MrSpeakers

Tuning Dot Placement Guide

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This tuning guide is intended to help you optimize your Alpha Prime, Alpha Dog and Mad Dog Pro treble response.

The enclosed measurements were made on one of our master Alpha Prime headphones, but the relative changes are similar across all our headphones.

MrSpeakers' tuning dots can be used in combinations of 1, 2, 3 and even 4 dots on a driver to create different tunings and many combinations are possible.

As you will see, patterns that are symmetric measure the same, but they may not sound the same to you due to how your ear interacts with the headphone's "air cavity." As such, these comments are general and your experience and preference may vary.

In this guide we do not discuss all possible tunings; only those we feel are of the greatest general interest.

Important note: Headphones do not measure like loudspeakers, and "flat" response does not create a "flat" curve on the test fixture. Our test fixtures are extremely accurate and the results are repeatable.

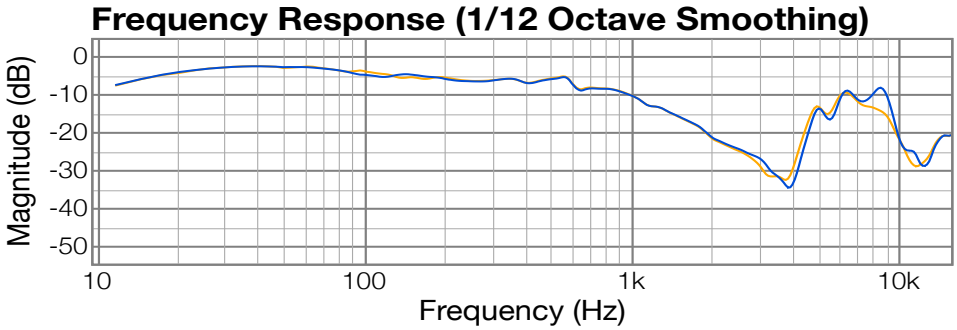
1) The Default Configuration shows our standard tuning (orange for this and all subsequent graphs) compared to no dots at all (blue).
EFFECT: Default tuning creates a small increase in the 3.5-5KHz regions, followed by a decrease in output from 7-14KHz.

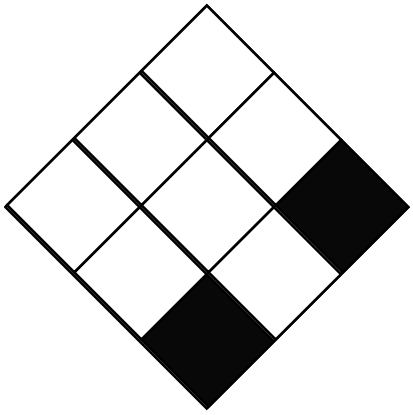
Removing the dots adds more mid and upper treble, it also produces a small peak around 8.5KHz which can emphasize sibilance in some recordings. For people preferring a brighter tone, this is a possible tuning. Should it induce sibilance, you may also consider configurations 32-34.

2) Configurations 16-19 are similar and really nice, this was seriously considered as a default.
EFFECT: 1-3dB increases from 7-9KHz, without a peak. 1-2dB decreases in output above 13KHz. This configuration creates slightly brighter cymbals and overtones on strings.

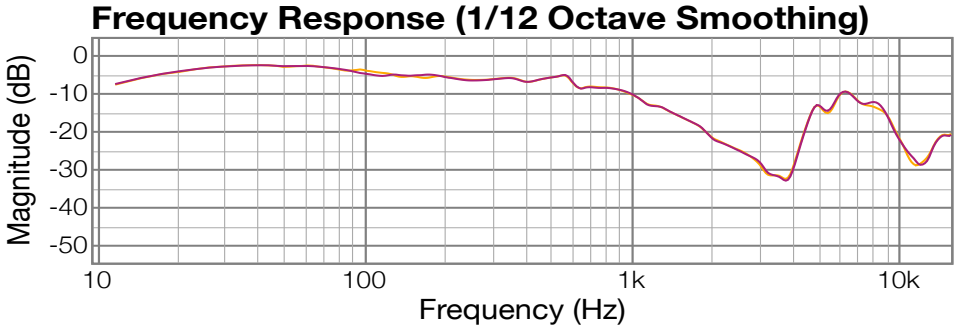
3) Configurations 26-31 creates a slightly darker sound.
EFFECT: This configuration brings the whole top-end down 1-3dB. It is ideal for use with bright electronics or at higher volumes. This may sound excellent on some amps but on warmer tube-amps it will probably lack clarity.

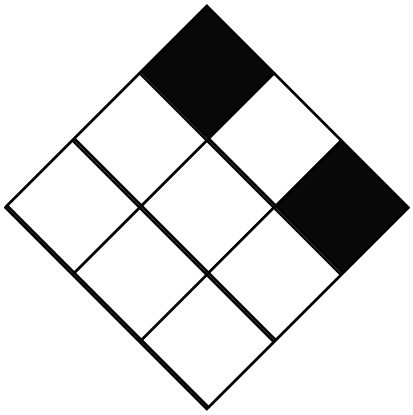
4) Configurations 31-36 provide a mild increase in brightness. EFFECT: These tunings tend to boost the 7-9KHz region about 1-2 dB, without creating a sibilant peak. For slightly brighter highs these are the recommended tunings.



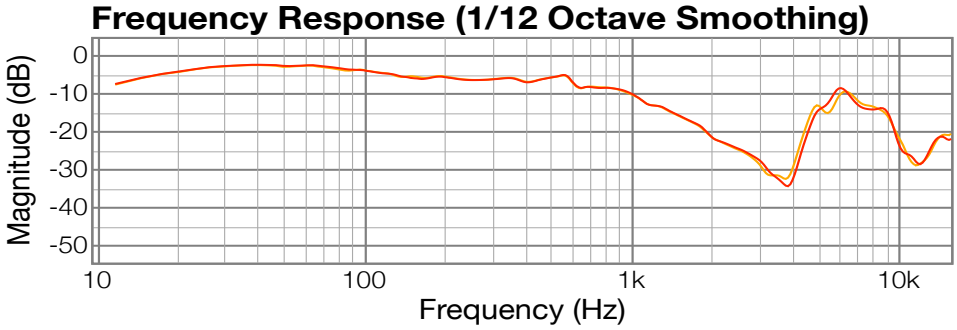


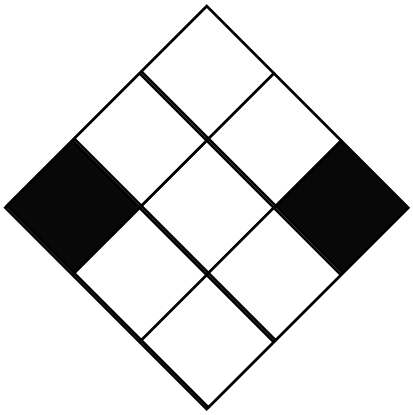
Default Configuration
No Tuning Dots



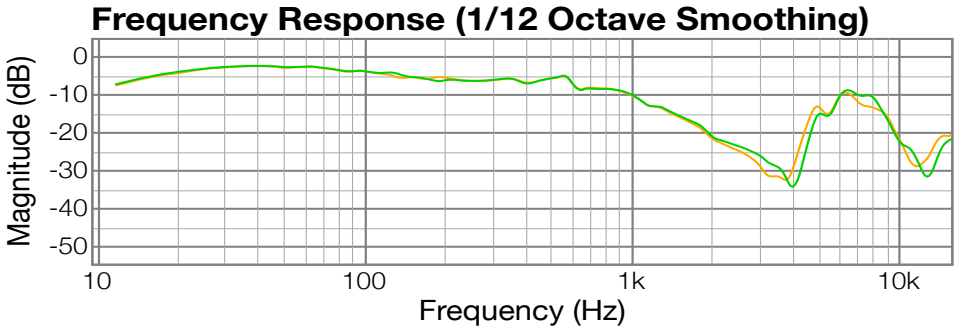


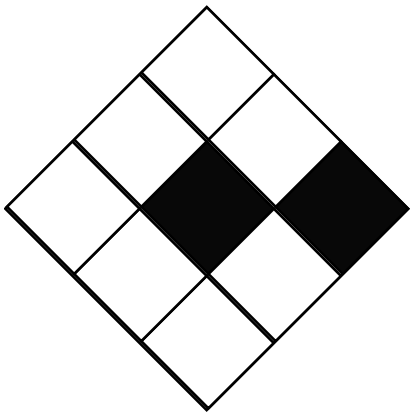
Default Configuration
Configuration 2



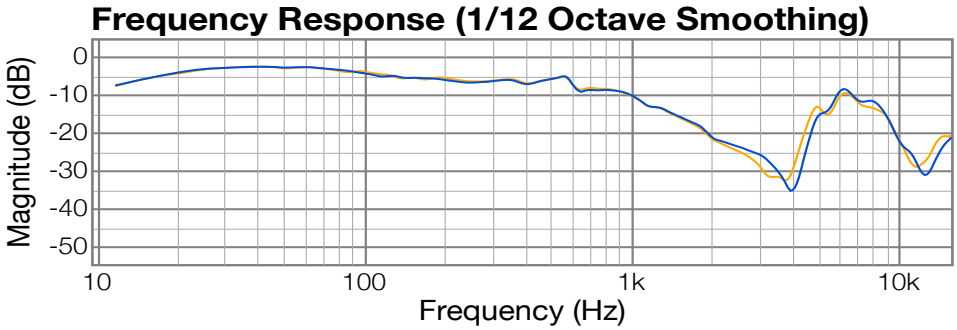


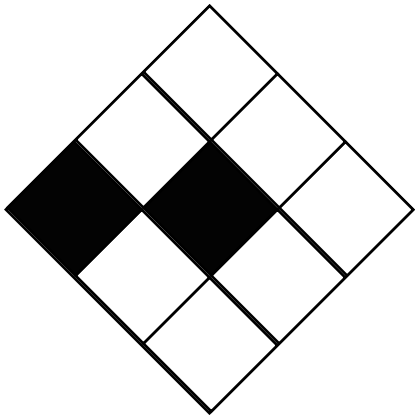
Default Configuration
Configuration 3



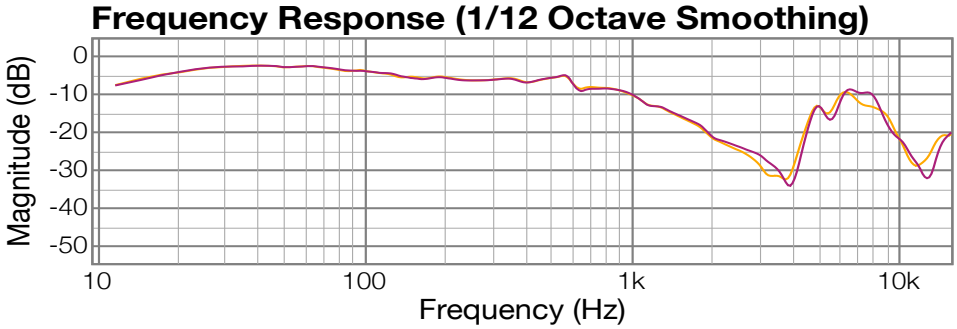


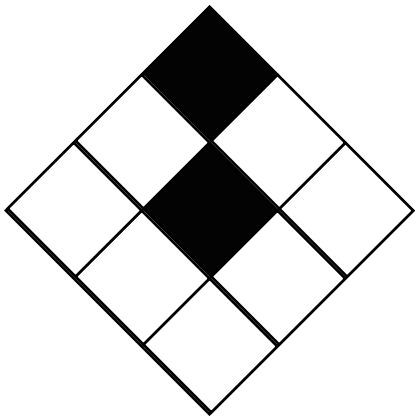
Default Configuration
Configuration 4



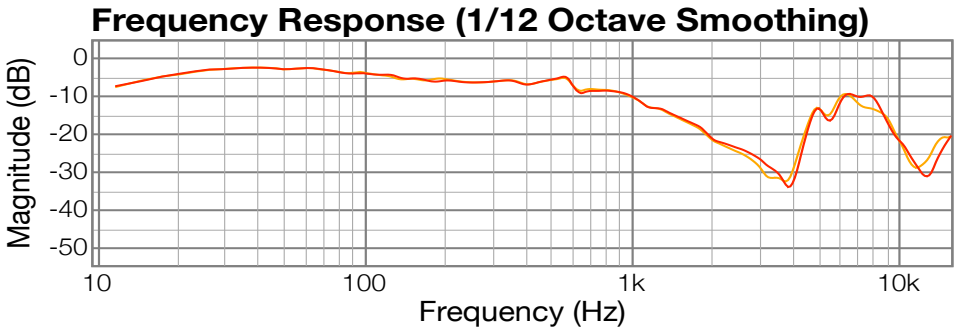


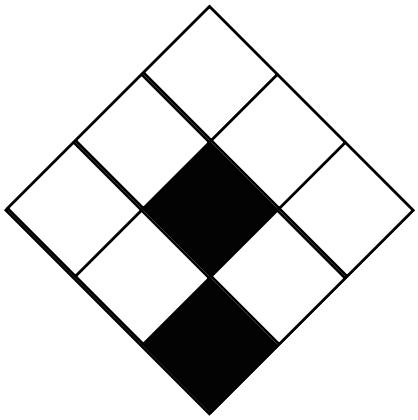
Default Configuration
Configuration 5



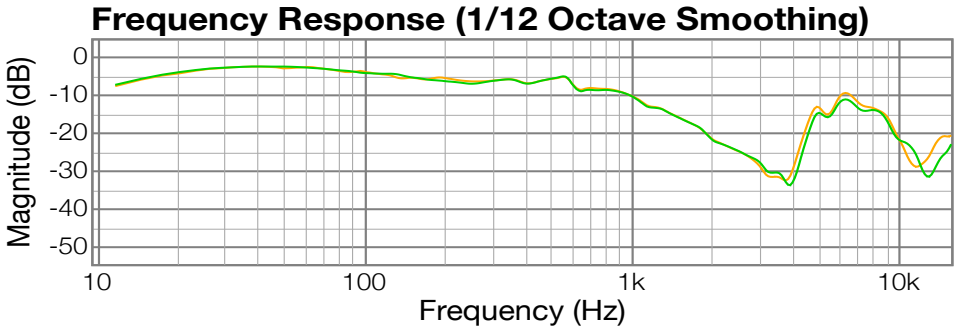


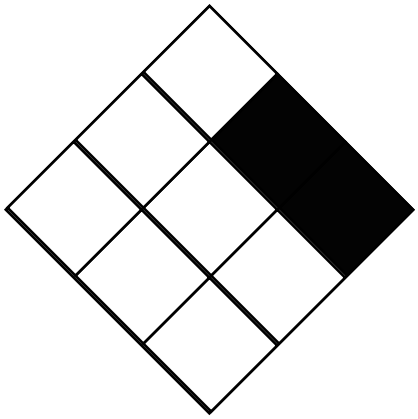
Default Configuration
Configuration 6



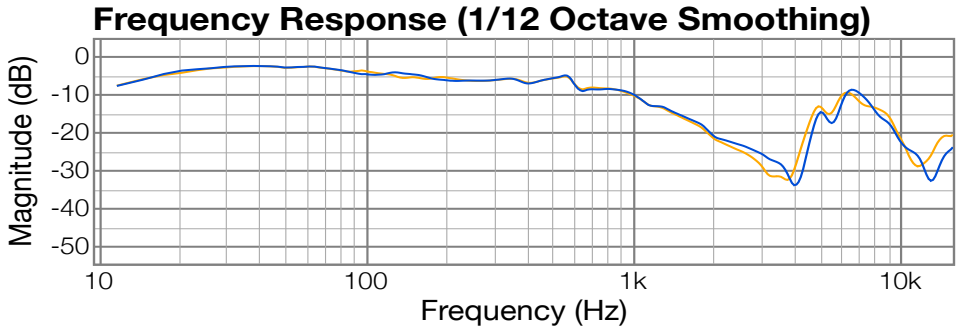


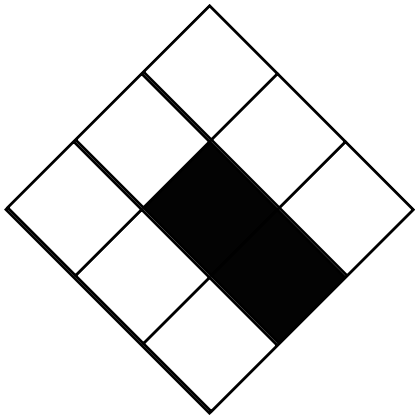
Default Configuration
Configuration 7



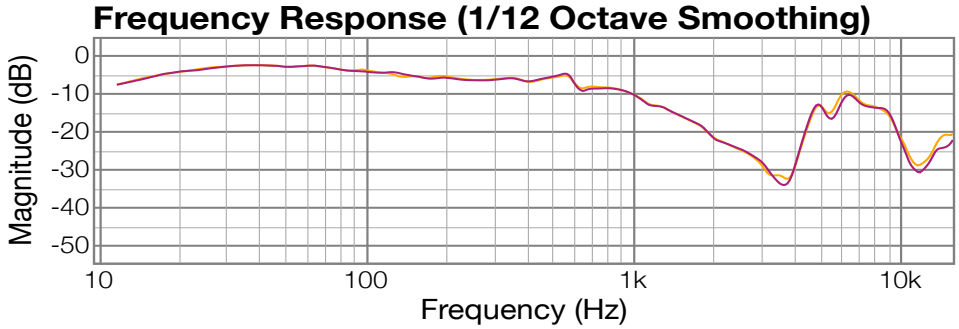


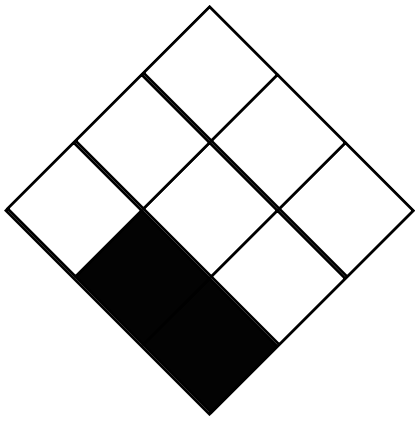
Default Configuration
Configuration 8



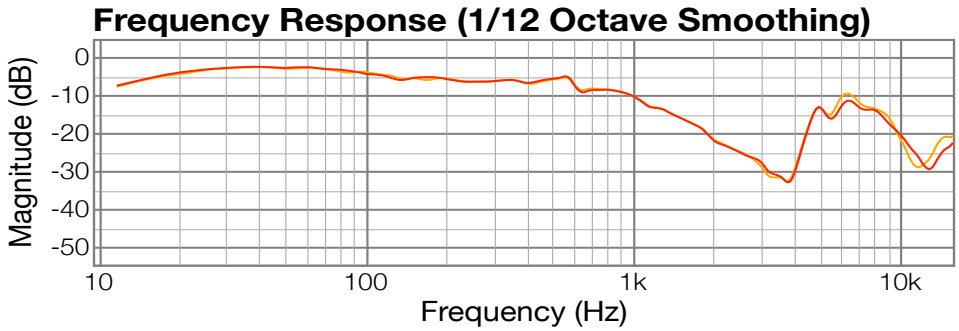


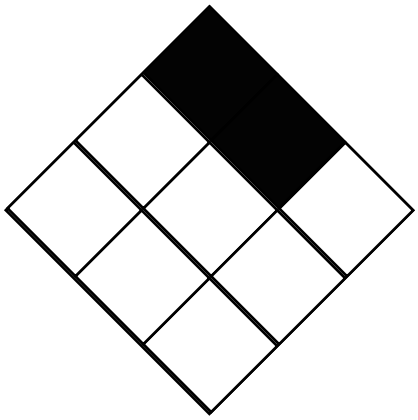
Default Configuration
Configuration 9



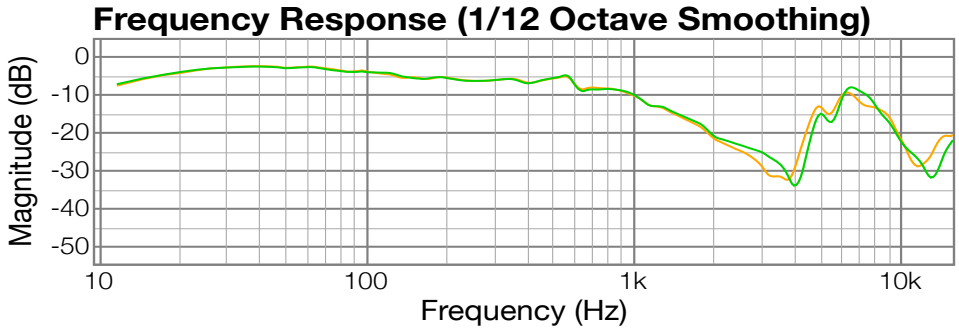


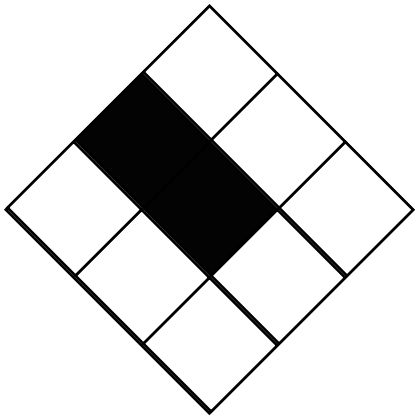
Default Configuration
Configuration 10



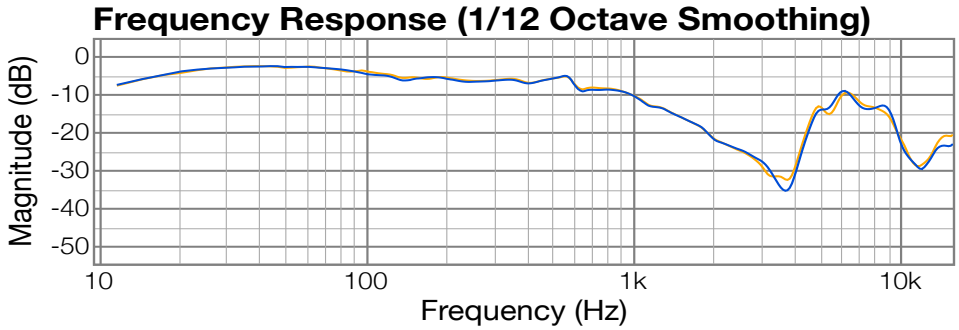


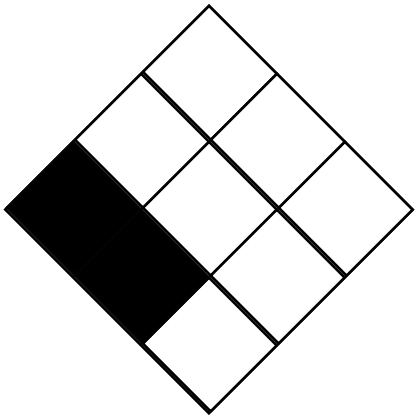
Default Configuration
Configuration 11



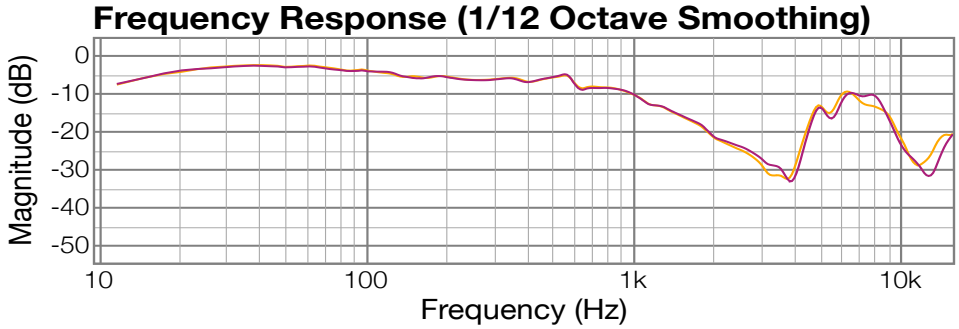


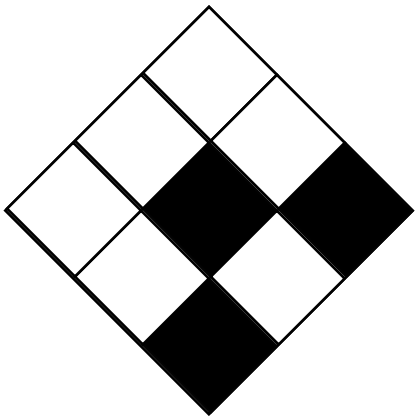
Default Configuration
Configuration 12



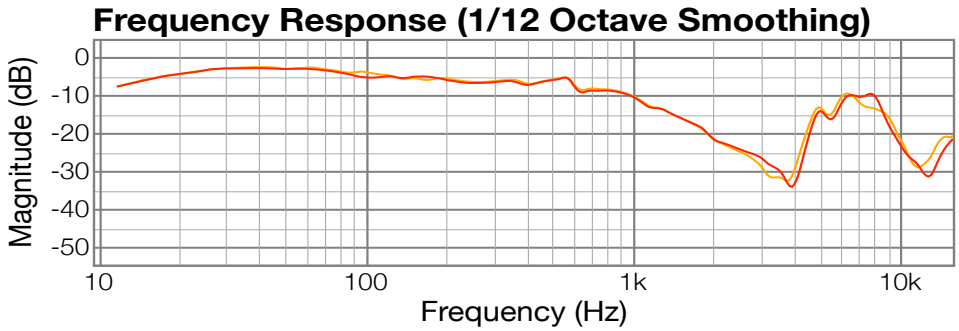


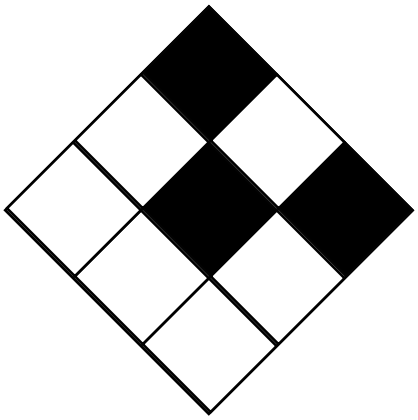
Default Configuration
Configuration 13



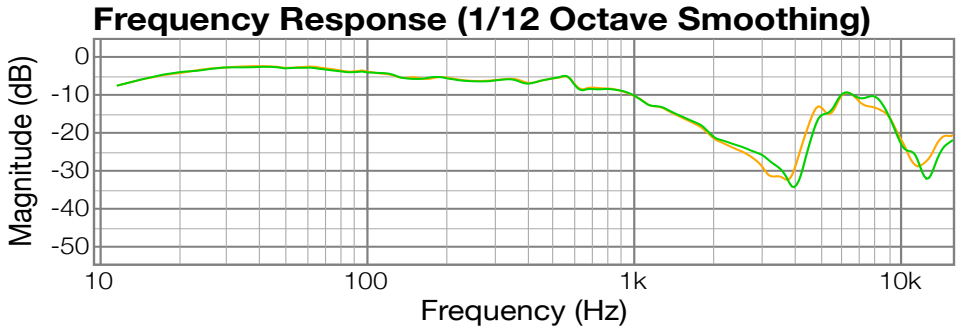


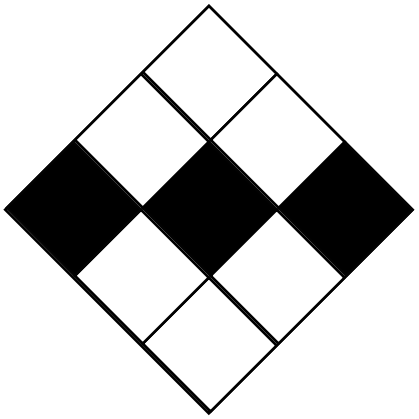
Default Configuration
Configuration 14



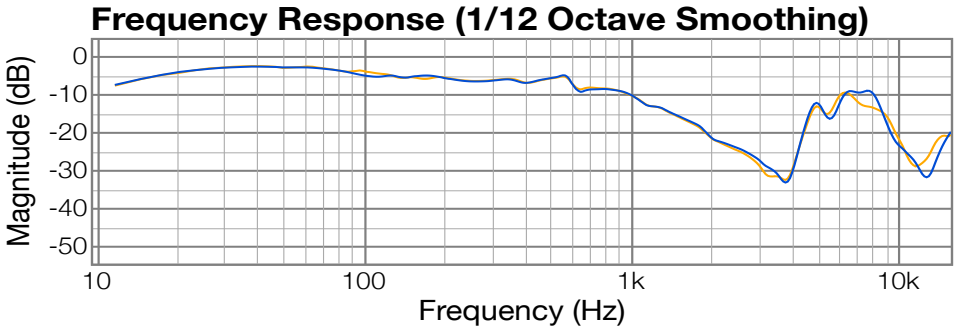


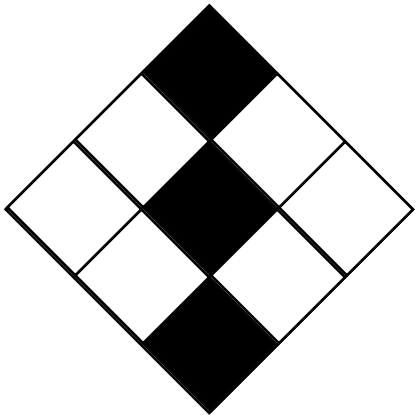
Default Configuration
Configuration 15



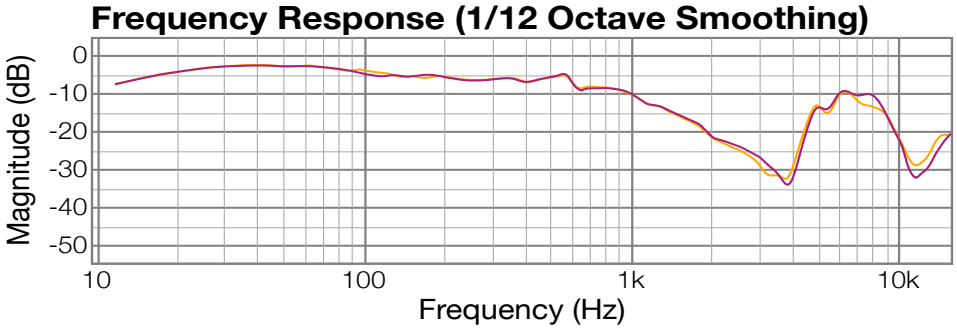


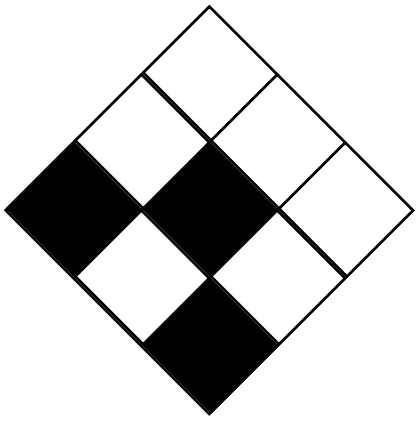
Default Configuration
Configuration 16



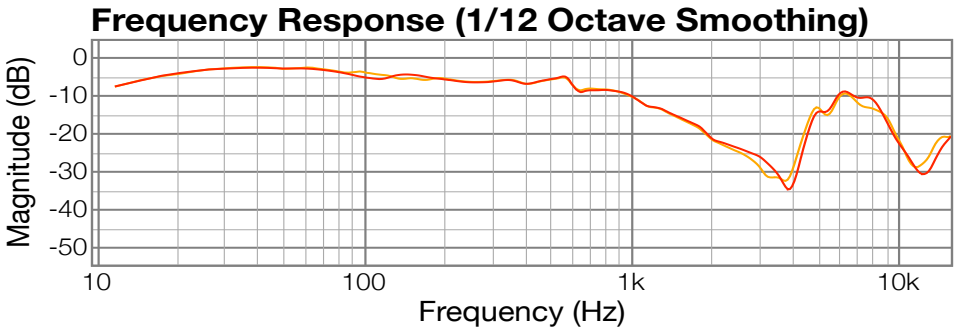


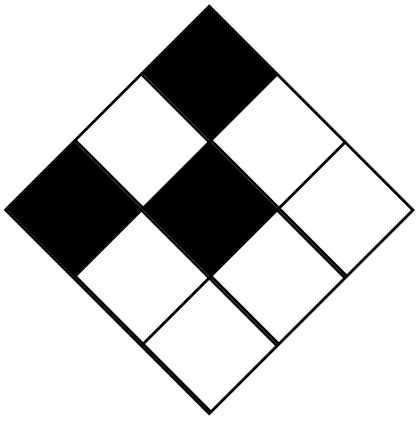
Default Configuration
Configuration 17



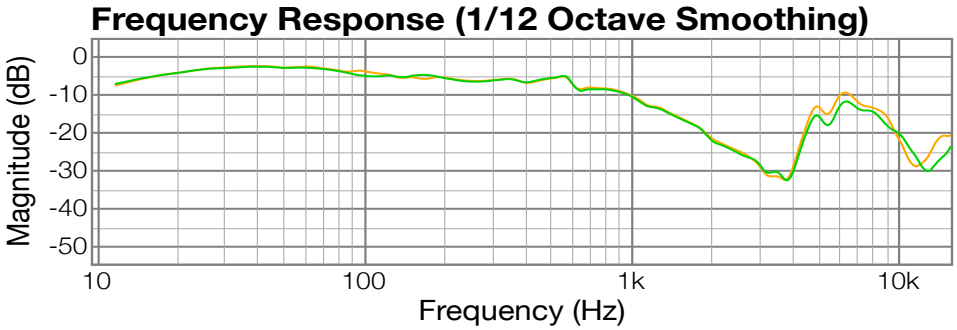


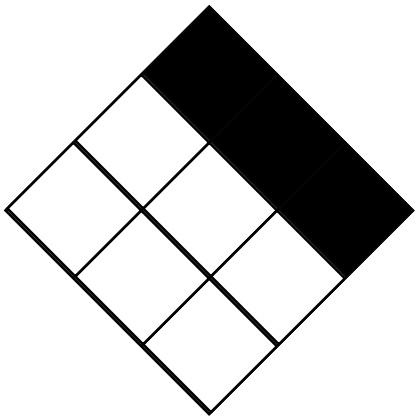
Default Configuration
Configuration 18



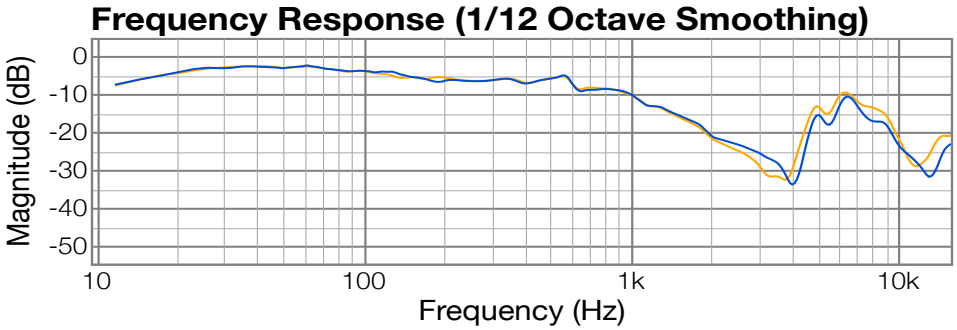


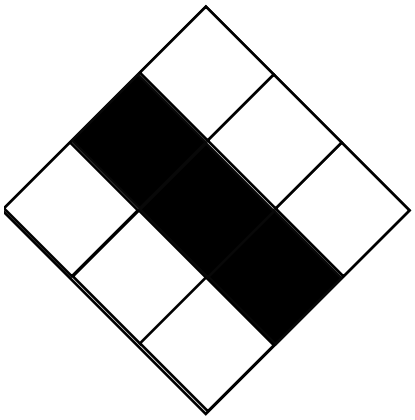
Default Configuration
Configuration 19



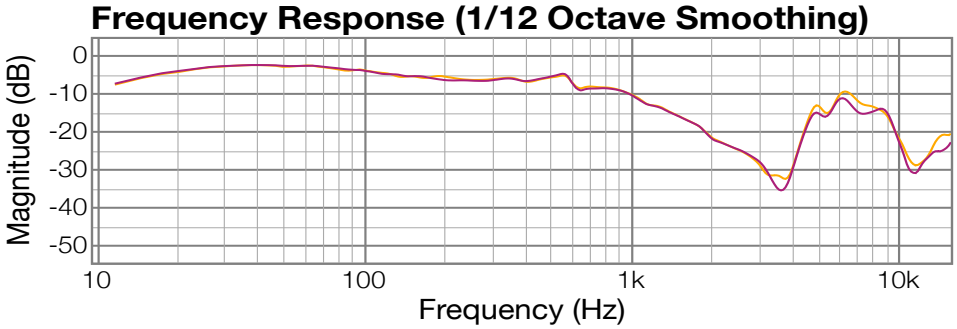


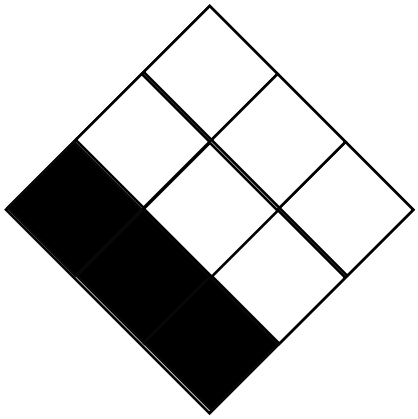
Default Configuration
Configuration 20



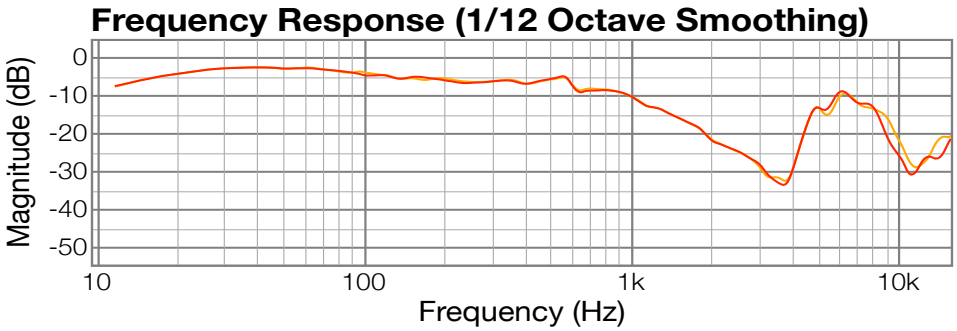


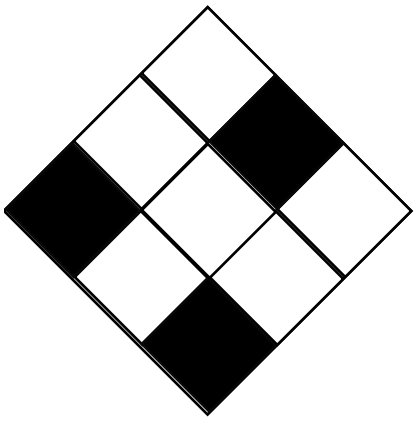
Default Configuration
Configuration 21



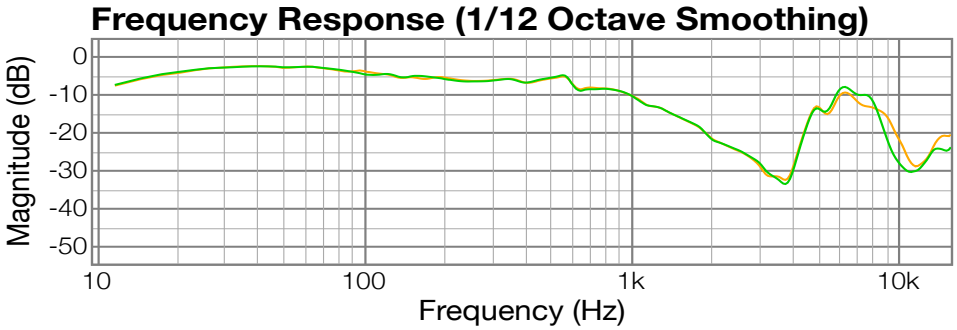


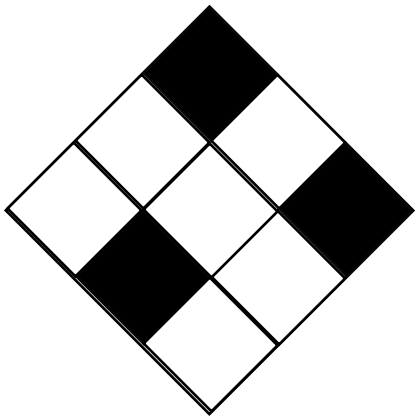
Default Configuration
Configuration 22



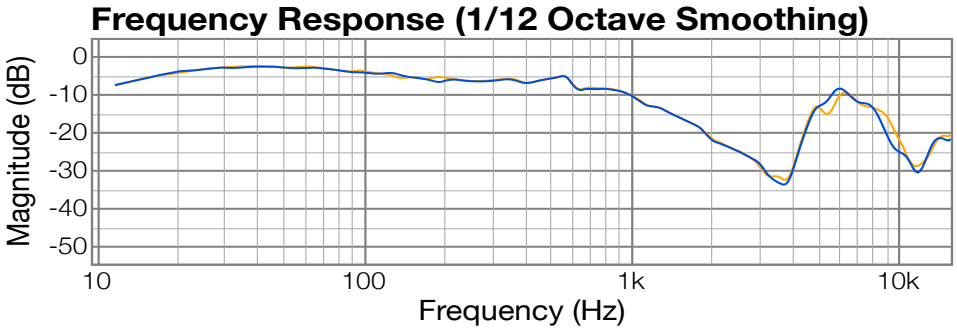


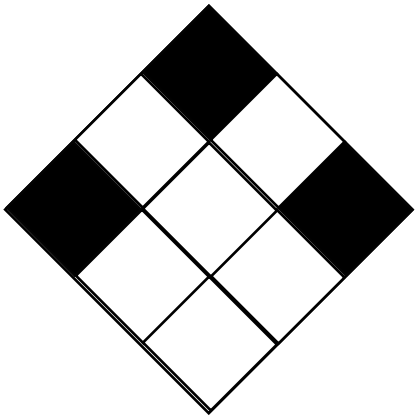
Default Configuration
Configuration 23



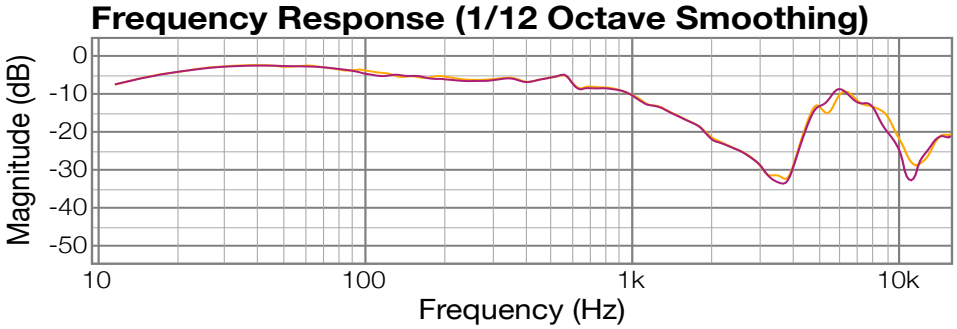


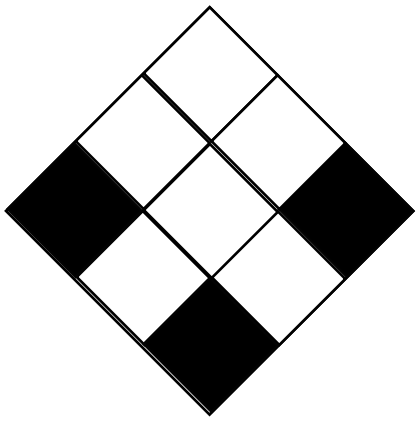
Default Configuration
Configuration 24



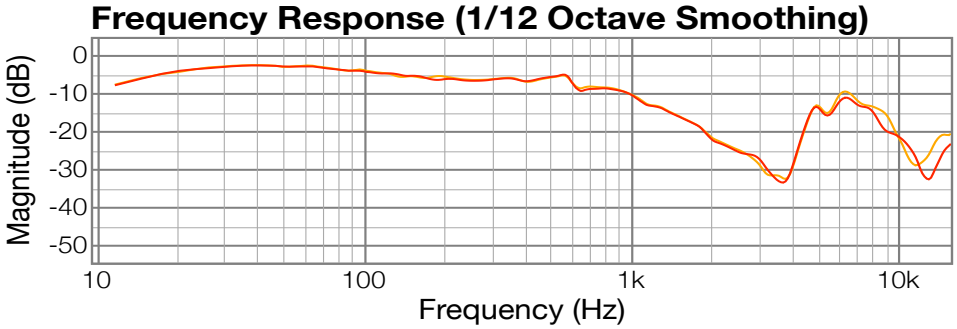


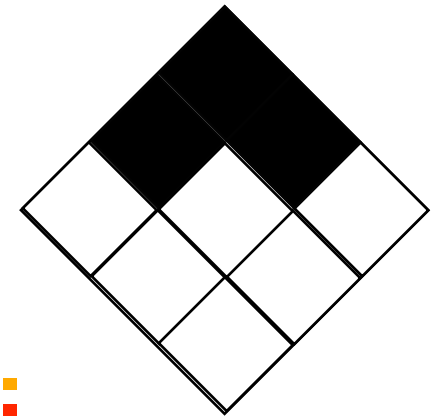
Default Configuration
Configuration 25



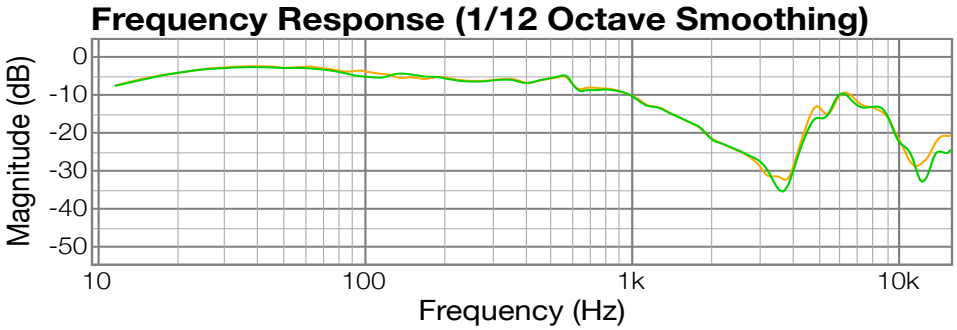


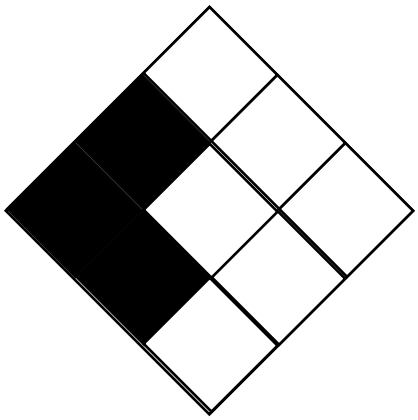
Default Configuration
Configuration 26



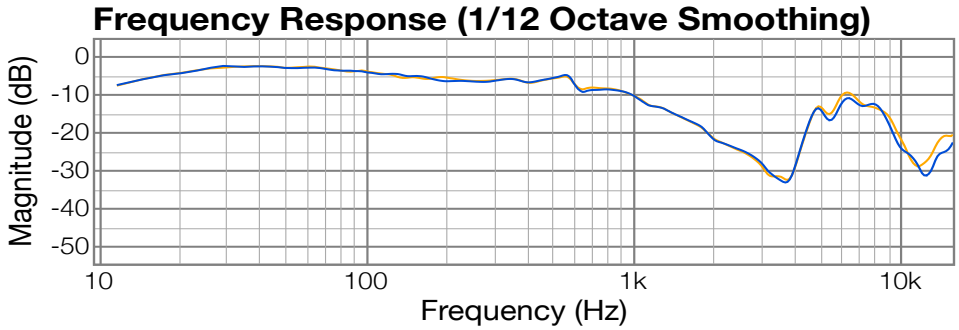


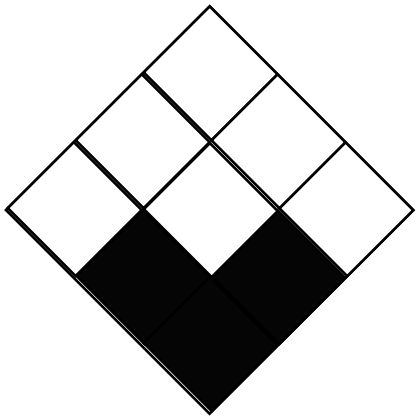
Default Configuration
Configuration 27



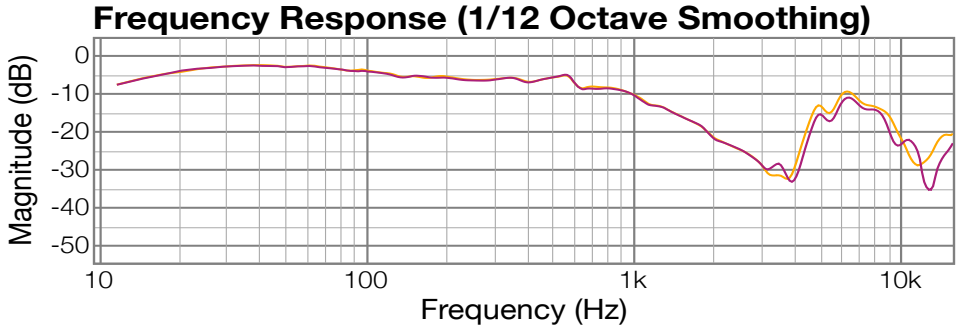


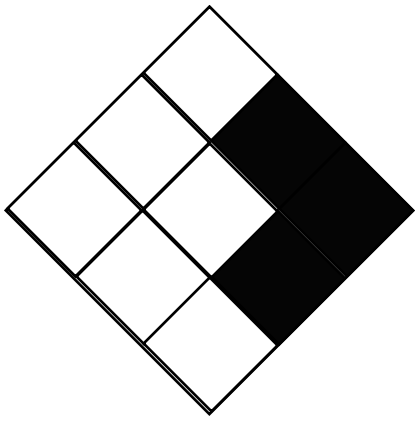
Default Configuration
Configuration 28



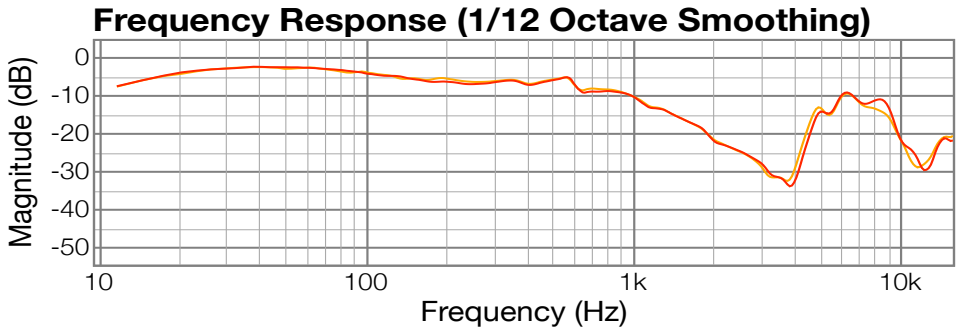


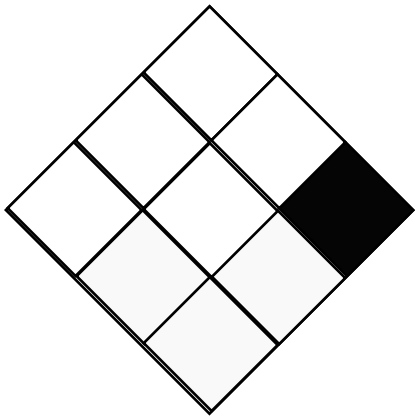
Default Configuration
Configuration 29



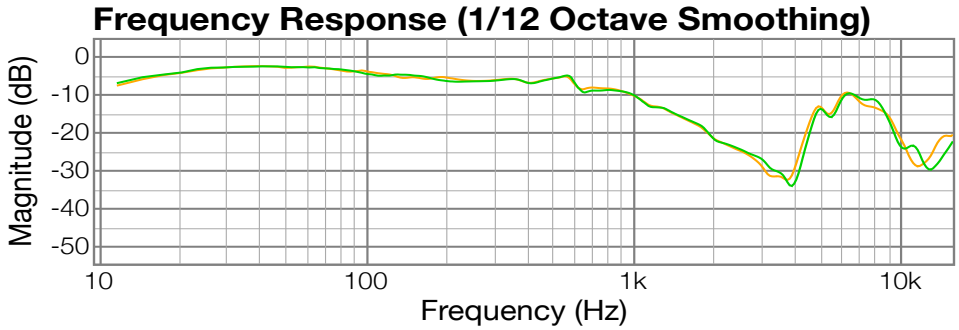


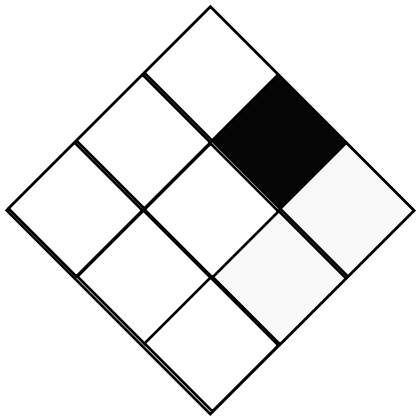
Default Configuration
Configuration 30



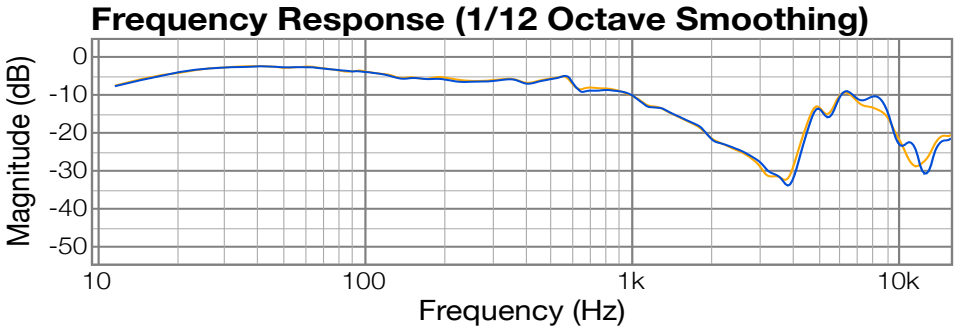


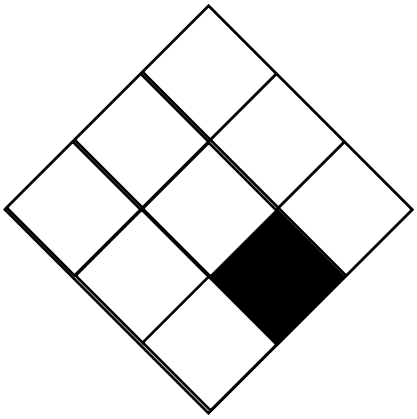
Default Configuration
Configuration 31



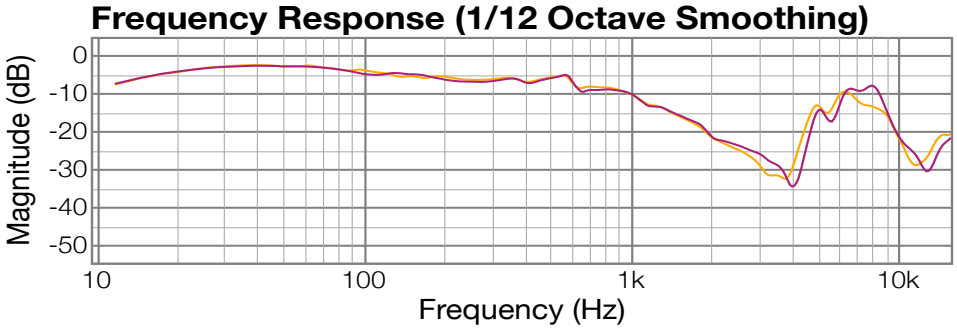


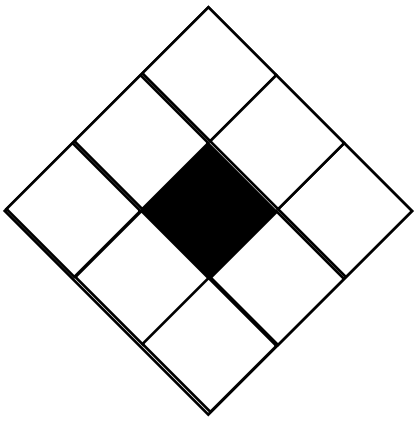
Default Configuration
Configuration 32



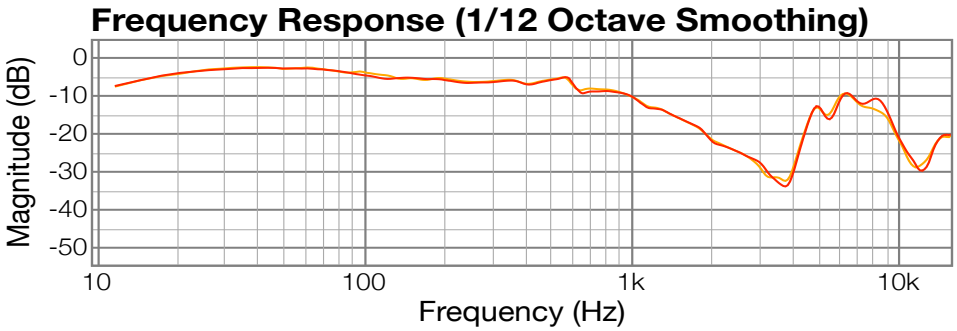


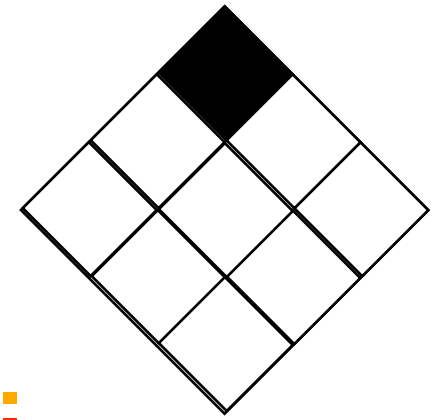
Default Configuration
Configuration 33



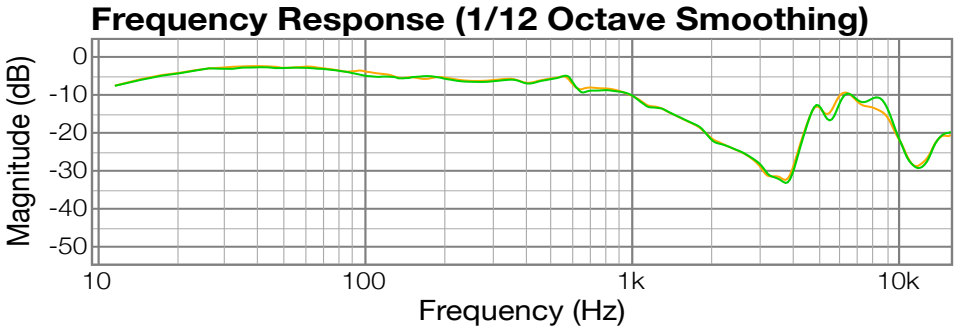


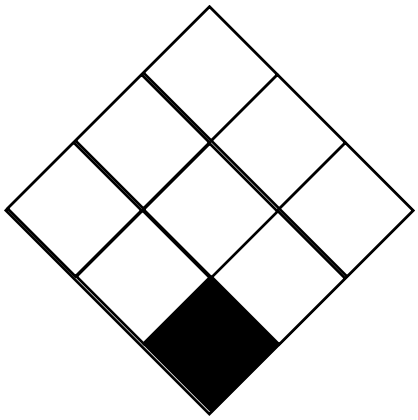
Default Configuration
Configuration 34





Default Configuration
Configuration 35





Default Configuration
Configuration 36