Subject: Home Theater for the Outdoors
Posted by Phonetic Ear on Thu, 04 Nov 2021 08:49:21 GMT
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The idea won't apply to every home because this would require additional space, such as a backyard or a lawn. Concerning the expenses, will there be a big difference between the equipment used for the outdoors and indoors? Setting anything outside feels like it's more work. I might be wrong, though. I'm interested to know if anyone here has attempted to set up an outdoor home theater before.

Subject: Re: Home Theater for the Outdoors
Posted by Rusty on Sat, 06 Nov 2021 13:52:36 GMT
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Wouldn't those projector and screen combos work? Kind of like in the dim past of movie projectors. People would take them outside and put up a white sheet to project onto it. Home made drive in theater. Old reel projectors had a resurgence for awhile and some enterprising tricksters would rig up a way to power them, projecting old burlesque movie shorts on urban buildings just for kicks. The spitfire from Poughkeepsie, hubba hubba.

Subject: Re: Home Theater for the Outdoors
Posted by LCallan on Mon, 13 Dec 2021 03:33:17 GMT
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You can definitely create a setup for very little money, and that's the way I'd go. From what I've seen, even the most expensive outdoor setups aren't that outstanding. You're dealing with the outdoors and there's a lot that's going to be out of your control. The kids will probably love it anyway.

Subject: Re: Home Theater for the Outdoors
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 14 Dec 2021 15:15:07 GMT
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Actually, outdoors, one thing in your benefit is there are no room modes. And if your setup is far enough away from buildings, then there are no early reflections. That's a significant advantage, acoustically. Of course, you'll probably need more power because space is not constrained. But that's not too difficult to provide.

Seems to me the biggest issues are the elements to deal with, like the weather, insects, etc. I assume the goal would be limited to night viewing. Might have noise problems, either from outside interfering with your viewers or from your system disturbing neighbors or violating local restrictions in some way. So I think the biggest issues aren't technical audio or video matters, but rather they are problems of regulation, interference, convenience and level of comfort.

Subject: Re: Home Theater for the Outdoors
Posted by Helen on Mon, 17 Nov 2025 14:51:51 GMT
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Oh, setting things up outside really does feel like a whole different project. My family used to help me with little outdoor setups for movie nights, and even those felt like a lot of work compared to just turning on the TV inside.

From what I've seen, the costs can be a bit higher too. Outdoor equipment has to handle weather and temperature changes, so things like outdoor-rated speakers or projectors tend to be more expensive. And then there's the extra planning for power, where everything will sit and making sure it's protected.

But people who have done a full outdoor home theatre say it can be really lovely once everything comes together. If you've got the space and patience, it might be worth looking into.

Subject: Re: Home Theater for the Outdoors
Posted by Prince on Thu, 16 Apr 2026 03:59:40 GMT
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Wayne Parham wrote on Tue, 14 December 2021 09:15
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That's the thing with setting up home theatre outside. One should make enquiries to be sure that they are not breaking any type of rule with what they plan to do. I won't want to be addressing a lawsuit simply because I gathered families and friends just to enjoy ourselves.