

Is Your Speaker Equipped With Audio Adjustment

When choosing a speaker brand or model, and an enclosure for it, you should consider the following....

Ideally look for speakers with tuning capability, and Enclosures or Mounts specifically designed for the speaker you want to use. If the only option is a 'Universal' type of enclosure then keep in mind there is more chance you will be reliant on needing to tune your speaker to get good sound. Whereas dedicated enclosure & mounts can tailor the design more for a specific speaker typically leading to overall better performance out of the box, and less need for tuning.

Regardless of the enclosure though, picking a speaker that has EQ adjustments is always just a better option in the long run. As you will likely want to make some adjustments for personal taste. If your speaker has no audio adjustments, you will be stuck with the sound quality as is.

Why Tune Your Speaker

Your installation will not be in a perfect controlled environment like our test labs when we design these products, so you will most likely have to make adjustments to the speaker to get the best possible sound in your space, and that sounds best to you.

Every space has unique acoustics that the manufacturer of the speaker or mount can not take into consideration in the product design or installation instructions. This includes our Terrapin Garden and Architectural series speaker enclosures as well.

Audio Tuning Options

Each system or speaker will vary as to what, if any, tuning options are available to the user. So we can't provide detailed directions to you here, instead refer to your specific speakers manual or app for more info.

But here are a common options offered:

- No EQ - Some speakers on the market simply do not have a way to adjust the EQ or tuning.
- Limited EQ - Some smart speakers on the market only offer basic functions like Bass Boost or Limit.
- Basic EQ - Standard Treble & Bass sliders for simplistic EQ tuning.
- Preset EQ - Advanced EQ options where you have a list of possible setting (eg. Vocal, Rock, etc)
- Auto-Tuning - Built-in microphone on the speaker itself can auto-correct for acoustic issue*
- Auto-Tuning Plus - In addition to the auto-tuning mentioned above, the app may offer further manual EQ.*
- Advanced Calibration - Utilizing the app and your smart devices microphone, it auto sets EQ & more.*

*Auto Tune/Advanced Calibration Notice - If your speaker is going outside, some advanced auto-tuning may not function properly due to the outside ambient noise levels. In this case, your options is to manually tune it with just the EQ built in, or wait for a quiet calm day to auto-tune. You can also bring the whole enclosure/speaker combo into a more controlled quieter area and perform the tuning there. While not perfectly accurate, its better than not tuning it.

What/How To Tune?

With any speaker/enclosure combination, install the parts and just listen to the speaker without making any changes from the default settings. Listen to whatever music you would normally listen to everyday, next try a few different tracks from other genres that you might play occasionally. You should get a sense immediately if anything sounds too boomy or if it's hard to hear vocals clearly. If it sounds good to you, you're good. If not, then look to your speakers app or documentation, or Google for how to correct for the problem you have with your specific speaker make/model. Adjustments are all up to your personal taste, but are limited to the functions your speaker offers... here are a few helpful tips to help you determine how/what to tune:

Sound is Too Boomy? Look for settings like 'Bass Reduction' and enable it, or if it has a 'Bass Boost' make sure it's off. Additionally you can look for a Bass slider and simply turn it down a little. If you have more advanced speaker settings like preset EQ options or Auto-Tune then try those.

Vocals Not Clear? This can also be solved sometimes by using the Bass controls discussed above, by removing some bass your speakers vocals may sound clearer. Otherwise look at options like EQ presets called 'Vocals', you could also try settings like 'Loudness' or 'Night Mode' to help balance the highs and lows. Simply turning up the Treble control slider a little can also help. If Auto-Tune is an option then that may be your best bet.

DISCLAIMER

Terrapin shall not be liable for improper use, installation, etc and must be held harmless for any damage, injury, undesired operational effects that may occur from not following installation and/or safety information provided with this product. Use common sense when installing or using your products, it is your responsibility to consult with necessary professionals to ensure this product is installed and operates properly, specifically in regards to your local codes and regulations.