

depth and directional quality impossible to achieve with monaural or one-microphone recording.

While your present phonograph cartridge will not produce stereo sounds, conversion cartridges are incompatible so your monaural LPs will not become obsolete. Most record companies are making stereo tapes of all LPs they are producing for the monaural market, building a catalog of stereo albums that can be put on the market as soon as sales warrant it.

Among more than 2,000 stereo albums now available are classical gems by outstanding units such as the Minneapolis Symphony, the Detroit Symphony, and the Hollywood Bowl Symphony. If jazz is your favorite cup of musical brew, you'll be able to hear the Dukes of Dixieland swinging out, the Modern Jazz Quartet, and Jimmy Guiffre playing the score in jazztime from "The Music Man."

"Dave Garraway's Orchestra" proves that mood music can be even more effective when performed in stereo, and "Around the World in Stereo" covers the field from Dixie to European folk songs. One of

the current best-sellers is the stereo version of the original cast waxing of "Flower Drum Song."

Average price for the stereo albums will be \$5.98, but prices will go up from that point depending on the type of music and the company issuing the album. There also will be some disks available at less than \$5.98, and from a few of the samplers already made these will be excellent. "A Hi-Fi Band Concert," one of the budget-priced packages, is a fine piece of wax to display the dexterity of your stereo player. As of this date, the lowest-priced stereo, and it is excellently recorded, is \$2.49.

It is wise to keep several points in mind when discussing or listening to stereo. This is a comparatively new method of sound reproduction, and the musically trained ear will sometimes note distortions of dynamics and pronounced direction. But as recording crews become more experienced, these technical shortcomings should disappear.

You should shop for your stereo player just as carefully as you would for a new car or a major

appliance. No two people hear sounds in the same way, and it's important to tailor your set to your particular hearing. You will derive a great deal of enjoyment if your unit best suits your ears.

Finally, to prove to yourself, your family, and friends that there actually is sound in depth, try this little game. Stand in the middle of a room with your eyes tightly closed, and have someone toss a coin on the floor. Without opening your eyes, point to the spot where you believe the coin came to rest. You will be very close.

Now do the same thing, but stop one ear with your finger. You will find you cannot accurately locate the position of the coin. You have lost directional hearing because one ear was inoperative.

This not only proves a point as far as stereo is concerned but, more importantly, it shows that you don't have to be a musical expert to enjoy stereo. It's as simple as adding mustard to your hot dog. You get just that much more for your money when you can listen to exciting new sounds with both ears.

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