
Subject: I did it ! What did I do???

Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Sat, 10 Jan 2004 18:19:53 GMT

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Well, as of this morning I have my system flat, + / - 3dB from 30 Hz to 16 Khz at the listening position. I'm not impressed by the sound, though. I think I liked it better when I had it balanced by ear. Am I unable to appreciate proper response, or is flat not as desirable as I thought it was supposed to be?

Subject: Re: I did it ! What did I do???

Posted by [GraemeG](#) on Sun, 11 Jan 2004 00:05:45 GMT

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I have often wondered why so much effort is put into achieving dead flat response. Our ears' response isn't flat and varies between individuals anyway. I consider the ear to be more like a musical instrument than a measuring device - the best system is the one which is most pleasing to YOUR ear, not the one that measures flattest. Cheers

Subject: Re: I did it ! What did I do???

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Sun, 11 Jan 2004 14:14:21 GMT

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Thats funny. I have spent long periods of time getting a system perfectly flat. Didn't sound good to me either. Any of the times I did it! I was also told by some sound engineers I wouldn't like it either. I always thought the good studio monitors had a very flat response, and for that reason most people never liked them as a hi-fi speaker. Bill

Subject: Re: I did it ! What did I do???

Posted by [Bill Wassilak](#) on Mon, 12 Jan 2004 16:00:54 GMT

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I used to work in a recording studio part time years ago, and I found it takes time to get your ears listening to a system with a totally flat response, but once you get used to it, it's not so bad you can really tell on other systems that have just the BOOM and HISS to them and no mids detail. On my home system, my systems ran flat with maybe 3-6db boost on the lower freq (40-70hz) and it sounds good at least to me anyway. But for home let your ears be your guide on what sounds best to you, those are your built in instruments.

Subject: Re: I did it ! What did I do???

Posted by [hurdy_gurdyman](#) on Tue, 13 Jan 2004 03:26:40 GMT

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In my opinion, it's not as important if you have flat response or not, as it is how you achieved that flat response. If you made alterations to the speakers or the signal that causes phase problems or dynamics problems, you may have lost more than you gained in achieving that flat response. There are other things that can affect the music more than not having a perfectly flat response, IMHO.Dave :^)

Subject: Give it some time???

Posted by [Mike.e](#) on Tue, 13 Jan 2004 15:01:36 GMT

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AlsoFR, is just one of the many things to measure now that you have a great flat response why not listen to a fullrange speaker that people love, and compare it. simplicity no x over, see if it appeals. A moderately flat response I want, but I don't want to sacrifice other things to get that. The listening room affects so much.. Its interesting to hear... I plan on building a horn system in the future ,, up to 16khz like adrian macks.-) Cheers!!

Subject: Bit of of an update

Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2004 04:11:52 GMT

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After a couple of days I find that from the midrange up I like things a lot better, more balanced, more "articulate". I've also been tweaking away so I now have +/- 1 dB. There's a big peak at 125 Hz, so I'm going to fool with the first XO point (now approximately 150 Hz) to see if I can reduce the amount of EQ necessary there. I'm beginning to think that flat may be right for reproduction (as opposed to reinforcement) because the producer has EQ'd the recording so that it expresses what he intended. Maybe trying to improve on the recording by adding boost or cut where I'd like it to be is the wrong approach.
