



## SUBWOOFER OF THE YEAR REL Serie T/7x

**T**he REL T/7x uses the popular configuration of front-firing active driver with down-firing passive radiator; in this case a 200mm 'FibreAlloy' long-throw unit with an inverted alloy dustcap housed in a steel chassis, and a 250mm long-throw unit with its own inverted dustcap. This is driven by a 200W Class AB amplifier and includes the usual Neutrik speaker-level connector alongside the regular line level inputs. REL also has an optional 'Arrow' wireless connection that can be used with the T/7x. The cabinet is no longer a equal-sided cube; its stubbier look isn't just decorative, though; although it looks smaller, cabinet volume has been improved slightly over its predecessors.

Set-up remains the same for audio purposes; use the Speakon cable and high-level input, with the cables connected to the left and right positive and a single negative

terminal of your power amplifier. Now use a vocal recording and dial the subwoofer down until it is just past audibility. Then confirm with a record with good bass. In hi-fi, a good sub should be seen and (almost) not heard!

In test, Alan Sircom thought the T/7x has a lot to offer audiophiles; "What the T/7x does is introduce some extra speed and weight to the bass, the sort of performance normally expected from more upmarket models in the line. Weight here is a difficult subject, because the Serie T/7x does not make a small speaker seem 'weightier', just 'bigger' and more importantly 'better' across the midrange." He also said, "Switch the sub off and seemingly not a lot happens to the sound, but the sound also collapses and becomes insubstantial. Put it back in and the bass is not overt or oppressive, in fact it's almost not there, but the way the T/7x delivers that 'almost not there' bass makes all the difference."

However, where Alan thought the REL was at its best was delivering fast-paced bass; "Few do bass depth and bass speed like this subwoofer at anything like the same price, and for that alone it deserves very high praise because that means the REL sub can keep up with fast musical transients played through equally fast and reactive loudspeakers." +

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