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RESONUS ERIS E5 ACTIVE STUDIO MONITOR



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When I hear PreSonus I think of awesome preamps and digital mixers, so I was surprised to hear that they're now entering the realm of studio monitors. This is quite a brave move from their part, as this is a market which is already flooded with entry level monitors, but time will tell how they fare against the competitors.

The Eris E5's which I'm reviewing are the smallest of the range, but if you need something with a little more 'oomf', there's also the 8 inch E8.

Anatomy

I really like it when I look at the back panel of a monitor and I can understand what each knob and switch does without having to read the manual. So often the settings are so encrypted that you need to take out the manual and decipher the settings with fear of blowing the thing up. But PreSonus have taken a very pragmatic approach to the various switches and knobs, which is great.

Most monitors have an output gain knob, but this one has 'input gain' which allows you to control the level of the source coming in, rather than the level of the sound going out. This helps to attenuate any noise that may be coming from the signal source.

I really like the 'Acoustic Space' switch which compensates for different room environments. If you have your speakers setup against the wall at an angle towards you, you use setting A. If you have them pointing straight on, and close to the backwall, you use

They have plenty of volume on tap and when I cranked them loud the lows became easier to mix, and I was impressed with how tight the bass was even under high volumes. But I had to endure some pretty hectic mids and highs while mixing the lows and found that my ears took a bit of a hammering.

I wasn't expecting much bass response in entry level 5 inch monitors at low volume, but paired with my sub it was actually really nice to mix with, because I could turn the gain down a bit and still hear the low end.

I'm not used to mixing with such prominent mids and highs, but there were elements that I could pin-point easily in the higher frequencies that I normally would have noticed on my current monitors, but my ears got fatigued a lot quicker than usual.

Who Should Get Them?

Someone who doesn't have the luxury of a treated studio environment, but wants to produce quality music in the room that they have. If you save up one day and get professional monitors you could always keep the E5s as a reference.

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setting B. And lastly, if you have them straight on but the backwall, you use setting C. The E5's are the perfect monitors for the not so perfect

Verdict

The E5's are the perfect monitors for the not so perfect

clever feature, as it takes into account that not everyone buying these monitors will have the best studio acoustics. The Eris E5 Active Studio Monitor

PreSonus Eris E5 Active Studio Monitor

EDITOR'S CHOICE: VIDEO



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Customised by Terri Love Designs

Dynamic 'controls allow you to tailor the frequency response to your taste. The Eris E5 Active Studio Monitor has a frequency response of 20Hz to 20kHz. The Mid control is a peak filter that boosts or cuts frequencies centred around 1kHz. There's also a Low Cut-off three-way switch.

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There's also a Low Cut-off three-way switch, which is useful if you're going to be using different sources. All Rights Reserved.

Hardwell tour hits today – line-up time announced

Eris E5 – R 4,600.00 / pair

Eris E8 – R 7,398.00 / pair

Supplier: Tuerk Music | (011) 792-8402

There are also three input options: RCA, jack or XLR which is very useful if you're going to be using different sources. All Rights Reserved.

How Do They Sound?

Overall, I found that the Mids and Highs were very prominent, bordering on harsh, and I would've enjoyed a bit more presence in the low end [they are 5 inch woofers! Ed].

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