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Subject: entertainment centers and speaker placement  
Posted by [Walter Owens](#) on Tue, 27 Apr 2004 04:07:54 GMT  
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Currently our speakers are on either side of a nook, 13 ft by 3.5 ft. Tonight we purchased an entertainment center that will fill most of that space. Each speaker will probably wind up sitting in a fairly narrow space between the end of the entertainment center and the end of the nook. Instead of a corner shaped space, more of a U shaped space. I have a feeling that this could do bad things to the sound. Any advice? Should I ... 1. set the speakers as far forward as possible? 2. set the speakers all the way back to the wall? 3. get smaller speakers (one pi) and put a big subwoofer cabinet under the TV? 4. build bigger speakers (2pi towers, 10 pi) that fill the whole space? 5. put lots of damping material, (bolsters, carpet, wave traps) behind the speakers. 6. build speaker enclosures inside two of the cabinets in the entertainment center? 7. put speakers on top of the entertainment center? 8. not worry about it? 9. ask somewhere else? many thanks, Walter Owens

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Subject: Re: entertainment centers and speaker placement  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 27 Apr 2004 10:07:09 GMT  
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I'm having a hard time visualizing your room layout. Any chance you could take a photo and show it here?

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Subject: Re: entertainment centers and speaker placementm  
Posted by [Matts](#) on Tue, 27 Apr 2004 17:12:12 GMT  
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I think you're right that the space will have an effect- but it will probably take some experimenting to figure out exactly what it is. I've helped with a stereo that has speakers in a small bay window- and it helps a lot because the amp is a Decware Zen, and the speakers are Polk 10B's, which would normally be marginal with that amp. However, with the bass reinforcement the bay window gives, it sounds great. The sound is very different, though, if you move the speakers in and out of the nook by even a foot, so you'll have to experiment. Good luck with it!

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Subject: Re: entertainment centers and speaker placement  
Posted by [Walter Owens](#) on Wed, 28 Apr 2004 04:24:42 GMT  
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Yick!.....|.....S..=====..S..|....|=

|.....|.....|.....|.....|.....=.

.....|The speaker locations are indicated by the "S". The entertainmentcenter is the two rows of  
"=". The room is about 20' x 30'. At one end of the room, where the speakers are, there is a 13'  
wide area where the wall is 3.5' further back. It's just right for a big entertainment center to hold a  
big tv and the clutter of components and media. But if the speakers are right next to the  
entertainment center, then they will be surrounded fairly closely on three sides. It looks like there  
could be all sorts of resonances and reflections and stuff that might not sound good.I hope the  
picture is a little clearer now.thanks again,Walter Owens

Gotcha now, Walter. I see what you mean now. You're right that isn't ideal. But we do have to live in these spaces, not just setup our listening studios within them. So sometimes compromises have to be made. Yours is a tough one. I'm not entirely comfortable with the nook area. If the speakers are bought out flush with the wall it might be OK, but they will be in freespace. That's good in that it gets you out away from the recessed area but bad in that speakers in freespace are usually pretty anemic. One could possibly look around the room for an altogether different arrangement. You might find that the entertainment center could be placed on another wall and that the speakers could then be put in a better location. But it does look like the arrangement you have makes a neat layout, overall. You might be better served putting the speakers where you've shown, and pulling the system and speakers out so that they are flush with the wall that the nook

for you sitting where you have shown. Do bring everything forward so your speakers are flush with the wall though. It will probably look really nice if the entertainment system and speakers are all flush, creating a wall of sight and sound.