

Special considerations for tactile equipped platforms

There are a few differences in building a platform for Tactile Sound Transducers. The goal is to make the riser tight like a drum skin, suspended from its outer edges only. This technique will make the TST perform efficiently and will allow for irregular floors and wood materials so it will lay down better. While the riser will be strong and as solid as regular wood floors, more than enough to support the seating and the viewers without making noise and feeling weak it will also allow the Tactile Transducer to perform efficiently.

For starters, only the outer joists should touch the floor. The inner joists should be 2 inches shorter than the outer joists. The joists can be spaced 16 or 24 on center and should be 2" off the floor (i.e. using 2x8s for your frame, and 2x6s for your inner joists). The raised inner joists help in running the needed wires under the structure and prevent them from pinching as well as allowing the riser to float as much as possible. Tie the two center most joists together with a bridge piece. (see inset illustration) The TST will be mounted to the bridge, not the plywood flooring. This cross member bridge will make the transmission of energy as efficient as possible by making two joists move instead of just one. We recommended one layer of 3/4 plywood. All wood joints should be glued with liquid nails or an equivalent before being screwed together to prevent creaking.

I prefer to mount transducers in seating for efficiency, personal level settings and calibration reasons but if activating a riser is your choice please consider some of these tips on installing that make the end result the best possible.

Isolate the riser on every surface that will contact another such as floor, walls and other risers.

Build it to be efficient like a drum head

Use top materials grade NO MDF or particle board.

One more important installation tip is to make sure the riser is floating, don't tie it to a wall or another riser. This will take away from the efficiency of the tactile effect and transmit unwanted vibrations to the walls. Isolation feet or other materials are another great way of improving the tactile response even more by decoupling the riser from

the floor. I recommend using a dampning material under the riser joists that set on the floor. These edges when floating correctly will allow the riser to move much more efficiently. remove rattling and other noises. Even isolation feet can be used or a rubber roll material.

Keeping the platform floating and unattached from walls will give a professional look with the high performance tips that will allow you to get every ounce out of that a tactile transducer and maximize the tactile effect