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# HECO

## Victa Prime 702

- + Harmonious and very pleasing sound
- + Very good bass response
- + Excellent level stability
- + Impeccable quality of material and workmanship for the price range
- + Reasonable purchase price



## The product

Heco has a heart for music lovers whose wallet isn't bulging at the seams: The "Victa Prime" series offers high quality technology at a reasonable price. We got our hands on the largest floor-standing speaker, namely the Victa Prime 702, and put it to the test. The Victa Prime speakers are optionally available in an Ash Black, Ash Espresso or, as is the case for our test unit, in an Ash Cognac finish. The veneer finish on our speaker is applied extremely well; it's only the processing of the corners that alludes slightly to the price range. Overall, however, we cannot say a bad word about the workmanship of the Victa Prime 702 as a whole. The speaker, which is recommended for an amplifier power rating of 30 to 300 watts (we deem 30 watts slightly insufficient, however, in spite of the 91 dB efficiency level; we would instead recommend a 50 watt rating as the lower limit), is equipped with an elegant contrasting base plate. The sound transducer features a 3-way bass reflex design: the 2 x 170 mm woofers and the 170 mm midrange are surrounded by an attractive matt aluminium ring, in which the mounting screws of the chassis are embedded. The 25 mm tweeter is also surrounded by an aluminium panel.

This tweeter is equipped with an artificial silk dome and is highly resilient thanks to ferrofluid cooling. The powerful magnet system and the front panel with its short horn attachment improve the level of efficiency and enhance the overall performance. The bass and midrange drivers are accommodated in a sturdy metal basket. If you dismantle the chassis, you will be astonished at the level of quality that Heco has managed to cram into this speaker. An absolute highlight here is the high quality bi-wiring/bi-amping connecting terminal with its robust, gold-plated and encapsulated screw terminals, which is extraordinary for this price range.

The Victa Prime 702 is magnetically shielded and features an MDF cabinet with internal bracing, as well as a multi-layered structure. These features are of particular benefit for the stability of the housing and acoustic purity. The solid base plate is also manufactured from MDF. The bass reflex configuration with its 2 screwed and precisely embedded ports is also of the typical high quality produced by Heco. Height-adjustable metal spikes and rubber spikes are also supplied with the speaker.

## Sound

For its price the speaker battles extremely well in all test series. The "Dronning Fjellrose" by the acoustic jazz musicians of the Hoff Ensemble sounds harmonious and exhibits a very good degree of spatiality in a 192 kHz FLAC format. The vocals lack slightly in terms of fine dynamics, while the piano is compelling with a precise reproduction and resultant harmonious sound. The reproduction of percussion instruments is also amazing and the overall sound emanates rather convincingly from the chassis. "Money, Money, Money" by Nils Landgren (FLAC 96 kHz, "Funky Abba") sounds relaxed and composed thanks to the excellent spatial imaging. The speaker's ability to differentiate in the bass range is

really good for the price range; the bass doesn't simply "rumble" through the listening room, but remains balanced without becoming too severe. The inexpensive speaker isn't even disgraced when reproducing "El Bajel Que No Recela" by Patricia Petibon (taken from the album "Nouveau Monde") in a 96 kHz FLAC format. The sound, which has a slightly warm impact, blends in well with the content of the piece, while the separation of vocals and instruments is excellent. However, you shouldn't expect the Heco unit to recognise the complexity of the female vocals in minute detail – but for users with normal to slightly elevated expectations, the performance is thoroughly compelling.

Even when reproducing other pieces of music in a 44 kHz format (CD quality) the Victa Prime proves without question that it is worth the money invested. The Para X remix of the DJ Clubbingman & Savon hit "Aurora" reveals a powerful bass range and response, which is significantly above the level expected of this price range. Dynamic differences are taken into account extremely well, while the speaker is able to handle higher volumes without complaint - that is until your angry neighbour pops round with a warning to turn things down a bit. The Victa Prime is brought to its limit by the hard, clear bass line at the beginning of the Lykke Li hit "I Follow Rivers". Listening to this track at excessive volumes will result in audible distortion. At elevated volumes, however, what's on offer is sufficient and the separation of vocal segments and instruments is once again a success. The Heco design proves that an attractive visual appearance and a pleasing sound are not mutually exclusive – it brings all of these properties to the table and is highly recommended for newcomers to the stereo world with a specific budget. And the 2012 Accuphase mix of the trance classic "Outside World" by Sunbeam demonstrates that the Victa Prime certainly can be regarded as an acoustic universal talent, which is capable of living up to virtually any pace without ever abandoning the harmonious sound pattern. The bass doesn't exhibit any post-pulse oscillation and is hard and powerful - which has certainly not been the case for inexpensive speakers in the past. The soft chassis were often hopelessly overwhelmed and quickly defeated by hard-hitting bass lines. There wasn't anything to be heard in terms of precision either at this time - this is in complete contrast to the Victa Prime, which can do no wrong here.

## Conclusion

Heco's Victa Prime 702 is inexpensive, cleanly processed and extremely well-equipped for virtually all musical tasks thanks to its harmonious acoustic design. In addition, it also produces stable levels and is available in three colours (a classic black plus two other trendy finishes). It looks extremely impressive for the money and features some exquisite details. The Pulheim speaker also acoustically fulfils the expectations it aroused.

**Highly recommended for budget-conscious newcomers to the stereo world: The Victa Prime 702 sounds harmonious and exhibits excellent workmanship**