

# Monitor

review

## Eltax talented all-rounders

Eltax's Monitor VII's have a hard job. The market for entry-level floorstander speakers is viciously competitive, yet the limited budget makes it hard for a manufacturer to produce a truly distinctive product.

.. The 80 cm-tall cabinet features rounded front corners ..while the twoway driver complement of 25mm soft-dome tweeter and 13cm coated paper mid/bass driver are typical of the price-band.

The Monitor VII's prove unfussy about positioning. Place them around 50cm out from the rear wall be tonally even. A touch of toe-in helps to firm up the stereo image, but providing the speakers aren't too far apart this isn't essential.

Biwire the VII's for the best performance, as this has a distinct impact on clarity, dynamics and low-level resolution.

Pamper these floorstanders and the reward is an insightful and cohesive performance. The vocals on Jill Scott's *Words and sounds: Volume1* are articulate and packed with emotion while the taut rhythms of Prince's *When Doves Cry* are handled with precision and snap.



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### Eltax Monitor VII



**For** Informative, well-balanced sound; build quality

**Against** The strong competition; restrained dynamics

**Verdict** The Monitor VII's are solid performers at a highly competitive price point, but have strong rivals.



Refinement is equally good, with the soft-dome tweeter doing its stuff in an informative yet civilised manner. Only when it comes to ultimate detail and the last percentage point of dynamics do these speakers fall behind the very best.

Still, the Monitor VII's are talented all-rounders that'll work well in most budget set-ups, thanks to their even-handed style, 90dB/W/m sensitivity and reasonable 4-8 ohm impedance. The looks may not be distinctive but the sound certainly is.

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