

## Professional Home Theatre Design - A Balanced Approach

### The Four Goals:

1. Balance - The sound, lighting, video, ease of use, and comfort should complement each other
2. Performance - Regardless of budget, the performance can be maximized with proper system design and calibration
3. Appearance - Don't just throw the equipment in a room and "hope for the best", aesthetics play an important part in the overall experience
4. Ease of Use is Essential. Anyone should be able to use the system with little or no instruction. Period.

### The Eight Elements:

1. The Chair - Where many mistakes are made. The wrong chair can destroy the sound imaging and surround envelopment
2. The Room - When possible, the room dimensions are adjusted so the acoustics of the room itself are maximized. Acoustic treatments are employed as required
3. The Equipment - Must match the room size, budget, performance expectations, and allow the system to be easy to use. The brand name is no indication of any of this.
4. Optimal Placement of Equipment and Seats - Acoustic modeling software, physics, math and experience are combined to put your ears where it sounds the best, and your eyes where it looks the best
5. System Calibration - An audio analyzer, color analyzer, multi-meter, and experience are combined to maximize the performance of the equipment and the room. Elements are adjusted to conform to established industry standards.
6. Software - Used during system calibration, the proper sources for sound and video are required to ensure the best performance possible
7. User Interface - Ease of use is crucial. A system that is hard to use is unacceptable.
8. Long Term Reliability - Not all equipment is created equally. Using well known "brand names" is no guarantee of reliability or satisfaction.

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*Our first "real" home theatre! What a project to undertake, when you know little about what is needed. Luckily, we stumbled across Mike Ohman of beyondAUDIO in Kelowna. His professional, highly knowledgeable and most of all honest approach helped us navigate through some tough decisions.*

*Mike made sure we were spending money wisely and not wasting it on items that would ultimately not benefit the experience or quality.*

*The image quality and size of screen is perfectly arranged to the size of the room. The result is stunning and we use our theatre many times a week. But the sound, I will only describe with one word: AMAZING!*

*Thank you for your excellence.  
Josef and Erica Reschreiter  
Vernon, B.C.*

