



ENERGY ENC650CV2

TEXT AND MEASUREMENTS BY GARY SPRINGGAY

CONVERTIBLE SPEAKER REVIEW



Most audio enthusiasts have already heard of Energy loudspeakers. For several years now, engineers at Energy have been making their passion and commitment to quality home audio and performance available for mobile audio application. The Energy ENC650CV2 convertible speaker kit is the first full range speaker system we've seen from Energy. The \$169.99 [CDN] kit includes a pair of 6.5-inch midrange drivers, a pair of 3/4-inch silk dome tweeters, two passive crossover networks, and all the required parts to use the system either as a component system or as coaxials.

FEATURES

The nicely made midrange driver utilizes a low resonance stamped steel basket, with the usual complement of mounting holes to accommodate most factory 3 or 4-hole bolt patterns. The midrange driver requires only about 2.5 inches of mounting depth, making them easy to fit in almost any car. Wire terminals are the typical spades, but Energy has added gold plating to prevent corrosion and enhance reliability. The motor assembly has chrome plated top and bottom plates and a nice embossed rubber bumper trims out the assembly. Looking at the top side of the speaker, the first thing you notice is the woven glass-fiber cone material, which is not usually found in units at this price point. The next component of note is an unusually tall elliptically shaped surround, which has

been reinforced by the use of raised ribs. The arrangement provides longer excursion capability without surround distortion or loss of cone control. With greater excursion comes the ability to be used at lower frequencies, and Energy claims the ENC650CV2's will work down to 65Hz.

The silk dome tweeter is dismounted [the system comes shipped as a coaxial] by removing a retaining screw and carefully removing the tweeter wires from under the rubber magnet bumper. Once removed, a silver colored plastic phase plug takes the tweeters place in the center of the midrange. The tweeter can be mounted in several modes, using the supplied flush mount trim ring, or either angled or flat surface mount cups. The crossover networks feature air coil inductors, and a tweeter »

QUICK SPECS

RECOMMENDED POWER
25-150 WATTS

SENSITIVITY [2V/1M]
88.3DB SPL

FREQUENCY RESPONSE
65HZ -23KHZ [-3DB]

MOUNTING DEPTH
2.5" [64MM]

MOUNTING DIAMETER
5.75" [146MM]

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For additional tech info and high resolution performance graphs of the measurements, go to www.pasmag.com/EnergyENC650CV2


level control switch with 0, -3dB or -6dB positions. The wire connections are made via gold plated screw type terminals, and the crossovers have a round hole mesh type snap on cover to protect the parts while providing maximum ventilation.

LISTENING

After connecting the Energy speaker system [in coaxial mode] into my listening rooms baffles, I set the amplifiers high pass crossover to 65Hz, and sat back to do some listening. Keeping in mind that this system was priced well under 200 bucks, I thought the Energy's sounded quite pleasant and very musical. The bottom end was warm and strong, with good definition. As the volume went up, the elliptical surround did seem to handle everything I threw at it, even when I deliberately went over the systems design limits to test the overall system linearity. Tonality of the midrange was fairly neutral and natural sounding, with what I thought was a tiny lack of definition in the upper

registers. The silk tweeters were actually quite a bit brighter than I expected, but not biting or sibilant. In fairness, I should mention that I do my listening on-axis, in a quiet room. If these speakers were mounted low in a car door, the higher output of the tweeters should be quite welcome. It became evident that the Energy ENC650CV2 system doesn't care if you prefer Bach, Brooks & Dunn, or Black Sabbath. Regardless of what I played, the sound was true to the recording, and the speakers added very little of their own "voice" to the music.

CONCLUSION

The Energy system features several thoughtfully engineered design elements that set it apart from the competition. It's well made, looks great, and after giving this system a thorough evaluation, I have to say that overall it's actually quite a bit better than you would expect for its modest price. I've heard systems at double the price that were arguably no better than the ENC650CV2s. 

ENERGY



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