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Subject: Looking for suggestions

Posted by [Mover Dave](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2003 17:41:08 GMT

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Hi!! recently bought some unclaimed drivers from a local re-cone shop. I have two JBL 2220's and a JBL 2240. I also have some PSD 2002's with flares left over from another project. Any suggestions on how best to use these ?ThanksDave

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Subject: Re: Looking for suggestions

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2003 00:39:31 GMT

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The JBL 2220's don't look like they'll go down real low, but then again, JBL 2205's don't go down

2ft3 tuned to 80Hz. A 5.5" diameter hole cut through a 3/4" baffle will tune it nicely. But since you also have 2240's, you might build subwoofers from them, and then just put the 2220's in sealed or bass-reflex cabinets for midbass duty. I'd probably still go with PiAlign recommendations, and use a 2ft3 tuned to 80Hz for the 2220's. I'd probably run an EBS alignment and use the same subwoofer cabinet as I normally recommend for other JBL 224x 18" woofers. So I'd say put the 2240's in an 8-10ft3 cabinet tuned to 30-35Hz. The PSD2002's will do nicely for tweeters, but if the 2220's are like the 2205's, you'll need a midrange subsystem. I think JBL is still selling 2123's, so that would work out just great.

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Subject: Re: Looking for suggestions - EBS Alignment?

Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2003 11:32:53 GMT

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Hi Wayne:I was wondering about the term EBS alignment. I have (mis)understood that the point of reflex tuning is to tune the enclosure at the Fs of the driver, to limit the cone excursion at resonance.I thought that an EBS alignment essentially said "let the driver look out for itself, I'm tuning this thing as low as I possibly can".You indicated an EBS alignment for the 2240 was 8-10 ft^3 at 30-35 Hz. Since the Fs of the 2240 is nominally 30Hz this would seem to be "normal" reflex tuning.Can you help me understand this terminology better?Thanks

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Subject: EBS Alignment

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2003 14:07:05 GMT

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The EBS alignment is a configuration that provides a response curve having extended bass, but at a reduced level. It will generate deeper bass than a maximally flat alignment and is used to increase bass extension, but is done at the expense of output in the lowest octaves. The response curve of an EBS alignment is shown below: Response from EBS alignment You can see where the alignment gets its name. Bass response is extended from peaking at very low frequency, and a region of lower output is formed - an "extended bass shelf." This and other alignments are shown on the post called "Response curves of closed vs. vented systems."

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Subject: Re: Thanks, Wayne <nt>

Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2003 16:33:24 GMT

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Tx.

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Subject: Re: Looking for suggestions - EBS Alignment?

Posted by [AstroSonic](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2003 20:42:20 GMT

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Wayne provided a 'graphic' illustration of what an EBS alignment is. I would only add that tuning still lower will produce a saddle and peak, tuning a little higher (to maximally flat) will produce a 'flat' response from the speaker, and tuning still higher will produce peaking again. The peaking is really the acoustic output from the cabinet (helmholtz resonance). IME, an alignment either side of maximally flat can yield excellent results. The advantages of the EBS alignment are that you can often gain about 10 Hz of deep bass extension, and, even though the output from the speaker is shelved down a few db, naturally occurring room lift will restore response to approximately flat. Room placement makes a big difference. The maximally flat alignments tend to sound too bass prominent due to room lift. Moving the speakers away from room boundaries (wall, corners and, yes, the floor - stand mounting) can usually help resolve this issue. Room placement is much less of an issue with an EBS alignment, and you gain some deep bass extension. In answer to your comment about tuning the enclosure to  $F_s$  to limit cone excursion at resonance consider the following: the only maximally flat acoustic (i.e., without electronic compensation) BR alignment with  $F_b$  equal to  $F_s$  is for drivers with a  $Q_t$  of 0.383. Drivers with a lower  $Q_t$  have  $F_b$  greater than  $F_s$ , while those with higher  $Q_t$ 's have  $F_b$  below  $F_s$ . The resonant blurring of the sound is easily avoided by using alignments with minimal peaking from below maximally flat and to above maximally flat. For each driver there is not one unique alignment that will produce high quality bass, but a continuum of alignments that can produce good results, from a minimally peaked EBS thru maximally flat up to those with a db or so of rise above flat. With respect to the need to damp the drivers resonance consider the following: 1) Once enclosed in a BR cabinet the driver no longer resonates at  $F_s$ . The cabinet and driver interact, producing two resonances ( $F_l$  and  $F_h$ ).

The cabinet is generally tuned to produce bass extension with minimal peaking-whatever  $F_b$  is required to do this. Note that a response with minimal peaking is only possible over a relatively limited range of cabinet volumes. To (over?) simplify, the nearest analog to  $F_s$  in a BR is  $F_h$ , where the cabinet air stiffness is added to that of the driver raising its resonant frequency. Its resonant frequency has been moved upward due to interaction with the cabinet resonant system (mainly air stiffness), and - the new resonant frequency is  $F_h$ . At FI, the port air mass has been added to that of the driver, producing a lower resonance. Hence the twin impedance peaks characteristic of BR's. This is somewhat of an over simplification but it does provide some insight into what is happening. The breakthrough of T & S was to quantitatively analyze the system as coupled resonant circuits via analog filter theory, allowing the accurate modeling of system response. With respect to damping of  $F_s$ , and the resonant booming and total distortion chaos that result when  $F_s$  is undamped consider that some very fine sounding low frequency systems have been designed using open baffles and drivers with high  $Q_t$ s. This is very similar to an IB of large volume. For most well designed drivers, if you stay within  $X_{max}$ , distortion will not be a major problem. The only BRs I have heard that had resonance problems (and were properly located in the room) were those with fairly large peaking. I recall a Cerwin Vega that developed a low frequency howl when fed white noise (not all CV's did this). The salesman about lost it. Hope some of this is helpful. Regards, AstroSonic

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Subject: Wonderfully helpful!  
Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2003 22:15:16 GMT  
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It actually makes things much clearer. Thank you \*very\* much.

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Subject: What Wunhoanglo said! Great post! (nt).  
Posted by [mollecon](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2003 01:25:51 GMT  
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