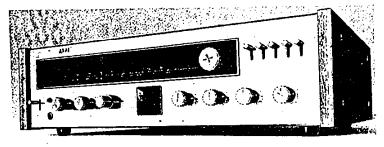


BOSE 901 speakers have a direct-reflecting system. The enclosures house nine small, four inch cones. Eight of the drivers are angled to the rear, which the ninth faces the front. An equalizer is used with the system to compensate for sound losses of the reflecting process. Below diagrams show how different sound patterns can be accomplished by changing the positioning of the speakers.



A FOUR CHANNEL tuner amplifier, the AS-8100S, comes from Akai. This can operate in both four channel and two channel systems. The amplifier provides for both discrete and matrix four channel playing. The amplifier also has a "stick shift" control for balancing sound among four speakers.

4-Channel The Newest Sound

The newest in sound hits listeners from four directions -- and buyers of music equipment find they have four times as much confusion as they had before.

The new sound is four channel, which produces music from four different speakers. Every four channel system has four speakers instead of the two you have with your present stereo system. For a four channel sound, you will need at least two more speakers.

Four channel equipment is being touted as a big advance in recording technology. Four channel buffs will tell you it's going to make two channel equipment as obsolete as mono equipment was when present stereo equipment became available.

Four channel boosters say the system makes recorded music sound more natural and realistic. It places listeners in a spatial relationship similar to concert halls and recording studios. Music comes from four directions to the listener's ears.

There are two ways of getting four channel sound. The cheapest and most adaptable to your present system is called derived four channel. Your present stereo records, tapes or

FM stereo radio sounds come out from four speakers instead of two.

Derived systems work by taking two channel material and extracting two more channels of sound from it. It requires some different equipment, but any present material can be used.

The equipment needed for a derived four channel sound is an adapter sold by many companies. The adapters attach to your amplifier, you add two speakers, and presto-you're in the four channel business.

The next four-channel system probably earns its "four channel" designation. Discrete four channel sound is limited at present to tape equipment, but you get four completely different channels of sound. Discrete systems have four amplifiers, one for each channel, and require special four channel sources. At present, only cartridge and reel tapes are available recorded in four separate channels.

If you want discrete four channel sound, which most listeners feels is superior to derived, be prepared to invest some money. Also, be prepared to accept the limited amount of material available for playing. However, more four channel music surely is coming, and a discrete system will allow you to play it.

