Subject: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Spinjack on Wed, 20 Sep 2006 17:55:06 GMT
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Any recommendations on quality computer audio (on the cheap)? I thought about building a pair of small FE-103E based monitors, but I'm not sure I want to wait until I can build them (since I would also have to build and amp). Plus, Fostex doesn't provide much bass unless horn loaded. So then I thought I'd just pick something up from Best Buy, but their stuff is all so cheap and cheesy (ironically enough, JBL is the cheesiest).I may ultimately do a pair of Fostex based monitors powered by a chip-amp, but I wanted to get some opinions from the peanut gallery (that's you guys) first. Any siggestions?Oh, < $100.

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 20 Sep 2006 19:31:56 GMT
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That's the direction I'd probably go. A small high-efficiency driver that doesn't require a large cabinet.

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Spinjack on Thu, 21 Sep 2006 13:32:35 GMT
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Could you recommend a compact subwoofer design/driver that would match well with the Fostex drivers? Something that might work in the 1-2cu.ft range.

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 21 Sep 2006 14:08:39 GMT
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I'd look at the HL10 from Eminence.

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Chris R. on Thu, 21 Sep 2006 19:15:47 GMT

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Funny, I'm on that same quest. My plan at the moment is to use some RS 40-1197's (cheap Fostex FE-103s) that I have and some Dayton dome tweets to make MTM config L/R speakers and use a sub with them. I'm considering preamp and amps from http://www.dckits.com/audio.htm.PartsExpress has something similar on sale for $50/pr.Chris

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by GarMan on Thu, 21 Sep 2006 19:42:07 GMT
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If you're going for cheap and easy, pick up a SonicImpact T-amp.Check out Zaph's page for mini desktop speakers.
 Zaph's

Subject: Very Cool
Posted by Spinjack on Thu, 21 Sep 2006 20:40:50 GMT
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His stipulation on teh sub-woofer may cause problems long term, though.

Subject: Thanks
Posted by Spinjack on Thu, 21 Sep 2006 21:26:14 GMT
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Thanks for the lead. A LM3886 based system was exactly what I was thinking of. The only quesiton I had was the sub, but it looks like those kits will cover that problem as well. If the speakers that GarMan recommended are less than the Fostex's, then I may go that route with the DC kits stuff. Either way, I think we have a winner.

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Spinjack on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 13:10:43 GMT
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Those drivers are extremely in-efficient. What would be the best way to drive them? Have you heard them?

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Spinjack on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 13:47:03 GMT
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Ouch. A bit expensive for what I'm trying to do. Do you have any recommendations in the $50 range? Or less?

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Spinjack on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 14:00:30 GMT
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W1238R? Its a bit big. But would still work in a 2cuft box. I like that the other one you suggested worked in a 0.70cuft box and looked like a great driver. But I'm trying to stay on the cheap (WAF).

Subject: Re: OT: Computer Audio
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 14:50:41 GMT
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The HL10 is about $100 retail. I'm sure there are cheaper drivers, but I'm not aware of them.

Subject: No Longer Sold
Posted by Spinjack on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 18:15:31 GMT
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DC Kits no longer sells their audio kits. Do you know any other similar vendors? I looked at Parts Express and didn't find the kit you were referring to.

Subject: Re: No Longer Sold
Posted by Chris R. on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 20:54:41 GMT
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That sucks! No wonder the guy isn't replying to my emails.I don't have any other sources. I forgot about those T-Amps.Those would probably work OK. I looked up the drivers for thosesmall speakers someone linked, and they are 81dB each. Way toolow, period. I'm sticking with my plans.Chris

Subject: Re: No Longer Sold
Posted by Spinjack on Fri, 22 Sep 2006 21:27:50 GMT
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I looked at the T-Amps (if we are thinking about the smae things, http://www.audiosector.com/lm3875.shtml). Definitely high quality stuff. Peter definitely has an eye for detail.I'm thinking the same thing about those drivers. Though $70 for a pair of Fostex drivers and then another $60+ for the amp to drive them plus a sub ($150+) to fill out the bottom end and it starts to get pricey for PC speakers.

Subject: Re: No Longer Sold
Posted by Chris R. on Sun, 24 Sep 2006 22:19:43 GMT
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The T-Amp I'm thinking of is $30 from PartsExpress (300-952). At least for me,I have the drivers already. They were ~$10 at Radio Shack when theycarried them. The tweeters I'm getting are Dayton neodymium domesfor $5ea. I'll have 2 leftover FE-103's when I'm done. For the sub,PE has Dayton DVC woofers for ~$25, and I already have a LM-3886 ampmade up, so I'm out an additional $70 (DVC woofer, T-amp, power supply.I have to make up an active crossover and I'm set. Let me know if you want the two FE-103s.

Subject: Re: No Longer Sold
Posted by Spinjack on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 02:00:04 GMT
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How much for the FE's?Sounds similar to what I had in mind. Three gainclone chip amps, an active x-over for the sub, two FE based monitors, and the sub. Hadn't though about tweeters for the monitors. How are you planning to do the xover to the tweeters? The xover point would be so

high, and the speakers so close to the listener, that I would think there would be an issue with blending the sound of the drivers.

Subject: Re: No Longer Sold
Posted by Chris R. on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 21:56:51 GMT
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Get with me off-forum on the drivers. tomnykds @comcast.netThe DCKits guy wrote back and said he get supply the LM3886boards and drawings but now whole kits, which works for me.The preamp kit is still available. I was going to write himback and ask about a small qty. of boards for this motly creq.Chris

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Subject: eMail
Posted by Spinjack on Wed, 27 Sep 2006 13:19:23 GMT
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Did you get my e-mail?

Subject: Re: eMail
Posted by Chris R. on Thu, 28 Sep 2006 01:43:53 GMT
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Sure. Did you get the reply?
