Subject: Need help with room placement
Posted by angelmercado on Tue, 06 Jun 2006 16:09:13 GMT
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I decided to keep the altec valencias but i am clueless on room placement on these things my room is 13 x 17 i believe and i have them placed on the short wall.Can i put them in the corner i have 3 to 4 feet to play with but my sofa is up against the wall

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by SteveBrown on Tue, 06 Jun 2006 16:19:31 GMT
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Great question, I have the same kind of question, but a larger room (16 x 29). One of the things I've found, and not sure if it is related to the horn or related to placement, is that it seems hard to find a spot where a nice soundstage fixes. I can get a nicely focused central image pretty easy, but getting instruments on the sides to "let go" of the enclosure/horn has been frustrating. Seems like I can have a nice central image and then there's an instrument on the side (piano, etc) and it seems to come directly from the location of the speaker, not to the side or behind it, as it does in smaller boxes. I have tried everything from pretty much straight on, to significantly toed in (cross in front of listening position). I've also tried having the speakers pretty far apart (10 -11ft) and closer (7'), and tried pulling them further out into the room.. etc.. Maybe this is an artifact of horns (811 on top, JBL direct radiator on the bottom). I can get this to set up correctly using open baffles or regular BR boxes, but not with the horns.

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 06 Jun 2006 20:27:25 GMT
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Check it out with CARA. I've made some pretty good investigations with it, and it does a great job. The author, Dr. Thomanek, discusses it in the thread below.
Computer Simulation of Room Acoustics

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by SteveBrown on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 09:17:08 GMT
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Wayne, thanks for the link. Still, I don't understand why a proper set up is dead easy in my room

with a box speaker but not a horn.

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by angelmercado on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 11:49:40 GMT
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thanks wayne will check it out

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 13:25:36 GMT
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Could be that you need the extra energy in the reverberent field for your room, possibly more in the higher frequencies.

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by SteveBrown on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 16:01:28 GMT
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Wayne, good question. My room is the basement and the walls are concrete. I do, however, have a trap in the first reflection points on both walls and that helps sharpen the image. One thing I have discovered is that my JBL 2426+2370 combo has much better focus than the Altec 806A+811 combo. I wonder about any diffusing effect of the fins on the 811 - scatter the sound?

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 19:30:08 GMT
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My gut feeling is that the difference is mostly due to the collapsing DI of the 811 as opposed to more uniform DI of the 2370. This causes a difference of HF energy in the reverberent field.

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by akhilesh on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 20:43:36 GMT
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Hi Angel,Some rules I follow:1. Keep some space between sidewalls and back wall. (at least 2 feet each) 2. try to make an equilateral angle with the listening position. You will get maximum depth this way. Try that and see. -akhilesh

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by akhilesh on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 20:44:25 GMT
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I second that. A great program. Takes a while to program your room but when you do it gives you a very accurate analysis. -akhilesh

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by SteveBrown on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 21:05:53 GMT
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Wayne, help me, DI? What you wrote sounds interesting, can you say it again in English??

Subject: Put your left toe-in.....
Posted by colinhester on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 21:27:27 GMT
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Have you tried toe-in? Focus the speakers to cross several feet (5' or so) in front of your listening position and then move several degrees to a toe-out position. You should find a position where the depth/imaging/soundstage comes together. Also, are your speakers along a long or short wall? Try the other wall just to see if there is a difference.I don't have the Cardas site at hand, but look on their site for some good info on speaker placement, if you have not already.....Best regards, Colin

Subject: Re: Put your left toe-in.....
Posted by SteveBrown on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 22:59:08 GMT

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Thanks, Colin! I have the speakers positioned about where the Cardas site recommends - about 55" from each side, and 80" from the back. The funny thing is that the JBL horns image wonderfully, but not the 811's. So I guess the problem is solved except I like the sound of the 806 drivers better. So I guess I need to find a 2 bolt to 3 bolt adapter.

Subject: Re: Put your left toe-in.....
Posted by colinhester on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 00:34:23 GMT
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I bet Ron's got a set.....Colin

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 02:16:06 GMT
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DI is directivity index. Collapsing DI is what horns with exponential and tractrix and shapes like that have. Basically what it means is dispersion angle grows narrower as frequency goes up.

Subject: Re: Need help with room placement
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 14:28:58 GMT
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Subject: Re: Put your left toe-in.....
Posted by Russellc on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 22:14:25 GMT
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This is exactly what I have found in my similar sized room. A7 s are in the corners, toed in to a point in front of the listening position. This gave a big Image with depth.Russellc