

◆ GROUP TEST

Pro-Ject Speaker Box

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“Vocals are articulate and this speaker delivers good expression, decent low level detail, good transparency and reasonable image depth. The net result is that its high standard of musical performance seriously embarrasses the other review models in this group”

This unromantically named £199 per pair speaker turned out to be one of the smallest in the group. Elegantly turned out in piano gloss with choice of red, black or white, it would be nicely at home in an IKEA furnished abode. Rumour has it that it only exists to complete a matching *Box* range of electronics, but we think it could become more important than Pro-Ject imagined. Pro-Ject founder Heinz Lichtenegger fine-tuned this model himself, originally inspired by a Danish Tangent design.

It's a two-way bass reflex design with a small rear port. Connection is made via a single pair of four-way binding posts, and the driver complement consists of a 130mm bass/mid driver with a woven bonded cone, plus a 25mm soft dome tweeter. It is magnetically shielded and has a nominal 8 ohm impedance with a claimed average sensitivity of 86dB. Wall brackets are also supplied.

Sound Quality

Bang! Music simply leapt out of this little speaker. It has well timed and upbeat bass lines, and sounds nicely tuneful, with lively dynamics, and surprisingly low coloration. Sure, the balance is a little bright, but the treble is of fine quality and reveals plenty of incisive detail.



Vocals are articulate and this speaker delivers good expression, decent low level detail, good transparency and reasonable image depth. The net result is that its high standard of musical performance seriously embarrasses the other review models in this group. Furthermore it's respectably dynamic and upbeat to boot, receiving a massive 8.8/10 in comparative sound quality. The join between the two drivers sounds particularly seamless, even and well integrated, and if the bass is not very extended, it's fast and tuneful, which is what really matters.

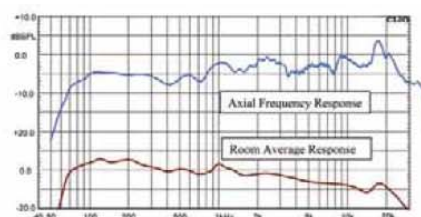
Test Results

Our review samples actually beat the specified sensitivity by 1dB, recording 87dB/W, something that almost never happens! It was also relatively easy to drive with an average impedance of 8ohms and a minimum of 5ohms.

The frequency response is smooth enough 70Hz to 16kHz, if a little peaky at still higher frequencies, though this was not identified in the listening tests. The low end is free of boom, while the in-room average response looks tidy, albeit with a mild prominence at 1kHz. Bass does not extend significantly below 65Hz.

Type	Compact 2-way bass reflex; shielded
Size (wxhxd)	16x25.5x21cm
Weight	4.2 kg
Impedance	5ohm min, 8ohm typ
Power Rating	75Wprogramme
Sensitivity	87dB/W
Maximum Level	101dBA (stereo pair in-room)
Frequency Response	67Hz-16kHz +/- 3.5dB
Bass Limit	-6dB@ 68Hz
Typical Price (pair)	£199
Website	www.projectaudio.com

Frequency responses



Conclusions

A clear winner in this group test, this small speaker amazed our listeners with its exuberant musical integrity. It just goes for it in a winning manner, playing right out of its small box dimensions. The bass is fast, lean and free of boom, while the midrange is detailed articulate and revealing. In its luxury piano gloss finish, it's great value for money too.

Pro-Ject Audio Systems

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