

Testing Loudspeakers

Joseph D'Appolito

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Joseph D'Appolito : Testing Loudspeakers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Testing Loudspeakers:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Getting just a bit long in tooth but a classicBy John R. Smolley
MDThis is a very solid introduction into the science/art of measuring loudspeaker performance and obtaining small signal Thiele-Small parameters. Probably not well suited to the reader w/o some background in engineering mathematics. Such readers may be better served by more of a cookbook approach as there is plenty of math and graphs on these pages, though none requiring more than solid pre-algebra level of ability.From a novice DIY perspective, my one wish is that there were more commentary about designing loudspeakers instead of simply measuring them. Dr. D'Appolito has designed many critically acclaimed loudspeakers for more than one manufacturer (Usher and Focal come to mind) and a case study or two would of added much IMO. Still a very worthwhile purchase that reviews T-S parameter acquisition, MLSSA and some basics of digital signal processing theory. Especially informative were the case studies where he shares several projects he has measured and the insights into performance gleaned is invaluable. Its a keeper for the reference shelf. Wish there were a second edition. BTW there are some more recent articles of Dr. D's on the net summarizing some of his thoughts on speaker design if interested.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent reference for indepth speaker analysisBy Cooking FoolVery solid book, nicely written. Good explanations for a difficult topic. Also consider the "Loudspeaker Design Cookbook"; it is reference in this text.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It's nice to see this classic text available again at a ...By cundareIt's nice to see this classic text available again at a reasonable price (I'd paid over \$200 for my used copy someyears ago).

D'Appolito is a superstar in the world of audio engineering (Google "D'Appolito array") and his writing here is clear, authoritative, and, frankly, the definitive statement on the topic of speaker testing. But remember, though, as one other poster notes, that this is not a layperson's casual read. You'll need at least a basic understanding of loudspeaker design to get the full advantage. If you've taken a college entry-level physics course, you can probably parse most of the text, but it helps to have a little quantitative background in audio engineering. Nonetheless, even if you don't have a math background sufficient to follow the derivations, even self-taught hobbyists and audiophiles may still benefit from Joe's conclusions and observations. After all, reading this book is like sitting at the feet of the Master.

A valuable source for the dedicated speaker builder. It covers in-depth driver testing, low frequency system electrical impedance tests, frequency response acoustical testing of single and multiple drivers, and techniques for deriving Thiele-Small parameters using both analog and PC based methods. Joseph D'Appolito clearly explains the proper way to acoustically test and measure a loudspeaker.