



Tech Talk

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Speaker-Ed 101

How to pick the right components in order to maximize your experience for every dollar spent.

It would be most appropriate to discuss speakers first, since they are, (by far) the most important element in your audio system. Pick your speakers first. Don't be afraid to spend money on your speakers. The rewards are great.

Speakers can offer a number of different sonic features. Your ears are the best tools you have with which to evaluate your speakers. In order to make a selection, you need to know what to listen for. The first thing you will notice about any speaker (when listening to music) is the range of sound produced. A full range speaker produces deep bass sounds and clear high frequencies. For less expensive speakers, the midrange lacks detail and sounds far away, or muffled. As you start to move up the line towards better quality speakers you will start to notice increasing amounts of detail in the midrange and high frequencies. You will start to hear the organic sound of the bow as it moves across the violin string, details in recordings you own that you may have never heard before!

As you move into better quality speakers you will notice an increasingly pronounced 3D effect. The sound of the speakers will appear to surround you, even though the



speakers are positioned in front of you. This is what audiophiles refer to as soundstage. To make the selection process easy, take your favourite pieces of music with you to the store. Listen for all of these elements. Range, detail, 3D imaging and soundstage. Listen to the most expensive speakers first, even if you have no intention of buying them. Compare the sounds of the different speakers with

sounds that you might hear in real life. Your ears will tell you what you want to hear!

At Gibson Sound and Vision, we have a wide range of speakers available from a few hundred dollars to thousands of dollars. Bring in your music and pay us a visit!



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