

1 sE Electronics
Space £239

2 sE Electronics
Reflexion Filter
Pro £175

sE Reflexion Filters

Controlling room reflections and achieving isolation in recording spaces can be tricky. Compact isolation devices can certainly provide support. sE offer multiple solutions that look similar at first glance, but let's see how they compare. Up close.

3 sE Electronics RF-X Reflexion £89

1

Space (Specialised Portable Acoustic Control Environment) is SE

Electronics' newest and most expensive filter and is roughly 20% larger than the Pro. It uses an improved 10-layer absorption system incorporating seven vertical bass trap pillars and, despite the increased size, the use of aluminium rather than steel framing makes it roughly the same weight as the Pro. A flexible clamp means you can adjust its orientation more accurately than either of the other two on test, and they've even included a couple of empty ballast bags for belt and braces stand stability.

In practice, Space's larger scale delivers a less claustrophobic set-up, and, although the bold styling may not be to everyone's taste, the design detail is excellent. Much like the Pro, Space provides some focus to the sound and some rear isolation, and works well used alongside other traditional room treatments. Sonically it's a subtle improvement over the Pro, and is obviously more expensive and more bulky. Even so, from a user perspective it's a better product all round.

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VERDICT 8.8

2

This is the product that kicked it all off, and it's stood the test of time reasonably well. Construction is excellent, and through panel bolts from the outer to inner surface not only add rigidity but also ensure the inner panel sections are decently dampened. The filter is mounted via a single thread at the bottom and this is attached to a robust clamp. The clamp, like all three filters on test, also has an integrated adjustable mic mounting arm that

sits within the filter. The filter and bracket combination are reasonably weighty so you'll need a decent mic stand, and some caution is required in use to ensure the whole thing doesn't topple over.

The Reflexion Filter Pro features a multi-layer design using wool, tensioned aluminium foil and polyester fibreboard. This not only filters sound but also ensures the filtered sound and early reflections aren't unduly coloured. In practice it curtails some sound into the rear of the mic and overall can add some degree of focus, particularly in the low to mid frequencies. Even so, in use its compact size can feel quite claustrophobic.

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VERDICT 8.4

3

The RF-X delivers the reflexion concept at a super affordable price and, although it retains some of the design aspects of the more expensive models, such as the shape, size and combined clamp and mic mount, the panel system is a bit simpler, consisting of two layers of foam, an air gap and vented outer surface.

From a practical perspective the RF-X is both light and easy to mount, using a clamp that bolts onto the rear of the filter. What's more, the understated matt black finish avoids the 'look at me' nature of some designs. Nevertheless, from a sonic perspective the RF-X is less effective, and the tightening of the low mid frequencies noted from better models just isn't there. Even so, there is some overall improvement, and given the price we shouldn't be too critical. **FM**

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VERDICT 8.0

FM VERDICT



OVERALL WINNER The futuristic-looking Space may not be a one-stop solution to creating isolation, but it's clearly one of the best devices in its class.



THE BEST VALUE If funds are truly tight SE's RF-X is a well-made, albeit less effective, unit and well worth your attention.