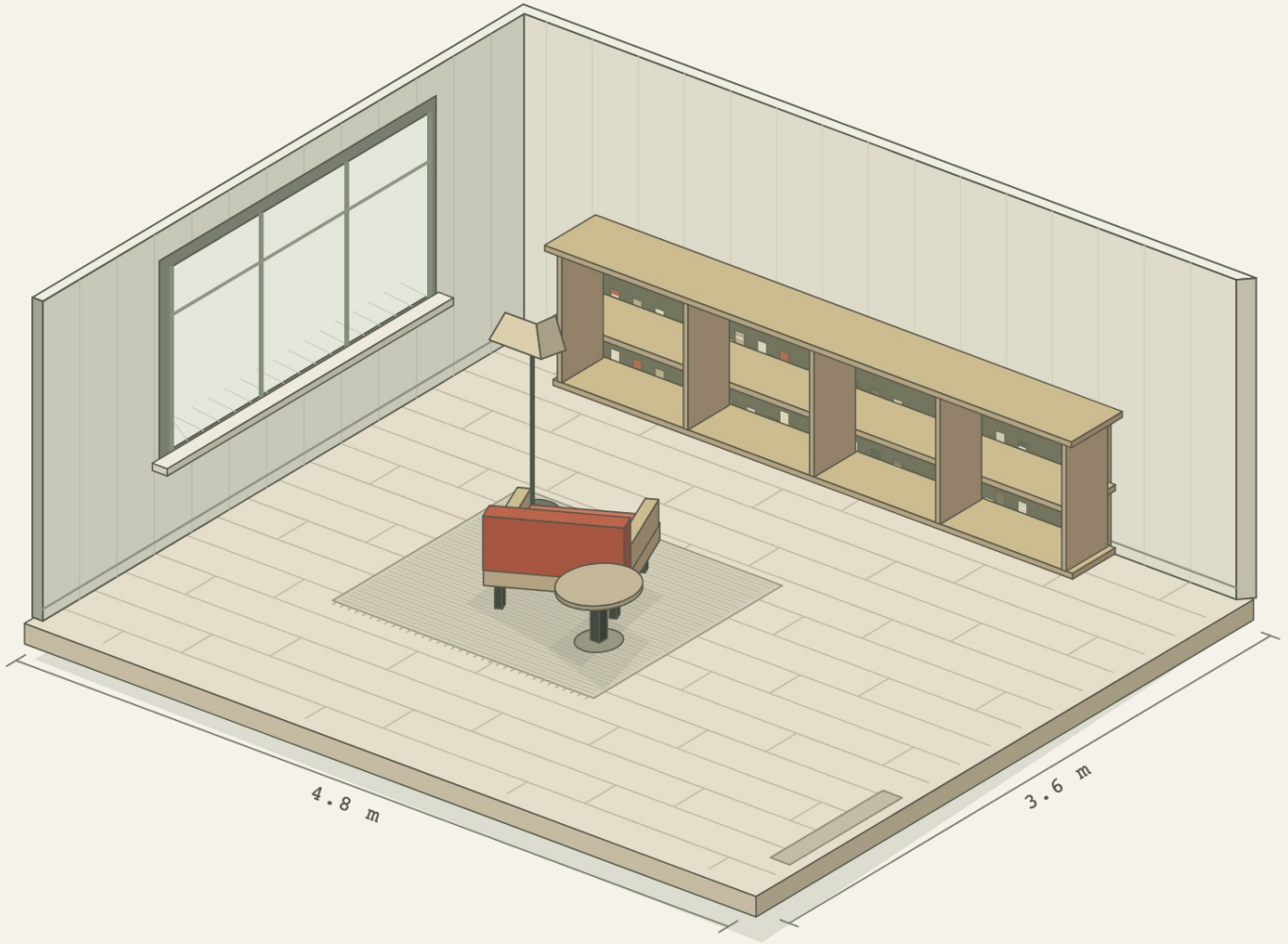
A design proposal for Arqenza

arqenzai.com

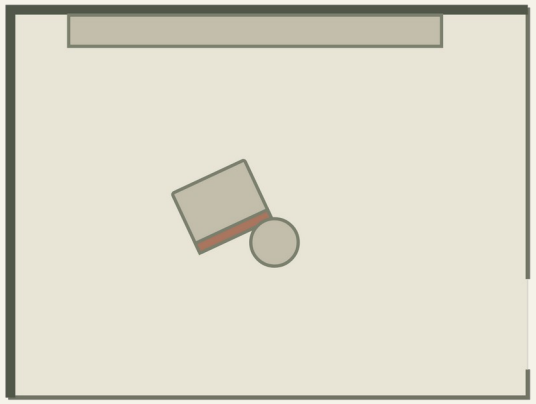
One room, *three uses*

Furniture and sound paths in an imagined 4.8 × 3.6 metre room.



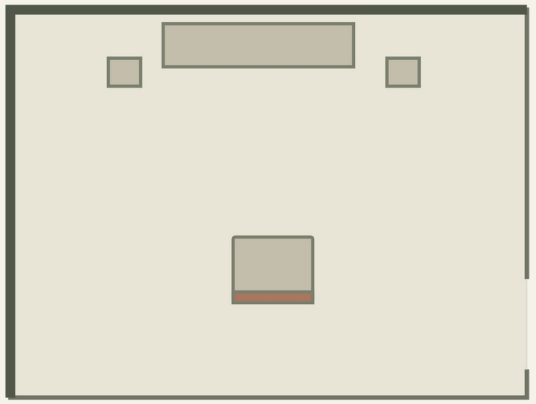
Who should the chair face?

A resident needs a layout to try. A design student needs to explain that choice to someone else. The doorway, the speakers and a guest each suggest a different direction for the chair.



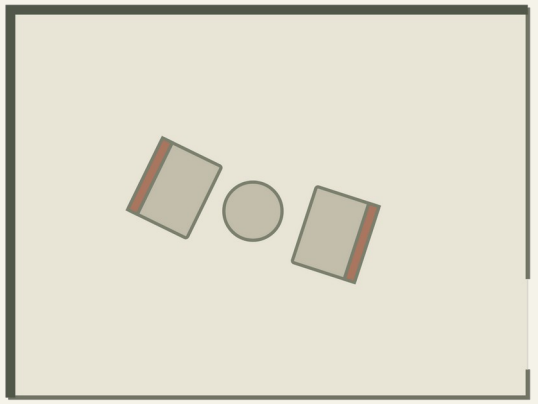
Reading

Can the reader see who comes in?



Listening

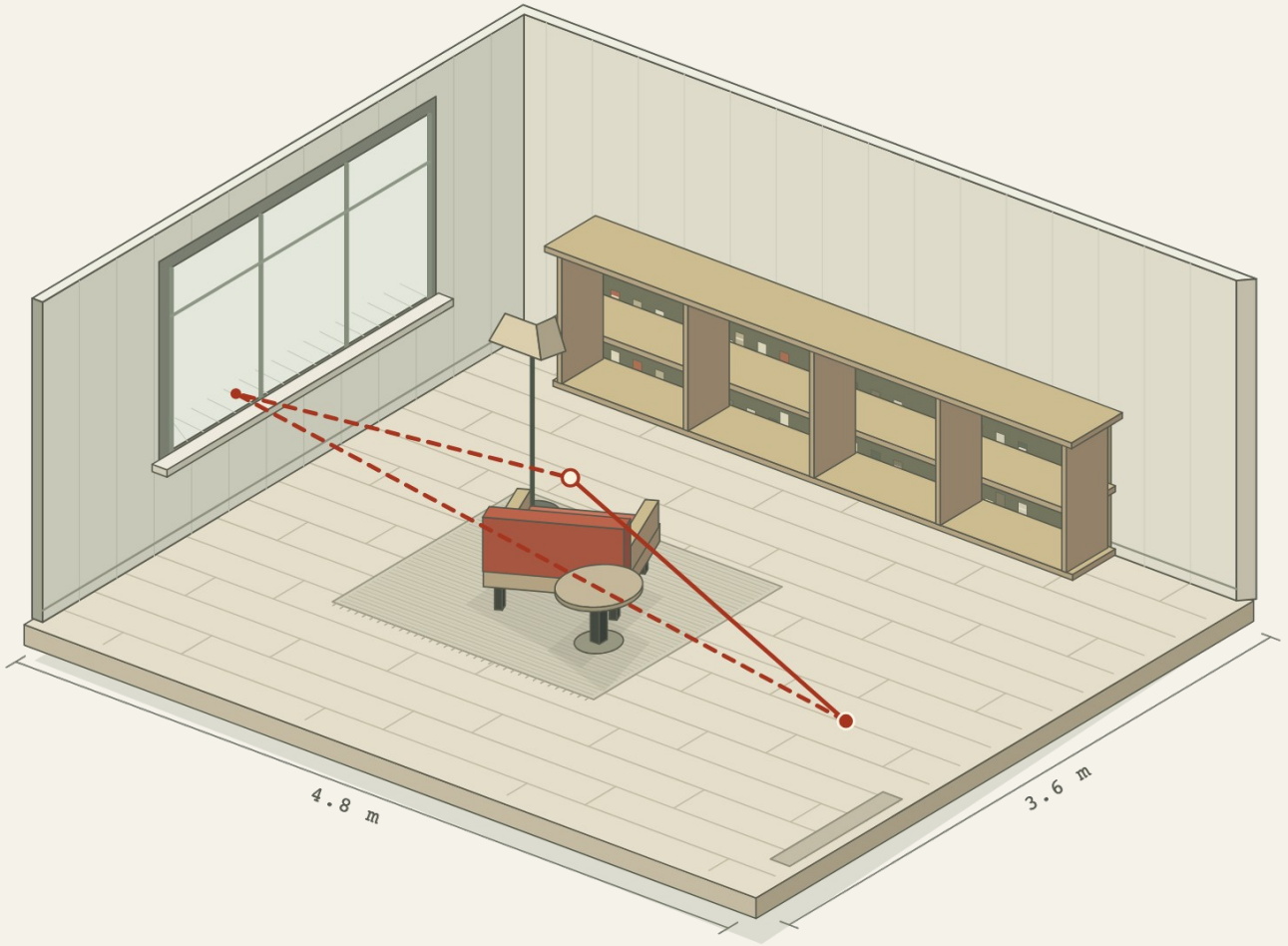
Where does the chair sit between the speakers?



Conversation

Can two people face each other across a table?

A reader with their back to the door



READING

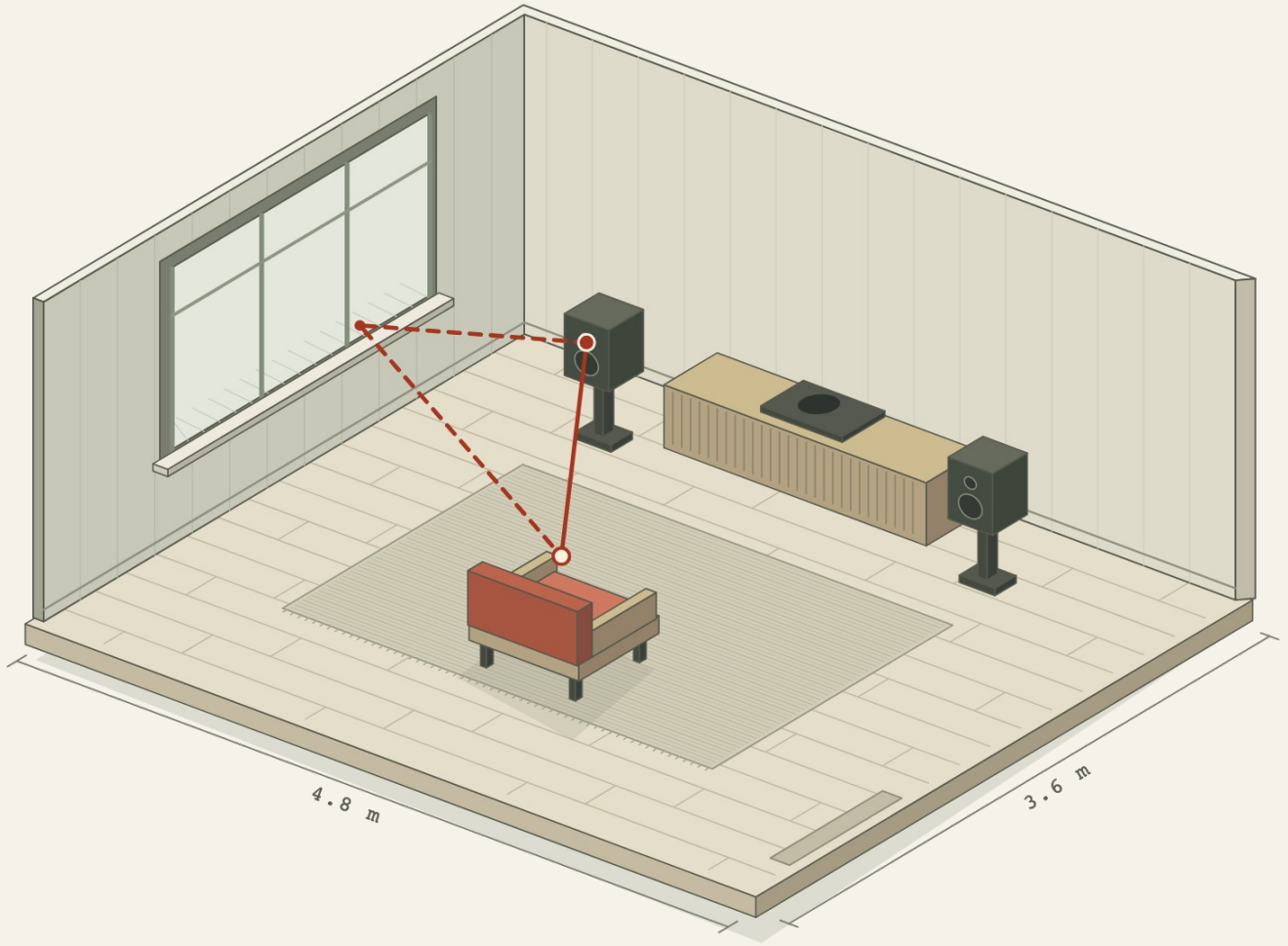
The lamp, bookcase and side table make a place to read. The chair faces away from the entry.

Select Reading. Trace the solid line from the threshold to the chair. The dashed route touches the window wall first.

One seat for a whole side of a record

LISTENING

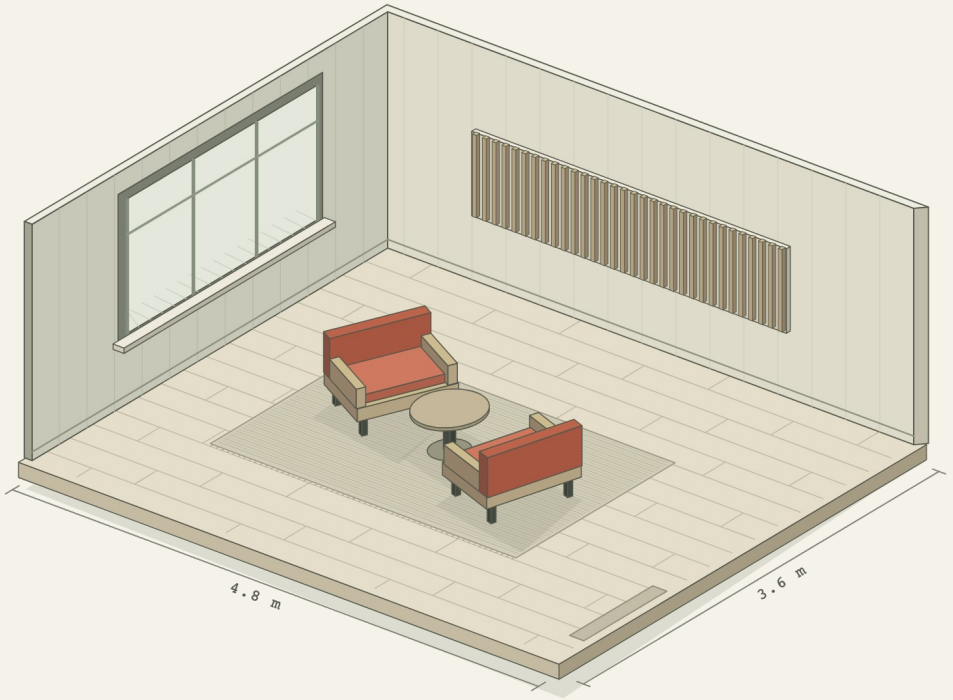
Select Listening. A single chair faces the record console and two speakers. Both lines begin at the left speaker and end at the same ear.



Mark the speaker, the listening position and the side wall on a sketch.

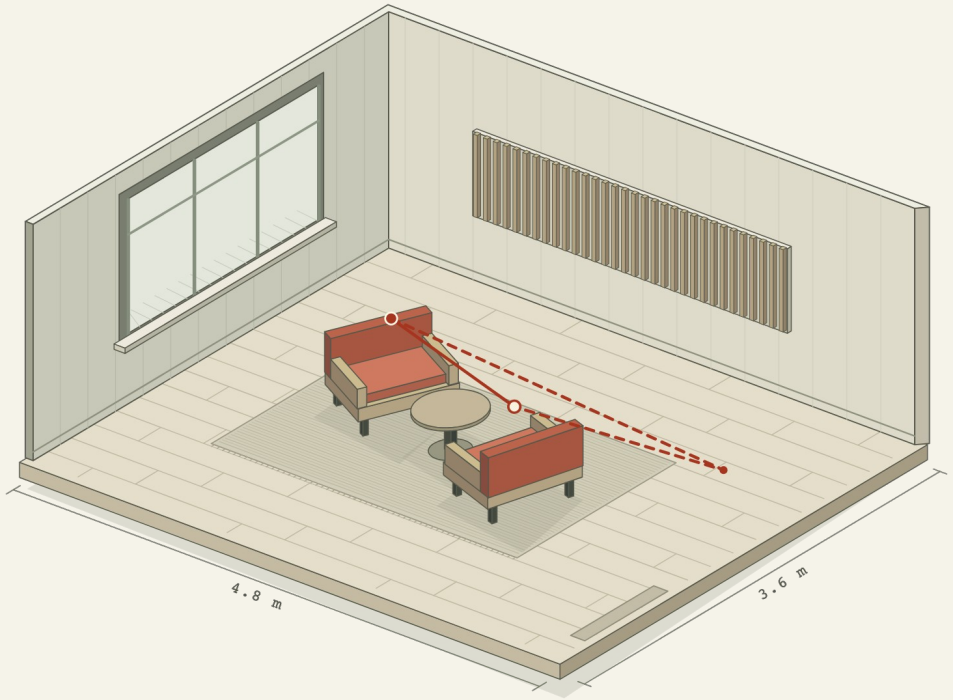
Two chairs across a low table

Choose “Open the Conversation drawing” to start with paths off. Then turn Sound paths on.



PATHS OFF

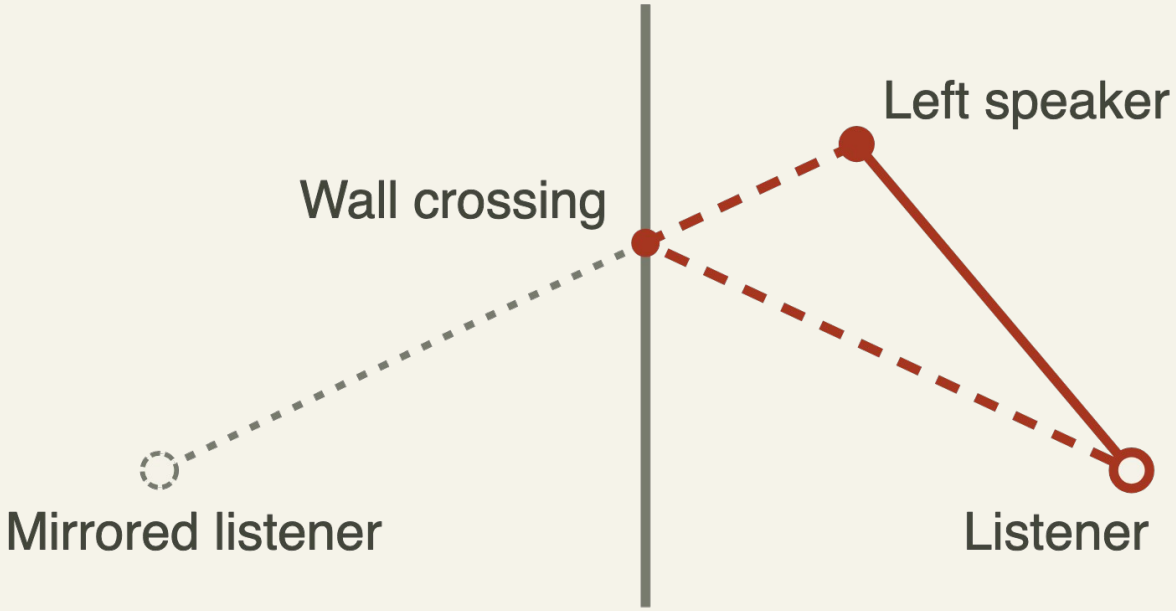
Follow the two seat backs and the table between them.



PATHS ON

The dashed line turns at the right-hand wall cut away in this view.

Why the dashed line bends

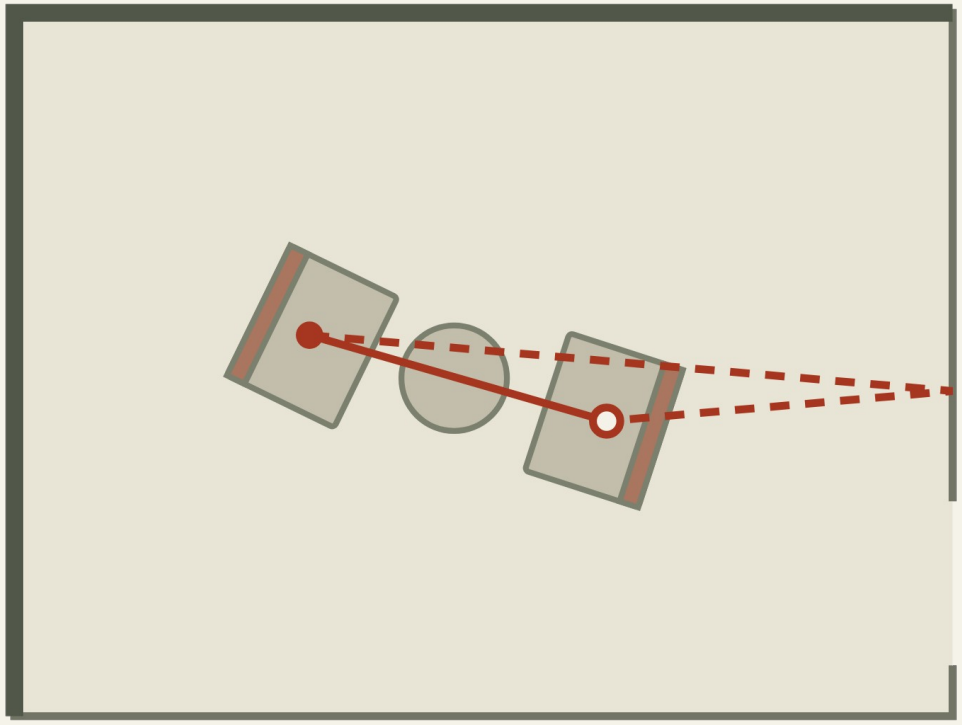


Mirror the listener across the side wall. A line from the speaker to that mirror point locates the bend at the wall.

Local JavaScript draws the cutaway and plan as SVG. Loudness, absorption and reverberation are unmeasured. The diagram shows one possible reflection.

WINDOW-WALL REFLECTION IN LISTENING

Try the two-chair plan at full size



Conversation plan

1. Sketch the two chairs, the table and the wall where the dashed path turns.

2. Measure the real room. Place two chairs, then mark the table footprint with tape.

3. Ask someone to walk past the occupied seats. Use their route to decide whether to move a chair.