

“An **ABSOLUTE GEM**
of a system.”

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Best Buys
SPEAKERS AMPLIFIERS AND RECEIVERS

“This Paradigm LCR-350-based system has it all – deep, thunderous bass response, a clean, balanced, neutral-sounding midrange and a crisp, extended top-end sound.”

This system comprises Paradigm models that are also available separately: a pair of LCR-350 mains, a CC-350 centre, a pair of ADP-350 surrounds and a PS-1200 powered subwoofer.

EQUIPMENT

Paradigm’s LCR-350 is a particularly flexible speaker, because it can be mounted vertically or horizontally, and can even be used as a centre channel speaker. As you can see from our photograph, it’s a three-driver two-way, with two 165 mm polypropylene-coned bass/midrange drivers arrayed either side of a 25 mm pure titanium dome tweeter, D’Appolito fashion. Like all speakers from this Canadian manufacturer, the drivers are manufactured in-house by Paradigm. The ‘see-through’ bass/midrange driver cones are an injection-moulded co-polymer polypropylene and attached to high-temperature Apical voice coil formers. The cones are suspended from die-cast aluminum frames via a butyl roll surround. The driver is a tried and proven design that’s used in a great many Paradigm

models, including the CC-350 and ADP-350. Although Paradigm rates this driver with a diameter of 165 mm, the effective cone diameter is only 122 mm, which gives an effective cone area (ECA) of 116.9 cm².

The LCR-350’s tweeter is also a long-running design from Paradigm that’s also used in a great many Paradigm speakers including, surprise, surprise, the CC-350 and ADP-350. It’s a 25 mm dome unit that uses a pure titanium dome and also a uranium voice coil former. We have gone into considerable detail about the LCR-350 because the CC-350 uses an identical driver complement and crossover. Only the cabinet is different, being somewhat smaller (12 litres, as against 15 litres for the LCR-350) and differently shaped. The ADP-350 also uses identical drivers: two bass/midrange drivers and two tweeters. Why can’t you see them on the front panel? Because one woofer and one tweeter are on the rear panel. In fact, the rear panel of the ADP-350 is a mirror image of the front baffle. Obviously, the speakers are designed to be mounted on side walls.

LCR-350



"... beautifully detailed, and highly dynamic. ... articulation was excellent ... very easy to understand dialogue."

The PS-1200 is everything you could desire in a high-powered subwoofer. It has a single 310 mm bass driver powered by an amplifier rated at 130 watts RMS. The amplifier has thermal protection, soft-clipping circuitry and automatic power on/off switching so once you've positioned it in your room, you can forget about it forever.

"The imaging possible from just the two LCR-350's is nigh on holographic."

PERFORMANCE

This Paradigm LCR-350-based system has it all—deep, thunderous bass response, a clean, balanced, neutral-sounding midrange and a crisp, extended top end sound. The sound was so impressive that it seems somewhat churlish to point out the system's only minor limitation, which is that the sound from the CC-350 loses its otherwise neutral sound when auditioned from off-axis positions. However, for a typical three-seater lounge at a normal viewing distance, all listeners will get a balanced sonic perspective.

Sound from 5.1 DVD movie soundtracks was beautifully detailed, and highly dynamic. System articulation was excellent, so it was very easy to understand dialogue. The sound was so good that we imagined



CC-350

Paradigm had optimised performance for movie soundtracks until we listened to the system's performance with an ordinary CD, and found this also to be exceptional. It seems that good design is good design, period. The imaging possible from just the two LCR-350's is nigh on holographic.

"The PS-1200 is everything you could desire in a high-powered subwoofer."

CONCLUSION

Finally, a Home Theatre system that not only provides superb sound from DVD 5.1 channel soundtracks, but from stereo CDs as well. An absolute gem of a system.

"The sound was so good that we imagined Paradigm had optimised performance for movie soundtracks until we listened to the system's performance with an ordinary CD, and found this also to be exceptional. It seems that good design is good design, period."



PS-1200



ADP-350