

# The FOX View

## Coming Attractions:

- While 3D technology is still in its infancy **Onkyo** once again takes the initiative by introducing their newest A/V Receivers with HDMI v1.4! Thus, while you may still be debating whether to take the plunge into the realm of 3D-capable video products, **Onkyo** already has you covered on the audio side-of-the-house! What's even more amazing is that **Onkyo** is able to offer their new A/V Receivers at last year's prices!

(To learn more about these great products please "click" • [Electronics under the Products area of our menu](#))

## Feature Presentation:

### "What's the Point?!"

- Does having or integrating "spikes" and/or <cone-points> to the bottom of your speakers yield better sound? There are actually several reasons to employ "spikes" and/or <cone-points> on the bottom of your speakers: aesthetics, vibration control and acoustics. Let's discuss the latter of these first.
  - **Acoustics:** From the standpoint of physics, by mass-coupling your speakers to the floor through the use of "spikes" you are in-effect allowing all the energy expended by the drivers to create sound – which is exactly what you want! In other words, acoustic energy is not transferred through the speaker-enclosure and subsequently wasted and/or dissipated through to the floor. Theoretically by keeping energy contained within the speaker-enclosures facilitates more accurate and effectual enactment of said energy upon the drivers thereby creating more accurate sound reproduction.
    - Unfortunately if the "spikes" are more (rounded) or aren't very sharp, regardless if you use (discs) to protect hard-floor surfaces, the acoustic benefits may be diminished.
  - **Vibration:** The real difficulty in trying to deal with vibration, or more accurately vibration isolation to improve your audio system is that circumstances can vary greatly from system -to- system and room -to- room. The choice of loudspeakers, their location, and the listening position can often have a larger effect upon the sound quality than simply employing the use of "spikes". In some cases "spikes" and/or <cone-points> may be desired to give a better 'grip' to the floor, (i.e., the ability of the "spikes" to pierce carpet and/or floor-coverings in order to reach the subfloor). In other cases some damping may actually be desired, so soft, more elastic materials may be preferred.
    - Unfortunately when it comes to loudspeakers and "spikes" any specific recommendation may be fine in some cases, but offer poor results in other circumstances. Your best bet is simply to experiment!
  - **Aesthetics:** For many "high-end" loudspeaker Manufacturers integrated speaker "spikes" are actually considered in the design of the enclosures themselves, and sometimes a choice of "spikes" are in fact offered as an option or upgrade! After market "spikes" are also available from a number of "high-end" Accessory Manufacturers to such a degree that you can quite literally match any speaker to any room décor!
    - Unfortunately some loudspeaker "spikes" and/or <cone-points> accessories can sometimes greatly exceed the value of the actual sound-quality improvement they purport to provide. Exotic materials and exaggerated claims are hard to quantify in the real world so like many of life's little axioms if it appears too good to be true – it probably is!

## Closing Credits:

- Many "high-end" floor-standing speaker Manufacturers tend to include "spikes" with their speakers or they're already integrated into the enclosures/cabinets so the use of such speaker "spikes" and/or <cone-points> clearly offers advantages to the End User because it helps to isolate and/or de-couple the speakers from the floor – any floor. Typically the most notable sound-improvement you'll perceive from the use of "spikes" and/or <cone-points> is "tighter", "deeper" Bass!

## Trailers:

- There are many audio, (and video), Accessories out there all touting to improve various aspects of your audio and/or home theater system, however, while Fox View Network (FVN) has access to a wide variety of these Accessories we would advise caution before making any such purchase because we always and only want our Customers to get the best from their audio and/or home theater systems so please ASK! Take advantage of our expertise, it could be that a simple no-cost solution will easily satisfy your needs. This is not to say that all audio and video Accessory so-called "improvements" are without merit, but like a lot of things sometimes these audio/video Accessories are more hype than help to you system!

