

BANG & OLUFSEN BEOPLAY A2

Bang & Olufsen is better known for its stylish high-end TVs and hi-fis, but this portable player still cuts a dash. There's a built-in battery and, usefully, a USB output so you can charge your phone. Beneath the plastic grille are two full-range drivers and tweeters, plus a pair of passive bass radiators. Each speaker/radiator pair faces in opposite directions – an attempt at 360° audio. As you might expect with a device this size,

Size 21.0 x 11.4 x 5.4cm **Weight** 940g
Speakers 2x 5cm full range drivers; 2x passive bass radiators
Battery Li-ion **Power output** 24W
Inputs/outputs 1x aux out; micro USB



The honeycomb Micro Matrix helps dampen cabinet vibrations, which improves sound

HOW WE TESTED

Sound quality is paramount with a speaker, so WIRED carried out a series of audio tests comparing the performance of a wide range of music, from acoustic folk and jazz to power-heavy rock and dance tracks, as well as some ambient electronica. We also checked for set-up convenience, build quality and style.

still need a plug socket, though) but large enough to deliver fulsome the sound is outstanding, with lots of detail. **9/10** £399 sony.co.uk

Size 43 x 13.3 x 12.5cm **Weight** 4.6kg
Speakers 2x full range drivers, 1x subwoofer **Power output** 154W
Inputs/outputs USB; Ethernet; LAN
Battery No **Wi-Fi network** Yes



Wireless wonders

WIRED puts Bluetooth speakers to the test, both at home and on the road

POET PANDORETTA

If you can place it in the middle of the room, as opposed to up against a wall, the impressively tight sound from the aluminium and oak Pandorettas is a 360° marvel. The underside has a plug for an AirPort Express Wi-Fi unit, plus one digital and two analogue connections for your TV and media players. **8/10** £2,740 poetaudio.com

Size 45 x 16 x 30cm **Weight**

WIRED

full range, 2x 7.6cm passive bass radiators; 2x 1.9cm tweeters
Battery Li-ion
Power output 180W

PHOTOGRAPHY: MITCH PAYNE, DAVE

It might have the size and shape of a TV soundbar, but the DALI KUBIK ONE has ambitions as an all-you-need sound system

made from a single block of aluminium. Around the back are two optical digital inputs, an analogue stereo input and a subwoofer output

though there's no HDMI input for your TV. The Bluetooth connection worked smoothly and the room-filling sound was effortlessly

TEST