

definitive technology d17 review

Definitive Technology D17 Review: If you're in the market for high-fidelity speakers that deliver both clarity and depth, the Definitive Technology D17 might just be what you're looking for. This floor-standing speaker is designed to provide an immersive listening experience, whether you're enjoying music, watching movies, or playing video games. In this review, we will explore the design, performance, build quality, and overall value of the D17, helping you determine if these speakers are the right fit for your audio needs.

Design and Build Quality

The aesthetic appeal of the Definitive Technology D17 is one of its standout features. With a sleek, modern design, these speakers can easily blend into any home décor.

Physical Appearance

- Dimensions: The D17 stands at approximately 42 inches tall, 8.5 inches wide, and 14.75 inches deep. This imposing size gives it a presence in any room while still being elegant.
- Material: The cabinet is crafted from a combination of MDF and high-quality vinyl veneer, which not only enhances durability but also minimizes resonance for better sound quality.
- Finish Options: Available in a black or white finish, the D17 can suit various styles, from contemporary to classic.

Driver Configuration

The D17 utilizes a sophisticated driver array designed to produce a wide soundstage:

- Bass Drivers: Two 5.25-inch bass drivers provide deep, powerful low frequencies.
- Midrange Driver: A 5.25-inch midrange driver ensures that vocals and instruments are rendered with clarity.
- Tweeter: A 1-inch aluminum dome tweeter delivers crisp highs, allowing for detailed sound reproduction.

This combination of drivers is engineered to create a balanced audio experience, making the D17 suitable for various genres of music and audio content.

Audio Performance

When it comes to performance, the Definitive Technology D17 exceeds expectations. The sound quality is a critical aspect for any speaker, and the D17 shines in several areas.

Soundstage and Imaging

- Wide Soundstage: The D17 creates an expansive soundstage, allowing listeners to feel as though they are part of the performance rather than just passive observers.
- Imaging: The precise placement of sounds within the soundstage is impressive. Instruments and vocals are distinctly separated, making it easy to identify each element in a mix.

Frequency Response

The frequency response of the D17 is rated at 30Hz to 30kHz, providing a full range of sound that caters to both deep bass lovers and those who appreciate high-frequency details.

- Bass Performance: The dual 5.25-inch drivers deliver substantial bass that can easily fill a room. The low-end is tight and controlled, avoiding the muddy sound often associated with larger speakers.
- Midrange Clarity: Vocals are rendered with precision, making dialogue in movies clear and engaging. Instruments also receive the attention they deserve, enhancing the overall listening experience.
- Treble Extension: The aluminum tweeter ensures that high frequencies are crisp and airy, adding sparkle without being harsh.

Dynamic Range

The D17 excels in dynamic range, allowing it to handle both quiet passages and loud crescendos with ease. This capability is crucial for movie watching and live music recordings, where the volume can fluctuate dramatically.

Setup and Connectivity

Setting up the Definitive Technology D17 is a straightforward process, making it accessible even for those who may not be audiophiles.

Placement Recommendations

- Room Positioning: Ideally, the speakers should be placed at least a few feet away from walls to avoid bass reflection and enhance sound quality. Corner placement should be avoided for optimal performance.
- Height Considerations: The tweeter should be at ear level when seated for the best listening experience.

Connectivity Options

The D17 features standard binding posts for easy connection to your amplifier or receiver. It's compatible with various audio setups, whether you're using a traditional stereo system or integrating it into a home theater.

Comparative Analysis

To truly appreciate the Definitive Technology D17, it's helpful to compare it to some of its competitors in the same price range.

Versus Similar Models

1. Klipsch R-625FA

- Sound Quality: The Klipsch offers a brighter sound signature due to its horn-loaded tweeter but may lack some of the D17's bass depth.
- Design: The Klipsch has a more traditional look, which may appeal to some users but lacks the modern flair of the D17.

2. Polk Audio RTi A9

- Bass Response: The RTi A9 has larger woofers, providing a more pronounced bass response, but the D17 offers a more balanced sound overall.
- Price Point: Both speakers are similarly priced, but the D17's build quality may edge out the competition.

3. Bowers & Wilkins 603

- Detail and Clarity: The B&W 603 is known for its excellent detail, but its higher price point might not justify the differences for all listeners.

Value for Money

At its price point, the Definitive Technology D17 offers exceptional value. Here's a breakdown to consider:

- Performance: The combination of design, sound quality, and build materials make the D17 a robust choice for audiophiles and casual listeners alike.
- Versatility: Suitable for music, movies, and gaming, the D17's versatility enhances its value proposition.
- Longevity: With durable construction and timeless design, these speakers can be a long-term investment for your audio setup.

Final Thoughts

In conclusion, the Definitive Technology D17 Review highlights a speaker that impresses on multiple fronts. Its stylish design, impressive audio performance, and overall value make it a formidable contender in the mid-range speaker market. Whether you are a music lover seeking rich sound or a movie enthusiast craving an immersive audio experience, the D17 has the capabilities to satisfy your needs.

If you're considering an upgrade to your audio setup, the Definitive Technology D17 deserves a spot on your shortlist. With its blend of aesthetics, performance, and durability, it stands out as a solid choice for anyone looking to enhance their listening experience.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the standout features of the Definitive Technology D17 speakers?

The Definitive Technology D17 speakers are known for their high-quality sound performance, featuring a 1-inch aluminum dome tweeter and a 5.5-inch BDSS driver, which provide a balanced and immersive audio experience. They also have a sleek design that fits well in various home environments.

How do the D17 speakers perform in terms of bass response?

The D17 speakers deliver impressive bass response thanks to their BDSS technology, which enhances the bass output without needing a separate subwoofer. Users often report a rich and deep low-end that complements a wide range of music genres.

Are the Definitive Technology D17 speakers suitable for home theater setups?

Yes, the D17 speakers are highly suitable for home theater setups. Their ability to produce clear dialogue and impactful sound effects makes them a great choice for movie enthusiasts looking to enhance their viewing experience.

What is the build quality of the D17 speakers like?

The build quality of the D17 speakers is excellent, featuring a robust cabinet construction that minimizes vibrations and enhances sound clarity. The premium finish and attention to detail in design also contribute to their overall aesthetic appeal.

How do the D17 speakers compare to other models in the Definitive Technology lineup?

Compared to other models in the Definitive Technology lineup, the D17 offers a great balance of

performance and price. It sits in the mid-range category, providing similar quality to higher-end models while being more accessible to budget-conscious consumers.

What are users saying about the installation process for the D17 speakers?

Users generally find the installation process for the D17 speakers straightforward. They are designed to be user-friendly, and many appreciate the included documentation that makes it easy to set them up, whether for stereo or surround sound configurations.

Are the Definitive Technology D17 speakers worth the investment?

Many reviewers believe that the Definitive Technology D17 speakers are worth the investment due to their excellent sound quality, build quality, and versatility. They provide a premium listening experience at a competitive price point, making them a popular choice among audiophiles.

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