

HECO Celan GT 5.1



- + first-class workmanship quality
- + treble adjustment
- + deep bass reproduction



HECO[®] Celan GT 5.1



Next Generation

"With the Celan range, Heco has offered a speaker line for more discerning users for some years now. What is now the third generation of this classic range has once again been improved and further refined in a large number of details. Using a Celan 5.1 set, we have conducted extensive tests to establish what effects this model update has for home cinema applications.

The "GT" in Heco's new Celan range stands for "Generation Three", i.e. the 3rd generation of a classic, in which a tried-and-tested basic concept has been optimised yet again with detailed further development. Celan ranks in the up-market segment of Heco's extensive product range and is derived from the basic principle surrounding the ultimate high-end speaker "The Statement". The hugely elaborate design and structure becomes clear as soon as you unpack the Celan speakers because, with a weight of around 28 kg, the GT 502's are certainly no lightweights. Equally impressive is the excellent quality of the lacquer work, with a perfect high-gloss finish on super-smooth surfaces on every side of the speaker.

Celan GT 502 front speaker

From the large number of Celan models available, we selected, with the 502 GT, the smallest of the Celan floorstanding speakers, in our case a version with a white, highgloss lacquer finish. All the Celan models are available with a high-gloss black or elegant Espresso shade finish. The high-quality lacquer work is an indication that the Celan range places great emphasis on quality It goes without saying that Head of Development Shandro Fisher has provided the 502 GT floor-standing speaker, the 302 GT shelf speaker, the 42 Center speaker and the matching SUB 322A subwoofer with high-grade chassis material. The two new woofers of the GT 502 feature 170 mm cones made from kraft paper, a particularly sturdy and acoustically ideal mixture of paper. Heco has also flow-optimised the shape of the aluminium die-cast baskets and linearised the field lines of the powerful magnetic drive. The top chassis of the two also performs the mid-range playback and therefore features a somewhat differently shaped cone, a lighter voice coil and a magnetic drive optimized for the mid-ranges. This duo is complemented by an incredibly large, extremely powerful 30 mm dome tweeter. Other meaningful details of the Celan 502 GT include the rounded bass-reflex tubes made of die-cast aluminium and the generously sized bi-wiring connecting terminals. The 502 GT can be operated in a "neutral" tuning mode or with a gentle 2 dB treble boost.

Celan GT 302 rear speaker

In principle, the chassis components of the GT 302 shelf speaker are identical to the subwoofer and dome tweeter of the GT 502. On account of the more compact dimensions, though, the additional bass driver on the GT 502 is not included. Nevertheless, the identical basic design and structure still promises homogeneous overall sound in a multi-channel constellation. In terms of workmanship quality and equipment (lacquer finish, bi-wiring terminal, optional treble lowering), the small GT 302 is at the same high level as the other Celan GT models.

Celan Center 42 rear speaker

For consistent centre channel reproduction in surround sets, Heco offers the ideal partner for the Celan range in the form of the Center 42. The chassis used are identical to those of the other Celan models, though the two subwoofers have been positioned to the left and right of the tweeter in the horizontal Center 42 unit.

Celan SUB 322A subwoofer

The SUB 322A is what a "real" subwoofer should look like: a powerful 30 cm chassis in an adequately dimensioned, stable enclosure. The high-performance bass unit from Heco weighs in at all of 36 kg, though still looks astonishingly suitable for the living room thanks to its trapezoidal shape and elegant lacquer finish. The right thrust is ensured by a 220 watt active module, which is more than adequately equipped with level and phase regulators, high-level inputs and outputs, as well as cinch inputs and outputs. Located at the back of the SUB 322A are as many as three of the large, rounded bass reflex tubes - so flow noise is hardly to be expected even at high volume levels.

Laboratory

Two large woofers in the large enclosure are really effective, with our lab measurements confirming clear bass ranges up to below 60 Hz. Moreover, the mid-range level generated by the Heco unit remains extremely neutral. Just as pleasing is the clean pulse fidelity generated by this speaker. In the deep bass range, the SUB 322A sets new standards with huge depth up to 28 Hz and clean reflex coordination.

Sound

In the HOME CINEMA listening room, the Celan GT set showed itself at its very best. The 5.1 combination played the action thriller "Salt" very crisply, dynamically and extremely precisely. With powerful yet dry bass reproduction and extreme depth, the Heco set really makes you want even more volume. Even at high levels, the Celan set remains clear and precise; voices remain present even in complex chase scenes and are positioned in the right places in a very vivid and natural way. During the abduction scene in Salt, which takes place in the huge church, the consistently and homogeneously tuned set conveys a realistic three-dimensional impression, transforming the home cinema, at least acoustically, into the huge interior of the church.

In addition, on account of, in terms of sound, the very neutral coordination and precise attention to detail of the Celan speakers, the set is also suitable for uncompromising, high-quality hi-fi reproduction.

Conclusion

With the new Celan GT range, Heco has once again achieved a major success: These speakers, produced to an extraordinarily high standard of quality, master the entire acoustic repertoire at a very high level. With its almost infinite dynamics, fantastic three-dimensionality, well-balanced tonality and unrestrained fervour and intensity, the Heco Celan GT Set is a genuine highlight."