampening materials off of that. That's sure going to look tacky when company comes over though. Johnnycamp5 had a thread with a picture of his setup. I think the walls were brick, there was a small window, a rug or maybe carpet, and some nice speakers (I think Pi). His area looked comfortable and lived-in but it was still classy. I've searched for that thread to see if I could copy some of his techniques as I believe our rooms are somewhat similar, but I can't find the darn thing. I just don't want our main room to look like a DIY Pinterest fail. Then again, none of us can stand the acoustics right now so we can't be too choosy.

I can definitely get some directional speakers. Our home theater system needs updated anyway. Thanks again for your help!

Subject: Re: Acoustics in exposed brick and metal room
Posted by [musicluvr](#) on Mon, 01 Jul 2019 13:56:12 GMT
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Many speaker manufacturers let you choose the speaker's finishing so at least there's that. You could also try one of those freestanding acoustic partitions. Some of them look nice. I don't know that I would spend a lot of time and money changing up a place that I was only going to be in for a short period.

Subject: Re: Acoustics in exposed brick and metal room
Posted by [Malfoy](#) on Wed, 03 Jul 2019 02:19:19 GMT
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musicluvr wrote on Mon, 01 July 2019 08:56 I don't know that I would spend a lot of time and money changing up a place that I was only going to be in for a short period.
Ditto.

Six months is not that long unless you extend your stay there. Find a better place first and then you can think of improving your home theater audio system. You might spend a lot on things you don't need after moving out.
