

# soundbites

## TRACK AUDIO FLOORSTANDING SPEAKER STANDS. FROM £650.00

As their name suggests, most floorstanding loudspeakers stand on the floor. However, this is not always the best way of siting them. Floors can bring a multitude of problems into the world of hi-fidelity audio. Most UK homes have suspended wooden floors. These can interact with 'speakers to produce sonic effects ranging from deep thrumming bass notes to a muddy and indistinct sound. The listener will usually blame some aspect of the equipment for this when in fact it may well be the surface that the speaker is standing on that is the culprit.

Buckinghamshire based Track Audio have developed stands which should overcome the problem of mounting a speaker in isolation from its surroundings, and detaching it as much as possible from acoustic interaction

with the floor beneath it.

These stands are beautifully engineered pieces of CNC machined aluminium plate available in a range of sizes to suit the majority of speaker footprints. Underneath are adjustable spikes made from high quality stainless steel, which have a threaded adjuster and a locking ring. Holes are provided around the edges of these into which a stainless steel pin can be inserted to rotate the adjusters. A circular spirit level is thoughtfully fitted to the front left of the top plate.

The spikes contain a hydraulic damper system to further isolate the speaker. Unwanted resonance from the cabinets is converted into heat, rather than being transmitted to the floor of the listening room. A set of pads to be fitted to the bottom of the speaker cabinets in place of the original spikes are also provided.

I tried these stands under both my Kelly KT3s and Boston Acoustics A

360 speakers.

The effects on both pairs of speakers was dramatic. The bass seemed to suddenly gain new levels of depth, clarity and tunefulness. It was more precise in its form and shape. Treble seemed smoother, more detailed and to reach higher, while the midrange opened up to reveal previously masked colours and textures in the music.

A fringe benefit was a big reduction in the bass noise transmitted to adjoining rooms of our house (and probably to the neighbours house as well).

With prices starting at £650 for a pair, these stands are not cheap, but the engineering of them is first class, and a few minutes spent listening to the sonic benefits that accrue shows they are work well and are a worthwhile upgrade to your system. **T.B.**

+44 (0)1494 723755  
[www.trackaudio.co.uk](http://www.trackaudio.co.uk)

