

Chapter 1 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio by Robert Harley (, Paperback) | eBay

Music servers, streaming audio, wireless networking, desktop hi-fi's, high-resolution downloads, and the rapid ascent of personal listening via high-end headphones were not yet or just barely on the map when the Fourth Edition of the Complete Guide was published a scant five years ago. Today, they are among the hottest tickets on the market.

I am not talking about the guy who loves music, and can appreciate a good system. The system should merely be a tool to enjoy music more. With this philosophy in mind, I think Robert Harley hit the nail on the head. The Complete Guide to High-End Audio has a chapter devoted to describing the goals of the music-loving audiophiles and how the industry is philosophically different from mass-fi audio. I think this is an important thing to note. Also, the people who make the equipment have different priorities. Continuing with the goals of high-end, the theme of quality and neutrality persevere over the entire book. The system should be very neutral, conveying the emotion and purpose of the music. Bob Harley never lost sight of what appears to be his goal; conveying why we love our music and why this is such a great source of pleasure for us. If you are just getting into hi-fi, this book is excellent at covering the basics and later getting you into the more complex and technical side of audio. There is a large portion devoted to system synergy and construction that is a must for anyone, but especially perfect for those who are starting to build a system or just contemplating upgrading that old CD player. There is also plenty of technical information contained within for the more electronically inclined. There are three very important points to make about this book. First, it is incredibly easy to understand. Point two is how the book is laid out and divided into chapters. Want to get a basic understanding of speaker construction? Once the book covers the basics of a particular piece of equip, the next section usually describes what to listen to in a good piece. Most of us have to learn this the hard way, but if you can learn vicariously, please do. Aside from covering product selection, the speaker placement information and tweak sections let you really optimize that well selected system you just bought. The Complete Guide to High-End Audio gives you a great foundation to start on, or even fills in the gaps for those of us who already have a decent amount of audio mumbo-jumbo in our heads. It is a must for anyone who wants to learn more about audio, and in the long run, get more bang for the buck. I was gratified that Mr. Selina pointed out how the book is useful to both beginners and seasoned enthusiasts. The most basic information is at the beginning of each chapter, with the technical discussions toward the chapter end. Beginners can thus read the first half of every chapter and skip the technical content, while advanced readers can delve deeper into each topic. My goal in writing the book was to make high-quality music reproduction technology accessible to anyone who enjoys music, not just the technically oriented. A second goal was to help experienced audiophiles get the most performance and musical enjoyment from their systems, no matter what their budgets. The new Second Edition reviewed by Mr. Selina has been completely updated, expanded, and revised from the original. The book grew by pages, and about a third of it is new material. I included topics missing from the first edition: The Complete Guide to High-End Audio now also includes a term glossary and a much more extensive index. Finally, I was happy that Mr.

Chapter 2 : The Complete Guide To High-End Audio - Fifth Edition - by Robert Harley | Galen Carol Audio

Since the first edition's publication in , The Complete Guide to High-End Audio has been considered the essential reference on high-quality music reproduction, with more than , copies sold in five languages.

I am very content listening to the awesome systems both within our home and at shows. Other times, there are great interests in what makes these products excellent, and so I really want to know about the what, why, and especially how these systems achieve their great sound. I realize there are people out there who actually enjoy reading technical manuals, such as my husband Steven, yet this is not for me. In fact I bring it with me to the many different audio shows we attend just in case there are questions about something. For me, and probably all audiophiles both seasoned and aspiring, have found the glossary extremely helpful. There is an incredible amount of information within this book that my every question is answered in one form or another. There is so very much to learn about high-end audio within this impressive reference book as my journey into audio gear flourishes. The pure engineering geek within me loves both the in-depth information and helpful diagrams. There are so many topics covered in this book that am not sure where to begin my review. Just like my wife Heather, you can pick and choose topics you want to learn, or dig right in and read it cover to cover. The 16 chapters each cover a range of expertise and knowledge. Chapters within this well-written book range from an informative introduction to turntables, preamps, amps, speakers, plus personal audio and so very much more. There is a chapter to help you become a better listener! While there is quite of bit of extremely important information every audiophile should know, one of my faves is loudspeaker and room acoustics. Getting your speakers optimized within your room is tremendously important and can not be overlooked. Analog lovers rejoice as turntable setup, record care, and more are clearly and concisely explained to achieve the best from your LP playback system. Robert does a brilliant job at carefully enlightening us all about the technical aspects of high-end audio gear. There are many easy to understand diagrams that further aid in learning about the topic at hand. This way both the newbie, such as my wife Heather, and a seasoned pro such as yours truly can grasp the many complexities to produce high quality audio. Within the review, Rob said "Once the book covers the basics of a particular piece of equip, the next section usually describes what to listen to in a good piece. Most of us have to learn this the hard way, but if you can learn vicariously, please do. Aside from covering product selection, the speaker placement information and tweak sections let you really optimize that well selected system you just bought. Forget the typical reviewer-speak saying "highly recommended"; buy this book right now! As always in the end what really matters is that you

Chapter 3 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio -- Second Edition Review By Rob Selina

The Complete Guide to High-End Audio The Best Book on High-End Audio Just Got Better! Robert Harley tells you everything you need to know to become a better listener and better buyer of quality high-fidelity components.

Chapter 4 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio - Free eBooks Download

The Complete Guide to High-End Audio is written for beginners and experienced listeners alike, and more than , copies have sold in five languages. A Celebration of Music More than a consumer guide, this book is a celebration of high-quality music reproduction in the home.

Chapter 5 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio by Robert Harley

The Complete Guide to High-End Audio has 87 ratings and 9 reviews. John said: When I first heard about this book I almost didn't buy it. I thought it wou.

Chapter 6 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio: Robert Harley: www.nxgvision.com: Books

DOWNLOAD PDF COMPLETE GUIDE TO HIGH-END AUDIO

The word "Guide" in the title of Robert Harley's Complete Guide to High-End Audio implies that the book is meant to be a fairly easy read, with restricted technical contentâ€”certainly no audio design-manual or textbook.

Chapter 7 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio by Harley, Robert | eBay

Book Review: "The Complete Guide to High-End Audio" Page 3 Bob Harley and I were talking one day in the Stereophile editorial offices. I asked him to clarify something in an article of his I was copy-editing, and we ended up getting into an in-depth discussion on decibels.

Chapter 8 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio : Robert Harley :

The Complete Guide to High-End Audio Musicality 48 Notes on Learning Descriptive Terms 51 Critical-Listening Setup Procedures 52 Single-Presentation Listeningâ€”What It's All About

Chapter 9 : The Complete Guide to High-End Audio, Fifth Edition | The Absolute Sound

The Complete Guide to High-End Audio, Fifth Edition. The ultimate reference on high-quality music reproduction, now in an expanded and revised Fifth Edition!